

## Question Corner



**Q** –“How can I help my child understand the benefits of continuing to learn French until secondary school graduation and beyond?”

**A** – Children should understand that it takes time to develop French-language skills. Like a novice athlete or musician, a French learner cannot be expected to master the required skills without instruction and practice over an extended period. Drawing attention to bilingual role models can motivate children to continue their FSL studies so that they become proficient in French.

It is important to discuss the benefits of having French-language skills with children when they are thinking about secondary school course options, or even earlier than that, so they can make decisions that do not close doors and limit their opportunities in the future. If children find it hard to see how French-language skills will have a positive impact on their chosen field of interest, parents can point out that there are institutions and jobs, both in Canada and around the world that *require* French-language skills. Having a high level of proficiency in French can open up a wider range of career opportunities. 😊

## Did you know??

“Linguistic duality is a fundamental Canadian value and an important asset from every perspective.”

(Fraser, 2011, p.6)

“Companies want to hire more bilingual workers and we can’t find them.”

(The Hamilton Spectator, 2004)

“In an era of increasing globalization, it is critical to heighten students’ awareness that English-French bilingualism is an economic and cultural asset both within Canada and beyond.”

(A Framework for FSL in Ontario Schools, K-12, p.3)