

2012 - 2013 Annual Report

President's Report



2012-2013 was a very active and productive year for the Ontario Branch of CPF. As always, the main responsibility of our Board is to advance our mission by promoting and supporting opportunities for young people to become bilingual. We continue to monitor and make our voice heard everywhere that French as Second Official Language is discussed in Ontario. Our focus this year has been to further expand and develop strategic partnerships that will contribute to the success of students in French as a Second Official Language and of Official Language Bilingualism in Ontario.

We continue to have excellent relations with the Ontario Modern Language Teachers' Association (OMLTA) who join us in providing opportunities for young people to flex their proficiency in French at our annual *Concours d'art oratoire*. We participated in the annual conference of the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT) to explore opportunities to facilitate the full implementation of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) as Canada-wide French proficiency benchmarks. With these partners, we are working to make the new Ministry of Education vision for FSL: "Students in English-language school boards have the confidence and ability to use French effectively in their daily lives" a reality.

We have met with the Minister of Education and her staff and department officials. We sit on the FSL Provincial Working Group with stakeholders from across Ontario and on the

community advisory committee of the Centre for Educational Research on Languages and Literacies at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE). We are using these opportunities to further CPF objectives with educators from across Ontario who look after everything from kindergarten to teacher training and research.

TFO is one of our new partners this year. It is a publicly-funded French educational broadcaster and they are actively building an audience of French language learners and providing quality internet-based French resources for Ontario teachers and we, in turn, are helping parents get acquainted with them. For the first time, Francophiles (French-language learners and enthusiasts) and in particular, CPF Ontario, were mentioned in the Ontario French Language Services Commissioner's Annual Report as "natural allies" for Franco-Ontarians and our partnership with TFO was one of Commissioner Boileau's 'Exemplary Stories'. Our other new partner this year is Collège Boréal. It is a network of French community colleges across the province who are welcoming French Second Language (FSL) students. CPF Ontario is actively pursuing every opportunity to collaborate with the Franco-Ontarian community to expand opportunities for students to use their French and to create a Francophone-Francophile community.

French Immersion enrolment over the past five years has enjoyed a 5.2 percent average annual growth rate. The trend continues with a 6.1 percent boost in 2011-2012 with a record 164,635 French Immersion students and another 31,295 in Extended French. More than half of the school boards across the province are starting immersion in kindergarten, a best practice in language learning. Unfortunately, some boards continue to cap the program, separate siblings and deny access to transportation, but many are already showing an increased commitment to FSL as outlined in the new provincial FSL Framework Document. The new curriculum for core, extended and immersion is expected this year and we hope that it will provide an improved, more attractive program that will encourage all students to continue their studies in French until grade 12.

And finally, a big thank you to all Ontario CPF volunteers and members, my fellow board members and our staff. Our collective voice and our individual and group efforts are what make this organization relevant, respected and absolutely great.

Mary Cruden

Independent Auditors' Report

To the Board of Directors,
Canadian Parents for French (Ontario)

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Canadian Parents for French (Ontario), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2013, and the statements of operations and changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Canadian Parents for French (Ontario) as at March 31, 2013 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations.

Mississauga, Ontario
June 21, 2013

Chartered Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants

Statement of Financial Position

AS AT MARCH 31,

	2013	2012
ASSETS		
Current		
Cash	\$ 31,445	\$ 3,963
Short-term investments	140,000	100,171
Accounts receivable (Note 3)	25,295	25,905
HST receivable	10,276	11,451
Inventory	16,770	18,187
Prepaid expenses	4,868	2,113
	<u>\$ 228,654</u>	<u>\$ 161,790</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current		
Accounts payable & accrued liabilities	\$ 107,913	\$ 100,728
Deferred revenue	18,000	-
NET ASSETS		
Net assets	<u>102,741</u>	<u>61,062</u>
	<u>\$ 228,654</u>	<u>\$ 161,790</u>

Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31

	2013	2012
Revenue		
Canadian Heritage	\$ 294,450	\$ 294,450
Bilingual Success Conference	60,000	-
Memberships - Note 4	28,229	48,871
Concours	19,110	14,350
Publications and other revenue	16,120	20,146
Key Sales	10,869	13,973
Advertising revenue	8,340	12,773
Donations	1,675	415
Interest earned	1,396	421
I Am Bilingual Tour - Canadian Heritage	-	30,000
Total Revenue	440,189	435,399
Expenses		
Salaries	181,696	202,016
Bilingual Success Conference	60,003	-
Meals and accommodations	32,137	44,529
Rent	23,656	23,027
Grants, donations and awards	20,011	21,777
Chapter rebates - Note 4	19,061	31,232
Printing and photocopy	10,017	14,331
Travel	8,511	10,333
Advertising and publicity	7,517	10,103
Office and general	7,141	11,311
Consultants	7,137	6,821
Professional fees	6,600	6,450
Postage and courier	5,725	8,432
Telecommunications	3,896	3,970
Repairs and maintenance	2,080	2,193
Conference fees	1,304	2,538
Publication purchases and other	1,038	962
Insurance	980	666
I Am Bilingual Tour	-	31,898
Total Expenditures	398,510	432,589
Excess of revenues over expenses	41,679	2,810
Net assets, beginning of year	61,062	58,252
Net assets, end of year	\$102,741	\$61,062

These financial statements are only an excerpt of the audited financial statements provided.
Extracts from the notes to the financial statements.

Note 4 - Related party transactions

During the year, the Association entered into the following transactions with related parties:

- a) Membership rebates received from Canadian Parents for French (national division) of \$26,990 (2012 - \$43,376).
- b) Rebates paid to various chapters situated in Ontario of \$19,061 (2012 - \$31,232).

These transactions are in the normal course of operations and are measured at the exchange amount as established and agreed to by the related parties.

Executive Director's Report



Every year we forge ahead with a unique strategic purpose. This year, CPF Ontario looked outward to expand its mandate and funding opportunities for initiatives that support parents and engage French Second Language (FSL) students.

As indicated in the President's Report, an important component of this year's outreach was building on our relationships with the Franco-Ontarian community. We signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Groupe Média TFO and with Collège Boréal. We participated on a panel discussion at the annual conference of the Assemblée de la francophonie de l'Ontario and on a second panel celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism hosted by Glendon College where we presented the growth of the French Immersion (FI) program in Ontario and the need for more opportunities for children in FSL programs to experience authentic French socio-cultural activities as part of their daily lives.

CPF Ontario is fortunate to have dedicated volunteer board members who bring a wealth of expertise to the table to guide the organization strategically. Our provincial advocacy committee has been instrumental in establishing

CPF Ontario as a respected consultative body and standing member on several committees of influence on the future of FSL education in the province.

Partnerships, networking and consultation to affect change

We participated on the Ministry of Education's Provincial FSL Working Group and worked with partner organizations and FSL stakeholders to influence changes that support access to quality FSL programs.

Projects and diversification of funds

We received project funding from the Ministry of Education's Field Services Branch to run the Pathways to Bilingual Success Conference in Windsor that attracted over 500 secondary FI students from six school boards. We developed and delivered "retention to grade 12" resources to guidance counsellors in every FI secondary school in the province. The Ministry's Parents Reaching Out Grant enabled the branch to run two webinars and create new homework help and other parent tip sheets.

Communications and social media

CPF Ontario's outreach to the public and our ability to promote the benefits of knowing both official languages is best demonstrated by our dissemination of over 15,000 informative brochures (some in 14 languages) in response to over 3,000 enquiries from the public and our community partners. 5,600 copies of CPF Ontario News were distributed, 27 e-communiqués and 21 press releases were issued locally or provincially with a focus on FSL student achievement, volunteer recognition, best practices at the school boards and positive new developments in FSL policy at the Ministry.

The launch of the new CPF Ontario website received rave reviews and we thank our CPF National office for spearheading this initiative. Our site continues to receive approximately 65,000 visitors annually, viewing an average of 14 pages and our Facebook and Twitter sites are gathering followers.

Concours d'art oratoire

Concours d'art oratoire, the French public-speaking competition, remains a signature CPF Ontario event. This year's provincial competition was a resounding success with 1,000 audience guests and 320 student participants from 27 school boards and 7 independent schools. Seventy volunteer teachers judged the event, thanks to our partnership with the Ontario Modern Language Teacher's Association.

Chapter and regional activities

The heart and soul of our organization has always been the valiant efforts of the parent volunteers in our 30 local chapters. These dedicated individuals organized or contributed toward the success of French summer camps, adult French courses, French Immersion Information nights, community library story-time programs, Parent Survival Nights, book fairs, and socio-cultural events to enhance the FSL school environment.

Over the past seven years, CPF Ontario has experienced outstanding growth on all fronts: as a promoter, as a developer of excellent resources for parents, and as a coordinator of engaging activities, all made possible by a small, dynamic and effective staff. For the first time in seven years, however, our membership experienced a dramatic dip. Still, with close to 5,000 members at the end of the fiscal year, we hope to boost our support to the chapters, stimulate initiatives that build enthusiasm and strengthen CPF locally. To help with this, we will be expanding our branch staff capacity to include a new Chapter Development and Outreach Officer next year.

Finally, I thank the dedicated board of directors, the chapter volunteers and the hard working staff. Your collaborative efforts contribute daily to the organization's success and the progress made toward equitable access to quality FSL programs.

Betty Gormley