



NEWS RELEASE

The Honourable Senator Claudette Tardif, PhD

Senator Claudette Tardif presents Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal to Judy Gibson of the Alberta Branch of *Canadian Parents for French*

Edmonton – On October 27, the Honourable Claudette Tardif, Senator for Alberta, presented the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal to Judy Gibson, a long time *Canadian Parents for French* (CPF) staff member and volunteer in Alberta. The award ceremony took place in Edmonton as part of the Annual General Meeting of the Alberta branch of CPF.

“It is my honour and privilege to recognize Judy for her outstanding contribution to the development of French second-language learning in Alberta and across Canada” said Senator Tardif. “As a volunteer and dedicated staff member for more than 35 years, her work with and in support of parents and youth has been remarkable.”

Judy Gibson has been involved at several levels of the CPF organization in British Columbia and Alberta. She began in 1977 as a volunteer at a local chapter in British Columbia, forming one of CPF’s first local chapters in Canada. She has supported and led chapter development and parent support initiatives at the provincial and national levels, worked on numerous CPF publications, and sat on both provincial and national boards of organization.

“From the earliest days of CPF, Judy has consistently been a strong advocate of French second-language learning,” said Senator Tardif. “CPF has evolved and grown since that time, and there is no doubt that Judy’s dedication and invaluable services have played a huge part in this success”.

On February 6, 2012, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II marked the 60th anniversary of her accession to the throne as Queen of Canada. A commemorative medal was created to celebrate the event. The Diamond Jubilee Medal is a visible, tangible way to honour remarkable Canadians of all ages and backgrounds who have made contributions to their country through service and accomplishment.

CPF was founded in 1977 by parents who wanted to ensure that children would have the opportunity to become bilingual in the Canadian school system. The organization has evolved into a proactive national network with 10 Branch offices and some 170 Chapters in communities from coast to coast to coast. For more information on CPF, visit their web site at www.cpf.ca.

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