

Canadian Parents for French - Saskatchewan

Chapter Chat

November 2008



Ready, Set, Go!

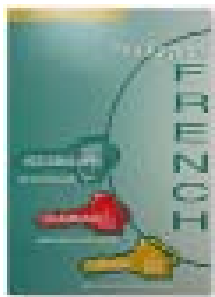
There is still time to book your Multimedia Kit. Don't miss the chance to do it.



These Kits are available for a six-week loan period per Associate Member school each year. The Multimedia Kits consist of French-language videos, CD'S, CD-ROM's, cassettes, books and games for the use of students in kindergarten to grade eight.

Contact CPF-SK as soon as possible to see a sample inventory or book a Kit for your school today!

Keys to French



The Keys to French, levels 1 and 2 are a great way to help your children improve their French. These booklets contain commonly used French verb conjugations, grammar and vocabulary. Students are finding these convenient quick reference guides an extremely handy tool. Contact us to order your copy today. Chapters can purchase these guides at cost for \$4.00 each. The guides can be then be sold for \$5.00 to members and \$6.00 to non-members.

Reminders

Deadline (Report/Article): January 15, 2009

It is time to prepare a chapter report or article (between 100-150 words) about your current activities, past events, future programs, plans and ideas that can be printed in our February Newsletter. Please submit this article to our office (either by fax, e-mail or mail) on or before January 15, 2009.

Deadline (Representative to AGM/Chapter Planning Meeting): April 15, 2009

Please start to discuss who will represent your chapter at The President's Reception, Branch AGM, Chapter Planning Meeting on June 12 and June 13, 2009. Let us know before April 15, 2009.

CPF-SK Volunteer of the Year Award 2009

For those who did not submit the form for the 2009 CPF-SK Volunteer of the Year Award, please send us your nomination now. The form can be found in the previous Chapter Chat or in the e-mail sent to you recently.

Keeping your members

Convincing a friend or neighbour to become a member of CPF is only the first step in the membership process. A new member needs to be warmly welcomed and made to feel an immediate part of an organization that is glad he or she in particular joined.

A membership is good for one or three years only. Right from the first day of a new membership you need to plan for membership renewal. The new member needs to be nurtured and cared for, if you want a membership renewal.

It is important to understand the mechanics of the membership process. Let's consider the family who joins CPF at the parent-teacher night in September. When they enter the school gym they immediately see a large, colourful sign: Canadian Parents for French—Join Us! While waiting for the program to start they read the pamphlet "CPF and You" which is on their chair. At the coffee break they decide to join and write a cheque for a one or three year family membership. The next morning the membership chairman sends their cheque, along with all the other new memberships and membership renewals, to the CPF-SK office in Saskatoon. She also keeps the names of new members and the renewal information, to keep the local membership records current.

The CPF-SK office sends the membership form and cheque to the National office, where the information is entered into the computer. At this moment the family officially becomes a member of CPF. A "New Member Welcome Kit" is sent to each new member which outlines the benefits of joining CPF and what members can expect from the association.

The name of the new and renewing member then appears on the next membership list. The CPF-SK office sends each new member a letter of welcome. The family begins to receive regular mailings from National, and provincial newsletters. However, if this is all that happens, chances are not good that the family will renew, or become active, long-term members.

What is needed is what only you or someone on your chapter membership committee can provide: the personal touch. Some chapters make a follow-up phone call once the membership has been received to say "hello and welcome". A short telephone call gives you a chance to welcome the new member and to discover a variety of information: what are the family's interests? What grades are the children in? How involved does the family want to be in chapter activities? What special talents can the family contribute? A telephone call also gives you a chance to introduce yourself and to tell the new member about an upcoming chapter event or meeting. The same call gives the new member a chance to ask you any questions they may have.

A telephone call coming as soon as possible after the family has joined, is only the first of a regular series of personal contacts. The purpose is to get the family actively involved in chapter activities, to ensure that they develop a personal stake in the success of the chapter and the association. When they do, they become much more likely to renew their membership, or even to become membership advocates.

Not all members have the time or interest to become directly involved in volunteer activities. These members need to know what you have done for them, what you are doing, and what you plan to do. Don't be afraid to blow your own horn: no one else can do it as loudly or as well. Who knows? One of those regular phone calls may even result in a new volunteer for some special project.

Mini Rendez-vous



If you haven't booked this event yet, now it is time to do it for the upcoming year. Give the CPF-SK office a call today.

House of Commons Page Program



Do you have an interest in Canadian politics, and speak both official languages? Are you a Canadian citizen or permanent resident graduating from a high school or CEGEP, and have an overall average of at least 80 percent?

House of Commons Pages work part-time on Parliament Hill while studying first-year university courses. Their duties are varied and include collecting and distributing official documents, serving House officials, acting as messengers for the Speaker and for Members of Parliament, and speaking to high school groups about their experiences. The House of Commons Page Program is a unique opportunity to see the House of Commons in action, meet other youth from across the country, and earn close to \$12,000 for the year long contract. Every year, 40 students are selected from across Canada to take part in this remarkable experience.

Applications to the House of Commons Page Program are due on December 1, 2008.

Application forms are sent to high schools and CEGEPs across the country every fall, and can also be downloaded from the House of Commons Page Program web site at http://www.parl.gc.ca/information/about/programs/pages/pp_welcome-e.htm . Students in their last year of high school must apply by December 1, 2008.

CPF Gift Boutique Available from the Branch Office

ITEM	Price
Watch	\$22.00
Umbrella	\$20.00
Sling Backpack	\$14.00
Steel Thermos	\$12.00
Tote Bag	\$11.00
Toque	\$7.00
Khaki Painter's Cap	\$7.00
P/C Water Bottle	\$6.00

Thank You Cards (10)	\$5.00
Beach Ball	\$3.00
Ceramic Mug	\$2.00
LED Keychain	\$2.00
Lapel Pin	\$2.00
Button	\$0.75
Silicone Bracelet	\$0.65
Balloon	\$0.25
Pencil	\$0.20

★ Calendar of Events



December 2008

- 1 Deadline for House of Commons Page Program
- 5 International Day of Volunteers
- 5 Presentation of Volunteer Award by Chapters
- 11-12 *Les Mots d'ados* by Amanda Gaudet, Camille Gaudet, Charlie Douglas and Gabrielle Dufresne performed by La Troupe du Jour (Saskatoon)
- 13 Franco-Noël (AJF)

January 2009

- 15 Intensive French Mini Rendez-vous (Saskatoon)
- 19 Le Club inter (La Fédération des francophones à Saskatoon)
- 31 Mauvais Sort (French Canadian Rock Band) /Show in Saskatoon

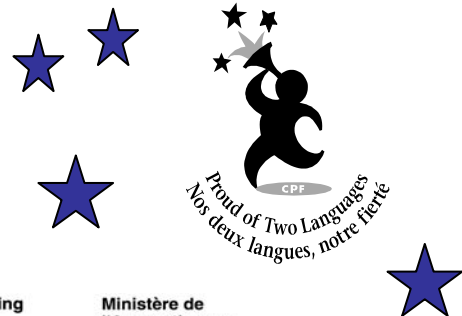
February 2009

- 2-6 French Immersion Week
- 5-8, 12-15 Rearview (La Troupe du Jour)
- 16 Le Club inter (La Fédération des francophones à Saskatoon)
- 21 International Mother Language Day
- 27-28 Film Festival – Cinergie (Broadway Theatre - Saskatoon)

Contact Information

Canadian Parents for French – Saskatchewan
303-115 2nd Avenue North
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K 2B1

Phone: 1-800-561-6151
In Saskatoon 244-6151
Fax: 306-244-8872
Email: chapterdevelopment@sasktel.net



Learning

Ministère de
l'Apprentissage
de la Saskatchewan