

Nominations Committee Report

The CPF Alberta Board of Directors plays a major role in networking with other organizations to advocate on behalf of French-second-language learning, in policy development, and hiring the Executive Director and holding that individual accountable for the work of the branch.

Ideally, the provincial board, as with the chapter executive boards, includes individuals with a variety of experience and expertise, representing a broad cross-section of the Alberta French-second-language community. For many years CPF Alberta has operated with a seven-member Board of Directors. Approximately half are elected each year for two-year terms. In 2022, three (3) positions are open for election.

The Nominations Committee is pleased to present to the 2022 Annual General Meeting the following nominees for the Board of Directors, to hold office until the AGM in the fall of 2024:

- Sarah CLARK of Okotoks, Director;
- Emilie JOSH of Calgary, Director;
- Suzanne KAHLER of Edmonton, Director; and
- Erin QUIRING of Airdrie, Director.

The following individual will continue to hold office until the AGM in the fall of 2023:

- Diana BOISVERT of Grande Prairie, Director;
- Patti BONHOMME of Spruce Grove, Director; and
- Emma PIAYDA of Medicine Hat, Director.

Emma PIAYDA is in the second year of her term as President and has previously served four (4) years as CPF Alberta's Vice President.

Sarah CLARK is letting her name stand for the position of Vice President. Sarah has just finished one (1) year as Vice President and has been on the CPF Board of Directors for six (6) years.

The short biographies of all of the above candidates are below for your information.

No nominations were received by the Board of Directors under the Additional Nominations Procedure by the July 30, 2022 deadline for any open position.

(PLEASE NOTE: All of the above statements were written by the candidates. CPF Alberta takes no responsibility for the content.)

Diana Boisvert

Diana Boisvert is the French Language Resource Centre Director in Grande Prairie, CASLT National Council Alberta Representative and the Past-President of SLIC (Second Languages and Intercultural Council a specialist council of the ATA). She also directs the Grande Prairie DELF-DALF Exam Centre. Diana has a significant background in the FSL (Core French) classroom, as well as experience in the French Immersion classroom with experience in successfully applying best practices in second language teaching and learning using current resources.

Sarah Clark

Sarah Clark is a mother of three children who attend French Immersion. She, herself, was a French Immersion graduate and continues on her language learning journey today. Sarah has a Master's degree in second language learning and is passionate about literacy development and language development. Her experience in education and educational leadership has varied from kindergarten to post-secondary. She values her role representing Canadian Parents for French in Alberta.

Emilie Josh

Emilie has been immersed in the French language since birth, thanks to her French father and (marvelous but not-quite-french-speaking) Canadian mother. Emilie attended a Francophone elementary school in Edmonton, Ste-Jeanne-d'Arc, before switching to French immersion in Grade 7 at McKernan Junior High and earning a French Immersion Diploma from Harry Ainlay. To ensure she didn't lose the language during her undergraduate degree, Emilie moved to Lille, France and studied at the Université Catholique de Lille for two semesters.

In addition to this, Emilie has her DALF C2, certified in June 2012 and re-issued in May 2016. She maintains a high level of French fluency and works to support French-language-speakers wherever they might be in their lives and linguistic abilities.

While Emilie has no children of her own, she is a fierce advocate for bi- and multilingualism at all ages, and especially starting from a young age. Being a tad younger (but no more vivacious) than the rest of the board, Emilie brings a different and more on-the-ground or learner-oriented perspective to the actions of Canadian Parents for French Alberta.

Suzanne Kahler

My name is Suzanne Kahler. My mom was of French-Canadian descent, and my dad was Dutch, and so we did speak some French at home. I grew up in the French immersion program, starting in preschool in Regina, and finishing with a French Immersion High

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School diploma, from Western Canada High in Calgary. I work as a behaviour consultant with preschoolers with special needs, supporting the kids and their families in having inclusive lives, within their homes, communities, and schools.

I am married with 2 kids; the eldest has graduated with a French immersion high school diploma, and the youngest is in Grade 2, also in the French immersion program. My hobbies used to include playing soccer and crafting, but now are watching my son play soccer, and crafting with my daughter!