

CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH

communiqué

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [May is off to blossoming start!](#)
- [National Board Update](#)
- [A Strategist - Are You One?](#)
- [Key Dates](#)
- [National Committee 2016/ 2017 Updates](#)
- [News from National](#)
- [CPF « Affiche ta Franco » Twitter Contest in March](#)
- [National Office Projects and Initiatives](#)
- [CPF Summer Camp Listing](#)

May is off to blossoming start!



April and May are both 'eventful' months at CPF. With the first CPF FSL Awareness Breakfast successfully completed, the National Board of Directors has completed their spring meeting and the National Office staff are preparing for the upcoming Quebec Concours and National Concours in May.

As work continues to move ahead on many key priorities, projects and activities we look forward to another year with more opportunities to collaborate, innovate, and advocate!

Please select the item you wish to review from the menu on the left,

or read through the full communiqué for a complete breakdown of the meeting's activities and next steps.

National Board Update

The CPF National Board of Directors met in Ottawa on May 5-7, 2016 to review priorities, approve the annual budget for the new fiscal year and to oversee the management of operations of the organization.

The National Board of Directors welcomed Derrek Bentley, as a newly appointed director. Derrek left his position on the CPF Manitoba Branch Board of Directors to join the National Board. Derrek brings a youthful perspective, marketing and communications expertise, experience as a facilitator, and knowledge of human rights and international development to the National Board of Directors.

Heather Stauble, director at large from Ontario, tendered her resignation from the CPF National Board of Directors on May 5, 2016. The Board accepted the resignation and thanks Heather for her contributions to the Advocacy committee, as Chair, as well as for her six years of service to CPF National Board of Directors.

Much was accomplished over the full two days of meetings, with discussion centering on policy review and development (Safe Working Environment Policy, CPF Investment Policy, Updated Nominations and Elections Policy); review and approval of the annual budget including two new youth projects to support our funding diversification initiatives; and a generative governance discussion centered on change management, becoming a strategy-led organization and further collaborative efforts to demonstrate our Network impact to funders.

The National Board minutes of the February 4-7, 2016 meeting have been approved and [posted on the website](#)

A Strategist - Are You One?



"Are you a strategist? All leaders, regardless of their jobs, would likely be ready to answer, "Yes", but wait before answering.

Let's first try to define what a strategist is. She is a long-term thinker who will be able to anticipate and react positively to all kinds of potential consequences and also be ready to have a fallback position in case her strategy fails. And, he is also a focused individual with a vision or plan who has direction. By becoming a strategist, you become the leader your business needs." [Read More](#)

This short article by Jacques Lorrain, reprinted from The Costco Connection, May/June 2016, may be a useful discussion builder among Branch and Chapter Leaders.

Key Dates

April 25-26, 2016 – Ottawa, ON – *CPF Nominations Committee Meeting*

April 25, 2016 – Web – *CPF Strategic Plan Implementation Committee Meeting*

May 5–7, 2016 – Ottawa, ON – *CPF National Board Meeting + meeting with the NDP critic of Official Languages, Francois Choquette*

May 14, 2016 – Dorval, Quebec - *Quebec Concours d'art oratoire*

May 28, 2016 – Gatineau, Quebec – *National Concours d'art oratoire*

May 29, 2016 – Web – *Council of Presidents (CoP) Meeting*

June 29-30, 2016 – Halifax, NS – *CoED Annual Face-to-Face Meeting*

August 4–6, 2016 – Fredericton, NB – *CPF National Board Meeting + CPF Member Consultation, Stakeholders Reception*

October 14-15, 2016 – Ottawa, ON – *CPF Conference 2016 + Launch of 40th Anniversary Initiative*

October 16, 2016 – Ottawa, ON – *CPF Annual General Meeting*

National Committee 2016/ 2017 Updates

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Bylaws and Policies

The reviewed bylaws have been received from the Committee Chair, Nancy McKeragan, and have been circulated to the legal support for review and a 'legalese' word check. The documents will be posted for a 60-day review period to receive Network feedback, with the hope that they will receive endorsement and be implemented in July 2016.

Nominations

Jane Keith, Chair

The Nominations Committee met over two days, April 25-26, 2016, to complete a thorough review and update of the CPF Nominations and Elections policy; the committee terms of reference to include a broadened mandate for Board succession planning; the calendar / timeline of committee activities; and the process for nominations and elections to the National Board. The committee will begin to prepare a information session related to Board succession planning for the CPF Conference in October 2016.

Strategic Plan Implementation

Valerie Pike, Sharon Lapkin, Co-Chairs

The Strategic Planning Implementation Committee held a brief web-based meeting to review first steps for the new committee's mandate, a focus to collate organizational resources on key topics to support National and Branches with respect to strategic plan implementation and building a strong organization. Discussion included regular sharing of resources through the Communique and an implementation update and training session at the CPF Conference in October 2016.

Advocacy

The National Board selected Jane Keith to take on the role of Chair of the Advocacy Committee. The committee will set a web-based meeting in mid-June to review committee priorities and tasks for this

year. As already identified, the committee will provide an advocacy training session for members at the CPF Conference in October 2016.

Membership

Karen Lynch, Chair

A membership survey was completed by the National office staff and results have been reviewed by the Chair of the committee. The National Board agreed that Derrek Bentley will support the membership committee in the coming months.

A key priority discussion already identified focuses on the status of CPF Chapters, their development and maintenance as well as mechanisms to support activities on the ground in various regions. The chair will consult with members of the Committee, with an end goal to share an update report and presentation for our member-leaders at the CPF Conference in October 2016.

Research Support

Sharon Lapkin and Wendy Carr, Co-Chairs

The Chairs shared the newly developed terms of reference for the committee. Next steps include a call for interested members to serve on the committee – a Branch President, a Branch Executive Director and a member at large. This process will be completed in May 2016. An introductory web-based meeting will be held in late June to review the mandate of the committee and tasks for the current year.

News from National

Insurance Coverage

The National Office on behalf of the organization has reviewed all insurance policies and group benefit packages. For participating Branches, the National Office oversees General Liability (Crime and Commercial), Abuse Liability and Content, Directors & Officers, and Group Benefits package (RRSP, health, life insurance).



For 2016-2017: We have renewed our policy with Ecclesiastical Insurance for General Liability, Abuse Liability and Content and group benefits package with Great West Life. Participating Branches are invoiced on behalf of eligible staff; There will be a small increase

of 4% this year (negotiated from 8%). This small increase will be seen in your billing for 2016-2017.

New - Directors & Officers Insurance is now being held with Great American Insurance Company. The Directors & Officers policy will provide the necessary coverage for all directors, trustees, officers, employees, volunteers or staff members of the organization or its subsidiaries, whether salaried or not and the policy allows CPF to maintain a 5,000,000 liability coverage.

All Branches can obtain further details by participating in the insurance coverage supported by National Office, or can obtain a copy of any of the above packages by contacting Cathy Stone cstone@cpf.ca.

Updated Branding – Finalized Messaging and Imagery

The review process is complete and we have now moved onto the implementation stage. Branches have been asked to update old and existing materials to reflect the new CPF brand on all internal and external communications and marketing publications.

Please find attached the list of approved and finalized items as well as templates available for download on **Dropbox**. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Maryanne Bright at mbright@cpf.ca

CPF « Affiche ta Franco » Twitter Contest in March

and the
WINNERS ARE...

CPF National's first twitter campaign << Affiche ta Franco >> celebrating the Journée internationale de la francophonie encouraged elementary and high school students to share their Frenchness by tweeting daily challenges was met with excitement and success. We thank all those who supported the project as well as the goal to heighten awareness around French as a second language.

Having collated the submissions, we were happy to present weekly prizes to: *Anne-José Villeneuve @AJVilleneuve; Marylène Perron @Marylene_68; Lisa Marie Perkins @StrategyLisa; Edie Bovey @ebovey; Dylan Trerice, M.A. @DTrerice.*

Special thanks to organizations who supported the promotion of the contest: French for Life @frenchforlife2 ; LE FRANCOFORUM @LeFrancoforum; The lucky winner of the \$2,200 bursary to the Explore program, in the Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean is: Contact Edie Bovey – to identify a student

We hope to replicate the campaign next year and look forward to more engagement from members, students and branches. If you have any feedback on how we might improve this initiative, please feel free to send suggestions and comments to Maryanne Bright at mbright@cpf.ca

National Office Projects and Initiatives



April was Volunteer Recognition Time

April 10 -16 was National Volunteer Week, an opportunity to recognize the outstanding efforts of our amazing volunteers. Thank you to the Branches who

assisted in identifying longstanding volunteers for whom CPF National was able to send a small token of our appreciation. **Visit the CPF National website** to find a one page leaflet featuring the names of over 100 volunteers who have made a monumental impact in helping to further French second language education in their communities at home. This leaflet will be included with the CPF 2015-2016 annual report.

A French Toast to Fifty Years of French Immersion – FSL Awareness Breakfast

We are happy to report that CPF's first FSL Awareness Breakfast was a tremendous success. The 'French Toast to 50 Years of French Immersion' held April 6 on Parliament Hill saw guests from across the country gather in celebration of FI's Golden Anniversary.

Although unable to join in on the festivities as host, Mauril Bélanger sent his regards to guests via audio recording. CPF National is

grateful for his support as well as having had the opportunity to work with his office in putting together such a well-received event.

Our master of ceremonies, and French immersion graduate, Rowan Dorin, skillfully moved us through a full programme. Special guests in attendance included Commissioner of Official Languages, Graham Fraser and François Boileau, Commissioner of French Services, Ontario; Liberal MPs Catherine McKenna and Andrew Leslie; as well as Murielle Parkes and Olga Melikoff, two of the pioneering advocates from the original parent delegation.

Sincere thanks to CPF volunteer leaders and staff from BC/YK, AB, MB, ON for attending the breakfast and for joining the National Board of Directors at follow up stakeholder meetings. We also acknowledge Branch support in promoting the event through social media channels. Planning is already underway for next year's breakfast as we look forward to bringing more prominence to CPF's signature event and introducing a regional Branch component in the coming years.

For a full account of the mornings proceedings as well as pictures please visit: <http://bit.ly/1NPEtRt>

National Concours Finals

Final preparations are underway for the 2016 National Concours confirmed to take place at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel in Gatineau, QC on May 28, 2016.

A new online registration process has been set up for contestants to complete prior to arrival. A major component of the form includes a checklist that finalists will be required to complete to ensure the speech presented is their own "original work" and in compliance with the rules and regulations of the competition. We look forward to Branch feedback as we refine this new online process.

If you have any questions regarding this years' competition please forward all inquiries to Mireille Brownhill at events@cpf.ca.

Funding received for Two National Youth Projects

With bad news, often comes good news. Although the National Office had submitted two projects (a pan-Canadian school tour and a national outreach campaign) to the Canada 150 Fund, and both projects received rejections for funding, we did receive good news for two other projects.

The National office received funding for two projects commemorating

2016 milestones as part of the Department of Canadian Heritage “On the Road to 2017” commemorate Canada Fund.

Canada: A Great Place to Call Home Poster and Learning

Tool will be developed and shared with Branches and Chapters for distribution this fall to CPF members and families. The poster will also be available for download on our website. The National office will provide some financial support to Branches to help with postage costs for distribution to the Chapters.

Celebrating Sir Wilfrid Laurier - Canada’s Destiny as a Great

Nation will involve past Concours winners creating videoclips, engaging in oral activities, and discussing the impact of Laurier on Modern Canada as well as in their own lives. The participating youth will help us create a youth advisory group to support future CPF activities. The National office will provide some financial support to Branches to help support communications of the activities.

CPF Summer Camp Listing



The 2016 Summer Camp Listing is now out and **available for download** on the CPF National website. The listing was also circulated to Branches as well CPF's membership at large.

French summer camps are a wonderful opportunity for students to immerse themselves in French second language learning during the academic off season! Branches are encouraged to support the listing by promoting it via their social media channels as well as among their partner networks.

For any questions on the camp listing please contact Shaunpal Jandu at sjandu@cpf.ca



Jane Keith, President
Jane.Keith@freedom55financial.com

Nicole Thibault, Executive Director
nthibault@cpf.ca

Canadian Parents for French
1104-170 Laurier Ave. West
Ottawa, ON | K1P 5V5

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