

Minutes of Meeting  
CPF Vancouver North  
March 5, 2009

Attending – Kate Gregory (President), Lynne Spencer (Vice-President), Anne DeWolfe (Secretary), Andrea MacLeod (Treasurer), Wendy McColl (Hudson rep), Helen Nichols (Tennyson rep), Lettie McLean (JQ rep); Lisa Pindera (QEA rep), Lesley Wright (Kitsilano rep); Wendy Massing (CPF MLAC rep) + 8 others

Guest Speaker – Robert Rothern, Executive Director, CPF BC/Yukon

### **1. Introductions**

Kate Gregory welcomed all to the meeting. Attendees introduced themselves. Kate noted a CPF rep is needed on the Modern Languages Advisory Committee with the VSB. 70% of the issues discussed are French program related. This Committee was created to address concerns in the French immersion program. It helps bring issues forward for discussion and avoid heated public meetings.

### **2. CPF Overview**

Robert Rothern (Executive Director, CPF BC/Yukon) explained CPF is structured in three levels:

- National Office (Ottawa) which works with the federal government to promote bilingual education
- Provincial Office (in each Province) which works with Provincial government and other partners to support FSL.
- Local Chapters where parents, teachers and admin staff work together to support FSL.

Robert outlined the Core French, Early and Late French Immersion and Intensive French programs.

He noted that French Immersion students graduate with the fundamentals to become bilingual, but children don't graduate completely bilingual. The CPF Vancouver North Chapter (VNC) was created in 2008 when the Vancouver Chapter became too large and was broken into three groups. The Vancouver North district feeds Kitsilano High School.

### **3. VNC Budget**

Andrea MacLeod presented the attached proposed 2009-2010 VNC budget of \$1,500. She noted CPF (Prov) provides grants for 50% of costs for socio-cultural events so encouraged members to think about organizing these events. She pointed out that there is an 80% rebate of membership fees to the local chapter so growing the membership has direct benefits to the VNC.

*It was moved by Lisa Pindera and seconded by Wendy Massing to accept the 2009-10 budget.*

*Carried*

### **4. Annual Agenda**

Kate presented possible extra-curricular activities for the upcoming year. Attendees were asked to think about what events they would like to go ahead. Wendy noted it may be possible to have a pilot arts program at Hudson School from Alliance Francaise.

Robert encouraged attendees to have their schools submit proposals for socio-cultural activities. He also noted there are free National Film Board (NFB) films for fundraisers and other events. The deadline for socio-cultural grant applications is Sept 30/09. Parents expressed concern about the lack of tutoring help for students. Lesley Wright noted a formal Reading Buddy program exists at some schools. It was agreed that parents need to lobby their respective school principals to introduce a Reading Buddy program at their school.

It was noted that CPF provides many resources through the CPF web site. Attendees were encouraged to visit the web site to see what might be helpful to them (e.g. information sheets for parents of new FSL students, possible questions for school trustee candidates, template letters to school trustees following the election to introduce FSL, etc.)

## **5. Advocacy**

### a. Instructional Materials:

Lesley explained that a FI teacher at Kitsilano High School resigned in December 2008 because of the lack of teacher resource/instructional materials available in French. The teacher found the work load to create her own classroom materials unacceptable.

Lesley presented the attached proposed draft letter dated March 5/09 from VNC to VSB regarding a lack of resource materials in French for FI at the high school level. It is copied to CPF BC and other CPF Vancouver Chapters, among others. This follows on a similar letter from the Kitsilano High School PAC to VSB on the same issue.

Wendy suggested that parents give feedback to School Trustee Committee #3 re the need for

***It was moved by Anne DeWolfe and seconded by Kate Gregory that the draft letter be sent to the VSB by CPF VNC.***

***Carried***

### b. FI Persistence:

Wendy suggested that parents give feedback to School Trustee Committee #3 re the need for materials and support for students at risk of dropping out of the FI program. She noted that attrition after Grade 7 is a concern. It was suggested that:

- CPF VN send letters to grade 7 students encouraging them to continue in FI
- Parents need to lobby VSB for on-line French courses and to add a conversational element to these courses.

**Proposed 2009 – 2010 Budget  
VancouverNorth Chapter, March 5, 2009**

	<u>General Funds</u>
<b>INCOME</b>	
Membership Rebates via Trust (estimate)	\$1,500.00
Socio-Cultural Grants	\$0.00
Event attendance, book/other sales	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<u><u>\$1,500.00</u></u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Cultural and Social Activities (Parent info sessions, performances, afterschool)	\$1,000.00
Membership outreach materials, mailings*	\$100.00
Administration - office supplies	\$50.00
Scholarships (Kits secondary)	\$300.00
Meetings – supplies, food	\$50.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<u><u>\$1,500.00</u></u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<u><u>\$0.00</u></u>