

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2022-23 was a very busy year with significant changes in how we delivered programming, worked together and responded to the actions and initiatives within the CPF Network. Here are our highlights:

- This was the third year of Alberta's UCP government. Highlights:
 - Official Languages Education Protocol funding negotiations on still ongoing between Alberta and Ottawa. We are not anticipating too many changes, but are sure that the increased cost of living will not be covered in it.
 - The addition of new subjects and grades in Alberta's new curriculum are still being pushed forward and teachers are now using it in their classrooms. There are still significant issues with the scope and sequence of the math curriculum and we have not figured out where the Social Studies one originated.
 - Changes within French Education Services at Alberta Education have occurred. CPF has met some of the new senior management team, but they appear to be focused more on Francophone programming and issues than those in FSL and FI. They are also focusing on public relations.
 - The relationship with Minister LaGrange has not changed or evolved. We are in regular communication with her office in regards to areas of concern, issues, supports and a variety of other things, but tend to receive a perfunctory non-committal response. We are hoping that the election in the Spring brings some change.
- CPF Alberta continues to support CPF NWT with staff and the executive director. During the *National Network Leadership Event* in Edmonton in August, the decision to amalgamate CPF Alberta and CPF NWT was confirmed. After a few communications challenges, the process of doing so proceeded, was documented and shared with the CPF Network. As of April 1, 2023, the new entity will be called the "CPF Alberta and NWT Branch".
- The CPF Network is still looking at what the organization will look like moving forward. Declining membership is still a major concern with numbers peaking at 55,000 during COVID and continuing to decline to less than 15,000. The leadership in event will be when we can start envisioning the next five years.
- This year, CPF Alberta got back into doing things "in-person" while maintaining a virtual presence:
 - Hosting the 8th annual *French Family Fun Weekend* in Jasper and then the *Falling into French Family Weekend* in Canmore with 20+ families in attendance at each one.
 - Plans are moving forward to re-launch the *Camping en Français Family Weekend* in August 2023 in Rocky Mountain House.
 - Co-hosted a split, province-wide socio-cultural school tour with Roger Dallaire.
 - Still the lead on the CPF *Enhanced Self-Guided French for Parents* programming.
 - Co-hosting with French for the Future close to 1,000 students from Greater Calgary at both a junior- and senior-high forums.
- Things to watch in 2023-24:

- What CPF will look like in the NWT. We are requesting that the NWT Canadian Heritage funds be delivered and managed through Alberta with an accompanying change in PCH officers.
- The launch of a CPF Alberta Youth Engagement Committee for 16-25 year olds. It will be a committee that helps foster an advocative conversation between CPF and French speaking students.
- The outcome of a provincial election.
- Advocacy initiatives with the new political reality in Alberta after the May election.
- What will become of the curriculum currently being implemented and what will happen moving forward - especially math and social studies.
- How *Camping en Français* went!

Canadian Parents for French Alberta is also pleased to acknowledge the ongoing support of the Department of Canadian Heritage.

*L'intelligence, ce n'est pas ce que l'on SAIT mais
ce que l'on FAIT quand on ne sait pas.*

*Intelligence is not what you KNOW, but
what you DO when you don't know.*

Jean Piaget

Michael Tryon
October 2023