



Media Release

***Fête du soleil* spreads sunshine for CPF-SK**

Saskatoon, July 13, 2010 – *Fête du soleil*, Canadian Parents for French – Saskatchewan’s (CPF-SK) signature day camp, has generated lots of excitement and positivity about the organization among children and their families alike.

The first of two Saskatoon *Fêtes* ran from July 5-9, and hosted 26 energetic young people who used their French speaking skills in a number of fascinating and formative ways. Sports, crafts, fun-filled vocabulary games, parachute play and daily themes such as ‘les Jeux olympiques’ and ‘la journée de l’espace’ encouraged the campers to use their French in an exciting and encouraging environment. The next camp will run from August 3-6, with a registration deadline of July 23.

Nicol Moody was one of many parents who had two children attend the day camp. She said she was happy to hear about the opportunities that the camp would provide her son Reese and daughter Jocelyn.

“I wanted my children to be able to keep up with their French throughout the summer months,” she said. “When I heard about the *Fête du soleil*, I wanted to know more. I am glad to see my kids are enjoying themselves. They said they really like doing the activities while also using their French. I also told a few of my friends about the camp, so they registered their kids as well.”

Many new memberships have been generated from the *Fête du soleil*, which is very positive for CPF-SK. Memberships are essential for the organization, making it possible to provide French programs, such as Fete du soleil, for young Canadians.

Some parents also volunteered their time throughout the week as lunch time supervisors. Nicol was one of them.

“It seems like CPF is doing lots in the community,” she said. “I was happy to help out this past week, and I look forward to hearing more about how the organization can help me support my kids with their French education.”

Kayla Ho, a camper who is entering grade two, said she really liked her time at the camp.

“My favourite part of the camp was doing crafts,” she said. “I liked the games too and playing outside. I got to use my French and it was really fun!”

Katie Groskopf, the lead monitor who is working with the students said she is finding her work with CPF-SK and the *Fête du soleil* incredibly rewarding. She and the three other monitors – Anna Noura Kuhlmann, Aubry Poulin and Josée Hounjet – will be travelling around the province to facilitate the *Fête du soleil* fun.

"It's so awesome working with these kids and feeding off their energy," she said. "They are so vibrant and want to learn and I love that we get to help them with their French in creative and fun ways."

She said one of her favourite things that she has witnessed so far is the campers encouraging each other.

"Some of the campers have even been helping other campers with explanations of activities and games we're doing," said Katie. "That's really great to see. Also, when you hear them using the vocabulary words that we taught them, it just makes me smile."

She said working for CPF-SK has been a great experience so far, and she said she is looking forward to the rest of the summer.

"It's a really supportive organization to work for," she said. "Our training was great, and being out on the field working with the children is truly amazing. It's shaping up to be a great summer!"

Anna Kuhlmann has worked for CPF-SK at Fête as a monitor before.

"I've come back three times because I really enjoy working with CPF," she said. "There are some campers here that I've worked with before, and it's so great to see the progress they've made with their French in the course of the year. They enjoy the camp and what they learn here is concrete. We do our best to make learning French in the summer fun!"

The Regina chapter has also added a second week of Fête du soleil, due to overwhelming interest in the program.

The following dates and locations for *Fête du soleil* have been confirmed:

Swift Current - July 12-16
Yorkton - July 19-23
Prince Albert - July 26-30
Lloydminster - July 27-29
Saskatoon - August 3-6
Regina - August 9-13 (Register by July 23)
Regina - August 16-20 (FULL)

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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