

President's Report
September 14, 2017 - Annual General Meeting

Dear students, parents, staff and education partners,

As you read this annual report, I am sure you will agree that the 2016-2017 school year was full of developments. The trustees and administrative team of the Yukon Francophone School Board (Commission scolaire francophone du Yukon - CSFY) worked to achieve significant results and provide our students with a quality education.

We have continued our negotiations with the Yukon Department of Education so that our School Board can have the autonomy it needs to fully manage all the areas that relate to its mandate. In that sense, the adoption, in August 2016, of the new *French as a First Language Instruction Regulation* by the Government of Yukon in which the Department of Education can delegate the control of its admissions for its schools to the CSFY was a breakthrough.

The trustees put a strong focus on negotiating the implementation of the Francophone High School-Community Centre over the next few years. Following the territorial election in November 2016, our priorities were to continue to pursue a negotiated solution with the new territorial government and establish a negotiation climate in which all parties are aware of the urgency of taking action for our students. All parties maintained this approach.

This year's big news is unquestionably the territorial government's financial commitment last April to build a Francophone High School. Following this announcement, in June 2017 we presented to the community a conceptual design of what a high school respecting the equivalence principle could look like. During this presentation, which was attended by the Minister of Education and the Minister of Highways and Public Works, the government maintained its commitment to build a new school for our students for 2019.

On the national stage, we actively took part in the position statement of the National Federation of French-Language School Boards (FNCSF), urging the Government of Canada to consider French-Language minority school councils and boards as key players and to consult them to fully understand the scope of the challenges and needs of French-Language programs in a minority setting. In this vein, the CSFY is closely following discussions about the Protocol for Agreements for Minority-Language Education that Canadian Heritage renews every five years with the Council of Ministers of Education.

We also continue to focus on maintaining a close relationship with students and parents. Last February, the trustees met with the student council to establish a relationship of trust and to address students' needs and expectations. This meeting was a great success. The wish of the trustees is to continue this discussion in 2017-2018. As for the relationship with parents, trustees took part in meetings of the parents' committee to stay informed about their initiatives.

A milestone this year was also the election by acclamation on September 22, 2016 of Edith Campbell, Jean-Paul Molgat, Marc-André Lavigne and myself. Marc-André was the only new trustee. As one position was still vacant, we were happy to welcome Gilles Ménard who was elected by acclamation on February 2, 2017.

Following the resignation of Jean-Paul Molgat, Éline Michaud was elected by acclamation on May 18, 2017. Edith Campbell accepted the position of vice-president to replace him. He had been CSFY's vice-president since his first mandate in the fall of 2013. I would like to thank Edith Bélanger, Gilbert Bradet and Jean-Paul Molgat, outgoing trustees, for their expertise, time and dedication.

In closing, thank you to everyone who is committed to the future of our school community. Your presence beside us strengthens our determination to ensure the continuity of the French language and culture among our Yukon youth and succeed for our students.

Sincerely,
Jean-Sébastien Blais, CSFY president