



NEWS RELEASE

Public meeting in Fernie on the establishment of a Francophone public school

(Richmond, BC) January 12, 2009. The Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique (CSF) (BC's Francophone School District – SD No. 93) will hold a public informational meeting on the establishment of a Francophone public school. This event will take place on Tuesday, January 20, at 7 p.m., in the Fernie Memorial Arena, (991 – 6th Ave., Fernie). All parents and members of the Francophone community are invited. The meeting will be conducted in French and in English.

The CSF seeks to establish Francophone schools across the province. Following the request of parents in Fernie, the Francophone School District is considering launching as early as September 2009 a Francophone (French first language) school in this community in an effort to offer access to education in French in the East Kootenays.

While enabling the community to become more familiar with the Conseil scolaire francophone and the merits of French-language education, this public meeting will also measure the community's interest and level of engagement for this project. The CSF will also take advantage of this meeting to promote Francophone education, establish links with the community and measure the potential of a Francophone school in Fernie.

Created in 1995, the Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique offers educational programs and services aimed at fostering the growth and cultural identity of the province's Francophone learners. An active partner in the development of British Columbia's Francophone community, the Conseil has presently in its system, and distributed across 78 communities in the province, over 4,200 students and 40 schools, of which 23 are homogeneous schools.

Reference:

Paul de la Riva

Director of Communications

Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique (School District No. 93)

(604) 214-2617 / 1-888-715-2200

(778) 840-2733 cell phone

pdelariva@csf.bc.ca

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