

Final Report – Nominating Committee

Committee Members:

Kate Peters (Nat) Chair until September 1st, 2020

Marc Gobeil (Nat) Chair as of September 1st, 2020

Rima Majaess (representative on behalf of Chapters, members)

Larry Vaters (representative for CoP, CPF Branch President)

Staff Support:

Debbie Murphy,

Brief summary of committee's actions:

- The committee met in February and June 2020 to review their terms of reference, work plan and any proposed policy changes. The committee worked remotely to revise a Call for interest to the National Board of Directors and an evaluation matrix.
- As a result of the process, applications for the three vacancies were received from the three incumbent directors ending in April. The candidates were scored using approved criteria for required competencies and skills, and were unanimously endorsed.
- A communication was shared with the CPF Network leaders in July. The three candidates were acclaimed and their election will be endorsed and ratified at the virtual Annual General Meeting on October 18, 2020.
- A Call for Nominations for the positions of President and Vice President was circulated. Two nominations were received. An electronic vote took place over a 10 day period. The two nominations were supported by the Voting Delegates. Their nominations will be endorsed and ratified at the virtual Annual General Meeting on October 18, 2020.

Report on the Nominating Committee Process

The Nominating Committee is a standing committee of the National Board of Directors established annually in compliance with the CPF Bylaw No.1. The 2019-2020 Nominating Committee was made up of two members from the National Board, a Branch President, and a member at large. Regional representation included Alberta, Ontario, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia.

The Nominating Committee was tasked with filling three vacancies according to the Board terms up for renewal (see below). The committee members reviewed their mandate and work plan, as well as a draft Call for Interest for the National Board in their first meeting. On March 2, 2020, the call was advertised and circulated to CPF membership posted on social media and the website and in direct communiqués to CPF Network leaders by the National Office.

Nominations were received from three incumbent directors. No expressions of interest or other correspondence about the process were received. The Nominating Committee revised an evaluation matrix based on the approved desired skills and competencies and used the tool to

review each of the nominations. The three candidates were endorsed by the Nominating Committee and selected through acclamation. This information was communicated to Voting Delegates in July, with the endorsement and ratification to take place at the October 18 CPF National Annual General Meeting.

The Nominating Committee launched the nomination process for two Officer positions in Summer 2020 through a communication to Voting Delegates. Two nominations were received: one for the role of President, and one for the role of Vice-President. Derrek Bentley accepted a nomination as President of the National Board. Kate Peters accepted a nomination to serve as Vice-President of the National Board and recused herself from the Nominating Committee.

Summary of National Board Nominees

In 2020-2021, the three openings on the CPF National Board of Directors have been successfully filled.

Derrek Bentley (Manitoba) A National Board member since 2016, and Vice-President since 2018, Derrek Bentley demonstrated competencies in involvement with youth, advocacy, strategic thinking, and change and risk management. In particular, his exceptional volunteer involvement in numerous organizations is an asset.

Nancy McKeraghan (Ontario) Founder of the York Region French Immersion Association in 1982, Nancy McKeraghan is a long-standing member, volunteer and representative of CPF. She joined the National Board in 2016 after serving in various Director roles at the CPF Ontario Branch and Chapter level. Her exceptional competencies in governance, human resource leadership, fundraising and deep experience with youth learning French made her an excellent candidate. Nancy is leaving the role of National President which she filled from 2016 to present.

Richard Slevinsky (Alberta) Proud Franco-Albertan and a lifetime educator, Richard Slevinsky has served CPF as a champion within government, teacher-trainer, superintendent, and school principal. He joined the National Board in 2015 after serving as President at the CPF Alberta Branch. He brings impressive contributions to strategic thinking, advocacy, volunteer engagement, and risk management. Richard continues to teach and his ongoing leadership in both K-12 and post-secondary education is an asset to the National Board.

Summary of Officer Elections

President-elect Derrek Bentley was nominated to serve as President after serving as Vice-President for one year and four years of engagement on the National Board. Derrek's leadership experience includes presiding over Manitoba's *Conseil Jeunesse provincial* from 2016-18; chairing the Youth Advisory Committee for the Canadian Commission for UNESCO 2017-2018, and Vice-President of the Manitoba Association of Rights and Liberties (2019-

2020). Derrek is dedicated to local and global community causes and French-language learning. He works at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.

Vice-President-elect Kate Peters served as Vice-President of the CPF Alberta Branch Board from 2015-2017. An advocate of CPF in her diverse professional roles, including with the provincial government and the University of Alberta, she completed her Master's thesis on French-language curricula in Alberta. As a Director of CPF National Board, she has served twice as Chair of Nominating Committee and Treasurer. Kate works as the Secretary to General Faculties Council at the University of Alberta.

National Board of Directors

In accordance with the CPF Bylaws, directors shall be elected for terms of two years and may serve for a maximum of eight years in total. The full biographies of the 2019-2020 National Board of Directors are included below and are also displayed on the [CPF national website](#).

Derrek Bentley

Region: Manitoba Serving since: 2016 Starting 1st year of 3rd term

Roles (current and past): President elect, Vice-President, Chair of Membership Support Committee

Since participating in CPF Chapter meetings in elementary school, Derrek Bentley has been passionate about French language promotion and education in Manitoba and across Canada. After switching to a Francophone high school partially due to a lack of a quality immersion high school option in his area, Derrek has been actively involved in *la francophonie*. Specifically, he believes that *la francophonie* needs to be more inclusive of all French-speakers and recognize that our different accents should be seen as a strength instead of a mechanism for exclusion. By bringing together all French-speakers, the opportunities for youth to speak and have fun in French, whether it be their first, second, or fifth language, will only increase exponentially. He believes that youth are the proponents of this change towards inclusion.

In 2011, Derrek became the youngest person to receive the prestigious *Prix Riel* in Manitoba in the area of community development. Despite being a second language French speaker, receiving this francophone award was a great moment of feeling acceptance in the community. Later that year, he joined CPF Manitoba's Branch Board as a director until leaving this position in 2016 to become a member of CPF's National Board. He has organized a variety of youth focused events in French that have always been inclusive of French second-language speakers. Through these events with organizations such as the *Conseil jeunesse provincial*, the *Canadian Commission for UNESCO*, the *Manitoba Association for Right and Liberties*, and *Canadian Parents for French*, Derrek's network of young change-makers has continued to grow.

Wendy Carr

Region: BC Serving since 2015 Starting 2nd year of 3rd term

Roles (current and past): Vice-President, Secretary, Chair of Research Working Group

Dr. Wendy Carr is Professor of Teaching in the Faculty of Education at the University of British Columbia where she has overseen the teacher education program as associate dean and taught for many years in its French teacher education program after a full school-based career teaching Core French. She has authored a number of FSL classroom resources, teacher professional learning manuals, curriculum

documents as well as scholarly articles. She is motivated by inspiring educators to teach French and, in turn, engage language learning.

During her years as a teacher, Wendy facilitated many FSL teacher in service sessions across Canada and maintained a very popular website, mmecarr.ca (now Twitter @mmecarr). When she turned her energies to preservice teacher education, she became aware of the gap in preparation to teach Core French – a required teaching area for elementary and middle-years teachers but one in which most lacked sufficient linguistic or methodological background. Through research and advocacy, she continues to advance the agenda for improved quality of FSL teaching.

Wendy was instrumental in supporting the implementation of Intensive French in British Columbia with the support of Canadian Parents for French and local school boards. She worked as a district consultant to support teachers and administrators and provide information to parents interested in an additional pathway to achieving bilingualism for their children. She has published research articles and chapters on student performance in Intensive French as well as numerous articles and reports on FSL teacher education, recruitment and retention. She is particularly proud of co-editing the renewed CPF State of FSL Education Research Reports since 2017.

She has served on volunteer boards for the past 20 years, including as president of the BC Association of Teachers of Second Languages, vice-president of the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers and Director on the National Board of Canadian Parents for French since 2015. She has also received multiple awards for outstanding service and teaching at the university level and leadership in FSL education at the national level.

Marc Gobeil

Region: Ontario Serving since 2019 Starting 2nd year of 1st term

Roles (current and past): Shadow Treasurer, Chair of Nominating Committee

Marc has been involved with CPF and other institutions engaged in FSL in his role as the Director, French Immersion Stream, University of Ottawa. He formulated the vision, strategic planning and objectives of this unique academic option for postsecondary second language learners with the goal of increasing registration and enhancing the university's reputation. He established scholarship incentives for CPF *Concours d'art oratoire* at the University of Ottawa, liaised with members and exhibitor booths at various CPF conferences to promote post-secondary opportunities for youth to pursue French studies, and he has also authored several featured articles for the national CPF Magazine.

A native Franco-Manitoban, Marc is highly proficient in both of Canada's official languages and is personally and professionally committed to promoting bilingual learning opportunities. He has previously worked with the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General and Telefilm Canada. Marc is also a proud father of two bilingual sons and an ultimate frisbee aficionado.

Nancy McKeraghan

Region: Ontario Serving since 2016 Starting 1st year of 3rd term

Roles (current and past): President, Chair of Bylaw Committee

Ms. McKeraghan founded York Region French Immersion Association in 1982 which eventually became a Chapter of Canadian Parents for French (York Region). She held various executive positions within the organizations; member at large, secretary, treasurer and chair (consistently over 20 year period).

York Region District School Board Committee Member: accommodation, transportation, secondary curriculum, liaison between the Board and English parents regarding accommodation issues. Chair of Aurora High School Parents' Council (wrote School's Constitution).

Ontario Canadian Parents for French Board: member at large, treasurer (4 years), vice president (2 years), advocacy committee member (8 years), Chair Bylaw Committee (8 years).

- Canadian Parents for French National: member Bylaw Committee (2015/16).
- Canadian Parents for French member 42021.
- Sponsor of French Immersion bursary at local high school (23 years).

Expertise:

- Bylaws, policies, governance or regulatory documents
- Chapter development, local accommodation issues
- Branch governance and advocacy support

Kate Peters

Region: Alberta

Serving since 2017

Starting 2nd year of 2nd term

Roles (current and past): Vice-President-Elect, Treasurer, Chair of Nominating Committee

After beginning her French language education in an immersion context at 18, Kate Peters commitment to French second language education has continued to grow. As she related in a [recent CPF magazine article](#), she credits her language learning with her ability to forge strong relationships, manage complexity, and to acquire new skills.

Her relationship with CPF began when she was Deputy Director of the Alliance Francaise of Calgary, and has strengthened throughout her career in Alberta Francophonie. She completed her Master's thesis on the implementation of the DELF in Alberta Core French programs and she is now working on an EdD in Educational Leadership at the University of Toronto.

Kate's professional experience includes the role of Deputy Director of the Alliance Francaise of Calgary, Community Liaison Officer for the Francophone Secretariat with the Government of Alberta, and more recently, Director of the Centre collegial de l'Alberta and Academic Administration at the University of Alberta. She has experience working nationally including leading the organisation of the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Ministerial Conference on the Canadian Francophonie.

She feels privileged to have a young Francophile family supportive of community engagement activities and believes that the perspective of a parent would be a valuable asset to the CPF National board. She would be proud to serve the organisation at this exciting turning point in CPF's history.

Richard Slevinsky

Region: Alberta

Serving since 2017

Starting 1st year of 3rd term

Roles (current and past): Chair of Strategic Planning Committee, Public Policy Committee

A native Franco-Albertan, Richard attended the University of Alberta where he trained to become a French language teacher. During his career as an educator, he served as a French teacher and administrator in Core, Immersion and French First Language settings for over 40 years. Highlights of his commitment and contributions to French language education and Canadian Parents for French include

- Holding workshops promoting French language education for teachers and parents across Canada;
- Working for the Departments of Education (Basic and Advanced) in Alberta and participating in negotiating agreements for the Official Languages in Education Programs (OLEP). During his tenure with Alberta Advanced Education, Richard worked with the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC) and served as provincial coordinator for OLEP's two national programs: the Summer Language Bursary Programs and the Official Languages Monitor Programs;

- Completing a thesis for his MEd that looked at the initial experiences of French language teachers recruited from Quebec and New Brunswick to teach in Alberta's French language programs. This thesis was selected by the University of Alberta as an exemplar and submitted to a national competition;
- Completing a dissertation for his PhD that looked at implementing Francophone school governance and establishing schools in Alberta's French first language communities;
- Teaching graduate level educational leadership courses in French at the University of Alberta's Campus St-Jean;
- Serving the education system in various senior leadership capacities including Senior Consultant Official Language Programs (Government of Alberta), Superintendent of Schools, and Headmaster in the Private school setting;
- Being recognized by the Association canadienne-française de l'Alberta in 2004 for his outstanding contribution to French language education; and
- Serving Canadian Parents for French at the Branch (Alberta Branch as Director and President) and at the National Levels (Advocacy Committee).

Diane Tijman

Region: BC

Serving since 2019

Starting 2nd year of 1st term

Roles (current and past): Bylaw Committee; Research Working Group

Diane is a passionate advocate of second language education and her own personal values are strongly linked to the mission, values and vision of CPF. She is a Francophile, and has worked diligently to become bilingual completing her B.A. in French and M.A. in Second Language Education from UBC. She studied in Québec and France and taken DELF training and certification in France.

She has held leadership roles as a FSL teacher in three districts, modern languages coordinator 1998-2010 and English language learning coordinator 2010-2016. She has served as Past President of BC Language Coordinators Association, BC Association of Teachers of Modern Languages and Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee, City of Richmond and as a Director of Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers.

Diane has been involved with CPF as a CPF Richmond Chapter member for 22 years, and served as CPF BC Yukon Branch Board member and President from 2016-2018. She believes strongly in investing in board development and leadership training, governance and mentoring of new board members. She is convinced that her children's success can partly be attributed to CPF collaborating with her school district by providing events and activities in French.

Submitted by Marc Gobeil, Nominating Committee Chair

October 6, 2020