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SUPPORT AGENCIES AND WHAT THEY OFFER



Organizations Directly Related to Education



Manitoba Teachers' Society (MTS)

<http://www.mbteach.org/>

Background

The Manitoba Teachers' Society represents 17,000 teachers in Manitoba. Founded in 1919, the MTS is the professional body working to protect teachers' rights and to advance public education. Teacher associations are established in every school division, autonomous school district and in some Band Operated schools. The MTS is a key educational partner working with Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth as the voice of teachers advising government on curriculum and governance issues relevant to public education.

Mission

The Manitoba Teachers' Society is dedicated to safeguarding the welfare of teachers, the status of the teaching profession and the cause of public education in Manitoba.

Provincial Council (AGM – Annual General Meeting)

The Provincial Council, often referred to as the AGM, is the supreme policy-making body of the Manitoba Teachers' Society. The Provincial Council, which meets once a year is composed of representatives of all teacher associations and the Provincial Executive. The Provincial Council elects the Provincial Executive and determines policies which govern MTS actions and teacher associations. (Teacher associations have the right to have association policies and to take association actions provided these are not contrary to provincial policies.)

Presidents' Council

The Presidents' Council, composed of the presidents of all teacher associations, the *Éducatrices et éducateurs francophones du Manitoba* and the Provincial Executive, holds at least three meetings a year. It has the right to make recommendations to the Provincial Executive and to determine expenditure of monies from the Reserve Fund. In addition, regional presidents' meetings are held throughout the province.

Provincial Executive

The Provincial Executive has the power to make all decisions between meetings of the Provincial Council and has total control over the internal administration of the Society's offices. In the absence of the Provincial Executive, the President has such powers as normally devolve to such office.

Éducatrices et éducateurs francophones du Manitoba (EFM)

<http://www.efm-mts.org/> (Web site in French only)

Background

Founded in 1967 and an agency of the Manitoba Teachers' Society since 1972, the *Éducatrices et éducateurs francophones du Manitoba* carry out the mandate of Manitoba Teachers' Society in all matters pertaining to French education. The EFM represents 1500 teachers working in French and French immersion programming. Responding to the needs of members and offering services in French, EFM represents Manitoba teachers at the local, provincial and national levels.

Services

Acting as an agency of the MTS, the *Éducatrices et éducateurs francophones du Manitoba*:

- assist the MTS in its review and evaluation of the effectiveness of teacher training programming at Collège universitaire de Saint-Boniface;
- initiate and offer professional development activities for teachers working in French;
- review curriculum taught in French;
- publish news bulletins and/or reviews containing information and resources relevant to education in French; and
- carry out other duties as assigned by the Provincial Executive of the MTS.

For more information

The Manitoba Teachers' Society
191 Harcourt Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3J 3H2
Telephone: 204-888-7961
Fax: 204-831-0877
Toll free: 1-800-262-8803

Manitoba Association of School Superintendents (MASS)

<http://www.mass.mb.ca/>

Background

The Manitoba Association of School Superintendents (MASS) provides leadership for public education by advocating in the best interests of learners and supporting its members through professional services in the belief that everyone has a role to play in public education. MASS promotes and advances the cause of public education provincially, nationally and internationally.

Mission

MASS provides leadership for public education by advocating in the best interests of learners, and supports its members through professional services.

Organizational Structure

With an elected Executive and an Executive Director, MASS is the association representing member superintendents from the 37 school divisions/school districts across Manitoba. MASS assists its members with contract and employment issues and maintains a legal fund to provide financial assistance to members who require personal legal counsel for work-related issues.

MASS is a key educational partner working closely with Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth as the voice of superintendents advising government on curriculum and governance issues relevant to public education.

Services/Support to the School Administrator

The Manitoba Association of School Superintendents hosts a summer learning institute, publishes a regular newsletter and a semi-annual journal on a variety of educational topics of interest to the school administrator. MASS also has prepared one page inserts for school newsletters on a variety of topics including helpful tips for parents and students on a variety of topics including the importance of reading, nutrition, physical activity, arts in education, summer learning loss, the value of public education and more. MASS prepares a number of position and discussion

papers on a variety of topics including special needs and school finance and hosts regular professional development conferences and sessions open by invitation to the educational community.

For more information

The Manitoba Association of School Superintendents
375 Jefferson Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2V 0N3
Telephone: 204-487-7972
Fax: 204-487-7974

Manitoba Association of School Trustees (MAST)

<http://www.mast.mb.ca/>

Mission

To enhance the work of locally elected school boards through leadership, advocacy and service, and to champion the cause of public education for all students in Manitoba.

Organizational Structure

The Manitoba Association of School Trustees (MAST) is the voluntary organization of public school boards in Manitoba representing democratically elected school trustees. MAST provides information regarding school trustees and their responsibilities on school boards for managing Manitoba's public schools. MAST provides information about the responsibilities of school boards, and about how they conduct their business as well as information about the election process for school trustees, and contact information for all Manitoba public school boards. MAST, as a key partner in education is the voice of school boards in an advisory capacity to Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth in curriculum and areas relevant to public education.

The Manitoba Association of School Trustees hosts regular conferences and professional development opportunities. MAST also prepares and shares information relevant to the legal aspects of education with school boards across the province. MAST is particularly involved in issues pertaining to school safety including Safe Schools Manitoba, Safe Grad Manitoba, TADD Manitoba, Student accident insurance and student safety.

For more information

Manitoba Association of School Trustees
191 Provencher Boulevard
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2H 0G4
Telephone: 204-233-1595 or toll-free: 1-800-262-8836 (in Manitoba)
Fax: 204-231-1356

Association manitobaine des directrices et directeurs des écoles d'immersion française (AMDI)

<http://www.amdi.ca/>

Background

L'Association manitobaine des directrices et directeurs des écoles d'immersion française (AMDI) is a non-profit organization affiliated with the Éducatrices et éducateurs francophones du Manitoba (EFM).

Mission

To assure the promotion of learning French as a second language through the French Immersion Program in Manitoba.

Services/Supports to School Administrators

- serves a role in planning the direction of French immersion programming in Manitoba;
- promotes French language education for the clientele of French immersion schools;
- initiates and coordinates concerted efforts and collaborative projects among French immersion schools;
- provides professional development opportunities for administrators of French immersion schools;
- acts as a voice for principals of French immersion schools;
- assures a liaison with other educational organizations in Manitoba to make them aware of the diverse needs of the French Immersion Program when necessary and appropriate; and
- creates links with the various national and provincial organizations connected with French immersion.

Manitoba Association of Parent Councils (MAPC)

<http://www.mapc.mb.ca/>

Background

The Manitoba Association of Parent Councils is a provincial organization of over 275 member groups throughout Manitoba. Most of those members are Parent Advisory Councils, Parent Councils, Parent Committees, Home & School Associations from individual schools in the province and several individual members who may be parents or community members.

Parents in Manitoba have identified a need for services to help them resolve issues within the public school system. To address this need, in 1999, the Manitoba Association of Parent Councils (MAPC) formed a committee known as the MAPC Advocacy Project (MAPCAP).

Mission

To support, promote, and enhance meaningful involvement and participation of parents in order to improve the education and well-being of children in Manitoba.

Organizational Structure and Membership

MAPC is a non-profit organization. Aside from minimum staff, MAPC is run by volunteer parents with Board representatives from across the province.

The Association's membership consists mainly of school-based parent groups, who are represented through their parent advisory groups or parent councils. Membership is optional, renewed annually, and is held by the parent advisory group or parent council, on behalf of all the parents of children attending that school or by individual parents or community members.

MAPC assists parent groups through newsletters, training sessions, conferences, a library of resources, and Web access to articles, minutes and other important documents relating to parental involvement. MAPC connects with other home and school associations across the country and keeps parents informed of initiatives. MAPC advises Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth in matters regarding parents and curriculum in support of providing excellence in the education of their children.

MAPC Advocacy Project (MAPCAP)

Supported by Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth and the Winnipeg Foundation, the purpose of the Advocacy Project is to help parents and parent leaders, through a collaborative process, deal more successfully with issues they are facing within the public school system. In mentoring parents and parent leaders, the project will maintain respect for parents, school and community.

MAPC and the School Administrator

In collaboration with the school administrator, the association provides the resources and services to parents and parent advisory councils or parent councils to assist them in working effectively as school and community partners in education.

For more information

Manitoba Association of Parent Councils
1005-401 York Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0P8
Telephone: 204-956-1770 or toll-free: 1-877-290-4702
Fax: 204-948-2855
e-mail: mapc1@mts.net

Canadian Parents for French (CPF)

<http://www.cpf.ca/>

Canadian Parents for French Manitoba (CPF-MB)

<http://www.cpfmb.com/>

Background

Canadian Parents for French was founded in 1977 by English speaking parents attending a national conference and exchanging opportunities. It has continued to network and has become a major force in promoting French Immersion Programs throughout Canada.

Mission Statement – CPF National

Canadian Parents for French (CPF) is the national network of volunteers which values French as an integral part of Canada and which is dedicated to the promotion and creation of French second language learning opportunities for young Canadians.

Organizational Structure and Membership

A three-tiered organization, Canadian Parents for French also has provincial and municipal chapters across Canada. CPF works at the national level to pursue its goals with the federal government. The Manitoba Branch has chapters in Thompson, Flin Flon, The Pas, Swan River, Dauphin, Brandon, Portage La Prairie, Morden, Selkirk, Powerview, Beausejour, River East, Transcona and Springfield.

The vision statement of the Manitoba Branch is:

A Manitoba where French and English speaking people live together in mutual respect with an understanding and appreciation of each others' language and culture, and where linguistic duality forms an integral part of society to support the vision of a bilingual Canada.

Services Provided by CPF Manitoba

Canadian Parents for French provides information services for parents seeking research data regarding French Second Language (FSL) learning, including French immersion and Basic French. It also provides information for students about programs in other areas of the province or country. CPF is a valuable source of information about camps and other enrichment activities. The organization regularly produces provincial and national newsletters with items of interest to parents, teachers and students. Every year, CPF-MB provides services to students, teachers, parents and the community. As well, CPF-MB facilitates extra-curricular FSL projects for young Manitobans. These include but may not be exclusive to:

- Concours d'art oratoire involving all students in French immersion, Basic French and French first-language Grades 3-12;
- Cultural Tour providing a subsidized French-language experience to students in school divisions where there is a CPF chapter;
- Camp Soleil for French immersion students aged 6-10;
- Improvisation workshops for French immersion students in Senior Years;
- French multi-media kits, traveling resource library;
- Basic French Theatre Project for Basic French students;
- Frequent updates and information about FSL programs and courses;
- CPF Manitoba NEWS, a newsletter providing information about CPF-MB and FSL; and
- CPF-MB interactive Web site with fun games to play and links to other Web sites and activities across Canada.

CPF and the School Administrator

CPF's services and activities support FSL learning by:

- advocating for supportive policies, adequate funding and resources;
- informing the community about the value of and opportunities for learning French (pamphlets, posters, information meetings, speakers, displays, news releases, etc.);
- sponsoring, organizing and sharing information about extra-curricular activities for students;
- supporting parents by providing information, sharing ideas and addressing their concerns from the preschool to the postsecondary level (newsletters, Web sites, information meetings, responding to enquiries, etc.);
- serving as a clearinghouse of information about FSL learning (research, resources, statistics, etc.); and
- developing links with Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth, Bureau de l'éducation française Division, Manitoba Association for Parent Councils, The Manitoba Association of School Superintendents, The Manitoba Teachers' Society and The Manitoba Association of School Trustees.

Teachers and administrators can support CPF and encourage its effectiveness by:

- encouraging parents to become members;
- taking out an associate membership on behalf of the school;
- coordinating school efforts with those of the CPF Chapter;
- supporting and encouraging CPF initiatives such as Le Concours d'art oratoire;

- sharing information with CPF about school and divisional programs and activities, successes and challenges, ideas and resources; and
- informing CPF when contemplating program expansion.

For more information

To contact the Manitoba Branch, email cpfmb@cpfmb.com or go to the Web site <http://www.cpfmb.com>

Canadian Parents for French Manitoba
 199 Provencher Boulevard
 2nd Floor
 Winnipeg, Manitoba R2H 0G4
 Telephone: 204-222-6537 or toll free: 1-877-737-7036
 Fax: 204-222-8180

**Association canadienne des professeurs d’immersion/
 Canadian Association of Immersion Teachers (ACPI-CAIT)**
<http://www.acpi-cait.ca/>

Background

Founded in 1976, the Canadian Association of Immersion Teachers (CAIT) was established to promote and improve French immersion programs in Canada.

Since its creation, CAIT has initiated numerous activities with the aim of enhancing immersion teaching:

- Annual national conferences for teachers and administrators, held mid-fall *Le Congrès annuel de l’ACPI*;
- *Le Journal de l’immersion Journal* published quarterly;
- Professional development one-day activities for immersion teachers called *ACPI-ici*;
- Professional development videos such as *De ses propres ailes*;
- Certificate of Excellence awards;
- Creation of a consortium of Canadian universities offering French immersion teacher training programs, which meets regularly to assist CAIT in initiating and carrying out a variety of projects; and
- Promotion of dialogue and partnerships with both national and provincial associations working in the area of French Second Language learning and provincial departments of education, as well as with federal initiatives.

Mission

The Canadian Association of Immersion Teachers is a professional, non-profit association, which supports immersion teachers through reflection, research, dialogue and intervention. CAIT also strives to promote immersion and to contribute to the development of immersion pedagogy in Canada through four strands:

- **professional development:** *promoting continuous professional development in the area of French immersion*
- **communication:** *communicating the interests of immersion programs to interested stakeholders and the community and keeping immersion teachers well informed*
- **research:** *providing a forum for the exchange of ideas on immersion programs and teaching methods and encouraging continuous research to inform programming and foster improved methods of immersion pedagogy*
- **intervention:** *ensuring that the needs and interest of immersion teachers are met*

Organizational Structure and Membership

CAIT is governed by a volunteer board of directors. Through individual membership in CAIT, administrators and teachers receive *Le Journal de l'immersion Journal* containing informative articles and references to research.

CAIT and the School Administrator

CAIT is an important source of professional development and resources for French immersion teachers. Administrators can take a school membership and encourage teachers to:

- become members of CAIT;
- contribute articles to *Le Journal de l'immersion Journal*;
- participate in the delivery of professional development;
- review CAIT's calendar of conferences, colloquiums and *ACPI-ici*; and
- take full advantage of the many opportunities and resources CAIT offers when planning professional development plans.

CAIT provides an updated repertory of French Second Language teaching resources (in collaboration with the Commission de l'Amérique du Nord) as well as a guide to French immersion especially for teachers and administrators new to the French Immersion Program.

For more information

ACPI/CAIT
301-176 Gloucester Street
Ottawa, Ontario K2P 0A6
Telephone: 613-230-9111
Fax: 613-230-5940
e-mail: bureau@acpi-cait.ca

The Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT)

<http://www.caslt.org/>

Mission

The Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers promotes the advancement of second language teaching throughout Canada by creating opportunities for professional development, by encouraging research and by facilitating the sharing of information and the exchange of ideas among second language educators.

For more information

CASLT Communications Officer (bilingual)
CASLT Head Office, Ottawa, Ontario
Telephone: 613-727-3832 ext. 219 (office in Ottawa)
Cellular phone: 613-769-1527
e-mail: educ@caslt.org

Examples of Agencies Which Indirectly Support Education



Government Agencies

Canadian Heritage

<http://www.pch.gc.ca/>

Canadian Heritage is responsible for national policies and programs that promote Canadian content, foster cultural participation, active citizenship and participation in Canada's civic life, and strengthen connections among Canadians.

Mission

Towards a More Cohesive and Creative Canada.

The Canadian Heritage Portfolio, which includes the Department of Canadian Heritage and our major national cultural institutions, plays a vital role in the cultural and civic life of Canadians. This organization works to promote culture, arts, heritage, official languages, citizenship and participation, multiculturalism, Aboriginal, youth and sport initiatives.

For more information

Canadian Heritage
2nd Floor, 275 Portage Avenue
P.O. Box 2160
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 3R5
Telephone: 204-983-3601
Fax: 204-984-6996

Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages

<http://www.ocol-clo.gc.ca/>

Mandate

As an agent of change and an ombudsman, the Commissioner of Official Languages has been mandated to take all measures intended to ensure that the three main objectives of the Official Languages Act are met, namely

- *the equality of English and French in Parliament, within the Government of Canada, the federal administration and institutions subject to the Act;*
- *the preservation and development of official language communities in Canada; and*
- *the equality of English and French in Canadian society.*

Structure and Activities

Although based in Ottawa, the Commission also has five regional offices: Moncton, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Edmonton. There are a Commissioner's Representative, investigators and liaison officers in each region. Representatives are responsible for directing all liaison, public relations and information activities in the region with a view to increasing understanding and support for Canada's linguistic duality. Their work includes presentations and participation in discussion groups about the fundamental value of our two official languages, the official languages communities and French language education in general.

For more information

Commissioner of Official Languages
Manitoba/Saskatchewan Region Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages
Suite 200, Centre-Ville Building
131 Provencher Boulevard
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2H 0G2
Telephone: 204-983-2111 or toll-free: 1-800-665-8731

Local Agencies

Alliance Française du Manitoba

<http://www.afwpg.ca>

Alliance Française is an international non-profit organization founded in Paris in 1884 by intellectuals who wanted to spread the French language and culture around the world.

The Manitoba Chapter

The Alliance Française Web site is an interactive site where cultural information and information about French language courses can be found. You can go online and test your French competencies, in order to determine at what level you should begin your more formal language study with Alliance.

For more information

Alliance Française du Manitoba
934 Corydon Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3M 0Y5
Telephone: 204-477-1515
e-mail: afwpg@mts.net

Le Centre culturel franco-manitobain (CCFM)

<http://www.ccfm.mb.ca/>

The Centre culturel franco-manitobain (CCFM) is a vital component of Saint-Boniface. Its Heritage Centre includes an art gallery which displays the works of French Canadian artists on a rotating basis, a theatre with seating for 285 people, a large hall with a 560 seating capacity and a smaller hall seating 120 people, a multi-purpose room and several meeting rooms and classrooms.

The objectives of this Crown Corporation are:

to maintain, encourage, support and sponsor, by all available means, all types of French language cultural activities and to make the French-Canadian culture accessible to all residents of the province.

It is used for many cultural events such as a venue for activities during the Festival du Voyageur, the Foyer des écrivains during the Writer's Festival and Canada Day. It is also available for use by the community for community initiated events.

The CCFM hosts educational events such as Le Festival théâtre jeunesse, cultural summer art camps and Santa's Village/Le village du Père Noël for elementary and pre-school children.

For more information:

Centre culturel franco-manitobain
340 Provencher Boulevard
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2H 0G8
Telephone: 204-233-8972

Conseil jeunesse provincial (CJP)

<http://www.conseil-jeunesse.mb.ca/> (Web site in French only)

The Conseil jeunesse provincial (CJP) encourages youth between the ages of 14 and 25 to be proud of their francophonie and to live in French in Manitoba. CJP brings youth together to develop their competencies in a variety of areas including politics, education, culture, economy, sports, health, citizenship, leisure and communications, while representing their interests in each of these domains.

For more information

Conseil jeunesse provincial
300 A-383 Provencher Boulevard
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2H 0G9
Telephone: 204-237-8947

La Liberté

<http://journaux.apf.ca/laliberte/> (Web site in French only)

Founded in 1913 by Bishop Langevin, and taken over by the Oblate Fathers in 1940, the newspaper became the property of Presse Ouest Limitée in 1970 under the direction of the Société franco-manitobaine.

A French newspaper published weekly, this is the only provincial newspaper in the French language. It is a valuable source of information written by and about the French community in Manitoba.

For more information

La Liberté
383 Provencher Boulevard
P.O. Box 190
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2H 3B4
Telephone: 204-237-4823 or toll-free: 1-800-523-3355
Fax: 204-231-1998
e-mail: la-liberte@la-liberte.mb.ca

Pluri-elles

<http://www.pluri-elles.mb.ca/> (Web site in French only)

Pluri-elles is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping women develop the skills necessary to grow both personally and professionally. Pluri-elles offers services in areas such as education, training, the economy, health, and social services. Through French personal and career counseling, computer training, workshops on interview techniques and job searching, support to new immigrants, job counselors help to connect women to employment opportunities.

For more information

Pluri-elles
570 DesMeurons Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2H 2P8
Telephone: 204-233-1735
e-mail: plurielles@shaw.ca

La Société franco-manitobaine (SFM)

<http://www.sfm-mb.ca/>

La Société franco-manitobaine (SFM) is the voice of the francophone community in Manitoba. Working with its partners to expand this community and to ensure its rights, the SFM plans and facilitates the ongoing development and promotion of the community. It administers the Réseau communautaire (Community Network) and Le centre d'information 233-ALLÔ, the information centre for francophone services and activities. It maintains an internet community calendar, *Le Calendrier communautaire 233-ALLÔ*, and regularly notifies subscribers of new community activities by internet. You may subscribe to this community calendar service on-line.

La Société franco-manitobaine also maintains and updates a bilingual community guide entitled *Le Manitoba français : une francophonie au cœur de l'Amérique/Manitoba's francophone community: at the heart of America*. This guide provides information regarding the history, economy, education, communications, health, citizenship, arts and culture of particular use to immigrants and educators new to Manitoba.

For more information

Société franco-manitobaine
212-383 Provencher Boulevard
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2H 0G9
Telephone: 204-233-4915 or toll-free: 1-800-665-4443
e-mail: sfm@sfm-mb.ca

Centre d'information 233-ALLÔ

<http://www.sfm-mb.ca/233Allo.htm>

215-383 Provencher Boulevard

Winnipeg, Manitoba R2H 0G9

Telephone: 233-ALLÔ (2556) or toll-free: 1-800-665-4443

e-mail: 233allo@sfm-mb.ca

Réseau communautaire

<http://www.sfm-mb.ca/RC.htm>

P.O. Box 193

200 Notre-Dame Avenue

Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes, Manitoba R0G 1M0

Telephone: 204-248-7270 or toll-free: 1-888-322-2553

e-mail: dbazin@sfm-mb.ca

References

All Web sites integrated in Chapter 12.