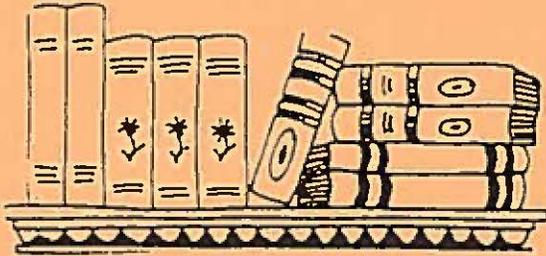


# **COASTERS ASSOCIATION**



## **INFORMER**

April, 1994

Volume 2 No. 4

### **A MESSAGE FROM ERNEST DRISCOLL**

I was very pleased and surprised to receive such a lovely plaque at the Annual General Meeting in Harrington. I was proud to be a part of the Coasters Association for all these years. I enjoyed working with everyone, especially Wilson and Cornella. A big thanks to all of you.

### **ALEX HECTOR, A FORMER COMMUNITY RADIO LIAISON, SENDS A MESSAGE**

I felt honoured to have been remembered and invited to the Annual General Meeting. I indeed remain sensitive to the aspirations of the Coasters. Rest assured that I appreciated working with Wilson, Cornella, the Board members, your communities and I bear fond and personal memories of all of you and your region. Thanks to our cordial relations, frank and opened talk, professionalism, we were able to go forward in the development of official language community radio in your region and accomplished most of our objectives in the best interest of Coasters. For this, I am grateful as well as for having shown me a treasured region of our Canada. Please excuse the tardiness of my reply.

### **COMMISSIONER OF OFFICIAL LANGUAGES SPEAKS OUT**

Dr. Victor Goodbloom made the Honourable Michel Dupuy aware of our disappointment at the government's decision to reduce the financial support accorded to organizations representative of official language minority communities. He had hoped that a nuanced decision would have been taken which would have recognized the special nature of the organizations in question and their essential contribution to the life and vitality of their respective communities. He informs that the federal contribution toward start-up costs of school governance will not be affected, but hopes that

the general contributions to the communities would also be spared. He makes a request to the Minister to undertake to cancel the cutbacks presently planned for subsequent years. He also advises that Ms. Eva Ludvig has been appointed as Commissioner's Representative for the Quebec region.

**CN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR WOMEN 1994:**

Canadian National (CN) is again offering scholarships for women entering post-secondary programs at technical schools. These scholarships are intended to encourage women to seek careers in trades, technology, operations and blue collar areas and to increase the number of women available for employment in such fields. The program is a special initiative of CN to promote Employment Equity in Canada. Fifty-eight scholarships of \$500 each are offered at educational institutions across Canada. CN has selected the schools and programs and provided the funds. The schools will select the recipients.

**TIME LIMIT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF LINGUISTIC BOARDS FOR JULY 1, 1996:**

<u>TIME</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
▶ January 1 - March 1/95	Decree adopted by government to decide.
▶ June 1 - October 30/95	Establishment of provisional councils. Naming of Interim Director General.
▶ January 1 - June 30/96	Electoral lists drawn up.
▶ July 1, 1996	New Boards are in operation. Personnel are transferred legally from old Boards to new.

**HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES:**

A questionnaire on CSBCN transport was passed to the Coasters to check for English services; however, there were no additions.

**A.G.M. INFORMATION:**

The A.G.M. was a great success, except for the weather conditions. The entertainment was relaxing, the workshops were very informative. The Harrington hospitality was

outstanding. The A.G.M. was covered by CFTH radio Harrington and was broadcasted to all the communities as far as St. Augustine. The Board meet at Saturday noon to elect an Executive Committee. The Board of Directors held their meeting on Sunday morning. The A.G.M. and Board minutes will contain all necessary information and you will be receiving a copy upon completion of the minutes.

#### PROJECTS:

*Joint project* = Donna Rowsell from Harrington was selected by the Executive Committee. She will start working on May 16th. Her workplan will be sent to you as soon as she starts.

*Youth retention project* = Dwayne is doing well on his project. He has compiled lots of information to assist with the project. He meet with a representative from the Loans and Bursary department in Quebec City. He travelled to Sept-Iles, Quebec and Lennoxville to visit the CEGEP's and meet with the students. He meet with the Administrator of Commission Scolaire du Littoral. He collected data at Communication Quebec. He will start travelling the Coast in May. All the above-mentioned information and much more will be published in his report.

*Youth strategy* = This is, once again, a provincial project. The project plans are; to

outreach to youth in each region, research on resources and issues, development of communication tools/activities and plan, organize and hold a major provincial youth conference. If accepted in the fall, this project should employ two persons per region. We were asked to do a report on our environment to assist with a future youth project. I am pleased to say that Tony Roberts demonstrated his expertise in that field by writing the report for us.

*Handbook* = Priscilla has approximately one week left working on the handbook, which she will be doing voluntarily. She will have it completed by May/June.

*Seniors* = Monique is still working on the report. As her schedule states, she is also doing volunteer work. She expects to have the report completed by May/June also.

*Job Creation Fund* = You may have received this information in your mailbox. The decentralized job creation fund makes large sums of money available to promoters in the region. I contacted the office in Baie Comeau for an application kit, which I have received. I discussed with Maurice Vittoz, Board member, of applying for a project with regards to the development of Tourism in our region. In this respect, he forwarded a pamphlet to the office of what he did in the past. Also,

he had excellent ideas for such a project that he shared with me. I will attempt to submit a project sometime in June which will employ a person in each community on the Coast.

**CJAS book** = We have received \$5,000 from Canadian Heritage to print this book. First of all, the book has to be checked for corrections and later returned to Canadian Heritage to be modified.

**Community Directory** = The book is still resting with Chris, he is waiting for last minute information. I have to do the services off-Coast for him, QLF has to do their conversation report, etc. He expects the book to go to printing sometime in June.

**Challenge '94** = Following the submission of the project a letter was written to EIC requesting five students, one for each municipality. Hoping that they will consider this request.

**Paie** = The project was accepted and Dawn Thomas will be employed on this project at the beginning of May.

**Extra** = A new project was submitted requesting to start sometime in May.

**Engineering study** = As you are aware the study has started but we have not yet received a draft report. The final report is suppose to come out in May.

**Health & Social Services complaints organization** = Mrs. Morin informed that an organization in Baie Comeau was chosen. We felt that this organization will not research our concerns adequately and we were not in a position to offer volunteer services. Therefore, she agreed to communicate with them to see if it would be feasible to contribute funds to our organizations to assist with the Lower North Shore complaints.

#### **RADIO PROGRAM:**

Minister of Canadian Heritage, Michel Dupuy, informed us that he has recently decided to continue support for the establishment of official-language community radio stations across Canada by approving \$500,000 for capital projects.

#### **LETTER TO INTER-CANADIAN:**

A letter was written to Marcel Cormier requesting free passes on Inter-Canadian to attend the Alliance Quebec Convention in Montreal. The Board decided to ask for free tickets from Inter-Canadian and make a proposal to Alliance Quebec to give us free registration. Alliance Quebec pays the airline tickets and we have to pay the registration which is \$225.00 per person. In this respect, both of us would be the winner.

#### ALLIANCE QUEBEC CONVENTION:

Names were taken at the Board meeting of interested persons wanting to attend the Convention. As soon as we reach a decision on the number of delegates that can attend, the selection process will begin. Everyone will be contacted for availability, etc.

We contacted all the schools for youth interested in a provincial public speaking contest at the convention but we had no interested candidate to date.

#### MEMBERSHIP:

A decision was taken to let members decide on a one or two year membership. All information will be prepared and sent to the Board members to start the membership drive. Membership cards were ordered for the new year.

#### EDUCATION REPORT:

Tony Roberts did a very interesting report on the Education (past/present) of St. Paul's River. The report will be published in our next "Coastar". Meanwhile, if you wish to obtain a copy, please feel free to contact the office.

#### FLY FISHERMEN REQUEST:

Five fly fishermen from Nova Scotia wrote a letter to the Association requesting information on Salmon fishing

in the area. We responded by giving them a list of all the outfitters camp on the Coast.

#### INVITATIONS:

We received invitations from the following organizations to attend their A.G.M.:

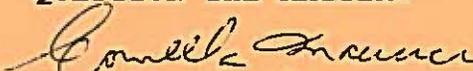
- L'ARC
- Outaouais Alliance
- CASA
- AQREM

Letters of regrets were sent to each of them.

#### INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE:

- Self-employment assistance
- Publications by Official Languages Community Organizations
- Two Languages One Ideal
- Quebec Families, Financial Assistance in 1994
- Minutes of the Provincial Committee on Health & Social Services meeting held on March 18th
- Program of the Conference held on May 6th in Montreal for the English-Speaking volunteers and members of Boards of Administration of the H. & S.S. network of the Province of Quebec.

IF THE BOARD MEETING IN HARRINGTON AND THIS NEWSLETTER DID NOT EXPLAIN A SPECIFIC ISSUE OF CONCERN TO YOU, PLEASE QUESTION THE MATTER.

  
Cornella Maurice  
Executive Director

/CM  
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