

## Message from the Executive Director

I am pleased to present you with the 2019-2020 Yukon Francophone School Board (CSFY) Annual Report, which highlights the four main focal points of our strategic plan: our students, our education, our promotion and visibility, and our leadership.

Let me begin by congratulating our school principals and staff for adapting and persevering throughout the global crisis that we have faced. They have succeeded in ably supporting our students by providing them with a quality education despite the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. We are proud of the work that all of our staff has done in order to develop home support programs which were able to ensure the success and well-being of our students. I also want to thank our students and our parents for all their efforts and perseverance during this difficult time.

While we had 303 students enrolled in the 2019-2020 school year, there is a noticeable increase for the upcoming year, with 346 enrolments across our three schools. I would like to highlight that we anticipate over 30% more students in our secondary school program.

Despite an unusual year-end, our elementary and high school students had the opportunity to accomplish great achievements and important projects during the 2019-2020 school year. To give just a few examples, the elementary school students participated in the superb I Feed My Francophone Community (J'alimente ma francophonie) project, numerous youth cultural committee activities to support positive behaviour and the creation of the official song of École Émilie-Tremblay. With regard to the high school students, we would like to highlight their participation in the North-Western Franco-Canadian Parliament (Parlement franco-canadien du Nord et de l'Ouest - PFCNO), the dinner and show Souper à la bonne franquette, and the theatrical performance I Want to Have Peace (Je veux avoir la paix).

The 2019-2020 school year marks the occasion to recognize five staff members for their years of loyal service: Manon Carrière, Émilie Dessureault, Marie Grondin, Nathalie Émond and Édith Babin. We would also like to congratulate the latter for receiving the Educator of Excellence Award from the Learning Disabilities Association of Yukon (LDAY).

Marie-Hélène Gagné, the Vice Principal of École Émilie-Tremblay, also conducted a workshop entitled "Become a Leader in Grade 5 and 6" (Devenir un Leader en 5<sup>e</sup> et 6<sup>e</sup> années) during the 72nd Annual Conference of the Canadian French Language Education Association (Association canadienne d'éducation de langue française – ACELF) in October 2019.

With regard to our students, we would like to highlight that a graduate of the 2018-2019 cohort was awarded the Governor General's Academic Medal for academic excellence. We would also like to note that a former graduate of Académie Parhélie and selected students from École Émilie-Tremblay were listed among the most influential personalities in the Yukon Francophone community in 2019, as well as the involvement of several of our students in community events such as the national Francophone celebration Rendez-vous de la francophonie (RVF), Yukon Francophonie Day (Journée de la francophonie yukonnaise - JFY) and Solstice Saint-Jean.

I invite you to consult the detailed annual report which is available on the CSFY website under the Publications tab. There, you can learn more about several other CSFY activities, such as the Early Childhood Symposium and the Book Fair. Throughout the year, we have continued to be very involved in local and national organizations, such as the Education Community Partnership (Partenariat communautaire en éducation – PCÉ), the Early Childhood Roundtable (Table en petite enfance), the National Group of Executive Directors in Education (Regroupement national des directions générales de l'éducation – RNDGÉ) and many more.

A significant milestone this year was the conclusion of a settlement agreement between the territorial government and the CSFY which resolved all outstanding issues from the 2009 lawsuit. Negotiations have been taking place through a joint settlement committee since August 2015. For almost five years, the settlement committee worked tirelessly to conclude this agreement, which allows the CSFY to establish full governance of its schools and to manage their human resources and buildings. One of the great successes of this process was the agreement to build the Paul-Émile Mercier Secondary School Community Centre (Centre scolaire secondaire communautaire Paul-Émile-Mercier – CSSC Mercier), which increases the facilities and learning spaces available for our programming and the community.

The construction of CSSC Mercier was one of our priorities this school year. We worked and collaborated to advance construction, purchase furniture and equipment, procure staffing, unveil the school name and develop various new communication tools. In order to involve our high school students, we invited them to visit the construction site during the year. Unfortunately, the project has been delayed due to COVID-19. For this reason, we have organized for our Grade 7 and 8 students to return to school at École Émilie-Tremblay and for our Grade 9 to 12 students to attend the downtown location while awaiting the opening of CSSC Mercier.

In response to a call for tenders, the firm Alegria Consultation was hired to conduct an initial assessment survey for the 2018-2021 strategic plan among Grade 4 to 12 students, parents, staff, trustees and partners. This assessment will allow the CSFY to evaluate the progress we have made towards achieving the objectives defined in each of the four focal points of the strategic plan.

I would like to thank all our staff members for their hard work and dedication. Thanks to our exceptional team, we have been able to put in place projects, initiatives and resources to ensure the success and well-being of our students.



Marc Champagne, Executive Director