

PER
A-850

alliance
québec

Monthly Report

May/June, 1985

Vol. 2, No. 13

CONVENTION '85

"Forward with confidence" is the theme of Alliance Quebec's annual convention, which will be held May 31 through June 2 at John Abbott College in Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue.

This fourth annual convention of Alliance Quebec marks a significant time in the evolution of the organization. Though linguistic divisions in the province have become less dramatic, the English-speaking community is increasingly conscious of the fact that much remains to be done on the level of community action and involvement.

Convention '85 will feature some innovations, such as thematic workshops, in which the community will begin to address these longer term challenges. The topics of three of the thematic workshops are: delivery of health and social services; community economic development and adult education. These themes, developed through consultation with Chapters and Associations, reflect the English-speaking community's growing confidence in its role and its desire to participate fully in the social debate on issues such as job creation and re-training.

The topic of the fourth thematic workshop will be national language issues, with guest speaker D'Iberville Fortier, the Commissioner of Official Languages. All delegates to Convention '85 have been sent discussion/background papers on the four thematic workshop topics in order to help them prepare for workshops, which will be held Saturday at 2:30 p.m.

IN THIS ISSUE

<i>Convention Preview continued.....</i>	<i>Page two</i>
<i>The Candidates.....</i>	<i>Page four</i>
<i>Health and Social Services Programme.....</i>	<i>Page seven</i>
<i>Education Programme.....</i>	<i>Page seven</i>
<i>Activities in Chapters and Associations.....</i>	<i>Page eight</i>
<i>O.C.O.L. Creative Writing Contest.....</i>	<i>Page fourteen</i>
<i>Comment in the French Press.....</i>	<i>Page fifteen</i>
<i>Inside the Alliance.....</i>	<i>Page fifteen</i>

Convention '85 begins with registration from 3:00 p.m. Friday May 31 in the Casgrain Lounge, followed by a candidates reception in the Agora. At 7 p.m., Convention Chairman Hugh Mitchell will welcome participants in the gym. The Hon. Robert Layton M.P., Minister of State for Mines will address the convention as will D'Iberville Fortier. Out-going president, Eric Maldoff will give his farewell address.

The remainder of Friday evening's program will be devoted to a wine and cheese reception and a performance by the Heritage Show Band from the Outaouais. Saturday morning begins with the Business meeting portion of the convention followed by Executive candidates speeches and policy workshops.

Executive elections will take place from 4:30 until 6 p.m. on Saturday, in the Casgrain Lounge and board elections will be held Sunday morning, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., in the Casgrain Lounge as well. Unsuccessful candidates for the executive automatically become candidates for the 31 person board of directors.

Guest Speakers

Convention '85 includes an impressive line-up of keynote speakers throughout the weekend. In addition to the previously mentioned Mssrs. Layton and Fortier, the Convention will be addressed by the Hon. Walter F. McLean, Secretary of State, on Saturday morning. Saturday, at lunch, the special guest speaker will be Pierre-Marc Johnson, Quebec's Minister of Justice and Intergovernmental affairs. On Sunday, again at lunchtime, the speaker will be Michel Gratton, MNA for Gatineau and Liberal House leader in the National Assembly.

A Celebration of F.R. Scott

Convention '85 will include an extremely special event on Saturday evening. Alliance Quebec has organized a special celebration of the life and legacy of the poet and social philosopher, F.R. (Frank) Scott, who passed away in January. F.R. Scott's contributions to Canadian life through law, literatures and politics were immense. This special tribute will take place following the formal banquet on Saturday evening, beginning at 6 p.m. in the Stewart cafeteria.

The F.R. Scott Celebration Committee has invited some of Scott's colleagues and friends to speak about F.R. Scott, the man, the scholar, the poet, the social activist, the lawyer, Canadian and Quebecer. The speakers for the evening include: the writers Hugh MacLennan, Roch Carrier and Ronald Sutherland; former journalist, cabinet minister and diplomat Gérard Pelletier and J. King Gordon, former professor of theology and human rights field worker with the United Nations Secretariat.

Following the F.R. Scott dinner there will be entertainment by Michelle Sweeney and accompanying musicians in the Agora.

Other Events

The Church service on Sunday morning will be held at Maple United Church in Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, a short walk from the John Abbott College campus. Also on Sunday morning, there will be a special panel discussion on the diversity of the English-speaking community of Quebec.

Throughout the weekend of Convention '85, there will be special exhibits by various cultural community groups. As well, the delegation from C.A.S.A. (Committee for Anglophone Social Action - Gaspé) will be exhibiting a model of the partial reconstruction of a Gaspé Loyalist village.

The Convention programme wraps up Sunday, with a plenary session following lunch and an address by the new president.

Transportation

Convention '85 is being held this year at the lovely John Abbott College in Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue. The college is easily accessible from highways 20 (Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue exit) and 40 (exit 41). There is ample parking available.

The College is also serviced by the number 211 bus, departing every 5 - 10 minutes from the Lionel Groulx metro station (transfer point between metro lines 1 and 2). Convention '85 organizers have arranged for a shuttle bus to run between the Lionel Groulx metro station and John Abbott College at strategic hours on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. (A complete schedule has been forwarded to all delegates along with the Convention materials package).

Convention Staff

Many people are working hard to ensure that Convention '85 runs as smoothly as possible. Members of the Convention Committee include: Hugh Mitchell, Chairman; Marylee Kelley, Miriam Green and Craig Berger.

The Convention staff consists of: Deegan Stubbs, convention coordinator; Brenda Major, secretary and Mildred Jones, registration. Sarah Dougherty is writing the delegates' handbook, Catherine Farrish is handling graphics and Dave Sedgewick and company will again provide security during the weekend.

THE CANDIDATES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman

Casper Bloom, AQ Provincial Board member; AQ West Island Chapter Board member.

President

Michael Goldbloom, Vice-president, Alliance Quebec.

Vice-president

Marjorie Goodfellow, President, English-Speaking Townshippers Association.

Off-Island Vice-President

Royal Orr, former Research Director, Alliance Quebec; former Executive Director, English-Speaking Townshippers' Association.

Treasurer

Michael Hayes, Treasurer, Executive Committee, Alliance Quebec.

Secretary

Anne Usher, Secretary, Executive Committee, Alliance Quebec; Co-Chair, Community Development Committee; Board member, N.D.G./Mtl. West Chapter.

Members-at-Large (3 positions)

Alan DeSousa, Vice-Chair, St-Laurent Chapter; Chairman, French-second language Work Group; Alliance Quebec Provincial Board member.

Catherine Duff-Caron, Member-at-Large, Alliance Quebec Executive Committee; Co-Chair, Education Committee.

Hugh Mitchell, Alliance Quebec Provincial Board member; Co-Chair, Business, Employment Committee; Chairman, Convention 1985 Committee.

Frank Tutino, Member-at-Large, Alliance Quebec Executive Committee; Co-Chair, Community Development Committee; Board member St-Laurent Chapter.

For the Board of Directors (31 positions)

Irving Adessky, Mayor of Hampstead.

Roy Almond, President, C.A.S.A. and member of AQ Provincial Board.

Sonia Aronow, member of AQ Provincial Board; member of East Island Chapter Board; member of the Employment/Business Committee.

Craig Berger, Chairman St-Laurent Chapter; member Employment and Business Committee and Convention '85 Committee.

Sam Berliner, City Councillor, City of Montreal; AQ Provincial Board member.

Joseph Borgo, Director General, Shawbridge Youth Centres; member, Task Force on Social Services.

Gail Campbell, President, Union of Unit Coordinators; former secretary, Union of Employees of the Montreal General Hospital.

Jim Carter, member of Provincial Health and Social Services Committee; member of AQ South Shore Chapter Board.

Sylvia Chesterman, former President, Association of Catholic Principals; AQ Provincial Board member.

Paulina Grant, AQ Provincial board member; member Education Committee; Chairperson, Adult Education Work Group.

Jonathan Herman, Youth Sub-Committee (Community Development Committee) Chairman, Vice-Chairperson, C.S.L./Hampstead/Snowdon W. Chapter; National Language Concerns Committee member.

Grace Hone, Vice-president, Quebec Association of Protestant School Boards (QAPSB).

Paul Jones, past Chairman, South Shore Chapter.

Kenneth Kalman, AQ Provincial Board member; Community Development Committee member.

Marylee Kelley, AQ Provincial Board member; Health and Social Services Committee Chairperson; membership secretary.

Julie Lawson, Outaouais Alliance Board member; Provincial Communications Committee member; CBC Hearings Work Group member.

James Loken, former Executive Director, Outaouais Alliance; Director of Research and Liaison, Outaouais Alliance.

Charles Lusthaus, former President, Jewish Family Services Social Service Centre.

Anne MacLaren, AQ Provincial Board member; Vice-Chair, Policy Committee.

Robert May, former Vice-president and current Board member, Outaouais Alliance; Off-Island Committee member.

Helen McLellan, past Chairperson AQ St-Laurent Chapter; AQ Provincial Board member; Provincial Communications Committee member.

Bruce McNiven, AQ Provincial Board member; Chairman, Fundraising Committee Montreal Centre Chapter Board member.

Donald Miller, Voice of English Quebec member; former President and Founding member of C.A.S.A.

Martin Murphy, President, Association of Directors of English Schools; AQ Provincial Board member; Vice-chair, Education Committee.

Janice Napp Marchand, AQ Provincial Board member; treasurer, Laval/North Shore Chapter; Provincial Health and Social Services Committee member.

Gaby Ostro, former Chairperson, Provincial Health and Social Services Committee; former AQ Provincial Board member.

Michael Palumbo, President, Provincial Association of Catholic Teachers (PACT).

David Powell, AQ Provincial Board member; Provincial Communications Committee member.

Michael Sheldon, AQ Provincial Board member; past Chairman, Montreal Centre Chapter; Provincial Communications Committee member.

Ronald Silverson, AQ Provincial Board member; Co-chairman, Provincial Communications Committee; past Chairman, N.D.G./Montreal West Chapter.

John Walker, Director General, Ville Marie Social Service Centres; AQ Provincial Board member.

Harvey Weiner, President, Provincial Association of Protestant Teachers (PAPT); AQ Provincial Board member.

Carol Wilson, past Chairperson, Upper Laurentians Chapter; Off-Island Committee member.

Vera Young, Chairperson, St-Maurice Valley Chapter; Provincial Communications Committee member.

ALLIANCE QUEBEC PROGRAMME ACTIVITIESHEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMMELegislative Guarantees

The campaign for legislative guarantees continues to gather momentum with over 330 resolutions received to date. More than 90 are from municipal governments. The letter writing campaign undertaken by Alliance Quebec Chapters and Associations has resulted in dialogue between the Chapters and Associations and their MNAs, including an exchange of correspondence and MNAs requesting meetings to discuss issues.

CLSC User Elections

Many local Chapters and Associations are engaged in supporting candidates in local CLSC user elections. These elections will be held across the province on Sunday, May 26.

Task Forces

6A - A youth network sub-committee of the Task Force has begun a planning process for the English-language youth network. The committee is made up of institutional and community representatives.

6B - An Alliance Quebec Task Force has been formed for region O6B - Laurentides - Lanaudière with representatives from the Upper Laurentian and Laval/North Shore Chapters involved. The initial meeting of the Task force was held in St-Sauveur on May 6. Marylee Kelley, Elizabeth Kater and Anne Usher were guest speakers at the meeting.

6C - The Task Force on Monteregie social services met with the Director General of the Regional Council, Jean-Bernard Guindon, and his Staff on April 26. The subject of the meeting was CSS/CLSC's transfers. The Task Force also submitted a document to the Regional Council outlining the issues; models of services delivery for the English-speaking community; and 14 recommendations. A further consultation meeting will be held in May to discuss the actual transfers being recommended. (This Task Force is recognized by the Regional Council as the voice of the English-speaking community in region O6C).

EDUCATION PROGRAMMETransition Conference

Over 150 participants from the English-speaking community across Quebec attended the Transition conference on second-language learning held May 10 and 11 at Concordia University in Montreal. Speakers at the conference included: The Hon. Robert Layton M.P. Minister of State for Mines, Labour lawyer Stanley Hartt and Quebec City correspondent for the Toronto Globe and Mail, Graham Fraser. Transition, jointly sponsored by the Canadian Parents for French (CPF), the English-speaking Parent's Network and Alliance Quebec, identified several key issues requiring community attention including government funding of second-language programs and extra-curricular influences on second-language learning.

Adult Education

Seminar

Representatives from education, community, business and labour groups attended a seminar on May 14 focusing on the implementation of the government's policy and plan of action for Adult Education and Manpower training. Senior officials from the Ministries of Education, Higher Technology, Higher Education, Science and Technology as well as Security and Income, were invited to share the concerns of the English-speaking community.

Survey

A survey is being conducted across the province to determine the availability of English-language services in the field of Manpower and vocational training. The information will be tabulated for the Education Programme thematic workshop at Convention '85.

ACTIVITIES IN CHAPTERS AND ASSOCIATIONS

On Wednesday, April 3rd, the St. Maurice Valley Chapter made a formal presentation of their microfilm of the ST. MAURICE VALLEY CHRONICLE to the Université de Québec à Trois-Rivières.

The ST. MAURICE VALLEY CHRONICLE was a weekly community newspaper which served the region from 1919 to 1970. It provides a valuable source of historical information about the English-speaking community of the area.

The presentation was made to Jean Asselin, Vice-Rector of the university at a public gathering at the university library. The newspaper collection, which consists of seventeen rolls of microfilm, will be available to researchers and to the community at large.

In attendance at the presentation ceremony were John Wickenden, son of the principal owners of the paper, Margaret Breese, widow of Duncan Breese, long-time editor of the Chronicle and Grace Hubert who spent her entire working life at the newspaper.

The microfilming of the ST. MAURICE VALLEY CHRONICLE was the Chapter's contribution to the celebration of the 350th anniversary of the founding of Trois-Rivières.

The following people were elected to the board of the St. Maurice Valley Chapter 1985-86: Vera Young, Chairperson; LeRoy Pazdernik, 1st Vice-Chairman; Albert Carroll, 2nd Vice-Chairman; Don Fuller, Treasurer; Charlotte Dousett, Secretary; and Peter Caldwell, Membership.

The Lower Laurentians Chapter held its annual general meeting at the Orange Hall in Lachute and elected the following people to its 1985-86 Board of Directors: James Warbanks, Chairman; Donald Noble, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer; Norman P. Dewar, Secretary; and Patricia Garraway, Past Chairperson; as well as Stewart Jones, David T. Morrison, Carol-Ann Peterson, Keith Low, George Connelly, Linda Mell, Douglas Morrison, Rick Shane, and Sam MacBeth.

The South Shore Chapter's Annual General Meeting took place in St. Lambert on April 29th. Over 30 people turned out to hear Dr. James Ross speak and to participate in the Board and delegate elections. Dr. Ross was warmly received and gave the members an overview of the part played by Alliance Quebec in provincial affairs during the past year. The Chairmen of the various Committees reported on local happenings and the retiring Chapter Chairman, Paul Jones, delivered his farewell speech. The new board of Directors is as follows: Chairman - Margaret McKeown, Treasurer - Fred Weisman, other members - Jim Carter, Susan Champagne, Ethel Gravelle, Paul Jones, Diane Lacey, Stanley MacDonald, Barbara Robyn.

On May 1st Patricia Corbin of the Health and Social Services Committee, accompanied by Chapter animator, Pat Pearman, spoke to the Community Learning Exchange Group at St. Jean-sur-le-Richelieu about the health and social services offered in that area. Members of the group had a great many questions and were genuinely interested in the efforts of Alliance Quebec in trying to have the services improved.

The Montreal Centre Chapter has elected the following people to its Board of Directors for 1985-86: Zonia Keywan, Chairperson; Michael Sheldon, Past Chairman; and members-at-large, Victoria Stikeman, Bruce McNiven, Marilyn Hellinger, Ross Clark, John Wood, Robert T. Bassett, Gail F. Deutsch and Michele Daines.

Laval/North Shore Chapter representatives Janice Napp Marchand and Sue King participated in the 6B region Health and Social Services Task Force founding meeting on May 7, along with representatives from the Upper and Lower Laurentians Chapters.

The Board of the Laval/North Shore Chapter elected at the annual general meeting for 1985-86 is as follows: Frances Atkin Rappaport, Chairperson; Pearl Edwards, Vice-Chairperson; Janice Napp Marchand, Treasurer, Members-at-large: Eleanor Tylor, Marvin Blakely, Ron Edwards, Roman Petraznyk, Steve Kmec, Barry Simon, Joanne Iacono, Michael Kyrtatas, Sue Quarles, Harold Forester, Irene Gehlsen, Katia Kokkinis and Gordon Caminsky.

The Cote St-Luc/Hampstead/Snowdon West Chapter held its annual general meeting on April 29 at the Davis "Y". The following people were elected to the Board of Directors for 1985-86. Executive: Rosemarie Mavrokefalos, Chairperson; Jonathan Herman, Vice-chairperson; Soula Tsafaras, Secretary. The Treasurer will be elected at the first board meeting. Board of Directors: Mitchell Brownstein, Elizabeth Colson, Michael Colson, Neil Drabkin, Beverly Jusko, Neil Rabinovitch, Giovanni Sgro and Angela Tsafaras.

Youth Sub-committee Chairman Jonathan Herman, and committee members Rosemarie Mavrokefalos, Elizabeth Colson, Michael Colson, Charles Cooke and Chapter animator Marlene Baran, recently attended a meeting of the Youth Sub-committee to plan the Youth Caucus for Convention '85.

The South West Chapter's board elections at the recent annual general meeting resulted in the following board for 1985-86: Susan Becker, Chairperson; Alex de Greef, Vice-chair; Kathleen Kershaw, Secretary, Chris Gallotti, Treasurer; Barry Cook, Member-at-large and Bob Dobie, David Zizzi, Thomas Hunt, William Owens, Don Davidson, David Gregory, Brenda Major, and Carl Albrechtson.

The St. Laurent Chapter's annual general meeting was held on April 29. Keynote speaker, AQ president Eric Maldoff, reminded the members of Alliance Quebec's past accomplishments and reiterated the need to continue to work for entrenchment in law of English-language institutions and the right of English-speaking Quebecers to feel at home in their province. The Chapter accomplishments of the past year were summarized by Helen McLellan, Craig Berger and Jean Brooks.

The following were elected to the Board of Directors for the 1985-86 year: (Executive) Craig Berger, Chairman; Alan DeSousa, 1st Vice-Chairman; Stewart Trickey, 2nd Vice-Chairman; Mark Spulnik, Secretary; Tenny Street, Treasurer; Helen McLellan, Past Chairperson; (Members-at-large) Jean Brooks, Ruth Costin, Albert Gamble, Eric Lavallée, Paul Sarena, Marco Zelada, Kathleen Coleman, Ken Culkin, Muhammad Hedayetullah, Sy Pinchuk and Frank Tutino.

The Chapter was pleased to learn recently that its application for a federal grant under the Challenge '85 program had been approved. This grant will enable the Chapter to employ 3 CEGEP students for a period of 9 weeks to research the background of the 117 English street names in the city of St. Laurent. The historical information obtained regarding the families for whom these streets were named will provide a basis for our local history project.

On Monday, May 13 the Health and Social Services Committee held their regular monthly meeting, with Mary Shore of Ville Marie Social Service Centres as guest speaker. Mrs. Shore outlined the various institutions available for the placement of the elderly and explained the procedures involved in placing an elderly person in an institution. The Committee decided to investigate the possibility of holding a public meeting in the fall with a view to inviting representatives of the institutions in the Sacré-Coeur zone to attend and explain the facilities and services available and also to remind the institutional reps of the existence of a large English-speaking community in the area.

The Chapter would like to welcome new animator, Richard Rapaport, who began work with the St. Laurent Chapter on May 21st. Welcome aboard, Richard!

The new board of the Upper Laurentians Chapter consists of Chairman - Jeff Brooks, Vice-Chair - Bill Weary, Treasurer - Brian Senecal. The members-at-large are Carol Wilson, Richard Anber, Bev Percy, Gordon Redhead, John McMaster, Monroe Rovins, Robin Jacks, Heather Mattenberger. Carol Wilson will be running as a candidate for the provincial board.

On May 7th, a preliminary meeting was held to form a 6B (Laurentide Lanaudière) Task Force for Health and Social Services. Representatives from the Lower and Upper Laurentians and Laval North Shore Chapters will work together to lobby the CRSSS for English services.

Linda Foy, an active member of the English-speaking community has been appointed user representative for the CLSC des Trois Vallées in Ste Agathe.

The Chapter welcomes our new membership secretary, Silva Gilmore.

The N.D.G/Montreal West Chapter Board of Directors for 1985-86 consists of: Brian Webber, Chairman; Anne Usher, Vice-chair; Dorothy Neil, Treasurer; David Brayley, Secretary; George Hayes, Miriam Reich, Paul Belshaw, John Parker, Anna Clark, Jitendra Desai, Elizabeth Williams, Clarence Bayne, Miriam Greene, and Albert W. Bridgewater.

As a result of the Board elections at the TMR/Outremont/CDN/Snowdon E. Chapter's annual general meeting, the following people will serve on the Board of Directors for 1985-86: Peter Hechtman, Chairman; André Passiour, Sara Policoff, Mariette Gohier, David Salzman, Nick Valerio, Maria Wichers, Barry Merson, Hal Grossner, Kay Foy, Edith Bauer, Catherine Scofield, and Lilly Katofsky.

The East Island Chapter is running candidates in the CLSC user election in the East Island. The Chapter is focussing on Rosemont, Mercier Est, Mercier Ouest, Anjou and St-Louis de Parc CLSC's. Efforts have been combined with the Montreal Centre Chapter for the latter CLSC as its territory falls within both Chapter boundaries.

The Chapter's Employment, Business and Signs Committee is conducting a letter writing campaign aimed at lobbying various government bodies to inform citizens in both French and English. This includes asking Hydro-Quebec to provide a translation of the pamphlet entitled "En Cas de Panne", outlining what to do in case of a power failure, and provision of bilingual public safety signs in the Louis-Hippolyte Lafontaine Tunnel.

Wendy Garland, Chairperson of the Committee, received a letter from Hydro-quebec stating that it was illegal to distribute literature bilingually. A letter has been sent to Hydro-Quebec indicating that this is not the case, and with help from AQ Legal Affairs Director Tom Mulcair, offering legal support for this position. Recent newspaper articles were also included in the package in order to make an even stronger appeal.

The Chapter participated in a very successful series of career days in conjunction with Rosemount H.S. and Lester B. Pearson H.S. Chapter member Olivia Kona spoke about careers in advertising and distributed a manual she produced on that subject. Concordia University's career library was very impressed with the manual and has now added it to its collection.

The most recent issue of the Chapter Newsletter, THE EAST ISLANDER has been distributed to all members, as well as churches in the Chapter area. The Newsletter included a profile of the Canadian-Italian Businessmens's Association, an interview with Clarence Bayne the Executive Producer of the Black Theatre Workshop and an historical look at the city of St. Leonard.

The Chapter's 1985-86 board consists of: Lois Todd, President; Sonia Aronow, Wendy Garland, Alice K. Beaudoin, Louis Balena, Judy Haydock, Serge Perrone, Rosangelo DiAngelino, Olivia Kona, Roger Ruel and Patricia Camacho.

V.E.Q. (The Voice of English Quebec) will release a report next month prepared by its Task Force on Social Services. The report contains a series of proposals aimed at developing services in the Quebec City region.

The Communications Committee has issued its final report, including an improved marketing strategy for the organization. The marketing strategy will be implemented beginning in September.

On June 8, the community animation program will hold a consultation session with representatives from more than 80 community groups gathering to exchange information and discuss ways in which to help one another. June 8 is also the date for V.E.Q.'s annual general meeting, which will be held at the Holland Elementary school. Elections will be held for the Board of Directors and for the position of president.

The Job Club has provided an animator to help CEGEP students look for summer jobs. V.E.Q. is pleased to report that all 20 students in the program have found summer jobs. The second part of the Job Club program involves helping to create work for high-schoolers. Some students in this program have taken the Red Cross babysitting course and are working at 3 major hotels in the area, providing babysitting services. The Job Club also runs an odd job bank.

The English-language pre-school pilot project begun at Holland Elementary school in January will continue in September. Registration is up from 20 students to approximately 60 and chances are good that the program will expand to at least one other location.

The Saguenay/Lac St. Jean Chapter has elected the following Board of Directors for 1985-86: Harry Surette, Chairman; Aline Huni, Vice-Chairperson; Donna Atwood, Treasurer; Agnes Arsenault, Recording secretary; John Ayers, Corresponding Secretary; Jenny Pittman, Membership; Jennie Corriveau, Diane Cousineau, Margaret McDougall, Pierre Morin and Carol-Ann Doucet.

On May 4, C.A.S.A. (Committee for Anglophone Social Action - Gaspé) sponsored a very successful Information Seminar for business people on the Gaspé coast. Over one hundred representatives of the business community turned up to hear representatives from the federal and provincial governments, as well as from representatives of Alliance Quebec and the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages.

CVESPA (Chateauguay Valley English-speaking Peoples Association) President, Maurice King, went before the Municipalité Régional de Comté of Le Haut Saint-Laurent, to express his concern over the fact that the MRC's Plan for Land Use (schéma d'aménagement) had been released in French only. Mr. King was pleased to learn that a translation will be made available and that in the future, documents will be released in both languages. The activities of the MRC's are of continuing concern to residents in rural areas.

CVESPA held its annual general meeting on May 1 at the Huntingdon Château in Huntingdon. The meeting and dinner/dance was a great success. Guest speakers were Reed Scowen, Liberal MNA for N.D.G. and Eric Maldoff, president of Alliance Quebec, who has presented with the gift of a quilt by CVESPA, in recognition of his contributions to the English-speaking community of Quebec.

The Baie-Comeau Chapter Board of Directors for 1985-86 is as follows: June Smith, Chairperson; Brian Rock, Vice-chair; Donald Goodfellow, Treasurer; Susan Watson, Secretary; M.-T. Mastrocolla, Barbara Rioux, Shirley Bélanger, Duncan Cameron, Bernard Guy, Jean Ellen Guy, Bonnie Goodfellow, Guy Fournier, Debbie Hamilton and Natalie Blanc.

The Cote Nord/Sept Iles/Port Cartier Chapter has elected the following Board of Directors for 1985-86: Doris Duperrault, Chairperson; Nicholas Vidykhan, Donald Goudie, Roland Couffon, Brenda Bond, Thérèse Trempe, Linda MacKay, Orion Haynes, Hans Schobesberger, and Louise Jones.

The West Island Chapter elected the following Board of Directors at its annual general meeting: Harry Morrison, Chairman; Marylee Kelley, Past Chairperson; Jackie Maisonneuve, Vice-Chairperson; Margaret Peyton, Vice-Chairperson; Ronald P. Bourgeois, Treasurer; Valerie Ford, Secretary; Richard Smyth, Bernie Silverman, Janice Chuard, Margaret McDonald, John Gonin, Frank Legrove, Susan Brabant, Stuart Steventon, Mary Whitehead, Michael Weil, Casper Bloom, John Bland, Dr. Stewart D. Swan, Margaret Clayton and Joan Rys.

The Outaouais Alliance has elected Ed Trembath as President for 1985-86. Other members elected to the Board of Directors at the annual general meeting include: Gail Hawley-McDonald, Vice-president; Peter Unwin, Secretary; R.E. Henderson, Treasurer; and members-at-large Anne Creskey, Cecil Crites, Ingrid Mayfred-Dods, Julie Lawson, Karen Lochhead, Peter Lonergan, Robert Martel, Bob May, Len Mihalicz, Murray Orlando, Jo Anne Raven, Father Norm Verrier, and John Trent, (Past President).

Guest speakers at the meeting were the Hon. Robert Layton, M.P., Minister of State for Mines, and Bob Middlemiss, MNA for Pontiac. The meeting was followed by a pub and dance with entertainment by the Heritage Show Band and a mini-floor show by the Heritage Jazz Troupe.

Outaouais Alliance has received funding for three "Camp Francofun" under the federal government's Challenge '85 program. Camps will be held in Chelsea, Shawville, and Buckingham.

Canada Works has agreed to fund a special study of economic development in the Outaouais. The study will employ two researchers and one secretary.

OCOL CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST

To mark the International Youth Year 1985, the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages is sponsoring a creative writing contest for all Canadians aged 15-24.

The Commissioner, D'Iberville Fortier, wants to hear from young Canadians about their impressions of living in a country with two official languages. Submissions may take any number of forms: short story, poem, fictional correspondence, play, comic strip; scripts for radio, tv or film; as long as the content is fiction.

Submissions will be entered in two age categories; 15-18 years, and 19-24 years. The winning entries (five in each category) will be published and the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages will pay \$500 to the winning entrants for publication rights.

The deadline for the contest is June 15, 1985. Submission must be postmarked no later than that date and should be sent to: Creative Writing Contest, Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0T8.

For more information write to the International Youth Year coordinator at the address above or call (613) 995-7717.

COMMENT IN THE FRENCH PRESS

With the release of yet another poll on the language of signs, editorialists in the French press are calling on the government for a solution to this long and emotional debate. As in majority of the signs polls preceeding it, the CROP-LA PRESSE poll of April 27 concluded that the majority of French and English-speaking Montrealers are in favor of the right to post bilingual signs.

In a La Presse editorial, April 28, Gilbert Brunet writes that with the maze of confusing polls and court judgements, "One doesn't know what to think anymore". He does feel, however, that the indications of this latest poll (that the majority would hail bilingual signs if French were the language of predominance) are unique and to be followed. "Bilingualism with French predominating", he suggests, "would rally the majority around the protection of its language, bring respect to its minority and open itself to the rest of the world".

Lysiane Gagnon in La Presse, April 27, is heartened by the change in attitude by both English and French-speaking Montrealers "who have made considerable progress in view of the prevailing attitude of ten or fifteen years ago". Like Gilbert Brunet, Ms. Gagnon believes the poll carries a clear message, "The majority of Quebecers would welcome a softening of the law". Ms. Gagnon goes on to specify that this does not mean that as a rule, a government should govern by polls, "Political responsibility does not consist of simply obeying the instincts of the majority". Ms. Gagnon notes that in most cases (e.g. the death penalty) popular instinct is towards repression, where as the inverse is true in this case. "The government cannot easily refuse to side with a majority whose aspirations are towards tolerance and social peace", she writes.

INSIDE THE ALLIANCE

Alliance Quebec welcomes two new animators to the Community Development staff this month. Richard Rapaport is the new animator for the St. Laurent Chapter and Sheila Laursen is the new animator for the West Island Chapter.

AQ bids farewell this month to Alma Baker who is leaving her position as West Island Chapter animator and also to Babo Leibovitch, Community Development Programme Director who leaves us following Convention '85 to take up residence in beautiful Indianapolis, Indiana.

 CEGEP JOHN ABBOTT COLLEGE

Convention '85 Congrès '85

X-REGISTRATION

