



MEDIA ADVISORY

Thursday, Jan. 25, 2007

French immersion students urged to continue second-language studies

About 100 Grade 8 French Immersion students from Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools are spending the afternoon at Bishop James Mahoney High School learning about the opportunities the future can hold if they continue with their French language studies.

Francontre 2007 is intended to demystify what high school is like for French Immersion students. As well, they will learn how they can use and improve their French second-language skills after high school, with university programs, summer educational experiences, employment positions and government-sponsored programs for bilingual youth.

Studies show that students who study a second language show increased mental flexibility and creative thinking. Plus, they benefit from a wider range of career opportunities. Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools currently offers a broad range of French language programming, including French Immersion, Core French (at least 90 minutes French instruction per week) and Intensive French (focused study in Grade 6). The French Immersion programs at Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools are growing, with Kindergarten enrolments for this school year showing a slight increase over last year.

Media are invited to visit Francontre 2007 as the event winds up with a performance by Moh, a local bilingual band that includes former Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools students. Details are as follows:

**Performance by Moh
2:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Thursday, January 25, 2007
Band Room*
Bishop James Mahoney High School**

*Please report to the office for directions

For more information, please contact:

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