

Founding Meeting Minutes – Oct. 6, 2008

DRAFT

Welcome and introductions

Determined there were 10 CPF members present, per attendance sign up sheet

Lesley W
Mark P
Kate G
Sumie T
Anne D
Colleen W
Wendy Ma
Wendy Mc
Anne H
Ann C

Motion to establish the “Vancouver North Chapter” of CPF.

Define general vision of Vancouver North Chapter

Basis of Chapter vision: To provide support for children studying French (and their families) in the Vancouver north area.

Moved by Wendy Ma, seconded by Mark P - PASSED

Motion to adopt the Vancouver North Chapter Bylaws.

Moved by Ann C, seconded by Anne D - PASSED

Election of President, Secretary and Treasurer

President – Kate G

Secretary – Anne D

Treasurer – Colleen W

Motion to approve the priority list for the first year of operation

Determine needs for current parents from French Immersion, intensive and core French programs

Each attendee identified what program they have students in ie. early, late or secondary FI. Also core French and intensive French. Those present were predominately from early FI.

Outreach to Chapter French Immersion schools to establish CPF presence in the Vancouver north area including one member contact per French Immersion school

Reviewed current list of school Reps.

New volunteers from this Oct. 6, 2008 meeting:

Q E Annex – Lisa P

Jules Quesnel – Lettie D

Outreach to Kindergarten French Immersion Orientations to welcome families to the program and introduce CPF.

Reviewed that CPF Vancouver shared information includes a welcome letter introducing CPF for new

early FI K and Grade 1 and new late FI Grade 6 families in October. CPF school representatives and members are welcome to organize more than the letter to welcome families.

Noted that CPF Vancouver shared information is available via the CPF Vancouver shared web site. The shared web site has links to information for each of CPF Vancouver East, North and the proposed South. At the last meeting of CPF Vancouver Lesley W volunteered to continue maintaining the shared web site and coordinating shared mailings.

Support for the French Immersion Secondary program and review of the traditional CPF bursary support for graduating students of French.

Reviewed that CPF Vancouver has a tradition of supporting FI graduates by offering bursaries, ie. Kitsilano three bursaries of \$500 each. Noted that in the past there was income from the CPF Vancouver French film festival done in conjunction with the VSB. The VSB continue the French film festival, but it is now done without CPF participation, so this income is discontinued. When the budget is addressed the bursaries will likely need revising as the old ones would likely be too large a part of the new annual income.

Membership drive

Reviewed that CPF Vancouver shared information includes an invitation to membership letter to all FI families in February. As with the welcome letter, CPF school representatives and members are welcome to organize more than the letter to encourage membership.

Grant applications for funding

Socio Cultural Grants via CPF BC/Yukon

Direct Access Grants - for community programs

Glyn Lewis from CPF BC & Yukon reviewed these.

Kate G volunteered to investigate doing a CPF Vancouver North socio cultural grant application.

Social activities

Reviewed that these are optional, depending on volunteers and interest level.

Motion to adopt the first year's budget

Motion to accept the funds held in trust by CPF BC & Yukon and the annual membership funds from CPF National (via CPF BC & Yukon), and to determine the distribution of those funds at the next general meeting.

Moved by Lesley W, seconded by Wendy Ma - PASSED

Banking resolution to open the Vancouver North Chapter bank account and to appoint signing officers.

Moved by Mary I, seconded by Cheryl C - PASSED

Other business

1 - Reviewed CPF Vancouver Rep. to VSB's Modern Language Advisory Committee (MLAC) shared position.

Wendy Ma volunteer to stand as CPF Vancouver Rep. working with the other two CPF Vancouver chapters and to help prospective volunteers for next year learn the role.

Moved by Kate G, seconded by Lesley W to have Wendy Ma as CPF Vancouver MLAC Rep. – PASSED

2 – Reviewed how French immersion is designed for parents who do not speak French, teachers

assigning homework know this and parents can discuss a homework problem in English, then both the student and/or the parent have the option of asking the teacher for help with the French language requirements of the homework.

For parents who are interested in learning French while their student learns French and to be more comfortable about homework, there are several sources for French lessons for parents. Some are listed on the CPF Vancouver shared web site resources section. ie. Starbucks French conversation groups with a teacher, a group of parents at a school hiring a teacher from UBC and meeting at the school. Information from Educacentre on French lessons for parents was distributed at the meeting.

3 – Colleen W advised that at Hudson there have been too many substitute teachers (teachers on call (TOCs)) in FI who do not speak French. This has been a problem in Vancouver FI programs in the past and CPF Vancouver did send a reminder letter to the VSB. A first step now is to check with other CPF Vancouver Chapters to see if this is a problem elsewhere.

4 – Lisa P described the ongoing troubles at Q E Annex about a teacher cutback in the English stream that resulted in the loss of the FI K teacher due to union seniority rules. A first step is for the CPF MLAC Rep. to learn more about the issue.

5 – Kate G described troubles at Hudson about a recent teacher cutback that resulted in a less than desirable solution for the FI program. Kate also noted that there was a FI K waitlist the start of September, and had information about the class reorganization been known sooner, a solution might have been to expand the FI K intake.

In the past there have been situations where there was an FI K waitlist at one school, and parents are offered places at a distant school and decline. The VSB reported this result as demand for FI had been met whereas CPF Vancouver let the VSB know that from many of the parents' perspectives, demand for FI in their community had not been met. From the parent perspective, the spring waitlist numbers for applications made by school are different than the autumn waitlist numbers for students remaining on a waitlist at a school after some students have opted to go to a distant FI school or have dropped off the waitlist due to an expiring of time to select another educational option.

A first step is for the CPF MLAC Rep. to learn more about the issue.

Meeting termination