



NEWS RELEASE

THE CSF CONTINUES TO GROW AND GROW

The figures for September 2009 back-to-school have just been sent to the Ministry of Education and, once again the Conseil scolaire francophone de la C.-B. (French Education Authority of B.C.) reports sustained growth of its school population.

For the 2009-2010 school year, the CSF has almost 4,400 students from kindergarten to Grade 12 in the 38 schools under its jurisdiction throughout British Columbia. This represents an increase of 4% from last year.

Where the management of the CSF is particularly proud is when it compares this year's enrolment at the secondary level to that of last year. For all schools, enrolment was up by 9%. There will be more than 900 students this year.

For the kindergarten level, it's the same good news. "The statistics for back-to-school encourage us to be very optimistic for the future, given the sensible increase of enrolments at kindergarten level, where we are welcoming more than 550 toddlers, this year," says Mr. Mario Cyr, Superintendent of the CSF. "For instance, kindergarten attendance at André-Piolat School in North Vancouver alone has increased by 50%. For the Au cœur de l'île School, in Comox, the kindergarten attendance has practically doubled."

Among other salient figures, the number of Grade 8 students at Victor-Brodeur School in Victoria has increased by 64%, which suggests that the high school curriculum has taken root particularly well in the minds of Francophones in the Victoria area. And here are more figures: compared to last year, enrolment has increased 37.5% at Chatelech High School in Sechelt, and 9.5% at Au cœur de l'île School, in Comox.

"These figures are a reliable indicator of the health of French education in the province," adds Mario Cyr. The increase in the total number of pupils is steady. Both at the elementary and secondary levels, the figures continue to prove the support and pride of the Francophone community for its education system."

Since its creation in 1995, the Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique offers educational programs and services that value the full development and cultural identity of Francophone learners in the province. A partner in the development of the Francophone community in British Columbia, today the CSF has more than 4,350 students and 38 schools—among which 23 are Francophone only schools—and serves 78 communities across the entire province.

For more information, please contact :

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