



QUEBEC HOME & SCHOOL

NEWS

"The Voice of the Parent in Education"

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MONTREAL
2535 Cavendish Blvd., Suite 212 H4B 2Y5

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1987

Ban smoking SUPPORT BILL C-51

If some mysterious affliction was discovered to be killing 35,000 Canadians every year and disabling thousands more, there would be an outcry to find the cause and put an end to it.

But what if, instead of an insidious little virus, the cause was a legal commodity? Suddenly, the matter is not simply a health issue, but a political, social, economic and very emotional one.

This situation, of course, is not hypothetical. It is exactly what is happening in Canada today relative to tobacco products, brought to a head in April by the first reading of the proposed Tobacco Products Control Act (Bill C-51), which would ban all forms of tobacco product advertising and promotion.

While not preventing and, indeed, still encouraging corporate

support for cultural and athletic events, the Bill would preclude these activities from being used to promote tobacco products.

In addition, the Bill includes provisions for stronger health warnings on all tobacco packaging, as well as a listing of all toxic constituents and requirements for reporting production, importation and sales figures for tobacco products.

The health community in Canada strongly believes that the proposed legislation is necessary, timely, and has the support of most Canadians.

The necessity of the legislation is clearly apparent.

The tobacco industry spends \$80 million annually to advertise and

promote its products; products which kill about 35,000 users each year.

In contrast, health groups have less than \$2 million with which to make their non-smoking message heard. The industry claims advertising is only directed at smokers and does not influence young people's decision to start smoking.

Yet many Canadians recall being aware of cigarette ads as teenagers, and being attracted to smoking as a means of gaining acceptance among their peers.

Cigarette advertising certainly reinforces the image of smoking as a glamorous, desirable and socially acceptable behaviour.

More on page 15

CHSPTF's Anderson says...

To: Provincial Federations
FROM: Sonja Anderson, President

Bill C-51 is stalled at first reading. If it had gone, as originally scheduled, to second reading on the last day of the summer session, a Legislative Committee would have been set up and we would then have been able to apply for a hearing.

However, it has not been put back on the Order Paper since Parliament resumed its session to deal with emergency legislation.

The lobby in support of the legislation has limited resources and too readily assumed that the passage of the bill was a "fait accompli".

The lobby against the bill is powerful, with enormous resources which have proven to be very effective over the summer. There are, according to the Cancer Society, 20 conservative members who are "spooked" by the success of the tobacco industry's campaign. Letters against the bill are running 7-1.

Unless the anti-tobacco advertising lobby mount a concerted effort to inform both MP's and the public that Bill C-51 has support, it may not appear on the Order Paper again.

Material from the Cancer Society outlines their proposed course of action in response to opponents of the bill who have spent between \$4 and \$5 million to defeat it. Convenience store operators, for example, have received 90,000 pre-typed sheets to sign. Phone banks have been set up to monitor the flow of these protest letters to MP's.

I would like to urge you to set aside ten minutes at the beginning of every meeting that takes place in the coming weeks, at the local, regional or provincial levels to encourage everyone to join in the common cause by writing letters to MP's in support of Bill C-51.



Dear Mr. Mulroney...

Two bills are before Parliament which would enable the federal government to phase out cigarette advertising and promotion:

- Bill C-51 was introduced by Health Minister Jake Epp.
- Bill C-204 was introduced as a Private Member's Bill by Lynn McDonald.

URGENT REQUEST

The tobacco lobby is spending millions of dollars on its campaign to block these bills. Our MPs also need to hear from those who care about health — particularly the health of kids. About 70 percent of smokers are now addicted to tobacco by the age of 14. The Canadian market for selling tobacco to minors is over \$250 million annually. The position of the Canadian Cancer Society is clear:

Responsible governments do not allow an addictive, lethal product to be marketed to kids only to tell them upon reaching the age of responsibility that it is now time to beat their addiction.

HOUSE OF COMMONS OTTAWA, ONT. K1A 0A6

Reproduce and sign the card below. Send one to Prime Minister Mulroney, Hon. John Turner and Hon. Ed Broadbent. Don't forget your own M.P. Mail to the House of Commons does not even require a stamp.

REMEMBER — TOBACCO IS THE ONLY ADVERTISED PRODUCT WHICH IS HAZARDOUS WHEN USED AS THE MANUFACTURER INTENDS.

Canadian Cancer Society, October 1987

We ♥ Teacher!

Coming in 1988—The First National Teacher Appreciation Week

Greetings to all our colleagues in the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations! Home and School is parents and teachers working in our homes, schools and communities across Canada on behalf of children. Our partnership is an irresistible force for excellence in education.

This school year, we are asking you as Home and Schoolers to lead the way in showing appreciation of our teachers. Canadian Home and School is inviting you to join with others across Canada in celebrating

"WE LOVE OUR TEACHERS WEEK", February 7 to 14 1988. Please begin today to make your plans to show that "WE LOVE OUR TEACHERS".

Make sure that — "you are not just thinking it, you're doing it"! We need the help and leadership of the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations to make "WE LOVE OUR TEACHERS WEEK" happen across Canada.

Yours in Home and School,
SONJA ANDERSON, President
Canadian Home and School and Parent-Teacher Federation.

I understand that legislation is before Parliament to ban tobacco advertising and promotion.

I urge you to support speedy passage. Please do not allow the tobacco lobby to delay or weaken this vital legislation. The lives of Canadians are at stake.

(NAME, PLEASE PRINT)

(ADDRESS)

Comments (if any) and signature:

In memory of 35,000 Canadians who died from tobacco related diseases in the last 12 months.

OTHER PEOPLES OPINIONS

Teacher thanks H&S

Dear NEWS Editor:

Greendale Home & School Association received the following letter from the kindergarten teacher at our school. Last year Home & School gave over \$500 to the kindergarten classes for much needed educational materials. It is kind of nice to receive this "thank you" letter. We hear too often only negative responses so it was especially nice to receive this positive one. Would it be possible to have this letter published in Quebec Home & School NEWS.

Susan Curtin
Publicity/Fundraising Chm.
Greendale Elementary School

October '87

To: Greendale Home & School Association

Dear Parents:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous donation towards the buying of new kindergarten toys and equipment.

As the new teacher, I was thrilled to be given the opportunity to

make some very needed purchases for my classes. As parents, I'm sure you are all aware of how costly toys and games can be. I have been able to buy a variety of things (i.e. bowling game, alphabet cubes, mega blocks, counting scale, etc.).

Once again, on behalf of the children and myself, a big thank you to one and all.

Sincerely,
Patricia Fitzgerald

It's News to Michigan

Ms. Donna Sauriol
Executive Secretary
Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations
2535 Cavendish Blvd., Suite 212
Montreal, Quebec H4B 2Y5

Dear Ms. Sauriol:

Thank you for your pleasant and informative note of September 21 regarding the Quebec Home and School NEWS. I should have answered you ere now but I have a tendency to procrastinate and mislay — your note and enclosures were victim to both.

My check (cheque?) for \$7.00 is enclosed. I have no idea if a Canadian Bank will process it since I've not done this before. If they will not, or should you prefer a different method of payment, please specify what it should be and I will see to it that the funds are sent to you.

Lest you wonder why someone in western Michigan would be a subscriber to the newspaper — I

originally inquired because I assumed the NEWS was in French since my wife and I are planning a tour of Quebec next year — she is a French teacher eager to brush up; I a non-speaker wanting to survive traffic where signs for motorists are in a foreign (to me at least) language. (I'll not even begin to describe the traffic situation I found myself in Montreal last year!! when I misread a sign.)

We were surprised to see that the NEWS is in English. But, my teacher wife found it interesting and so we want to subscribe for its contents and to get a different perspective. So there it is.

Be sure to write if you have questions or instructions.

Best wishes,
Gordon L. Boucon
3940 Weber Rd.
Muskegon, Michigan
49445

Ed. Note: We hope Mr & Mrs. Boucon will visit our office when they come to Montreal.

Ever want to witness the realities of the classroom as experienced by your son or daughter?

Radio Québec, in co-operation with the Protestant Education Service of the Ministère de l'éducation, has recently completed a video production entitled "WE'RE ALL IN IT TOGETHER".

Filmed on location at Westmount High School, this video provides a unique opportunity to see the secondary Moral and Religious Education (MRE) programme in action.

Three different lessons are presented and serve to illustrate the approach taken to moral and religious education in Protestant schools.

The camera focuses on the classroom activity, allowing the audience to gauge the reaction of the students and teachers, as well as a filmed sequence from a teacher training workshop, help viewers to understand this sometimes controversial subject area.

This video is part of an information package designed for use with school committee's and parent

groups.

A second production, illustrating the elementary school programme, is presently at the editing stage and will be available in the coming weeks.

If you would like to have either of these video's presented to the parents of your school or community, please contact: Mr. James Sullivan, Direction de l'enseignement protestant, 600 rue Fullum, 3e étage, Montréal, QC, H2K 4L1, 514-873-5916; or Mr. Ross Davidson, Direction de l'enseignement protestant, 1035, De La Chevrotière, 15e étage, Québec, QC, G1R 5A5, 418-643-3810.



Quebec Home & School NEWS

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Editorial . . .

Fall Conference full of 'parent power'

Isn't it wonderful what a few months rest and relaxation can do for flagging spirits? In June we just couldn't wait to get finished with the examinations and off to the cottage or wherever. And yet in mid October over a hundred enthusiastic and dedicated parents attended the Federation's Fall Conference at Lindsay Place High School in Pointe Claire on the theme "Promoting Parent Power."

Watching delegates poring over the list of workshops trying to decide which ones to attend (how can I be in two places at one time?) reminds one of the small child with his nose glued to the glass in the candy counter trying to decide how to spend his five cents.

In order to fulfill its leadership role in Protestant education in Quebec, Federation must continually renew itself through the development of the human resources already active and also to recruit new members as children (and parents) pass through our school system. This it does most effectively by sponsoring "think tanks" and "leadership conferences" such as the one at Lindsay Place.

Twenty years experience in sponsoring such events has taught the need for keeping abreast of the latest developments in education while not losing sight of the fundamental requirements of a healthy and productive relationship between the home and the school.

Seminars such as this are designed not only to impart new knowledge but also to give ample opportunity for dialogue between speakers and delegates so that the problems facing the locals can be properly addressed. Because the local associations may be in varying stages of development, the value of dialogue cannot be overemphasized and something that poses a problem

in one location may have been solved in another. Even the inter-actions that take place at the lunch break provide valuable insight into how others are doing things.

This year's Fall Conference presented a fascinating array of topics too numerous to enumerate here but they did deal with such basics as how to operate an effective association to how can School Committees and Home & School complement each other. Others dealt with effective communications between parents and children and how to deal with the factors leading to stress in adolescents.

Several speakers said they would be available to visit the locals so if your program chairman is looking for speakers here is an excellent source.

"Promoting Parent Power" is an intriguing concept that brings with it important rights and responsibilities. If we are to indeed be partners with the school system in the education of our children we must assume the responsibility of understanding how the total system works and not just our little corner of it. We must understand where the authority lies and how to approach it to achieve maximum results. Having assumed that responsibility, parents have the right to be treated as partners in the solutions of the vexing problems that require the best efforts of both partners.

One question to which we did not get the answer was how does a lady who is a school commissioner and the mother of five young children find time to take on the presentation of a Fall Conference as extensive as this one? I'm speaking of Diane Lacey from Vincent Massey School in St. Hubert and to her and the Conference Committee who supported her we owe a sincere vote of thanks.

G.G.R.

Home & School Awards

READERS MIGHT ASK: "Why on earth are they writing about an awards assembly in October?" The question is certainly justified, as most locals are now planning for annual Christmas fairs and activities at the end of the school year are far from anyone's mind.

Maybe, for me, reflecting back to last June, when I had the fortune and honour to be invited to the Awards Assembly at MacDonald High School, warms the body and mind!

This special assembly was scheduled on a weekday morning. The school administrators, the entire staff, student and parents filled the gymnasium and all were in a festive mood. One by one the students made their way up on stage to receive awards for academic achievements and

special honours. I was so impressed by the number of students who received awards.

"That's just fine," you may say, "but what does it have to do with the Home and School?"

Well, these awards had to do with Home and School! Four special honour plaques — for top students in chemistry, history, debating and public speaking and 40 book awards for academic achievements were given by the Home and School president that morning.

It was a moment when I felt particularly proud to be a part of this association because we were honouring achievements of our young people. It has to be one of the more worthwhile causes in which to invest our time and money.

To open the door to this kind of involvement, be it at the elementary or high school level, creates challenges and spirit and generates interest in your local school communities.

Maybe a comment made by a fellow parent at my local high school wraps it all up:

"I was so thrilled when my son received the Home and School award I couldn't just sit at home and not become involved. There was so much to thank them for."

Angelika Redahl
Macdonald High School
Ste. Anne de Bellevue

SUPERIOR COUNCIL OF EDUCATION

Keep in touch with minister

Editor's note: This is the second of a three-part series dealing with the Superior Council of Education.

By ANN CUMYN
Protestant Committee Liaison

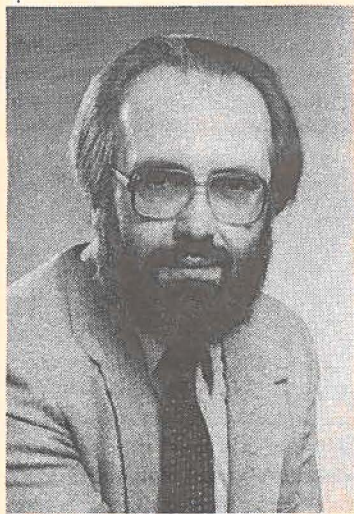
The Superior Council of Education was established in 1964 as part of a pact between church and state at the time that the Ministry of Education was formed.

The Council was set up along confessional lines comprising 24 members, with at least 16 of these being Catholic, four Protestant and at least one member neither Catholic nor Protestant.

The members of the Superior Council represent a cross section of regions and interests in the educational field. The members are appointed by the Council of Ministers on the recommendation of the Minister of Education and the Minister of Higher Education and Science following consultation with organizations representative of the educational community.

MANDATE

The mandate of the Superior Council is specified in the law pertaining to the Superior Council of Education.



It is threefold:

- To advise the Minister of Education and the Minister of Higher Education and Science on those regulations which he is required to submit to the Council;
- To give advice to the Minister of Education and the Minister of Higher Education and Science on any matter that he may request;
- To submit to the Minister of Education and the Minister of Higher Education and Science, for deposit in the National Assembly, an annual report on the activities of the Council and on the state and needs of education.

By its very mandate it can be seen that the major role of the Superior Council of Education is to keep the Minister informed of the needs of the community and its reactions to the happenings and changes within the realm of education.

This role is strengthened further in the law, where it is specified that, in addition to its mandate, the Council may:

- Solicit opinions, receive and hear requests and suggestions from the public in matters relating to education;
- Submit recommendations to the Minister of Education and the Minister of Higher Education and Science on all matters concerning

education;

- Conduct the studies and research which it deems necessary to carry out its work.

RESOURCES

In order to carry out its tasks competently the Superior Council needs to draw upon a large number of resources.

This need is foreseen in the law pertaining to the Superior Council of Education by the provision of four commissions; the Commissions for Primary Education, Secondary Education, Higher Education and Adult Education.

The members of these commissions have expertise at the particular level of education designated, and they are appointed by the Superior Council itself following consultation with the milieu.

Each commission is presided over by a member of the Council and the role of the four commissions is to help the Council in its work.

When the subject of specific advice falls within the expertise of a particular commission, that commission may be involved in the ground work and the initial draft.

Another major and important resource is to be found among the permanent staff of the Superior Council, which includes many highly capable research agents.

These research agents, who make significant contributions to advice prepared by the Council, keep themselves informed of current educational trends not only in Quebec and Canada, but in many other countries as well.

PUBLIC

According to its mandate the Council frequently consults the public. This resource is a major influence in the preparation of the Council's annual report on the state and needs of education.

The Council may choose to visit a particular region of the province and meet there with the various groups involved in education; or the Council may choose to solicit written opinions on a particular subject.

Although these resources are vital to the work of the Council, it is important to emphasize that the subject and content of each advice — text and recommendations — is determined by the Superior Council itself.

To be a member of the Council is no mean task; each month's kit contains at least one substantial document, either in a preliminary stage or a final draft, requiring careful reading in preparation for a critical discussion of its content.

Apart from the annual report, which is the major work in any one year, and the documents of advice which are worked on when the Council perceives the need to make a statement on a particular issue, the Superior Council endeavours to keep the public informed of its activities through two publications: *Conseil éducation* and *Educouncil*.

These are highly recommended reading for those who desire to broaden their knowledge of current opinions on educational topics — or simply wish to learn more about the Superior Council of Education.



President's Message

Helen Koeppé

We're moving on this year's issues

OUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP drive is off to a flying start. Parents are showing their support for the aims and activities of the Home & School Associations and are making that commitment concrete.

Our new membership chairman, Norma Rennie, is to be commended for her dedication to this important task. A membership makes you part of a Canada-wide network of 60,000 parent volunteers working for better schools. That's parent power!

Several board members, Jessica Terroole, Marion Daigle and myself recently returned from a successful trip to the Gaspé. Many thanks to Area Rep. Anne MacWhirter, who co-ordinated the visit at the local level. The trip to the Gaspé was made possible through a grant from the Federal Secretary of State under the Official Languages Community Projects program.

QFHSA was able to sponsor excellent workshops in the Gaspé for both teachers and parents on the "Management of Stress" by Margaret Mitchell, a MRE consultant for the Lakeshore School Board of the Island of Montreal.

The legendary friendliness and hospitality of the Gaspésians is alive and well and much in evidence.

Similar trips are planned to take place in the near future in the Hull/Aylmer area, in the Eastern Townships, and at Thetford Mines, with each area choosing their own program and QFHSA making the arrangements for resource people for the workshops.

An item anticipated before the year end is the New Education Act for Quebec to be introduced by Education Minister, Claude Ryan. Whatever changes to the system are incorporated into the new law, the act must

be viewed carefully and the changes considered in the light of what parents desire most for their children:

Quality education for all children according to their individual abilities and which reflects the positive features of the culture in which they exist...

Another item of concern to the conscientious parent this fall is local school board policy regarding AIDS. Parents need to find out if their board has a policy and what that policy is.

Invite your school commissioner, school board officials and resource people on health issues to an upcoming meeting for parents. It is better to know and understand your school board's policy before incidents such as those recently recorded in the Maritimes cloud and distort the many difficult issues to be considered before a policy has to be implemented.

Welcome to the new editor of our Quebec H & S News, Charlene de Condé. No doubt you've noticed the changes which have occurred gradually in the past few issues of the News. More changes are to come which we hope will improve our already great newsletter.

Dear readers: keep the cards and letters and especially pictures coming. The NEWS, which is mailed directly to the homes of Home & School members, is an excellent vehicle for the exchange of ideas, for dialogue between parents with similar concerns not able to meet in person, and for information on current educational and social issues. You could drop Charlene a line and let her know how you like the new format.

We live in a LARGE province with a group of GREAT parents. Let's keep in touch.

Keep fit and keep smiling.

Skiing for the disabled

Dear Home & Schoolers:

Are you aware of the Richard Lemieux Foundation? This non-profit foundation was the brainchild of Richard, a disabled skier with neither hands nor legs. The foundation actively supports the development of a disabled ski program at Morin Heights.

Richard, and the other volunteers involved, feel that skiing is a sport which provides the participants with recreation, social interaction and a much needed boost in self-confidence.

They need your support and hope you will help either financially (a tax receipt will be issued for any amount over \$10.00) or through supporting their annual auction, held at Les Vieilles Portes in St. Sauveur, in March 1988.

The address of the Richard Lemieux Foundation is 261 Shamrock Drive, Pincourt, Quebec, J7V 3W5, 514-453-6351.

Perhaps you know of someone who might like to take part.

In order to help introduce any disabled person to alpine skiing or sledging, (for paraplegics), or to help those already involved to improve their skills, a group of experienced instructors have volunteered their time and efforts to organize an eight-week program starting in early January.

The program will consist of eight weekly lessons. The fee of \$100.00 includes lift tickets, lessons, membership in the Canadian Association for Disabled Skiing as well as the Quebec provincial division which operates under the wing

of the Quebec Ski Federation.

Each participant will be assigned as many instructors as he/she requires. Anyone being introduced to disabled skiing or sledging will be given a free introductory lesson courtesy of the Richard Lemieux Foundation to help them evaluate whether they are interested in participating in the program.

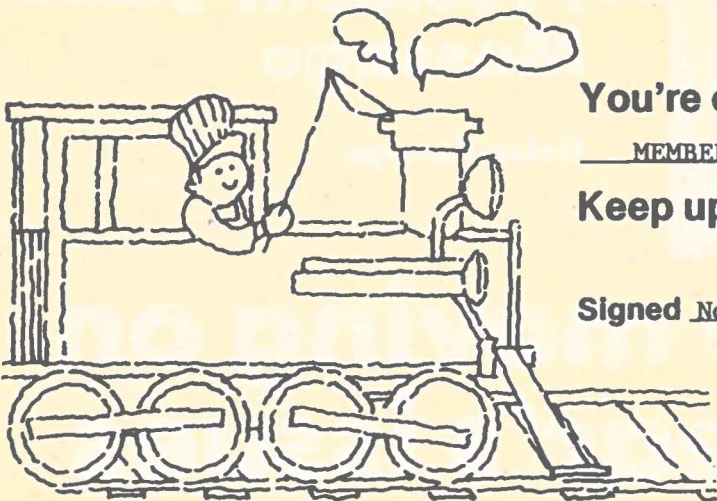
This is strictly a volunteer, non-profit program. Therefore should any profits be realized, they will be directed to charitable purposes.

Anyone interested in learning more about the program should call Henry Wohler at 453-6351 during the day, or Elton Irwin at 1-229-4698 in the evening.

SKIING IS BELIEVING



FOCUS on MEMBERSHIP



You're on the right track,
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMEN
Keep up the good work!

Signed Norma Rennie, M'ship Chm.

Date November 15, 1987

1987/1988 GROUP AFFILIATE MEMBERS

School/Parents' Committees

Allancroft School
Beaconsfield High School
Carlyle School
Cecil Newman School
Dorset School
Jubilee School
Laurentia School
LeMoyne d'Iberville High School
Lindsay Place High School
Mountainview School
Macdonald High School
Netagamou School
North Hatley School
Parkview School
Royal Charles School
St. Augustine River School
St. François Xavier
Secondary School
St. Patrick School
St. Paul Junior High School
St. Veronica School
Ste. Agathe Academy
Souvenir School
Spring Garden School

Thorndale School
Three Rivers High School
Valois Park School
West Hill High School
William Latter School

School Boards

Baie Comeau Dissident School
Board
Eastern Townships School Board
Greater Hull School Board
Lakeshore School Board
Protestant Regional School
Board, District of Bedford
Protestant Regional School Board
of Northwestern Quebec
Protestant School Board
of Greater Montreal
Protestant School Board
of Western Quebec
Richelieu Valley School Board
South Central Protestant
School Board

South Shore Protestant Reg'l
School Board
St. Lawrence Protestant
School Board
St. Maurice Protestant
School Board
School Board of Bonaventure

Teachers

Edinburgh Elementary School
Gaspésia Teachers' Association

Others

Association for the Advancement
of Jewish Education
First Nations Education Council
Jewish Peoples & Peretz
Schools H&S
Kahnawake Education Center
Loyola High School
Quebec Association for Children
and Adults with Learning
Disabilities

Home & School

MEMBERSHIP LEDGER

	1986/87	NOV/87
ALLANCROFT	172	145
ANDREW S. JOHNSON MEMORIAL	43	33
AYER'S CLIFF	17	—
AYLMER	57	—
BAIE COMEAU	40	—
BEACON HILL	164	—
CARLYLE	23	—
CEDAR PARK	127	98
CHELSEA	17	—
CHRISTMAS PARK	169	130
COURTLAND PARK	127	—
DORSET	72	72
DUNRAE GARDENS	148	136
EARDLEY	55	—
ECOLE PRIMAIRE BEAONSFIELD	225	243
ECOLE PRIMAIRE PIERREFONDS	23	—
ECOLE PRIMAIRE POINTE CLAIRE	149	217
EDGEWATER	206	145
EDINBURGH	206	164
ELIZABETH BALLANTYNE	173	173
GARDENVIEW	50	—
GREENDALE	140	125
HAMPSTEAD	67	74
HOPETOWN-SHIGAWAKE		
PORT DANIEL	41	29
HOWICK	5	10
HUDSON / MT. PLEASANT (includes high school)	243	137
JOHN RENNIE HIGH	166	109
KEITH	86	—
LACHINE HIGH	78	52
LINDSAY PLACE HIGH	143	—
MACDONALD HIGH	146	142
MARY GARDNER	4	—
MEADOWBROOK	116	105
NEW CARLISLE HIGH	64	40
NEW RICHMOND HIGH	14	24
NORTHVIEW	116	107
PRINCESS ELIZABETH	43	—
ROYAL WEST ACADEMY	128	—
SEIGNIORY	135	66
SOUTH HULL	70	—
SPRING GARDEN	1	—
SUNNYDALE	144	149
THORNDALE	146	91
VALOIS PARK	125	119
WAGAR HIGH	64	—
WESTPARK	172	—
WILLINGDON	83	76
WINDERMERE	227	149

Above membership figures include Associate Members at local Home & Schools, i.e. families who have joined more than one school.



I am the thought for 1987; remember me?

I am the Person who comes to your meetings or the Person who quietly waits to be acknowledged. I patiently wait while everyone visits and chit-chats.

I am the Person who finds my own seat — I don't have much to say.

You might say I'm the good guy . . . I don't make waves.

But do you know who else I am?

I'm the Parent who never comes back!

It amuses me to see how much your membership tries to find ways to get me back when I was there in the first place.

All you had to do to keep me was give me some time, some extended little courtesy.

Do you owe someone a phone call or a note for help given? Have you asked everyone present at your meetings for their views? Do you listen to your members?

The happy parent is the one who stays and grows with us.



APPLICATION — QFHSA

Supporting (Family Membership) . . . \$ 9.00 ☐
Affiliate (Group) Membership . . . \$35.00 ☐ eg. School Board, School Committee
Parents Committee, School Council

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

(Please do not forget to include post office box number or apartment number if applicable)

Your membership card will be forwarded to you, immediately, upon receipt of your application by:

Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations

2535 Cavendish Blvd., #212

Montreal, Quebec H4B 2Y5

(514) 481-5619

Membership includes the bi-monthly newspaper and affiliation with the Canadian Home & School and Parent-Teacher Federation.

Hundredth monkey makes a difference

BY SUSAN HAWKER LUSSIER

THE STRUGGLE for peace can sometimes be lonely and discouraging, but there are times when enthusiasm starts to mount, and you can actually see and feel the overall effect of all our persistent efforts.

"The Week" when we all collaborated in the international "Peal for Peace" on Tuesday, September 15, was one such occasion. As our thoughts focused on a common vision, the effect of our celebrations started to snowball.

I had the opportunity to participate in three Peal for Peace celebrations: with Christmas Park Elementary, held in Beaurepaire United Church, Beaconsfield High, where the students' visual display of PEACE was covered by the media, and a quieter personal one with friends and family.

On Saturday of the same week at a conference on peace, several different groups were brought together to exchange ideas.

Like pebbles in the water, our actions were spreading ripples of encouragement. I had a phone call from a friend of a friend who wanted to canvass his whole street with Nuclear Weapons Free Zone postcard pamphlets.

I spent an uplifting hour in a



Susan Hawker-Lussier

large waiting room for doctors' offices where, contrary to the normal protocol of silence, the topic of peace created a lively interchange of conversation, eventually involving almost everyone in the room, from children to seniors.

But you know it's working when in the same week, news breaks that finally there has been a breakthrough in talks concerning medium-range missiles in Europe. Even the superpowers are beginning to listen.

Like the story of the hundredth monkey, once the number of individuals involved reaches a critical level, the idea finally catches on. With our continued efforts, our children will see that day when we reach that critical level.



Zone your school Nuclear arms free

LOOKING FOR a specific "peace project" for your class or school? Here's one that empowers the students, gives them a real sense of the democratic process and may even play a part in real negotiation for arms reductions!

When we look at the factors involved, we see that Canada plays a substantial role in contributing to the nuclear arms race, whether through our uranium, or through research, industry or testing.

We can reduce Canada's involvement through the Nuclear Weapons Free Zone campaign (NWFZ), which is both symbolic and effective.

tive.

In 1978, the United Nations General Assembly endorsed the concept of NWFZs in a resolution that states "the process of establishing such zones in different parts of the world should be encouraged, with the ultimate objective of achieving a world entirely free of nuclear weapons."

Today there are almost 3000 NWFZs worldwide, including Austria, Japan, New Zealand, Sri Lanka and Sweden, as well as Iceland and Spain, both fellow members of NATO. In Canada, there are over 150, including the Northwest Territories, the provinces of Manitoba and Ontario, and major cities such as Montreal,

Toronto and Vancouver.

By creating NWFZs, we voice our refusal to contribute to the nuclear arms race, and do so effectively, by convincing our municipal, provincial and federal governments to restrict the research, production, transport, storage and testing of nuclear weapons components.

Together with others, by consensus or vote, you can declare your home, classroom, school, congregation, or place of business a NWFZ. But the empowering part is then to let the world know — especially your mayor and council, MNA, Prime Minister, MP, and, of course, the media. Just see how it snowballs!

PEAL FOR PEACE AT NORTHVIEW

WORLD PEACE PRAYER

Lead me from death to life,
from falsehood to truth;
Lead me from despair to hope,
from fear to trust;
Lead me from hate to love,
from war to peace;
Let peace fill our hearts,
our world, our universe.

Reaction was very positive to the recent visit of the International Youth for Peace and Justice Tour.

The Grades 7 and 8 students at Beaconsfield High showed a substantial awareness of the issues of apartheid, Central America and refugees. But unknown to many was the situation of infringement of native rights close to home, to the Innu, the indigenous people of Nitassinan (in Labrador).

Intensive, low-level, high-speed training flights by North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) military aircraft (begun in 1979) results in a sudden sound and shock wave, with an increase in noise levels to

over 110 decibels, enough to cause ear damage. This is sufficient to disrupt wildlife, and thus affects traditional hunting activities in the Innu.

So far the Canadian government has ignored the Innus' pleas.

The Beaconsfield students

demand to know why the media weren't covering the situation of the natives in Labrador, and suggested that if the government won't help out that maybe they, the students, could help. They applauded vigorously to the suggestion of petitioning.

NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREE ZONE (NWFZ) RESOURCES

8 1/2" x 11" NWFZ Certificate	\$1.50 each
NWFS Sticker 4" x 4"	\$1.50 each
Sample NWFZ postcard pamphlet	55¢ each

available from West Islanders for Nuclear Disarmament (W.I.N.D.), 401 Boul. St-Jean, Pointe Claire, Quebec, H9R 3J3

PEACE

We want peace, we don't want war. In Canada we have peace and we want it to stay that way. Peace is necessary to live; if we have war we can die. Keep peace.



Kori Wentzel
12 years
Northview School

Love and Peace

Love is wonderful.
One world.
Voices sing.
Everybody wants peace.

And everybody wants love too.
Nobody wants evil.
Do you want peace and love?

Peace is what we want.
Evil is not good.
Animals want peace too.
Can we do it?
Everybody can do it!

by Gwendolynne Tuck
10 years Grade 4
Northview School

PEACE

Let the children live and grow

To share the world we've learned to know
Help us to erase the wrong, And make
it better, make it strong.

Stephen Nicholson
Grade 6 Northview School

PEACE ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

January 1: Time for New Year's Resolution —
Our children need us working for peace.
How are we going to contribute?

SOCIAL AFFAIRS

By PAT LEWIS

Bill C-51, the federal legislation to limit advertising by tobacco companies, is still in Parliament and awaiting debate.

From the amount of advertising by these companies to refute the content of the bill one can only assume that the tobacco industry is very concerned about this proposed legislation.

An excellent pamphlet is available to locals if they will write to the Canadian Cancer Society, Quebec Division, 550 rue Sherbrooke ouest, Bureau 985, Montreal, QC H3A 3C5. The pamphlet is entitled **GIVE KIDS A CHANCE**.

A nation-wide program called **THE KIDS SAY KNOW TO DRUGS** is being sponsored on the West Island by Fairview Centre. There will be video presentations, discussion groups, and pamphlets explaining the effects of marijuana, cocaine, crack and alcohol.

Several local high schools will participate, and the presentations will be made also in Carrefour Laval, Galeries d'Anjou and Promenades St. Bruno. Home and School locals in high schools should find this campaign of particular interest.

The Lakeshore General Hospital community health department is setting up a five-year plan to improve the health of West Islanders, in spite of the fact that government funding is being cut back.

The department has among its aims to improve cardio-vascular health, mental health, environmental work place pollution, as well as educating people about infectious diseases such as AIDS and measles.

RIGHTS

By GORDON McGIBBON

QFHSA has always been consistent in its educational policy concerning the defense of fundamental rights in education: **NO LINGUISTIC SCHOOL BOARDS WITHOUT FEDERAL CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES**. No one has the right to undermine the rights of our children or of future generations.

The brief that was submitted to the joint Senate-House of Commons Committee on the Meach Lake Accord was never heard. The brief stood up for our rights. Even the Prime Minister, during a radio phone-in talk show, admitted that "only the courts would decide". That's not good enough. We want to know where we stand now.

A big vacuum is opening up out there — many are disillusioned with our politicians and those who claim to be defending our democratic rights, when in fact they are not.

Stand up and be counted — and we will grow stronger.

ONE of the priorities for the 1987-88 Home & School year was dealt with early on the agenda.

Editor Charlene de Condé outlined plans and changes for the format of the H & S News and asked for ideas to be forwarded to her. She also warned members of the Board of Directors that she would be present to take photos at the October 17 fall conference.

H & S News readers in future will be able to more easily recognize board members (and be able to put faces to names) when meeting at conferences, etc. Suggestions for improving the News are welcome from readers as well.

PAPT/PACT CURRICULUM COUNCIL

by MARGUERITE DUNLOP,
QFHSA liaison

The Curriculum Council, consisting of members from both the Protestant and Catholic teachers' associations, is the sole instrument of these organizations for consultation with the Ministry of Education and the Government of Quebec in matters of curriculum and examinations.

QFHSA is the only parent group which sends an observer/liaison to the Curriculum Council bimonthly meetings. The Council's mandate:

- 1) Monitor and report on the Régime Pédagogique, as it

A national teacher appreciation week — Feb. 7-14 — will be co-ordinated by Canadian Home & School and Parent-Teacher Federation. Each provincial federation is asked to share their ideas for implementation of this program with the other federations through Can. H & S. One idea submitted at the Oct. 6 executive meeting of QFHSA was to have a teacher appreciation poster contest in local schools, with prizes for winning entries. Perhaps an outstanding poster by a student could be sent to the national co-ordinator for consideration as "the national poster" for teacher appreciation week.

The name of Ralph Ross, director of Student Services for the

affects our school system.

- 2) Review and evaluate programs of study.
- 3) Maintain a liaison with Subject Associations (math, geography, etc) with a view to encouraging participation in these associations.
- 4) Provide a directory of resource documents and persons.
- 5) Review proposed Ministry of Education policies for the evaluation of elementary and secondary students.
- 6) Publish a periodic newsletter outlining the work of the Curriculum Council.

With regard to the first mandate, the Council has been studying the new status of Technical/Vocational education as separate from general Secondary studies.

The Program Evaluation Project dealt last year with kindergarten and general geography programs. This year they will look into social studies at the Grade 3 level and Canadian history at the secondary level.

The sub-committee on the Directory of Resource persons and Documents will publish a comprehensive "Directory of Educational Resources" to be distributed to schools and local teachers' associations.

This is a brief overview of what the Curriculum Council is about. The devoted teachers involved in its work deserve our congratulations and support.

BOARD NOTES — SEPT.

Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal, has been submitted by QFHSA for possible nomination to the Superior Council of Education. QFHSA is regularly asked by the Minister of Education to submit names of suitable, qualified people, both for the Protestant Committee and for the Superior Council of Education.

A new one-day format for the annual general meeting of QFHSA was considered and will be tried out in the spring of 88. Tentative date for the meeting is May 7. Mark your calendar now. Focus will be placed on workshops of general interest to parents — the theme of QFHSA conferences for the 87-88 school year being "Promoting Parent Potential."

We would like to thank the following liaison people for their very valuable input at the Board meetings of QFHSA and for their patience in answering the innumerable questions:

- Ken Cooke of the Provincial Association of Protestant Teachers;
- Ann Cumyn, chairman of the Protestant Committee;
- Grace Hone, VP from the Quebec Association of Protestant School Boards.

NO MAN (or parent) EXISTS IN A VACUUM. . .

MRE

By BETTY LOU MANKER

THE QFHSA was represented at the Moral and Religious Education workshop conducted by the Protestant Education Service of the Ministry of Education. The theme was "Moral and Religious Literacy in the 80s".

The five-day training session for MRE teachers was "designed to provide an opportunity to improve teaching skills and to acquire a deeper understanding of the revised (MRE) programme" in the Quebec Protestant schools.

An outline of this school programme will appear in a later issue of this newspaper.

Your QFHSA MRE Committee Chairman, Betty Lou Manker, attended this summer programme at Bishop's University. The workshops were educational and well presented and it was gratifying to see so many teachers who wished to acquire a deeper understanding of this programme in order to pass this knowledge on to our children.

For more information on the MRE programme in the Protestant schools, contact the Ministry of Education, Protestant Education Service, 600 Fullum Street, Montreal, H2K 4L1, (514) 873-5916.

ELEMENTARY LANGUAGE ARTS

by Esther Wearing

MANY PARENTS have been concerned with what's going on in schools with regards to the new Language Arts Program.

Parents complain that their children don't have spelling tests anymore, that their children's writing comes home unmarked, grammar and spelling mistakes still intact.

What's going on? Why aren't the teachers teaching our children about grammar and spelling?

Here are some answers.

The New Language Arts Program that has been developed by the Ministry of Education and is now being used in classrooms in most schools is based on research done by educators and researchers all over the world.

This "Whole Language" philosophy has proven to be more appealing, more effective and more suitable to the needs of individual children.

Good parents and teachers have always known that the mastery of language (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) is a natural process, one in which children are largely self-motivated and self-directed.

Whole Language assists that process by building on what children already know, like and want to achieve.

Whole Language recognizes that most children understand a great deal about language, both oral and written, long before they reach school.

What makes Whole Language classrooms different? The EMPHASIS is different. Children are encouraged to read **real books** not just stories from textbooks. They are encouraged to write early in their school experience.

They are not asked to do a lot of separate phonics, spelling, punctuation or vocabulary exercises — i.e. workbooks. They don't have to learn a whole set of rules before

they feel they can read and write.

Children will learn to read and write correctly as they read and write things that have **meaning** to them — that make sense to them. They are learning **HOW** to read and write. **Correctness comes with practice.**

The following is a list of what makes sense to a child.

What Makes Sense: Stories; Poems; Songs; Plays; Games; Creative activities; Letters; Talking things over.

What Does NOT Make Sense: Parts of sentences; Parts of words; Rules with lots of exceptions; Unconnected exercises; Lists of incorrect sentences; Multiple choice questions; Lists of words; Drills.

When children are motivated by their desire to communicate, they will learn and practise the necessary skills.

Children will know stories before they know all the words in them. **Don't insist** that every word be correct as long as the **reading makes sense**. Children need time to puzzle out the language and to self-correct. **Understanding the meaning of a passage is most important.**

What can parents do?

Encourage children to write a lot and take time to listen and discuss things that are important to them. **Don't dampen their enthusiasm** by drawing attention to errors. Most children will self-correct with time and experience, and the teacher will be watching and teaching as necessary. Celebrate your children's growing ability — a sense of accomplishment and confidence is the strongest incentive to learning.

What about correct spelling?

All children make up their own spellings when they begin to write and this "invented" spelling marks an important stage in their growth. Eventually correctness becomes personally important and spelling improves naturally.

REMEMBER, as parents, the best teaching method is **ENCOURAGEMENT**.

\$

**NEED MONEY FOR
YOUR SCHOOL**

\$

**OUR GUARANTEE...
QUALITY, PRICE, SERVICE**

We have the product lineup to meet all of your demands. Our products are practical, exclusive and lucrative.

We helped schools and other organizations raise over \$3,500,000 last fall, without selling one chocolate bar.

Across Canada more and more schools as well as other organizations raise more money with our product line.

Why? Because people react positively to our products.

The reasons?

- Useful and high quality product
- Prices below that of comparable store bought
- Personalized service; knowledgeable consultants

We would like to help you reach your financial goals. Call us and a representative will meet with you in order to guide you towards a successful fund raising campaign.

For a professional and personalized service call or write:

PARFAIT

FUNDRAISING CONSULTANTS

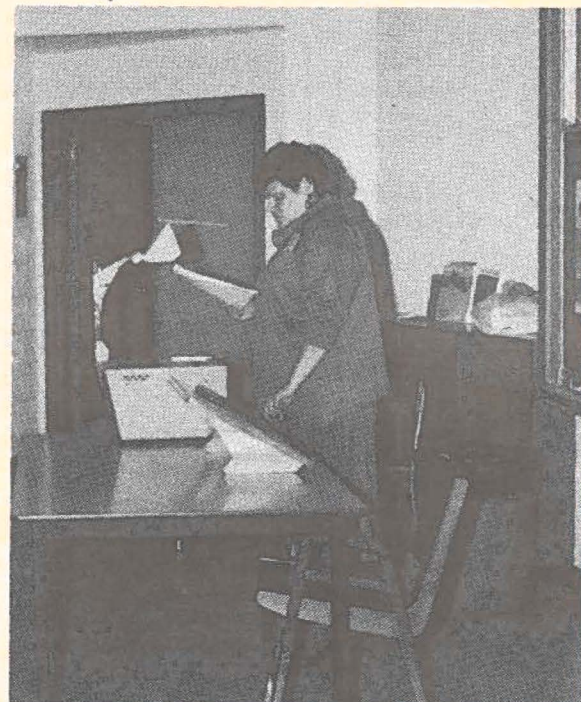


MONTREAL - LAVAL - SOUTH SHORE
and other regions of Quebec

John Pakis - E.J. Gaudet - Roger Raiche
and Hubert Lalumière
409 boul. Lebeau
St. Laurent, Québec, H4N 1S2
(514) 745-1490



PROMOTING PARENT POTENTIAL QFHSA Fall Conference IN THE BEGINNING . . .



QFHSA president Helen Koeppe welcomes parents to the Fall Conference and talks about parent potential that leads to parent power in the schools and homes.

A big 'thank you' to the following

CONFERENCE WORKERS

General Arrangements	Diane Lacey, Vincent Massey School
Hospitality	Marcia Paci, Roslyn Karpman and Frances Kalman, Lindsay Place High
Program	Helen Koeppe, Jessica Tertoole and Diane Lacey, QFHSA Executive Committee
Registration	Ann Cumyn, Macdonald High Nicole Walker, Loyola High Vi Minto, Beaconsfield High
Displays	Caspar Esselaar, Riverdale High Diane Lacey, Vincent Massey School
QFHSA Table (publications)	Betty-Lou Manker, Beaconsfield High Caspar Esselaar, Riverdale High
Publicity	Marion Daigle, QFHSA
Kits	Gordon McGibbon, Christmas Park School
Muffins	Christmas Park Home & School Association Dunrae Gardens Home & School Association
Steering Committee	Carol Ohlin, Loyola High School
Workshop Chairpersons	Diane Lacey, Vincent Massey School Judy Hadley, Cedar Park School Helen Koeppe, QFHSA President Esther Wearing, Willingdon School

As well, we wish to thank all the workshop leaders for doing such a tremendous job and giving of their time and expertise so willingly.

HELEN KOEPPE
President, QFHSA

MAKE YOUR H&S WORK

by BETTY HERMO
Edinburgh School

JESSICA TERTOOLE, president of Greendale Home & School, presented the workshop in a very informal manner. She first made us feel comfortable by explaining to us how she chose to be president.

After giving us a sheet on the job description of a president, she continued by telling us the various ways of conducting a well-informed and organized meeting. We also got tips on how to make an agenda look more interesting and appealing to the eye.

The most important qualities of a president should be MOTIVATION and ENTHUSIASM. With the right motivation we will draw new members, but we must make sure that the time and energy given is in the right place. As presidents we should strive to build up our executive members' confidence.

An interesting point brought up was that in the half hour prior to the time of the meeting coffee should be served in order to give people time to focus on what is next, to calm down and to get one's own self organized.

It is up to the president to be attentive to all the members and to show appreciation for their help throughout the year with a special thank you note.

In general, the job of a president is to be an enthusiastic, motivated, friendly and courteous person who is able to be in control of everything, but yet able to delegate jobs to others.

Taking over from Jessica, Doris Brown, president of Keith Home & School since December 1986, added that it was impossible to learn

all the by-laws and rules on becoming a first-time president. Instead just read through the material and highlight pertinent information.

Another point of interest from Doris was that negative criticism should not be taken personally. Instead, learn from the criticism, if valid, and act on it.

It is important to "reach out and touch someone" — a personal touch is most productive. Try using the telephone for this.

In closing, we were told that it should be remembered when having discussions that everyone has different opinions and ideas, but in making the DECISIONS the interest should focus on what will benefit the children.



Put your school on the News map

by TERRY JAMES
Allancroft

Charlene de Condé, editor of the Home & School News, led a very interesting workshop entitled "Use the Home & School News to put YOUR school on the map".

Charlene plans to make the Home & School News a more lively and current newspaper with articles she knows will be of interest to parents.

She gave us lots of ideas on what types of articles she is looking for and is open to any ideas you may have. She mentioned that newspa-

pers are sent to all school committees and principals in Quebec as well as to all Departments of Education across Canada.

Diane Radu, "Focus on the Locals" editor of the Home & School News, was also involved in the workshop. She would like articles of interest from the different schools and gave many ideas of what kinds of articles would be of interest. She suggested to us to think ahead so we could submit articles on craft fairs, book fairs, etc. etc. **before** they happen.

I found this workshop to be very beneficial to myself and I hope to use many of the ideas to "put my school on the map".

School committee and H&S work together

By ROSEMARY COSTAGUTA
Beacon Hill School

THE WORKSHOP, "School Committee/Home & School: Complementing Each Other," was directed by Stephanie Stubbs and Angelika Redahl from Edgewater School.

Together, they have 20 years' experience in the major positions of both parent groups at this school. Emphasis was placed on three leadership qualities: 1. Communication; 2. Sharing; 3. Delegating.

Under the first, we are urged to let everyone in the school know the roles and aims of both committees. The Edgewater Home & School Association has drafted a concise fact sheet to this effect, and it is sent to each family.

However, communication is an ongoing process.

The president of Home & School and the chairman of School Committee should talk regularly. Joint sub-committees could be formed for some issues. Joint

meetings could be held once or twice a year.

These links lead to a sharing of talent and ideas, and of personnel, which is particularly useful when the school population is small.

There was discussion on a number of related problems. Home & School is sometimes seen only as a fund raising body (the 'milk cow' syndrome), whereas School Committee is seen as solely political.

To some extent this is acceptable, but all issues are dealt with the best interests of the children in mind.

"How much fund raising?" was another question. Answer: Prioritize! maybe one major goal and three or four seasonal ones.

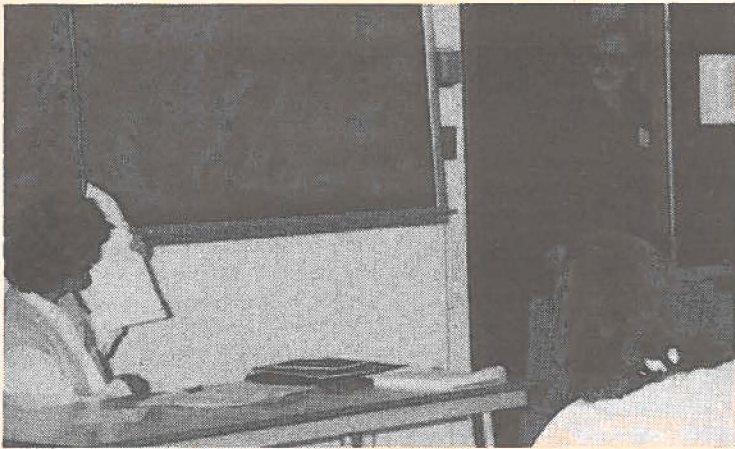
Small school enrollments mean very small Home & School and School Committees for some. It was suggested that they have two co-chairmen to cover the workload of their respective committees, and hold joint meetings.

Also, varying the times of meeting (day; then evening) brings out a different group of parents — and more fathers!

Displays at the conference

University Scholarships of Canada
Parfait Fund Raising
Prestige Fund Raising
Sunsweet Fund Raising
Livres BABAR Books
Photo-Art
MacGregor Meats

KEEPING THE BOOKS



By DONNA SAURIOL
QFHSA Office

ANNE GILL, the treasurer at Seignior Home & School, gave an excellent workshop outlining the treasurer's job and responsibilities, and included a 'handout' which covered all the points she made.

There were also two different examples of types of journals a treasurer might keep, a copy of an Annual Statement of Revenues and Expenditures and a Proposed Budget.

Anne covered some very useful points. Try to have a chequing/savings account if your bank will let you. Not all banks will permit a charitable organization, like a Home & School Association, to do this.

It makes sense for the treasurer to use his/her bank because it makes life easier. It is a good idea to have an account with three possible signatures and requiring two out of three for withdrawals and only one signature on deposits or transfers (from chequing to saving or vice versa).

Make a friend out of your bank by handing in nice looking, tidy

deposits. Have your cash in order, coins rolled, etc. Pick up your bank statements; that way you won't lose them in the mail.

Anne suggested that it is a sound business practice to have your books audited each year.

This does not need to be a paid audit, a bookkeeper parent may be agreeable to looking them over (in return for a nice bottle of wine). Or you could ask a past treasurer to cast a critical eye over them.

Remember that the treasurer's books are a very permanent record of what you have done as a Home & School Association.

A final point, which had never occurred to me, was to include the invoice number on the stubs in your bank book. For large pieces of equipment you may be buying the serial number is also a good idea. (Of course your stubs have either a person's name or a company name on them and the amount.)

This workshop was enlivened and enriched by having both William Bowman, treasurer at Windermere Home & School, who acted as a resource person, and Caspar Esselaar, treasurer of QFHSA, present.

Editor's note: A copy of Anne Gill's outline for treasurers is available by writing, or phoning, our office.

S.T.E.P. = effective communication

By Betty Lou Manker
Windermere School

A "framework" for parenting is provided by the (S.T.E.P.). Sysematic Training for Effective Parenting, Programme, explained speaker Pamela Normandin, guidance counsellor for the Lakeshore School Board.

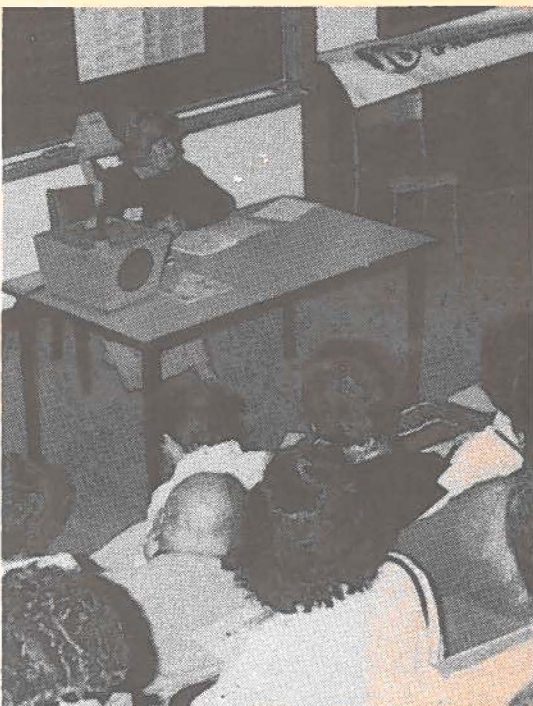
This speaker outlined the overview of this practical child-rearing approach, and the psychology on which the S.T.E.P. programme was developed, that of Dr. Rudolph Dreikurs, author of "Children: the Challenge" and Thomas Gordon author of "Parent Effectiveness Training".

Parents must attempt to understand misbehavior and its goals: a

four-step procedure allows us to understand this. Parents must also look at communication skills: reflective listening, and "I" messages.

"Healthy communication skills," reminded Mrs. Normandin, "can be a cornerstone to parent-child relationships."

Groups of parents meet regularly for this programme's purpose. Mrs. Normandin offered to sponsor a S.T.E.P. programme at those schools which have a sufficient group of interested parents (10 to 15 people). For those parents with teenagers, there is a programme which is a sequel to the S.T.E.P. Programme. Further information may be obtained from Mrs. Normandin, who may be reached at Northview School in Pointe Claire.



Pamela Normandin speaks on S.T.E.P., an effective way of coping with your children.

Depression in adolescent



By CAROL MANGER
Cedar Park School

LYNDA RYAN, a clinical psychologist who also has an M.A. in Education, led a workshop entitled "Depression in Adolescence".

Ms. Ryan pointed out that, psychologically, depression is inherent to adolescence. It is often difficult to differentiate between normal adolescent mood swings and depression. Often, high-achieving, socially well-adjusted adolescents can be masking depression.

The adolescent feels depressed over a number of issues. Among these are: his awareness of the loss of childhood; apprehensions about his future; his idealism versus reality; and his anxiety about living up to his image of his ideal self.

It is frequently in his quiet periods that the adolescent feels most depressed. This is often avoided by constant activity, the company of others, loud music and "acting out". It is crucial to the adolescent that he be in fashion. Nothing could be worse than appearing to be a "nerd".

Ms. Ryan feels that the adolescent phase is the most important one for one's outcome in adulthood. Adolescence is the phase of separation and dualisation; the first taking from six months to three years of age.

How parents handle the adolescent influences his outcome as an adult. Listening and understanding are the biggest gifts parents can offer. The successful management of the adolescent results in maintaining his vision of himself within the context of society.

The adolescent stage is enriching to parents, but also triggers a parent's own memories and fears.

If the parent was forced to conform to the adolescent's option in his adolescence, he may do the same with his own children. The adolescent's "laying down the law" is a response of surrender and a part of oneself by the adolescent.

Ms. Ryan's strongest message was that parents should, starting from babyhood, respect the autonomy of the individual and accept the child as he is.

Fundraising Tips

The primary function of a Home and School Association is educating parents and teachers to be more aware of educational issues affecting children. The Home and the School need to come together for better communication, for better educational environment and to share ideas, concerns and help.

Fund raising by Home and School members should not be considered the most important aspect of the local association. More fund raising is taking place in our associations to provide the extras we, as parents, feel will enhance our child's education and environment. Before fundraising every local association should make sure that what they are purchasing is not the responsibility of the local school board or the Ministry of Education.

Points to Remember:
To have an effective fundraiser you must find an effective committee and then the committee must decide:

1. the reason or purpose for and

the need for the fundraiser, making sure it meets the needs and interest of the school.

2. what method, or combination of methods, will best achieve a successful fundraiser.

3. divide the work into practical stages.

4. try and foresee pitfalls.

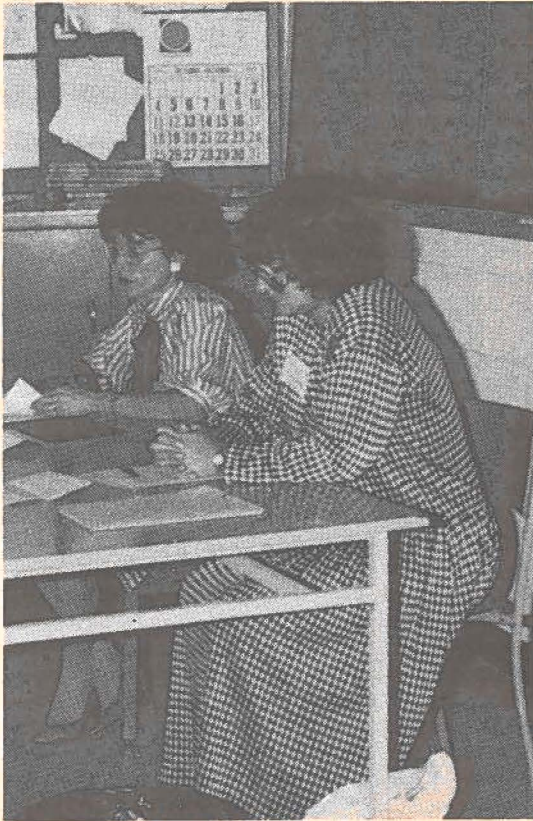
5. advertise properly.

6. always work with the principal and staff of the school.

7. when the fundraiser is over, see to a proper clean-up and most importantly see that proper thank-you notes or letters are always sent.

If involving children in the fundraiser make sure it does not interfere with their school work or have them out too late, etc.

Ask yourselves all the time, is it significant and easily identified with some aspect of the organization's overall program, policies and aims, to warrant the time, effort and cost involved? Don't take away from the real work of the Association by concentrating only on fundraisers.



Susan Curtin, left, and Nancy Peppy give fundraising

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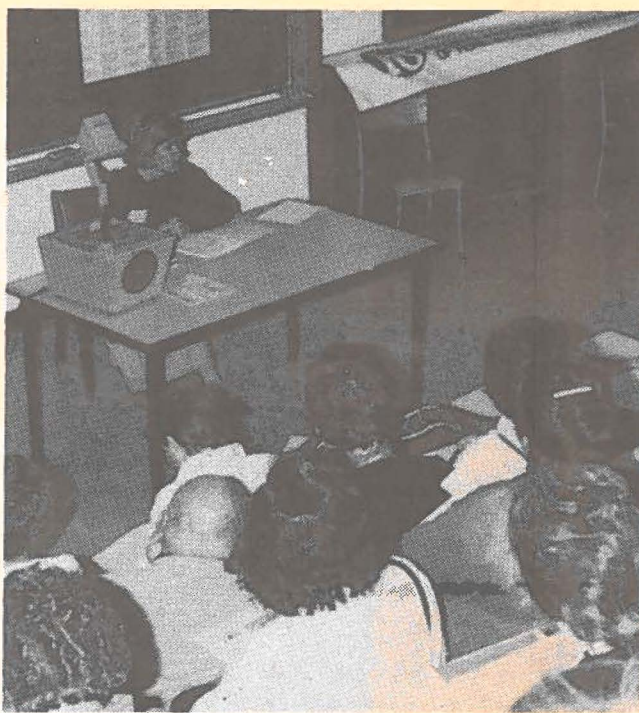
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Pamela Normandin speaks on S.T.E.P., an effective way of communicating with your children.

VOICING YOUR

By JUDY GALLAN
New Carlisle High School

This workshop was led by Sylvia Adams, past president of GFHSA, who presented examples of letters, briefs, etc., explaining how these tools were used and to whom you should direct them.

She sensitized the participants to "how to voice your concerns effectively" by:

1. Identifying the problem.
2. Understanding our role in the problem.
3. Understanding our rights.
4. Understanding the system which deals with the issue about which we are concerned.

5. Understanding the which you use, i.e., discussions, meeting your commission date and aware of t tion.

One important formal use of the media. Another ing letters to those inv drawing up resolutions an

If all of these avenues h exhausted and your prob still not been resolved — I GIVE UP. Another using different people, ma difference. PERSISTEN THE ANSWER.

Considering the kinds tions and interest shown participants I must say th shop was extremely info and very successful.

Make your a life-long

By MARGARET PLOPLIS
Courtland Park School

JOHN RYAN from the Quebec Reading Association and Pat Shupe, Children's Librarian from the Beaconsfield Library, led the exciting, informative workshop entitled "Parent Power: Making Your Child a Lifelong Leader."

Ryan, who has taught Grade 1 for many years, spoke effectively on the effects that we parents have on our children from the earliest years of life.

He brought to our attention that as parents we are the power behind our child's learning. We have provided our children, even before they start school, with a safe learning environment.

Our children receive much praise and excitement in whatever early forms of language they use. They are not constantly being corrected.

Our children should be left free to express themselves, especially in written language. Even from an early age written language is apparent.

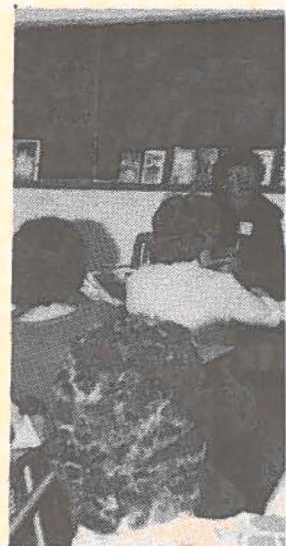
When children reach school, suddenly their "safe" environment is challenged, though in some schools they feel differently. Children under some systems are constantly being corrected for what they do.

Sometimes the negative aspects of learning are evident rather than the positive ones "Don't write that — it's not the proper form" or "It's not right".

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Grades 3 & 4: Pick c books. Books by Beverley and Richard Sobol (the "En pedia Brown" series).

Depression in adolescents

By CAROL MANGER
Cedar Park School

LYNDA RYAN, a clinical psychologist who also has an M.A. in Education, led a workshop entitled "Depression in Adolescence".

Ms. Ryan pointed out that, psychologically, depression is inherent to adolescence. It is often difficult to differentiate between normal adolescent mood swings and depression. Often, high-achieving, socially well-adjusted adolescents can be masking depression.

The adolescent feels depressed over a number of issues. Among these are: his awareness of the loss of childhood; apprehensions about his future; his idealism versus reality; and his anxiety about living up to his image of his ideal self.

It is frequently in his quiet periods that the adolescent feels most depressed. This is often avoided by constant activity, the company of others, loud music and "acting out". It is crucial to the adolescent that he be in fashion. Nothing could be worse than appearing to be a "nerd".

Ms. Ryan feels that the adolescent phase is the most important one for one's outcome in adulthood. Adolescence is the second phase of separation and individualisation; the first taking place from six months to three years of age.

How parents handle the adolescent influences his outcome as an adult. Listening and acceptance are the biggest gifts parents can offer. The successful manipulation of the adolescent results in his maintaining his vision and values within the context of society.

The adolescent stage can be enriching to parents, but it may also trigger a parent's own memories and fears.

If the parent was forced into the conforming option in his own adolescence, he may do the same with his own children. The outcome of "laying down the law" may be the response of surrender and the loss of part of oneself by the adolescent.

Ms. Ryan's strongest message is that parents should, starting in babyhood, respect the authenticity of the individual and accept the child as he is.



Fundraising Tips

The primary function of a Home and School Association is educating parents and teachers to be more aware of educational issues affecting children. The Home and the School need to come together for better communication, for better educational environment and to share ideas, concerns and help. Fund raising by Home and School members should not be considered the most important aspect of the local association. More fund raising is taking place in our associations to provide the extras we, as parents, feel will enhance our child's education and environment. Before fundraising every local association should make sure that what they are purchasing is not the responsibility of the local school board or the Ministry of Education.

Points to Remember:

To have an effective fundraiser you must find an effective committee and then the committee must decide:

1. the reason or purpose for and

the need for the fundraiser, making sure it meets the needs and interest of the school.

2. what method, or combination of methods, will best achieve a successful fundraiser.

3. divide the work into practical stages.

4. try and foresee pitfalls.

5. advertise properly.

6. always work with the principal and staff of the school.

7. when the fundraiser is over, see to a proper clean-up and most importantly see that proper thank-you notes or letters are always sent.

If involving children in the fundraiser make sure it does not interfere with their school work or have them out too late, etc.

Ask yourselves all the time, is it significant and easily identified with some aspect of the organization's overall program, policies and aims, to warrant the time, effort and cost involved? Don't take away from the real work of the Association by concentrating only on fundraisers.



Susan Curtin, left, and Nancy Peppy give fundraising advice.

VOICING YOUR CONCERNS

By JUDY GALLAN
New Carlisle High School

This workshop was led by Sylvia Adams, past president of GFHSA, who presented examples of letters, briefs, etc., explaining how these tools were used and to whom you should direct them.

She sensitized the participants to "how to voice your concerns effectively" by:

1. Identifying the problem.
2. Understanding our role in the problem.
3. Understanding our rights.
4. Understanding the system which deals with the issue about which we are concerned.

5. Understanding the tools which you use, i.e., informal discussions, meetings, keeping your commissioner up to date and aware of the situation.

One important formal tool is the use of the media. Another is writing letters to those involved, or drawing up resolutions and briefs.

If all of these avenues have been exhausted and your problem has still not been resolved — DO NOT GIVE UP. Another approach, using different people, may make a difference. PERSISTENCE IS THE ANSWER.

Considering the kinds of questions and interest shown by the participants I must say the workshop was extremely informative and very successful.



MINUTES: AN EXACT SCIENCE

By MARGARET WILSON
Greendale School

Jon Percy, recording secretary for the QFHSA gave a most interesting session on "Taking Minutes".

Those of us there certainly picked up many pointers on how to run our meetings effectively and keep our presidents in order!

A few of the important points are:

Have a good grasp of the rules of running a meeting.

Keep accurate files. All pertinent records should be kept by the secretary and then passed along to the following secretary.

Assist the president in making an agenda and make sure it is adhered to during meeting.

Notify executive of meeting times and dates plus give them a copy of the agenda. Accurate minutes should be taken and passed to executive within a reasonable time. They should also be presented at the next meeting and once approved and corrected should be signed by the president and secretary before being filed.

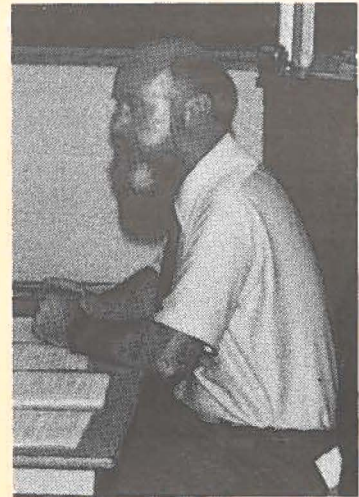
Become a time-keeper; Keep the president alert to time.

Be the official counter of votes and make sure they are recorded correctly in the minutes.

It is a good idea to read through your minutes very soon after your meeting while everything is still fresh in your mind.

Before the minutes are distributed mark "action" on the parts which need attending to with the names of persons who are following up on this "action".

A special thank-you to Photo-Art for taking our pictures of the Fall Conference.



Make your child a life-long reader

By MARGARET PLOPLIS
Courtland Park School

JOHN RYAN from the Quebec Reading Association and Pat Shupe, Children's Librarian from the Beaconsfield Library, led the exciting, informative workshop entitled "Parent Power: Making Your Child a Lifelong Leader."

Ryan, who has taught Grade 1 for many years, spoke effectively on the effects that we parents have on our children from the earliest years of life.

He brought to our attention that as parents we are the power behind our child's learning. We have provided our children, even before they start school, with a safe learning environment.

Our children receive much praise and excitement in whatever early forms of language they use. They are not constantly being corrected.

Our children should be left free to express themselves, especially in written language. Even from an early age written language is apparent.

When children reach school, suddenly their "safe" environment is challenged, though in some schools they feel differently. Children under some systems are constantly being corrected for what they do.

Sometimes the negative aspects of learning are evident rather than the positive ones "Don't write that — it's not the proper form" or "It's not right".

With a whole new program called "Whole Language" our children can now feel "safe" about expressing themselves on paper. This comfort passes to reading. There is little or no differentiation between language and reading skills. They are parallel — not separate entities.

Praise and excitement for what our children do in both reading and writing skills help to make them "Whole Learners". Enjoyment in reading comes from a positive experience. Don't tell them how to read. Show them! Take them to the library — allow them to choose their own books.

Pat Shupe, Children's Librarian from the Beaconsfield Library and



member of the Montreal Reading Council, spoke on the attitudes of every adult concerned with our children's reading. Pat spoke on the importance of a librarian. She emphasized how a good librarian will choose "the right book at the right time", in order to get a child interested in reading.

She spoke also of the importance of buying good books — not "junk". Pat then proceeded to speak on what books are valuable for children of various ages.

She ended her talk by emphasizing the participation in choosing books — make it the children's enjoyment. Reading should be an important event in a child's day. Read to your children — have them read to you. Never stop reading!

Our children are our future. With a warm reading environment our children will flourish in today's world. Help to keep them informed through daily reading!!

Reference was made in this workshop to the following age levels and possible books for your children to enjoy.

Ages 0-6: "Babies Need Books" by Dorothy Butler.

Ages 2-3: Choose books that are good for interacting with your child. Sing to your children.

Grades 1 & 2: Pick books with a story line and easy vocabulary. Suggestions: "Learn to Read" books, "Amelia Bedelia", etc.

Grades 3 & 4: Pick chapter books. Books by Beverley Cleary and Richard Sobol (the "Encyclopedia Brown" series).

Peer pressure and parents

By JEAN PHILLIPS
École Primaire Pointe Claire

MIKE KROPVELD from the Hillel Foundation led this very interesting workshop on "Peer Pressure and Parents".

He concentrated on one aspect of peer pressure — involvement with cult movements. After defining such groups, he described their recruitment techniques, the types of young people who are persuaded to join and the family problems which then arise.

He illustrated his points by quoting from a couple of actual case histories.

The appeal of cult movements is apparently not an intellectual one. A person drawn to such a group is often going through a transition period in life and sees in it the answer to various spiritual or emotional needs.

The peer group within a cult community is usually of the same age as the prospective member and the pressure to conform is very strong.

To get the individual to adjust to the behavior patterns of the group, small concessions are first made but demands are soon increased and reinforced by punishment and reward — agreement is rewarded by an ego boost and disagreement is

punished by the withdrawal of love and approval.

The group cuts off the new member from family and friends, who are portrayed as good-hearted but evil, and then takes over, often using family titles.

Parents, who see a dramatic change in the attitudes and personality of their child, react in various ways. They may experience great pain, fear and a sense of failure. The desire to rush off and kidnap the child or feelings of aggression towards the child are both quite normal.

Mr. Kropveld offered some advice on how to deal with an individual involved with a cult movement. The important thing is not to proceed until everyone in the family has agreed on a course of action.

He suggested that parents should not attack the group or its leader but should focus on the child and maintain contact. He emphasized that leaving a cult often creates a whole new set of problems.

Responding to questions, Mr. Kropveld indicated that the more religious a child's background, the less likely he/she is to become involved in a cult. Many members leave cults quietly, on their own and at night. Kidnappings are rare these days.

One way of helping our children



to deal with the persuasive approach of cult recruiters is to cultivate in them a healthy scepticism so that they ask the type of searching question which would prevent them from being taken in.

During the discussion period which followed Mr. Kropveld's excellent presentation, it became obvious that many participants in this workshop were concerned with less extreme examples of peer pressure such as that of wearing the "right" clothes and there was a lively exchange of views.

H&S alive and well on the Gaspé

By MARION DAIGLE

WHAT IS THE strength of Home and School in the Gaspé — it is measured by the wealth of community spirit revealed by the friendly and stimulating atmosphere of its schools.

As a vital part of the QFHSA theme for this school year on Promoting Parent Potential, representatives of the Federation visited Gaspé schools to experience off-island parent-teacher involvement.

One has only to visit Hopetown Elementary — 44 students and three teachers — to see the total involvement of parents and teachers. All three teachers are active members of the Home and School Association. Bertha Hayes, head teacher, is membership chairman.

Through her activity, she is telling us about the importance of parental involvement at this school!

A H&S mini-conference at New Carisle High School, organized by Anne MacWhirter, area rep and a teacher on-staff, was highlighted by three excellent workshops: Children and Stress, given by Margaret Mitchell; "We're all in It Together," a video of what really goes on in an MRE classroom, with moderator Jim Sullivan, Protestant Education Services, MEQ, and Children and Health through the NFB film on child

abuse, "Feeling yes, Feeling no" led by school nurse Faye Griffith.

A further highlight was the Rural Schools Educational Conference held in Gaspé Town. This very busy annual conference of teachers and administrators featured two days of meetings and workshops.

Host Howard Miller, president of the Gaspesia Teachers Association gave us the opportunity to meet educators, attend workshops, share information and display resources and materials — all designed to alert teachers to the role of H&S in their schools.

One very important resource from QFHSA was our sponsoring Margaret Mitchell, a featured speaker who spoke on Coping with Stress, a conference highlight.

Once again, the generous hospitality of the Gaspé shone through as we were welcomed to participate at the conference.

A special thanks to Anne MacWhirter, Mark Franklin, president, New Carisle Home and School; Beverly Hayes, president, Hopetown-Shigawake-Port Daniel Home and School; Frances MacKinnon, past president, Delina Bujold, president of New Richmond Home and School, and everyone along the Gaspé coast who shared their wonderful hospitality and opened their homes to us.

Au revoir, Gaspé, we will be back.

Below, Faye Griffiths, New Carisle High School nurse. Right, from left to right, Linda MacWhirter, teacher and secretary of the Hopetown-Shigawake-Port Daniel H&S, Beverly Hayes, its president, Kaye Ross, teacher and H&S volunteer, Bertha Hayes, head teacher and membership chairman, Helen Koeppel QFHSA president.



From CHSPTF

A BUSY WEEK IN NEW BRUNSWICK

The 1987 Annual Meeting of the Canadian Home and School and Parent-Teacher Federation took place in Moncton, New Brunswick, at the end of May.

PROJECTS

As well as reviewing the activities of national and provincial Home and School organizations during the past year, meeting registrants held working sessions on proposed projects and priorities for the coming year.

Two project proposals were endorsed unanimously: a national consultation on the needs of parents for information about new or persistent health issues such as AIDS, fitness, teenage depression, and so on.

The other project would provide training for volunteers in delivering local public education programs on child abuse, in particular child sexual abuse.

Elected vice-president of the national federation for a two-year term were Jean Millard (Saskatchewan) and Sylvia Adams (Quebec). Barbara Milne-Smith, also of Quebec, was elected treasurer.

INCREASED MEMBERSHIP: THE PRIORITIES FOR 1987-88

Canadian Home and School's Board of Directors is encouraging provincial Home and School federations to strengthen membership promotion through provincial and local activities. The national membership committee is developing strategies for this campaign.

The target for 1987-1988 is a five percent increase in individual members and in local associations.

1987 RESOLUTIONS

Provincial Home and School federations are concerned about the sale of beer and wine in grocery and convenience stores. In a resolution adopted by the 1987 Annual Meeting, it was agreed that Home and School organizations should ask provincial governments to reject the idea of permitting the sale of alcoholic beverages in this way.

In another resolution, the annual meeting voted unanimously to ask the council of Ministers of Education, Canada, to encourage smoke-free spaces for children, on a resolution proposed by the Prince Edward Island federation.

A resolution submitted by the New Brunswick federation is being sent to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. It concerns the priority need for a national radio and television campaign addressed to children, in order to increase their alcohol and drug abuse awareness. Print materials produced by this department are not as effective in reaching youth, according to the resolution, as are the electronic media.

An emergency resolution was presented by the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations on the topic of education rights and the Canada Constitution. The annual meeting voted to send a letter to the Prime Minister of Canada and to the provincial premiers asking for the abrogation of Section 59 of the Constitution Act, 1982, which permits restrictions on minority language (English) education in Quebec.

Resolutions on the use of seat belts in school buses and on a standardized school entrance age were referred for further study.

HEALTH PROMOTION

To provide leadership and materials for health promotion to provincial and local Home and School associations, the Canadian Home and School and Parent-Teacher Federation adopted at the annual meeting a project on *Home and School Priorities in Health Promotion*.

Unfortunately, the project has since been turned down for federal funding and other sources of financing will have to be found.

The project consists of a survey of Home and School members to identify their priority needs for information about contemporary health issues and skills to improve self-care; a national consultation with representatives of a provincial and local Home and School associations to set priorities, take inventory of resources and draw up a plan of action; a project team to find resources and implement the plan; and a program for health promotion materials and activities for provincial and local Home and School associations and other parent/community groups.

Community involvement on health issues was identified by the Canada Health Attitudes and Behaviour Survey as influencing the health attitudes of 9, 12 and 15 year-old Canadians.

Health promotion projects carried out by the Canadian Home and School and Parent-Teacher Federation include: child abuse awareness, smoking prevention materials, fitness and nutrition a/v, and alcohol and drug abuse awareness. The Federation also promotes safety to, from and at school, through distribution of materials and communications with school authorities.

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

The annual meeting unanimously supported the project to provide training for up to 72 volunteers from Home and School associations across Canada to become community facilitators of local programs on child sexual abuse in the context of child abuse and neglect.

The project would provide six regional training sessions for selected volunteers, and continuing support for trained volunteers to organize local public education sessions on child abuse and in particular child sexual abuse over a two-year period.



Right, from left to right, Beverly Hayes, president H&S Hopetown-Shigawake-Port Daniel, Jessica Tertoolle, QFHSA vice president, Carole Jones of the Pouliot Polyvalent in Gaspé.

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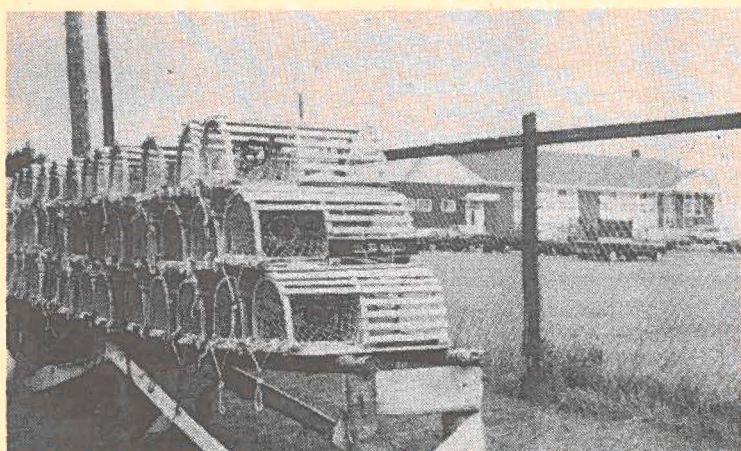
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FOCUS on the LOCALS

Community spirit makes H&S work



Above, lobster traps stack up next to Shigawake-Port Daniel School.



Below, attentive conference-goers listen to Margaret Mitchell's workshop on Stress and Children. Above, parents get refreshments between workshops.



Gaspésie Rural School Conference. Above, Anne MacWhirter with (from left) husband, Gordon; Harry Kuntz, secretary; Protestant Committee, Superior Council of Education; Jim Sullivan, Protestant Education Services. Below, QFHSA's Marion Daigle talks with Howard Miller, GTA president. Left, (from left) Jessica Tertoolle, New Carlisle teacher Hilda Craig and MRE specialist Margaret Mitchell earn their keep.



Above, New Richmond H&S past president Francis MacKinnon with new president Delina Bujold. Below, H&S members share hospitality after mini-conference at New Carlisle.

Happy 30th year



Not long after QFHSA visited the Gaspé, New Carlisle's Home and School celebrated the 30th anniversary of its founding. Above, H&S president Mark Franklin cuts the cake as New Carlisle members look on. Below, Anne MacWhirter gives Diane Sawyer, one of the founders, an H&S pin.



FOCUS on the LOCALS

Welcome to Netagamiou

NETAGAMIOU SCHOOL serves the community of Chevery, one of 15 villages dotting the coastline of the Gulf of St. Lawrence that make up the area known as the lower North Shore.

We are not linked to the Quebec road network, in fact most of our villages are not even linked by road. Visiting the neighbouring villages of Harrington Harbour, Aylmer Sound and Tête à la Baleine means a skidoo drive or a boat ride, depending on the seasons.

The village of Chevery is, in this author's somewhat biased opinion, the most beautiful of the Lower North Shore villages. The village's homes are spread along approximately three miles of golden sand beach bordering the sparkling, pristine waters of the Gulf.

It is a friendly village of 350 people and everyone is on a first name basis. The urban dangers of traffic accidents, crime and pollution are not a threat here.

A Chevery childhood is as close to ideal as one can get in this world,

with its foundation in strong family units and caring neighbours.

There are 72 students from pre-kindergarten to Secondary IV attending Netagamiou School. Contrary to what the reader might presume, our school is modern and equipped with items such as computers, video cassette recorders and lab equipment.

While such items are useful, our school's most valued resource is its teaching team. In addition to their teaching duties, our teachers are involved in a wide range of extra curricular activities and special event days.

Recently, the school had a Friendship Letter Day where every student wrote a letter to someone in the school community. Needless to say, there were a lot of smiling people in our school that day.

The school and school committees have done a lot of work to promote intervillage sports. Fund raising is a constant chore as transportation costs can be astronomical. In order to send seven students and a teacher by plane to St. Augustine, a distance of 80 miles, for a track and field meet last year,



transportation alone cost \$800.00. In spite of these high transportation costs, the benefits to the children in terms of the competitive challenge and social interaction with other students, make the school committee's efforts worthwhile.

Netagamiou School shares its principal, Mr. Philip Robertson with three other schools: Harrington Harbour School — 73 students, Aylmer Sound School — 18 students; and Mainland Elementa-

ry School Kegaska — 17 students.

Few people envy Mr. Robertson's job as he spends approximately 40 percent of the school year travelling by boat, skidoo, helicopter and single engine Otter the 120 miles between Aylmer Sound and Kegaska.

This year has gotten off to a good start. Our school raised \$1200.00 for Canadian Cancer Research by holding a Terry Fox Run and we hosted a soft ball tournament between Harrington

and Chevery secondary students.

More events are planned and we promise to keep QFHSA posted.

I hope this has helped to introduce our school and to put us on the Quebec Federation of Home and Schools' map. We follow the reports from other schools and enjoy the various articles.

GERALDINE BOBBITT
President of Netagamiou School Committee

Editor's note: More, more, Geraldine! Send us more!

CEDAR PARK

THE SCHOOL YEAR started off with a week at Camp Kinkora. Everyone from grades 2-6 participated, with grades 2&3 spending Monday to Wednesday, and

the older children Wednesday to Friday.

It was an opportunity for everyone, students and staff alike, to get to know each other better, and for students to experience a few days away from home.

As well as the regular academic program, everyone enjoyed out-

door activities and nature hikes. Ask anyone from Cedar Park how to use a compass!

H&S was pleased to be able to make a substantial donation to help defray the high cost of transportation to Camp Kinkora.

Apples have been the big theme at the school recently. The kindergarten children went on a trip to visit the apple orchards at MacDonald Farm, and in the following days the delicious smell of baked apples and applesauce filled the hallways.

The grade 3 class can tell you which variety of apple makes the best pies, and all about how apples grow. To continue the theme, H&S held an apple sale; the first fund raiser of the year.

Following the H&S meeting in October a presentation was made by Peter Sladowski, a teacher at Northview School, and an expert in human sexuality.

The theme of his talk was "Parents: the Prime Sex Educators of their Children!" H&S hopes to provide speakers this year on a variety of topics of interest to the school's parents.

CAROLE MANGER

Bells peal for peace at Beacon Hill

BEACON HILL honoured a very special person last term, Joyce Ness, now retired after 20 years of dedicated service to our school.

A special tea was arranged on Mrs. Ness Day and in the evening the children put on a fun-filled concert in her honour. Another day Mrs. Ness was guest of honour at a special tea at which Home & School volunteers were able to share their many recollections. She will always remain a well-loved part of Beacon Hill School. Collecting for UNICEF was a particular way she taught us all to care.

Apple picking is always popular. This year 170 staff and pupils went to the Ste. Justine de Newton Orchards on a warm, sunny day. Afterwards the school was filled with the aromas of apple fritters, apple crisp, etc. It counteracted the smell of the painting which has been going on, but how pleasant to

have a "new" school at the start of the year.

The enrichment program is off to a good start. Children can choose from chess, nature club, kids for peace, drama workshop, Hebrew, tap and jazz, and choir.

September 15 was International Peace Day, and what a wild assortment of bells we rang out to commemorate it!

The Sports Equipment Sale in September raised about \$450, and another Home & School fundraiser is 'Special Delivery for Kids' — a school clothing supply company with a chic range of clothes.

They hold a fashion show at school, and parents have made good use of this way of shopping. Smart parents equal smart children, and Home & School gets a percentage, too.

Christmas Fair for children is coming up soon.

ROSEMARY COSTAGUTA

A Letter to the Homeless

Beacon Hill student Wanda Allen wrote the letter that was runner-up in a nation-wide contest sponsored by Canada Post. Held in conjunction with International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, the theme of the competition was "Letter to a Homeless Child."

The contest drew over 2,000 entries. Wanda is a student in Pat Lewis's Grade 6 class. Her letter stressed the unthinkable condition of children throughout the world who are homeless. The letter also had something to say to the people who might help alleviate this situation.

"... Last year was the International Year of Peace. We learned from UNICEF that the money that goes to build one submarine would be enough to build 450,000 homes for homeless children..."

"... We kids — the lucky ones with enough food and homes — will be watching what you (the people in charge) are doing, and hoping for the best for our friends who live in the streets."



From left, Stephan Stratton, Michael Marshall, Sarah Piccin and Jennifer Shaw rang bells for peace on Sept. 15.

PONTIAC PROTESTANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

A SCHOOL ASSEMBLY was held at DR. S.E. McDowell School on October 5. Awards were presented to children who exhibited at the Shawville Fair. Mrs Elaine Lang, fair board representative, was on hand to present the awards and all parents were welcome to attend.

Geordie Theatre Productions of Montreal once again toured our area to bring live theatre to the children of our schools. This year's production was a dramatization of the children's classic novel, "Charlotte's Web." Two performances were given at McDowell School on October 7. The children from Onslow and Campbell's Bay Schools came to the presentation.

FLASHES FROM THE LOCALS

BEACONSFIELD HIGH School Committee will publish a compendium for parents and students describing the activities offered in the school. Possible trips being planned for 1987-88 include a Grade 11 trip to Europe in the spring, a trip to Spain at Easter for Spanish students, and a Grade 8 Shakespeare, Dickens and Scott Tour of Britain. . . **DORSET** held its membership drive in conjunction with Meet the Teacher Night in September. . . At **HUDSON** recent renovations have resulted in two new classrooms, a new office, new staffroom and a new computer room — all open in time for the new school year! . . . **NORTHVIEW** June field trips included downtown Montreal, Upper Canada Village, Foley Mountain Conservation Area and a Grade 6 10-day tour of Ontario. . . Circulation has increased in the **VALOIS PARK** school library as a result of the schedule being changed to 'flexible access'. H&S donated the funds for the purchase of new books; additional books were acquired through a book fair. . . **COURTLAND PARK** is selling very artistic Christmas cards designed by their own students. . . Joan Howatson, long time high school English teacher and former principal, has been temporarily appointed principal at **NEW RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL**, replacing Ralph McCully. . . Did you know that **CHRISTMAS PARK H&S** runs a resale of their previously owned but 'gently used' school uniforms?

FOCUS on the LOCALS

AYER'S CLIFF

School is fall fair

MOST OF THE children at Ayer's Cliff Elementary School spend a good part of the summer preparing for the September opening of school. They really look forward to it because of the Stanstead County School Fair.

Every year, the Stanstead County Women's Institute puts together this special fair for the 500 students attending the four Eastern Townships School Board primary schools in the county.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the fair. It is modelled after the County Fair so important to those of us who live in rural areas, and it's held at the Ayer's Cliff fairground.

It's a chance for the children to exhibit their garden produce, flowers, handicrafts, fine arts, collections of stamps and coins, baked goods and box lunches.

The children are proud to show off the special skills they learn living on farms and in small towns. There are more than 50 different categories of competition.



Each school marches onto the fairground with songs and costumes and even floats. All day there are Track and Field Events and competitions, and excitement runs high.

"In terms of enthusiasm, there was a lot of excitement about 'Reach for the Top,'" said Leon Dyer, head teacher at Ayer's Cliff. "The kids had studied and were

prepared and got a lot more questions right. And that got the others involved."

It's a big day for everyone and all are to be congratulated for their hard work and high spirits — the students, the staff and teachers, parents, and, especially, the Women's Institute.

STEPHANIE WELLS

SUNNYSIDE

PARENTS AND TEACHERS got into the swing of things at the Sunnyside School in Rock Island. The school theme for the year is "Working together".

On September 10, a Welcome Back to School Barbecue and "Hog Heaven Sundaes" was organized for the children by the parents and teachers. The school committee, cafeteria committee and teachers donated time and money to cover the expenses of the day as they worked together to provide a very nice event for the children.

Misters Kingsley and Davies acted as chefs at the barbecue pit and were assisted by parent volunteers Elizabeth Withworth and Gloria Calloway, teachers Maureen Loach and Louise Davidson, assisted by parent volunteers, constructed the Hog Heaven Ice Cream Sundaes. Vicki Stremmelaar, Sharon Prince and others helped the teachers serve the food and clean up!

During a fall nature hike students went outside to collect leaves, flowers and insects. Back at the school, children and teachers, with the assistance of parent volunteers Caroline Mathers, Gloria Calloway, Norma Sargent, Susan Chamberlain and others identified and mounted the specimens.

Most of the collections were prepared for exhibition at the Stanstead County School Fair. Parents and teachers working together were able to provide a worthwhile

learning experience for the children.

Glen Nesbitt, Outdoor Education Consultant with the Eastern Township School Board, supervised the outing and was able to help teachers identify leaves, etc. This project also fitted in nicely in the new science program recently purchased for the school.

Nearly every grade level has a unit on natural science. Teachers were able to integrate this project in their science curriculum.

Lynn Drew, who supervises the school library, was able to provide some resource materials and hopefully some classes will be able to take advantage of the Haskell Library as well.

TOM BEAN

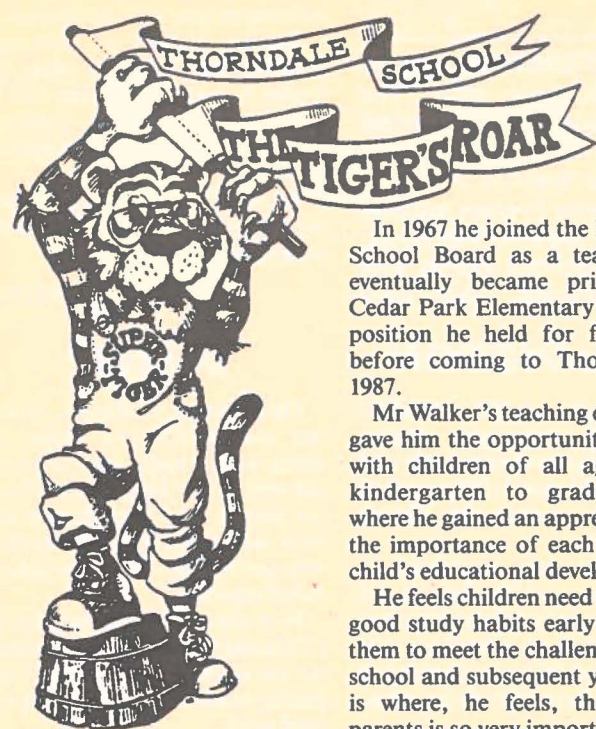
ÉCOLE PRIMAIRE POINTE CLAIRE

THE FIFTH ANNUAL Family Fun Night was held September 22. The evening was a hit due to a tremendous turnout of students, parents and teachers and lots of food and games for every youngster. Funds raised are sure to help build EPPC's library.

Lunchtime activities are currently underway and are being taken up enthusiastically by the students.

Halloween chips were sold in October and there was a Halloween lunch.

H&S membership is currently at 217 and climbing!



Hello, Mr. Walker

In 1967 he joined the Lakeshore School Board as a teacher and eventually became principal of Cedar Park Elementary School, a position he held for four years before coming to Thorndale in 1987.

Mr Walker's teaching experience gave him the opportunity to work with children of all ages, from kindergarten to grade eleven, where he gained an appreciation of the importance of each level in a child's educational development.

He feels children need to develop good study habits early to enable them to meet the challenge of high school and subsequent years. This is where, he feels, the role of parents is so very important.

The school has been called upon for so many additional responsibilities that educators must work closely with each parent to keep lines of communication open.

A firm believer in discipline, Mr. Walker uses a fair, firm and caring approach. At our school's opening day, when he held an assembly in the gymnasium, Mr. Walker commented that, so far, he is very impressed with the behaviour of the students at Thorndale.

Due to his previous background as well as personal interests, Mr. Walker is an enthusiastic believer in experiential education, learning outside the classroom. He hopes to make available opportunities for canoeing, back packing and camping for grades 4, 5 and 6 students.

Recently he initiated an "offi-

cer-monitor program" for the grade 7 students, giving a student one day of responsibilities in and around the office, such as taking messages, sorting and running the duplicating machine.

Mr. Walker plans to visit the classrooms weekly to give positive reinforcement with "notes" of encouragement to students, and to re-establish a "resource team" to discuss approaches to specific concerns of students.

He hopes to continue the good things that have gone on before him at Thorndale and to maintain the good reputation of the school.

DIANE VOSS

COURTLAND

THERE IS a good feeling in our school as of this writing — we have an estimated 70 percent of our families enrolled in H&S this year. Good show everyone!

On October 14, at our fall general meeting, Anne Peacock, Moral and Religious Education Consultant, presented an overview of module 3, "Relationships", from levels 1-6. It covers human growth and development and involves sex education. What an interesting and informative evening!

Our annual Country Fair was held October 24, an event that created a lot of involvement and activity for the entire school. More on this in the next issue!

CAROL MILLEY

SEIGNIORY

WE ARE very proud to have been recognized by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), in the United States, as a "centre of excellence" because of its special English program entitled "The Writing Process."

Of the more than 700 schools throughout Canada and the United States that applied for awards this year the NCTE recognized 133. Six Canadian schools were

EDGEWATER SCHOOL

OUR member-"SHIP" campaign is anchored in shore with 164 on board and we are still receiving new members.

A home and school table was set up on Meet The Teacher night at which time we recruited a few new members, sold some Edgewater sweatshirts and T-shirts and had Quebec Federation of Home and School pamphlets available to parents.

We took this opportunity to display various pieces of equipment that has been purchased for our school with funds raised by the H & S in the last couple of years.

A Craft Fair and Fun Day is now being organized for Saturday, December 5 with Edgewater parent artisans selling their crafts. Home & School will be manning a bake table, book table, raffle table, bottle table, cafe terrace and a penny arcade complete with face painting and Christmas card making table. We will report on the success of this new venture in the next issue.

LYNNE BENJAMIN

among those recognized. Two were from the West Island and four from Alberta.

Seigniory School is also honoured to have received a safety award from the Parents Committee.

A new academic program has been introduced this year. This "family group class" includes children from grades one, two and three.

One of the expected benefits of the program is that it will give new insights on learning styles in children.

H&S started off the year with a raffle for a giant stuffed animal, which raised \$260.

In September we held a coffee morning with our school committee in order to welcome newcomers to our school and promote our various committees and activities. We are now in the process of planning more fund-raising events.

CHERYL ROBINSON

ELIZABETH BALLANTYNE

THIS YEAR'S Terry Fox Day 'fun run' was a great success. Enthusiastic students from grades 1 through 6 walked or ran their way to the end of the five lap, 10 km. course.

Teachers, parents and other friends in the community monitored their progress at 'check-in points', helped at busy intersections and even provided 'comfort stations' for the determined but thirsty participants.

At the end of the day, the very impressive amount of \$5600 had been raised for the Canadian Cancer Society.

SUSAN RAWLINGS

BRUCE WALKER, a native Montrealer, worked for a short time at a bank before deciding to pursue a career in teaching.

After attending Macdonald College he accepted his first teaching position at Bedford in the Eastern Townships. He subsequently continued his education by attaining a B.A. at Bishop's University and an M.A. at McGill.

His time at McGill also gave him an opportunity to realize another of his interests, sports, by participating as a member of the university's football team, the McGill Redmen.

FOCUS on the LOCALS

ROYAL WEST RENOVATIONS



PLANS TO MODERNIZE the library and build another computer lab have gone to tender and students are expected to begin enjoying their new facilities before Christmas. This work follows the recent renovation of the washrooms, the painting of girls' gymnasium and the boy's lockerroom, and the installation of new windows in the West Wing. Also on the horizon are plans to install new wall mounted refuse containers, as the PSBGM continues to spruce up their 55-year-old building.

MacDONALD HIGH

IT WAS a busy start to another school year. September 4 was Orientation Day for the Grade 8 students. A day of fun and activities to ease these young people into the rigors of high school, it ended with a barbeque and dance.

Parents had a chance to live through a typical school day, condensed into an evening, at 'Meet The Teacher Night' on September 10. Thankfully we mere parents were allowed five minutes to get from classroom to classroom, instead of the usual three minutes

given to students.

Our period only lasted 10 minutes in which time we heard about the various course outlines and objectives to be met over the year.

The many volunteers connected with our 10th annual Craft Fair diligently worked out the details needed to ensure a successful day on October 24. A light lunch was served at the coffee shop and many beautiful items were offered for sale by the 30 crafters who set up their tables.

Many positive comments were heard, from both the crafters and the buyers, at the end of the day.

SUSAN TWEDDELL

VALOIS PARK

IN SEPTEMBER we had a chance to "Meet The Teachers," including our newcomers, Mrs. Matheson, music, Mr. Gill, phys.ed. and Grades 5/6 teacher Mr. Neill.

The winter sports equipment sale proved successful and was a good chance to get a pair of skates.

In October we had our annual apple and chip sale, where we stocked up for Halloween. Also in October, students and teachers attended a special Thanksgiving service at Valois United Church.

A Red Cross blood donor clinic was held on Nov. 23 in memory of H&S president Fran Lowry.

For part of last year a "share tray" was available at the lunch program. Children could place food they did not like or want, and in return pick up other items.

The supervisors noted that it is not the cookies or treats that went on this tray, but apples, carrots, half a sandwich, etc. Parents were

asked whether to continue this system.

Some committee members felt that by using such a tray, parents would not know what their children ate. On the other hand, others felt that the waste, when the tray was not used, was immoral.

ST. VERONICA

WE TRY to keep the opening of school as low-key as possible but with so many enthusiastic parents, students and staff members, this is not always practicable.

Already our major fundraising activity, the selling of Country Chef spices, is almost complete and we are now gearing up for our Christmas bazaar. On the academic side, things have also started with a bang with the Academic Enrichment Program.

Two months of the school year is gone and everyone has settled in nicely.

ALISON MORIN

FUTURE WATCH

Edgewater will hold its Craft Fair on Saturday, December 5th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The address is 220 Cardinal Leger, Pincourt.

Dorset Elementary on Victoria Ave. and Dorset in Baie d'Urfé will hold their annual Christmas Fair on Saturday, December 5, from 10:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. The fair includes international foods, lunch with Santa, a Christmas shopping center just for the kids, baked goods, crafts and many other things.

If you are planning an event, a fair, etc. at your school, let us know. Just remember our publishing date and tell us well in advance.

GREENDALE

The subject was stress

DR. RIVA SOICHER, a world-renowned authority on stress and related diseases, and Margaret Mitchell, a Learning Consultant for the Lakeshore School Board, spoke to a group of parents at Greendale School on Tuesday, October 20, on the subject of stress and its effects upon our children.

Dr. Soicher opened with a detailed presentation on the many stresses to which our children are subjected (some of which would probably not occur to the average parent) and how some resistance to

stress can be achieved.

She continued with a brief description of autogenics, a relaxation technique beneficial for children and adults.

Margaret Mitchell continued the presentation with further information in the same vein. She then described in some detail a two-year project at an LSB school involving a group of special education students and the use of autogenics, the results of which were most interesting.

The evening ended with a brief question period which showed the keen interest in the subject on the part of many of those present.

Jill Hooper

ALLANCROFT

PEACE DAY celebrations included a peace assembly after which children joined hands to make a Peace Chain stretching completely around Allancroft.

We are busy with our fund raising this year. A spice sale is being organized by Anne McGuigan; Pumpkin sale and Christmas raffle organized by Angela DiTullio; Book Fair organized by Ruth Jones; our annual Christmas Children's Bazaar organized by Sue Cousineau; and Cheryl Martin and Helen Chryssafis have been working hard on the uniform sales. Some very hard working mums!

Rose D'Elia has gotten our Safety Committee under way. She has many safety activities planned for this year.

Carol Goldberg, working hard on H&S memberships, scheduled a welcoming tea for October 28 for all new parents in the school.

School photos have been taken and Judy Hansen is hoping to get them back by the end of October.

Our grades 3 & 4 choir got underway on October 19, and Mrs. Howlett hopes to start the chess club again on Thursdays at lunchtime. She will need the help of some parents or grandparents to keep the club going.

A few field trips have taken place already. Grade 1 went to Camp Pioneer; Grades 2/3, 3 and 3/4 went to Canadiana Village. Kindergarten and Grade 4 went to Petches Orchard in Hemmingford.

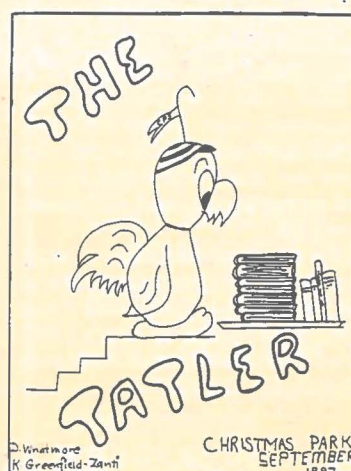
TERRY JAMES

SUNNYDALE PARK

OUR ANNUAL fund raiser on Saturday, November 14 featured crafts, snack bar, bake sale, new book sale, Graffiti wall, school supplies, clown make-up table, popcorn machine, puppet show, games for children, Christmas wrap, make-it take-it booth, fabulous prizes, and a FUN-FILLED DAY FOR ALL!!

The success of the fair depended on the support of the school community, and we weren't disappointed. The funds raised help to pay for library books, music program, computer equipment, family life program and audio-visual equipment.

CHRISTMAS PARK



NEW BEGINNINGS are in store this year with Fred Argue, our new principal Debbie Frohlich, our new grade 4/5 teacher Pam Irving, our new French second language teacher Pat Ryan, our new school nurse and Orit Isehayeck, our new

WILLINGDON

"PEANUT LADY" INGRID VOLLMER, organized another terrific Halloween peanut sale and the H&S sold over \$1200 worth of peanuts to support the Kidney Foundation.

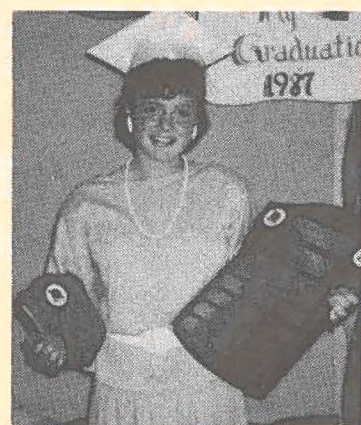
Halloween was celebrated at Willingdon on Friday, Oct. 30. All the children were welcome to wear their costumes to school on that day and the children in Grades K-3 could even have their faces painted.

School Council, Island of Montreal. Student Enrollment 1980-86

Between 1980-81 and 1986-87, enrollment has declined in the public sector from 244,345 students to 205,423 a drop of 16% while enrollment in the private sector has gone from 31,671 students to 34,980 an increase of 10.4%.

This tendency is principally explained by the fact that the overall student population has declined year after year, while the private sector has always been able to recruit students for all the places it has available, because each year it has a surplus of applications.

reprinted from Résumé (newsletter of the Island Council).



The Percy Lane Memorial Award was presented to Donna Ross of the 1986/87 graduating class, for her outstanding contribution to the life of Greendale School through leadership, scholarship, citizenship and sportsmanship. Everyone at Greendale wished Donna the best in her future endeavours.

teacher from the Montreal Oral School for the Deaf.

Our extracurricular activities are also in full swing. Suzuki violin is being offered to children in grades K-3, and the recorder is offered to children of all grades under the auspices of Theorora Stathopoulos.

Judo for the students in grades 2-7 began Sept. 16 under the instruction of Mr. B. Miyake.

The "lunch hour drama program" for children in grades 2-7 also began in Sept., June Scarlett teaches the students improvisation, body movement, relaxation techniques and voice projection.

Marika Heredi is anxiously awaiting her new art class for grades 5, 6 and 7. Marika will be teaching colour study, painting, clay sculpture, and imaginary drawing.

Pauline Cornish will be instructing grades 1, 2, 3, and 4 in different art projects each week.

KAREN MASCITELLI

DORSET

On Saturday, October 3, we held our annual Ski and Skate sale along with a bake sale. Everyone did well — our Home and School, the people who bought and sold their skis and skates — and those who got to take home the yummy baked goods.

Now plans are under way for the Christmas fair. Parents and teachers are sewing, making crafts and getting ready for a day of fun and hard work.

Quebec sets 1987-88 Education Budget

In 1987-88, the Quebec Ministry of Education's budget will total \$4,941.9 million, a 5% increase over last year. Administrative costs and the cost of services in the Ministry will go down 3.8% (from 94.1 million to 90.5 million) mainly because of staff cutbacks and the transfer of the learning materials production division to Radio-Quebec.

Money allotted to teaching will increase to \$4,851.4 million: the private schools allocations will rise by 5.2% to 231.2 million and those for public schools will go up by 5.1% to 4,608.3 million.

from the Cndn. Education Assn., Newsletter, Sept. '87

Educating on AIDS

By RICHARD BURZYNSKI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
C-SAM (COMITÉ SIDA AIDE MONTRÉAL/
MONTREAL SUPPORT COMMITTEE)

WHEN AIDS first made the headlines, or by-lines as the case was several years ago, it was often referred to as "The Gay Plague", "that mysterious immune disease that struck out at homosexuals", or "GRID" (Gay Related Immune Disease).

Back in 1981, doctors from the Centres for Disease Control in Atlanta and our own Laboratory Centre for Disease Control in Ottawa were baffled by what was emerging as a new mysterious disease that was spreading rapidly and taking the lives of hundreds.

We have come a long way in a very short time to better understand this changing epidemic and have made some advances in the epidemiological, medical and social aspects of this syndrome.

For instance, we now know that a virus, called HIV (Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus), is probably the responsible agent for the syndrome. We know how the virus is spread and how it is not.

This kind of information may lead many to speculate that a cure or vaccine must be on its way and that perhaps we shouldn't worry so much.

YEARS AWAY

However, the truism quickly emerging among those in the field is "the more one uncovers, the more one realizes how much they

don't know."

If we are to believe, as many scientists point out, that a vaccine and/or cure is probably years away, how are we supposed to feel safe when the news media keeps pounding out copy of "gloom and doom" and adds "but we really don't have to worry because we're not at risk... they are"?

'They' refers to homosexuals, drug abusers, haemophiliacs and those from countries where the epidemic is in real evidence.

Although we hear much about 'their' risks, the media has done very little to help us in our struggle as sexually active parents and teachers as well as parents and teachers who must educate the children faced with the often conflicting messages regarding AIDS.

We have recently managed to become accustomed to the violence, sex, drugs and to subjects once deemed too risqué, on television and in books. Yet we continue to golly-wag on the messages that one day may save our lives.

MESSAGES

For instance, there has been more coverage on the way certain publicity messages have not been aired on prime time television than on the messages themselves. As in the case of AIDS prevention messages, there are many out there who firmly believe that what they don't see cannot affect them or that it is their right and obligation to speak to their children on a

variety of issues such as sex, birth control and the like.

I too would be inclined to believe that parents are perhaps the most essential element in an educational environment, but shudder to think that all parents actually want to discuss these issues or that they have the necessary tools to do so.

Recently I spoke to a group of parents on the topic of AIDS prevention and the necessity to be informed and talk honestly with their children.

The overriding response of the group was that they themselves did not benefit from their parents' handling of such topics as sex and were rather reticent or ill-informed to do so with their offspring.

NEW AIDS HANDBOOK

A NEW PUBLICATION

The Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA) has released a resource handbook, **AIDS: What Every Responsible Canadian Should Know**. This book is distributed through the CPHA for orders of 50 or more at a cost of \$2.00 per book (plus postage and handling). Single copies are available across Canada in W.H. Smith and Coles bookstores, at a cost of \$3.50.

Where does this leave us? There are a multitude of parents who do not have the time to spend educating their children as well as the vast majority who do not feel equipped to do so.

INFECTED

The bottom line is simple: There are now 395 confirmed cases of AIDS in Québec. There are anywhere from 15,000 to 50,000 peo-

ple now infected with the virus, and, the situation will worsen before it gets better.

If this is a given that we are to accept, we must then take the necessary steps to ensure that we are properly documented to deal with the medical and social aspects of the ravaging effects of AIDS.

The educational process, which should eradicate the fear of AIDS based on medical fact, should also hope to deal with the devastating social stigma that we often place on those who are directly affected or who are most often associated with AIDS. What this means is that we have the necessary information:

1. To protect ourselves from expo-

sure;

2. To teach others about it;
3. To avoid discriminating against those who have contracted the virus or AIDS, their friends and family who must deal with it on a daily basis;
4. To look after those who are suffering from the pain and prejudices caused by AIDS, and,
5. To encourage all governments

to be implicated in the fight against AIDS.

I further believe that teachers and parents both have a role in this education process. One must reinforce the message of the other and that message must be as free from negative judgment as possible.

REALITY

Naturally there are many of you who will continue to say that is not your problem for a variety of reasons, but it would certainly be a far worse injustice if we allow our children to become infected as a result of our inaction or our inability to accept the reality of today's youth.

Naturally prevention and understanding the issues will increasingly become an essential element in the education of both ourselves and our society.

The subject of AIDS will be discussed in future issues with the next to deal with "Talking about AIDS to my children: what do I need to know?"

If you have already been discussing the issues of AIDS and its implications to your children, we would appreciate your input and/or experiences for the forthcoming issue. We encourage your comments so please write to us.

C-SAM is a support, education and prevention, and advocacy group — a member of the Canadian AIDS Society.

For additional information, contact: C-SAM, C.P. 98, DÉPÔT "N", MONTRÉAL (QUÉBEC), H2X 3M2, (514) 282-9888.

HOW TO HELP YOUTHS BE SMOKE-FREE



CHILDREN AND SMOKING

A new RESOURCE GUIDE for a PARENTS' MEETING on Children and Smoking is now available from the provincial and national Home and School offices. The HOME AND SCHOOL Resource Guide was developed with the collaboration of the Education and Training Unit of the federal Health Promotion Directorate as part of the National Program to Reduce Smoking, which includes the "Break Free" youth theme for bringing today's young people through adolescence smoke-free.

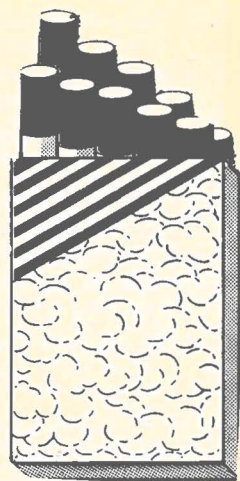
The Guide sets out in step by step form a 2½ hour program for a Parents' Meeting on Children and Smoking with the following objectives:

- To provide parents with factual information on recent trends in tobacco use by young people.
- To give parents an opportunity to look at smoking issues from their child's point of view.
- To demonstrate to parents a classroom-based instruction program, such as the PAL Smoking Prevention Program, or the smoking prevention program in use in the school concerned.
- To tell parents about the "Smoke Free Spaces for Kids" Program.
- To provide parents with information about other smoking prevention and cessation programs.

Schools can play an important role in this national "Break Free" Program through SMOKING PREVENTION EDUCATION in the classroom to help pre-adolescents remain non-smokers.

At home, parents recognize that smoking is an important health issue for their children. They also know that what is taught in the classroom is not the only influence on their child's smoking behaviour.

The Resource Guide is available from Home and School offices for \$5.00 for postage and handling to Home and School members; and \$7.50 to non-members.



Fit kids

The Canadian Institute of Child Health and Fitness Canada are pleased to announce the publication of *Moving and Growing: Exercises and Activities for Fives and Sixes*. This is the third in the *Moving and Growing* series. It is an illustrated booklet for parents and other care givers containing exercises, games and activities for five and six year olds. The booklet outlines the motor development abilities of children in this age group. As well there are instructions for home made toys and equipment. Hours of fun for children and adults alike!

Motor Development Activities

Cost of a single copy is \$3.00 (postage and handling included); bulk orders (10 or more) cost \$2.50 each. May be ordered from: Canadian Institute of Child Health, 17 York Street, Suite 105, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 5S7 (tel. (613) 238-8425).

ANSWERS TO ROAD CODE QUIZ

DO YOU KNOW YOUR HIGHWAY SAFETY CODE?

- | | | | |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. no | 9. yes | 17. yes | 24. yes |
| 2. yes | 10. no | 18. no | 25. no |
| 3. no | 11. yes | 19. yes | 26. no |
| 4. no | 12. yes | 20. no | 27. yes |
| 5. yes | 13. no | 21. yes | 28. no |
| 6. no | 14. yes | 22. yes | 29. no |
| 7. no | 15. no | 23. yes | 30. yes |
| 8. yes | 16. yes | | |

Books On Review

By KENNETH RADU

TEACHERS AND PARENTS searching for reading material that reflects the cultural diversity of Canada may want to consider three handsomely produced, quality paperback books released by Peguis Publishers of Winnipeg.

All bearing the same subtitle, *A Multicultural Anthology for Young Readers*, the books are individually designed for three distinct groups of children.

Pieces, 113 pp., set in large, easy to read typeface, is suitable for kindergarten to grade 4. Containing stories, poems, and Indian legends, *Pieces* is a praiseworthy contribution to the literature of tolerance and common humanity. A story by Una Parameswaran demonstrates pride in a Hindu heritage, and a very simple, but very pointed, poem, "What Colour is Love?", built upon the adjective "red", is a celebration of the native people of Canada.

Of the Jigsaw, 239 pp., produced with grades 5 to 8 in mind, contains stories of greater depth and length than *Pieces*. Manitoba's Icelandic legacy is well-represented by Isabel Reimer's "The Viking Dagger" and Beatrice Fine's "The China Teapot" is an exciting story about an English pioneer woman's fear and misunderstanding, both of which are rooted in ignorance and racism.

Sometimes the writers are a bit too insistent on pointing out the message, a bit too obvious in their concerns; but that is a fault in technique and of inexperience in writing for children. The best work in *Of the Jigsaw* is free from overt moralizing, as Patrick Friesen's poem, "teutonia", about immigrants crossing the ocean, so clearly is.

The most advanced volume of the series, *Puzzle*, 169 pp., set in the smallest typeface, continues the same mixture of stories and poems reflecting the pluralistic nature of Manitoba society specifically, and Canadian society generally.

Not all the material in this volume is of a consistently high quality, but there's enough excellence here to satisfy parents or teachers and, more importantly, to appeal to the young reader.

One of Canada's most gifted poets, Kristjana Gunnars, contributes a fine first person narrative entitled, "Pall Johansson, Fatalist." Pamela Bunting's poem, "To Gabriel Dumont", the 19th century Métis leader, is not only thematically relevant to the literature of cultural diversity, it is also a very beautifully written work of art.

The three volumes of *Pieces*, *Of the Jigsaw*, and *Puzzle*, priced at \$10 each, are certainly worth looking into. If Peguis Publishers wishes, however, to attract a national audience, I would suggest inviting submissions from all of Canada for any future issues of multicultural anthologies the company may, perhaps, have in mind.



SAFETY SCENE



SAFETY SCENE



School bus safety

Every year parents, teachers and school administrators talk, discuss, suggest, write, ask about school bus safety. What is being done about seat belts in school buses? What is being done about driver's education? What is being done about bus construction, the building of safer buses? And the list goes on...

We are reprinting a letter to the editor of the Montreal Gazette of Sept. 4, 1987. The letter is written by John Crosbie, Minister of Transport. It is interesting in that something is being done by Transport Canada, and this in view of the fact that statistics are relatively low where on-bus safety is concerned.

I am very pleased whenever I see that people are concerned enough about transportation safety that they will write about it (Letters, Aug.13).

S. Rothman-Benhaim was concerned with school bus safety, specifically the suggestion that these vehicles be equipped with lap belts.

I share the concern expressed, and my department has been working, and continues to work, on ways to improve school bus safety.

But I would like to clarify a few points:

Currently, there are 35 safety standards that apply to the design and construction of school buses manufactured in and imported into Canada. Among these are standards that ensure passengers are protected by high-backed, padded seats that retain students in their places in the event of an accident.

In our on-going research into improving safety and with questions raised regarding lap belts in school buses, my department initiated a comprehensive study into this issue in 1984.

School buses equipped with instrumented dummies were crash tested. Some of these dummies were restrained with a lap belt and others were not. The crash tests indicated that in frontal collisions, seated occupants would be no better off with lap-type seat belts since the crash loads were concentrated in the head and the neck regions rather than being distributed over

the child's upper body.

A safety study conducted by the National Safety Board in the United States supported these findings. In fact, one of its conclusions was that "lap belt use probably would have made no change in the total number of school bus passengers who died in the crashes investigated for this study (possibly one more death would have resulted)."

Our research into improved school bus safety continues. Recently, I released a report of a study done on five different seating configurations with various seat belt alternatives. The findings showed that school bus seats facing to the rear with lap belts offered the greatest protection for occupants.

To continue with this study, we are currently having three buses fitted with this seating configuration, which will be tested in three school districts over the next school year. All these findings will be summarized in a background paper and presented to a public forum planned for the fall 1988.

Canada's school buses are one of the safest forms of transportation: almost 16 times safer than

any other vehicle on the road.

Our most recent study on school bus accidents shows that the majority of pupils who sustained fatal or major injuries were involved in collisions outside the school bus — in the loading zone or while trying to cross roadways.

Even with this very safe record, my department continues to review and study means to improve that safety. We welcome all input into our reviews and look forward to public representation at our forum in 1988.

JOHN C. CROSBIE
Minister of Transportation
Ottawa

To answer another of the questions asked above, the Safety Scene editor joined with a few other members of the provincial committee which deals with school-related highway safety programs in order to see what the situation was as far as school bus driver training was concerned.

The result is that now a subcommittee has been formed which will seek to find what is being done elsewhere and what our needs are. The subcommittee will bring specific recommendations which will be made to the Régie d'assurance du Québec. Your Safety Scene editor is a member of this subcommittee.

Scholarship awards good driving ideas

1988 Topic — "The major cause of accidents is attitude. How can we change attitude?"

A scholarship will be awarded for the best short story on this topic. The scholarship will cover the payment of tuition fees for a maximum period of three (3) years at a community college or university in Canada and a one time cash award of \$500 for books.

The writing contest is open to all secondary schools in Canada whether in the public or private sector. Each school may submit one (1) entry only in either English or French but not both. The contest is open to students presently enrolled in grade 11, 12 and 13 or CEGEP (where applicable).

The winner will be selected by an independent panel of judges set up by the Young Drivers of Canada and Goodyear Canada Inc. Emphasis will be on writing ability and content. The decisions of the judges will be final and non-appealable.

Official entry forms are sent to all high schools in Canada.

All entries must be postmarked no later than May 13, 1988. Entries are to be sent to: Young Drivers of Canada, Head Office, 2084 Danforth Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4C 1J9.

The 1987 contest winner was Lisa Gillis from Ingersoll, Ontario. The 1986 Writing Contest winner was JoAnne Dionne, Salmon Arm, B.C. The 1985 Contest winner was Caroline Desbiens, Laval, Quebec.

To the Home and School News:

Enclosed is an open letter I would like you to print in the Home & School News if you think it appropriate. It refers to an incident that happened last spring, but the lesson in it might be valuable to all of us.

Perhaps it belongs in the Safety Scene. I appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.

Safety Scene Editor's note: We don't hear too often from people for High Fives and Deep Sixes, but when we do get a reply it is really a beautiful one.

Dear Friend,

I don't know your name, but I often think of you as the woman who cared. Many months ago, you were driving down my street when you saw a man in a white car stop across from a group of children waiting for the school bus.

You stopped your car and watched. The man called to a small boy at the curb, and then got out of his car and approached the child. You, too, got out of your car and came near enough to see what was happening.

When you, however, heard the child address the man as Daddy, you discreetly went back to your car and left. As you found out, this was not a dangerous encounter, but I am nonetheless grateful for what

'Thank you' to woman who cared

you did.

That child was my son, and I am deeply touched that you cared enough to check and make sure that nothing was happening. You didn't interfere, but stayed close enough to be able to prevent any abduction attempt.

My son didn't need your help that day, but your concern about the safety of a stranger's child is a lesson to all of us. Perhaps one day, one of us will follow your example and prevent a needless tragedy.

Although this letter is long overdue, my heartfelt thanks are real.

Sincerely yours,
Carol Abramson

Have a safe holiday

Don't forget thieves enjoy the holidays. People buy gifts, put them in the back seat of their cars and go back for more. What an invitation.

Drinking and driving are no more acceptable at Christmas than at any other time of the year.

Have a Happy Christmas and may the New Year bring all your dreams, sprinkled with health and happiness. Above all, may your holidays be SAFE.

Getting caught up in the joy of the Yuletide is easily done. We all do. (Thank goodness the bills only come in a month later!)

But getting caught up in this job often leads to getting caught in an unfortunate situation — or even a tragic one.

A lighted Christmas tree may be beautiful, but if you leave the house — TURN IT OFF. Don't leave a lighted tree unattended.

from the Smiths: Barb, Don Jackie & Allyson

Road Code Quiz

On June 29, 1987 the Quebec Safety Code was amended in order to increase safety on our highways and to reduce the number of victims.

Several months have passed since the new Highway Safety Code took effect. A surprising number of Quebec drivers are still unaware of the new code. Test yourself and see if you are aware of what the new code states.

Answers on page 15

1. The registration of the vehicles and your driver's licence, are these the only documents a driver is supposed to have on him/her when driving?
2. Is a person who drives with an alcohol count of more than 0.08 in breach of the Criminal Code?
3. Does a driving course allow a person to obtain a licence to operate a motorcycle?
4. Are people under 14 years of age allowed to ride moped?
5. Does the fact of having been declared guilty of refusing to take the breathalyzer test lead to revocation of the driver's licence in the same way as do the offences of hit-and-run or criminal negligence?
6. Does revocation of a driver's licence within the meaning of the Highway Safety Code simply mean the suspension of this licence for three months?
7. Is it true that the restricted driver's licence only authorizes trips between the individual's place of work and home?
8. Does passing, from either direction, a school bus with its flashing lights in operation entail an entry of 9 demerit points on a driver's record?
9. Is it prohibited for the driver of a vehicle to wear earphones while driving?
10. For night riding, must a bicycle be equipped at least with a white light in front and a red reflector at the back?
11. Must one dim headlights to "low" when following another vehicle at less than 150 metres?
12. If you have to stop your vehicle because of the presence of a school bus with its warning lights flashing, must you do so at a distance of 5 metres or more from the bus?
13. At a flashing red light is it enough to simply slow down your vehicle and give the right way to cars already crossing the intersection?
14. When a pedestrian crossing is not located at an intersection regulated by traffic lights, does the Code oblige drivers to stop and let pedestrians already crossing reach the other side?
15. Is it permissible to pass a vehicle in the lane for oncoming traffic when approaching a pedestrian crossing, even though your light is green?
16. When there are no pedestrian lights at a crossing, does the pedestrian still have to obey the traffic lights?
17. In town, must all drivers give the right of way to a bus whose driver wants to get back in the lane he was using before?
18. Is it permissible in Quebec to drive a passenger vehicle equipped with a radar detection?
19. Is access to autoroutes prohibited to mopeds?
20. In a school zone when pupils are entering school or leaving it, is it permitted to drive over 50 km/hr?
21. Is it true that any passenger sitting in the front seat of a vehicle must wear a properly fastened seat belt?
22. Can the fine for driving 120 km/h in a zone where the speed limit is 50 km/h exceed \$265?
23. Is a protective helmet compulsory on moped riders?
24. Is a cyclist who does not obey stop signs or traffic lights liable to a fine?
25. Even if you have a green light, are you allowed to enter an intersection when your vehicle does not have enough space in front of it to avoid blocking the intersection?
26. Must motorcycle riders in a group travel in a single file?
27. Must a cyclist ride in the same direction as the traffic?
28. May a cyclist or moped rider advance between two lines of vehicles stopped in adjacent lanes?
29. When a driver's licence is revoked, is it true that the Régie cancels the demerit points registered in the record of the driver concerned, even if the number of points is over 12?
30. The driver of a road vehicle is not allowed to drink alcoholic beverages in a vehicle on a public road. Does this also apply to the passengers?