

# CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH

communiqué

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## We're falling into a busy season!



We're only weeks away from the much anticipated CPF 2016 Conference and AGM in Ottawa, ON on October 13-16th. The occasion is especially significant as Canadian Parents for French prepares to kick off its 40th anniversary celebrating the advocacy efforts of volunteers, members and staff who continually push for the advancement of FSL education across Canada.

The national office has turned much of its efforts toward the conference planning to ensure attendees leave feeling informed, and reinvigorated. Additional priorities included the finalizing of CPF bylaws; the 2016 CPF election to the National Board of Directors, as well as preparation for CPF National Laurier campaign and the development of the Responsible Government poster / learning tool.

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.

## Key Dates

**September 28th, 2016** – Montreal, QC – Quebec Project Advisory Committee Meeting

**October 13-15, 2016** – Ottawa, ON – CPF Conference 2016 + 40th Anniversary Initiative

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

**November 18, 2016** – Montreal, QC – Perspectives d'avenir / Looking Ahead, What now for French immersion? CPF/OCOL/Vanier College one-day conference. For more information visit: <http://bit.ly/2dhs7aZ>

## Conference & AGM - “Volunteer Leaders – Past, Present, Future”



This year's Conference and AGM will be cause for great celebration! CPF will be kicking off its 40th Anniversary and honoring the countless members, volunteers, and staff that have continually supported us along the way! A feature of this year's conference includes the launch of our youth social media campaign in celebration of the 175th anniversary of Sir Wilfrid Laurier taking place in November 2016.

The weekend boasts an array of activities including CPF's signature silent auction as well as the chance to win an original John Mlacak painting valued at \$1200. Those wishing to submit a donation to the silent auction are asked to forward items to the national office, to the attention of Debbie Murphy.

Workshops have also been planned for the weekend and will focus on the four strategic pillars outlined in CPF's Network strategic plan. The Conference will close with a special presentation by the Commissioner of Official Languages to the CPF Network and an

inspirational speaker who is sure to engage attendees with an interactive experience full of songs and stories to inspire as we return home.

For more information on the weekend's activities please visit <http://bit.ly/2cBv2ZG> where you will find the Preliminary Program, Workshop Sessions, as well as all **Annual General Meeting documents**. As part of our "green" initiative, the above-mentioned materials will not be printed, but are available online for attendees who wish to bring their own hard copies.

The final weekend program, banquet meal ticket and nametags will be available upon registration. Please note that the Saturday night banquet is business-dress attire with all other events business/casual.

If someone you know is interested in attending this years' Conference and AGM please encourage them to register no later than September 30, 2016. For all inquiries pertaining to registration, please contact Debbie Murphy at [dmurphy@cpf.ca](mailto:dmurphy@cpf.ca).

We look forward to seeing you all in Ottawa!

## National Committee 2016/ 2017 Updates

# • Updates •

### Nominations Committee

The Nominations Committee is pleased to report the completion of the 2016 nominations process.

A package containing the nominations report, candidate profiles, as well audio recording of the incumbents interviews were circulated to voting delegates on August 16, 2016 for a 2 week review period. In keeping with the success of last years' electronic voting format, the election was held anonymously online via SimplyVoting. Each delegate was asked to choose up to 3 candidates to serve on the board. The ballot for the CPF Election to the National Board closed on September 16, 2016. There were no spoiled ballots nor were there any abstentions. We are pleased to share that the results of the election are as follows: Derrek Bentley (MB), Kurt Inder (NB), and Nancy McKeraghan (ON).

All candidates have been notified of the results of the election. A ratification of the online vote will take place during the AGM on Sunday October 16, 2016. The election to Officer Positions of President and Vice President on the National Board of Directors will be held in person during the AGM.

### **Advocacy Committee**

The following is a reminder to those who have not completed the Department of Canadian Heritage's Roadmap for Official Languages questionnaire, but wish to – the closing date is October 30, 2016.

The National office has sent a mass email encouraging CPF member participation, and has provided guidelines to ensure priorities are consistent with the four revised CPF position statement priorities.

### **Bylaws Committee**

The Bylaws committee is pleased to report the CPF Bylaws were passed unanimously during the scheduled September 20, 2016 Special General Meeting. Fourteen of the sixteen voting delegates were in attendance to accept the Bylaw amendments presented by Nancy McKeraghan, Bylaws Committee Chair.

We thank all the network leaders for their collaboration in seeing this process through. The finalized bylaws serve as an important guide as CPF moves forward. The next steps include supporting Branches as they review and align existing Branch Bylaws with the National Bylaws, as well as reviewing and aligning National Policies with the National Bylaws.

### **Research Committee**

The Research Committee met via teleconference at the beginning of September to review the role of the Committee and to identify priorities for the upcoming year.

Committee members emphasized the need to ensure that decisions reflect the direction/priorities from the CPF Strategic Plan as well as the emerging needs of the CPF Network. To this end, the Committee will: survey branches to identify research needed to support their advocacy initiatives; consult the CPF Advocacy committee to ensure co-ordination of efforts; discuss the committee's work and role at the national conference; and communicate regularly with the Network.

The Committee also discussed the possibility of: conducting /commissioning small-scale research initiatives; implementing

strategies to ensure quality research projects across the CPF Network; and reinstating The State of French-Second-Language Education in Canada research reports in a format to be determined.

## Projects and Activities

### Celebrating Sir Wilfrid Laurier - Canada's Destiny as a Great Nation

We're gearing up for the launch of our much anticipated nationwide campaign, Celebrating Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The month long activity is comprised of both a social media campaign and postcard contest culminating on

Laurier's 175th birthday on November 20, 2016. Two specific hashtags, #CPFLaurier #Laurier175, will be used throughout the duration of the campaign to encourage engagement and increase visibility.



The official launch of the projects campaign will take place on Thursday, October 13, 2016 at the informal reception of the 2016 Conference. This will provide the ideal opportunity to inform the network and membership on the project's purpose and goals as well as jumpstart the campaign in an impactful way. Two one hour workshops have been scheduled for Friday, October 14th that will provide more detail on the campaign and how members can help. A list of suggested social media actions will be shared and discussed.

The National office will be sending out more information in early October with specific details on how Branches can help ensure the success of the Laurier project across Canada.

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