



**CANADIAN  
PARENTS  
FOR FRENCH**  
NORTHWEST  
TERRITORIES

# Annual Performance Report 2020-2021

## About Us

**Canadian Parents for French is a nationwide, research-informed, volunteer organization that represents 35,000 members across Canada and champions the opportunity to learn and use French for all those who call Canada home.**

Canadian Parents for French was founded in 1977 by parents who wanted to ensure that children would have the opportunity to become bilingual in the Canadian school system.

Originally a small group of concerned parents who met in Ottawa, Canadian Parents for French has evolved into a proactive National Network with 12 Branches and offices and over 140 Chapters in communities nationwide.

In 2020-2021, in light of the worldwide pandemic, Canadian Parents for French worked together as a national network to lead initiatives in support of Canadian parents and FSL learners, shifting our focus to virtual programming and sharing resources beyond geographical barriers.



## President's Message



**A**s I come to the end of my second year as President of CPF, I have been thinking a lot about the impact that our organization has in the Northwest Territories, and as part of the larger CPF network. It has been another challenging year for CPF NWT and it has been hard to stay positive when we have not been able to provide the same types of activities that the organization has provided in the past. We have seen a decline in activities for youth and parent members, but have taken this as an opportunity to strengthen our network and advocacy work, which has long taken a back seat.

We have spent the last year focusing on the CPF NWT team, building a governance model for CPF NWT, strengthening our relationship with our ties within the CPF network, and building a space for CPF to have

an impact through advocacy work. Our program coordinator stepped down from his role this past summer and we welcomed a new staff person, who is working for us temporarily from Alberta to keep us on track as we ran a competition for someone local. Unfortunately, the competition we ran was unsuccessful, and we have extended the temporary contract by several months. We hope to run another competition for a program coordinator in the new year.

We have been collaborating closely with the CPF Alberta board, and both David and I attended the National AGM in September. This was a great opportunity for us to make connections within the network and to contribute to the larger organization. I also took on the role of co-chair and eventually chair of the CPF Council of Presidents, which has provided a great opportunity for the Northwest Territories to be a more visible player in the CPF network.

It has been a bit of a rollercoaster navigating these ever-changing times, and the Board wouldn't be able to have done it without our amazing staff.

And, of course, a big thank you goes out to our main funder Canadian Heritage!

**Maggie Hawkes**  
**President**  
**CPF Northwest Territories**

# STAFF REPORT

**2020-21** was a year of re-organization and reconnection. We started off the year with Kieron Testart filling the role of Program Coordinator. Kieron has had a number of years of history with CPF as a member and was a French immersion parent. Kieron spent much of his time attempting to reconnect with the community, our partners and stakeholders.

The first significant challenge that we had to overcome – along with everyone else – was the COVID-19 pandemic and the rules/regulations surrounding it. With schools first being closed and learning being transferred to an online environment and then with the schools being closed to everyone but teachers and students, it was very difficult to connect with parents, educators and students. CPF NWT planned and hosted a number of online events and activities for FSL/FRIM students and families, but uptake was extremely limited. Attempts to partner with the teachers and the school boards to offer socio-cultural activities for their students were received with no/limited response. Even partnering with French for the Future to offer a Virtual Community Forum for grade 8-12 students, could not convince schools to participate and this event had to be cancelled. When asked why NWT's teachers were not picking up on the activities and events being offered by CPF while their colleagues across the rest of Canada were demanding support, we were told that the program was too full to fit anything and that the majority of teachers were not comfortable letting their students participate in online activities.

With the closure of the schools to parents, community groups and education partners, many traditional events were cancelled as well. That meant that there were no FRIM Open Houses, career fairs, French for Parents Classes, fundraising and the hosting of socio-cultural activities after hours.

## **CPF NWT did have success with the following activities:**

- *Concours virtuelle*
- Summer Arts Contest
- Partnership with Music InterChange for Free French Family Music Classes
- Launching the CPF Where are they now? Program
- French Trivia Night
- Four (4) events at Rendezvous de la Francophonie in both Yellowknife and Hay River

For the first time in many years, CPF NWT took on some advocacy issues. CPF NWT was invited to a YK1 Board of Trustees meeting at which time the issues surrounding the proposed Alberta Curriculum surfaced. Letters were sent to Alberta's Minister of Education, as well as to the NWT's Minister of Education, Culture and Employment. Shortly thereafter, the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment launched a curriculum consultation – both as part of a regular review cycle as well as in response to Alberta's Proposed Curriculum. Finally, the closure of the Alberta Distance Learning Centre negatively impacted not only NWT's French immersion students, but all students. Letters were written and phone calls were had with staff in both Alberta's Ministry of Education and the NWT's Education, Culture and Employment.

## **The partnership with CPF Alberta for logistical support has been working very well! What has this meant for CPF NWT and its members?**

- Regular communiques with updates are going out monthly to all NWT members.
- Finances were being managed by CPF Alberta's finance administrator.
- By the end of the fiscal year, CPF NWT was able to submit the majority of the outstanding reports to its funders.
- Many more activities are made available for youth, parents and families.
- The launch of a member survey during the summer of 2021 to align CPF NWT's programming with the needs and desire of the communities.
- The NWT Program Coordinator is an active member of a team and is no longer having to work in isolation.

## **Moving forward, CPF NWT is looking to:**

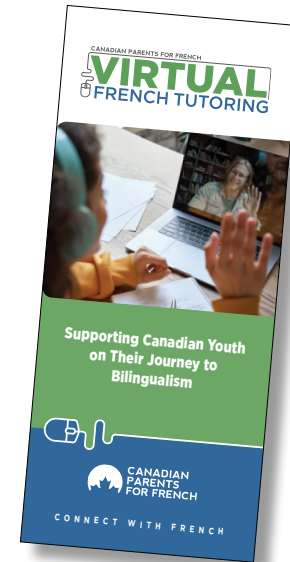
- Partner with CPF Alberta and CPF National in centralizing financial management.
- Connecting better with the education community to provide supports to students, teachers and schools.
- Continue on working on developing CPF Teams in both in and outside of Yellowknife.
- Promote the participating of more students, parents, teachers and schools in the activities organized by CPF NWT.

This concludes the 2020-21 staff report. We are happy to answer any questions that members may have and we are looking forward to continuing our work supporting CPF NWT's members.

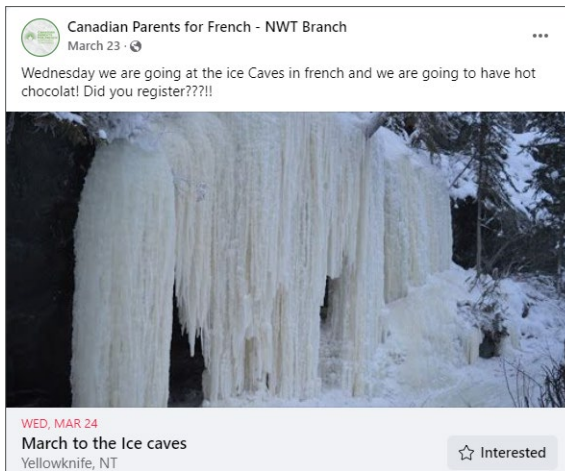
# YOUTH

## CPF Virtual French Tutoring Program

CPF NWT has partnered with CPF Alberta to offer a virtual French Tutoring resource for French second language students between the ages of 5 and 14. During 2020-2021, we have been able to provide 4-10-week sessions for virtual 1-on-1 tutoring. In many of these sessions, an option for conversation clubs and book clubs were also available. This program was immediately well received by a number of NWT families given the situation of at home learning that everyone was faced with.



CPF NWT hosted many activities for its member families in 2020-2021. Some of these include: a movie night, summer art contests, and free French music classes! CPF NWT also supported four (4) activities during the *Rendezvous de la francophonie* – Ice Cave (March 24), Flower activity (March 19), cooking (March 21) and hot chocolate & skiing (March 26), and Flower activity (April 1 – Hay River).





# YOUTH

## CPF Northwest Territories Summer Program

**CPF Northwest Territories** launched a summer program entitled "CPF Summer Art Contest" This project was set up to engage students in grades k-6. Students were able to get creative and use their French skills during the summer months!



## Concours Virtuel

**CPF Northwest Territories** partnered and participated in the **CPF Concours virtuel: Ensemble à distance** – *"Ton expérience face au virus"*.

We invited students from K to Gr. 12 to submit a 1-3 minute video about COVID-19 and how social distancing was impacting their lives.



# ADVOCACY

**CPF NWT** pursued a couple of advocacy opportunities this year. A meeting with the Board of Trustees of YK1 provided an opportunity to share information about where CPF NWT was heading, while listening to some of the concerns surrounding Alberta's new proposed curriculum which NWT aligns themselves with. Additional conversations were had with and letters were sent to NWT's Minister of Education, Culture and Employment and Alberta's Ministry of Education.

STAND UP FOR YOUR KIDS

“**I'M WORRIED ABOUT OUR KIDS' FUTURE, AND YOU SHOULD BE TOO!**”

STAND UP FOR YOUR KIDS

“**THIS CURRICULUM IS A MESS**”

Help us support the journey to bilingualism by lending us your voice.

# CPF Network

## CPF Northwest Territories AGM Virtual Meeting

On November 10, 2020 at the Annual General Meeting, members elected a slate of directors and accepted the audited financial statements for the fiscal year 2019-2020.

The CPF Northwest Territories Board of Directors has diligently carried out its roles and responsibilities throughout the year. The organization successfully completed all contractual obligations and scheduled programming.

### CPF Northwest Territories Board of Directors 2020-2021

- **Maggie Hawkes**, President
- **David Wasylciw**, Vice President
- **Toni Anderson**, Treasurer
- **Angela Roy**, Secretary
- **Alexandra King**, Director



Maggie Hawkes



Toni Anderson



Angela Roy

### FUNDING/PARTNERS ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

# Thank you - Merci

We thank the Government of Canada through the Department of Canadian Heritage (Enhancement of Official Languages Program) for their continued financial support



Government  
of Canada

Gouvernement  
du Canada

Canadian Parents for French Northwest Territories  
wishes to thank:

### PARTNERS



ACUFC

ASSOCIATION DES COLLÈGES ET UNIVERSITÉS  
DE LA FRANCOPHONIE CANADIENNE



Office of the  
Commissioner of  
Official Languages

Commissariat  
aux langues  
officielles



AFCY

ASSOCIATION  
FRANCO-CULTURELLE  
DE YELLOWKNIFE

- **Music Interchange - Échange Musical**

# By the Numbers



**12** Newsletters

**3,449** Total Recipients

**78** Subscribers on the Newsletter Mailing List



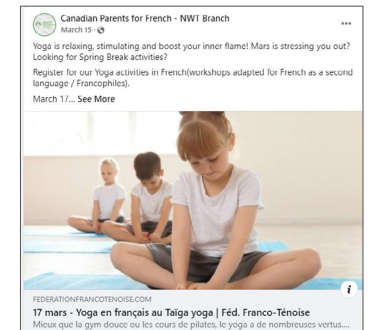
**5600 (+68)** Page Likes

**10,939** Reach Average organic without publicity

**640 (+129)** Followers



**164(+9)** Twitter Followers

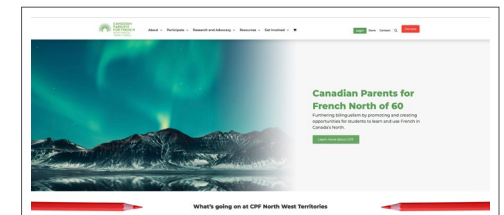


**786** Website Page Views

**825** Website Unique Page Views

**513** Website Users

**278** Website New Users



**493** Website Sessions

# Canadian Parents for French across Canada

The **Canadian Parents for French** Network collaborates by working together, demonstrating strong leadership and true impact across the country.



## CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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