



GOLDEN TORCH AWARDS—AGM 2015

Recognizes the volunteer achievements of Home & School members at the school level.

Arundel Elementary School	Sarah Fletcher	
Beacon Hill Elementary School	Sue Kennedy	Gabrielle Cloutier
Birchwood Elementary School	Angel Johnson	
Buckingham Elementary School	Suzanne Laurin	
Clearpoint Elementary School	Mark Webber	
Dorset Elementary School	Valery Bradley	
Dorval Elementary School	Ksenija Clifford	
Edgewater Elementary School	Pavolina Owczar	Lorna Parker
	Jodie Roberts	
Edinburgh Elementary School	Lidia Spagnuolo	Blythe Ennis
Evergreen Elementary School	Kirstin Bennett	Lynn Fitzpatrick
Forest Hill Elementary School	Carole-Anne Wapen	Anastasia Proulx
Gardenview Elementary School	Marla DiMonte	Nina Tzemopoulos
	Betty Skagkos	Connie Di Iorio
	Dimitra Demerson	Cristina Iacobacci
Genesis Elementary School	Tina Rosato	Patty Marinelli
Lindsay Place High School	Maria Ruocco	
Lord Aylmer Elementary School	Kim Perrier	
Macdonald High School	Cathy Nitka	
Pierre Elliot Trudeau Elementary School	Sue Abunowara	Nina Abunowara
Sherwood Forest Elementary	Monique Mondor	Kim Thornton
South Hull Elementary School	Crystal Chabassol	Brian McCoshen
	Skye Cameron	Allana Hayes-Stevenson
St. Charles Elementary School	Susan Afonso	Cathy Arlia
	Gabrielle Luciano	Michelina Marrazini
St. Thomas High School	Sharad Bhargava	Marilyne Boyer
Thorndale Elementary School	Stephanie Hill	Csilla Nagy
Westwood High School	Arlene Griffin	
Wilder Penfield Elementary School	Heather Martin	Alison Carruthers
Willingdon Elementary School	Margaret Jackson	Lynne Darroch
	Mary Ellen Kenny	Jennifer Kulin
	Sharon Sweeney	



Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations, Inc.

La Fédération Québécoise des Associations Foyers – Écoles Inc.

71st Annual General Meeting & Conference



Saturday, May 2, 2015

Novotel Hotel, 2599 Alfred Nobel, Ville St Laurent, Quebec

2014-2015 MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES AS MEMBERS

Beacon Hill Elementary (LBPSB) – Membership Chair: Sue Kennedy
 Evergreen Elementary (LBPSB) – Membership Chair: Christina Ambert

INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP

St. Patrick Elementary (LBPSB) – Membership Chair: Liz Bertrand
 Westpark Elementary (LBPSB) – Membership Chair: Elizabeth Allen
 New Carlisle High School (ESSB) – Membership Chair: Jessica Main-Denis

Welcome to New Home & School Associations

Flemming Elementary (ESSB) – *Lisa Lavallee & Monique Mercier, Co-Presidents*
 Greater Gatineau Elementary (WQSB) – *Kathleen Caya, President*



2014-2015 NEWSLETTER AWARDS

Elementary 1st Prize

Garden Views (Gardenview Elementary School), Editors: Elena Giatras and Jason Kontolemos
 Honorable mention:
 Margaret Manson Messenger (Margaret Manson Elementary School), Editor: Renee Aspiotis

High School 1st Prize

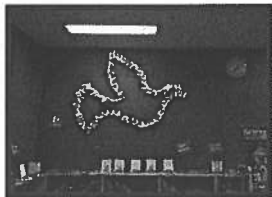
The Herald (Lindsay Place High School), Editors: Linda Roach and Lynda Arthur

UNSUNG HERO AWARDS—AGM 2015

Recognizes outstanding volunteers within a local school.



Beacon Hill Elementary School	Dipa Mehta Stephanie Gartner	Rachel Martiniello Wanda Finch
Birchwood Elementary School	Alex DeLuca Nancy Amaral Swati Nafade	Lisa Fougere Shannon Pelley
Dorset Elementary School	Andrea Hayden Heidi Ektvedt Valery Desmarais	Andrea Menarik Stacey Lazare Powell
Dorval Elementary School	Dianne Boucher	Joanna Gritsas
Edgewater Elementary School	Athanasia Antonopoulos Jennifer Whiting	Betty Ludwa
Edinburgh Elementary School	Paula Brodeur	Vicky Princz
Evergreen Elementary School	Jennifer Buraglia Lynn MacDowell	Karla Longford Susan Nowak
Forest Hill Elementary School	Isabelle Fleury	
Gardenview Elementary School	Dominique Boucher Lucy Guzevicius Toni Di Maria	Francesca Pennino Mary Ann Di Iorio
Genesis Elementary School	Anita Catalani Philip Santos	Lucia Alicandro Pina de Luca
Lindsay Place High School	Nancy Tellier	Terri Hamelin
Lord Aylmer Elementary School	Charlene Morrison	
Macdonald High School	Wendy Ethier	
Pierre Elliot Trudeau Elementary School	Anne-Marie Hastings	Jessica Rawlings
Sherwood Forest	Shelly Neil	Tara Brisson
St. Thomas High School	Laurie Betito	Sharad Bhargava
Thorndale Elementary School	Paola DeRubeis Kim MacLaren	Maureen Harris
Westwood High School	Pauline Breton	Isabelle Fleury
Wilder Penfield Elementary School	Nancy Armenti Sandy Boudreau Nicole Yip Hoi	Nikki Arsenault Josie Micciche
Willingdon Elementary Home & School	Catherine Lavoie Monique Dykstra	Louisa Carpio Mak



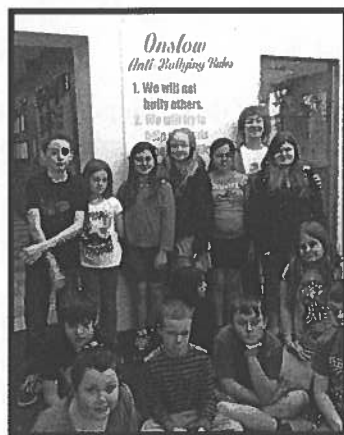
LEWIS PEACE PRIZE—AGM 2015

For an individual or group making a significant contribution towards peace.

Nathalie Swanson

& OLWEUS Bullying Prevention Plan

Onslow Elementary School—The OLWEUS Bullying Prevention Plan was introduced by the Western Quebec School Board and our French teacher, Nathalie Swanson who accepted to lead the initiative at the school. It is a comprehensive anti-bullying program that is backed by results. Its approach is one that requires all members of the school community to take part in training, assemblies and in-class activities. Students learn about bullying – What is it? What it's not? What is involved in a bullying incident? How can it be prevented? What impact it has on others and on us when it happens, etc...



Nathalie has focused on preparing one of the most important pieces: creating a positive school climate. She arranges groupings of students from Kindergarten to Grade 6 once a month and gives them a task to work on. She re-arranges all of the groups every month in order to ensure all of the students in the school have had an opportunity to work with every other student in the school at least once. It is harder to tease, bully or pick on someone you know and have worked with than to pick on someone who is nameless or someone you simply see in the halls from another classroom.

In March, the group activity was to come up with a plan and make a snowman. Due to weather conditions, they ran out of time to build their snowmen outside, so they took a different approach – they put their plan in action, but on paper!

This program, and especially Nathalie's leadership on the monthly activities, has led to an improved school climate. She is extremely well-organised and passionate about this program and has been asked by other schools to help them implement the OLWEUS program with members of their staff. Her leadership on staff with this initiative, and with others, makes her an invaluable asset to the team.



The QFHSA is honoured to recognize Nathalie Swanson and the OLWEUS Bullying Prevention Plan with the Lewis Peace Prize for their important contributions toward peace in the school and the community.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

AGM 2015



The Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations (QFHSA) takes great pleasure in recognizing the efforts and successes of our members.

The AGM is a necessary part of maintaining our legal status as an organization, but the most important part is actually hearing from local members, and celebrating the work that parent volunteers do with our partners – teachers, principals, administrators and others.

Your children and all the children in the school win when parents are actively involved in the life of the school. Take pride in the work that you do and keep going!

Lawrence DePoe, President



AGM 2015 COMMITTEES

- AGM Arrangements: Carol Meindl, Marlyn Brownrigg, Rosalind Hoenig, Mary Skagos, Shadi Asadollahi
- Nominations: Leah Trineer, Chair
- RER (Rights, Education and Resolutions) Committee: Brian Rock (Rights), Mona Segal (Education) and Rickhey Margolese (Resolutions) – Co-chairs
- Awards and Prizes: Carol Meindl, Marlyn Brownrigg, Mary Skagos, Anne MacWhirter, Betty Skagkos, Marion Daigle, Carol Ohlin
- List of Awards and Prizes:
- Gordon Paterson Award
 - Pat Lewis Humanitarian Award
 - Pat Lewis Environmental Award
 - Lewis Peace Prize
- Membership Awards: Marlyn Brownrigg
- Newsletter Awards: Joyce Shanks
- Program Design: Lisa Fougere

ADDITIONAL THANKS

Carol Ohlin, Marion Daigle, Andre Knox for all their special assistance.

Mike Simpson at The Business Box for quick, affordable and reliable printing throughout the year.
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PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS PROVIDED BY

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| DM Family and School Services | Dynamix Adventures Inc. |
| Canadian Children's Book Centre | Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN) |
| Language Rights Support Program (LRSP) | Canadian Parents for French (CPF) |
| Advisory Board on English Education (ABEE) | Canadian Home and School Federation (CHSF) |



PAT LEWIS ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD—AGM 2015

*For an individual or group, at the elementary school level,
who has shown outstanding efforts toward an environmental cause.*

DORSET ENVIRONMENT CLUB

The Dorset Environment Club is headed by teachers Mrs. Laframboise (Mrs. L), Mme. Côté and Mrs. Harwood. They teach the students about the environment, wildlife, gardening and much more. Last year, the environment club received a visit from Mr. Manning, a council man in charge of the environment in Baie D'Urfe, who came to them with an idea to plant a community garden. He gave them gardening advice, and even explained how the compost they were making as a school could be used to help the plants grow bigger.

As a group they discussed which plants they should grow and started to plot out their garden. They started by making their very own individual sized greenhouses! They took a bean seed planted it in some dirt on a brown piece of paper towel. Then they folded the paper containing the dirt and seed and placed it in a Ziploc bag, and filled the bag with some water. They then placed their bags in the display cases around the school where the entire school could see them grow!



They watched and watched as their seedlings grew bigger and bigger and finally, they were ready to be planted! Along with their teachers and some parent volunteers, they planted their beans! They also planted tomatoes, broccoli, peppers, kidney beans, zucchini, squash, peas, carrots, celery, and some herbs. To the dirt, they added compost which they had made throughout the year as a school.

During the summer, Dorset families took turns watering and harvesting their yummy crop. In September when they returned to school, they were amazed to see how much their plants had grown. They had millions of tomatoes unfortunately; their leeks had been eaten by flies.

Once the vegetables were harvested, they were divided into two piles. One pile was donated to a local food bank and the other was kept for the club. As a group they turned the second pile into yummy tomato sauce. Then one lunch they sat down for spaghetti squash with tomato sauce and a salad all made by the environment club from the vegetables that they had grown.

Along with the garden that they planted, they also do nature walks looking for animal tracks, clean up the trash around the school, take care of recycling at school and play environmental games.

Congratulations to the Dorset Environment Club on receiving the Pat Lewis Environment Award. Please continue your good work on improving the environment and protecting our earth.

PAT LEWIS HUMANITARIAN AWARD—AGM 2015

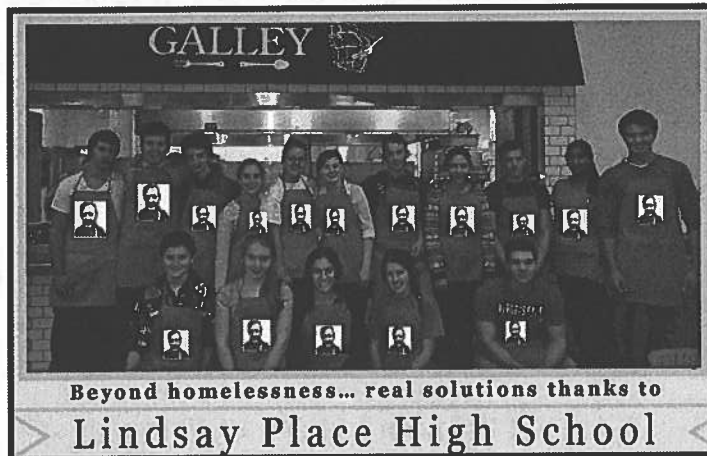
*For an individual or group, at the elementary school level,
who has shown outstanding efforts toward a humanitarian cause.*

JOHN KESSON

& THE OLD BREWERY MISSION VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

This year's winner of the Pat Lewis Humanitarian Award is Mr. John Kesson, who teaches English (9th and 10th grade) at Lindsay Place High School and has been fostering a partnership between students and the Old Brewery Mission since the year 2000. That's 15 years of giving back to the community... and counting.

Through various fundraising activities, including bagging groceries, he and Lindsay Place High students have raised close to \$100,000. John's program has helped to raise awareness and develop leadership skills among the youth he has worked with by connecting them with the folks that benefit from the Old Brewery Mission and those who help make this important Montreal Institution something to be proud of. Every December Mr. Kesson and a group of students head down to the OBM to help serve holiday meals. They continue to do so periodically during the year. Over the years John has helped students collect clothing, toiletries, laundry detergent and cutlery for the OBM. Money raised has been used to purchase Christmas dinner at the shelter as well as toys for a summer camp that was associated with the shelter.



In his down time Mr. Kesson spends his lunch hours organizing "Skipping Club" with LPHS students to keep them moving. He is also a staff advisor for the juvenile boys hockey team.

In a nutshell, he has spent the last 15 years helping students develop a sense of community in both body and mind. He remains an important reason why LPHS is a High School where great kids get to spend time with extraordinary adults on their way to becoming extraordinary kids.

The QFHSA is honoured to award Mr. John Kesson with the 2015 Pat Lewis Humanitarian Award in recognition of the outstanding efforts of his students under his leadership toward a humanitarian cause. Thank you Mr. Kesson for all that you do!

GORDON PATERSON AWARD—AGM 2015

*For long service to the education of children
and for the encouragement of the involvement of parents.*

PAUL CAHILL

During his 30 years as a kindergarten teacher, most of those spent at Edinburgh Elementary School, Paul Cahill has demonstrated all the qualities of an outstanding teacher. First and foremost, he possesses an incredible ability to connect with his students, whether using humour, music, stories, or well-timed words of encouragement. He adapts his style to meet students' needs, finds ways of engaging their interests and quite simply inspires them to learn.

Many new kindergartners arrive at Edinburgh with a very limited knowledge of French. M. Paul believes in a full immersion approach to language acquisition. His ability to connect with each individual child using humour, facial expressions and gestures quickly overcomes any linguistic hurdles. The regularly structured days and clear expectations allow the students to successfully navigate their new environment.

M. Paul sparks a love of learning in his students with healthy daily doses of music and books. Perhaps his favourite work of children's literature is a well-loved copy of "Bobo Dodo", which he reads in instalments and, upon completion of the book, has the students write and illustrate their own story (starring, of course, Bobo Dodo) over the course of several weeks. His strong commitment to literacy is evidenced by his serving as the



school's literacy coordinator.

Music plays another important role in his classes. Daily sing-alongs make learning French fun and enjoyable for young students. These musical pursuits culminate in an end-of-year concert that is given in the classroom for parents. The pride and happiness on the

children's faces is a tribute to how much they have enjoyed their year.

M. Paul welcomes parents into the classroom; he has at least one parent volunteer come into the classroom on a weekly basis to help with logic and math activities. In addition, his door is always open for parents who wish to talk about their child, and he has a caring and generous nature that extends to parents as well as their kids.

Over the years, hundreds of students and parents at Edinburgh have benefitted from M. Paul's outstanding energy, commitment, sense of humour and wisdom. He has instilled a love of learning in his kindergarten students that serves them throughout their elementary years and beyond. Loved by students and parents alike, M. Paul is truly an outstanding educator.

Congratulations Mr. Cahill on being the 2015 recipient of the Gordon Paterson Award.

71st Annual General Meeting

71st Awards Banquet

Saturday, May 2, 2015

Novotel Hotel

- 10:00 am REGISTRATION / COFFEE
- 10:30 am WELCOME, OPENING REMARKS & GREETINGS
- 10:45 am Key Note Speaker: Kathleen Weil
Minister of Immigration, Diversity and Inclusiveness
- 11:45 pm LUNCH
- 12:15 pm AGM BUSINESS SESSION
- 2:15 pm COFFEE BREAK
- 2:30 pm CAUCUS: Voting on Resolutions
- 3:45 pm REGIONAL COUNCIL
- 4:45 pm INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
- 5:00 pm ADJOURNMENT
- 5:15 pm MEMBERSHIP/NEWSLETTER AWARDS/DOOR PRIZE RAFFLE

Win a 12' Inflatable Screen for your school!

*Please fill out your evaluation form.
(An electronic evaluation form will be mailed to you at a later date).
It will help us plan for next year's program.*

Welcome to our AGM 2015

Novotel Hotel

- 5:30 pm HOSPITALITY HOUR
Cash Bar - relax and mingle
- 6:15 pm DINNER FOLLOWED BY THE AWARDS BANQUET
Wine can be purchased, if so desired.

◆ AWARD PRESENTATIONS:

Gordon Paterson Award:

Paul Cahill, Edinburgh Elementary School

Lewis Peace Prize:

Nathalie Swanson & OLWEUS, Onslow Elementary School

Pat Lewis Humanitarian Award:

John Kesson, Lindsay Place High School

Pat Lewis Environmental Award:

Dorset Environmental Club

Unsung Hero Award Winners

Golden Torch Award Winners

◆ CLOSING REMARKS FOLLOWED BY DANCE



Thank you to the Department of Canadian Heritage (PCH) and Le Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) for their continued support.