



FRANÇAIS POUR  
**L'AVENIR**  
FRENCH FOR THE  
**FUTURE**

2019-2020 YEAR-END REVIEW

A thin, L-shaped line with a rainbow gradient, starting from the right and turning down to the left, positioned at the bottom right of the page.

# MY PASSION. IN FRENCH.



WE CONTRIBUTE TO BUILDING A BETTER CANADA IN WHICH ALL YOUNG PEOPLE VALUE OUR FRANCOPHONE HERITAGE, APPRECIATE FRANCOPHONE CULTURES AND STRIVE TO EXCEL IN LEARNING THE FRENCH LANGUAGE.



Attaining a high level of proficiency in the French language offers both major personal and professional advantages to young people

**DEVELOPING  
SKILLS**



Having built significant linguistic and cultural ties together, young Canadian students are able to better appreciate diversity and are motivated to pursue their studies in French.

**APPRECIATING  
DIVERSITY**



Strong personal connections inspire young Canadians to cultivate a relationship with the French language and Francophone cultures throughout their lives.

**CREATING  
CONNECTIONS**

## FRENCH FOR THE FUTURE

National Office  
170 Laurier Avenue West, Suite 904, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5V5  
Tel. : 613 233-1616  
info@francais-avenir.org  
Charity registration number: 869760579 RR0001

*Drafting and page layout: Maude Duguay, Vashini Jaunky  
Translation: Nations Translation  
Graphics: Bonnie Yu*



## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

With 23 years of experience and presence among young people in grades 7 to 12, French for the Future has once again surpassed itself, reaching nearly 45,000 students from coast to coast through its programs, as well as thousands more through its social media in 2019-2020.

This year saw the creation of the x-Forums, a micro-funding program for local initiatives to promote bilingualism, run by volunteers within their community. The very first x-Forum was in Yorkton, Saskatchewan, in May 2019, which paved the way for many upcoming events. Our youth committee, Bilingual Young Leaders, launched its first project, United Bilingual Correspondents, which brings together young people who want to speak to each other in French and learn more about Canadian diversity. We have also refined our online presence, through our social media, and by creating a blog by and for young people to allow young Francophones and Francophiles to be heard.

Of course, the year-end saw many upheavals as a result of government measures to stop the COVID-19 pandemic. However, these periods of change are also fertile ground for innovation, and French for the Future is entering a vibrant period of trials, errors and reinvention to remain relevant and be a leader in what it offers to young people in Canada.

It is a privilege every day to be able to accompany young Canadians on their journey toward bilingualism, to be able to enrich their language through positive cultural and emotional experiences that help them root that learning in the richness of Francophone cultures in Canada.

I would like to thank our coordinators, facilitators, partners and donors, as well as our Board of Directors; the passion they bring to our activities is the passion that guides our youth on the road to bilingualism.

**Emeline Laurent,**  
Executive Director



# Our Board of **DIRECTORS**

French for the Future is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



## ADMINISTRATORS



## ADVISORS



*Thank you!*

We warmly thank Micheline Dubé for her many years on the Board of Directors. Beginning as an Administrator in 2011, she guided French for the Future by assuming the role of President from 2015 to 2017 and Past President from 2017 to 2019. We would also like to thank Réjean Després for his contribution to the Board as an Administrator since 2017.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Again this year, French for the Future has shown its great ability to adapt to change. I would like to acknowledge the work done by its team and salute the great spirit of cooperation that enabled it to spread the French language among young people in Canada.

Several members of the Board of Directors have left us, and I thank them sincerely for their contribution to the organization. I especially thank Past President Micheline Dubé and Michael Salvatori, who replaced her in that role and whose active support greatly facilitated my start as President.

In January 2020, Emeline Leurent became Acting Executive Director, following the departure of Gabrielle Fredette-Fortin on secondment to Canadian Heritage as part of the Official Languages Act modernization project.

From the start of her term, Emeline, who recently moved to Ottawa, had to renew part of her work team and, due to the pandemic, had to find new ways to operate and coordinate creative ways of reaching young people. Thus, some Local Forums were postponed to the fall, while a second cohort of United Bilingual Correspondents was established to break social isolation and mitigate the loss in learning as a result of schools closing. French for the Future has also provided parents with a simplified form for access to Francoconnexion Sessions to make it easier to learn French at home.

Despite the exceptional circumstances that have hampered activities planned for this spring, the entire French for the Future team remains united, ready to resume its flagship programs and continues to carve out its place in the Canadian bilingual education network.

Finally, many thanks to the generous donors who believe in our mission and support the work of French for the Future.

**Danielle Arcand,**  
President of the Board of Directors



# National **OFFICE TEAM**

French for the Future's daily operations are managed by a permanent team located in Ottawa, Ontario.



**EMELINE LEURENT**  
Executive Director



**GENEVIÈVE GOBEIL**  
Program Coordinator



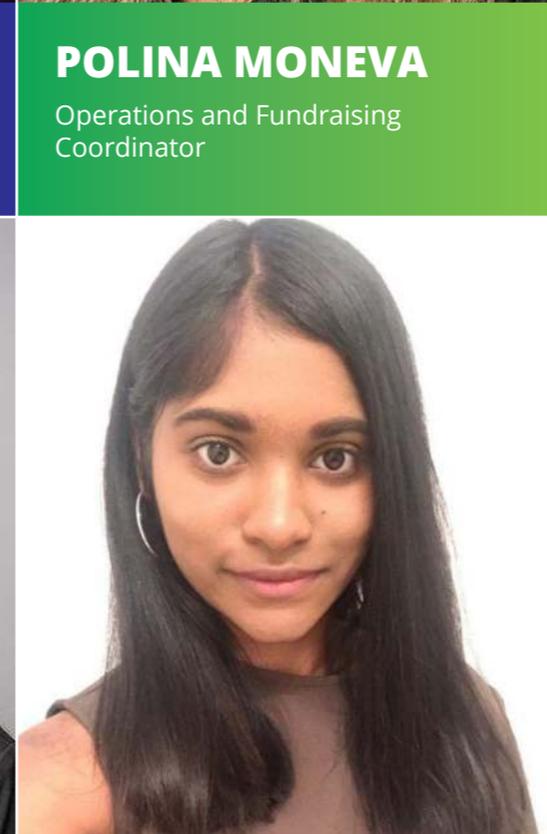
**POLINA MONEVA**  
Operations and Fundraising  
Coordinator



**MAUDE DUGUAY**  
Marketing and  
Communications Agent



**JESSICA CHIANG**  
Projects Agent



**VASHINI JAUNKY**  
Communications Agent



**VICTORIA GAUDRY**  
Program Agent

# F.

LOCAL FORUMS

**Unforgettable experiences in French!**

11 LOCAL FORUMS

2,613 PARTICIPANTS

109 SCHOOLS

This year, 2,613 students from Grade 7 to 12 enrolled in French Second Language (FSL) and French First Language (FFL) participated in Local Forums organized in 11 Canadian cities.

Through that appointment, students are able to spend a day of learning in a non-school setting by participating in workshops and activities offered in French. In doing so, they discover the professional opportunities and cultural value of bilingualism.

These forums are completely free and are designed to celebrate the French language.

*I learned a lot about the importance of the French language and I now feel very confident speaking to anyone in French.*

Participant in the 2019 Moncton Local Forum

*The day of the event was memorable with students who were engaged, who spoke French, who wanted to do all the workshops, and volunteers who were ready to help wherever needed. I have only fond memories of this exceptional experience.*

Valérie Dionne, organizer of the 2020 Edmonton Local Forum



**Élodie Dorsel**  
Toronto



**Ximena Londono**  
Vancouver and Victoria



**Josée Roy**  
Winnipeg



**Maxime Bourgeois**  
Charlottetown, Fredericton, Halifax, St. John's



**Samuel Landry**  
Charlottetown, Fredericton, Halifax, St. John's



**Trish Rognvaldson**  
Calgary and Cochrane



**Valérie Dionne**  
Edmonton



**Noëlla Gallo (National Office)**  
Ottawa



**Université de Moncton**  
Moncton

OUR TEAM OF COORDINATORS

# CNR.

NATIONAL ESSAY  
CONTEST

Encouraging  
post-secondary  
education in  
French

501  
PARTICIPANTS

90 SCHOLARSHIPS

\$282,000

13 POST-SECONDARY  
PARTNER  
INSTITUTIONS



Through the National Essay Contest, which took place from October 1 to December 20, 2019, 90 students from Grade 10 to 12 received a scholarship from \$1,000 to \$12,000 to allow them to pursue their post-secondary education in French.

Students from across the country had the opportunity to test their French skills by submitting a 750-word essay on the following theme: "On June 17th, 2019, Canada declared a climate emergency. If you were put in charge of leading the government, how would you respond to this emergency?"

This year, the sponsor organization for the 2019-2020 National Essay Contest was the David Suzuki Foundation.

*The quality of the texts we read confirmed that our youth are seriously interested in the climate crisis, have solutions to put forward, and have communication skills for reaching Canadians in both official languages. More than ever, we see consensus in diversity and union in plurality.*

Diego Creimer, a representative of the David Suzuki Foundation



FONDATION  
DAVID SUZUKI  
Un monde. Une nature.

*In the end, our existence relies entirely on our environment. That is why we need to take care of it; after all, we are given only one Earth. We must stop destroying our own planet. In the future, if I were to become Prime Minister, I would want to preserve these principles in order to work for the common good. Through better education for children, effective advertising campaigns, promotions to green businesses, the creation of green spaces and investments in renewable energy, I will try to alleviate, if not resolve, the climate emergency. This is the only way to save our planet and it is time to act. Change begins here.*

Excerpt from the essay by Nicolás Alonso Cobo (ON), winner of a \$2,000 scholarship for the University of British Columbia (BC) in the French Second Language category.

*I would like to thank you again for this incredible gift. Your contest prompted me to enrich my vocabulary and learn more about government protocols and the impact of pollution on our ecosystems. Thank you very much to French for the Future for allowing me to go to the university of my dreams.*

Chloe Bella Khouri, FFL, winner of a \$1,000 scholarship for the University of Ottawa.

French for the Future wants to thank Simon Fraser University (SFU) in British Columbia, who joined our partner institutions this year. Two scholarships of \$2,500 were added, for a total of 90 post-secondary scholarships available to Canadian students who want to learn French.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS!

### \$12,000 scholarships

Julianne Lacelle,  
Rockland ON, University of Ottawa (ON)

Iris Habekost,  
Richmond Hill ON, University of Ottawa (ON)

Starla Lancia,  
New Westminster BC, Université de Montréal (QC)

Liam Woolley,  
Toronto ON, Université de Montréal (QC)

### \$10,000 scholarships

Amélie Guitard,  
Moncton, NB, Université Sainte-Anne (NS)

Talia Quinlan,  
Dartmouth, NS, Université Sainte-Anne (NS)

Lily Hayward,  
Yarmouth, NS, Université Sainte-Anne (NS)

Brooke Conrad,  
Glenwood, NS, Université Sainte-Anne (NS)

Laurence Ouellette,  
Saint-François-De-Madawaska, NB, Université de Moncton (NB)

Mackenzie Lawrence,  
Fredericton, NB, Université de Moncton (NB)

### \$8,000 scholarships

Camille Pellicano,  
Ottawa, ON, University of Ottawa (ON)

Alastair Thorburn-Vitols,  
Toronto, ON, University of Ottawa (ON)

Karim Lachgar,  
Toronto, ON, Université de Montréal (QC)

### Bourses de 8 000 \$

Devina Briggs,  
North Vancouver, BC, Université de Montréal (QC)

### \$5,000 scholarships

Avary Plante,  
New Liskeard, ON, Université Sainte-Anne (NS)

Regan Bilodeau,  
North Cobalt, ON, Université Sainte-Anne (NS)

Gabrielle Ouellet,  
Saint-Quentin, NB, Université de Moncton (NB)

Haley Pitre,  
Middle River, NB, Université de Moncton (NB)

Ghalia Hayawan,  
Oakville, ON, Glendon College of York University (ON)

Monique Ingram,  
Richmond Hill, ON, Glendon College of York University (ON)

### \$4,000 scholarships

Salah Hussein Aly,  
Gloucester, ON, University of Ottawa (ON)

Maxene Bradshaw,  
Kanata, ON, University of Ottawa (ON)

Florence Gosselin,  
Spencerville, ON, Université de Montréal (QC)

Natalie Bazouzi,  
Toronto, ON, Université de Montréal (QC)

Find the complete list of winners of \$1,000 to \$3,000 scholarships on the French for the Future website.

# S.F.

## FRANCONNEXION SESSIONS

Instill new energy in French class – or at home!

568 KITS DOWNLOADED, FOR MORE THAN

1440 ORGANIZED SESSIONS

42 000 PARTICIPANTS

More than 42,000 students from Grade 7 to 12 participated in Francoconnexion Sessions this year. These sessions were organized by 568 teachers, parents and coordinators, as well as students and ambassadors who wanted to create other activities in French.



*“Very interesting and motivating to speak French.”*

*“It was fun and I learned a lot.”*

*“I started watching some TV in French.”*



*“In my opinion, the students learned more about the French language in general and increased their interest in bilingualism.”*

*“An excellent motivational tool to continue learning French.”*



*As president of the French club at my school, my Francoconnexion Session was a good first step to introduce the idea of the Francophonie that I wanted to convey to those participating through the club. The activities were easy to organize and interesting. [...] It made me less stressed as leader of this new group, as I always had resources available [...]. Even the French teachers at my school participated! It was a fun experience and I was happy to have access to the resources to run my club,*

Peter Noel, Ambassador at the 2019 FNJA, FSL, Grade 12, Newfoundland and Labrador.

### Parent Registration Form

After schools closed due to COVID-19, French for the Future created a registration form for Francoconnexion Sessions specially made for parents, giving them access to the free online educational resource kit and helping them accompany their children in learning and practicing French at home.

## A SIMPLE AND FREE process!

Through a simple and free process, each organizer receives resources, activities and gifts at their home in order to organize a day dedicated to the French language in their classroom.

1



The organizer contacts French for the Future.

2



A member of our team receives the request and takes care of the shipment!

3



The organizer receives the toolkit.

4



The fun begins in the classroom!

5



Result: motivated students who are engaged in the learning process.

# FNJA.

NATIONAL AMBASSADOR  
YOUTH FORUM

**FNJA 2019: A  
memorable  
experience!**

**30** STUDENTS

**5** DAYS OF  
TRAINING

**81** ACTIVITIES  
LED BY THE  
AMBASSADORS,  
BRINGING  
TOGETHER

**4,515** YOUNG  
PEOPLE!

## The ambassadors of the French language

30 bilingual Grade 10 and 11 students from across the country were selected for their dedication and passion for the French language and bilingualism, as well as their leadership skills, to participate in the National Ambassador Youth Forum. These young people earned an unforgettable week of learning, in Victoria, British Columbia, all expenses paid!

While this week served primarily as a training session for future ambassadors of the French language, it was also an opportunity to share and create new friendships.

*Thank you, thank you, thank you! I have no words to say how much you inspired me and how unforgettable this experience was! You are all great leaders and you will accomplish so much!*

*Sarah Mowat, New Brunswick*

*I have learned so much and feel much more comfortable with my perception of the Francophonie. I look forward to promoting bilingualism in my community now :)*

*Peter Noel, Newfoundland and Labrador*

Back at home, our young ambassadors took action, creating more than 80 activities, groups and presentations in their respective communities, all focusing on the promotion and importance of bilingualism. These activities in turn gave thousands of students the opportunity to discover and maintain a passion for the French language.

Despite the COVID-19 epidemic in Canada, our young ambassadors continued their commitments to their classmates, friends and family virtually beginning in March 2019.



# JLB.

BILINGUAL YOUNG LEADERS

**Projects for and by the youth!**

7 LEADERS AGED 16 TO 22

**Jinian Beharrell**  
(British Columbia)

**Danèle Déquier**  
(Manitoba)

**Alice Chen**  
(Ontario)

**Alexia Forsythe**  
(New Brunswick)

**Elizabeth Landry**  
(New Brunswick)

**Rosalie Gendron**  
(Quebec)

**Trystan Brodhagen**  
(Ontario)



During its mandate, the first cohort of Bilingual Young Leaders (JLB) developed and implemented a Canada-wide correspondence project called United Bilingual Correspondents.

The launch of United Bilingual Correspondents in September 2019 was a great success: following a call for bilingual Canadian youth, 93 students and 32 schools took part in this new project. The JLB themselves followed up with participants, created matching registration forms and sent out monthly themes.

*I am extremely grateful that I had the opportunity to work with such talented and passionate community models, and I could not have dreamed of a better group of people to be on this board. Overall, my time as a JLB is an experience that I will never forget and will cherish for the rest of my life.*

Testimonial by Alexia Forsythe, Bachelor's degree candidate at the Université de Moncton, New Brunswick.

In addition to the United Bilingual Correspondents project, the Bilingual Young Leaders also acted as an advisory committee for French for the Future, particularly in selecting the theme for and promoting the National Essay Contest.

# X-

FORUMS

**Promoting bilingualism and linguistic duality among young people!**

5 REQUESTS

1 FIRST X-FORUM

103 PARTICIPANTS

The x-Forums are events that arise from local initiatives in communities and are organized by volunteers, with the goal of bringing together students from Grades 7 to 12 enrolled in French Second Language and French First Language programs around the theme of linguistic duality.

Although organized independently, the x-Forums share the following common goals:

- Delivering an inspiring and motivating message regarding Canadian bilingualism
- Giving young people the opportunity to play an active role
- Creating a positive environment in which each student feels comfortable speaking French

The organizers of x-Forums must submit an application to the French for the Future National Office to receive funding, and for access to tool kits to help in planning.



Le français pour l'avenir reçoit le soutien de  
French for the Future is supported by



As a non-profit organization, French for the Future depends on donations and sponsorships from individuals and companies to maintain its activities and develop its programs. Thank you for your support!

## ±\$10 000

BMO Financial Group  
Government of British Columbia  
Government of Ontario  
William C. Graham

## \$5 000 - \$9 999

Anonymous  
Government of Manitoba  
Lisa Balfour Bowen  
Margaret McCain  
Michael Tims  
Université de Moncton

## \$1 000 - \$4 999

Allen and Marion Lambert Fund (William Lambert)  
Assemblée Communautaire Fransaskoise (ACF)  
Audrey S. Hellyer Charitable Foundation  
Canadian Parents for French - BC & Yukon  
Canadian Parents for French - Nova Scotia  
Clair Balfour and Marci McDonald  
Collège Communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick  
Collège de l'Île, Prince Edward Island  
Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages  
Prince Edward Island Public Service Commission  
Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique  
Government of New Brunswick

## \$1 000 - \$4 999

Groupe Média TFO  
John Ralston Saul  
Karim Manaa  
Fédération des francophones de la Colombie-Britannique.  
Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development  
R. Howard Webster Foundation  
Simon Fraser University  
The Whiteside Foundation  
University of Ottawa  
Université Sainte-Anne

## \$500 - \$999

Nova Scotia's provincial Francophone school board  
Dalhousie University  
Dialogue NB  
Faculty of Humanities - University of Victoria  
Canadian Armed Forces  
Francfonds  
Franco-Jeunes de Terre-Neuve et Labrador  
Jeunesse Acadienne et Francophone de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard - JAFLIPE  
Juliet Guichon  
Canada Border Services Agency / L'agence des services frontaliers du Canada  
Le Conseil de développement économique de la Nouvelle-Écosse (CDÉNÉ)

## 500 \$ - 999 \$

Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Education and Early Childhood Development  
Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture (Explore)  
Parks Canada  
Réseau de développement économique et d'employabilité de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador (RDÉE TNL)  
Saint Mary's University  
Sean Ingram  
The William And Nona Heaslip Foundation - Nona Heaslip  
Tim Hortons  
University of New Brunswick  
YMCA

## \$1 - \$499

L'Association De Tous Les Francophones De L'Alberta - ACFA  
Calgary region  
Alain Dumont  
Alliance Française  
André Vincent  
Angéline Réhaume  
Canadian Parents for French - Ottawa  
Canadian Parents for French - Alberta  
Charles Ashikwe  
Collège Éducentre  
Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages for New Brunswick  
Congrès Mondial Acadien (CMA)

## \$1 - \$499

Conseil des Écoles Publiques de l'Est de l'Ontario (CEPEO)  
Conseil des écoles publiques du Centre-Est  
Conseil jeunesse provincial de la Nouvelle-Écosse  
Danielle Arcand  
Dupuis Printing  
Francine Tremblay  
Government of Canada - National Defence  
Helena Grossman  
Jacinthe Frédette  
Judith Sabourin  
Vancouver Francophone Cultural Centre  
Fort Langley National Historic Site  
Maria Power  
Marie-Christine Frédette Fortin  
Marie-Josée Arcand  
Marie-Pierre Lavoie Translation Inc.  
Mary Arab  
Max Cooke  
MentorU Inc  
Michael Salvatori  
Michel Carrier  
Micheline Dubé  
PayPal Giving Fund Canada  
Polina Moneva  
Remi Boudreau  
Staunton Bowen  
The Alberta Teachers' Association  
University of Alberta  
Werklund School of Education  
Yolande Grisé

**THANK YOU**  
to our donors and  
sponsors!

LET'S STAY IN TOUCH



lefrancaispourlavenir  
Frenchforthefuture

@francaisavenir

## SUPPORT US!

Your generous donations allow us to offer all our programs free of charge to thousands of Canadian students. On behalf of them and all of us, **thank you.**

To donate, visit our website at:

**french-future.org**