

**QUEBEC FEDERATION OF
HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS INC.**



2005 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

BOOK OF REPORTS

April 23, 2005

Montreal Airport Hilton
12505 Côte de Liesse
Dorval, Quebec



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QFHSA YEAR AT A GLANCE 2004-2005

March 2005

19 Western Quebec Regional Council 3rd Annual Conference hosted by Lord-Aylmer Home & School

February 2005

6 Born to Read Literacy workshop, Edgewater School, with Marion Daigle & Dorothy Nixon

13-19 CHSF & QFHSA Teacher Appreciation Week

22 Education Committee Meeting; Guest speaker Barbara Goode, MEQ Tech/Voc/Drop-out Retention

25 Presidents' Appreciation Dinner at the Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club in Dorval

January 2005

12 Education Committee Meeting chaired by Oliver Cole, St. Monica's School

14 Rights Committee Meeting w/ guest Max Cooke, Exec. Dir, Canadian Parents for French

Small Schools Meeting, with guests Marcus Tabachnick & David Birnbaum, QESBA

17 Buckingham School - visited by Donna Norris & Michelle Armstrong

November 2004

1 School Library Questionnaire: A QFHSA Literacy Project mailed to local associations

3-5 Conference on Communities & Schools for Health, Ottawa, attended by Shirley Straughton

05 Grenville School - School libraries presentation by Marion Daigle & Dorothy Nixon

11-12 QPAT Teachers Conference - QFHSA display and information table

Teacher's raffle basket won by a Grade 6 teacher at Thorndale Elementary, Pierrefonds

15 Nesbitt H&S visited by Connie De Giorgio, M'ship Chair & Susan Tweddell, Past President

18 Dr. S.E. McDowell School, visited by Donna Norris & Michelle Armstrong

19-22 QCGN Action Plan Meeting in Quebec City, attended by Donna Norris, QFHSA President

25-28 CHSF Mid-Term in Ottawa, attended by Donna Norris & Michelle Armstrong

26 Quebec Arts Summit, Plenary *Building Partnerships Within the Education Sector*
attended by Glenna Uline, QFHSA Executive Director

October 2004

05 2nd Annual *Come Read With Me* Awards Ceremony held at Sinclair Laird School
supported by QFHSA, Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages, & LPQ

20 Riverdale H&S visited by Connie De Giorgio & Susan Tweddell

23 60th Anniversary Fall Conference held at Lindsay Place High School, Pointe-Claire

Keynote Speaker was Shari Graydon, author & media awareness consultant

Plenary Session on *Resources for Small Schools* included Noel Burke, Assistant

Deputy Minister of Education, and Josée Rourke, Eastern Townships School Board

25 Royal Vale High H&S visit - Connie De Giorgio & Beatrice Newman, Pres. Royal West Academy

26-28 QCGN Meeting in Gatineau, attended by Donna Norris & Glenna Uline

27 Ministerial Consultations, Ottawa, attended by Donna Norris

29 Deliberate Dialogue Session facilitated by Canadian Heritage, attended by Donna Norris

September 04

01 *Literacy and Children - A Resource Guide* grant proposal accepted by Canadian Heritage

18 Townshippers Day in Magog; QFHSA represented by Glenna Uline

26-28 QCGN meeting in Gatineau attended by Glenna Uline & Donna Norris

August 2004

27 Executive Workshops for local association presidents, treasurers, & membership chairs

June 2004

4-6 QCGN Meeting in Mount Orford attended by Glenna Uline & Donna Norris

11 QAAL Fundraising Workshop, attended by Glenna Uline

May 2004

18 Herbert Purcell H&S visited by Susan Tweddell, QFHSA Past-President

26-29 Canadian Home & School Federation AGM in Montreal hosted by QFHSA

April 24th Annual General Meeting launch of 60th Anniversary Celebration

April 2004

2004-2005

Continuing Activities

Canadian Heritage reports submitted quarterly for grant projects & programs

PALS - workshops conducted by Pat Waters across the province

Literacy Projects - Born to Read; books delivered to off-island areas

History of QFHSA and Archives projects on-going

Regional Councils Montreal area, Western Quebec, Eastern Shores

Committee meetings - Board of Directors, Executive Committee, AGM, Fall Conference,

Education, Rights, Finance, Small Schools; 60th Anniversary Celebration, etc

NEWS - four issues



QFHSA 61st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, APRIL 23, 2005
BUSINESS MEETING PROCEDURE

1. The **Annual General Meeting** [AGM] is **conducted in accordance** with our Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules. In the case of any procedural dispute reference shall be made to Robert's Rules of Order Revised.
2. Each **official voting delegate** of each Member Association shall have **one vote** on any question which comes before the meeting, **except** for associations more than 250 kilometers from Montreal. Such Associations will still be entitled to three votes, expressed either as an identical or divided vote. Application for such privilege is to be presented in writing to the Executive Secretary prior to the start of the business portion of the Annual General Meeting.
3. The **quorum for transaction of business** at the Annual General Meeting shall be twenty-five percent [25%] of **Member Associations in good standing**, represented by their official representatives or accredited alternates.
4. **Voting** shall be by ballot or show of hands. All questions shall be **decided by a majority of those present** and entitled to vote, **except** those which require a two-thirds [2/3] majority. On ballot votes, the votes of each association shall be handed in by the voting delegates of each association individually but at the same time. Counting of the votes shall be done by non-voting participants.
5. A **delegate** may not **speak** for more than two [2] **minutes** on any question under discussion, nor more than twice on any particular motion or resolution. Any person wishing to speak needs to stand and come to the microphone (if we have one).
6. **Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws** require a two-thirds [2/3] **vote** of the delegates present and entitled to vote. Notice of the proposed amendments must have been mailed to all Member Associations at least ten [10] weeks prior to the meeting. Modifications to these proposed amendments received two [2] weeks before the AGM will be considered, but **no modification may be made from the floor**.
7. **Resolutions** to the Annual General Meeting must have been circulated to the Member Associations eight [8] weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting. Resolutions received after the date specified will be presented as **Emergency Resolutions** only after consideration by the Chairman of the meeting and the Resolutions Committee. Delegates presenting resolutions are reminded that they must be present at the time designated on the agenda for the presentation of their resolution. The **presenting party** may **speak** to the resolution, or amendments thereto, for not more than FIVE [5] **minutes**. In addition to amendments received two weeks before the AGM there may be amendments emanating from the caucus session held earlier, **but no further amendments may be made from the floor**.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

PRINCIPLES

- Justice and Courtesy for all
- One thing at a time
- Recognition of the will of the majority
- Protection of the rights of the minority

PURPOSE

- ✓ To conduct business in an orderly and democratic manner by one or more of the following ways:
 - ✓ communications
 - ✓ committee reports
 - ✓ motions or resolutions

To participate effectively in the proceedings of meetings, each person needs to know the fundamentals of parliamentary procedure.

THE MAIN MOTION

WHAT IS A MOTION?

A main motion introduces a new item of business; it is a proposal that the group take a certain action. It is the basis of all discussion and states the bounds of discussion. All remarks pertain directly to the contents of the motion on the floor. The making of the motion comes first, discussion follows. A subsidiary motion qualifies the main motion or proposes an alternate timetable for consideration.

WHEN IS A MOTION NEEDED?

- It forms a basis for discussion on all major decisions of the group.
- When in doubt, ask for a motion to be proposed.
- Motions must be made on all matters involving finances not already included in the budget as approved.
- On minor matters, a question may be resolved by the chairman 'taking the sense of the meeting'.
- The decision must be clearly stated for the secretary to report in the minutes as well as for the benefit of the members.

THE STEPS TO PRESENTING A MOTION ARE:

1. member stands or raises a hand and says:
"Madame Chairman/Mr. Chairman."
The chairman recognizes the speaker by name.
2. The member says, **"I move that . . ."**, stating or reading a motion.
3. Another raises a hand to be identified by the chairman, then says:
"I second the motion." The seconder believes the motion should be discussed, but may not necessarily be in favour of it.
4. Chairman says, **"It has been moved by (name of mover) and seconded by (name of seconder) that . . .
..... Is there any discussion?"**
5. The mover usually speaks first, giving the reasons for the motion. The opportunity to speak to the motion must be given to anyone who wishes to speak to or oppose the motion. Discussion should be addressed to the chairman.
6. At the end of the discussion, the chairman says:
"If there is no further discussion" or **"Are you ready for the question?"** Then:
"The motion is that"
"All in favour?" (pause while the count is taken by the secretary)
"Opposed?" (pause while the count is taken by the secretary)

"Abstentions?" (pause while the count is taken by the secretary)
"The motion is carried" (or is defeated).

7. If anyone calls **"Division"** (questions the voice vote), the chair calls for a show of hands or a standing vote: **"All in favour raise your hand. All opposed . . ."** If a majority request it, the vote may be taken by ballot. A **"ballot vote"** is the recommended procedure for election of officers and for resolving a contentious issue.

SUBSIDIARY MOTIONS

AMENDMENTS CHANGE MOTIONS: To qualify the idea of a motion, but not to change the subject or the intent of the main motion.

1. **"I move to amend the motion by"** :

Inserting or adding a word, phrase or sentence.

Striking out a word, phrase or sentence.

Striking out and inserting a word or phrase or substituting a sentence or paragraph.

2. **"I second the motion to amend."**

3. **"It has been proposed to amend the motion to read as follows"**

The chairman states the main motion and the amendment so the group will understand how the amendment changes the motion. Amendment is handled in the same way as a motion with:

Discussion: **"Is there any discussion?"**

Question: **"If there is no further discussion, the amendment is"**

Vote: **"All in favour of the amendment"**

Chairman announces the outcome:

"The amendment is carried (or defeated)."

"The motion now before the meeting is"

(states the motion plus the amendment(s) if it carried)

In dealing with motions, the vote is taken first on the amendment. If passed, the amended motion is voted on. If the amendment is defeated, the main motion in its original form is voted on.

TO REFER: A question is referred to committee for further study and to submit a recommendation to the group at a later time.

TO TABLE: To set the matter aside until someone moves to reconsider it.

TO POSTPONE DEFINITELY: Postpone discussion until more facts are available.

TO POSTPONE INDEFINITELY: The motion may not be considered again that year.

- ▶ Recommended useful resource materials available for reference during a meeting:
A copy of your organization's Constitution and By-Laws. Robert's Rules of Order or other guide to basic rules of parliamentary procedure.



MINUTES OF THE 60TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS INC.
Held 24 April 2004 at the Montreal Airport Hilton, Dorval

Registered and present during the 60th Anniversary Annual General Meeting were 105 people. The Friday evening Awards Dinner was attended by 154 people, including special guests. There were 31 local Home & School Associations present (out of a possible 87), represented by 75 accredited delegates. Local Associations with voting delegates were:

Allancroft	Edgewater	Roslyn
Allion	Edinburgh	Royal West Academy
Arundel	Elizabeth Ballantyne	Seigniory
Aylmer/St.Marks	Evergreen	Shigawake/Port-Daniel
Baie Comeau High School	Honoré-Mercier	South Hull
Beechwood	Lakeside Academy	St. John Fisher
Cecil Newman	Lindsay Place High School	St. Patrick
Dunrae Gardens	Macdonald High School	Valois Park
E.P. Beaconsfield	McDowell	Westpark
Eardley	New Carlisle High School	Westwood Jr. High School
East Hill	Pierre Elliott Trudeau [P.E.T.E.S.]	

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Susan Tweddell, President, chaired the meeting. She welcomed everyone and introduced those at the Head Table: Anne MacWhirter, Executive Vice-President, Time Keeper; Sylvia Adams, Past-President of QFHSA and of Canadian Home & School Federation, serving as Parliamentarian; Carol Ohlin, Recording Secretary; Brian Rock, Vice-President, Speakers List.

The remaining Directors were also presented to the delegates: Michelle Armstrong, Connie De Giorgio, Olav Kappert, Donna Norris, Brenda McGill, and Norma Stirling. [Directors Margaret Funnell, Ron D'Souza and Helen Koeppe were not present.] Donna Sauriol, Executive Secretary and the 2004 recipient of the Leslie N. Buzzell Award, was recognized. The President welcomed guest Bradley Bos, Advisor, Official Languages Support Programs, Canadian Heritage. The greetings message from Sylvia Dyck, President of Canadian Home and School Federation, was read.

Newsletter Prizes were presented by Diane Radu, Editor of QFHSA *NEWS Focus on the Locals* section. Membership prizes were presented by Donna Norris, Membership Chair. Terry Gagnon, a teacher and a voting delegate from Westwood High School (Junior Campus), was presented with the special Teacher Draw prize.

The President briefly explained the contents of the delegates' kits. She called special attention to Emergency Resolution 2004/05E; the AGM Evaluation & Volunteer Form; the Reaffirmation of Membership and Executive Committee List 2004/05 for local associations; the notice to all associations to submit an Activity Report and a Financial Report to QFHSA by July 1.

QFHSA is hosting the CHSF AGM May 26-29 in Montreal. Everyone is invited to attend the Hospitality Evening, the business meeting and other events. Marion Daigle, QFHSA chair of the

CHSF Awards Selection Committee, announced the provincial winners who will be honoured at the Awards Banquet on May 28: Shirley Straughton, Health Issues Award; Margaret Mitchell, Samuel R. Laycock Award; Barbara Milne-Smith, Volunteer Recognition Award.

The meeting was officially called to order at 9:05 a.m.

1.1 Appointments & Procedures

Credentials	Connie De Giorgio
Parliamentarian	Sylvia Adams
Recording Secretary	Carol Ohlin
Speakers List	Brian Rock
Scrutineers	Donna Norris and Brenda McGill
Time Keeper	Anne MacWhirter

MOTION: Elena Purser (Aylmer/St. Marks)/Brigitte Soucy (Baie Comeau) to accept these appointments. **CARRIED**

Connie De Giorgio reported that there were presently 32 Home & School Associations in attendance which fulfilled the requirement of 22 schools for a quorum.

1.2 Parliamentary Procedure

Sylvia Adams briefly reviewed the Business Meeting Procedures described in the Book of Reports, page 3, and the principles of Parliamentary Procedure, pages 4-5, noting that the meeting would be conducted according to Roberts Rules of Order.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

MOTION: Joanne Jackson (Edgewater)/Joan Rossy (Allancroft) to accept the Agenda. **CARRIED**

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF 2003 AGM

MOTION: Dominique Campeau (Pierre Elliott Trudeau, Vaudreuil)/Agnes Blais (New Carlisle) to accept the 2003 AGM Minutes in the Book of Reports.

CARRIED

Note: Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary School in Vaudreuil/Dorion will hereafter be identified by the acronym P.E.T.E.S.

There was no business arising from the 2003 AGM Minutes.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Book of Reports, pp. 13-14)

MOTION: Sarah Roberts (Elizabeth Ballantyne)/Melanie Lovat (Westwood High) to accept the President's Report. **CARRIED**

5. LIABILITY INSURANCE & STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE REPORTS

(Book of Reports, p. 36 and Addendum to the Liability Report circulated at the meeting.)

Anne MacWhirter, Executive Vice-President, chaired the meeting while the President spoke to the Liability Insurance Report. Jim Stirling, Vice-President of B.F. Lorenzetti, was present as a resource person. The Liability Insurance policy has been a major concern this year. The coverage for Directors and Officers and Commercial General Liability is usually adequate for most Home and School activities. Other activities such as day care programs and extra-curricular activities require additional coverage. All sports activities are excluded from coverage. In addition, the cost increased significantly for the policy renewal from

December 1, 2003 to November 30, 2004. This has necessitated a proposed increased family membership fee from \$15 to \$16.

The coverage provided by our insurance broker, B.F. Lorenzetti, is adequate for most local associations. Those who wish to pursue activities excluded from our policy should seek additional coverage to meet their needs.

MOTION: Brigitte Soucy (Baie Comeau High School)/Martina Ruse (Lindsay Place High School) to accept the recommendation to appoint B. F. Lorenzetti as our Insurance Brokers for 2004/2005. **CARRIED**

MOTION: Marlyn Brownrigg (Valois Park)/Elena Purser (Aylmer/St. Marks) to endorse the Reliable Life Insurance Student Accident Plan for the year 2004/2005. **CARRIED**

6. **EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT** (Book of Reports, pp. 30-31)

Brenda McGill, Chair, spoke to her report.

The committee is looking for new members interested in education issues or working on a particular project. A sign-up sheet was circulated for those wishing to join the committee, to participate by e-mail, or to receive a copy of Resolution 2003/04 passed by the Board of Directors at the Board meeting on March 20, 2004.

MOTION: Michel Belleville (Lindsay Place High School)/Terri Tansey (Macdonald High School) to accept the Education Committee Report. **CARRIED**

7. **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT** (Book of Reports, p. 40)

Donna Norris, Chair, spoke to her report.

MOTION: Cynthia Enright (New Carlisle High School)/Giovanna Spadafora (Allion) to accept the Membership Committee Report. **CARRIED**

8. **RESOLUTIONS & POLICY** (Book of Reports, p. 29. Statement of Policy and Proposed Resolutions 2004 previously circulated. Emergency Resolution 2004/05E in Conference Kit.)
Norma Stirling, in the absence of Helen Koeppe, Chair, spoke to the report.

8.1. **Disposition of 2003 Resolutions**

Resolution 2003/01 Learning Disabled Students

Resolution 2003/02 Increased Costs for Schools which serve widely scattered, small, rural, isolated communities [reaffirmed from 1998/9]

Resolution 2003/03 Responsibility for Education: School Boards and Local Autonomy [reaffirmed from 1999/17]

Resolution 2003/04 Retention of English Schools [reaffirmed from 1999/12]

Resolution 2003/05 Wider Access to English Education [reaffirmed from 2001/5]

Emergency Resolution 2003-06 Support for Fraser-Hickson Library

Funding has been obtained to re-open and to operate the library.

8.2 **Statement of Policy** (Book of Reports, p. 29 and previously circulated)

MOTION: Sheila Splane(Aylmer/St. Marks)/Caroline Pedicelli (Arundel) to add to the Statement of Policy, EDUCATION, as passed by the 2003 Annual Meeting:

#44 Increased and sufficient funds for schools in isolated small rural communities to enable parents, school and board officials to meet on a regular basis. [2003/02]

#45 Increased MEQ budget allocation for special needs students to ensure their ability to succeed in school. [2003/01]

CARRIED

8.3 Emergency Resolution 2004/05E Institution of a Comprehensive Non-Smoking Policy for all students in all schools

An emergency resolution requires a 2/3 majority vote to add to the Agenda.
Stephanie Zampini, Lakeside Academy, spoke to the Emergency Resolution.

MOTION: Joan Rossy(Allancroft)/Caroline Pedicelli (Arundel) to accept
Emergency Resolution 2004/05E for caucusing and addition to the
Agenda. **CARRIED**

Caucusing Sessions

MOTION: Anna Otter(Westpark)/Caroline Pedicelli (Arundel) to recess the meeting for
caucusing sessions and refreshment break. **CARRIED**

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. Norma Stirling presented the Resolutions. A simple majority is required to pass; the procedure for amendments was explained. Additional destinations do not require an amendment.

Vote on Resolutions as circulated and discussed in Caucusing Sessions.

Resolution 2004/01 Increased Funding for Libraries and Librarians

Presented by Caucus Moderator Marion Daigle

MOTION: Anna Otter (Westpark)/Renée Gore (Seigniory) to accept an amendment
to the wording in THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that . . . in order to
upgrade and maintain *the school library and library services as a vital*
component of the education system. **CARRIED**

MOTION: Joan Rossy (Allancroft)/Kim Bergeron (Seigniory) to accept Resolution
2004/01 as amended. **CARRIED**

Resolution 2004/02 School Community: "Bullying" Response

Presented by Caucus Moderator Rickhey Margolese

MOTION: Dominique Campeau (P.E.T.E.S)/Cynthia Enright (New Carlisle H.S.) to
accept a friendly amendment to the wording in THEREFORE BE IT
RESOLVED that Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations
strongly urge local associations to compile a collection of the successes
and failures encountered in their attempts to deal with the issue of bullying
and to forward these to the provincial federation *for collation and*
distribution to the membership. **CARRIED**

MOTION: Deb Richardson (Arundel)/Bessie Ligris (Dunrae Gardens) to accept
Resolution 2004/02 as amended. **CARRIED**

Resolution 2004/03 English Educational Resources

Presented by Caucus Moderator Brenda McGill

MOTION: Elena Purser (Aylmer/St. Marks)/Joanne Jackson (Edgewater) to amend
the Resolution by deleting the sentence BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED
and to add to the THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that QFHSA urge the
Quebec Ministry of Education to give *priority to its commitment as well as*
sufficient budgetary support to the Centre to improve, expand and to
enlarge its scope. **CARRIED**

MOTION: Renée Gore (Seigniory)/Brigitte Soucy (Baie Comeau) to accept
Resolution 2004/03 as amended. **CARRIED**

[Resolution 2004/04 Government Consultation of Parents]

*Note: This resolution was passed by the Board of Directors meeting of March 20, 2004, and
was not on the Agenda for the Annual General Meeting.*

Emergency Resolution 2004/05E

Institution of a Comprehensive Non-Smoking Policy for all students in all schools

Presented by Caucus Moderator Norma Stirling

Editorial Changes accepted as friendly amendments for clarity and appropriate format:

- Title to read: *Institution of a Comprehensive Non-Smoking Policy in All Schools*
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that *the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations urge that a comprehensive Non-Smoking Policy*
- Each WHEREAS ends with a comma; delete *and* as needed
- WHEREAS #2, #3, #6, #7: Add Footnote #1 to indicate quotations from Health Canada publication Straight Facts
- WHEREAS #4, #5: Add Footnote #2 to indicate quotations from Danger Coming to a Lung Near You
- WHEREAS #3: Replace "because *it* can harm" with "because it [*smoking*] can harm"
- WHEREAS #4: Insert "chemicals in tobacco smoke, . . . *at least fifty . . .*"
- WHEREAS #9 and WHEREAS #10 be reversed in order

MOTION: Terri Tansey (Macdonald H.S.)/Sheila Splane (Aylmer/St. Marks) to amend WHEREAS #9 to read: WHEREAS the individual schools, *governing boards* and school boards are committed to making decisions . . . **CARRIED**

MOTION: Terri Tansey (Macdonald H.S.)/Vicky Kottis (Dunrae Gardens) to amend WHEREAS #10 to read: WHEREAS designating areas *to smoke on school property is a gesture in support of the behaviour of tobacco smoking, which is not in the 'best interests' of the students,* **CARRIED**

MOTION: Paula Macro (Macdonald H.S.)/ Liz Carter (St. John Fisher) to accept WHEREAS #10 as amended. **CARRIED**

MOTION: Stephanie Zampini (Lakeside Academy)/Tara Hamel (P.E.T.E.S.) to accept Resolution 2004/05E as amended. **CARRIED**

9. FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT (Book of Reports, p. 32 and pp. 15-24).

Norma Stirling spoke to the reports on behalf of the committee. Director Marg Funnell was thanked for all of her excellent work in preparing Canadian Heritage grant applications. We are very pleased that Debi Brown has agreed to accept the nomination of Treasurer. During the past few years in the absence of a treasurer, Accountant Denis Foisy has been hired to help prepare the financial reports.

9.1 MOTION: Anna Otter (Westpark)/Sheila Splane (Aylmer/St. Marks) to increase the Family Membership Fee for 2004/2005 to \$16.00. **CARRIED**

9.2 MOTION: Renée Gore (Seigniory)/Martina Ruse (Lindsay Place H.S.) to accept the changes to the Financial Approval Limits and Procedures. **CARRIED**

Note: The FAL&P was approved by the Board of Directors Meeting of March 20, 2004, and circulated to the voting delegates at the AGM.

9.3 MOTION: Diana Donnelly (Valois Park)/Dominique Campeau (P.E.T.E.S.) to accept the Auditor's Report. **CARRIED**

9.4 MOTION: Elena Purser (Aylmer/St. Marks)/Giovanna Spadafora (Allion) to reappoint Verelli-Arrizza Chartered Accountants as our auditor for the year 2004/2005. **CARRIED**

9.5 MOTION: Brigitte Soucy (Baie Comeau)/Joanne Jackson (Edgewater) to accept the 2005 Proposed Budget. **CARRIED**

9.6 **MOTION:** Tara Hamel (P.E.T.E.S)/Diana Donnelly (Valois Park) to accept the Finance Committee Report. **CARRIED**

MOTION: Renée Gore (Seigniory)/Dominique Campeau (P.E.T.E.S.) to accept the remaining reports (except Nominations) from the Book of Reports *en bloc*. **CARRIED**

10. **NOMINATIONS REPORT** (Book of Reports, p. 43 and up-date previously circulated) Norma Stirling, Chair, presented the Nominations Report.

MOTION: Terri Tansey (Macdonald H.S.)/Jaya Patel (Lindsay Place H.S.) to accept these nominations to the Board of Directors for a two-year term 2004-2006:
Debi Brown Connie De Giorgio Marg Funnell
And one nomination to the Board of Directors for a one-year term 2004-2005:
Norma Stirling

MOTION: Renée Gore (Seigniory)/Sheila Splane (Aylmer/St. Marks)) to declare nominations closed. **CARRIED**

Acclamation of Officers:

With no further nominations received, the President acclaimed as officers of QFHSA:

President:	Donna Norris
Executive Vice-President	Norma Stirling
Secretary:	Brenda McGill
Treasurer:	Debi Brown
Vice-President	Connie De Giorgio
Vice-President	Anne MacWhirter

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION: Renée Gore (Seigniory)/Cathy Keays (Dunrae Gardens) to accept the Nominations Committee Report. **CARRIED**

Note: Helen Koeppe had withdrawn her name from the list of nominations for a two-year term. She was thanked for her many years of extraordinary and dedicated service.

Five positions remain vacant on the Board of Directors. Delegates were encouraged to think of other possible nominees in their schools and communities. Regional Councils also will be asked to bring forward names.

Installation of Board of Directors


Sylvia Adams, Past-President of Canadian Home and School Federation and of QFHSA, invested the Board of Directors for the years 2004-2006 In turn, the delegates and their local associations were asked to give their full support in fulfilling the work of QFHSA and the mandate of the Directors.

Canadian Heritage

Bradley Bos brought greetings from Canadian Heritage, congratulating everyone for their efforts in the voluntary sector. He mentioned programs that are available for youth and the website www.pch.qc.ca [Patrimoine Canadien] for links to additional information.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.



President



Secretary

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Report to Annual General Meeting, April 23, 2005

Submitted by Donna Norris

In celebration of the QFHSA 60th Anniversary in 2003/04 the theme was

Time Well Spent! / Du temps bien investi!

For this coming year the theme will be

Touching Minds, Shaping Futures.

Highlights of 2004

1. At our 2004 Annual General Meeting we started our yearlong celebration of our 60th year as the Quebec Federation of the Home and School Associations. Many special guests attended the Awards Dinner on April 22nd. Her Excellency, the Lieutenant Governor of Quebec, The Honourable Lise Thibault gave a lovely speech and presented QFHSA with a recognition award. The Minister of Education, Pierre Reid, spoke of the importance of the role of parents and volunteers in the schools. Assistant Deputy Minister, Noel Burke; Martin Murphy, President of the Quebec Community Groups Network and many past Presidents of QFHSA attended as well. It was a memorable evening for all.

In recognition of this special event, QFHSA History Posters were designed and distributed to all member schools. Pat Waters designed a new logo for our 60th Anniversary Pin which was also used on the 60th Anniversary T-shirts.

Local Home and Schools were requested to celebrate our 60 years of accomplishments by donating \$60, or a variation thereof, to a charity in their communities and/or to donate \$60 to the QFHSA 60th year celebration funds. Many of our members participated in this request and many community charities benefited from the local Home and Schools' generosity.

2. QFHSA once again has a Treasurer. Debi Brown has joined the team and we are very happy to have her on board.
3. QFHSA hosted the Canadian Home and School Federation's 2004 Annual General Meeting in May. A very busy time over five days, a great deal of work was accomplished, and also some fun. All Directors were invited to share a dinner at Head Office and then participated in a workshop given by Marion Daigle on the State of School Libraries. Marion was presented with a beautiful framed picture of the Montreal *Gazette* article in recognition of her Montreal "Woman of the Year" award in November 2003.
4. In August QFHSA held Executive Workshops for the local associations at the provincial office. Thirty participants representing sixteen schools attended workshops given for Presidents, Treasurers, and Membership Chairs. The facilitators for these workshops were Norma Stirling, Debi Brown, Michelle Armstrong and Connie De Giorgio.

5. Our Fall Conference was on October 23rd at Lindsay Place High School. The hosting school created wonderful posters that received compliments from many people throughout the day. Lindsay Place was warm and welcoming and did a magnificent job.

Our keynote speaker Shari Graydon, author of *Made You Look* and *In Your Face: The Culture of Beauty and You*, spoke on making youngsters media savvy and on Media Literacy.

The program included a Small Schools Forum facilitated by Brian Rock, Director and Principal of Baie Comeau High School. The panelists were Noel Burke, Assistant Deputy Minister of Education Services to the English Community; Donna Norris, QFHSA President and parent at Symmes Jr. High; Julie Hobbs, Assistant DG, Riverside School Board and special needs expert; and Craig Buchanan, Vice-President, English Affairs, Federation of Parent Committees. This forum was the second in a series that QFHSA has held.

6. The Presidents Appreciation Dinner for local Home and School Associations was held on Feb. 25th at the Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club. Once again this year it was a great success. We wrapped up our year long 60th celebrations, with an evening full of games and fun organized by the 60th committee.
7. We continue to work with Regional Councils. Many schools were visited this year and several Regional Council meetings were also attended by directors. The Western Quebec Regional Council held its 3rd Annual Conference in March.
8. I would like to acknowledge and thank Norma Stirling, Anne MacWhirter, Connie De Giorgio, Michelle Armstrong, Brian Rock, Debi Brown, and Margaret Funnell for their dedication and hard work this past year. I would also like to mention the hard working and always appreciated staff of QFHSA: Donna Sauriol, Carol Ohlin and Glenna Uline. The support and team work of both the directors and staff made a very busy year enjoyable.

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2004

Verelli-Arrizza

Comptables Agréés - Chartered Accountants

Anthony Verelli, C.A.
Adriano Arrizza, C.A.

AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members of
QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

We have audited the statement of financial position of Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations as at December 31, 2004, and the statements of revenues and expenses and cash flow for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Associations' management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

Except as explained in the following paragraph, we conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In common with many charitable organizations, the Association derives revenues and contributions from various sources, the completeness of the non-government revenue and contributions are not susceptible to complete audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Association and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to revenues and net assets.

In our opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves concerning the completeness of the non-government revenues and contributions referred to in the preceding paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as at December 31, 2004, and the results of its operations and its cash flow for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.


Chartered Accountants

Montreal, Quebec
February 15, 2005

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS
(Incorporated under the laws of Quebec)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2004

ASSETS

	2004	2003
CURRENT		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 99,489	\$ 121,162
Funds held in trust	5,000	5,359
Sales and business taxes receivable	8,746	13,826
Grants receivable	25,250	39,688
Prepaid expenses	<u>15,798</u>	<u>13,237</u>
	<u>\$ 154,283</u>	<u>\$ 193,272</u>

LIABILITIES

CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 2,750	\$ 2,500
Funds held in trust (Note 3)	5,000	5,359
Deferred program grants (Note 4)	39,112	26,475
Deferred history and archive grant (Note 5)	12,933	16,899
Deferred membership fees (Note 6)	42,188	40,989
Deferred non-government revenue (Note 7)	<u>652</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>102,635</u>	<u>92,222</u>

NET ASSETS

BALANCE - BEGINNING OF YEAR	101,050	112,411
Excess of expenses over revenues	<u>(49,402)</u>	<u>(11,361)</u>
BALANCE - END OF YEAR	<u>51,648</u>	<u>101,050</u>
	<u>\$ 154,283</u>	<u>\$ 193,272</u>

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

Director

Director

See accompanying notes

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

	2004	2003
REVENUES (Exhibit C)	\$ <u>205,565</u>	\$ <u>196,797</u>
EXPENSES		
CHSF Affiliation fees and others	6,875	4,287
CHSF AGM 2004	13,542	-
Conferences and outreach	40,668	29,106
Promotional material	4,500	5,250
Home and School News	27,580	23,109
Insurance	15,780	13,183
Provincial office		
Equipment purchases	726	803
Postage and courier	4,598	8,124
Office supplies	9,095	10,198
Telephone	4,658	3,399
Administration	3,061	4,268
Rent, electricity and occupancy charges	17,639	15,123
Salaries and employee benefits	89,404	75,555
Fees and honorariums	1,960	2,291
History and archive grant	3,966	151
Community kitchen project	4,052	10,340
Literacy book project	-	2,971
Federal Canadian heritage literacy book	<u>6,863</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>254,967</u>	<u>208,158</u>
EXCESS OF EXPENSES OVER REVENUES	\$ <u>(49,402)</u>	\$ <u>(11,361)</u>

See accompanying notes

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

	2004	2003
REVENUES (Note 2(a))		
Membership fees - family	\$ 70,819	\$ 86,830
Membership fees - other	409	705
Federal Canadian heritage program grant	52,500	52,500
Quebec government grant	20,000	20,000
History and archive grant	3,966	151
Federal Canadian heritage literacy book	6,863	-
Non - Government grants	3,348	-
CHSF AGM 2004	11,022	-
Community kitchen project	4,052	8,898
Literacy book project	-	4,000
Donations received for locals	25,273	25,618
Donations remitted to locals	(24,648)	(26,081)
Donations - other	2,259	30
News - advertising and subscriptions	2,811	2,153
Conferences	14,889	11,544
Membership materials	2,113	1,344
Miscellaneous	4,110	2,633
Interest	1,169	2,822
Administration fees	<u>4,610</u>	<u>3,650</u>
	<u>\$ 205,565</u>	<u>\$ 196,797</u>

See accompanying notes

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

	2004	2003
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of expenses over revenues	\$ (49,402)	\$ (11,361)
Decrease (increase) in sales and business taxes receivable	5,080	(8,423)
Decrease (increase) in grants receivable	14,438	(35,750)
Increase in prepaid expenses	(2,561)	(4,823)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	250	(65)
Increase in deferred program grant	12,637	-
Decrease in deferred history and archive grant	(3,966)	(151)
Increase (decrease) in deferred membership fees	1,199	(16,857)
Increase in deferred non-government revenue	<u>652</u>	<u>-</u>
CASH USED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES	(21,673)	(77,430)
 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS -BEGINNING OF YEAR	 <u>121,162</u>	 <u>198,592</u>
 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - END OF YEAR	 <u>\$ 99,489</u>	 <u>\$ 121,162</u>

See accompanying notes

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2004

1. NATURE AND PURPOSE OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations is an incorporated, independent, not-for-profit volunteer organization dedicated to enhancing the education and general well being of children and youth. It promotes the involvement of parents, students, educators and the community at large in the advancement of learning and acts as a voice for parents.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Revenue Recognition

The Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations follows the deferral method of accounting for program and history and archive grant and membership fees.

Membership fees are received mostly in the fall of each year and are taken in revenue over the period from September to the following August.

Program funding and grants are received from Federal and Provincial agencies for various donor fiscal years and are taken into revenue over each donor's fiscal year.

History and archive grant revenue is recognized to the cost which is expensed in any given year.

b) Expensing Capital Purchases

The Association expenses all purchases of a capital nature.

c) Contributed Services

Volunteers at the Federation level contribute approximately 14,700 hours per year to assist the Federation in carrying out its activities. Because of the difficulty in determining their fair value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

3. FUNDS HELD IN TRUST

The Association has funds in trust amounting to \$5,000 which represents the original contributions made by three donors, who requested that the interest earned on the funds in trust be used to pay for awards given out at the annual general meeting. A committee is appointed to consider all submissions for the awards, and to choose the ones, they consider best, meet the guidelines.

Cont'd.

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2004

4. DEFERRED PROGRAM GRANTS

The deferred program grants from Canadian Heritage and The Quebec Ministry of Education are for funding operating costs.

	2004	2003
Balance - Beginning of year	\$ 26,475	\$ 26,475
Less: Amount recognized as revenue in the year	(26,475)	(26,475)
Plus: Amount received for the following year	<u>39,112</u>	<u>26,475</u>
Balance - End of year	<u>\$ 39,112</u>	<u>\$ 26,475</u>

5. DEFERRED HISTORY AND ARCHIVE GRANT

The deferred history and archive grant is utilized to set up a history and archive project for the association.

	2004	2003
Balance - Beginning of year	\$ 16,899	\$ 17,050
Less: Amount recognized as revenue in the year	<u>(3,966)</u>	<u>(151)</u>
Balance - End of year	<u>\$ 12,933</u>	<u>\$ 16,899</u>

6. DEFERRED MEMBERSHIP FEES

The deferred membership fees are from members of the Association and for funding operating costs.

	2004	2003
Balance - Beginning of year	\$ 40,989	\$ 57,846
Less: Amount recognized as revenue in the year	(40,989)	(57,846)
Plus: Amount received for the following year	<u>42,188</u>	<u>40,989</u>
Balance - End of year	<u>\$ 42,188</u>	<u>\$ 40,989</u>

Cont'd.

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2004

7. DEFERRED NON-GOVERNMENT REVENUE

The deferred non-government revenue are for literacy projects.

	2004	2003
Amount received during the year	\$ 4,000	\$ -
Less: Amount recognized as revenue in the year	<u>(3,348)</u>	<u>-</u>
Balance - End of year	<u>\$ 652</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

8. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Association has evaluated the fair value of its financial instruments based on the current interest rate environment, market value and actual prices of financial instruments with similar terms. The carrying value of the financial instruments is considered to approximate fair value.



60th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting, April 23, 2005

Submitted by Michelle Armstrong, Chair

Committee Members Anne MacWhirter, Beverlee Bishundayal, Elena Purser, Sheila Splane, Susan Tweddell, Donna Norris, Norma Stirling, Glenna Uline, Donna Sauriol, Carol Ohlin

Quite an eventful year for the QFHSA 60th anniversary! *Time Well Spent/Du temps bien investi!*

To recap, the committee began the year by creating our new history poster which can be used for years to come in local membership drives.

A new commemorative pin was also designed and produced and available for purchase. Thank you to Pat Waters whose design experience made this an extra special creation. These pins were also used throughout the year as gifts to special guests and at QFHSA events.

Our official start to the 60th year took place at the AGM 2004 where we kicked off the great year with high profile special guests at our awards banquet. The committee also sponsored the motivational Saturday afternoon speaker, Paul Huschilt on *Seven Humour Habits for Health and Wellness*.

In order to raise funds for our 60th year, the committee invited all local associations to make a \$60 contribution; approximately 24 locals participated in this sponsorship. At the AGM many special prizes donated by sponsors were won by local associations in a drawing: a beautiful painting, AML Cruiseline tickets, bountiful Italian wine basket and more.

To kick off the 2004-2005 school year, the committee put forth two initiatives to the locals:

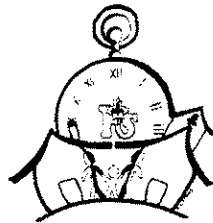
1. Community Involvement. Each local was encouraged to make a donation in their local association's name to a worthy cause in their community.
 - South Hull Home and School contributed \$160 to *Maison Mathieu-Froment Savoie*.
 - Lord-Aylmer Home and School contributed \$160 towards their local *CLSC Childrens Fund*
 - Lindsay Place High School contributed \$60 to the *Born to Read* project in Pierrefonds.
 - St John Fisher School contributed \$60 to *West Island Big Brothers & Big Sisters*.
2. Library Initiative. Each local was encouraged to support its school or community library to promote literacy.
 - Baie Comeau High School (includes elementary) started serious work on the school library, beginning with weeding out books from the 1900s. QFHSA contributed some sparkling clean new books to help with the cause.
 - Lord-Aylmer Home and School did a complete overhaul on the junior campus library, creating many lovely murals.

Moving into the Fall Conference, the committee was very involved in the co-ordination of special events. The evening before the conference, Elena Purser, along with a few other committee members, hosted a fun, relaxing evening for the out-of-town guests. Anniversary prize give-aways to locals who contributed to the anniversary fund continued and the vendor/displays passport game at the Fall Conference also brought in great responses.

During the Fall, the committee made a donation of \$180 to a Montreal-area school library that had been destroyed by a fire-bombing.

In closing the 60th year for QFHSA, Anne MacWhirter and committee members organized the entertainment for the 2005 Presidents Appreciation Dinner. Many games were played and laughs were had. A comfortable, fun evening to thank our local Presidents who do so much throughout the school year.

The 60th committee would like to wish QFHSA another successful 60 years!



CANADIAN HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION (CHSF)

Report to the Annual General Meeting, April 23, 2005

Submitted by Donna Norris, QFHSA President

Midterm Meeting, November 2004

The mid-term meeting held in Ottawa started with enthusiasm to move CHSF forward. Major changes to membership fees were discussed and will be brought forward early in 2005. The added time allotted to Provincial Sharing was very appreciated by all provinces.

With Donna Fillion's resignation as President on October 5th, 2004, Georgina Allen was appointed as the interim President. Elections took place to fill the President's position. Georgina Allen was nominated and accepted the position.

The CHSF executive committee now consists of the following members and it will be so until the 2005 AGM:

President	Georgina Allen (PEI)
Western Vice-President	Terri-Lynne Huddlestone (BC)
Central Vice-President	Michelle Armstrong (QC)
Eastern Vice-President	Glyn Morgan (NB)
Treasurer	Joann Lloyd (AB)

The executive all seem to be focused and working together well to accomplish tasks in a professional manner. The provinces were all asked what they felt CHSF could and should do for its members and the executive committee is working towards those goals while still focusing on the business plan.

National Representation

The CHSF Executive Committee has taken on representing the CHSF at various functions and meetings throughout the year:

- Presentation to F&ST (Family & Schools Together) conference
- Attendance at National Child's Day in the Senate
- Canada's Outstanding Principals Award Advisory Committee
- Provincial Events and AGMs

National Projects

- Drug Awareness: A project proposal has been submitted to Health Canada that would provide CHSF with the ability to partner with various organizations to disseminate information and train parents on the awareness of drugs and alcohol. CHSF is awaiting response to the proposal and projects the response to be received by June 2005. This is a 3 year project which would begin in the summer of 2005.
- Resource Database: CHSF is in the process of securing funds to create a national database for resources that are at the CHSF office in Ottawa. Once complete, the resources would be available through a database online to provincial members of CHSF. These resources would be helpful to the provincial members in preparing research

documents, applying for funding and for workshops for their members. Provincial members will also be able to include their provincial documents in the database to share with other provincial members.

- **Inclusive Education:** CHSF has formed partnerships on this initiative and has accepted a position on the National Advisory Committee with Canadian Association of Community Living (CACL). CHSF has also prepared an action plan on how to move forward on this issue.

Website

The CHSF website www.canadianhomeandschool.com has had major changes. The CHSF Executive Committee has been adding information for its members and parents on key issues and has been continuously updating the site.

CHSF 2005 AGM – May 25-29, 2005

Baddeck, Nova Scotia

Theme: *History, Look in Your Own Backyard*

The year 2005 marks the phenomenal 110th year of the existence of the Home and School movement in Canada. Parental support of children and schools will receive an important recognition in Baddeck with the unveiling by Heritage Canada of the Canadian Home and School Federation's plaque as an organization of historical significance.

CANADIAN HOME & SCHOOL FEDERATION (CHSF)

Report to the QFHSA Annual General Meeting, April 23, 2005

Submitted by Michelle Armstrong, Central Vice-President

I would like to congratulate QFHSA on its 60th anniversary and extend a warm welcome to all members of the Quebec Home and School Association. Your dedication and volunteerism are truly remarkable.

Aside from provincial representation of Ontario and Quebec, I have been involved in the CHSF Executive Committee and working for the CHSF Board since the 2004 AGM in Montreal. A few of my "other" responsibilities to the CHSF include:

- Communications Chair
- Website maintenance
- Promotional Material Renewal
- Fundraising

Provincial Representation

QFHSA

I have accompanied Donna Norris, QFHSA President, to presentations to two schools in Western Quebec where I demonstrated the connections between the four levels of communication: local associations, regional councils, provincial federations and the national federation. Milestones of CHSF were mentioned to local parents and staff members present so that they may recognize the significance of the National Federation.

As being a QFHSA Vice President as well, I attended all functions of QFHSA and brought CHSF greetings when appropriate. I have also been in constant contact with the QFHSA representative to the CHSF Board of Directors and have kept communication open.

OFHSA (Ontario Home & School Association)

March 2005: I attended an OFHSA meeting held in Ottawa with the CHSF Director, Sue Robertson. This presentation by OFHSA was to inform parents from many schools in Ottawa about the important role of OFHSA and how they can become members. My attendance at this meeting was for the support of the OFHSA members present and to offer assistance where requested.

April 2005: I will be attending the OFHSA Annual General Meeting and parent conference in Brantford, Ontario where I will be more directly involved in the program: bringing welcome to their parent members, swearing in new OFHSA Directors and attending their Awards Dinner and Presidents Cocktail. I will also be attending various workshops throughout the event.

Communication between myself and OFHSA has been ongoing and offers of assistance in any matters have been expressed.

I look forward to continuing into my second year as the Canadian Home and School Federation's Central Vice President and wish to extend my sincere thanks to QFHSA for your support.

CANADIAN HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION AGM 2004

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 23, 2005

Submitted by: Pat Waters - General Arrangements Chairperson

Mandate: To coordinate the general arrangements for the 2004 Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Home and School Federation (CHSF). This involved accommodation, meals, ground transportation in Montreal, meeting facilities, sightseeing and an awards banquet.

Members of the Committee:

Patricia Waters, Anne MacWhirter, Norma Stirling, Margaret Funnell, Michelle Armstrong, Donna Norris, Susan Tweddell.

Date: May 26th to May 30th, 2004

Theme: “Parent Partners in Education: Setting Goals, Taking Action”

Highlights:

- CHSF celebrated its 109th Anniversary in Montreal, Quebec. Twenty-two delegates from across the country participated in a three-day Board of Directors and Annual General Meeting at the Holiday Inn Midtown on Sherbrooke Street West. Rooms were also booked at the Royal Victoria College McGill University residence across the street at a lower rate.
- The QFHSA Hospitality Suite was hosted by Anne MacWhirter, Susan Tweddell, Donna Norris and Michelle Armstrong. Host gift bags and prizes were given to all of the delegates and were organized by Michelle Armstrong.
- A 3 hour bus tour was offered and featured Old Montreal, Notre Dame Basilica, the Olympic Park, Mount Royal and other popular sites. Anne MacWhirter was our official host and made sure everyone had a good time.
- The Board Meeting began Thursday, May 27th at 2:00 pm following the tour and continued all day Friday, May 28th and Saturday afternoon, May 29th. The AGM was held Saturday, May 28th from 8:30 to noon. Lunch was served all 3 days outside the meeting room and nutrition breaks took place inside the board room at 10:00 am and 3:00 pm.
- Volunteer drivers were needed for Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday to ferry our delegates back and forth to the airport and to our special evening events. They were Norma Stirling, who coordinated the driving schedule, Pat Waters, Norma Cheng, Brenda McGill and her husband Michal Wawrosz, Donna Norris and Debbie Martin (N.B. delegate).

.../

- Thursday evening was the official QFHSA Hospitality Night at the office on Cavendish. This event was coordinated by Norma Stirling. A light supper prepared by Norma Stirling and Anne MacWhirter was served and Marion Daigle, a CHSF Life Member and a former QFHSA President spoke on "Our Children and Literacy in the 21st Century". All of the QFHSA staff were present as well as a few Board QFHSA members.
- The CHSF Awards Banquet was in the Holiday Inn Midtown and we honoured 3 Provincial Award Recipients and 3 National Award recipients:
 - Margaret Mitchell of Quebec was awarded the Dr. Samuel R. Laycock Award for her continuous work in public education.
 - The Health Issues Award recipient was Shirley Straughton of Quebec for her successful efforts regarding CPR courses in high schools and the safety issues of trampolines on school property.
 - The National Volunteer Recognition Award went to Barbara Milne-Smith, a former President of QFHSA and the Chair of the CHSF Trust Fund from 1997-2002.
 - Pat Johansen, the outgoing CHSF Central Vice-President, was also awarded the National Volunteer Recognition Award for her continued support of CHSF.
 - Marilyn Ashby, benefactor of the CHSF Health Issues Award and Silvia Dyck, Past-President CHSF, were honoured with CHSF Life Member Awards.
 - Banquet guests included: Marcus Tabachnick, Chairman, Quebec English School Boards Association; Marny Beale, President Canadian Association of Principals; and Leo La France, Chair of the Association of Directors General of the English School Boards of Quebec.
- On the Saturday evening we attended a dinner/theatre at Le Festin du Gouverneur on St. Helen's Island at 7:00 pm. This was a very entertaining way to end the 3 days of meetings and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. It was also a wonderful way to give our Canadian delegates the true sense of the "joie de vivre" we all feel living in Quebec!

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Report to the Annual General Meeting, April 23, 2005

Submitted by Sylvia Adams, Chair [acting]

Mandate To ensure that the Federation Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules allow a functioning organization.

To vet the constitutions of local associations, when submitted and to make suggestions for improvements or additions. [Note: a generic constitution is available from the Federation for new locals requesting membership in the Federation as is assistance in adapting the by-laws and standing rules to local conditions.]

Members Barbara Milne-Smith, Norma Stirling

The Constitution Committee met on February 16, 2005 to examine proposals regarding amendments and textual clarifications to the By-Laws and Standing Rules.

The result of the meeting is the submission of three amendments to the By-Laws for consideration by the voting delegates at the Federation's 2005 Annual General Meeting.

These proposals refer to Article III 1. a) Board of Directors; Article VII Fiscal Year and Article VIII 1. Banking.

Following study by appropriate parties, further amendments may be proposed for the 2006 Annual General Meeting.

The Constitution Committee would like to thank Brian Rock, Baie Comeau, for his interest in proposing amendments and his suggestions toward refining the textual consistency of these important documents.

HISTORY / ARCHIVES PROJECT

Report to the Annual General Meeting

Submitted by Marion Daigle, Coordinator

History

Draft 4 has been received and is being reviewed. The process has been slow due to the coordinator's volunteer time with literacy and the archive projects. It is hoped that significant progress and completion will occur in 2005.

Archives

Part 2 of the Archives Project is ongoing. Twelve boxes were added to the archives collection and additional resource materials are being organized by Josée Martel, archivist. Shelving for archives was installed in March 2004.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Report to Annual General Meeting, April 23, 2005

Submitted by Oliver Cole, Chair

Mandate To be responsible for maintaining and developing education policy for the QFHSA and its members defined by the mission statement.

Members Oliver Cole, Chair; Dave Harries, Rickhey Margolese, Petra Mueller, Donna Norris, Brian Rock, Dianne Skoda
E-mail: Norma Stirling, Marion Daigle Staff: Glenna Uline

Representatives from Home and School Associations are always welcome to attend the meetings and to join the Education Committee. The topics are of interest and concern to all parents. Please contact the office for meeting dates and agenda items.

Priorities At the November 2004 meeting of the Education Committee, the members decided to focus on the the following areas for 2004/05:

1. Review of MEQanics to update the current edition
 - Revision and distribution with the September 2005 QFHSA NEWS
2. Track current report card reform, both at the elementary and secondary level
 - How are school boards responding to the reform and parents' concerns? The high school level report card change begins next fall.
3. Feasibility review for a collection of School Success Plans
 - Responses are being returned from the mailings sent to the local associations in November.
4. The increasing dropout rate and reforming vocational training starting in Sec. III
 - Guidance Oriented Approach to Learning (GOAL) with regards to its implementation, progress and status within the school boards.
 - Guest speaker Barbara Goode, MEQ, responsible for Technical/Vocation, Adult Education and Drop-out Retention addressed the February meeting.

Liaison QFHSA has representation on the following outside committees:

MEQ Curriculum Council		Petra Mueller
Secondary Language Arts Advisory Council	SLAAC	Dianne Skoda
Elementary Language Arts Consultative Committee	ELACC	none this year
Commission de l'éducation en langue anglaise	CELA	
[Nomination submitted for next year]		
Quebec Superior Council of Education		
[Pierre Reid, Minister of Education, invited QFHSA to submit a nomination]		

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting, April 23, 2005

Submitted by Debi Brown, Treasurer

Mandate: To oversee the financial aspects of the organization; to advise the board as to expenditures; to make recommendations regarding fees, committee budgets and possible sources of funding; and to prepare the budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

Members: Debi Brown (chair), Norma Stirling, Margaret Funnell, Donna Norris
Glenna Uline, Donna Sauriol, Carol Ohlin

1. Grants: The grants received this year were \$52,500 from the Department of Canadian Heritage; \$20,000 from MEQ. In addition we received a grant of \$19,500 from the Department of Canadian Heritage for Family Literacy; \$4,000 non-government grants for other Literacy Projects.
2. Purchases: Beyond the normal expenditures for the office supplies and equipment maintenance.
3. Budget: The budget for 2005 was revised to reflect change in the operation of QFHSA. The 2006 budget was developed for presentation at the 2005 AGM.
4. Reporting Statements: We are attempting to develop a financial statement for internal use that will meet the mandate of the committee and reflect the operation of QFHSA and all its committees. This new statement will be transparent and fluid enough to be easily organized into the Department of Canadian Heritage categories for financial reporting.
5. Fiscal Year: There has been ongoing discussion on when would be the best fiscal year end: options are calendar (current); Membership (September - August) or funding (April - May). Changing the fiscal year requires approval from Industry Canada, Revenue Canada and Revenu Quebec and could affect the Annual General Meeting date.

HEALTH ISSUES

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 23, 2005

Submitted by Shirley Straughton, Chairman

Mandate To identify health risks affecting children and adolescents, promote preventative health measures and submit reports to the QFHSA Board of Directors.

Summary of Activities

QFHSA NEWS - Articles were published on the following subjects:

- Safety concerns re: baby walkers
- Child obesity
- Trampoline alert
- Active living challenge for children with disabilities
- Eczema and AllergyExpo information
- Scald burns
- Tobacco Free school initiative

FALL CONFERENCE 2004

A workshop on safety was developed to attract our Francophone members entitled "Tenez votre enfant à l'abri du danger". Diane Richard and Helen Kocilowicz, Clinical Coordinators of the Child and Adolescent Trauma Program of the Montreal Children's Hospital were invited to speak on this topic and handed out a variety of pamphlets as well as their sharing their expertise with the participants.

COMMUNITIES AND SCHOOLS FOR HEALTH

At the request of Canadian Home & School Federation, this committee represented both QFHSA and CHSF in November 2004 at this conference in Ottawa that was attended by representatives from health and education sectors across Canada. It was based on the Canadian Consensus Statement for Comprehensive School Health that has been endorsed by CSBA (Canadian School Boards Association), CTF (Canadian Teachers Association), CHSF and many more. The goals are to promote health and wellness, prevent specific diseases, disorders and injury, intervene to assist children and youth who are in need or at risk and to help support those who are already experiencing poor health. Several workshops were dedicated to research and methodology but others were shared success stories such as the Tobacco Free Initiative already published in the NEWS by this committee.

Many thanks to Donna Sauriol and Carol Ohlin in the QFHSA office, and Diane Richard, Helen Kocilowicz and Debbie Friedman from the Child and Adolescent Trauma Program at the Montreal Children's Hospital.

LITERACY

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 23, 2005

Submitted by Marion Daigle, Resource

Committee Members:

Marion Daigle, Dorothy Nixon, Glenna Uline, Myrna Guy, Carol Hart, Anne MacWhirter, Dennis Murray, Kati Belliard, Susan Singer, Carol Klein, Hans Bulow, Brigitte Soucy, Judy Jones, Kathy Ivall.

Activities:

1. May 27, 2004 – Our Children and Literacy in the 21st Century
A workshop for the Canadian Home and School Federation Annual Meeting was held at the QFHSA offices. A particular priority was placed on the crisis re school libraries across the country.
2. 2004 Building Family Literacy – Raise a Reader Funding from Literacy Partners of Quebec
A \$2500 grant provided books and magazine subscriptions to advance family literacy in Kegaska, Temiscaming (P.A.C.E.), Grenville, Edgewater (Pincourt) and Baie Comeau. Each community group / school engaged in a wide variety of activities.
3. 2004 Hopetown Adult / Family Literacy Project
This \$1500 grant was spent to support literacy activities at the joint Hopetown Library and Professional Education Center. This grant is from the P.G. Invitational Tournament sponsored by LPQ.
4. Carol Hart Book Drive for Family Literacy sponsored by the Royal Bank of Canada, Pointe Claire. Over 8000 books were donated by individuals, sorted and packed by Carol Hart and Marion Daigle. Boxes of books were distributed throughout the province to support families with newborns, preschoolers and school age children. Very successful.
5. Mailing Costs Funding - \$500 Grant – Geoff Kelley, MNA – Jacques Cartier Riding
QFHSA deeply appreciates this financial assistance in support of literacy for children,
6. Come Read With Me – see following report by Glenna Uline
7. Children and Literacy – a Resource Guide
A grant of \$19,500 from Heritage Canada will provide a rich resource guide to assist families, community groups, schools etc. in advancing literacy for children and youth in English minority language communities. Dorothy Nixon, writer and co-ordinator has done a tremendous job. The Guide will be completed in the Spring of 2005 and launched at the Fall Conference.
8. September 8, 2004 – Center for Literacy of Quebec
4th Annual International Literacy Month Book Sale
Once again QFHSA received a \$500 gift certificate from the Center for Literacy to purchase books which are given to local associations at the Fall Conference and during

school visits for school libraries.

9. October 23, 2004 – Fall Conference Workshop
School Libraries: Centers of Excellence in the 21st Century
A very successful workshop highlighted genuine concerns about the future of school libraries. Dorothy Nixon did a comprehensive review which appeared in the NEWS.
10. School Library Questionnaire
First circulated at the workshop above and then mailed to Home and School Associations and other schools in the English schools network. The response has been overwhelming and will require time to digest. Two book draws were held. Winners were John Rennie High, Cookshire Elementary, St Willibrord Elementary (Chateauguay) and St. Theresa (Blanc Sablon).
11. November 10, 2004 – Building Family Literacy at Grenville Elementary
Marion Daigle and Dorothy Nixon met with the principal, teachers and parents to help co-ordinate activities related to their project.
12. November 26, 2004 – John Abbott College Information and Library Technologies
My annual workshop to students in their publicity program. An honorarium of \$100 was donated to Beverley Graham, an EMSB library technician.
13. February 6, 2005 – Born to Read Launch – Edgewater Elementary School, Pincourt
Twelve Edgewater families with newborns and their siblings were welcomed in the school library on a Sunday afternoon. Each family received a sturdy red bag filled with books for babies, the siblings chose books for their home library; stories for babies and siblings by Myrna Guy, retired teacher, and Susan Singer, school librarian delighted everyone. This was part of their Building Family Literacy.
The principal, Hans Bulow, was clear: Make plans now for next year! Edgewater Home and School Association was an enthusiastic supporter.

Come Read With Me Literacy Contest 2003/2004 was sponsored by Literacy Partners of Quebec, the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages, and Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations. The mandate for this initiative is to promote reading Canadian authors.

Thanks to Home and Schoolers Michelle Armstrong, Bev Bishundayal, Helen Koepp, Lallie MacKenzie, Anne MacWhirter, Anna Marrett, Ron D'Souza, Sheila Splane and Susan Tweddell for judging some of the 439 entries.

On October 5th, the Awards Ceremony was held at Sinclair Laird School in Montreal. Thirty students from 40 English elementary schools across the province were awarded a \$75 gift certificate and their respective schools a \$500 voucher from Babar Bookstore in Pointe-Claire. Marie Louise Gay, award winning children's author, addressed those present and read from her new book *Stella Princess of the Sky*.

Although this contest had proven very successful, QFHSA will not co-sponsor the 2005 event due to increased costs involved.

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNICATORS IN EDUCATION (C.A.C.E.) & MEDIA RELATIONS REPORT

Report to Annual General Meeting – April 23, 2005

Submitted by Beverlee Bishundayal, Media Relations

Mandate As a member of C.A.C.E., responsible for attending meetings and conferences on behalf of QFHSA and networking with other media professionals. As media relations, responsible for promoting the events of the QFHSA to the general public through various media outlets and writing articles for the QFHSA NEWS.

Members Beverlee Bishundayal

Summary of Activities:

- A. The Quebec/Montreal chapter of C.A.C.E. has met once since the last AGM. On Tuesday, February 2nd, 2005, the Quebec/Montreal chapter of CACE met with representatives of The Montreal Gazette including: George Kalogerakis (city editor), Richard Tye (sales – education sector), Nancy Diggins (community relations), Allison Lampert (education reporter), Karen Seidman (West Island education reporter), and Peggy Curran (university reporter).

The three education reporters explained what they look for in a story. Seidman is always open to suggestions. Curran prefers human interest stories or stories that involve research. Lampert prefers to take the issue-related angle on stories. The panel also gave some advice on how organizations can get better coverage from the news media:

- E-mail is the best way to communicate with reporters; cell phone numbers are also important so that reporters can easily contact you.
- Having reliable contacts is very important; reporters will get frustrated if they cannot reach you before their deadline.
- When major news events occur, it is a good idea to send out a press release saying “we have experts available for an interview on x subject”. McGill University did this after the tsunami disaster.
- Press releases sent to the education reporters can also be sent to the city editor.
- When a press release arrives in the newsroom, the “so-what” factor of the story idea is considered – what is the relevance of the story idea or story angle? It is a good idea to link your story idea to major or yearly events, such as Christmas.
- 11:00 am is the best time to hold a press conference.

The annual CACE Conference will be held this year in Ottawa, at the Chateau Laurier Hotel, from November 5th -7th, 2005.

B. QFHSA Publicity

- Media releases were sent out in mid-April regarding the winners of the awards at the AGM Awards Dinner and the QFHSA’s 60th Anniversary celebration. Media releases were sent to: CFCF News, Global News, This Morning Live, CBC News/Canada Now, and The Montreal Gazette. Allison Lampert, education reporter for The Montreal Gazette, attended the AGM in the afternoon. The article, “Marking 60 years of home and school – Volunteers reminisce about good old days”, was featured in the April 25, 2004 edition of The Gazette. The article touched on how school-related issues where the QFHSA is involved have changed over the years, such as bullying and library funding.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 23, 2005

Submitted by Connie De Giorgio, Chairman

Mandate To promote, encourage and assist Home & School associations and activities throughout the province of Quebec. To work with local membership chairpersons in sharing ideas and concerns. To prepare membership kits and other materials to help promote membership locally and provincially.

Membership in the local Home & School associations is the foundation of our Federation. At the local level, each family membership provides support and encouragement to the many Home & School activities organized for the benefit of the school and the children. At the provincial level, this collective membership brings strength to our independent voice as advocates for educational and social issues. Together we are partners in the national Canadian Home & School Federation.

School Visits

One of the priorities of the provincial Board of Directors is to visit local associations. The Directors are always pleased to accept an invitation for this opportunity to meet with parents to share information and concerns. Some schools visited this year were Herbert Purcell, Royal Vale High School, Riverdale High School, Nesbitt, St. Paul, Dr. S.E. McDowell, and Buckingham.

Executive Workshops

In August the annual Executive Workshops were held for local association presidents, treasurers, and membership chairpersons. This event is another opportunity for executive committees to meet each other and to share ideas and information. The kits given to the executives contain materials to facilitate the work of the local association. For membership, the kits include some samples which have been contributed by schools with successful campaigns. Workshops are also usually offered at the Fall Conference. Everyone is encouraged to attend these workshops.

Membership Page in the QFHSA NEWS

Each issue of the NEWS has a membership page with ideas, up-dates, articles about schools and a message from the membership chairperson. The December 2004 issue included a column addressing the liability insurance coverage of sports activities sponsored by Home and Schools.

Membership Fee

As approved by the delegates at the 2004 Annual General Meeting, the family membership fee for this year was \$16. It is not expected to change for 2005/2006.

Thank you to all the Membership Chairpersons and Locals for all the hard work you did in conducting a successful campaign.

These are the results of the 2004/2005 campaign:

Family Memberships (through locals)	4734	(as of March 1)
Individual Family Memberships (directly with QFHSA)	25	

These figures are approximately the same as last year.

There are 87 local Home & School Associations.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & OUTREACH

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 23, 2005

Submitted by Margaret Funnell - Director, Membership Development

Mandate: To prepare the application for the Department of Canadian Heritage [CANHER] Program funding; to participate at meetings of and communicate with the Quebec Community Groups Network [QCGN]; to prepare programs and outreach for off-island communities; to apply for other projects that may from time to time be funded by CANHER; to produce new or revised promotional materials linked to membership development; in addition a member sits on the Finance Committee.

QFHSA is a member of the QCGN which has had a five-year agreement with the Federal Government for the disbursement of the Official Languages Communities Support Program funds. This agreement was renewed in April 2004. QCGN's members sign a contract [called a Contribution Agreement] with the Department of Canadian Heritage. Glenna Uline, the Executive Director, has represented QFHSA at the QCGN meetings usually held two to three times a year and taking place in venues across the Province. This February she also attended a research conference on the English-speaking Communities of Quebec sponsored by QCGN/Heritage Canada.

In mid-2004 QFHSA again received CANHER Program Funding. As a result of the due diligence requirements with all such federal funding, 'grants' continue to be based on results-based management. Funding was given in installments [50 (including 25 interim), 40 and 10%] with detailed reports on results required twice a year. QFHSA has applied this year for increased CANHER Program Funding for 2005/2006. In addition, QFHSA [Marion Daigle with Glenna Uline] has received CANHER Project Funding for renewal of the Literacy Resource Handbook.

The CANHER Program Funding plus membership revenue and a MEQ grant are QFHSA's main sources of revenue. Regular Program Funding from CANHER allowed QFHSA to bring parent members from off-island Home and School Associations in more remote areas to its workshops, Fall Conference and Annual General Meeting [AGM]. It helped subsidize important Regional Council meetings off-island. Western Quebec especially has met frequently - in addition to meetings held in Montreal at the time of the Fall Conference and AGM. Funding allowed QFHSA to visit off-island Home and School Associations, both new and potential.

CANHER funding helped QFHSA to produce important materials both for the Fall Conference and the 60th Anniversary AGM Program and to print membership/parenting pamphlets on *Putting an End to Bullying*, *It's About Us*, and *Children Learn What They Live*. *Why a Home and School is Important* has been completely revised, translated and printed.

Funding helps QFHSA to publish four issues per year of the Quebec Home & School NEWS. It helps QFHSA representatives to attend the Network Lunches held on Montreal West Island which bring together volunteers, social and health professionals, educators, local police Community Officers and others interested in the concerns of youth. In February, a psychologist from the Jewish General Hospital spoke to 145 people on *Boys at Risk - What Do They Really Need?* The previous program was on the *Obsession to Thinness* [mostly girls].

Home & School NEWS

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 23, 2005

Submitted by the office

Mandate: The Editorial Board is meant to oversee content of our newspaper and the website.

There were four regular issues put out last year, of 16 pages each. Circulation has remained steady and the average paid distribution is 5,900; average total distribution of a single issue is 7,300. Local associations are welcome to have extra copies of our newspaper at no extra cost.

The Education Committee did not produce an updated, bilingual insert of *MEQanics*, which dealt with questions parents have about the workings of the Ministry of Education, in 2004. This was originally compiled and translated in 2002 by our Education Committee and updated in 2003. They are considering updating it for 2005.

The locals are asked to send in their own school newsletters for inclusion in their section of the paper, *Focus on the Locals*. Even if you don't have a writer on your team, your newsletter will enable us to let other parents know what exciting things are happening at your school and to "steal" any ideas that appeal to them. Diane Radu is Editor of *Focus*.

The NEWS is grateful to our regular contributors: AMCAL Family Services, Shirley Straughton (Health Issues), Don Smith (Safety Issues), Connie De Giorgio (Membership), Canadian Home & School Federation, Glenna Uline, QFHSA Executive Director, and Donna Norris, QFHSA President. And, this past year, Michelle Armstrong, Chair of our 60th Anniversary Committee for informing all of us of their plans.

WEBSITE

Report to the Annual General Meeting, April 23, 2005

Submitted by the office

Mandate: To provide general knowledge about the Home & School organization, with specific information on Coming Events, Conferences, Committees, etc.
To keep the site current, up-to-date, and relevant.

Website address is: www.qfhsa.org

Our webmaster is Beverly McConkey who is based in Vancouver. She has a good background knowledge of Home & School as she is the webmaster for both Canadian Home & School Federation and for Saskatchewan Association of School Councils.

Additional links from our site are to the Saskatchewan association, for Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week, as it is Saskatchewan that handles that event across Canada. Links to our local Home & School Associations, who have their own websites, are included.

Each QFHSA Committee Chair should look at their posting carefully to make sure their listing is up to date. If any Home & School member notices any errors it would be much appreciated if you would let the office know so we can make the necessary corrections.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 23, 2004

Submitted by Michelle Armstrong and Norma Stirling, Co-Chairs

Mandate To receive nominations for, and to recruit qualified people to, the Board of Directors.

The term of office for a Director is two years and every year one-half of the Board of Directors positions come up for election. The Board consists of 14 elected directors, plus the Past President.

The first call for nominations was mailed to the local associations on November 26, 2004 with a deadline set for Friday, February 4, 2005. A second call for nominations was sent February 21st. Nominees must be paid-up members in good standing. [QFHSA By-Laws Article VI, 4]. Nominations should be signed by at least two, and preferably three, persons from the Local Association and/or the QFHSA Board of Directors.

Deadline

The deadline for receiving nominations to be voted on at the AGM is March 25, 2005.

Nominations received after that date would be considered by the Board of Directors for appointment. (QFHSA Standing Rules Article VII, 3.)

Officers of the Federation

According to our By-Laws [Article II, 2 (a)] "*The officers of the Federation shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting from among the Directors of the Federation.*" As of March 1st, the Committee has received no nominations for Officers of the Federation. The people to fill these positions can be nominated from the list of present Directors as well as from the list of newly-nominated Directors.

Nominees As of March 1st, the committee has received the following nominations:

Nominees for a two-year term 2005/2007

Michelle Armstrong Donna Norris
Beverlee Bishundayal Brian Rock
Anne MacWhirter Harold Spanier

Directors completing the term 2004-06

Debi Brown Treasurer
Connie De Giorgio Secretary
Margaret Funnell Director

There are, therefore 5 vacancies: one two-year term and four for a one-year term.

Committees

Committee chairs can be held by a Director or a Resource person. Volunteers are always welcome to participate in their areas of interest: Advocacy, Constitution, Education, Health, Literacy, Membership, PALS, Regional Councils, Resolutions, Rights, Safety. Please contact the office for information if you are interested in working on any of these committees.

PALS (PARENTS ASSIST LEARNING AND SCHOOLING)

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 23, 2005

Submitted by: Pat Waters. Coordinator/Resource

Mandate: PALS is a parenting workshop program that is offered to our member schools throughout the year. The first one is free; others cost a minimal amount. New workshops are also offered as they are developed and advertising is done through the QFHSA office.

Highlights:

Even though the number of workshops dropped in Quebec, this has been an opportunity for me to compile my workshops entitled *Parenting with Confidence* into a manual. I have also put a new training manual together for PALS facilitators entitled *PALS PLUS: Parenting with Confidence* as I included my workshops and accompanying material. To date, I have only trained people outside of Quebec.

Workshops and trainings that took place during the 2004-2005 school year are:

DATE	NAME OF SCHOOL	LOCATION	WORKSHOP TOPIC
May 5, 04	Chelsea Elementary	Chelsea	Hurried Children/ Stressed Children
Oct. 13, 04	Family Services Canada, F&STWORKS Program, Connaught Elem.	Ottawa, ON	Homework and Responsibility
Oct. 18, 04	St. John Fisher	Pointe-Claire	Homework and Responsibility
Oct. 22-24, 2004	Nova Scotia Federation of Home and School Associations (NSFHSA)	Halifax, NS	PALS Training Balancing Work Life and Family Hurried Children/ Stressed Children Victims, Bullies and Violence
Oct. 26, 04	Chelsea Elementary	Chelsea	Homework and Responsibility
Nov. 2, 04	Kitigan Zibi School	Maniwaki	Homework and Responsibility
Feb. 19, 05	Family Services Canada, F&STWORKS Training	Ottawa, ON	PALS PLUS training/ Building Self-Esteem
Mar. 22, 05	Honoré-Mercier	Montreal	Communication
April 5, 05	East Hill	Montreal	Positive Discipline
April 19, 05	Honoré-Mercier .	Montreal	Positive Discipline

QUEBEC COMMUNITY GROUPS NETWORK [QCGN]

Report to the Annual General Meeting, April 23, 2005

Submitted by Glenna Uline, Executive Director

Mandate QFHSA participates in this forum to keep informed of and participate responsibly in issues affecting the minority English language community and the government, services and funding available to support our objectives.

Participation QFHSA Executive Director Glenna Uline is the official representative to the QCGN meetings. The 23 member organizations, all English language non-profit sector and regional groups that receive funding from Canadian Heritage, convened June 4-6 in Orford and October 26-28 in Gatineau. Donna Norris, QFHSA President, also attended both these meetings.

Highlights

Orford Meeting

1. The Global Development Plan (GDP), Phase III, will start with a \$150,000 grant. This project aims to revitalize the English language minority communities of Quebec 2004-2009. Main strategies will encompass research capacity (empowering through knowledge), integrated infrastructure of networks at all levels, integral role of education and training, cultural identity (renewed sense of belonging), visibility and participation in Quebec society, English-speaking youth see a future in Quebec. Consultant Susan Grundy was hired to organize a series of Town Hall meetings throughout Quebec during September and October 2004 to confer with the general public regarding the direction this process should take. Updated information is available on the website, www.englishspeakingquebec.ca.
2. Canadian Heritage and the Quebec Anglophone Community Coordination Committee met for the first time last November 28th. Co-chaired by the Deputy Minister of Canadian Heritage and Sharon McCully of the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network with participation from the Privy Council Office, the purpose is for the government and the English community to better know one another's needs and resources. The discussions centered on our youths' need for a stronger support infrastructure to curb the high rate at which they are leaving the province, regional issues such as out migration, arts and culture. There was also concern voiced at the inequitable division of federal government funding between the French (\$16 million) and the English (\$5 million) over 5 years.
3. The QCGN has formally requested a permanent seat at the National Table, a group comprised of representatives from community organizations and government departments that meets to discuss economic development and employability in the English community.
4. The QCGN President, Martin Murphy, and all 4 members of the Executive were elected for another term (one year). As well, 3 new member organizations were welcomed to QCGN: Youth Employment Services, Black Community Resource Center and Neighbours of Rouyn-Noranda.

5. At the Joint Committee Meeting (includes QCGN members and representatives from national government departments), Mathieu Brennan of the Canadian Heritage National Office discussed the Official Languages Program. The third 5-year cycle of the Canada Community Agreement will begin next year. How can the federal government be responsive with support to minority official language communities? What are the key issues in the English community? How are we dealing with them? What is being accomplished with the \$3 billion total available between now and the end of the 2008 fiscal year? A Voluntary Sector Initiative – Accord Between the Volunteer Sector and the Government of Canada is looking to establish principles and broad guidelines to strengthen the ability of both to better serve Canadians.

Gatineau Meeting

1. Global Development Plan – The current consultation sessions to identify strategies for development in 8 priority sectors: Arts and Culture, Employment, Heritage, Education and Training, Health and Social Services, Media, Visibility and Leadership and Youth are going well, although some fine-tuning is required to define who the community includes. Although several QFHSA Board members participated, community involvement has not been as strong as hoped and the lack of youth participation is of concern. Information is available on the website www.englishspeakingquebec.ca.
2. Sussex Circle Inc. has been awarded a contract to facilitate the process to arrive at a QCGN strategic plan 2005-08. The project leader, Kevin Saville, presented his company's proposal to those present. It was decided to proceed with the endeavour with a QCGN sub-committee on which Donna Norris will participate. Norma Stirling, QFHSA Executive Vice-President, and Glenna Uline, Executive Director participated with Donna Norris in a telephone consultation with Kevin Saville to offer our input for the sub-committee's consideration.
3. Kevin Saville reported his contract to manage the Health and Social Services Network Partnership Initiative (HSSNPI) is on time and on budget. He reviewed that his company began in March 2004 by establishing a strategic plan and pilot project in the Eastern Townships. Soon thereafter, they established the funding process, publicized the program, received and assessed applications and recruited a volunteer committee to govern the program on behalf of QCGN. One hundred fifty organizations enquired about the program, 28 made official applications of which 10 were selected to share the \$619,850 available. Crucial to giving funding was the applicant demonstrating how they would sustain the capacity to produce desired benefits in the future.
4. At the Joint Committee Meeting, (includes QCGN members and representatives from national government departments), Ginette Grenier, Director, Canadian Heritage Program Management emphasized the importance of the imminent consultations "Cooperation with the Community Sector" (October 29 and November 4 attended by Donna Norris and Glenna Uline respectively) to draft the renewal of the Canada Community Agreement, a 5-year plan focused on support to official language minority communities. Visit the website, http://www.pch.gc.ca/progs/lo-ol/consultation_e.cfm for updated information.

RESOLUTIONS/POLICY COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 23, 2005

Submitted by the office

Annual General Meeting 2004

- **Statement of Policy**

The delegates voted to add to the Statement of Policy, EDUCATION, as passed by the 2003 Annual Meeting:

EDUCATION #44 Increased and sufficient funds for schools in isolated small rural communities to enable parents, school and board officials to meet on a regular basis. [2003/02]

EDUCATION #45 Increased MEQ budget allocation for special needs students to ensure their ability to succeed in school. [2003/01]

- **Resolutions**

*Three resolutions had been previously circulated to the Local Associations and Emergency Resolution 2004-05E was accepted unanimously for caucusing and addition to the Agenda. With some minor changes to the wording, all resolutions were carried.

Resolution 2004/01 Increased Funding for Libraries and Librarians

Resolution 2004/02 School Community: "Bullying" Response [Update of 2002/03]

Resolution 2004/03 English Educational Resources

***Resolution 2004/04 Government Consultation of Parents**

This resolution was passed by the Board of Directors meeting of March 20, 2004, and was not on the Agenda for the AGM.

Emergency Resolution 2004/05E Institution of a Comprehensive Non-Smoking Policy for all students in all schools

- **Disposition of Resolutions**

Resolutions 2004/01, 2004/03 and 2004/05E – Receipt acknowledged by the MEQ.

Resolution 2004/02

Few responses were received from local associations describing their schools' strategies to deal with the issue of bullying.

Resolution 2004/04

Members of the Education Committee met at the QFHSA office with Mme. Christine Cadrin-Pelletier, head of the MEQ's Secrétariat aux affaires religieuses and her assistant, Samy Malouf. She was appreciative of the concerns expressed in the resolution, but cited difficulties in the scheduling and logistics of consulting Grade 6, Secondary I and II parents for Cycle I religion options.

Resolution 2004/05E

The Quebec Ministry of Health and Social Services acknowledged receipt. The Canada Minister of Health, Ujjal Dosanjh, replied that "I fully support your Association's resolution to institute a comprehensive non-smoking policy in all schools, however, this request falls outside of federal jurisdiction.... The restriction of smoking in schools falls under provincial authority."

Fall Conference 2004

A resolution workshop was held with representatives from Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) to draft a resolution to be presented at the 2005 AGM.

RIGHTS COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 23, 2005

Submitted by Brian Rock, Chair

Mandate QFHSA is concerned with the well-being of children and the cultural health of our community as a proper environment in which to raise them. Rights are not simply an abstraction. They define our obligations to and opportunities for our children. We, Home and Schoolers, have a history of pleading and defending the rights of all children and their parents. Parents should have the choice of the Official Language used in the education of their children.

Members Oliver Cole, Marion Daigle, Barbara Milne-Smith (Secretary), Dr. Winifred Potter, Brian Rock, Heather Rogers, Nick Zaferis Ex-officio: Donna Norris

Meetings Meetings were held on Tuesday, June 15th, 2004 and Friday, January 14th, 2005

Topics of Discussion Accountability re: Quebec-Canada Agreements
Task Force on Small Schools
QFHSA History Project
QFHSA Archives Project
Learning Materials for English Schools
Littoral School Board Room & Board Policies
School Board-Local Association Relations
Bill 101 Eligibility

Guest Speaker Max Cooke, Executive Director, Canadian Parents for French, Quebec Branch, Montreal was our invited speaker on January 14/05

SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION

Report to the Annual General Meeting, April 23, 2005

Submitted by Donald W. Smith, Chair

Mandate To serve as a resource on safety and transportation issues; to contribute information for the "Safety Scene" section of the Quebec Home and School NEWS; to follow the preliminary study of the possible emergency response project for schools.

Activity

- Continued monitoring of safety and transportation events as well as safety programmes was maintained.
- Regular contributions were made to the Safety Scene page of the QFHSA NEWS throughout the year.

Recommendation

That during the coming year the Board of Directors review the mandate and the steps needed to fulfill that mandate.

SMALL SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 23, 2005

Submitted by Brian Rock, Co-Chair

Mandate : The QFHSA Small Schools Committee is an *ad hoc* committee mandated to establish and to support a QFHSA Small Schools Task Force.

Members Committee Co-Chairs : Brian Rock & Norma Stirling
Michelle Armstrong, Debi Brown, Oliver Cole, Margaret Funnell,
Anne MacWhirter, Brian Rock, Norma Stirling Ex-officio: Donna Norris

Meetings Meetings were held on January 14 and 22, 2005 and February 25, 2005

Topics of Discussion

- Implication of Quebec English School Boards Association, Quebec Ministry of Education, and Canadian Heritage
- Geographic Logistics
- Human Resources
- Financial Resources
- Methods of Consultation
- Means of Reporting Results
- Implementation of Recommendations

Guest Speakers

- Marcus Tabachnick, President and David Birnbaum, Executive Director, Quebec English School Boards Association, January 14th, 2005
- Hugh Maynard, Qu'anglo Consulting, was our invited guest on January 22nd, 2005 and February 25th, 2005

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 23, 2005

Submitted by the Board of Directors

Recommendation: To recommend to the voting delegates at the Annual General Meeting that QFHSA endorse the Reliable Life Insurance Student Accident Plan for the year 2005-2006.

We are informed by Reliable Life that the coverage and premium(s) will remain the same as last year. If you would like your school to distribute its policy/pamphlet you must contact the company. The information is not sent unsolicited.

Reliable Life Student Accident Insurance
c/o Rowat Insurance Agency
391 Main Street
Shawville, QC J0X 2Y0

Tel: 1-888-547-3737 (toll free)
Fax: 819-647-5776

Our own insurance broker for liability coverage has looked at this particular student accident policy and feels it is very good value for cost.

QUEBEC PROVINCIAL TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (QPAT) Convention

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 23, 2005

Submitted by the office

The annual Teachers Convention was held at Palais des Congrès in Montreal on November 11th and 12th, 2004. This year we took the poster that Lindsay Place High Home & School had made for the Fall Conference, as it was large, bright and eye-catching. But it is very difficult to mount anything on the walls at the Palais. QFHSA had its usual display table with information about our organization, as well as our mini-poster *Children Learn What They Live*, a perennial favourite with teachers. Michelle Armstrong had again made up a basket of goodies and educational materials for us to offer as a draw. This year the drawing was won by a teacher at Thorndale Elementary School, in Pierrefonds.

Attending the conference is a great way to talk with lots of teachers and to see what is available for students and teachers by visiting the many displays. Manning our table were Debi Brown, Marion Daigle, Anne MacWhirter, Norma Stirling and Donna Sauriol. We would like to encourage all the directors to take a turn at our table in the future. It is definitely a worthwhile and enjoyable endeavour. Although QFHSA often sponsors/gives a workshop, this year we did not do so. Workshop proposals must be submitted by June.

REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 23, 2005

Submitted by Michelle Armstrong, Chairperson

Committee Members Norma Stirling, Anne MacWhirter, Debi Brown,
Connie De Giorgio, Donna Norris

Regional Council meetings were held at the QFHSA AGM in 2004 and the 2005 Fall Conference. Phone calls by Directors have proven effective in communicating with the local associations. We are looking forward to the 2005/2006 year with more Directors on board.

Regional Councils have been successful in various areas throughout Quebec and each area seems to have its own agenda and to have varied agendas which continue to hold them together.

Western Quebec Region: planned and executed their 3rd Annual Parent Conference in March 2005. Several parent workshops were held at various schools in the region and invitations to attend were sent to all the local home and schools.

Gaspé Region: due to its wide geographic region, this council greatly appreciates the time given at QFHSA functions for regional council sessions. Other methods for this region to meet will be sought for the coming year.

New areas will be looked at for the upcoming year and will hopefully lend it to newer regions being formed.

See the following reports for more detailed activities of the regional councils.

GASPÉ AREA REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 23, 2005

Submitted by Anne MacWhirter, OFHSA Vice-President

The two local associations located at New Carlisle School and Shigawake/Port-Daniel School have had successful meetings.

New Carlisle

The New Carlisle group held the annual Bazaar and supper in late November. It was, as usual, a success, with more than 20 display tables of crafts, artwork and baking. The group continues to actively support the Day Memorial Bursary Fund.

Shigawake/Port-Daniel

At SPDS, the annual Christmas Basket was used as a fundraiser. The staff and members joined together to make this a success once again. All proceeds will be used to benefit all students from Pre-K to Grade Six.

This year the meetings were held with a substitute president. Our past president served for nine years, and it has been difficult to find a replacement for her position.

Book Fairs

The Home and Schools held two book fairs from Scholastic during the year. Profits are taken in books for the school libraries.

Social Action Concerns

One program brought to both school meetings was a report on crime in the Gaspé. This study was under the direction of CASA (Committee for Anglophone Social Action). The results of the study were discussed at each meeting.

We are fortunate that in each school, the principal takes a genuine interest in the meetings and reports to each meeting regarding the school activities.

Lester B. Pearson School Board Sectors 2 & 3 Regional Councils

Report to the Annual General Meeting- April 23, 2005

Submitted by Norma Stirling, Liaison

- Mandate To come together to represent the schools in that sector or region and to discuss issues and topics of interest and concern to the participating parent leaders.
- Members Each Council is made up of representatives of the schools in that sector or region of their school board.
- Meetings The Lester B. Pearson Sector 2 met once and Sector 3 met twice. Both are planning another meeting. The following is a compilation of notes from all the meetings.

Current educational issues:

- The Home and School is a voice for parents both provincially and federally.
- Issues that are important to us and to our members may be turned into a "Resolution" and taken to all members at the AGM.
- Home and School is more than just fund - raising, it is working through and seeing real issues resolved, be they on a local school level, provincially and/or federally. Special needs, computer labs, libraries: these are only a few examples of how the Home and School can make a difference in our schools.

Current local association activities:

- We discussed individual workshops we have had in our schools, such as Multiple Intelligence, Homework and Curriculum Reform. In order to have good attendance at these workshops, should we be charging a nominal fee to those attending?
- We could notify other schools in our sector of upcoming events to maximize attendance.
- The "milk program for schools" was discussed as well as outsourcing extra curricular activity programs.
- Many fund-raising ideas were shared such as selling Christmas trees, greeting cards made by the students, bread sales, Loyalty Cards, and Regal to name a few.

Areas of concern for your parents/students:

- We discussed that it is a good idea to inform the Principal of the upcoming agenda prior to meetings in order to be prepared to answer any questions and if necessary to have the subject put on hold until the next meeting in order to have the pertinent information.
- It is also noted that it is a good idea to have the Governing Boards of our schools approve at the beginning of the year that the Home and School function as a parent volunteer group in the school and to be the fund-raising body of the school.

Other pertinent information:

- We discussed how the levels in H&S are set up from the local school level right on up to the national level. We thought that this information would be useful for our members at the school level to know, to perhaps publish it in the future.

AGM 2004 COMMITTEE & 60th Anniversary Celebration

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 23, 2005

Submitted by the office

Mandate: It is the mandate of the AGM General Arrangements Committee to organize the Annual General Meeting and Conference in accordance with the timeline as defined in the QFHSA By-Laws, and to organize the Awards Dinner.

Arrangements: Glenna Uline and Michelle Armstrong, chair of the 60th Anniversary Committee. All members of the Board of Directors participate in planning the AGM and take a role in organizing the events.

Theme: The 60th anniversary theme was "*Time Well Spent 1944-2004*"

Highlights: Held at the Montreal Airport Hilton, Dorval

1. Awards Dinner – Friday evening, April 23

- a) Attended by 154 people: 26 guests; 22 Directors, staff, others; 106 from 22 schools.
- b) The Master of Ceremonies was Sylvia Adams, Past President of CHSF & QFHSA
- c) The winners of the three major awards were:
 - The Leslie N. Buzzell Award – Donna Sauriol, QFHSA Executive Secretary, for her many years of dedication to QFHSA beyond the job description and for volunteer service in shepherding innumerable issues of the NEWS to publication.
 - The Gordon Paterson Award – Kim Gromko, educator at Valois Park School, has created a thriving Performing Arts Program involving many children and parents.
 - The Lewis Peace Prize – Victoria Pinnell & the Lakeside Academy Visions 2000 Program, for its successful community service program to develop values of good citizenship and responsibility.
 - Local Association Awards for Golden Torch and the Unsung Hero recipients were honoured; certificates and pins were given to those who were present.
- d) Special guests included The Honourable Lise Thibault, Lieutenant Governor of Quebec; Marlene Jennings, MP, NDG/Lachine; Pierre Reid, Minister of Education; Jean-Pierre Proulx, Chairman, Conseil Supérieur d'Éducation; Noel Burke, MEQ; Linton Garner, MEQ; Martin Murphy, Chairman, QCGN; Charles Taker, Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages; Bradley Bos, Canadian Heritage; Ardèle Warr, President, QPAT; Sylvia Di Donato, LBPSB Commissioner; Craig Buchanan, Vice-President, FPC.

2. Annual General Meeting & Conference – Saturday April 24, 2004

- a) Registration: 105 people, representing 75 from Home & School Associations; the others including Directors, Past Presidents, guests, resource people, and staff.
- b) Eight schools attended from outside the Montreal area.
- c) Membership and Newsletter prizes were awarded at the beginning of the meeting.
- d) Several schools who had contributed \$60 won lovely prizes for the 60th anniversary raffle.
- e) The keynote address was given by Paul Huschilt, professional speaker, storyteller & trainer, "*Seven Humour Habits for Health and Wellness.*"
- g) Lunch was a buffet. Past presidents were invited to cut the 60th anniversary cake and were presented with the new 60th anniversary pins.

3. Presidents Appreciation Dinner

February 25, 2005 – last event of the 60th anniversary celebration

EXECUTIVE WORKSHOPS – August 27, 2004
Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 23, 2005
Submitted by the office

The workshops for local association executive committee leaders were held Friday, August 27, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the QFHSA office. There was an excellent turnout with thirty persons representing sixteen Montreal-area schools, six from the Board of Directors, and two office staff.

Following the welcoming introduction by President Donna Norris, the group divided into sections to discuss their different areas of responsibility: President, Treasurer, and Membership.

Executives' kits were given to those schools which had not previously received them and membership materials were prepared for schools who had ordered them in advance. Sample financial reports, year-end reports and a selection of school newsletters were available. The September issue of the NEWS had just arrived in the office that day.

A list of QFHSA "service committees" was circulated at the beginning of the evening and people were encouraged to indicate an area or program in which they would be interested in participating or learning more about.

President's Workshop

Moderated by QFHSA by President Donna Norris and Executive Vice-President Norma Stirling.

Treasurer's Workshop

Moderated by Debi Brown, QFHSA Treasurer and past CHSF Treasurer.

Membership Workshop

Moderated by Michelle Armstrong, QFHSA Director and Past President of Lord-Aylmer Home and School with QFHSA Membership Chair Connie De Giorgio from Dunrae Gardens.

Evaluation comments were positive and appreciative. Everyone was keen to begin the new school year. The consensus was that this was a good time to schedule the workshops, although several people did prefer May/June.

Some executive workshops were also scheduled for the Fall Conference program.

FALL CONFERENCE – October 23, 2004
Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 23, 2005
Submitted by the office

Committee Members Donna Norris, Norma Stirling, Michelle Armstrong, Debi Brown, Connie De Giorgio, Marg Funnell, Anne MacWhirter, Brian Rock, Bev Bishundayal, Elena Purser, Sheila Splane, Lindsay Place High H&S and Vice-Principal Alana Leroux, Glenna Uline, Donna Sauriol, Carol Ohlin

Program The Fall Conference was held October 23, 2004 at Lindsay Place High School in Pointe-Claire. The 60th Anniversary theme was *Time Well Spent! Du temps bien investi!* The plenary keynote speaker was Shari Graydon, media analyst, speaker and author of *Made You Look* and *In Your Face*.

Regional Councils Regional Council meetings were held before the lunch break.

Workshops: Morning Leadership Workshops:
Resources for Small Schools Brian Rock, Donna Norris, Noel Burke, Josée Rourke, Craig Buchanan
Communications Planning for Results Shari Graydon
Raising Funds & How to Manage Them Maureen Cook
School Libraries Marion Daigle
MADD – Making A Difference Graham Doughty, Rickhey Margolese

Afternoon Parenting Workshops
Turning Kids on to School Sue Winn, Diane Phillips, Cheryl Pratt
Sibling Revelry instead of Sibling Rivalry Vikki Stark
Understanding Adolescent Sexuality Stephanie Mitelman
Switched on for Learning Lynda Ryan
Tenez votre enfant à l’abri du danger Diane Richard, Helen Kocilowicz

Displays There were a record number of displays (26). A successful innovation this year was the displayer “passport” to be stamped at each table for participants to be eligible for the prize basket raffle. Each displayer contributed a generous item to the drawing. A “best display-table prize” was also awarded by QFHSA.

Attendance Total registration was 162, with 38 participating schools, 26 display tables, 12 workshop presenters, 17 QFHSA Directors and staff, plus special guests and Lindsay Place High H&S volunteers

Hospitality A fun hospitality event was held the previous evening at the Travelodge for 25 out-of-town people – 18 local associations, 5 directors, and 2 displays. It was enthusiastically arranged by Michelle Armstrong, Elena Purser, Sheila Splane and the 60th Anniversary Committee.
For the Saturday conference, volunteers from Lindsay Place High H&S provided efficient and friendly help in organizing the school facilities. A special touch were two large banners for the 60th Anniversary and welcoming us to LPHS.

Evaluations Participant and displayer evaluations were positive, complimentary and appreciative. Everyone was pleased with the attentive organization, excellent workshops, and many prizes and gifts

PRESIDENT'S APPRECIATION DINNER 2005

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 23, 2005

- Theme As the final event of the QFHSA 60th Anniversary year, the evening was a celebration with a party motif. Each guest received a 60th Anniversary Pin and T-shirt. Throughout the year, the 60th Anniversary Committee did a wonderful job organizing all of the special events as well as creating the logo design and the history poster. The dinner was held at the Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club in Dorval on Friday evening, February 25.
- Attendance It was attended by 36 people representing 12 local associations and QFHSA Directors, Past-Presidents, resource people and office staff. Attendance was somewhat less than in previous years, perhaps because it occurred at the beginning of Spring Break for some of the Montreal-area school boards.
- Program The evening began with a cash bar and informal networking in the charming setting of the main lounge of the yacht club with a roaring fireplace. Following the enjoyable four-course dinner, the event concluded with prizes, gifts and books.

TEACHER/STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK (T/SAW), February 13–19, 2005

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 23, 2005

Submitted by the office

Theme - 18th national consecutive year

The theme for the 2005 National Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week was *Touching Minds, Shaping Futures.* CHSF Idea Files (which included Order Sheets, 2005 Participation Report Sheet, Poster and Publicity Ideas, etc.) were sent to Home & School Associations in December.

Materials

In order to encourage contact with the national organization, schools were asked to order their T/SAW materials from the Saskatchewan provincial office which supplies the items. QFHSA did not place an order for additional new stock. Schools were advised to place their orders to allow time for delivery and limited supplies. A free copy of the poster was available on the T/SAW website at www.teacherstaffappreciation.com

Date

Once again, the Quebec Ministry of Education scheduled its provincial Teacher Appreciation Week for the first week of February, causing the usual confusion and concern with some schools as to which was the "official" week to celebrate. Teacher Appreciation Week originated with CHSF in 1988. The second week of February was chosen to coincide with Valentine's Day. A few years later, after consulting with QFHSA, the MEQ adopted the idea and the Canadian program was acknowledged in its promotional materials. However, this is no longer the case and the MEQ has since changed the provincial date to accommodate the Quebec Arts celebration week.

This year Executive Director Glenna Uline approached Noel Burke, Assistant Deputy Minister, Anglophone Services, MEQ and Michael Cohen, English Montreal School Board spokesperson, to discuss the possibility of agreement on the week of celebration. However, it is unlikely that the MEQ will change its schedule. Therefore, schools should be aware that they may choose either week or at any time convenient to them.

QFHSA NEWS

Schools were asked to submit a Participation Report and photos of their T/SAW activities for publication in the March issue of the NEWS.

Quebec Federation of Home of School Associations

QFHSA's School Bus Safety Awareness and Concern

Launched in 1950 with *Elmer the Safety Elephant*, QFHSA has long been keenly interested in many areas of safety concerns – from driver education, to padded seats, and safety education programs in school. QFHSA was also instrumental in the implementation of the rules and regulations for school bus markings and the red “stop arms” we see today. Helped implement Traffic Safety School Brigades in schools.

Mission Statement

The QFHSA is an independent, incorporated, not for profit volunteer organization dedicated to enhancing the educational and general well being of children and youth. The QFHSA promotes the involvement of parents, students, educators and the community at large in the advancement of learning and acts as a voice for parents.

There is a tendency for governments, and their bureaucracies, to exercise greater powers over the lives of its citizens. It is therefore essential that Home & School Associations be very active to give parents a greater degree of control over the decisions affecting the future of their children.

Honorable John Ciacca
MNA, Mont-Royal, 1973-1998

1940s

1944 – Inaugural meeting of Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations.

1945 – First issue of the *Quebec Home & School NEWS* put out as a mimeographed newsletter. It has been published as a newspaper/magazine continuously since 1948.

QFHSA's Literacy Awareness Programs

Begun in 1990 to celebrate International Year for Literacy, the Canadian Home and School Federation initiated a major *Literacy in the Information Age* awareness and activity campaign. QFHSA continues to actively promote: Born to Read/Le Goût de Lire, school and community libraries, “Come Read With Mel” writing contest, family literacy programs, book drives, etc., throughout the province. Many small rural English language communities, in particular, benefit from the financial support for material resources.

1950s

1950 – Quebec Federation inaugurated the Leslie N. Buzzell Award for outstanding service to The Federation and for furthering the aims of Home & School and education.

1954 – Quebec Federation's Insurance Committee instrumental in introducing Student Accident Insurance in the province.

2000s

2000 – Parental Advocacy Project begun with a grant from Canadian Department of Heritage.

2002 – “Come Read With Mel” contest in collaboration with Office of Commissioner of Official Languages and Literacy Partners of Quebec.

1990s

1994 – PALS (Parents Assist Learning and Schooling) – bilingual workshops introduced through the Canadian Home & School.

1997 – Lewis Peace Prize established to honour an individual or group that actively contributes to a safe and peaceful school community, or world.

1980s

1980 – Very successful STOP/ARRÊT bumper sticker campaign highlighting safety.

1988 – TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK became an annual event across Canada.

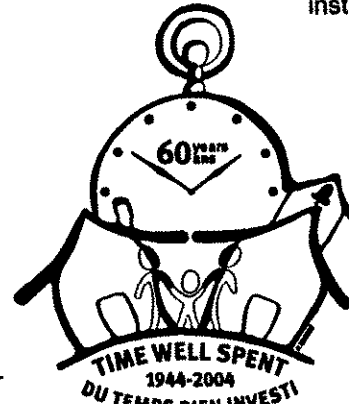
1973 – Gordon Paterson Award (named for the first President of QFHSA) established to recognize an outstanding educator who has encouraged the participation of parents in education.

1977 – Brief to Secretary of State requesting accountability of federal funds granted to provinces for minority and second language instruction.

1978 – Quebec Federation, with 17 co-plaintiffs, filed writ in Quebec Superior Court, challenging the constitutionality of Bill 101.

1979 – Federation granted status as a registered charity.

1970s



1960s

1962 – Quebec Royal Commission of Inquiry on Education established (Parent Commission). QFHSA presented a 45,000 word brief to the Commission, containing 176 recommendations, based on a poll of local associations.

1966 – QFHSA statement regarding guidance services in schools.

1968 – QFHSA received the first Quebec Community Safety Award for its contribution to the development of an effective safety program.

It's About Us

The growing importance and recognition of the Federation, particularly in educational circles of the province is proven by the fact that a growing number of organizations have co-operated with Federation on the one hand and have requested and received Federation's co-operation and advice on the other.

The existence of the Home and School groups is a powerful testimony to the passion that parents have for their children's education and an avid interest in supporting and shaping its outcomes. Such initiative is to be nurtured and cherished among parents – the primary players and essential partners in the education of our youth.

Noel Burke, 2003

Asst. Deputy Minister of Education, Québec

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