



Media Release

École St. Thomas School celebrates CPF-SK's 2012-2013 Inspiring Teacher

Saskatoon, October 17, 2012 – Today, one of the many dedicated French-Second-Language teachers (FSL) in our province is being honoured by peers and students alike. Lisette Brochu, a primary school French immersion teacher at École St. Thomas in the Border City, was nominated by fellow staff members for Canadian Parents for French-Saskatchewan's (CPF-SK) Inspiring Teacher Award.

Her colleague and principal, Lisa Marie Kreese said she and the staff at the school were thrilled that Brochu received this acclamation. "She has inspired so many students over the years," noted Kreese. "She is a committed, passionate teacher and her desire to continue to learn and grow is inspiring in itself."

Brochu was first honoured at a recent staff meeting. Through social media, the school community was invited to an assembly. "Many parents have commented and showed support to Madame Brochu on our site," Kreese said. "We presented her with a gift and certificate from CPF-SK at our assembly today in front of our student body, parents, Board of Education President Paula Scott, Director of Education Doug Robertson, and members of her family."

Kreese said she feels this award is a public recognition of so many efforts to give children a gift of French. "It inspires us to continue to support our students, families and staff," she said. "As we move to new facility next fall as a result of years building this program, this award confirms for all our staff that dedication to students does not go unrecognized. This acclamation is timely and well deserved."

CPF-SK President Natasha Vetter noted that the Inspiring Teacher Award is a wonderful way to acknowledge the effort and passion of French teachers in Saskatchewan. "What is wonderful about this award is that nominations come from students and parents, so we get to hear so many stories of how much teachers have done," she said. "Teachers are the backbone of FSL programs, and are always working well beyond what is expected of them. They are given the challenging task of getting students engaged and excited in the classroom, helping them to thrive not only in school but out in the world as well. And this is usually done with very limited resources. This award is a small gesture to show them just how important and special they are."

Brochu said she feels honored to be receiving this recognition. "I also feel very humbled because I think that so many of my colleagues have inspired me along the way and would also be very deserving of such an award," she said.

"I believe that teachers should be honored for their dedication to our youth and their willingness to continually change their teaching practices to better serve the needs of our students. After all, our students will shape the future!"

Canadian Parents for French (CPF) is the national network of volunteers who value French as an integral part of Canada and are dedicated to the promotion, creation and support of effective French-Second-Language (FSL) learning opportunities for youth in Canada.

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