

# MERFIP

*(The Metropolitan Edmonton Regional French Immersion Program)*

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## **MANDATE**

### ***Description and Background***

MERFIP was founded on March 14, 1997 by representatives of eight districts in the Edmonton area :

- Black Gold Regional Division
- Edmonton Catholic Schools
- Edmonton Public Schools
- Elk Island Catholic Schools
- Elk Island Public Schools
- Greater St. Albert Catholic Regional Division
- Parkland School Division No. 7
- St. Albert Protestant Schools

Originally, MERFIP received funding from Alberta Education/Alberta Learning. Since the restructuring of funds, MERFIP receives funding from the Conseil Français of the Alberta Teachers' Association.

### ***Goals***

- Serve as a support group for French Immersion program coordinators of member districts.
- Collaborate in sharing expertise.
- Provide professional development activities to staffs of member districts to respond to emerging needs.

### ***Funding Source***

- Conseil Français of the Alberta Teachers' Association
- Federal funding for special projects when appropriate

### ***Executive***

The chairperson, treasurer and secretary are appointed annually. The chairperson is also a member of the Executive Council of the Conseil Français and attends their meetings.

### ***Location***

Member districts decide annually the location of meetings and professional development workshops.

### ***Expectation of Participating Districts***

- Attend regularly scheduled meetings.
- Keep abreast of current research in second language learning.
- Develop resources as needed.
- Provide workshops to member districts.
- Serve in an advisory capacity to our stakeholders.