

Canadian Parents for French - Saskatchewan

Chapter Chat



October 2008



Volunteer of the Year Award

Nomination deadline: November 14th, 2008

Reminder: The deadline for nominations for the Volunteer of the Year Award is November 14th. Each chapter is asked to nominate one volunteer for this award. The CPF-SK Volunteer of the Year Award is presented in recognition of the contribution of a volunteer who:

- Is a CPF member
- Demonstrates initiative and dedication
- Gives volunteer service to CPF above and beyond the call of duty in the current calendar year

Process:

- Each chapter executive may nominate one person per year
- Nominations must be received by CPF-SK on or before November 14th for the current year's award
- The nominee from each chapter will receive a certificate and gift from CPF-SK to be presented by the chapter in conjunction with the International Day of Volunteers on December 5th
- Form must be completed and signed by two chapter members other than the nominee
- Provincial winner will be selected from the chapter nominees by the CPF-SK Board of Directors
- The Provincial winner will receive recognition at the CPF-SK AGM/Chapter Planning Meeting

CPF-SK Volunteer of the Year Award
Nomination form

Currently accepting nominations for the calendar year of 2009

Name of Nominee: _____

Chapter: _____

Address: _____

Nominated by: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Reasons for your nomination:

Signature of First Nominator: _____

Signature of Second Nominator: _____

*Please submit this nomination form on or before November 14th, 2008 to:
CPF-SK, 303-115 2nd Avenue North, Saskatoon, SK S7K 2B1
Fax: 306-244-8872*

Did you know?

In Canada, French-English bilingualism carries a number of benefits:

- Economic benefits: Canadians who speak both official languages earn more, on average, than those who speak only English or only French.
- Cognitive benefits: A number of studies have documented the cognitive advantages that speaking a second language confer. For example, many bilingual people have enhanced problem-solving skills because of their ability to attend to relevant information and disregard misleading information.
- Cultural benefits: French-English bilingualism enhances Canadians' ability to participate fully in Canadian society.

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 1st, 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 1st, 2008.



Grades 6-9 Grant Program funding available!

It's not too late to apply for the Grades 6-9 Grant program from CPF-SK. This funding is available to support French-language activities for core, immersion, and intensive French students within Saskatchewan. The deadline for application is **February 27th, 2009** for projects taking place between April 1st and August 31st, 2009 and **July 31st, 2009** for projects taking place between September 1st and December 31st, 2009. Currently we accept applications for projects between January 1st and March 31st, 2009.



Helpful hints about membership recruitment...

- Remember that the cheapest but most effective way of recruiting a new member for CPF is for a current member to ask a friend to join. One-by-one, friendly persuasion always works best. Use all your members as recruiters by giving them the information they need to “sell” CPF.
- Focus on how the potential member – not you! – will benefit from joining CPF
- Never make members feel guilty about not doing more!
- Always think beyond “parents” and especially beyond “immersion parents”
- Avoid jargon. Don’t talk about FSL learning opportunities, talk about giving children a chance to learn French, or the gift of a second language. Don’t assume everyone knows what “core” or “immersion” or “dual track” means.
- **Collect memberships on the spot. Forms that go home are often lost.** Offer to save potential members the cost of an envelope and postage (then be sure to forward the applications to the national office immediately).
- Let potential members know that joining CPF is easy:
 - Payment can be done by credit card directly to the National (no need for cash or a cheque)
 - Applications can be found online at www.cpfask.com or www.cpf.ca
 - A three year membership saves \$15
 - Always encourage new members to give two (adult) names on the form if possible.

A member has needs too...

Keep in mind that people who join CPF have basic needs. If you want your members to maintain their interest, efforts, and financial support, you must recognize these needs and respond to them.

A member needs:

1. To have a sense of belonging
2. To share in the planning of group goals. To know that their ideas have been heard.
3. To feel that the goals are within reach and that they make sense.
4. To feel that what he/she is doing contributes to the associations’ welfare and that its value extends beyond the group itself.
5. To share in making the rules of the group—the rules by which the group lives and works toward its goals.
6. To know just what is expected of him/her so that he/she can work confidently.
7. To have responsibilities that challenge, that are within their abilities, and that contribute towards the goals.
8. To see that progress is being made.
9. To be kept informed.
10. To have confidence in his/her chairperson—confidence based upon consistently fair treatment, recognition when it is due, and trust.

Recognizing these basic needs and running your chapter accordingly can lead to a healthy organization with a strong membership.

French for Parents class (Level 2)



Starting November, Canadian Parents for French – Saskatchewan will be offering French for Parents language courses, Level 2. This level is geared towards adults with basic conversational skills. Registration deadline is **October 31st, 2008**. For more information on how to register, please visit www.cpfask.com or call the CPF-SK office at 244-6151.

A Wonderful Fun Filled Day for Kids in K to Grade Five



Several chapters have already booked their dates for Mini Rendez-vous. Please call to arrange a date for your future event. One of the keys to success for children in French-second-language programs is to be surrounded by the language during out-of-school activities.

Reminder: It is time to start thinking about writing an article/report (between 100-150 words) about your present activities and future plans and submit to our office (either by fax, e-mail or mail) on or before **January 15th, 2009**. We will include your report in our upcoming CPF-SK Newsletter. Thank you!



Calendar of Events



October 2008

- 17 Deadline for *Parlement franco-canadien du Nord et de l'Ouest* (AJF)
- 16-19 Youth Parliament (AJF)
- 16-19 CPF National AGM (Ottawa)
- 16-19 'Mil neuf cent dix-huit' by Kevin Kerr, performed by 'La Troupe Du Jour' (Saskatoon)
- 20-27 Library week in Saskatchewan

November 2008

- 8 Mini Rendez-vous (Melville)
- 13-16 *Parlement franco-canadien du Nord et de l'Ouest* (AJF)
- 14 Deadline for Volunteer of the Year Award
- 15 Branch Board Meeting (Saskatoon)
- 18 Special General Meeting (Regina)
- 20 Universal Children's Day
- 22 Mini Rendez-vous (Moose Jaw)
- 29 Mini Rendez-vous / Special General Meeting (Saskatoon)

December 2008

- 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)

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