



MAKING CHOICES ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION

Parents want to make the best educational choices for their children. Many would like their children to have the advantages of learning both of Canada's official languages, but they have some questions:

- Will my child develop strong English-language skills in a French immersion program?
- Will my child be taught the same math skills as students in the regular English program?
- Will my child understand math courses taught in French?

Researchers have studied these issues since French immersion programs were introduced in the early 1970s. This pamphlet is intended to help to answer your questions about French immersion by providing some information from research studies and the results of a number of provincial student assessments. We have included references to these materials so that you can study them further.

FRENCH IMMERSION STUDENTS DO WELL IN ENGLISH AND MATH

English-Language Proficiency

Over 40 years of French-Second-Language research has shown that "the effect of learning a second language on first-language skills has been positive in all studies done. Furthermore, the loss of instructional time in English in favour of the second language has never been shown to have negative effects on the achievement of the first language." Indeed, after an initial lag, French immersion students match and often surpass their English program peers. This counter-intuitive finding is explained by the fact that languages are interdependent —skills learned in one language are transferred to the other. Furthermore, immersion students live in English-language communities so that English-language skills are maintained and enhanced by daily life.

Provincial tests in British Columbia, Ontario and New Brunswick demonstrate that French immersion students consistently outperform English program students on English language tests. Research has also shown that students with reading difficulties, lower academic abilities, or learning disabilities achieve at the same level in immersion programs as do their peers in the English program.

[Bournot-Trites & Tellowitz (2002) British Columbia Ministry of Education (2000); Erdos, Haigh & Genesee (2010) Netten (2007); Netten & Germain (2004); New Brunswick Department of Education (2000) Turnbull, Hart & Lapkin (2000)]

Learning Math in French

While studying mathematics in French while learning the language seems a formidable task, intensity at the beginning of immersion programs ensures that students may quickly achieve the French proficiency required to understand math and other subjects taught in French. French immersion students learning math in French achieve higher scores on standardized tests of mathematical ability than those of French Immersion students taught math in English, while French immersion students who studied subjects in French in high school had no trouble studying them in English at post-secondary level.

[Bournot-Trites, M., Reeder, K. (2001); Canadian Parents for French (2005) Barwell, R. (2010); British Columbia Ministry of Education, (2000); New Brunswick Dept. of Education (2000); Turnbull, M., Hart, D., Lapkin, S. (2003)]

Find out more about learning in French Immersion

- Contact your local CPF Branch, school, or school board to find out about French immersion programs in your area.
- Contact Canadian Parents for French for answers and support as your children learn French (see Branch contact info list). Ask about Helping Your Child Become Bilingual: A Toolkit for CPF Members.
- Check out the CPF website, cpf.ca, to find out about new resources for parents and students and new French immersion research studies.

JOIN TODAY!

CPF MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Canadian Parents for French is a nationwide, research-informed, volunteer organization that champions the opportunity to learn and use French for all those who call Canada home.

1 MEMBERSHIP TYPE

Please note we do not need your child's information — please apply under your own name. CPF member must be at least 18 years of age. You may register up to two adults per household as voting members.

I am applying as a:

- New member
- Renewing Member #: _____

To find out more about member benefits, value and AMO membership, please visit our website.

1 year
 Best value 3 year

Family/Individual \$25.00 \$60.00
 CPF allows one or two adults per family as voting members

Associate Member Organization (AMO) \$60.00 \$150.00
 School or organization

2 CONTACT INFORMATION

Fields marked with an asterisk are required. (CPF reserves the right to cancel any application missing information.)

Member First Name* _____

Member Last Name* _____

2nd Member First Name _____

2nd Member Last Name _____

Organization Name (if AMO*) _____

Address* _____

City* _____ Prov.* _____ Postal Code* _____

2 CONTACT INFORMATION

(continued)

Preferred Phone* _____
Additional Phone _____
Email* _____
Additional Email _____
CPF Chapter/Branch _____
School Board _____ School Name* _____
How did you hear about us? _____

3 PAYMENT OPTIONS

(CPF reserves the right to charge a fee for NSF cheques)

Visa MC Cheque (payable to CPF National)

Card # _____ Expiry Date _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

I would like to donate \$ _____

Designate to:

National My Branch My Chapter (if applicable)

Your gift in support of CPF is welcomed and appreciated. Due to the cost, we will issue tax receipts in January of the following year only for donations of more than \$10, unless a receipt for a lesser amount is specifically requested.

CPF Charitable Reg. No: 11883 5131 RRO001

Occasionally, the CPF membership list may be made available to other groups/agencies to offer members special benefits or education-related information. Use of the list will be carefully regulated and only permitted under a contract specifying confidentiality and one-time authorization. If you DO NOT wish to receive mailings other than directly from CPF, check here.

Your membership provides you with the opportunity to receive occasional updates from CPF as well as *CPF Magazine* twice a year. Please confirm your consent to receive electronic communication from CPF by checking here.

Please submit form and payment to:

Canadian Parents for French
1104-170 Laurier Ave. W.
Ottawa, ON

Connect with us:

Phone: 613-235-1481
Email: cpf@cpf.ca
Facebook: [CanadianParentsForFrench](https://www.facebook.com/CanadianParentsForFrench)
Twitter: @CPFNational

Visit cpf.ca to sign up online, update your member profile and more.



CPF AND YOU!

Canadian Parents for French (CPF) was founded in 1977 by mainly English-speaking parents from across the country. Our 26,000 members support a nationwide, research-informed volunteer organization that champions the opportunity to learn and use French for all those who call Canada home.

WHAT WE OFFER

- Youth events and language learning opportunities
- Awards, bursaries, and recognition of youth, educators and volunteers
- Resources, research and tools for students, parents, educators, and French second-language advocates
- Local, regional, and national networking opportunities
- Volunteer leadership and training (board and committee positions, webinars, skills-building workshops, etc.)
- Savings and discount programs for travel, books and games
- A voice in our organization

WHY JOIN US

Becoming a member means you will be taking an active part in the educational and personal growth of our nation's youth while contributing to the vitality of Canada's linguistic duality. Join us as we continue to:

- Raise awareness of the personal value of language learning and intercultural awareness
- Promote universal access to quality French second-language programs and French language cultural opportunities
- Increase the percentage of diverse, actively engaged and supported youth learning French
- Actively engage and support members and volunteers working as part of a collaborative network on behalf of students
- Encourage parent engagement in support for French second-language opportunities

- Influence decision making among education officials and policy makers in support of quality French language learning programs

AMO MEMBERS INCLUDE: Schools, learning centres, libraries, faculties of education, community clubs, groups and organizations who believe in bilingualism.

INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY MEMBERS INCLUDE: Adults, parents, grandparents, educators, graduates of French second-language programs, and committed citizens who believe in the value of bilingualism.

CPF ACROSS CANADA

British Columbia & Yukon Branch
227-1555 W 7th Ave
Vancouver, BC
V6J 1S1
bc-yk.cpf.ca

Alberta Branch
211, 15120-104 Ave NW
Edmonton, AB
T5P 0R5
ab.cpf.ca

Northwest Territories Branch
PO Box 1538
Yellowknife, NT
X1A 2P2
nwt.cpf.ca

Saskatchewan Branch
303-115-2nd Avenue N
Saskatoon, SK
S7K 2B1
sk.cpf.ca

Manitoba Branch
101-475 Provencher
Blvd
Winnipeg, MB
R2J 4A7
mb.cpf.ca

Ontario Branch
103-2055 Dundas St. E
Mississauga, ON
L4X 1M2
on.cpf.ca

New Brunswick Branch
PO Box 4462
Sussex, NB
E4E 5L6
nb.cpf.ca

Nova Scotia Branch
8 Flamingo Dr
Halifax, NS
B3M 4N8
ns.cpf.ca

Prince Edward Island Branch
PO Box 2785
Charlottetown, PE
CIA 8C4
pei.cpf.ca

Newfoundland & Labrador Branch
PO Box 8601, Station A
St. John's, NL
A1B 3P2
nl.cpf.ca

Quebec Office
400-1819 Rene
Levesque
Blvd W
Montreal, QC H3H 2P5
qc.cpf.ca

National Office
1104-170 Laurier Ave W
Ottawa, ON K1P 5V5
cpf.ca

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**CANADIAN
PARENTS
FOR FRENCH**



**FRENCH
IMMERSION
PROGRAMS**
Math and English-
Language Skills