



CPF Hamilton-Wentworth

Public Board Transportation Policy -- History in the Making!

For the first time in its 25 year history, bussing will be provided to public school French Immersion students! Limited service to French Immersion schools begins January 30th 2006!

A new Transportation policy was approved by the Board of Trustees on Monday, October 17th. On November 8, the Committee of the Whole voted to devote \$150,000 of the 2005-06 transportation budget for the provision of additional transportation services for French Immersion students, as provided for by the new policy.

The board is using temporary measures between January and June in order to avoid changing start and finish bell times at the affected schools. The service will be concentrated on those areas with the most students, and buses will pick up and drop off grades 1 to 5 students from dedicated pick-up points. Details of stops and times will be finalized in early January and a survey will likely be sent home with all students to

gauge the level of usage and finalize routes. The \$150,000 will be spent first on grade 1 to 5 students, and then money left-over will provide HSR bus passes for middle school students.

What Else Should Parents Do?

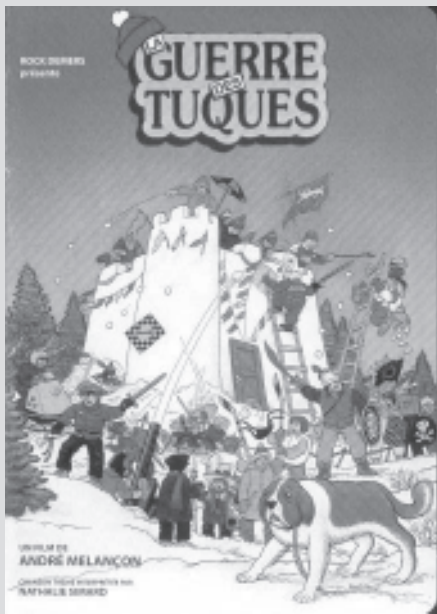
At this point, transportation funding only extends to June 2006. The continuation of this service will depend upon the new Provincial Transportation Funding Formula. Write to your Provincial member of Parliament asking that full funding be provided for transportation of French Immersion students in the new Transportation Funding Formula being developed by the Province.



CPF/Embassy of France National Contest

Canadian Parents for French and the Embassy of France are offering a national contest entitled: Today's Object, Tomorrow's Museum Artefact! The contest is open to Grade 11 and 12 students enrolled in French-second-language programs. Teams of four students, (or three students and a teacher), must submit a video report (10 to 15 minutes long) that will showcase a museum in the year 3005. In the video report, the team must identify four objects from 2006 that would be displayed in the future museum and explain why. The contest deadline is April 3, 2006.

The team will be evaluated based on originality, French language quality, content development, and creative design. Each member of the winning team will be awarded the grand prize, "Allons en France," consisting of a trip to France this summer. The prize package includes: travel, activities, accommodations and insurance. There will also be second and third prizes awarded. Details and a registration form are available on CPF's website: www.cpf.ca



French Film for Kids Showing at the Staircase Cafe

La Guerre des Tuques:

During the winter break a large group of kids decide to break into two groups and hold a major snowball war. One group stakes the kids barn/hideout as their base and the other group builds an amazing ice brick fortress complete with slides, a faux front door, and a snowball armory. The kids set up rules, and spy on each other with hilarious results.

Saturday, January 28 at 1 p.m.
Staircase Cafe
27 Dundurn Street North

Cost: \$3 for children and \$7 for adults -\$5 for adult CPF members.
Popcorn and pop will be available for sale.

French Immersion Information Nights

High School

Evening sessions for Grade 8 students and their parents. Everything you need to know about Hamilton's two French Immersion High Schools and how to get your French Immersion certificate!

Cathedral Separate High School -
January 18 at 7 p.m.

Westdale Public High School -
February 8 at 7 p.m.

Kindergarten Information Nights for French Immersion

It's that time of year again! If you know a family with a child starting Junior or Senior Kindergarten, encourage them to consider French Immersion. School board officials will be holding a series of information nights to tell potential FI parents about the program. CPF members will be at the meetings to answer your questions.

Public School Dates:
(all meetings begin at 6:30 p.m.)

Mon., January 30 - GR Allan
900 King St. W.....905-522-0601
(Dundas & West Hamilton)

Wed., February 1 -Glen Echo
140 Glen Echo Dr.....905-560-6630
(Stoney Creek & East Hamilton)

Mon., Feb. 6 - A.M. Cunningham
100 Wexford Ave. S....905-544-7771
(East and Central Hamilton)

Wed., February 8 -Norwood Park
165 Terrace Drive.....905-575-9808
(Hamilton Mountain, Ancaster & Upper Stoney Creek)

Wed., February 15 -Earl Kitchener
300 Dundurn St. S.....905-528-0223
(West and Central Hamilton)

Catholic School Dates:
(all meetings begin at 7 p.m.)

Wed., February 15 - St. Eugene
120 Parkdale Ave. S....905-545-9598
(East Hamilton)

Thurs., February 16 - St. Joseph
270 Locke St. S.....905-529-1002
(West Hamilton)

Wed., February 22 - Sts. Peter & Paul
49 Fennell Avenue 905-383-4911
(Hamilton Mountain)

Hamilton Reads in French!

CPF Hamilton-Wentworth is sponsoring a reading by author, **Lysette Brochu** as part of the Public Library's Hamilton Reads event. Lysette reads from her book "Jérôme et la fête des toutous" on **Wed., January 26, 2006.**

Admission is free and all are welcome!
10:30 a.m.: Le Petit Navire,
400 Cumberland Avenue, Hamilton
6:30 p.m.: Coin de la famille,
460 Main Street East, 3rd floor



Gregg LeRock Comes to Hamilton!

Presented by Canadian Parents For French Hamilton-Wentworth



Canadian Parents For French Hamilton-Wentworth proudly presents concerts by French-Canadian musician Gregg LeRock on:

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2006

10 a.m. & 1 p.m.

École Secondaire Georges P. Vanier
100 Macklin St. N., Hamilton (west end)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2006

10 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Bishop Ryan Catholic High School
50 Albright Road, Hamilton (east end)

Cost: \$6 per student (plus transportation) -- Teachers no charge.

Each school attending the concert will receive a complimentary, curriculum-based CD/study guide so

that students will be able to learn the songs in advance.

For those of you not familiar with Gregg LeRock's curriculum-based songs and CD's ("Encore" and "Vive LeRock"), you will likely know them via textbooks - he has written extensively for the "Visages", "Images", "Acti-Vie" and "Destinations" programmes.

Some of his better known songs include: La pizza, Mon t-shirt, Écoutons la radio, Sauvons les animaux, La télévision, Mon sac à dos, Nathalie au Québec, Andrée prend un biscuit, À La Nouvelle Orléans, and Mes amis.

Ticket order forms will be sent to each school early in January. Don't miss this opportunity to have your child attend a French language event.

Learn to speak French at Collège Boréal

In September 2004, Hamilton's first French-language college access centre opened for business. The Collège Boréal, based in Sudbury, has six other campuses in Ontario, with their only post-secondary access centre in Hamilton. The Collège offers customized training as well as post-secondary courses and is located at 627 Main Street East (next to the Big Brothers agency).

Of special interest to French Immersion parents are the adult French as a Second Language courses the Collège runs each term. These nine courses start at beginner level and progress to an advanced level. Each course runs for 12 weeks and costs \$219 plus a \$35 textbook. Each textbook contains materials for 3 beginner, intermediate or advanced courses. The classes are 3 hours long and no class contains more than 15 students. Classes use everyday examples and resources such as newspaper and television to introduce students to the French language. Emphasis is placed on oral skills through subject related discussions on a different theme each week.

In a special partnership with CPF Hamilton-Wentworth, Collège Boréal is offering a discount for CPF members. The textbook will be provided free to members of CPF -- a \$35 saving! Visit our website to join CPF: www.hwcn.org/link/hwcpf

Collège Boréal classes begin January 16 and run Wednesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. or on Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon. Call 905-544-9824 to register!

Grade 7 and 8 students - Don't miss this exciting opportunity!

Esprit d'école 2006 is a leadership weekend in French for students currently in grades 7 and 8. Students will speak only French in a dynamic weekend with approximately 60 participants from across Ontario. The program is designed by La Fédération de la jeunesse franco-ontarienne, an organization with over 30 years experience teaching leadership skills in French. Students will be supervised by mature French-speaking monitors.

Last year's participants enjoyed snow-shoeing, orienteering, winter survival skills, a scavenger hunt and a skit night -all in French!

This year Esprit d'école will be held on February 24-26 at the Scanlon Creek Conversation area near Bradford.

Registration is free to CPF members and \$50 for non-members. This includes meals, accomodation and workshops. Registration deadline is Feb. 10.

Visit www.cpfont.on.ca for details and a registration form.



Booksale and French Trade Show a Success

Our first ever Trade Show was held on November 17, 2005 at G.R. Allan School to provide one-stop resources and information about French language activities in Hamilton and area.

Representatives from French summer camps, student exchange programs, French language entertainment, work programs, francophone community organi-

zations, French tutoring, and even French post-secondary school programs attended the event. It was held in conjunction with the CPF Hamilton-Wentworth annual book sale. The partnership provided a full menu of French language materials and organizations for further studies and activities in French.

Plan to attend next year!



Chris Fortin demonstrates his French martial arts class.

Ontario enters Provincial-Federal Funding Agreement for French-language education

On November 23, 2005 the Ontario government entered into a four-year agreement negotiated between the provincial and federal governments, for funding to support French-language education. Over the next four years, Ontario will receive more than \$300 million from Ottawa for minority-language education and second-language instruction at the elementary, secondary and post-secondary levels.

The federal government, in its 2003 Action Plan for Official Languages, identified education as one of its priorities to provide new impetus to linguistic duality in Canada. This provincial-federal funding agreement is intended to improve the quality of existing programs in minority-language education and second-language instruction, and increase participation in these programs. Good news for French Immersion!