



CANADIAN
PARENTS
FOR FRENCH
NOVA SCOTIA



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 Chapters in local 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



It goes without saying that 2020-2021 was a year of change for Canadian Parents for French, Nova Scotia, given that the in-person activities we provide for youth are our most recognized events. When schools were closed and the lockdown began in March 2020, we had to find creative ways to fulfill our mandate to create and promote opportunities for youth to learn and use French.

Over the 2020-2021 school year, Canadian Parents for French, Nova Scotia rose to the challenge, reaching youth in innovative ways that responded to Public Health restrictions. Our flagship **Concours d'art oratoire**, cancelled in 2020, went ahead in an exciting new classroom format in 2021. Over 1000 students from grades 1-12 took part across the province, and Salma Khattab, a grade 12 student at Citadel High placed first in the National *Concours*. Bravo!

With the support of our partners, our successful **French summer camp program** and **Bilingual Career Exploration Day** were switched to virtual delivery, allowing CPF to engage with youth despite physical distance. Building on our experience of **virtual Summer Camps** in 2020, in 2021 we offered a combination of **virtual and in-person camps**. We also took French to the streets of Halifax this summer through our **Halifax au Soleil** pop-up events. There are some activities that we missed, like the ever-popular French films. We hope to bring them back as soon as possible, but in the interim are pleased with the great success of the **Sciences en folie** workshops that we were able to provide at 16 schools. In fall 2020, Canadian Parents for French, National launched a **Virtual Tutoring program** designed to improve students' confidence in French. We are gratified to have administered this program for the Maritime region. We also continued our programming for the not-so-young: virtual **French for Parents** sessions at Beginner and Intermediate levels were offered in October, January and March. This focus on FSL teaching is central to our mission, and our **Take Your Career Further** project is now underway.

We are proud of our partnerships and our people. Volunteer participation rates have increased 30%. We have an engaged and committed Board whose dedication to the continuing success of the organization is obvious from their participation in national leadership and training events. Finally, the staff of Canadian Parents for French, Nova Scotia are tireless in their efforts to ensure the day-to-day and long-term success of our programming so that bilingualism can be a reality for youth in Nova Scotia. In recognition of this, we are honoured to announce that our Executive Director, Rebecca Lancaster, was the recipient of a **Lieutenant Governor's Award of Excellence for l'Acadie and Francophonie of Nova Scotia**. This is testimony to her many contributions to the promotion of French language and culture in Nova Scotia, and reflects very well on our organization.

As the new school year gets underway, I am confident that Canadian Parents for French, Nova Scotia is well placed to adapt to whatever challenges come our way. I encourage you to stay involved and to keep up to date with us on social media as we continue to work to make linguistic duality a reality for Nova Scotia youth.

Kate Ashley
President
CPF Nova Scotia



Program Reach and What Participants Had to Say

PROGRAM REACH

- **Concours in the classroom:** 1078 participants in 48 classrooms at 16 schools. Students from core French, French immersion and French first language participated.
- **Virtual camps 2020:** 120 participants in 8 weeks of camp, 11 virtual workshops posted Youtube, 85 campers participated in one-on-one sessions.
- **Sciences en folie:** 41 workshops with 894 participants in 29 classrooms at 16 schools.
- **Bilingual Career Exploration Day:** 16 classrooms, 240+ participants, registrations from Nova Scotia, CSAP, NFL and PEI.

“JP Michel’s Challenge Mindset approach to thinking about careers is great! After listening to his keynote, I assigned my students the “Challenge Mindset, Challenge Accepted” project where I’m asking students to think through this approach and present their findings to the class. Students have been working hard and are all very excited about the future. Thank you to CPF and JP for the inspiration!”

– Teacher feedback, Bilingual Career Exploration Day, February 2021

“J’ai reçu ta boîte avec des prix et des cadeaux de CPF Concours aujourd’hui ... WOW! C’est fantastique! Merci beaucoup! Depuis la registration, j’ai 3 élèves de plus qui voulaient y participer. J’ai dit “bien sûr!”

– Krystal Munro, Hebbville Academy

“Sciences en folie was a great opportunity for my students! I am so thankful that the costs were covered by CPF. My school wouldn’t have been able to participate, otherwise.”

– Teacher feedback, March 2021

“Quelle excellente opportunité!! Merci de partager les infos. Nous l’avons affiché sur notre Twitter.”

– Sciences en folie, Susan Vanier, Conseillère, Littératie M à 6, Halifax Regional Centre for Education

Super Tous Les Jours

CPF Nova Scotia and the Delmore “Buddy” Daye Learning Institute promoted **Super Tous Les Jours**, an essay competition where students in grades 7-12 wrote about an African Nova Scotia who had impacted their life.



Partner Events Supported:

CPF BC & Yukon Concours Virtuel, #EnsembleADistance

CPF Nova Scotia participated in the popular *Concours virtuel* organized by CPF BC & Yukon. Students submitted videos exploring the theme, Ensemble a distance as they experienced lockdowns and virtual education. We had over 45 video submissions from Nova Scotia. Each submission generated a \$10 donation to Food Banks Canada. Winners in each category received a cash prize but also a matching donation to the charity of their choice was made.

Congratulations to Yasmin Merhpooya (1st place gr 9 French immersion), Sappho Thompson (3rd place, gr 9 French immersion) and Audrey Veinot (3rd place, gr 6 French immersion).

As the country's schools moved to virtual formats due to the pandemic, Canadian Parents for French mobilized to assist parents at home with their children's French learning at home. Bilingual volunteers were recruited from across the county. Volunteers facilitated weekly online French conversations, reading practice and homework help with students aged 6 to 14 years of age. The program offered free of charge helped students build linguistic security to fully develop their language skills. The **Maritime Virtual Tutoring** program began in the fall of 2020 with CPF New Brunswick and CPF PEI. Students in regions were encouraged to sign up and a waiting list developed as demand outstripped capacity. **Two sessions** were offered in the fall and winter with **81 participants** and **61 volunteer tutors**.



Student Incentives

Incentives, bursaries or scholarships awarded:

- 7 Excellence in French grade 11/12 scholarships,
- 6 French second language high school bursaries.
- \$4,250 Value of incentives, scholarships



“Je suis tellement reconnaissante pour tout ce que votre organisation fait pour donner aux enfants la possibilité d'apprendre en français. Le fait d'être bilingue est un trait précieux don't je suis vraiment fière, ce qui rend ce prix encore plus spécial, alors merci beaucoup!”

– Victoria Metlage,
Diplômée d'École secondaire Halifax West

Santé en Français : une opportunité à ne pas manquer

CPF Nova Scotia partnered with **Réseau Santé Nouvelle-Écosse** to offer 2 virtual workshop for teens, *Santé en Français : une opportunité à ne pas manquer*. The workshops were offered as part of our virtual workshops series during summer programming 2020.



YOUTH *By the Numbers*

Numbers and statistics related to youth

Concours (Literacy Event) • Virtual provincial Concours celebrated by grades 9-12 May 2021.



1,078 Students Participated in
Concours in the Classroom

Socio-cultural Events



110 Socio-cultural Youth Events

3,023+ Young people reached

Youth Camps



8 Weeks of Camps offered/supported
providing virtual summer camp
programming

1 Week of March
Break Camp

16 Virtual
Workshops

165 Camp
Attendees

Partner Events



4 Partner Events
supported

MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS AND DONORS

CPF Nova Scotia Offered a Series of Concerts Through Facebook

With the pressure of limited physical activities for families to participate in, CPF Nova Scotia offered a series of concerts through Facebook. There were three summer concerts performed by *Razzmatazz for Kids*, *Mary Beth Carty* and *Michelle Deveau*! *Mary Beth Carty* also performed a holiday singalong concert with a playlist on Youtube and song sheets for families to use. Over 1,500 people from across the country watched each concert!



"I just wanted to express our sincere thanks for Wednesday night's virtual conference concert by Mary Beth Carty. What an amazing cultural experience for our family! My daughter is of mixed heritage: East Coast Canadian (Newfoundland), Mik'maq, and Scottish Gael, and she is also learning to speak French as a FI student. These are all important aspects of her identity, and she rarely sees them all intersect. To be able to engage with all these aspects simultaneously, in such a creative way, was a profound experience for all of us as a family. Please pass on our thanks to this wonderful artist, and thank you for arranging this lovely evening."

– T. B-M, National Network Conference, October 2020



French Classes for Parents/Adults

CPF Nova Scotia offered three sessions of French for parents/adults classes, Level 1 & 2, in October, January and March. With the move to online virtual classes, the registration increased and included rural communities who do not have access to adult French classes.



MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS AND DONORS

Shout Out to Chapters

Joan Dobbie, President of the Halifax Peninsula and Mainland South chapter has previously participated in the Bluenose Marathon to fundraise for her chapter's French Excellence Awards. With the cancellation of the Bluenose Marathon, Joan got creative and did a Pampered Chef fundraiser over the holidays raising \$475 towards bursaries.

Two members of the Halifax Peninsula and Mainland South chapter, Joan Dobbie and Rima Majaess spearheaded the nomination of Executive Director, Rebecca Lancaster for a Lieutenant Governor's Award of Excellence for l'Acadie and francophonie of Nova Scotia. With the support of Past President Colin Landry, the nomination was completed and the award winners were announced in March 2021. The award was created in 2020 and launched in 2021.
Merci mille fois à Joan, Rima et Colin!

CPF Lunenburg County held a chapter meet and greet virtually on February 23. There were 26 participants at the virtual meeting. President Hughie Batherson and SSCRE FSL Consultant Jason Belliveau Wood introduced parents to Canadian Parents for French and answered questions about French second language programs in the district. Parents learned about the virtual opportunities available such as tutoring, after school club, March Break camp and French for Parents.
Merci à Hughie et Jason!

CPF Port Hawkesbury and CPF Sydney were unable to offer summer camps this year due to public health regulations. Both chapters will resume their activities as soon as restrictions will be lifted.



MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS ENGAGEMENT *By the Numbers*

Numbers and statistics related to member engagement

Membership Engagement



2017 1,153
Members

2018 1,023
Members

2019 1,841
Members

2020 1,837
Members

2021 2,611 Members

615 NEW Organizational
Members

204 NEW Individual
or Family Members

Parent / Family Events / Adult French Lessons



6 French for
Parents/Adult
Classes

4 Facebook
Concerts
3 Summer, 1 Winter

1 Virtual Chapter
Meet and Greet
CPF Lunenburg and Area

4K+ Parents/Adult
participants
reached

Member / Volunteer Engagement



64
Volunteers

30%
Volunteer Growth

6
Activities for Volunteers

500+
Volunteer Hours

Members Communications



12 eBulletins to

6,616 Members, Teachers
and Education
Stakeholders

eBulletins are produced regularly
with highlights of events, activities
and resources.

Volunteer Recognition



3 Volunteers Recognized with
profiles on social media

Chapter Support

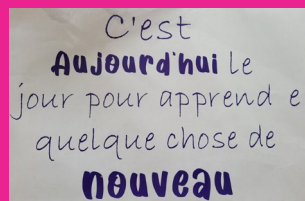


4 Active Chapters
or Teams

CPF ADVOCACY IN ACTION

French in Our Communities Cultural Grants

CPF Nova Scotia increased the amount of funding for our **French in our Communities** cultural grants from \$250 up to \$1,000. Herring Cove Junior High used their funds to purchase additional French books for their library. Mme deRoche and Mme Hiscock created a reading challenge called *Livres Lotto* for grade 7-9 French immersion students at their school. Mme Kelly Cyr of Kingswood Elementary did an innovative project with her French immersion students, **Bringing French into our School**. The project was a promotion of positive and inspirational quotes on posters by the grade 6 French immersion students.



Using our **@OfficialCricut** at **@Kingswood2** with **French pride!**

Merci @brilliant_labs and @CPFNovaScotia for making this possible.

This is only the beginning, more to come!
#6Cyr Mme Kelly Cyr

Take Your Career Further

Take your career further

As a French Teacher in Nova Scotia

Take Your Career Further was launched in September 2020. The goal of the project is to promote teaching French as a career option to university students in STEM and Arts programs. The project is supported by funding from Canadian Heritage through its Teacher Retention and Recruitment strategy. Our promotion initially focused on universities in Nova Scotia.

With additional funding for promotion, **Take Your Career Further** was expanded to include universities in the Atlantic region. In June 2020, CPF Nova Scotia participated in a virtual showcase where the project was presented to other organizations working on teacher recruitment and retention projects.

With a Bachelor of Education, you can teach.
With a Bachelor of Education to teach in French, you can take your career one step further!

www.takeyourcareerfurther.ca

Take your career further

As a French Teacher in Nova Scotia

Percentage of teachers with permance

FRENCH-LANGUAGE DISTRICT BOARD	100%
FSL-QUALIFIED IN ENGLISH DISTRICT BOARD	29%
ENGLISH-LANGUAGE TEACHER ENGLISH DISTRICT BOARD	2% 16% 30%

io College of Teachers. (2019). 2018 Annual F

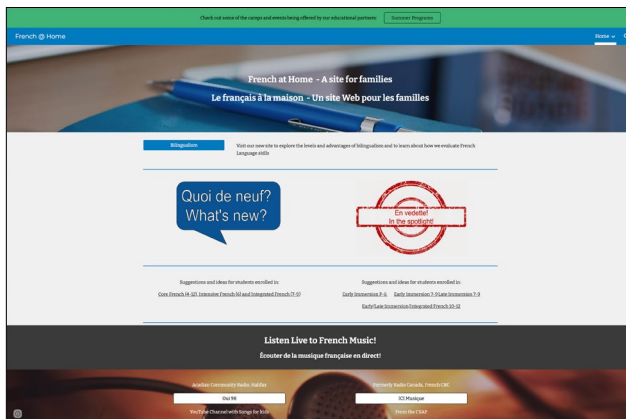
Take your career further

As a French Teacher in Nova Scotia

- Find enhanced career opportunities.
- Strengthen French language and culture in Nova Scotia.

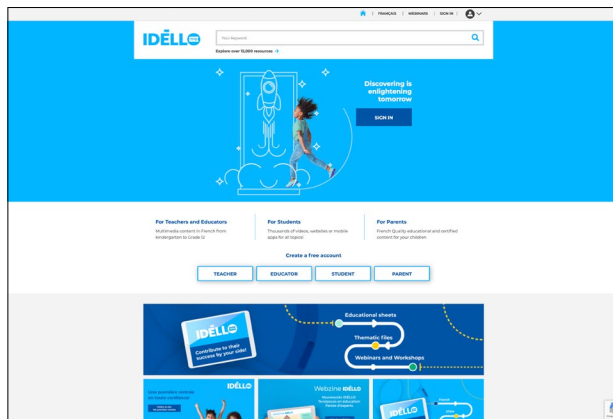
CPF ADVOCACY IN ACTION

CPF Nova Scotia Online Educational Support



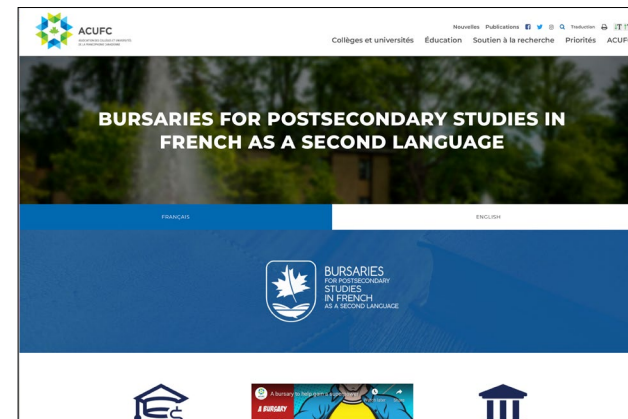
When schools closed in March 2020, NS Education and Early Childhood Learning created a website for parents called **French@Home**. The CPF NS virtual summer camps and virtual tutoring were added to the website as resources for parents to support their children's French learning while at home.

sites.google.com/gnspes.ca/nsfrenchathome



CPF Nova Scotia entered a two-year agreement with *Télévision française de l'Ontario* (TFO) to provide Nova Scotia French second language teachers with free *Idello* accounts. *Idello* is a website of over 12,000 ERAC-certified educational resources designed to meet the needs of teachers, educators, students and parents. Resources include videos, games, and teaching tools for all levels of French and on a variety of subjects from grade P-12.

www.idello.org



CPF Nova Scotia has partnered with *Association des collèges et universités de la francophonie canadienne* (ACUFC) to promote their Bursaries for Post-secondary Studies in French as a Second Language Program. English-speaking Canadians enrolled in the first year of a French college or university program have an opportunity to receive a \$3,000 bursary to perfect their bilingualism while studying in a field of interest.

www.acufc.ca/fslbursaries



French on Fridays! / Vendredi on parle!

In 2013, **CPF Nova Scotia** received funding from Canadian Heritage to develop a series of learning resources for parents and educators called **French on Fridays! / Vendredi on parle!** With the closure of Nova Scotia schools and the move to virtual learning, CPF Nova Scotia revised these resources and posted them online. The learning resources had tips and tools for parents to create activities and enrich their French learning environment at home.

CPF ADVOCACY IN ACTION *By the Numbers*

Numbers and statistics related to advocacy

Public Displays, community conferences, Parent Info Sessions



5

Info Booths/
Presentations

100+

Education Stakeholders
Reached

Info, Research Inquiries



2-8

Approximate calls per day regarding support for French learning at home, French tutors, virtual programming for schools. Inquiries (research or info)

Advocacy Event (Breakfast, or Other)



2

Branch Advocacy
Events

35

Stakeholder Meetings,
Events or Activities

300

Stakeholders
Reached

Partners



12

Existing
Partnerships

9

New
Partnerships

7

Joint
Initiatives

Media Releases and Mentions



4

Media Releases

13

Media Mentions

CPF Network: Building Leadership Expertise

Nova Scotia Branch

Staff, board and chapters attended the virtual National Network conference, **Raise Your Flag for French** in October 2020. Executive Director Rebecca Lancaster was one of the presenters at the conference. Rebecca did a presentation on *Youtube 101*, an overview of what she had learned during the summer. The branch used their Youtube channel to post videos from their *Mes Amis et Moi en ligne* workshop series.

Nicole Kabalen joined our staff in November 2020 as a Communications Coordinator (Atlantic Region). Nicole has a B.Comm and MBA (Marketing) from Saint Mary's University. She minored in French Language Arts while at university. She was a legislative page at the NS Legislature. Nicole previously worked at the Friends of Gilda's Society as their Development Director. Her position as Communications Coordinator (Atlantic region) is supported by additional funds from Canadian Heritage (2020-2023). Nicole's role is to support communications in all four Atlantic provinces.

With the cancellation of our physical summer camps for 2020, staff took advantage of the many virtual learning opportunities offered. **Stacy Nadeau**, Administrative Assistant was able to complete 4 certificates through the Halifax Chamber of Commerce. **Rebecca Lancaster**, Executive Director completed virtual governance training through the Canadian Society of Association Executives with President **Kate Ashley**. Both staff also completed webinars on crisis management, financial risks, wellness and stress management associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. They also attended townhall and community briefings led by NS Recreation, the COVID Coalition of the Community Sector Council NS, and NS Public Health.



CPF Network: Building Leadership Expertise

CPF Nova Scotia Board of Directors

Jan Claes, Past President

Kate Ashley, President

Bailey Ross, Vice President/Youth Representative

Maryse Truax, Treasurer

Guillaume Fleury, Secretary

Luc Tardif, Board Director

Kiley Burke, Board Director

Maria Rose, Board Director



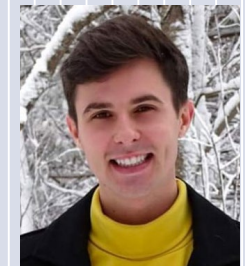
Kate Ashley



Bailey Ross



Maryse Truax



Guillaume Fleury



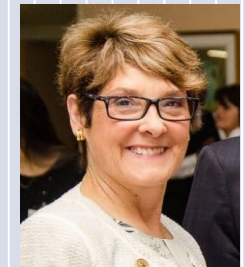
Luc Tardif



Kiley Burke



Maria Rose



Jan Claes

CPF NETWORK *By the Numbers*

Numbers and statistics related to the organization



Board Succession, Governance & Leadership Learning Opportunities

38 Learning Opportunities (Staff & Branch Board)

14 Branch Board and Special Meetings
Branch AGM was held virtually

Attendance at Network, National Meetings

6 Meetings
Jan Claes, Kate Ashley and Bailey Ross attended Council of President Meetings.

6 Meetings
Stacy Nadeau attended Chapter Development Officers' meetings

1 Committees Participation in Network, National Events

1 Attendee
Rebecca Lancaster is a member of the personnel committee reviewing CPF Network Employee Handbook, Employment Contracts, ED Job Description, ED Performance Evaluation, and Fair Wage Grid.

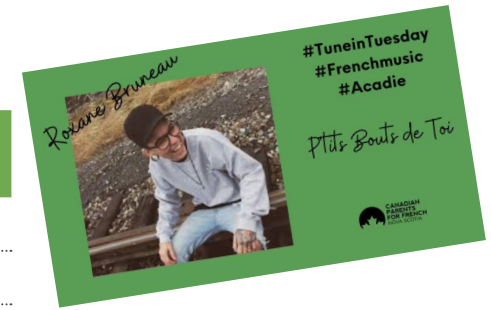
12 Meetings
Rebecca Lancaster attended Council of Executive Directors' meetings.

9 Participants
National Network Conference, October 2020

BY THE NUMBERS

WEB & SOCIAL MEDIA

CPF Nova Scotia	Apr 1, 2019 - Mar 31, 2020	Apr 1, 2020 - Mar 31, 2021	ns.cpf.ca
Number of users	-	-	No analytics available at this time
Number of new users	-	-	No analytics available at this time
Number of sessions	10,315	-	No analytics available at this time
Number of page views	19,722	-	No analytics available at this time
Average session duration (in minutes)	-	-	No analytics available at this time
Twitter			
Number of followers	742	757	2% increase of same reporting period over last year
Number of profile visits	768	692	
Number of mentions	47	68	45% increase of same reporting period over last year
Number of tweets	147	386	162% increase of same reporting period over last year
Number of impressions (likes and re-tweets)	45,430	90K+	
Facebook			
Number of page likes	1,201	1,342	12% increase of same reporting period over last year
Total Reach	809	2.6K	
Engagement (likes, comments, shares)	1,350	1,405	11% increase of same reporting period over last year
Page followers	1,198	1,351	13% increase of same reporting period over last year
Instagram			
Number of followers	254	243	
Number of posts	120	125	4% increase of same reporting period over last year
YouTube Channel			
Number of new videos posted	0	17	
Number of views	0	539	



BY THE NUMBERS

2020-2021 FINANCIALS

Revenue

PCH Core Program Support	203,776
Project or Other Support	172,435
Membership Fees	224
Donations	1,156
Other Revenue (product sales, rent, contracts)	20,068
Total	397,649

Expenses

Salaries	142,604
Honoraria	16,032
Travel & Accommodation	53,443
Publicity	19,794
Operational Costs	68,425
Other	0
Total	300,298

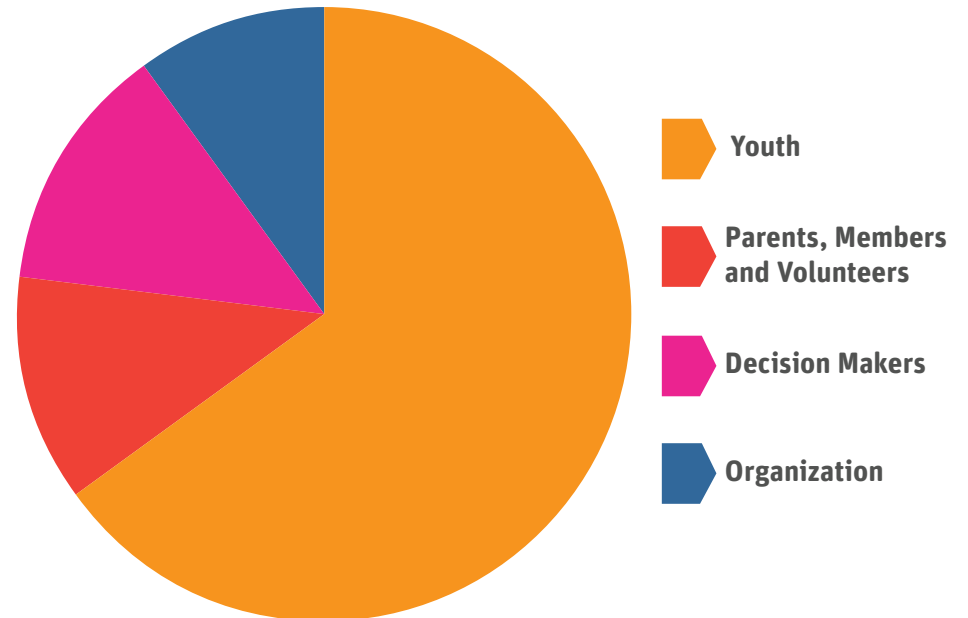
CPF Branch Statement of Operations

Revenue	397,649
Expenses	300,298
Excess or deficiency of revenue over expenses for the year	97,351

Expenses broken down into the pillars

% Youth	65%
% Parents, Members and Volunteers	12%
% Decision Makers	13%
% Organization	10%
Total	100%

Spending By Pillar



FUNDING ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you - Merci

CPF Nova Scotia acknowledges the important financial support of the Government of Canada.

Funded by the Government of Canada
Financé par le gouvernement du Canada

Canada



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien



Education
Éducation

CPF Nova Scotia acknowledges the continuing support of the French summer camp program and other activities by NS Education and Early Childhood Learning.

Take your
career
further
As a French Teacher
in Nova Scotia

Take Your Career Further

This project is funded by the Government of Canada.
Ce projet est financé par le gouvernement du Canada.



CPF Nova Scotia acknowledges the support of **Sciences en folie!** virtual workshops in schools through a \$1,000 grant provided as part of the **More French, S.V.P!** and the **Mary Joyce Booth** endowment.

S.V.P.
More French!

Université
Sainte-Anne

af Alliance Française
Halifax | Canada

IDÉLLO TFO

ACUFC
ASSOCIATION DES COLLÈGES ET UNIVERSITÉS
DE LA FRANCOPHONIE CANADIENNE

Existing Partnerships: Université Sainte-Anne, NS Education and Early Childhood Learning, NS Gaelic Affairs, Alliance Française Halifax, Français pour l'Avenir, Conseil jeunesse provincial, Conseil Centre Communautaire, Partenariat Acadien et francophone d'Halifax (PAFH), Halifax Language Consortium, Centre de ressources pour les familles militaires d'Halifax et region, Mois de la Francophone, and Épelle-Moi Canada.

New Partnerships: Réseau Santé Nouvelle-Écosse, Delmore "Buddy" Day Learning Institute, Télévision française de l'Ontario (TFO), Association des collèges et universités de la francophonie canadienne (ACUFC), Nova Scotia Recreation and the COVID Coalition Community Sector Council of Nova Scotia.

CPF Nova Scotia, Alliance Française Halifax, Centre Communautaire du Grand-Havre and Centre de ressources pour les familles militaires d'Halifax et region organized their annual Family Skating event for December 2020. The event was postponed until March 2021 and eventually cancelled due to Public Health regulations. We look forward to organizing a Family Skate for December 2021!

CPF Nova Scotia entered a two-year agreement with **TFO's IdéLLO** to provide Nova Scotia French second language teachers with free accounts. Resources include videos, games, and teaching tools for all levels of French and on a variety of subjects from grade P-12.

CPF Nova Scotia has partnered with **Association des collèges et universités de la francophonie canadienne (ACUFC)** to promote their Bursaries for Postsecondary Studies in French as a Second Language Program. English-speaking Canadians enrolled in the first year of a French college or university program have an opportunity to receive a \$3,000 bursary to perfect their bilingualism while studying in a field of interest.

CPF Nova Scotia joined with **NS Recreation** and the COVID Coalition of the **Community Sector Council of Nova Scotia** to keep informed of issues, strategic planning, public health regulations and support for the non-profit sector. As members of these two organizations, CPF Nova Scotia was able to participate in webinars, training, town halls and sector specific meetings with Dr. Robert Strang, Chief Medical Officer for Nova Scotia.

THANK YOU FROM STUDENTS
AT DUNCAN MACMILLAN
HIGH SCHOOL.



Executive Director's Message



Moving into 2020, I celebrated my 15th year as Executive Director with Canadian Parents for French, Nova Scotia. It was a year like no other year in my experience. Although the situation was unique, I feel Canadian Parents for French was able to make a difference. We were not able to offer our traditional activities, but we soon learned to master technology and create new activities that were relevant and timely given the circumstances.

We welcomed three new staff members; Nicole Kabalen as our Communications Coordinator, Marina Turbide stayed on after her summer student position to work on "Take Your Career Further", and Veronika Deliyannakis, a long time volunteer, joined us as Program Coordinator to administrate our virtual activities. Over the year, our staff worked in the office and virtually depending upon Public Health guidelines.

Promotion and Communications

CPF Nova Scotia was pleased to receive Canadian Heritage funding for our promotional campaign **Take Your Career Further**. Funding was received from the Teacher Recruitment and Retention strategy to increase the number of French teachers needed for the growth in French second language programs across the country.

The promotional campaign launched in September 2020. Take Your Career Further is targeted at second year university programs in the STEM and Arts fields who would be possible candidates for the Bachelors of Education with French teachable. Due to the pandemic, many students were learning online for the academic year of 2020-2021. Instead of on-site presentations, our Project Coordinator Marina Turbide created an engaging presence on social media with Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and Linked in.

Advocacy

CPF Nova Scotia participated in two consultations with Canadian Heritage. The first in January was with counterparts in French first language: CASP, FPANE, FANE and Université Sainte-Anne. The group discussed the successes, challenges and issues of French language education in Nova Scotia.

Our second consultation took place in January with Canadian Parents for French stakeholders such as Executive Directors, Presidents and the National Board. The discussion focused on the work done by Canadian Parents for French and the needed support for the modernization of the Official Languages Act.

In March, Canadian Parents for French was invited to attend a meeting with Mme Mélanie Joly, Minister for Canadian Heritage to discuss Bill C-32, the modernization of the Official Languages Act.

Activities/Programming

I was really pleased that with brainstorming and the strategic use of technology in the past year, we were able to save our *Concours d'art oratoire* and add some more exciting opportunities for youth in Nova Scotia. Our French movies were changed to Sciences en folie workshops, our *Concours* took place in the classroom, our Bilingual Career Exploration Day went virtual, we celebrated Edward Arab for Nova Scotia Heritage Day, and we distributed Gaelic books to FSL teachers.

To benefit Nova Scotia French second language teachers we negotiated a partnership with *Télévision française de l'Ontario* to provide *Idélo* free of charge to our teachers. The partnership is for two years and will end March 31, 2023. Teachers sign up to access the online resources with their students.

Governance

I attended the Symposium for Chief Staff and Chief Elected Officers virtually with Kate Ashley, our new CPF NS President. The Symposium is organized each year by the Canadian Association of Society Executives in Toronto. It was a great learning experience and gave us insight into non-profit governance.

Our Board of Directors became very comfortable with Zoom technology. They held two retreats in December and June as well as monthly meetings. Our Annual General Meeting was held virtually in September 2020.

Rebecca Lancaster
Executive Director
CPF Nova Scotia

Moving Forward 2020-2021

YOUTH

As summer activities were dependent upon many factors such as vaccination rates and active COVID numbers, CPF Nova Scotia planned early for a hybrid season of day camps, overnight camps, virtual camps and pop up events. Everything fell into place and we were able to offer all of these opportunities to parents and campers. Although our physical camps could not run at capacity, the campers who participated enjoyed socializing in French immensely. Our virtual activities kept us connected to campers who were not able to access the French camps offered in person. Our pop up activities in HRM were accessed by families and teens looking for an activity to enjoy in French.

PARENTS, MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS

CPF Nova Scotia is looking forward to engaging our parents, members and volunteers this coming year. Along with our popular, French for Parents/Adults classes, we are working on a Health and Wellness Fair. The pandemic was disruptive to parents, families and students. We are planning to bring together many of the great workshops organized by our partners, French and English, that address parenting and youth health and wellness.

DECISION MAKERS

With the provincial and federal elections this summer and fall, we look forward to connecting with new stakeholders and advocating for French second language education. We will continue to support and advocate for Bill C-32 to move forward positively with funding to modernize the Official Languages Act.

ORGANIZATION

CPF Nova Scotia is looking forward to working on succession planning and leadership training opportunities for our chapters and volunteers. The upcoming National Network conference in September will be an opportunity for many of our leadership to meet physically for the first time in two years. The National Network conference is open virtually for all members and education stakeholders to participate. With our increased membership base, the National Network conference is the forum for new members to learn more about our organization.



CPF Nova Scotia Executive Director named as one of the Recipients of the 2021 Lieutenant Governor's Award of Excellence for l'Acadie and francophonie of Nova Scotia

Rebecca Lancaster, Executive Director for Canadian Parents for French, Nova Scotia is one of six Nova Scotians to be the first recipients of the Lieutenant Governor's Award of Excellence for l'Acadie and francophonie of Nova Scotia.

The award, created in August 2020 by His Honour The Honourable Arthur J. LeBlanc, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, recognizes people whose social, economic or cultural contributions have made a difference in the francophone community and in Nova Scotia as a whole.

The award recognizes outstanding citizens across three categories: a francophone, a francophile – someone who is not francophone but supports and promotes French language and culture – and a youth recipient under the age of 25. For the inaugural offering, two recipients per category were selected and in all subsequent years there will be one recipient per category.

Rebecca Lancaster is recognized in the Francophile category for her outstanding work with Canadian Parents for French and for supporting families and students in French second language programs across the province. She was nominated for this award by Joan Dobbie and Rima Majaess of CPF Halifax Peninsula and Mainland South, and Colin Landry, Past President of CPF Nova Scotia.

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**
NOVA SCOTIA

Executive Director Rebecca Lancaster
Administrative Assistant Stacy Nadeau
Projects Administrator Coordinator Marina Turbide
Communications Coordinator (Atlantic Region) Nicole Kabalen
Program Coordinator Veronika Deliyannakis

**Canadian Parents for French
Nova Scotia**
8 Flamingo Drive
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3M 4N8


Phone: (902) 453-2048
Toll-free: 1 (877) 273-5233
E-mail: cpf@ns.cpf.ca

ns.cpf.ca

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