

French-speaking Association of the North Shore Inc.

# FANS 2025 AGM Minutes

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 6.30pm KHPS - Amphitheatre Block O

#### In attendance:

22 members: Sabrina Angaru, Frederic Baudin, Gabrielle Beckenham, Anne Bentley, Isabelle Dellerba, Ewa Douroux, Clémence Duprat, Jeremy Dupuit, Geoffrey Gautier, Cécile Janet, Sophie Le Gall, David Lo Jacono, Jessica Mineau, Andrew Rowe, Philippe Gandillet, Yoann Lewis-Sicart, Tobias Lord

**ONLINE** : Marie Jully, Vincent Jully, Klara Laurent, Christelle Vende, Cathlin Barrett, Xavier Heyman

3 non-members: Gillian Tegg, John Williams, Maeva Bellemare

#### 6.20pm-6.35pm: Attendees registration

#### 6.35pm: Housekeeping and Welcome

Isabelle Dellerba, the FANS Secretary welcomed all attendees to the amphitheatre and shared the meeting agenda. She noted that, once again, the year had been full of **events** and stated that the meeting would include a review of the association's actions, **activities**, and **finances**, following the approval of the previous year's minutes.

She informed the attendees that a **special resolution** would be voted on during the evening to adopt an updated version of the association's constitution. As usual, the meeting would conclude with a **Q&A session**, the election of the **new committee**, and an **aperitif** — to which everyone was invited, including those participating online. She jokingly added that there was still time for remote participants to join in person.

Before proceeding further, she introduced **the President, Clémence Duprat**, highlighting Clémence's significant contributions to the association over the past few years. She noted Clémence's strong involvement in the organisation of the French Market — FANS' flagship event — prior to becoming President. She also reminded the assembly that this would be Clémence's final General Assembly, as she would be stepping down from the committee that evening.

The Secretary then handed the floor to Clémence Duprat.

#### 6.40pm: Welcome from the FANS President, Clémence Duprat

Before proceeding, Clémence Duprat said she would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land upon which the AGM is taking place, and pay her respects to the past, present, and emerging Aboriginal elders.

She welcomed everyone to what she described as a **very special evening** in the life of the association, a time to reflect on the past year and to highlight some of its key achievements.

She noted that 2024 was marked by the **celebrations of the bilingual program's 25th anniversary**, which included a brunch with partners and friends of the association, as well as a large family event featuring a special version of the mini Olympic Games. She recalled that a song had even been written for the occasion, titled "On est fan de FANS", and added with a smile that she was sure Mrs. Tegg remembered the lyrics well.



She explained that 2024 was also a year of growth, with new opportunities for students made possible through **excursions and incursions**, supported by strengthened partnerships with the Alliance Française and various sister schools. She added that the team would share further details about these initiatives later in the meeting.

Turning to the formal purpose of the evening, she expressed her deepest gratitude as the community gathered for the **Annual General Meeting**.

She first thanked all members and families, whose ongoing support, participation, and belief in the mission of the association make its existence possible. She emphasised that without this community, there would be no programs to run and no purpose to serve.

She extended a **heartfelt merci to the committee members**, acknowledging the time, skills, and energy each one contributes on a volunteer basis. She stated that their behind-the-scenes work enables everything the association achieves, and that it had been a privilege to work alongside them. Clémence Duprat also offered **sincere thanks to the staff** and to the school that hosts the program, recognising their generosity and collaboration, which help foster a welcoming and supportive environment for the association's activities.

On a personal note, she announced that she was **stepping down** after five to six wonderful years of involvement. She shared that the association had been a major part of her life and that she would miss it dearly, but added that she was leaving with complete confidence in the incoming committee. She stated her belief that they would continue to build on past successes, bring new projects to life, and do so with the fresh ideas and shared passion that have always propelled the association forward.

She thanked everyone once again and expressed her hope and expectation that the association would continue to grow and thrive in the years to come.

She concluded by inviting Mrs. Gillian Tegg to say a few words.

### 6.45pm: A word from KHPS Principal, Mrs Gillian Tegg

Before proceeding, Gillian Tegg, KHPS Principal, acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land upon which the AGM is taking place, and she paid her respects to past, present, and emerging Aboriginal elders.

Gillian Tegg greeted the members and friends of FANS with a warm "**bonsoir**" and expressed how wonderful it was to attend the AGM and celebrate the joint achievements of the past year. She congratulated the association for its continued progress in partnering with KHPS to deliver excellence in bilingual education.

Gillian Tegg extended **special thanks to Clémence Duprat** for her outstanding leadership of the association and conveyed best wishes to her and her family as they prepared for a new adventure in Hong Kong. She noted that it was sad to see Clémence go and wished her all the best.

She **thanked the FANS committee as well as the executive and administrative teams** for their support of students, teachers, and parents, and for their contributions to the administration and promotion of the program. Gillian Tegg highlighted the recent collaboration on social and fundraising events. She referred humorously to the "Couscous Night" event, mentioning that although she didn't witness the end of the evening in person, the videos she saw showcased some impressive dancing skills among members.

Gillian Tegg went on to thank Anne Bentley, the General Manager of FANS, acknowledging their close daily collaboration. She also thanked school administrators Ms. Favennec and Ms. Mineau, as well as the executive teachers Geoffrey Gautier and Sabrina Angaru. She stated that their leadership



was instrumental in maintaining the school's inclusive environment and praised the entire FANS teaching team for contributing to what she described as a very special school.

She then touched on **several program highlights** from the past year, including the expansion of partnerships with AAFEBS schools. She cited the visit to Telopea Park School in Canberra and the unique sporting competition as examples of exceptional student opportunities. She noted that exchanges with Camberwell Primary School in Melbourne and Taren Point Public School in Sydney had enriched the program and that the relationship with Camberwell had been strengthened through joint projects over the past year. She emphasised that such collaborations had elevated the quality of the educational experience for students involved.

Gillian Tegg also expressed her satisfaction with the **increase in the number of students sitting for the DELF exams**, noting it had been a key objective. She remarked on the impressive results achieved by both Anglophone and Francophone students, which she said reflected the effectiveness of the program and served as a valuable measure of student achievement at the end of their six or seven years in the bilingual stream.

She concluded by stating that she looked forward to building on these successes and expressed enthusiasm about working with the incoming president and committee. She thanked everyone for their hard work and passion, affirming that together, they were making a meaningful difference in the community and in the lives of students.

She closed her speech in French, stating: "Continuons à avancer ensemble vers le succès." She then thanked the audience.

#### 6.50pm: Approval of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the 6th of June 2024

The minutes were approved by two members, Yoann Lewis-Sicart and David Lo Jacono, by a show of hands.

#### 6.55pm: Presentation of 2024 financial report by Sophie Le Gall, FANS Treasurer

Sophie Le Gall said the 2024 financial statements of FANS have been audited and these statements will be published and available online on the Australian Charity and Not-For-Profit Commission (ACNC) website from July.

She then highlighted **key financial figures**:

- Program Revenue (including the core program and before-school intensive French classes) increased by 6% compared to the previous year.
- French classes revenue rose by 26% (approximately \$14,000), due to higher DELF and Etude enrolments.
- Fundraising and social activity revenue reached \$121,000, a 14% increase, with the French Market accounting for \$105,000 of that total. The French Market alone generated a \$65,000 profit, consistent with the previous year.

She stressed that **fundraising profit is essential** for maintaining program quality and avoiding significant fee increases.



# **2024 KEY FIGURES**



However, **total expenses** increased more than anticipated, primarily due to staffing costs. Although no operational overspending occurred, the association had to recognised long service leave provisions for teachers exceeding five years of service—an unplanned but necessary accounting adjustment.

The yearly result for 2024 was a loss of \$946.

The number of employees (19) and students (570, down by 4) remained stable. FANS' equity position did not improve, and current cash reserves remain below the target of \$400,000 (equivalent to one school term of operational expenses). The goal remains to gradually rebuild reserves.

Looking forward, Sophie Le Gall presented a **conservative forecast for 2025**, targeting break-even (zero profit), based on current financial conditions.

Planned fees for the 2026 school year increases include:

- Anglophone families: \$1,720 per year
- Francophone families: \$4,320 per year
- These above fees represent a 3% increase (same as in 2024)
- A slight increase in admin fees (to \$175), which had not been adjusted since 2020

Sophie Le Gall also addressed the **new bond policy**, introduced following observations of increasing mid-year student withdrawals.

Since the association must commit to full-year teacher salaries, the new bond structure is designed to:

- Ensure enrolment commitment for the full school year
- Apply equally to both Francophone and Anglophone families
- Refundable if families withdraw with proper notice (e.g. by November for the following year)
- Be forfeited in the case of mid-year withdrawals without valid cause



She clarified that this new policy applies to new 2026 enrolments only.



Finally, she acknowledged the **challenges in reaching a surplus** and explained that achieving the financial reserve targets will depend on maintaining strong fundraising (particularly through the French Market) and careful cost control.

Sophie Le Gall encouraged the community to continue supporting fundraising efforts and reminded members that donations are always welcome.

She noted that, as of 1 July, the minimum **teacher salary** will increase by 3.5%. While the association had already committed to a 3% fee increase for the upcoming year, the gap between salary obligations and fee adjustments would need to be managed carefully. She explained that it was preferable to maintain the planned increase for now, rather than revise it mid-year.

She acknowledged the **delicate balance between financial sustainability and affordability for families**. If fees rise too steeply — particularly beyond the \$4,500 mark for Francophone families — there is a risk of losing students, especially those on the boundary between Anglophone and Francophone categories. Even a small drop in enrolments can lead to significant revenue loss and impact overall program viability.

Sophie Le Gall emphasised that **the goal is not to generate excessive profit, but to gradually build reserves and ensure financial stability.** While the association had achieved a surplus of \$85,000 the previous year, ongoing caution and planning remain necessary.

Sophie Le Gall thanked the members and handed over to the Secretary, who invited Anne Bentley, General Manager, to present the report on educational programs and operations.



# 7.05pm: Reports on the educational programs and operations by Anne Bentley, FANS General Manager

Anne Bentley began by providing a **comparison between the 2024 and 2025 figures**, noting an overall stability in student numbers over the past three years, despite a structural drop in enrolments seen more broadly across the area. She highlighted that 84–85% of the student body continues to participate in the bilingual program.

# OPERATIONS 2024-2025 FANS-KHPS BILINGUAL PROGRAM

### 2024

## 2025

561 students

- 578 students
  (84% of the school)
  - 242 Francophones
  - 336 Anglophones
- 28 bilingual classes
  - 26 with Franco & Anglo
  - 2 Anglophone only
- 27 bilingual classes

(85% of the school)

• 24 with Franco & Anglo

• 244 Francophones

317 Anglophones

3 Anglophone only



16 teachers of French,including 4 from DoE1 Kindy assistant3 Admin staff

1 Teacher to cover for absences,
 projects & executive time and
 Resource Room supervision

A particular point of fluctuation has been among **Anglophone enrolments**, which declined significantly this year, prompting the committee to reconsider certain policies, including the increase of the bond for anglophones. The program currently includes 27 bilingual classes (compared to 28 last year), comprised of 24 Franco-Anglo classes and three Anglophone-only classes.

**These Anglophone classes** are made possible through the NSW Department of Education's Community Language Program, which provides teacher allocations based on the number of Francophone students. This strategic use of DOE resources has allowed FANS to offer dedicated anglophone classes while also managing costs, reducing pressure on tuition fees.

Between 2023 and 2024, the number of **French teachers** increased from 14 to 16, partly due to the additional Anglophone-only classes. Four DOE teachers are now allocated to the program, up from three last year. FANS also continues to fund a classroom assistant for Kindergarten, which supports early literacy development in both French and English.

A **new role** was introduced this year to provide internal teacher coverage for absences and support for project-related release time. This initiative also aims to improve teacher wellbeing by reducing overtime.

Anne Bentley noted the importance of the **extracurricular program** in delivering a holistic approach to bilingual education. The French Homework Club (étude), originally designed for Anglophone students, now runs four full-capacity groups.



In 2025, the Intensive French Before school for Anglophones has also seen an increase from 9 to 10 classes, with demand soon to outpace teachers availability.

FANS also took over the extracurricular sport initiative **Le Petit Sportif**, following a feasibility study, as it aligned with the association's goals and proved sustainable.

Anne Bentley highlighted the success of the **2024 DELF Prim exams**: the largest Year 6 cohort to date achieved a 100% pass rate and an average score of 87% across A1 and A2 levels. The association now aims to support students progressing to **B1 and B2 levels**, with Gabrielle Beckenham leading that effort.

**In-school projects** such as la francophonie, le rallye lecture, le concours de poésie, and the spelling bee continue to reinforce cultural learning. A key highlight was the Prix du Civisme, a national competition for Year 5–6 students coordinated by the Ordre National du Mérite, requiring students to carry out community projects outside of school.

**Excursions and incursions** also played an important role in engaging students. Early 2025, notable events included the French Film Festival (with 152 students attending), Le Monde Sans Fin exhibition, theatre performances from Telopea Park School, and joint events with Lycée Condorcet. Exchange programs with Camberwell and Taren Point continued, further strengthening inter-school collaboration.

**Post-primary support** remains a focus, particularly for students continuing French into high school. DELF classes at Forestville include both A2 and B-levels, with a slight increase in numbers. The program includes targeted classes for both Anglophones and Francophones, and popular cultural workshops such as history and esprit critique (current affairs) have been introduced to complement language instruction.

Anne Bentley raised a concern regarding the **decreasing retention rate among Anglophone students** at the post-primary level. She stressed the importance of encouraging these students to pursue B1/B2 certification, which is essential for access to citizenship in some countries and to enrol in Francophone universities.

She concluded by underlining the **strategic collaboration with Killarney Heights High School**, which now offers two bilingual streams and is an active member of the AAFEBS network.

Anne Bentley concluded by highlighting the association's ongoing **investment in teacher training**. In addition to professional development opportunities offered through the NSW Department of Education's Community Language and Language departments, FANS also organised several dedicated training days for teachers. These sessions focused on the use of appropriate resources and effective methodologies for teaching French as a foreign language.

She emphasised the strong **partnership with the Alliance Française de Sydney**, which has supported FANS in improving pedagogical approaches — particularly for teaching Anglophone students. This focus on professional development was a key priority in the past year and continues to be a significant area of emphasis for the current year.

She then invited Gabrielle Beckenham to speak.

### 7.15pm: Reports on "Behind the scene" by Gabrielle Beckenham

Gabrielle Beckenham highlighted the work undertaken by a **subcommittee** that had been active since September of the previous year. This group worked on preparing a **funding application**, which ultimately led to securing \$27,000 in support from the French government. She emphasised the importance of the relationship developed with the members of the Consular Council in Australia,



which played a key role in obtaining this funding. The exact allocation of the funds was still being finalised.

She then provided an **update on Le Petit Sportif**, which has been part of the FANS programme since Term 1, 2025. A full due diligence process was completed between December 2024 and January 2025, and a commercial contract was signed just before the start of the school year in February 2025. Gabrielle described Le Petit Sportif as a welcome addition to the association's extracurricular offering. The program has proven engaging for students — particularly for Kindergarten and Year 1 — and allows them to continue learning French through sports activities after school. She noted that the program is being led by staff from the previous management and were now taking ownership of its delivery.

Gabrielle Beckenham then turned to a topic of increasing relevance: **French after Year 6**. She stated that this question was on many people's minds, including her own, and informed the assembly that another subcommittee had been formed to explore strategies for supporting students beyond primary school. This group meets every six weeks. One of the current initiatives being explored is the development of an alumni network. Gabrielle Beckenham noted that responses to a recent survey indicated that former students and families strongly valued their time at KHPS and felt deeply connected to the FANS community. Many spoke fondly of their experiences and expressed a desire to remain engaged after Year 6. Based on this feedback, the association is committed to fostering a sense of continuity and community beyond primary school.

Gabrielle Beckenham thanked all those who had already completed the alumni survey and encouraged those who had not to do so immediately, either in person using a QR code or online. She encouraged everyone to participate without hesitation.

She concluded by reiterating the **importance of gathering feedback** from both parents and members to inform the development of post-Year 6 initiatives and the alumni network. She welcomed any questions and thanked the audience.

# 7.20pm: Presentation of the special resolution on the constitution update by Andrew Rowe

Andrew Rowe explained that the project being presented was **something FANS had been working on since 2023**. His predecessor in the role of Public Officer, Terrence Moloney, had played an integral part in getting the project up and running. The project involved revising and modernising the FANS constitution.

He reminded the assembly that the current constitution of the FANS Association is over ten years old, having been adopted in 2014. Since then, **the New South Wales Government had released an updated model constitution** for not-for-profit organisations and associations such as FANS were encouraged to review and update their own constitutions to align with current best practices in governance.

As part of this effort, Terrence Moloney, Ewa Douroux, Xavier Heyman, and other committee members reviewed both the existing constitution and the new model constitution provided by NSW Fair Trading. Based on this, they drafted a new constitution tailored to the needs and operations of the FANS Association.

Andrew Rowe highlighted some of the **key changes**:

- Automatic membership for both parents of each child enrolled in the programme, which is not the case under the current constitution.



- Formal recognition of the General Manager's role. He noted that Anne Bentley, as General Manager, is central to the daily operations of the association, working closely with the FANS Committee. The new constitution acknowledges this by formally enshrining the position within the governance structure, with the General Manager reporting to the committee.

He stated that all members should have received a **copy of the draft constitution** as part of the notice of the Annual General Meeting.

In order to adopt the new constitution, **a special resolution needs** to be passed, requiring at least three-quarters of votes in favour from the members present.

Before proceeding to the vote, Andrew asked whether anyone had any **questions** about the drafting process or proposed changes.

In response to a question about previous membership rules, Andrew clarified that under the current constitution, only one parent per child was automatically a member. Under the new constitution, both parents of each enrolled child would automatically become members of the association.

With no further questions, Andrew read the following resolution aloud:

#### **SPECIAL RESOLUTION**

"That the existing Constitution of the French speaking Association of the North Shore Incorporated ABN 38 756 569 863 (FANS) be repealed, and, the new Constitution in the form attached to the notice of the Annual General Meeting and presented here be adopted by a special resolution of members as FANS' new Constitution."

He then called for a show of hands from the members present in support of the resolution. Upon confirming that the required majority had been achieved by 19 FANS members out of the 22 present, he declared that the resolution had passed.

Andrew Rowe concluded by thanking all members for their support.

### 7.30pm: Presentation of the risk framework by Ewa Douroux

Ewa Douroux explained that the committee felt it was **essential to go further in safeguarding students**, not only during regular school activities but also in the context of extracurricular programs. The focus was on ensuring the association is well-prepared for the future, anticipates change, addresses potential issues, and implements proper risk mitigation strategies.

Ewa noted that all associations should have a **risk management framework**, and presented the one developed by FANS. She explained that risks are categorised by severity, with red indicating high-probability, high-impact risks. She was pleased to report that FANS currently has no risks classified as red, which is good news. Some risks fall into orange and yellow categories, which are being actively monitored and managed.

This year, the committee carried out a **comprehensive review** to identify all potential risks, resulting in the creation of a formal risk register, which was recently approved. Alongside this, the association developed initial action plans for each identified risk. These plans will be further refined and implemented over time, with a focus on continuously improving risk preparedness.

She confirmed that the risk management plan will be made **accessible to members** shortly, following its recent approval.

Ewa Douroux concluded her remarks by thanking the assembly and noted that this was her final point of information for the evening.



# 7.35pm: Presentation of events and community by Clémence Duprat

Clémence Duprat began by noting that many events had already been mentioned earlier in the meeting, and that her intention was to highlight the key activities and community events held throughout 2024.

She referred first to the **Raclette Dinner and Dancing**, which in 2025 was reimagined as a Couscous Night. While still maintaining the concept of a festive evening with dinner and dancing, the team had decided to vary the offer each year to bring something new to the experience. The couscous version was well received and offered a fresh take on the traditional raclette format.

She highlighted the Fête de la Musique, or **World Music Day**, as another successful event, held in partnership with the P&C. She emphasised the **strong collaboration between the FANS and P&C teams**, which continues to be a driving force behind the success of joint initiatives.

Clémence Duprat then drew attention to the **25th anniversary celebrations** of the bilingual program, which took place in September 2024. She pointed to a photograph on the slide showing the reception organised for the occasion, followed by the "12 Travaux de Killarnix" (The 12 Tasks of Killarnix), a family-friendly afternoon of games hosted in collaboration with the Killarney Heights school community. She described it as a huge success and said it was a lot of fun for everyone involved.

She acknowledged the **French Market**, which took place in November 2024, reiterating that it remains the biggest and most demanding event of the year for the association. Sophie Le Gall had already discussed the financial outcomes, but Clémence Duprat wanted to underline the importance of the event from a community-building perspective.

Moving to **2025**, she spoke about the **Sip and Chat**, an annual event held at the start of the school year to welcome both new and returning families. She explained that it is an opportunity for connection and engagement. New families often tell the committee that they made their first friends at this event, and that it helped them integrate into the school community. It is also a chance to see former members or more experienced KHPS and FANS parents, and Clémence Duprat encouraged future committees and families to continue attending and supporting this event as a valuable starting point to each school year.

Clémence Duprat returned to May 2025, referencing the **Couscous Night**, which had taken place very recently and had been a great success. She reiterated that all of these events—whether parents-only, dinners, or family-friendly activities—are fundamentally about bringing the community together. She emphasised the importance of building relationships and connections, regardless of whether one is French-speaking, English-speaking, or simply part of the school community. "We are all members of the same community," she said, "and it's a wonderful one."

She expressed the hope that future teams would continue to build upon these events and strengthen the links within the community.

Returning to the **French Market of 2024**, Clémence Duprat clarified that it had in fact made a profit of \$70,000, exceeding the previously reported \$65,000. This result was comparable to the previous year's outcome and reflected the extraordinary support of the community. Around 300 volunteers had participated, many of whom were present in the room. She thanked them warmly for their involvement in everything from the French Market to the AGM itself.

She added that there had been 70 stalls, including professional stallholders, many of whom were already eager to participate in the next edition. These vendors appreciate the unique atmosphere and spirit of the French Market and regularly express how much they enjoy being part of it.



She then pointed out to two QR codes on the screen, inviting members to join those WhatsApp groups – one for the specific upcoming World Music Day to lend a hand for this event; and one for the FANS Community group to keep up to date with all things FANS.

Clemence Duprat closed this section by reaffirming that the funds raised through such events—as Sophie had noted—are reinvested into operational costs and essential recruitment efforts, which are vital to the association's ability to function effectively.



# 7.40pm: Q&As

The Secretary invited questions from the floor. Several participants engaged in discussion, raising questions and the FANS team providing clarifications.

A member of the audience asked about the observed **decrease in enrolment between 2024 and 2025.** 

A committee member explained that the decrease was structural, not organisational, and related to lower birth rates in the relevant age cohort. It was demographically observed across various sectors. The school had fewer enrolments, and accordingly, the bilingual program experienced a similar drop. The enrolment figures now relate to children born in 2020.

Gillian Tegg added that, percentage-wise, the school had not lost as many students as others and had remained relatively stable. However, the committee would like to return to previous numbers. She noted that the figure of 701 students is critical for maintaining two deputy principals, which are essential for administrating a complex school structure like KHPS.

Another audience member referred to an earlier presentation and asked whether there was room to increase the school's capacity, which would logically benefit the bilingual program as well.

Gillian Tegg confirmed this, noting that the average enrolment in the previous year was around 691, but the number fluctuated throughout the year due to student mobility. Over a 12-month period, 717 students had passed through the school, but not all at the same time. The school is affected by global



family movement and Northern Hemisphere academic calendars, but what matters most is the student count on the official census date in February.

Another committee member confirmed that the school did reach 701 students on census day last year.

The discussion briefly turned to clarifying the current year's figures.

A member of the audience then asked why the **2024 annual financial report** had not been sent out in advance of the meeting.

A committee member responded that the financial report had not yet been signed off by the Auditors in time for the AGM communications. She explained that it would be published shortly on the ACNC website and that members would be notified once it was available.

Another member of the committee added that it could not legally be distributed until it had been formally signed.

### 7:45pm: Election of the Committee, presented by Isabelle Dellerba

The Secretary dissolved the current Committee and declared all positions vacant. As only one nomination was received for each position, no vote was required.

With the approval of the audience, the new committee for 2025-2026 is as follows:



All the members of our COMMITTEE are parents and VOLUNTEERS

PRESIDENT	JEREMY DUPUIT
VICE-PRESIDENT & PUBLIC OFFICER	ANDREW ROWE
TREASURER	SOPHIE LE GALL
SECRETARY	ISABELLE DELLERBA
GENERAL MEMBER	EWA DOUROUX
GENERAL MEMBER	
GENERAL MEMBER	GABRIELLE BECKENHAM
GENERAL MEMBER	KIMBERLEY LAW

2025 - 2026

# 7:50pm: Jeremy Dupuit, FANS' new president, closed the Assembly with a short address:

**Jeremy Dupuit began by expressing his honour and gratitude at taking on the role of President of FANS.** He stated that while the evening's presentations offered only a glimpse of the extraordinary work carried out over the past year, he felt incredibly privileged to assume this position. He emphasised how fortunate he was to be doing so alongside a passionate and committed group — his fellow committee members, Anne and her team, Jessica and Aurélie, Gillian and the entire school staff, as well as all the French and Department of Education teachers.



Jeremy Dupuit extended heartfelt thanks to the entire FANS community, acknowledging that its dedication to bilingual education was essential to the association's mission. Without that support, he said, none of what had been accomplished would have been possible.

He reflected on the AGM as not only a formal governance meeting but also a deeply human moment, marking both new beginnings and farewells. On the welcoming side, he announced that **Kimberley Law had joined the Committee as a general member**. Although she was unable to attend in person, she had recorded a video introduction. After some technical difficulties with the video, Jeremy shared a brief profile in her place.

He explained that Kimberley comes with a strong background in teaching and bilingual education. She is currently working as a Digital Learning Officer at a local school and is enthusiastic about bringing her experience — particularly in bilingual education and the use of AI tools — to support FANS' mission. He expressed his excitement about having her on the team.

**Turning to farewells, Jeremy Dupuit addressed Clémence Duprat**, stating that he could not let her step down without saying a few words. He thanked her warmly for her years of dedication and described her impact on the association as significant and heartfelt.

He praised the positivity, can-do attitude, and kindness that Clémence brought to her role as President, as well as her tireless support for all aspects of the association's work. He thanked her for her leadership of the French Market — even under the rain — for representing FANS so professionally with external partners, and for always being available to support the team when needed.

Jeremy Dupuit stated that he felt privileged to count her as a friend, a sentiment he believed was shared by many others present in the room. While everyone was sad to see her go, they were equally excited about the new opportunities awaiting her and her family. He added, with humour, that he looked forward to building a partnership with the French International School of Hong Kong, once Clemence Duprat had taken over its P&C — "no pressure," he joked.

He closed his remarks by returning to the theme of **partnerships**, stating that this would be a central focus of his presidency. He emphasised the importance of continuing to develop strong ties not only with KHPS, but also with other AAFEBS schools, the Alliance Française, and all the institutions that support FANS in delivering excellent bilingual education.

He expressed the association's broader ambition of helping students reach **B2 level** in French and complete the HSC, so they can become fully bilingual adults, equipped to represent the FANS community on a global stage.

Jeremy Dupuit invited all members to be inspired by this vision and to contribute in whatever way they could. Concluding on a light-hearted note, he welcomed everyone to join in sharing a drink, celebrating the community.

### 8pm - End of Annual General Meeting.