

Seniors Action Quebec

E-Newsletter



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We would like to take this opportunity of wishing you and yours a wonderful, fun-filled Summer. Soak up the sun to help see you through the rigours of Father Frost and Winter!

Please note, Seniors Action Quebec's office will be closed on Friday June, 23 2023 and Friday June 30, 2023 to mark the St-Jean-Baptiste and Canada Day holidays, respectively.

SENIORS ACTION QUEBEC – STILL ON THE MOVE

If we thought that 2023 started with a bang, it hasn't stopped and has picked up even more! We had barely recovered from all the activities in March (including our financial year-end) when the post-Easter break saw us preparing a retreat for our Board of Directors – a two-day meeting held on 21 and 22 April, predominantly involving face-to-face meetings, a first after the pandemic; plus commencing work on the Annual Report and Annual General Meeting held on June 6, via ZOOM.

However, if we thought May would be quieter, how wrong we were! In April we had received an invitation from the Secrétariat des Aînés to present a brief on aging as part of their 2024-2029 Action Plan, which was duly submitted. Then we received an invitation to attend a one-day forum on May 18 in Quebec to present the brief along with other organizations (present in the room and on-line) where we were the sole English-speaking organization. No pressure! The entire event can be viewed [here](#). Our intervention is towards the end of the video at the 6:06:28-6:07:18 mark.



SAQ President Walter Duszara with Sonia Bélanger, Minister of Seniors and SAQ Executive Director Katia Toimil-Bramhall

While in Quebec, we also organized in-person meetings with partner organizations. What a delight to finally meet the people we had been communicating with on ZOOM or through other media over the last two to three years and to discuss in more detail those issues which affect us all or to learn about the idiosyncrasies of their respective areas.

SENIORS ACTION QUEBEC – STILL ON THE MOVE

Then lo and behold, before even leaving Quebec, we received another unexpected invitation: to present a short brief on the question of access to health care for minority language communities at a meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Official Languages on 29 May. Click [here](#) to view the recording of the session.

We do not stop to advocate for English-speaking seniors in official circles. Two very interesting and enlightening experiences in a very short time!



COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

During the last quarter SAQ has also participated in different community events in Montreal, such as the QUESCREN panel discussion on the Com-UNITY project. Again, an in-person event that brought together all the project participants and engendered much storytelling. A fun time was had by all.



Various community organization conferences and AGMs have also been held in the last two months. Perhaps the most memorable was the conference organized by the Regional Development Network (RDN) and the Provincial Employment Roundtable (PERT), comprising different English-speaking organizations throughout the province, working collectively to address the employment challenges of the English-speaking community and to explore solutions to move Quebec's economy forward. This conference highlighted many other issues facing our community, particularly in the regions, and filled in more of the picture we are painting for ourselves of the Quebec English-speaking community in all its nuances.



COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

We also attended CHSSN's conference on their Wellness Centres on June 8, followed immediately by QCGN's AGM. Another busy but interesting week!



CHSSN's Jennifer Cooke, Erica Botner and Danica Logan preparing for group activities

QCGN Director General Sylvia Martin-Laforge speaking at AGM



We are gradually moving onwards from the pandemic days and forging ahead in our aim to meet up with organizations from other spheres of activity in the English-speaking community, to learn about their work and to better comprehend the collective challenges facing our community and which impact seniors both directly and indirectly.

June 15 also marked World Elder Abuse Day, with events taking place around the globe.

SENIORS ACTION QUEBEC TEAM GROWS

Seniors Action Quebec is finally moving forward and hiring!

We are very excited to welcome into the Seniors Action Quebec fold, Andrew Palucci, the new Director of Policy and Governance, who will be starting with SAQ this July.

Andrew is driven by a strong commitment to Quebec's English-speaking community. Armed with a Master of Public Policy and Public Administration from Concordia University, Andrew joins Seniors Action Quebec with half a decade of experience serving the English-speaking community of Quebec mainly as a Policy and Research Analyst. He has previously spent time working for the Quebec Community Groups Network while also sitting on several committees and roundtables dedicated to serving English-speaking Quebec.

Andrew brings a solid understanding of community issues, an aptitude for data and statistics, as well as experience in not-for-profit corporate governance. Committed to continuous growth, he actively seeks opportunities to expand his knowledge about our community and not-for-profit management and social advocacy. Andrew's determination, collaborative attitude and warm personality make him a great advocate for positive change.

Ruth Pelletier will once again be joining the team, to organize a vast selection of webinars that will take place this year. It's a pleasure to have Ruth on board again!

In addition, one of last year's summer students will also be back this year to continue working on updates to our [Map of Services](#).

AUTUMN ACTIVITIE

We are currently working full-steam ahead on planning and preparing brand-new series of webinars for the fall 2023 – March 2024 period focusing on matters of concern to seniors and their family. Stay tuned for more news in September!



2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Our AGM took place on Tuesday, June 6, 2023 at 7:00 pm over ZOOM. We hope you can join us next year! Read our 2022-2023 English Annual Report [here](#). French version is also [available](#)

ONE VOICE COALITION

The Coalition has gone into an early summer recess and will resume its activities in September, where we hope to discuss the next steps and phase in the development of the Coalition. More updates to come!



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Quebec Health and Social Services Ministry, under the "Québec amis des aînés" programme is launching a call for projects for 2023-2024. This programme assists not-for-profit organizations in carrying out activities and initiatives at the local, regional or national level.

Deadline for submissions is 21 July, 2023.

The guide for this call for projects and application form is available at: www.quebec.ca/qada

The Quebec Health and Social Services Ministry, under the "Initiatives de travail de milieu auprès des aînés en situation de vulnérabilité (ITMAV)" programme is launching a call for projects for 2023-2024. This programme is to assist organizations in the hiring or maintaining of detached workers who work and support seniors in vulnerable situations or at risk of becoming so, to :

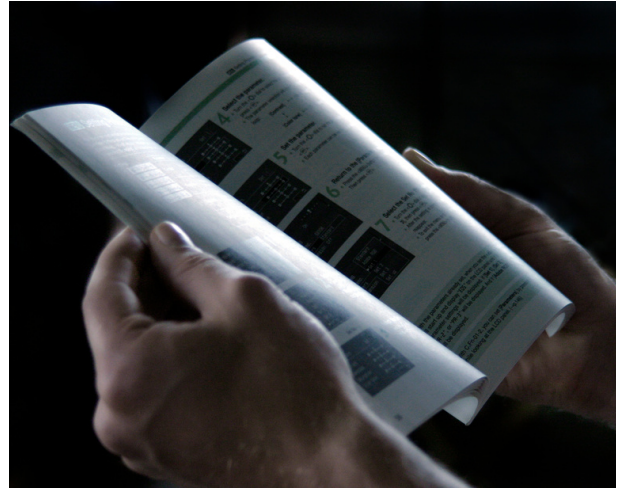
- Guide them to pertinent resources in their community;
- Identify them to break their isolation;
- Foster their well-being, autonomy and presence in the community.

Deadline for submissions is 8 September, 2023.

The guide for this call for projects and application form is available at: <https://publications.msss.gouv.qc.ca/msss/document-003585/>

RESILIENCE TRAINING PROJECT MANUALS

Should you require additional copies of the manual kit (paper copy of manual and USB stick with presentations and documents), we still have several copies left and would be pleased to forward them to you. Send us an email at info@seniorsactionquebec.ca with your contact info, address and number of manuals needed and we will send them to you.



UPCOMING EVENTS TO SHARE

Should you have any upcoming events that you would like us to pass on to the community, please do not hesitate to contact us at: admin@seniorsactionquebec.ca

If you require a paper copy of this newsletter, please contact us by email (info@seniorsactionquebec.ca) or by phone 438-386-1944



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