



CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH



Do the DELF!

Professional Learning for French Teachers





Funding is available
to support teachers as
they prepare and write
the DELF B2
exam in April
2023.



In collaboration with **Canadian Parents for French** and **Memorial University**, your Second Languages Council is pleased to announce a winter funding program that supports **20 teachers in preparation for and the writing of the DELF B2 exam.**

The B2 accreditation is a valuable milestone for French proficiency and can be done by teachers wishing to augment their resume, pursue further French study or for their own personal satisfaction.

WHO QUALIFIES?

The SLC welcomes applications from **French Teachers in Core & Immersion positions as well as teachers in supply, replacement and permanent positions.**

HOW IT WORKS?

Beginning in January, participants will prepare for the exam through a series of mock exercises drawn from past B2 exams and will receive solid feedback on the writing and speaking samples they prepare. Listening and Reading portions samples are autograded.

Participants will also have the opportunity to meet virtually on a semi-regular schedule and network with other learners while they discuss the exam and practice their oral French. They will write the exam in April.

**VISIT NL.CPF.CA
TO APPLY TODAY!**

The Concept: Encourage teachers to write the DELF B2

- Build awareness around the availability of the program
- Fund teachers to prepare and write the DELF

The Plan: Teacher Retention through writing the B2

- Eliminating financial and accreditation risk
- Building confidence and professionalism for existing teachers
- Building mobility for existing teachers
- Building network connections for existing teachers
- Building sharing opportunities for existing teachers
- Building fluency for existing teachers
- Building greater language precision for students

The Plan: Teacher Recruitment through writing the B2

- All the previously noted benefits
- The opportunity substitutes to be certified for FI positions



The Partners:



**CANADIAN
PARENTS
FOR FRENCH**



The Partners:





The Partners



Newfoundland and Labrador's University

THE CENTRE FOR LANGUAGE TESTING AND CERTIFICATION



The Partners





The Results (Current program)

Fall 2022 Inscriptions: 20 Participants

Winter 2023 Inscriptions: 20 participants

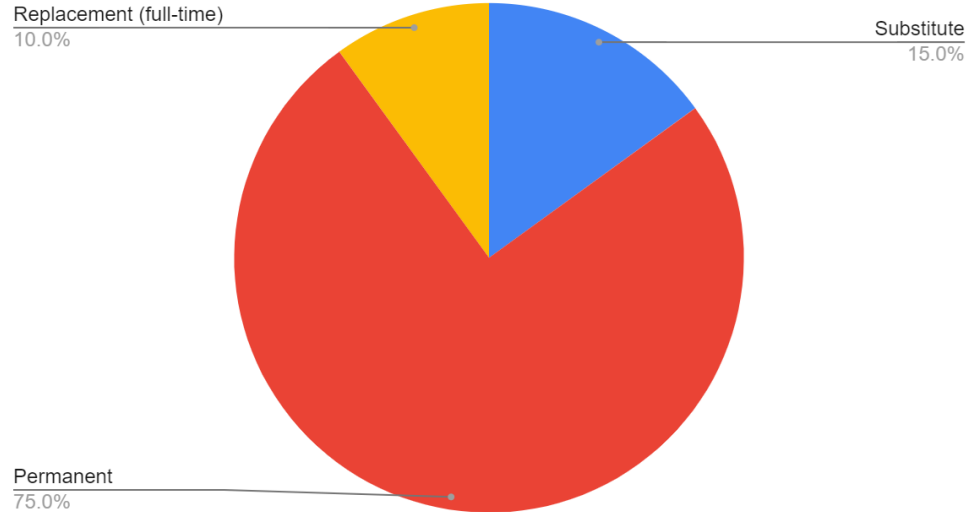
Winter 2022 Breakdown:

3 substitute

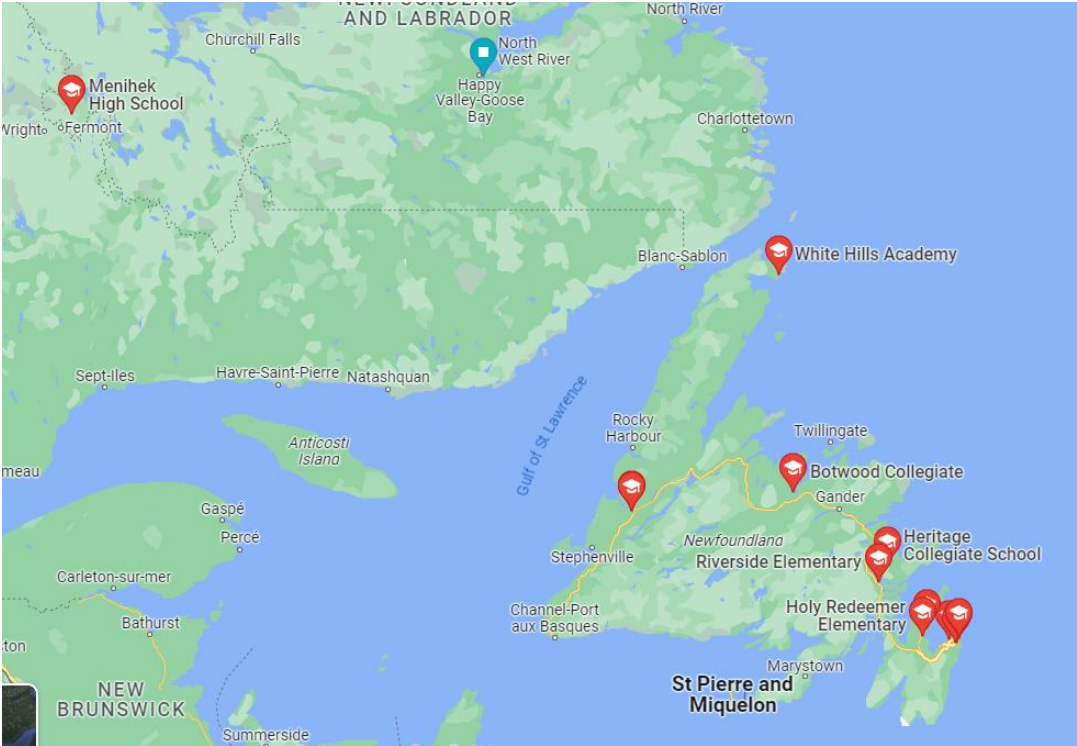
2 replacement

15 permanent

Current teaching status



Geographic Distribution of Winter 2023 Participants



Testimonials:



I completed the DELF preparatory program in 2021, and it has had a significant and very positive impact on my professional development and prospects in finding employment teaching in French.

Prior to hearing about this program I was extremely apprehensive about completing the DELF B2 exam, however, the preparation sessions I completed with Susan Forward as part of the program helped me develop confidence in my own French communication skills. Through these sessions I learned about resources that teachers can use to practice listening, reading, and writing. During these sessions I also had the invaluable experience of conversing with, fellow educators as peer French speakers. These experiences and the support I received helped me feel capable and confident in French and gave me the courage to complete the exam.

Since beginning teaching 5 years ago, I have always taught in French. However, I lacked two credentials required to teach primary/elementary French on a permanent basis: one french course and the DELF B2. Since successfully completing the DELF B2 exam through this program I have since felt empowered to complete my 9th French course making me now eligible to teach French at the Primary/Elementary level. This has been key in allowing me to successfully apply and be awarded French teaching positions and advancing my career as an educator.

I feel empowered as an educator to have met the full standard of French required by the NLESD and feel compelled to continue practicing my French skills in order continue my professional growth. This motivation was caused, in large part by completing the DELF B2 exam through participating in this program, and I feel grateful to have had the opportunity to complete the DELF B2 exam while supported by this program.

-Krista Barbour, Grade 2FI Replacement, École St. Matthew's Elementary



Writing my DELF B2 had long been a bit of a Catch-22 for me. I longed to write it, and feel the validation that comes with external certification. At the same time though, I feared I may not be successful due to uncertainty about my own French language skills and worry about my ability to prepare for such an exam after being out of Post-secondary education for 10+ years. This program was essential to me overcoming this challenge. The support of a skilled instructor, as well as a group of like-minded coworkers with similar challenges and interests, was a huge boost to my confidence and self-image as a French teacher. The skills we practiced as we were coached through our prep allowed me to cement some of my French skills that had caused me anxiety before, and validate my self-worth as a capable, skilled French-language professional.

Another challenge for me was the financial cost of writing the DELF. While the sticker value isn't prohibitive, it was more the mental struggle of knowing I had to commit this money as well as time, and that if I failed it would be 'wasted'. Taking that out of the equation was a huge relief. If it didn't go as planned, that would be one less concern or source of shame/disappointment.

The biggest overall benefit this program brought to me, was the external confirmation that I am, objectively, a qualified professional in a second language. Working largely independently in my classroom, and working almost exclusively with young learners, it is difficult to know how I compare to a provincial, national or international standard. My students, family and colleagues are proud of my accomplishments, and so am I!"

Another little anecdote; I shared my DELF B2 journey openly and frequently with my students. They enjoyed that I was also learning French along with them, and suggested I restart Duolingo. I did so, even joining our class group. We competed against one another, worked as teammates on challenges, and laughed at the inside jokes and nuances of Duolingo together. They started to ask me about my prep, and I would tell them how it was going and what I was having trouble with. One student commented "Monsieur, tu as eu beaucoup de XP sur Duolingo cette semaine. Je pense que tu vas réussir ton examen!" This role reversal was enjoyable for all I think, and it was fun to be able to tell them about my success when I got my results back. A parent told me that her child came home and excitedly told her that she didn't have any tests that week, but "Mr. P passed his!

All told, an excellent experience. I wouldn't have succeeded (or perhaps even attempted) attaining my DELF B2 without this program and its reminders, support, and camaraderie. It was a superb piece of professional learning, in that it really re-invigorated me as a French learner and teacher, and helped me connect with other colleagues.

