



Navigating the Rising Tide Together

Across the educational landscape, we are experiencing a rising tide—a growing shortage of qualified French as a Second Language (FSL) teachers. Like waves gathering force on the horizon, the issue has been building for years, eroding the foundations of strong French language instruction in schools. Faculties of Education and school boards are being called to come together, respond to the surge, and build strong foundations to weather the storm.

Our collective response began with two events, where stakeholders were brought together to explore how we might navigate this challenge. Our guiding question:

How can we strengthen FSL teacher learning and retention?

What Grounds Us Amid the Waves?

As we waded deeper into the conversation, two powerful anchors have emerged from the current: **mentorship and relationships**.

These themes provide steady ground beneath shifting waters, supporting both the learning and long-term success of FSL teachers.

But not all aspects of our FSL Teacher Education program were met with equal clarity. Among the waves of ideas, three areas surfaced as points meriting ongoing dialogue:

CEFR/DELF
Correcteur Training

French Language
Course Requirements

French Proficiency
Testing

Rather than smoothing our differing perspectives, our goal is to ride the waves together, using our shared commitment to mentorship and relationships as a compass that can guide us through choppy waters. By exploring how we understand these areas differently—and where we align—we can begin to co-create a shared direction.

Where the Tide Takes Us Next?

So, where do we go from here? The tide is shifting, and with it, an opportunity to shape the shoreline of FSL teacher preparation. Our next steps are not about controlling the waves, but about learning to navigate them together:

Build a Shared Vision
of Mentorship

Leverage Shared Values
as Our Anchor

Create a Culture
of Ongoing Dialogue