

canadian parents for french

HAMILTON-WENTWORTH CHAPTER

NEWSLETTER - VOLUME 11 - ISSUE 1 – FALL 2010

CPF Presents:

Frenchapalooza!

A Festival of French for Everyone

Monday November 15, 2010 6:30 to 8:00pm

Dalewood Middle School, 1150 Main St. West, Hamilton

A free extravaganza for families of French Immersion students from Kindergarten to Grade Four. Children's entertainment, tips & resources for parents, trade show, French book sale.

Parent Information Sessions

Tips and resources to help your child succeed in French Immersion.

- **French Materials at the Hamilton Public Library**
Kathleen Crowley - Youth Services Librarian
- **French Musical Performance**
Cathedral High School students Kaylee Lock-O'Connor & Carly Billings
- **Helping with Homework when you don't Speak French**
Christine Rees -FSL Consultant Hamilton-Wentworth School Board
- **French Resources and Activities outside of School**
Rosalind Minaji – CPF Hamilton



French Book Sale

French materials for students. Usborne Books will provide a wide variety of elementary French language material for sale including French dictionaries, nonfiction, and fiction for younger readers. They will accept Visa, Mastercard and cash. Preview the materials at: www.usborneonline.ca/denise



Trade Show Booths

Find out about French language activities in the Hamilton area –from horseback riding to French theatre, adult French lessons, early years centre, and summer camp. Materials and displays will be available all evening.



RIDE with the WIND

Childrens' Entertainment

While parents are in the auditorium, kids will be entertained by staff from Les Petites Pommes Camp and students from the McMaster University French Club. French language games and activities will keep them occupied while you learn.



Dundurn Castle - Christmas Tour in French

Saturday December 4, 2010 - 1:30 to 3:30 pm

Admission: Adults - \$7.00, Children under 12 - \$4.50 (Pay when you arrive.)

Join CPF upstairs in the Carriage House hayloft for cookies and hot cider before touring the museum with a bilingual guide. Experience Dundurn castle while the museum is decked out in its holiday glory. Visitors will have the opportunity to learn how the MacNab family and their servants would have celebrated the Christmas season.



Please call Louise Adam at 905-627-9732 to reserve your spot. Leave a message with your family name, phone number and the number of adults and children in your party. Maximum 20 participants. Please reserve early to avoid disappointment.

Growing Pains – Public Board to Review Immersion in 2010/11



Over the past five years, the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board has made positive changes to the French Immersion program. New FI sites have opened in Waterdown, Dundas, Ancaster and the East Mountain, and bussing for FI students has been introduced for the first time in the program's 30 year history.

As a result, enrollment in the FI program has climbed and interest continues to grow. Student capacity has become an issue at FI schools across the city - even new sites such as Lawfield. At Norwood Park, the Board's only single track FI school, enrollment is approaching 600 students, some of whom have to navigate between ten portables.

In order to address these issues, the Public School Board is launching a three point review of French Immersion this Fall. The Review will set out policies and principles to deal with the following issues:

- **Accommodation:** new school sites, expanded sites, high school sites, portables & portapacks
- **Program:** single track, dual track, program entry point, resources & materials, teacher support systems
- **Transportation:** enhanced routes and service, budget, coordination with Catholic school board

Draft policies are expected by the end of 2010, with public consultation starting this winter. Get involved. Speak to your school council members and contact CPF to be kept informed. CPF Hamilton-Wentworth will continue to monitor the review process and advocate for enhanced French Immersion programming in Hamilton.



Le Club CPF – Kids' Activities December 20 - 23

With the help of Canadian Parents for French, Les Petites Pommes is planning a special Christmas camp session from December 20th to 23rd. The camp will offer French language activities including crafts and games centered on daily themes. Enrollment will be limited. For more details please contact Mary Clements at 905-975-6279 or visit Lespetitespommes.com

25 Years of French Immersion

In June 2010, the Hamilton Wentworth Catholic District School Board received a special award from Canadian Parents for French Ontario in recognition of 25 years of French Immersion. Congratulations to the Board as they begin their 26th year!

Jack Grunsky, a multiple Juno Award winner and one of Canada's finest children's performers will be presenting and performing with the three Catholic French Immersion schools. Concert materials will be developed with students during the day and repeated for families and friends in the evenings.

- St. Joseph October 27-28
- St. Eugene November 1-2
- Sts. Peter and Paul: week of February 7th.



Hamilton without a CPF Chapter?

Do you support and value the activities, promotion and advocacy that Canadian Parents for French provides for Hamilton's FI program? **IF YOU DO, then please help sustain our Chapter.** Some of our current Executive members will be "retiring" next year. Without replacement volunteers, we will not survive. Executive Committee members are needed from the following schools:

- Earl Kitchener
- Ryerson
- Glen Echo
- Glen Brae
- AM Cunningham
- Fessenden
- Guy Brown
- St. Eugenes
- Cathedral

We need parent and teacher volunteers from these schools to help us plan, organize and run our special events, FI promotion and other activities.

The time commitment is approximately 3 hours per month. If interested, please e-mail cpfhamilton@hotmail.com.