



2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT



**Monteregie East Partnership
for the English-Speaking Community**

Partenariat de l'est de la Montérégie pour
la communauté d'expression anglaise

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Introduction

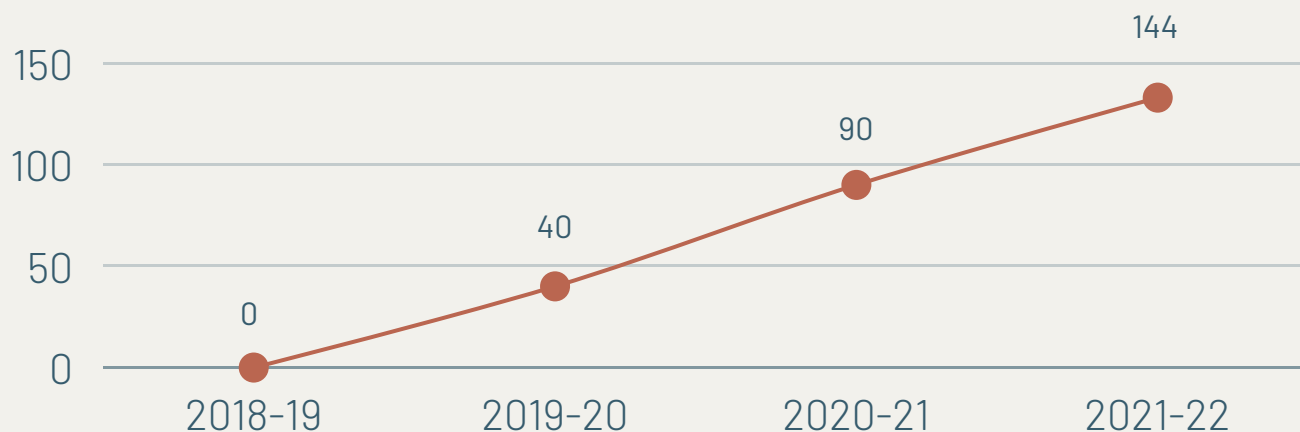


Mission

The Montérégie East Partnership for the English-Speaking Community (MEPEC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving the interests of the English-speaking community (ESC) in the Montérégie East region. MEPEC works collaboratively with public, community and private organizations as well as citizens in relation to the needs of the English-speaking population of the Montérégie East in order to:

- Connect with and represent the ESC of the Montérégie East.
- Work in collaboration with citizens and public, community and/or private organizations serving the needs of the ESC.
- Improve communication between English-speaking citizen and local service providers.
- Increase opportunities for the English-speaking citizens of the Montérégie East of all ages to learn, socialize and remain active.
- Facilitate access to English documentation and services.

Membership



President's Message

Welcome Everyone and Thank you for attending our Annual General Meeting.

Moving into our 4th year of operation and having spent the last 2 years navigating the COVID-19 pandemic, to say we have had our challenges would not be wrong. However, like most organizations and you at home we adapted, and it has made MEPEC stronger and more resilient.

While our in-person activities over the last year were limited, we moved quickly to provide our members with online programs and workshops as well as ensured that essential information was circulated through our social media. Our Newsletter and our Facebook page became successful resources.

Last year we also expanded our portfolios to include more activities for Early Childhood and Seniors, hosting several activities both in-person and online. We formed and participated in the Montérégie Way which brought 3 regions (ARC, MWCN) in the Montérégie together to address common goals in our English-speaking community.

We formed new partnerships which will help introduce more services to the English-speaking community and, we expanded our premises to set up a Community Space where our members are welcome 5 days a week. We also hired a Youth and Family Coordinator, and an Administrative Assistant.

We hope to launch a program for Dads in the near future and the team is also excited to be representing the Montérégie-Est at the newly formed Employability Table for the English-speaking community in the Montérégie.



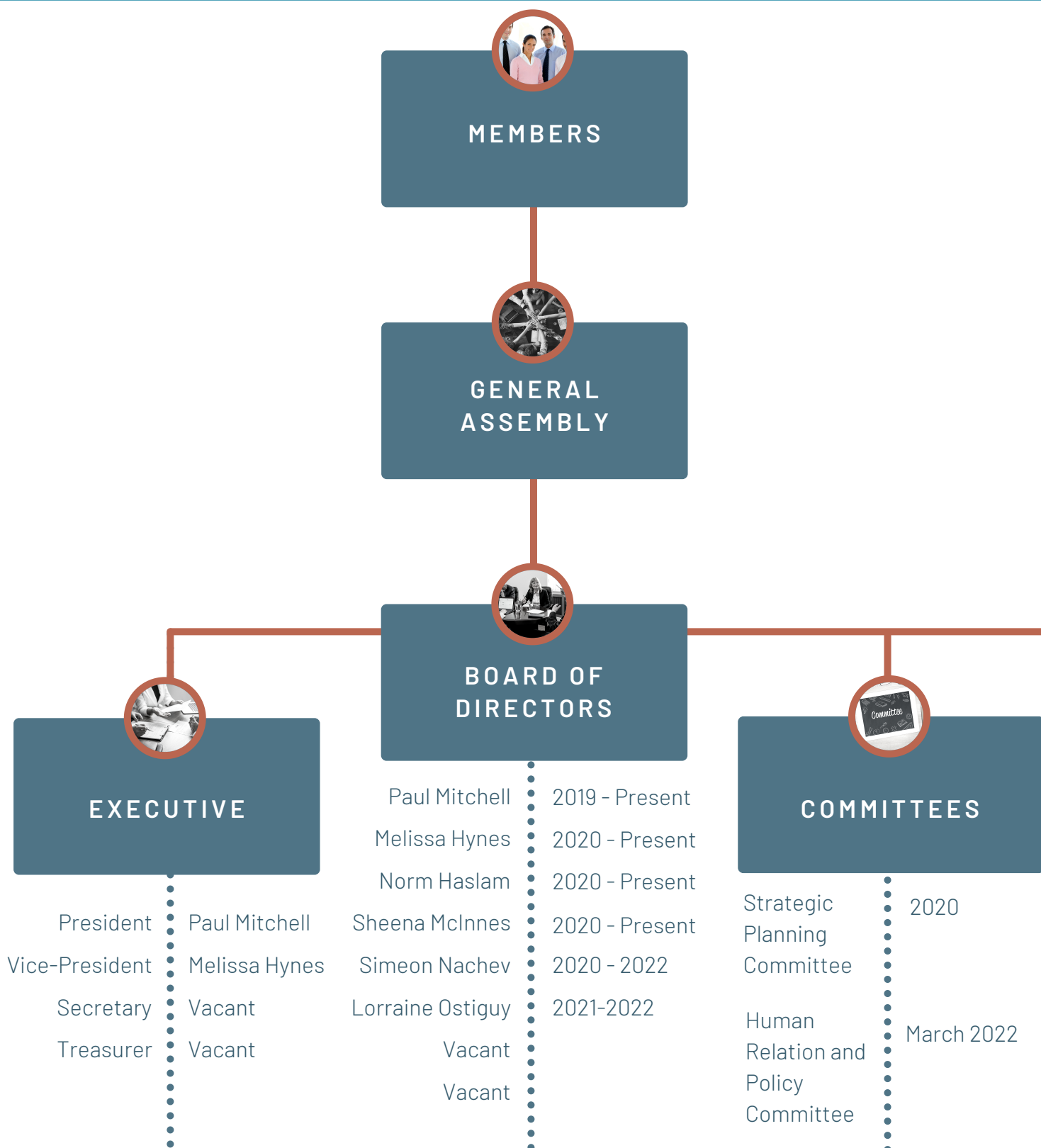
I'm proud of the MEPEC team for all the work they have accomplished, for without their hard work and dedication, MEPEC would not exist. We have a strong team and I'm sure this year will be better than ever. We are excited to get things moving back to normal during 2022 and we are off to a great start.

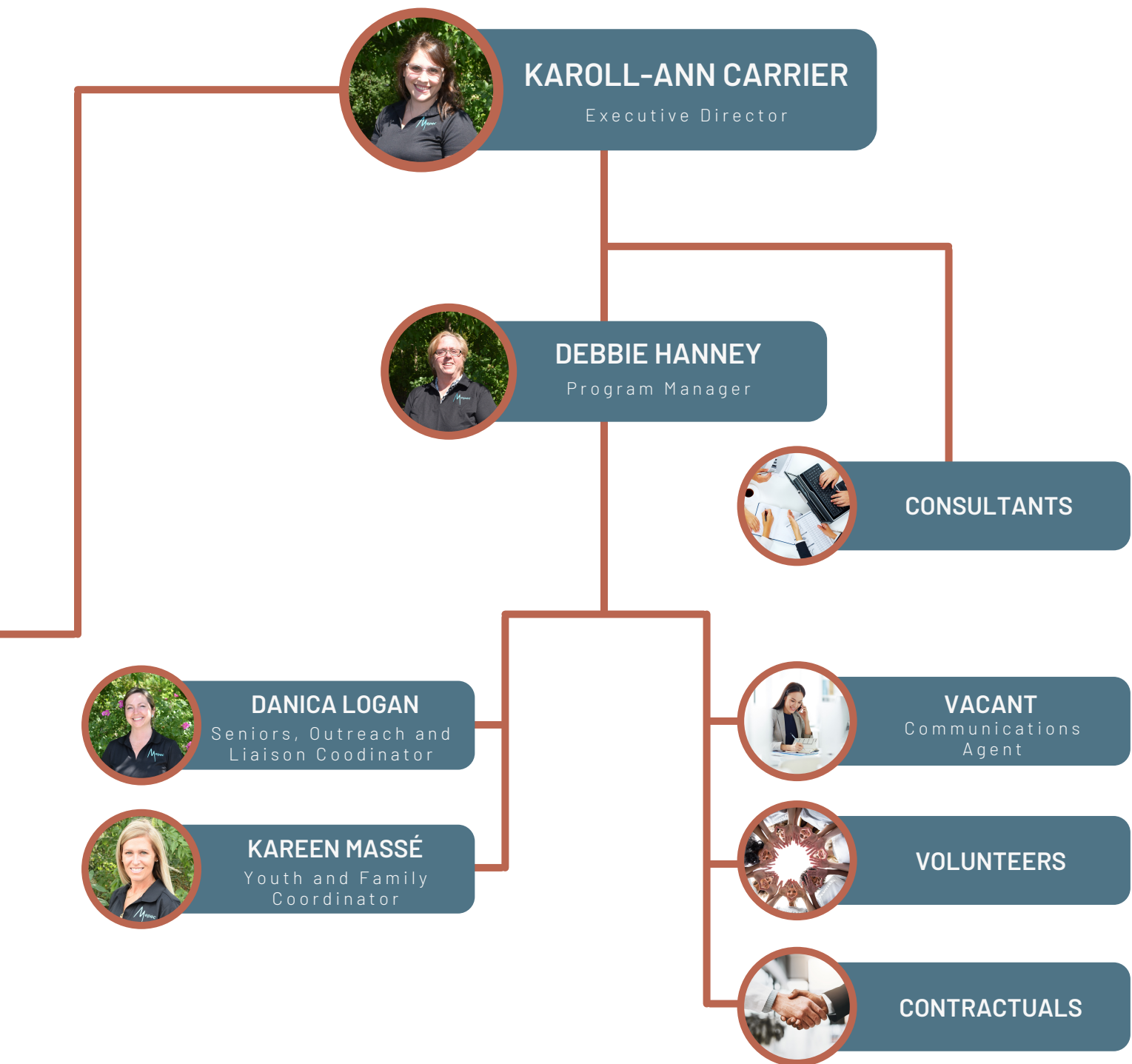
I'd also like to recognise AND THANK our wonderful volunteers that take such great care the MEPEC Community Library, their hard work is also very much appreciated.

Thanks to the Library Volunteers

Paula Fortier
Valerie Robillard
Maria Auclair
Christine Deeks
Margaret Cross
Jacqueline Payne
Ann Flemming
Mary Ann Shannon
Susan Leblanc

Organizational Structure



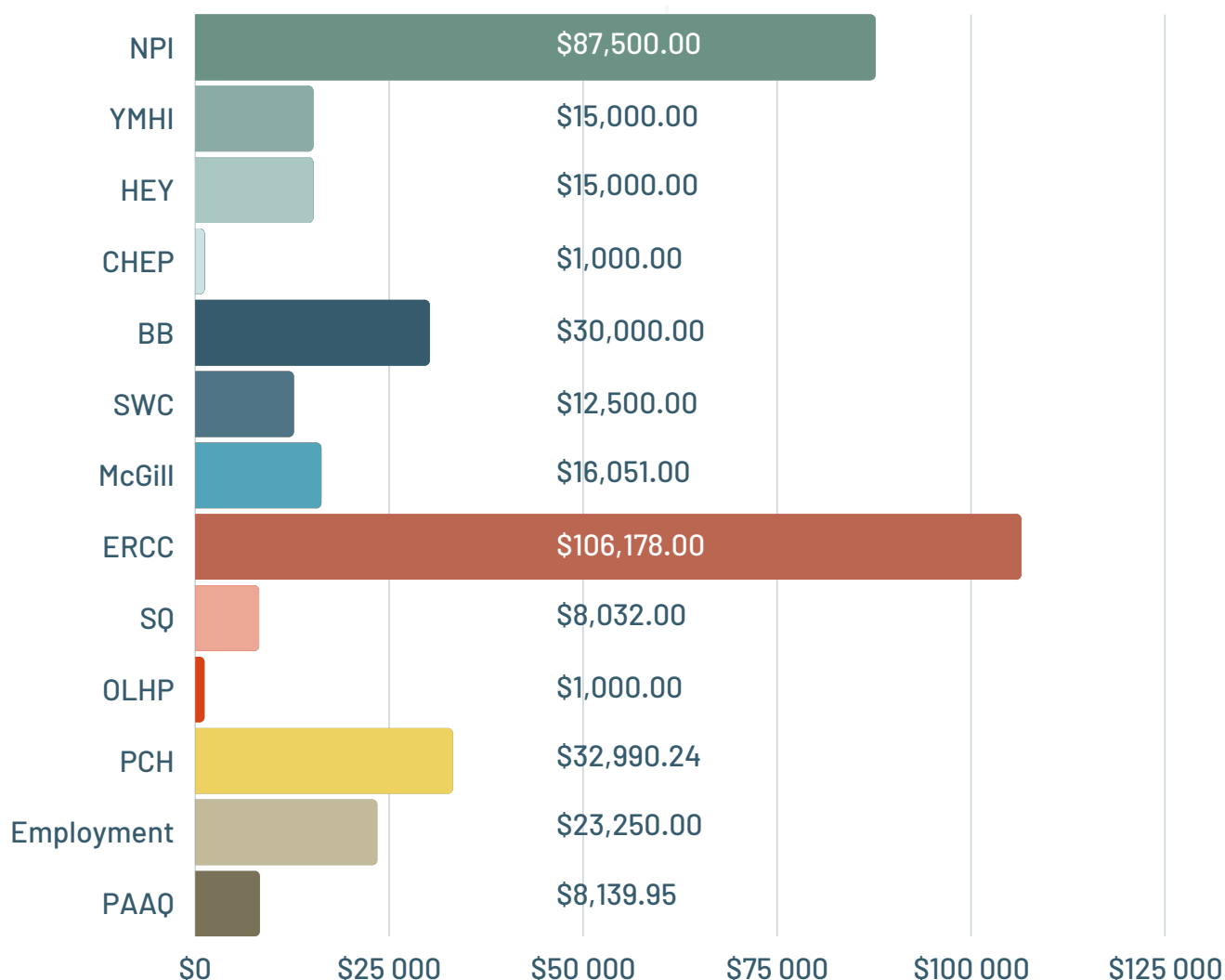


Financial Statement

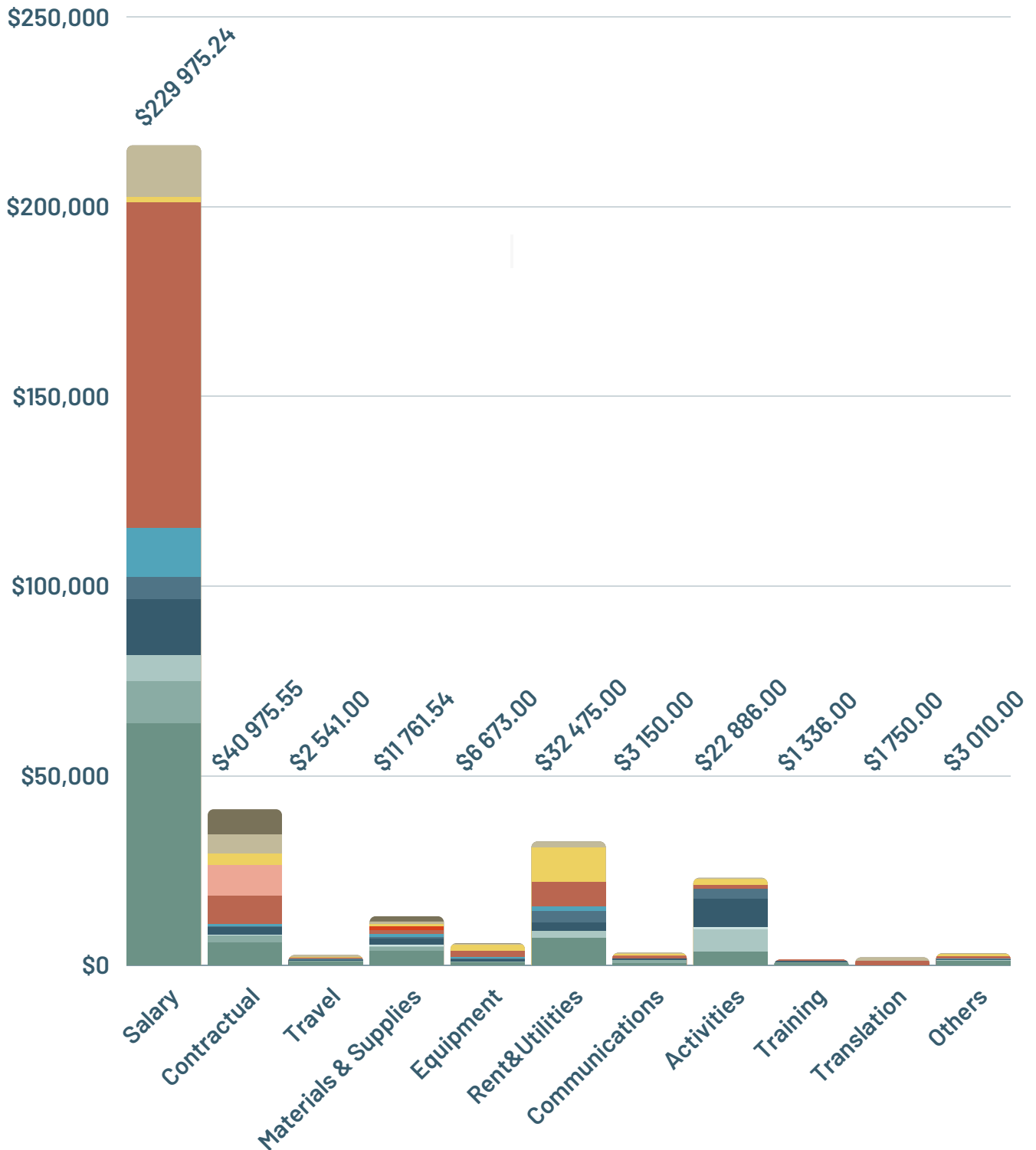
Funding

MEPEC's main funder is the Community Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN). Over the past year, MEPEC has received different project funds through CHSSN such as Network and Partnership Initiative (NPI), Youth Mental Health Initiative (YMHI), Healthy Early Years (HEY), Community Health Education Program (CHEP), Bright Beginnings (BB) and Seniors' Wellness Centre (SWC). MEPEC has also applied for other

funding such as McGill Community Network Bursary Program with McGill University, Enhancing Regional Community Capacity (ERCC), Programme Action Aîné Québec (PAAQ) and Services Québec (SQ) with the Québec government, Official Language Health Program (OLHP), Canadian Heritage (PCH) and finally with Regional Development Network for the Employment Program. In total, MEPEC had \$356,642.19 of funding for the year 2021-2022.



Expenditures



Activity Report



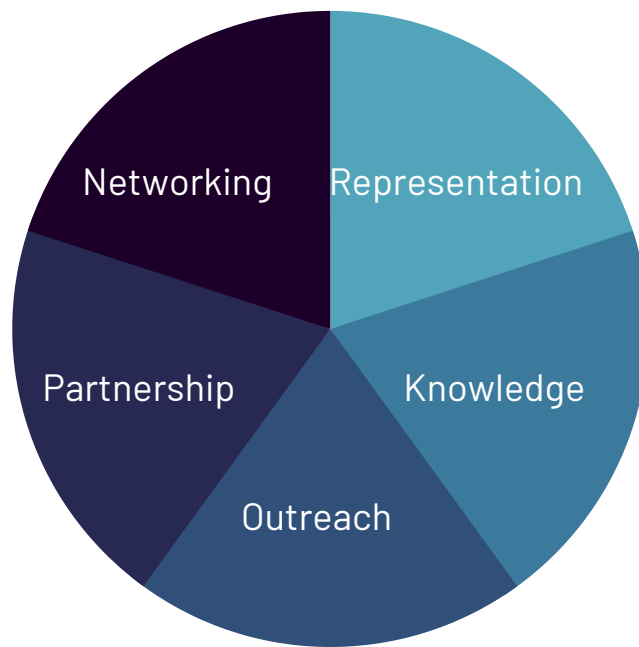
Since 2019, MEPEC has adhered to the CHSSN [Partnership Approach](#), the [Community Mobilization Model](#), the [Community Liaison Model](#) and the NPI wheel in order to reduce barriers and improve access to services in English for Montérégie-Est English-speakers.

The NPI wheel consists of 5 main components on which MEPEC focuses its strategy: Networking, Representation, Knowledge, Partnership and Outreach. For each component, MEPEC works continuously so the English-speaking community experiences improvements in accessing services and information in English.

Networking & Representation

Throughout the year, MEPEC met with, brought together and mobilized organizations to improve the services for the English-speaking community (ESC). MEPEC met with numerous community, public and private organizations to discuss with and inform them of the needs and realities of the ESC. Additionally, to explore how to improve the well-being of the ESC.

MEPEC also participated in many decision making tables and committees that have an impact on the community. In these instances, MEPEC represented the interests of the ESC and brought to the table its needs and priorities for consideration. MEPEC has participated in



more than 80 meetings, has created links and brought awareness to the organizations present at these meetings.

MEPEC is a member of 10 tables and committees from many different sectors:

- Health and Social Services
- Socio-economic
- Seniors
- Youth
- Early Childhood
- Mental Health
- Community Development Corporations



Total of 40 organizations met

Total of 17 presentations done

Total of 83 meetings attended

Regional Health and Social Services Partnership Table (RHSSPT)

MEPEC has participated in several meetings of the RHSSPT as well as subcommittee meetings on projects. In fact, MEPEC is part of two (2) subcommittees to help organize the annual Montérégie Community Fair and to collaborate in the STAR Program. The STAR Program is a recognition program for the special efforts made by people to improve the health and well-being of the ESC.



Regional Access Committee of Montérégie

Beginning in January 2021, MEPEC's Executive Director became a member of the Regional Access Committee of Montérégie. This committee discusses the needs of the English-speaking community (ESC), the health and social services required to meet the needs, analyzes the gaps, decides which service providers are obliged to offer health and social services in the English language and defines the access mechanisms for services in the English language.

Consultation Tables

During the year of 2021-2022, MEPEC continued its participation in the Table de concertation jeunesse de la Vallée des Patriotes, Table de concertation en petite enfance de la Vallée des Patriotes and Table de concertation maskoutaine des organismes pour les aînés to better represent the needs of the ESC. MEPEC has also joined the Table de concertation en santé mentale de la Rive-Sud but resigned couple of months later as plans to create a Mental Health Table, in collaboration with the other two (2) NPIs of Montérégie, developed. This table is for the

English-speaking organizations of the Montérégie. In April 2021, MEPEC's representative on the Table de concertation jeunesse de la Vallée des Patriotes was selected to represent the table at the Regroupement pour le Développement Social de la Vallée meetings. This committee is an inter-sectoral and multi-network consultation body whose mission is to support the mobilization of local stakeholders and to act as a lever in improving the living conditions of the citizens of the Vallée-du-Richelieu.



Knowledge Development

As part of Knowledge Development component in the work method, MEPEC has, throughout the year, created and organized discussion tables and committees to discuss the challenges and priorities of the English-speaking population of the Montérégie-Est, and created action plans with the objective to improve access to services in the English-language.

Also, MEPEC has developed a statistical profile in order to produced a Demographic Profile of the English-speaking population living in Montérégie-Est. This profile was produced with data from 2016 and will be updated in 2022-2023 with the data from the 2021 census.

Seniors Discussion Table

In June 2021, our Seniors' Wellness, Outreach and Liaison Coordinator established a senior discussion table to identify challenges, needs and priorities English-speaking seniors have mainly in the health and social services sector. Five citizens, four community partners and two MEPEC staff members met six times during the year and created an action plan in which many challenges and priorities were brought to the table. Three health and social service priorities were selected to be set as work priorities for MEPEC.

During the fiscal year of 2022-2023, the table will continue to meet in order to identify more priorities in the other sectors and continue to work on the priorities that have been identified.



3 Discussion tables and committees created



2 action plans and 1 statistic report created

6 Meetings held

Youth Discussion Table

In March 2022, our Youth and Family Coordinator created a Youth Discussion Table in collaboration with Parent Teen Focus and Heritage High School. The table will begin meeting in September 2022 with youth from Secondary 4 and they will create an action plan of initiatives in the health and social services, education, culture and other sectors. This action plan will then be used by MEPEC to plan its services and activities with partners in the community and public sector.



Community Space Development Plan Committee

In December 2021, MEPEC created a Development Plan Committee for its brand new Community Space. Unfortunately, the committee did not meet during the year 2021-2022 due mainly to the challenges of COVID-19. Four English-speaking citizens and three community partners have expressed interest.

Five to 10 meetings are planned during Fall and winter 2022-2023 and the objective is to create a 3-year strategic plan for the development of the Community Space.



Montréal-Est Demographic Profile

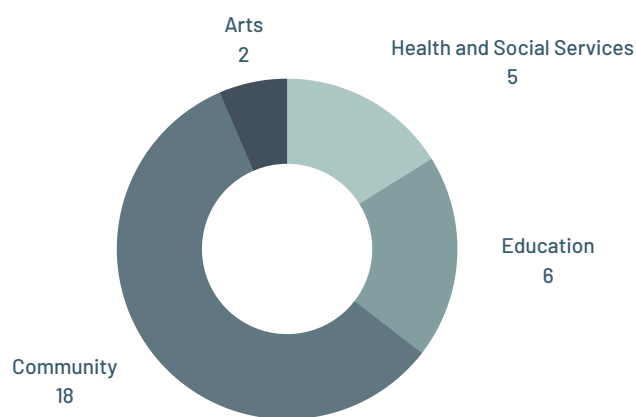
MEPEC has recently completed the development its Demographic Profile which presents information relevant to employment, economic development and community vitality of the English-speaking community of Montréal-Est. In the profile, you will read about some key statistics that will help situate the English-speaking population of Montréal-Est, and in some cases, a comparison to the French-speaking population will be presented. In 2022-2023, a graphic designer will be hired to produce an updated version using the 2021 census information.

Partnerships

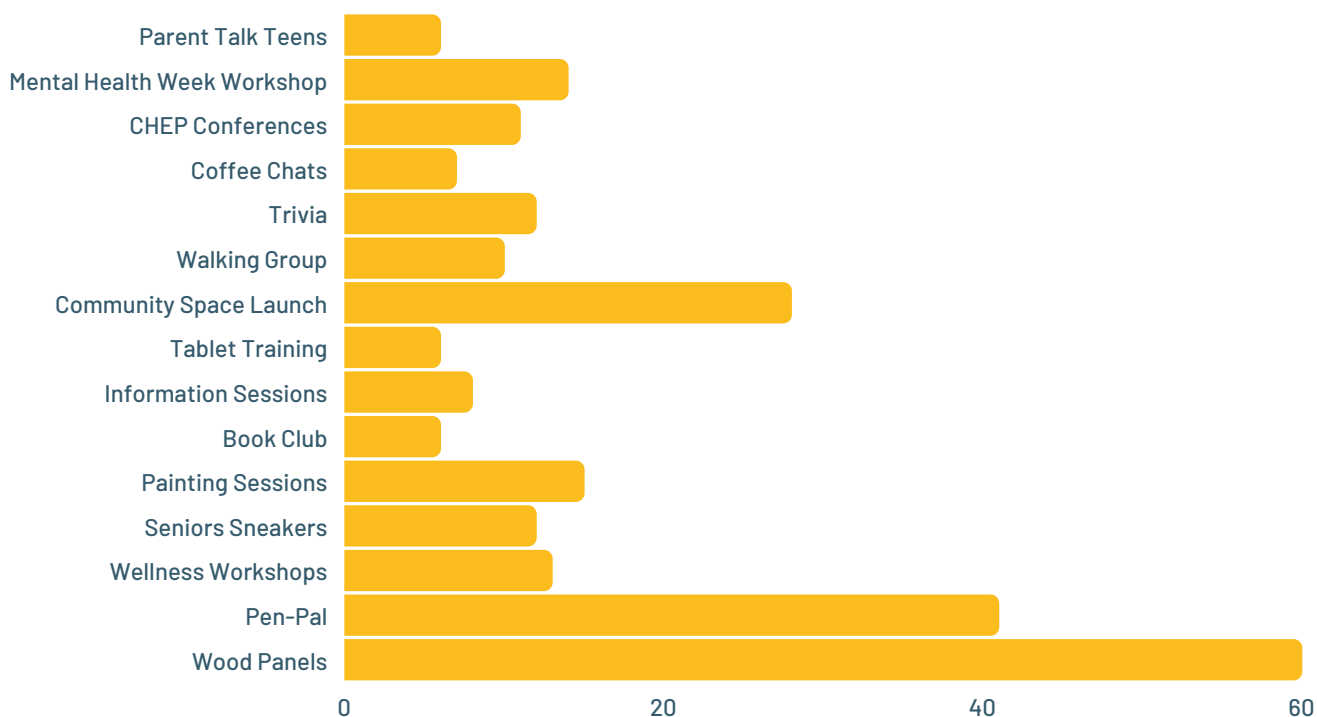
In this activity component, MEPEC was dedicated in 2021-2022 to creating formal partnerships in order to improve access to health and social services, learning opportunities, recreational activities and information. It is through partnerships and collaboration with community, public and private organizations that MEPEC was able to support the adaptation of existing services and create new initiatives. In 2021-2022, MEPEC maintained and created more than 20 partnerships and collaborated with all of them on multiple initiatives.

The majority of MEPEC's work was done in collaboration with community-based organizations in the delivery of services. These community-based organizations work primarily in the area of health and social services, but also in the areas of education, employment, immigration, early childhood and youth.

In 2021-2022, MEPEC offered a total of 21 activities, workshops and events to its members and the English-speaking citizens of the Montérégie-Est. A total of 250 people attended our activities, for an approximate overall attendance of over 1000.



■ Number of participants



Outreach

There are a great number of vulnerable English-speakers in Montérégie-Est. In 2021-2022, MEPEC supported many individuals by redirecting them to the right services in their community, providing resources and information, and accompanying some as they navigated the healthcare system.

Also, under Outreach, MEPEC is mandated to adapt and create tools and information mainly through the translation of documents. For several months, MEPEC was involved in the adaptation of the Transition to Kindergarten infographics and application as well as the adaptation of a placemat to help parents and their children in their transition to school.

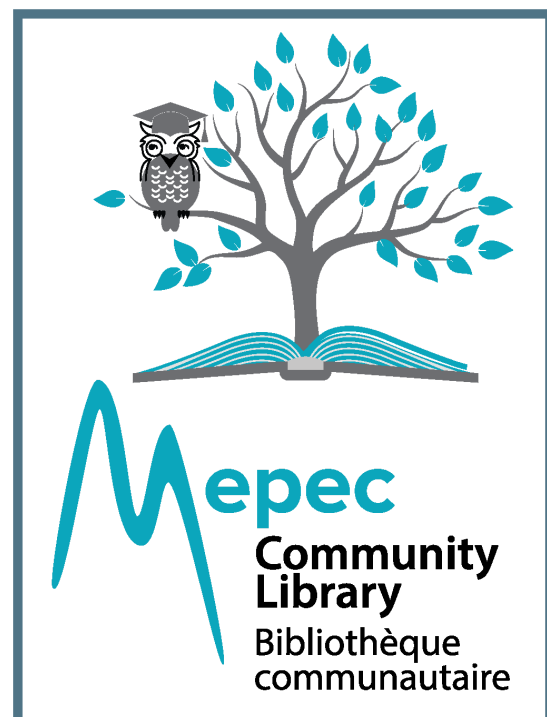
[carrefourmonteregie.ca/
transitiontokindergarten](https://carrefourmonteregie.ca/transitiontokindergarten)



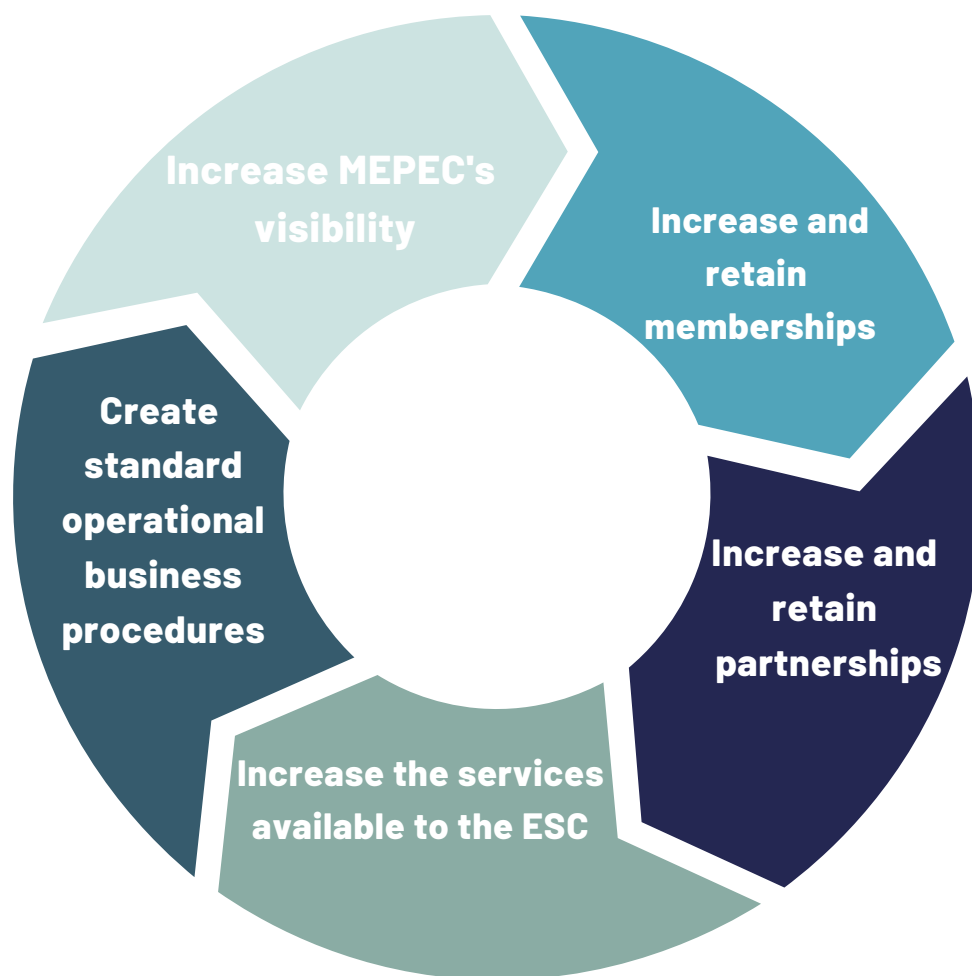
MEPEC's Community Library

The library received many donations during the year 2021-2022 and volunteers worked tirelessly to class and catalogue the collection containing now almost 4400 books. Despite the context of the COVID-19 pandemic the library did receive some new visitors.

An adult book club began meeting monthly in the fall of 2021 and MEPEC participated in the TD summer reading children's book club during the summer of 2021.



Strategic Plan 2021-2024



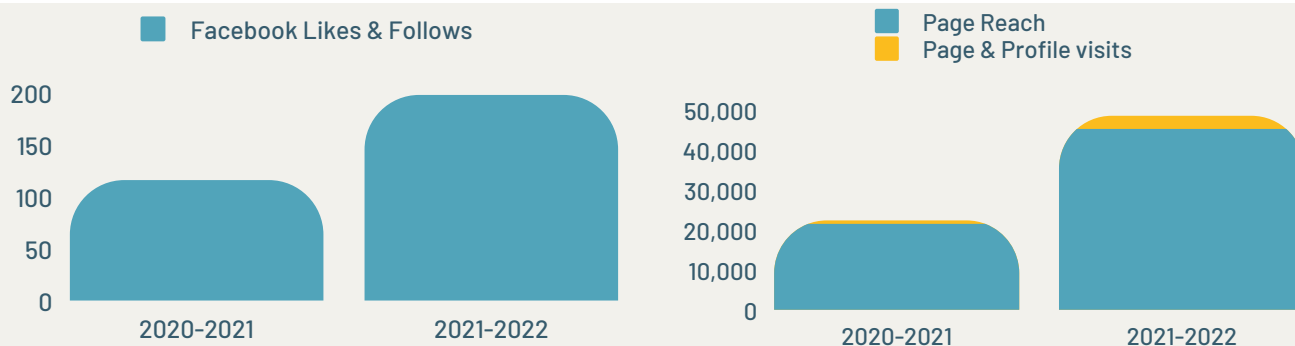
During 2021-2022, the implementation of the strategic plan commenced. Through events, activities and representations which were guided by the priorities as identified in the strategic plan. MEPEC also developed a Mobilization, Outreach and Partnership strategy to direct our approach as it relates to the priorities outlined in the strategic plan. Additionally three standard operational business procedures were created during 2021-2022. MEPEC delivered 12 monthly newsletters to members and partners highlighting our activities and those of our partners. This contributed to increased access to health and social service for the ESC in the Montérégie-East by increasing awareness amongst the population. Additionally, through the use of social media MEPEC has grown in its visibility.

Increase MEPEC's visibility



- Bags
- Pens
- Sticky Notes
- Seasonal Activity Programs
- Bookmarks
- Window Decals

A promotional video was also made available to watch on MEPEC YouTube channel and a volunteer Youth Ambassador position was created to reach the youth between 17 to 25 years old through new Facebook, Instagram and TikTok accounts.



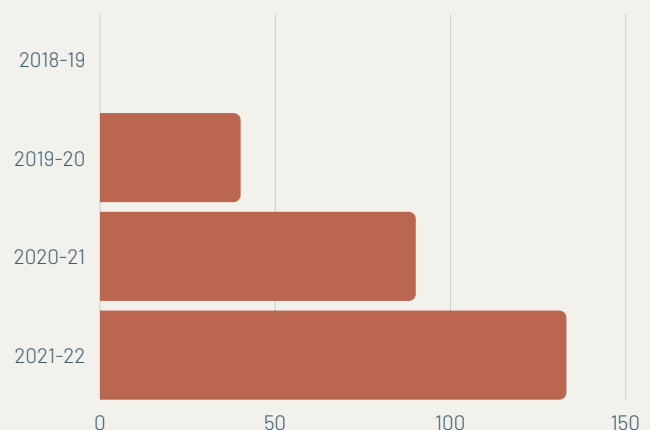
Increase Available Services

Through collaboration with the CISSME, MEPEC created a health passport, a guide to assist the ESC in Montérégie-Est communicate with health professionals. Through support offered to individuals, MEPEC helped to increase access to services by redirecting individuals to the appropriate services in their community, providing resources and information, and accompanying some as they navigated the healthcare system.



Increase and Retain Memberships

Despite the challenges faced during the COVID-19 pandemic, MEPEC's online presence and activities led to an increase in our membership from 2019-2020. Additionally we developed and implemented a standard welcome package for all new members and consulted members on their needs as it related to access and programming.



Our Funders and Partners

Funders

Canada 

Québec 

CHSSN

RDN
Regional Development Network
Réseau de Développement Régional

Dialogue McGill

 Fondation Lucie
et André Chagnon

Partners

**Centre intégré
de santé
et de services sociaux
de la Montérégie-Est**

Québec



RVCLC
(2013-2018)

Richelieu Valley Community Learning Centre

Le centre scolaire et communautaire de la Vallée
du Richelieu



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