



CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH BRITISH COLUMBIA & YUKON

Who are we?

Co-Chair: Sandra Arthur/Christine Malmberg

Treasurer: Nicole Lee

Secretary: Cedar Payne

Ecole Bayside Rep: Rachelle Hill

Ecole Keating Rep: Cedar Payne

Ecole Deep Cove: Marc Leperriere

Ecole Stelly's: Sandra Arthur/Christine Malmberg

Members at Large: Isabella Ghiurea, Caryl Schrack, Andrea Calder,

Communications: Sandra Arthur/Cait Espinoza

Our Contacts

Canadian Parents for French Saanich Chapter

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CPF.Saanich/

Email CPF.Saanich@gmail.com

Join our conversations:



Our Vision Statement:

“CPF-Saanich Chapter is the resource to parents and students for continued French language learning in an engaged community”



What do we do?

Welcome to our first 2018 newsletter! **Canadian Parents for French – Saanich** is a group of dedicated parent volunteers covering four schools within Saanich SD63 - Deep Cove Elementary, Keating Elementary, Bayside Middle School, and Stelly’s Secondary. We come together once a month, to coordinate and fund French cultural activities for our children, raise funds for our programs, communicate with teachers and administrators on ways to foster our children’s French language experience, and provide access and resources for parents of children in French Immersion and core French programs.



Please join CPF!

Help support FSL students in your community by joining or renewing your CPF membership online at bc-yk.cpf.ca/

Why

CPF offers tools, help, and exclusive members-only privileges (i.e. discounted French book purchases, summer camps at our annual Resource Book Fair etc). Join the conversations on our website and connect with like-minded people to support your children's education. **80% of your funds are used 100% to finance events, special activities and French books at local FI Saanich schools.** Without your funds we will be unable to offer the great additional support to our local schools that are much needed.

At only \$25 per year to receive a year's membership, it will greatly add to our ability to deliver MORE to your students' French study experience.

Join Canadian Parents for French at: www.cpf.ca

Don't forget to apply to join the Saanich Chapter.

Merci!

Events & activities supported in Saanich

In December 2017, the Canadian Parents for French - Saanich Chapter - organized a 'French Café' event at Bayside Middle School that coincided with the school Christmas concert.

Bayside students in French Immersion and in Core French helped out to create a night to remember! The students took on the roles of maître d's, waiting on tables, preparing and serving food, and helped to make the night a success for all. We are very proud of our relationship with the teaching staff at Bayside and especially appreciate the help from *Sarah Ravensdale* and *Monique Levesque*, who contributed so much time and effort to the event.

Students in French Immersion also helped with the decor and set up.

A huge thank you to all who participated in and supported our French Café - including our CPF Rep, Rachelle Hill!



CPF - GIVING BACK

Our team at the Saanich Chapter were so impressed by the fundraising results achieved by Bayside students, teachers and of course, our CPF school representative, Rachelle Hill, that we immediately wanted to "give back" to support more French learning. As a result, our Chapter was delighted to contribute funds to host a special Karate Workshop for Grade 8 students - yes, in French!

FRENCH BOOK APPEAL

Many parents have kindly donated their good conditioned French books and magazines to local schools.

Please contact us if you can help supply more?



BONJOUR, BONNE NUIT

The popular French bedtime reading by Middle School FI students to K and Grade 1 children took place once again!

We hope to repeat with Grade 5 students

SD63 Kindergarten Info Night, January 24th at Sidney Elementary School

This was a packed general information meeting for all prospective parents of Kindergarten students for the District. The District mentioned French Immersion as an option to new parents and acknowledged that CPF was there so that parents could ask further questions about the program or about CPF.

Most parents had already decided which program their children would attend, but it was an excellent opportunity to meet new parents and spread the message that French Immersion is for everyone, regardless of a parent’s first language



French Debate Workshop

All Grade 9 French Immersions students at Stelly’s participated in a five-week, French Debate workshop with Dr. Teale Phelps Bondaroff. The students had fun learning “debate” techniques and working in teams. The

students enjoyed lots of French conversations and debated the hot topic subject of whether cell phone usage at school is a good idea!

An annual French Debate contest will be hosted in Victoria in 2019 - students interested to form a Debate Club should make contact with CPF to determine next steps!

International Baccalaureate Information Night, January 25th Parkland Secondary School

This was a general info night for parents and kids contemplating the new International Baccalaureate (IB) program for Grade 11 and 12 at Parkland. All the teachers for the IB program were present. The principal and coordinator of the program spoke about this wonderful enrichment program for motivated children.

The courses are all more in depth and rigorous than the regular high school curriculum and students cover material that would otherwise be taught in first year university. They accomplish this by using



the space in the timetable in Grade 11 and 12 that otherwise would be devoted to electives. Testing is standardized and administered through Europe.

The advantage of this program is that its credentials are globally recognized by all universities. As the province begins to phase out many provincial exams, it will be harder in the future for universities to assess how grades from BC high school courses compare nationally and internationally. If your child is planning to study outside the province or in another country, IB credentials may be of value.

However, they have chosen to offer French only at the Lower Level, and French Immersion students transferring to the IB program will not receive the Double Dogwood. On the upside, for French Immersion students considering this option, the French in the IB program could potentially be an “easier” course in what seems to be a very challenging academic program. In addition, entry into UVIC’s French Intensive first year course only requires the student to have completed Grade 10 French Immersion. On the whole, we are very excited that our District is investing in this type of programming.

K-12 Gift Exchange Celebration

The 24th K-12 French Immersion Celebration is fast approaching on April 12th. Those with students in French Immersion Grade 12 and Kindergarten classes will not want to miss this special event.

For those not familiar with this event, the tradition is for the French immersion grade 12 students to give a personal letter of encouragement presented as a “*scroll of wisdom*” to each of the kindergarten students who are just beginning French immersion from école Deep Cove and école Keating. The kindergarten students then present a congratulatory gift on behalf of *Canadian Parents for French- Saanich* to the grade 12 students graduating from the French immersion program with their Double-Dogwood!

This is an immense task for our CPF volunteers to host. We are **seeking volunteers** to help with the planning and delivery of this fun event. **If you can help, please contact Sandra Arthur at SandraSCArthur@gmail.com.**

