



THE VOICE OF
THE PARENT IN
EDUCATION

QFHSA NEWS

VOLUME 55 ISSUE 3

FALL 2017

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Message from the President



The categories of work allowed include renovations, modifications, maintenance, and/or repairs. Excluded are all electrical and/or plumbing works.

However, volunteers will be authorized to paint, install gypsum wallboards and blackboards, install countertops, replace windows, sand and varnish hardwood floors, replace flooring tiles, among many other tasks. Among concerns:

There are a myriad of issues to be discussed as the consultation sessions and legislative process are completed.

SCHOOL PRIORITIES:

The School Principal has an important leadership role to play in deciding the priorities for the School Building. Remembering that labour costs consumed a very large portion of the costs of work done on School Buildings, the materials used by the volunteers will emanate from which budget? Keep in mind that all School Building projects always need the approval of the School Board Director of Buildings.

INSURANCE:

The issues of civil liability for volunteers and coverage by **la Commission des normes, de l'équité, de la santé, et de la sécurité du travail (CNESST)** must also be decided.

Realizing that amendments may be introduced and passed during the legislative process, discussions will continue concerning many issues. This will be on the agenda of the September regular meeting of your QFHSA Board of Directors. Your Directors will be following this issue with great interest and reporting back to you.

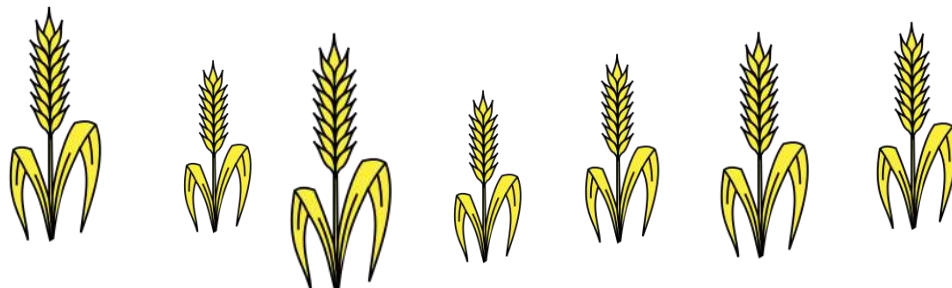
Brian Rock, President

VOLUNTEER HANDYMEN/WOMEN WILL SOON BE SOUGHT AFTER IN SCHOOLS

Dominique Vien, Member of the National Assembly for Bellechasse and Minister responsible for Labour has introduced draft Regulation on Volunteer Construction Work. There will be 45 days of consultation after the National Assembly resumes sitting on Tuesday afternoon, September 19th, 2017, following the summer recess declared on Friday, June 16th.

When the majority Liberal Government passes the Regulation, according to certain conditions, volunteer construction workers will be allowed to work in the residential, institutional, and commercial sectors.

Individuals willing to help their community by volunteering their skills will be able to do so in schools, daycare centres, hospitals, and not-for-profit organizations.



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QFHSA NEWS. 

Executive Director's Message



CHANGE IS IN THE WIND

Although it was great news from Minister Proulx that the regulations against offering volunteer services to repaint halls and classrooms of local schools would be opened up, there is still reason to be cautious. Not everyone should be running to bring their toolkit to schools. Certain jobs can be done

by volunteers, such as painting and hanging drywall, but other jobs still need to be done by individuals with certified licenses. They need to have the professional expertise to do wiring and plumbing, but they can donate their services. When I say donate services, I mean that they still have to present the school with an invoice, get paid by the school for their services and then they can write a cheque for the same amount back to the school as a donation.

Home and Schools will undoubtedly be sitting down with their Principals and Governing Boards to see what kind of work needs to be done and who might be willing to do it.

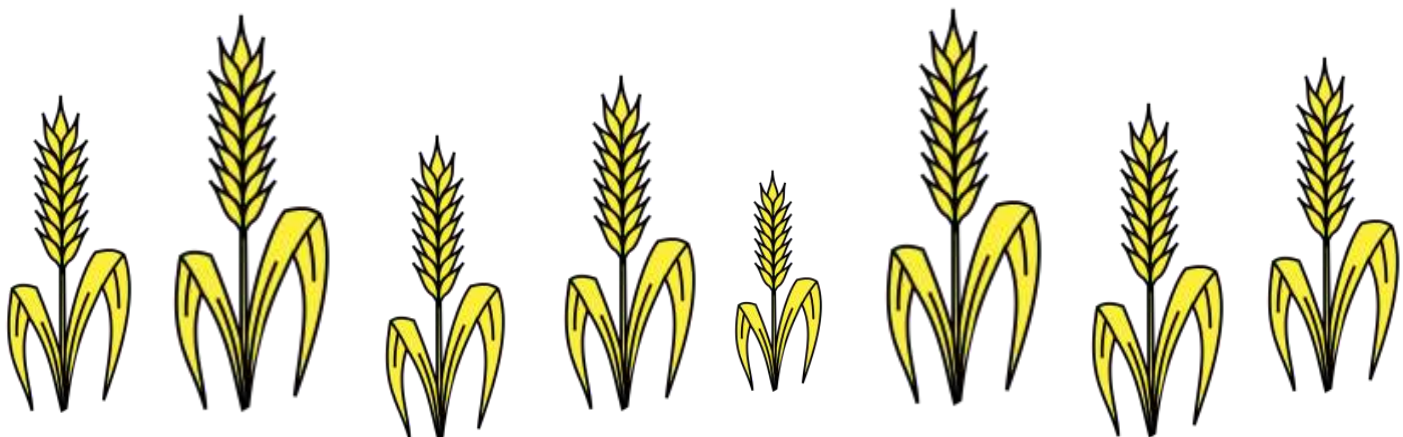
I anticipate the smell of fresh paint everywhere, which will boost the spirits and morale of students and teachers alike, if the fumes do not make them a little light headed along the way.

In other news, the Canadian Revenue Agency has been in talks with the QFHSA, proposing some changes to our constitution that will help us better support our member associations. In light of these changes, an official notice will be going out to our member associations in February 2018, with the proposed changes to the Constitution, to be brought before the Annual General Meeting in the Spring of 2018. Once voted on, this change will affect the way QFHSA handles donations.

The new school year will undoubtedly bring us a few new Home and School associations and we will welcome them into the fold. Executive Workshops will be offered on September 28, so all newbies are welcome to join us and learn from the pros. And, of course, Fall Conference will be held on October 28 at Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary in Vaudreuil-Dorion, with yet another opportunity to network and benefit from each other's experience.

Welcome to the new school year! May all your projects and activities be successful ones, and if not, learn from your mistakes and pass the knowledge forward.

Carol Meindl, Executive Director



Membership services

Greetings from Membership Services



Welcome to new and returning Executive members as well as new parents. Getting involved with your Home and School Association is a great way to keep up on school events and to connect with other families.

On the Autumn to do list:

Documents

2016-2017 President's Report
 2016-2017 Treasurer's Report
 2017-2018 Executive List
 \$50.00 Administration Fee
 Local Association Renewal Form
 First Batch of Membership Fees and List

Due Date

June 30th (**now overdue**)
 June 30th (**now overdue**)
 Due
 September 30th
 September 30th
 October 15th



All forms are on the QFHSA website and can be e-mailed to Marlyn at marlynbrownrigg@qfhsa.org

Special notes: Charitable tax receipts – please contact the QFHSA to see if new procedures have been implemented after this QFHSA NEWS issue was published.

Insurance for events: Please remember that the QFHSA insurer needs to be notified of Home and School organized events in advance. The forms are on the QFHSA website. Please allow 7-10 days for processing.

Passing the torch: If you are no longer an Executive or Committee Member please ensure that you pass documentation on to your successor or leave copies or a USB, etc. in the Home and School filing cabinet.

Marlyn Brownrigg
 QFHSA Membership Services Coordinator
marlynbrownrigg@qfhsa.org
 514-481-5619



Upcoming

August 26th:
Regional Council for Western Quebec Home and Schools.

September 28th:
Executive Workshops:
 at the QFHSA office.

October 28th:
Fall conference:
 Please allocate funds to send parents to this event and encourage participants to choose a variety of workshops so that your Home and School may benefit from all the information the QFHSA offers.

WOW, 100 YEARS...SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE!

This year we are celebrating major anniversaries: Canada 150, and Montreal 375. Did you know that in 2019 the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations will be 75 years old? Not only that, but in 2019, Home and School activity in Quebec will be 100 years old!

That's right, Home and Schools have been actively involved in supporting activities that have enhanced education in English schools since 1919. In fact, when the Federation was formed in 1944, Home and Schools had already been around for 25 years. A group of 45 member associations came together as a network in 1944, some of which are still active today: Willingdon, Roslyn, and Macdonald High among a few.

We believe this is something extraordinary and worth celebrating!

100 years of Home and School! 100 years of parents passionate about education and volunteering to help provide the best educational experience for kids.

So, in 2019 we are planning an event to celebrate the volunteer participation and involvement of parents in education in Quebec. As the first QFHSA meeting was held at Macdonald High in 1944, we felt that would be the best place to start.

And, as this is a celebration for all of us, past and present, we encourage your participation. We will be hosting a special Annual Awards Banquet in June 2019 at John Abbott with special guests and presentations in honour of the occasion. Period costumed actors may MC the ceremony, a dance may be held afterwards with a live band. All sorts of ideas come to mind.

The year 2019 may seem a long way off, but time has a way of slipping by fast and as anyone knows who has ever planned a big party, work needs to get started early, and the sooner we spread the word, the better. So keep looking for new updates in future issues of the NEWS.



QFHSA Mission Statement

The Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc. is an independent, incorporated, not for profit, volunteer organization dedicated to enhancing the education and general well being of children and youth.

The Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc. promotes the involvement of parents, students, educators and the community at large in the advancement of learning, and acts as a voice for parents.

RUBBING ELBOWS

The Quebec Community Groups Network held their 22nd Annual General Meeting on June 15 - 16 at the Nouvel Hotel in downtown Montreal. QFHSA delegates that attended were President Brian Rock, Executive Vice President and QFHSA voting delegate Linton Garner and Carol Meindl, QFHSA Executive Director.

Every year, the QCGN combines their AGM with a professional development conference and this year was no different. In addition to interesting plenary sessions on *Population Projections and the Impact on English Speaking Community of Quebec*; *Review of the Official languages Regulations*; and *Development of Composite Indicators for Official Language Minority Community Vitality*, the QCGN also offered two break out session workshops: *Being Social: Building and Engaging Online Communications*; and *Non-profit Fundraising 101: thinking outside the box*.

Home and Schools already know a great deal about fundraising and thinking outside the box. You are forever innovating and improving on your fundraising activities and adding new twists that encourage parents and students to participate again and again. Not too much to share there.

However, the Social Media workshop raised a lot of questions and thoughtful consideration from those participating. What is a social media policy and why is one important? Should we have one? Well, if you have ever been on the receiving end of a misdirected or inappropriate email, you know how embarrassing or uncomfortable that “email faux pas” can be. A social media policy is more than that. As more and more Home and Schools create *Facebook* pages and *Twitter* accounts, it behooves them to consider which individuals are posting and what sort of parameters and guidelines should be in place regarding sources and content.

The QCGN announced that it is in the process of developing a social media policy and was intent on sharing the template with their 50+ member associations, of which QFHSA is one. It will be interesting to see what will be included, and if it could be adapted for the needs of QFHSA. Indeed, it may have elements that could serve well as a Social Media policy for our own member associations to adopt.

One of the morning plenaries presentations on *Population projections and the impact on English Speaking Community* had some interesting insights. According to a projection of numbers of English-speaking Quebecers from 2011 toward 2036, the numbers of English-speaking individuals in Quebec will increase. That means the percentage of Quebecers entitled to services in English will also increase, but is the Government looking far enough ahead to anticipate this? What will it mean to have a larger English-speaking population in Quebec but with the current restrictions on access to English language education?

In other scenarios it showed that, within Quebec, the number of people speaking only French will decrease, the number of people speaking only English will stay the same, but the number of people speaking another mother tongue will steadily rise. Conversely, in the rest of Canada, the number of people speaking English only will decrease, the number of people speaking French only will stay the same, but the number of people speaking another mother tongue will steadily rise even more than in Quebec. The number of individuals who speak French overall will increase but so also will the number of individuals who speak both French and English. One can speak French and still identify with the English community.



The QCGN AGM continued...

Equally, one can learn to speak English and still identify with the French community. Quebec will have the highest rate of bilingualism in Canada by 2036, between 51.8 and 52.2%! Despite an increase in the transmission of French over the last 25 years in Canada outside Quebec, English should remain the language most transmitted to children of exogamous couples. English language services had better be able to keep pace with the increased number of people who will require them.

The QCGN elected a new Board of Directors for 2017-18 and our own Linton Garner is one of their newest members. Congratulations, Linton! We look forward to having you bring the perspective of the parent to the QCGN discussion table.

QFHSA President Brian Rock gave *notice of motion* to the QCGN AGM with the intent of seeing it included on the agenda for the 2018 QCGN AGM:

That in response to the published notices of calls for nominations by le Directeur général des élections du Québec to the Citizens' Roundtable on Elections on Thursday, June 1st, 2017, the Quebec Community Groups Network establish a QCGN ad hoc Committee on Elections.

Although Bill 105 addressed many of our concerns with Bill 86, there are still some areas we would like to see addressed: To improve the school board election system by introducing electronic voting, to mandate *le Directeur général des élections du Québec (DGEQ)* to run the elections and to explore ideas of enticing voters to exercise their franchise through tax credits or tax deductions. Interest in voting in school board elections has diminished greatly over the years for a variety of reasons. Funds for running school board elections currently must be drawn from general operational budgets and this makes it difficult to adequately promote and run elections. The elections should be run by *le Directeur général des élections du Québec (DGEQ)* and not by the school boards themselves.

Today's technology would make running elections *electronically* very feasible and would greatly increase participation, while cutting costs, as successful models in other provinces have demonstrated. Offering incentives or credits for voting would also increase participation. In addition, we would like to see amendments to the regulation de-listing graduated English students and their families from the English electoral lists and placing them automatically on the French electoral lists, in order to preserve the constitutional right of all members of the English-speaking community to vote for representatives on their English language school boards. Despite repeated calls for reform to this regulation, the English Speaking communities continue to be underrepresented on their electoral lists, as their names are continually shifted to the French Voting lists.

The QCGN AGM is an excellent opportunity to meet the leadership of our sister English-speaking communities organizations across the province and hear about their concerns. It is also heartening to learn about the various projects they are running that support the vitality of our small and isolated communities. The English-speaking community in Quebec may be small in comparison to our French-speaking majority, but we are strong and vital, mostly through the spirit and energy we share to support it and keep it that way.



The QCGN Board of Directors

HOW CAN THE QFHSA'S LITERACY COMMITTEE HELP YOUR SCHOOL?

The QFHSA Literacy Committee allocates funds for projects, book mailing costs and *Born to Read* programs. We are always open to receiving new requests as long as the projects promote literacy.

In the past, the committee has received requests for support for high school literacy projects, books for elementary-level reading programs and assistance with the implementation of new *Born to Read* programs.

As staff members can often change from year-to-year, please mention the QFHSA Literacy Support Program to your school administration and have teachers involved with literacy projects contact the QFHSA office for more information. Appointing a Home and School Literacy Coordinator can help teachers with specific projects they are working on or would like to develop.



BOOK REVIEWERS WANTED!

The QFHSA gets offers from publishers to review books on a variety of topics and for a variety of age groups. We would love to include more information on and suggestions of books for our membership in our QFHSA NEWS. We need some volunteer reviewers. We will be focusing on topics such as diversity, inclusion, education, and anything else we feel may be of interest to parents and kids.

If you have kids who love to read, and you think they would enjoy reading a book for us and writing a short review of it, contact the office. Even if your child is too young to read, their reaction to a book could be just as insightful, if it is read to them by a parent or older sibling. Contact the office if you are interested. (As an added incentive, the reviewer gets to keep the book!)



New QFHSA board member

Welcome!


MAXIME CÔTÉ WELCOME ABOARD!!!




After much thought and clarification of what his position as a CLC Coordinator in Baie-Comeau for Eastern Shores School Board would have to offer to the board of QFHSA, Maxime formally submitted his candidature to join the QFHSA Board of Directors. He believes strongly that the QFHSA was instrumental in the success of the CLC initiative in Baie-Comeau High School and will continue to provide a wide range of future possibilities for our mutual benefit. It is without question that parent engagement in a school environment positively contributes to school spirit, student success, as well as access to a wealth of information as to the needs of the clientele families of the school.

This information is required to determine priorities and create action plans to meet these needs. Maxime looks forward in working with the QFHSA Board of Directors and the Home and School network.

- Former Baie-Comeau High School graduate
- CLC Community Development Agent for Baie-Comeau High School ESSB
- Board Director and Treasurer of the North Shore Community Association
- Board Member and Treasurer of Jeunesse en Santé Manicouagan (table de concertation jeunesse and street social work)
- Registered nurse with the O.I.I.Q since 2004
- Hotel and hospitality certified management Technician (Lasalle College) since 1998
- Membership chair of the local Baie-Comeau High School Home & School Association since 2008.





Inspired by real events, *The Mountain* is a new piece for elementary students ages 5 and up, produced by award-winning Geordie Productions. In response to New Arrivals from the Middle East entering Canada who are often distanced from their home and their family, *The Mountain* explores themes of immigration, fear of the unknown, and isolation when separated from the ones we love. Set in the playground of an elementary school, *The Mountain* is a beautiful story of two 8-year olds navigating their place in the world, while journeying on a quest of courage and understanding where imagination and play are used to bring these two entirely identifiable children together. Directed by award-winning Arianna Bardesono and written by National Theatre School graduate Chelsea Woolley, *The Mountain* is a unique and exceptionally timely offering for children of all ages and backgrounds. Touring September 2017 to April 2018 in Quebec, Ontario and the Maritimes.

Book your school and learn more about the show and Geordie's season at schools@geordie.ca | 514.845.9810 or visit www.geordie.ca

Benefits of Publicly Available Epinephrine

By: Kelly Dunfield

Bsc., BScN, RN, MN, NP

President, Be Ready Healthcare Inc.

If you have ever experienced or witnessed anaphylaxis, the most severe and life-threatening type of allergy, you'll know how important it is to be able to quickly access an epinephrine auto-injector (EAI). It's common for people to carry them, but there are many reported instances in which EAIs were unavailable or inaccessible. In fact, inaccessibility to EAIs is the most common reason for which individuals die of anaphylaxis¹.

According to current literature, the most important step a community can take in avoiding anaphylaxis-related deaths is to improve public access and knowledge around EAI use^{2,3,4}. With this in mind, in 2015 I initiated a pilot project where I deployed 28 unlocked, alarmed EAI cabinets in community gathering areas throughout Sussex, N.B. Examples of some of the locations in which we installed these cabinets includes: schools, recreational centres, restaurants, and churches to name a few. The cabinet is clearly marked with instructions on how to properly access the EAIs and allows for easy transport to the emergency location. Each cabinet is capable of storing up to a maximum of four EAIs, with the majority of locations deciding to keep one adult dose and one child dose available.

Since breaking ground on the project, public response in the Southern New Brunswick region has been entirely positive. Within months of the first cabinet's installation, a man's life was saved after having an anaphylactic reaction to a yellow jacket hornet, and an additional 5 lives have been saved as a result of publicly available epinephrine. To date, 37 additional communities have joined the Town of Sussex in adopting similar projects, and there are currently over 180 sites in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Alberta and Québec with these alarmed cabinets. We're currently working hard to expand the preparedness of Canadian communities by helping raise awareness and install these cabinets in high-stakes, frequently accessed public locations such as schools. As a country with a long history of spearheading revolutionary public health measures, we hope to continue working towards a low number of preventable deaths due to anaphylaxis.

For more information on how to set up a publicly available EAI cabinet in your community, please visit www.bereadyhealthcare.com or e-mail: bereadyhealthcare@outlook.com



Be Ready Health Care, Inc. was established in 2015 and has dedicated itself to advocating for publicly available EAIs across Canada. The cabinets that are distributed by Be Ready were designed and are manufactured in Canada. The EAIs used in these cabinets are available for over-the-counter purchase at any local pharmacy.

References

- ¹Greenberger PA, Rotskoff BD, Lifschtz B. Fatal anaphylaxis: postmortem findings and associated comorbid diseases. *AAAAI* 2007; 98:252-7.
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- ³Simons FER, World Allergy Organization. Epinephrine auto-injectors: first-aid treatment still out of reach for many at risk of anaphylaxis in the community. *AAAAI* 2009; 102:403-409.
- ⁴Simons FER, Peterson S, Black CD. Epinephrine dispensing patterns for an out-of-hospital population: A novel approach to studying the epidemiology of anaphylaxis. *JACI* 2002; 110:647-651.
- ⁵CBC News. Sussex allergy injector project saves life of man stung by wasps. Posted: Sep 16, 2015 12:30 PM AT. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/new-brunswick/allergy-pe-n-s-usse-x-sa-ves-life-1.3230220>

2017 Fall Conference

Education in the 21st century-The Next Twenty Years

At the **AGM** in April we invited Ron Turchyniak, tech consultant for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, to reveal to us the changes to classrooms over the past 20 years and how technology has been implemented to support not just students with special needs, but all students, through the Universal Design Model.

This October, at **Fall Conference**, we will turn our attention to the next twenty years, not just in terms of the implementation of newer technology, but also in terms of other aspects of child development and education that remain equally important. We wish to educate the whole student, not just academically, but socially, physically and morally as well. This may require a new approach to learning.



2016 AGM Key note speaker: Ron Turchyniak

Keynote: Michael Canuel (LEARN) and Noel Burke have been studying a project called **NEXTSchool** and they will be introducing this concept to us in the key-note address. At the heart of the NEXTSchool project is the design and implementation of a new type of high school for the English community of Quebec. This high school would be designed to meet in a more effective and meaningful way the needs and interests of students as they move forward in the 21st century. Put another way, our high schools are not adequately preparing our youth with 21st century skills. There has been a great deal of tinkering around the edges but real systemic change is needed to move away from the traditional models which still dominate our classrooms.

Our **Workshops** this year will look at the many ways we can accommodate the interests of the whole student and help them achieve their full potential.

As usual, we will have **Regional Council Meetings**, where Home and School members can network with one another and benefit from the collective wisdom and past experience of other member associations.

Fall Conference has a lot to offer. Plan to be there!

Where: Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary School

490 Rue Bourget

Vaudreuil-Dorion, QC J7V 6N2

When: October 28, 2017

Time: 8:30AM- 3:30PM

Cost: \$25.00 (Includes LUNCH)

To register or for more information,

contact the office info@qfhsa.org or 514-481-5619

NEXTschool Keynote Address



TITLE:

“NEXTschool: The Reinvention of the High School Experience”

PRESENTERS:

Noel Burke & Michael Canuel of LEARN

DESCRIPTION:

NEXTschool is an answer to the call for schools to become more proactive in their response to the changing needs of students and their communities. The goal is the establishment of learning environments that provide an array of enriched teaching-learning experiences, and to fully integrate future-ready competencies into the students’ lifelong and lifewide learning experience.

The NEXTschool project seeks to develop a framework for the high school of the future that can function within current regulatory parameters, collective agreements, as well as government curriculum and legislation.

This overview will be presented in two segments, first setting the context and foundations of the project – followed by a detailed description of the projects elements and ambitions.

This is, therefore, an invitation to join NEXTschool on an exciting journey of discovery to answer the question:

When high school is an exciting place to go to every daywhat would it look like?

NEXTschool
STUDENT-CENTERED, TEACHER-DRIVEN,
GLOBALY-CONNECTED, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



2017 Fall conference: Keynote Speakers



Michael Canuel

I am the CEO of LEARN, a responsibility I have assumed since the inception of LEARN in 2005.

I spent the first 12 years of my professional career as a high school English teacher and basketball coach and subsequently went on to the private sector where I acquired a vast and varied experience in business and management where I was both an owner and senior executive. I have degrees in education, economics, management, and English literature and I recently completed my doctorate in e-learning and professional development.

I am a father of two accomplished children, grandfather to 3 amazing grandchildren, husband of 43 years to an amazing woman, and partner to a Black Russian Terrier who rules my life.

I am proud to be the Chairman of the Canadian e-Learning Network of which I am one of the founders as well as creator and co-developer of a flourishing educational program in Southeast Asia. I am a passionate and eclectic reader, a wine devotee who also enjoys fine dining.

mcanuel@learnquebec.ca

Noel Burke

Noel Burke is a well-known champion of Lifelong Learning, a successful agent of change, and a sought-after consultant and speaker on educational and institutional innovation.

Mr. Burke is recently retired and currently working as a sessional lecturer for the Graduate Certificate in Educational Leadership at McGill University. As the founder and principal partner of nEDworks Consulting; Noel provides consultation services to educational stakeholders as well as leadership and career coaching to individuals and organizations.

Noel combines a rich background in management, leadership and teaching; most recently as the Founding Dean of the School of Extended Learning at Concordia University, a school that serves as an interactive portal to the university for communities and individuals alike. Noel previously served as the Assistant Deputy Minister of Education of Québec for the English-Speaking Community.

Previously, he was Assistant Director General and Educational Services Director for the New Frontiers School Board. He has held numerous teaching positions, including Resident Adjunct Professor for the Faculty of Graduate Studies in Education at McGill University, and Sessional Lecturer, at Concordia University. He was also Director of the Continuing Education Centre for the Châteauguay Valley School Board, Consultant in Continuing Education and Administration for the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal, and Curriculum Developer for the Faculty of Education at McGill University. He began his career as a high school teacher in public and native high schools for twelve years.

Noel is currently the Vice-Chair of the Lester B. Pearson School Board. He has served as a director and board member of numerous community organizations and has chaired the Quebec Community Groups Network and the Centre for Literacy Quebec. He was also the premiere recipient of the Champion of Lifelong Learning Award from the Québec Association for Lifelong Learning.



2017 Fall Conference Workshops

ONLINE PAYMENT OPTIONS

Tanima Ghosh will present paperless tools as optional methods for Home and School's to improve operational efficiency including planning and scheduling tools, online payment and web-based applications such as Weebly, Signup Genius, RSVPify and Cognito.



Tanima Ghosh has been privileged to be a member of Wilder Penfield's Home and School association since 2011, in various roles including Home and School President, mother of dynamic triplets and a very active, dependable volunteer.

She has also served as a Parent representative on Wilder Penfield's Governing Board as well as various other volunteer organizations and is currently a Director on the QFHSA Board of Directors.

DIAMOND RELATIONS

Learn how to navigate relations between the four key players in school activity (**H&S, Governing Board, Staff & Administration and School Boards**)



Rhonda Boucher
QFHSA Director,
President of the
English Parents Committee
Association and Parent
Commissioner (Secondary)
with the Western Quebec
School Board.

Rosemary Murphy

QFHSA Vice President, has been involved in education as a member of school committees, school board commissioner and parent commissioner. She has served as Education Act Instructor for the LBPSB since 1995.



E-MAIL ETIQUETTE

Email has become a critical component of our everyday, both in our professional and personal lives. More and more, Home and School communications depend on striking the right balance between informal communication and following the best business communication practices.

Luigi Di Fillippo

Assistant Director of Educational and Technology Services with the English Montreal School Board. Luigi has a diverse technical and business background acquired through over 35 years of experience in large public and private sector organizations. He has seen the evolution of communications tools from "nice to have" to being fully integrated into almost all activities in an organization. Unfortunately, practices and processes have not always kept pace.





ART FEELS GOOD

Along with social and academic skills, there is still a important place for students to learn how to express themselves creatively, especially in the 21st century.

Deirdre Potash

Deirde is the founder of **ArtWill** Studio that provides children and adults with creativity workshops. Her Art Comes to School program, provides enriched bilingual art experiences to teachers and students of all ages in Quebec and Ontario, with a focus on those who don't have access to cultural centres or arts education.



FULL OF CHARACTER

Social skills and leadership, along with knowing the right thing to do, is as important today as ever. Character development is not an easy task, but it can be a fun one! Equip your kids with the tools they need to make better choices in life.

Corey Szwarcok

Corey is co-founder of Dynamix Teambuilding, graduated from Concordia University in 2002 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Applied Human Sciences. Following graduation, he partnered with Mitch Zeltzer to create Dynamix Adventures, Inc. Dynamix is the leader in teambuilding and character development programs for kids and teens.



TEEN DEPRESSION

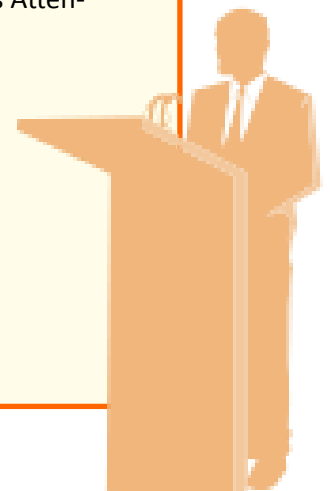
How to tell the difference between typical teenage angst, desire for privacy and laziness and signs of depression and psychosis. When to be concerned.

Carrie Goldberg

Carrie graduated from the McGill School of Social work with the primary goal of helping others. Carrie founded the Family Resource Center and has been its Executive Director since the year 2000. She was motivated to open the center as she is a mother of two special needs adult children and she herself has Attention Deficit Disorder with Hyperactivity, Dyslexia and Dyscalculia.



Family Resource Center



What is education?

By: Amanda Paquin, QFHSA Summer Student 2017

We constantly forget what education means; let us refresh our memory. Home & School believes that there is much more to our education than we realize. They focus on nutrition, mental health, and the overall learning process of every individual. They stress the importance of education for the youth, parents, and its own members; hosting workshops and adult education programs to allow everyone the opportunity to learn and gain knowledge.

This means we must remember that education is not about memorization, grades, obtaining a diploma, or the prestige of the job title. Education has the fundamental tools we need to strengthen the mind, body and the unconscious self.

Reading articles from 1949 to 1962, I couldn't help but compare today's society with what I read. I feel that this humanitarian approach of learning is quickly fading. However, for a moment, let's look back in the year 1947, specifically the article "Education For World Citizenship" by Swinton found in the Federation Bulletin. Swinton focuses on the close connection that made society form bonds with one another, a bond so close it was suffocating for some. While this connection was established after the war, it seems if we compare to 2017, we notice how the world is moving away from their families and society.

If you think about it, it's akin to a couple who can't bare to be in the presence of one other. It has gone back to being neglectful and explosive; isolating itself rather than being open and communicative.

Some may argue; what does any of this have to do with education? Well for one: "It has long been recognized that education has more to contribute than just knowledge. It is true that knowledge is the basis of judgment, but judgment must be guided by certain moral values, which govern the relationship between human beings as well as nations." (Swinton 4)

Even with the recognition, as mentioned in the opening of this article, it seems it has been forgotten by many. For a long time, I believed that we were losing our sense of judgment and our moral compass because we live in a society that is replacing penmanship, bookstores, books, home education, and libraries with electronics, pop culture, and social media.



Continued from page 16...

Due to this, I believe it gives today's youth zero comprehension of relationships between other people, language and reading skills as well as the importance of basic moral values and the higher pleasures of life.

Many parents don't have time for their children, and electronics are the first thing they go for while others tell their kids to go to school so they can get a job, creating the message that education is a means to an end, that it is to satisfy materialistic needs. Home & School stressed the importance of parents taking responsibility of being their child's first teachers, shaping their delicate beings so they can participate effectively in school and society.

In 1947 "The task and duty of modern education has progressed a long way from the day when its main task was to teach the three "R's." A fourth "R" should be added-- to cover Responsibility; not only to our home and family but also to the community in which we live and the nation to which we belong. It then follows that as we and the rest of the world progress, eventually our responsibility and duty will be extended to cover the world and its citizens." (Swinton 4)

It appears that we aren't progressing in 2017, many young people are feeling desperate to strive for that high salary paycheck; some cast aside their dreams for it, others find an alternative route to make ends meet and lose their parents respect.

Some students are diminishing their overall health by eating poorly, sleeping late, and stressing to pay their bills to obtain University diplomas that, in 2017, might not be enough for entry level job positions, and this is what we call receiving and education, and this apparently is obtaining knowledge.

After reading many articles I believe that Home & School can continue to shape young minds, but it can't do it alone; it needs help from parents and teachers who are eager to walk through the crucial steps a child needs to have a well-balanced education.



Editor's note: Amanda Paquin was working on the QFHSA archives. Her task was the cataloguing the early articles in the QFHSA NEWS, from 1943 to 1962. This article was a result of some of her reflections on her experience.

Focus on



The locals

Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary School

2017 Canadian Children's Book Week

May 6th marked the start of TD Canadian Children's book week. To celebrate, PETES Home and School and our librarian Ute Wilkinson worked together to host 2 authors for a series of readings. Judith Silverthorne and Kari-Lynn Winters read to and educated the grade 1-4 students over the course of 2 days as part of our literacy celebrations. Judith Silverthorne presented a beautiful slide show and did readings from her works with grades 3 and 4.

Kari-Lynn Winters entertained and engaged the grade 1 and 2 students by reading from her books and getting them involved in skits to act out some of her poems. They played a rhyming game using a student versus teachers "hockey game", acted out a skunk-y poem, practiced using ordinal numbers, and learned about the creative writing process. Students and teachers alike were entertained and are already looking forward to next year's celebrations!



Wilder Penfield

What an awesome, productive year!

Wilder Penfield Home and School has truly “lived a little wilder” by providing wonderful events, student activities, educational workshops and fundraisers for the benefit of our Wilder Penfield community in 2016-17. We are so motivated & extremely excited for the new school year and we are ready to raise the bar yet again!

Our awesome 2016-2017 activities & events included: year-end members’ dinner at Jack Astors, year-end Canadian Cowboy Carnival, Canada 150/Montreal 375 committee, TSAW 2017 Hollywood teacher/staff/daycare appreciation week, Holiday basket drive project for needy families, Holiday members’ dinner chez Royal Tandoori grill, Holiday craft fair/Santa’s workshop, QFHSA Fall conference, Halloween Monster mash, Welcome Wilder day and free pizza lunches.

Home and School funded the following for our students/teachers: parent workshop on student anxiety, materials for vernissage/class productions, anti-bullying conference "Cost of Silence", tolerance play: "Bluenose", & piece de theatre Recup et Dragon. We also gave away free raffles/prizes at all our events and free swag-bags for teachers at TSAW. We funded/donated library reading nook cushions, classroom circle time cushions, classroom bean bags/hokki stools, Remembrance Day Canadian flag pins and schoolyard recess sports supplies. As our year-end gift, we gave each student an awesome eco-friendly “Save the Bees” bundle: wildflower seeds and earth-friendly school-supplies.

Our wonderful fundraisers included: Cookie dough campaign, Family Bingo night, Five Guys community

night, ongoing Canada Helps/charitable tax donations, Mabels’ Labels ongoing campaign, Grade 6 movie night, Run-a-thon, Fundscrips ongoing campaign, Scholastic Bookaneer English book fair, Grade 6 raffles, Wilder wear school spirit clothing, Kidcon, monthly pizza/sub sandwich/frozen yogurt lunch and our convenient schoolkits supply kits.

At our YEAR-END Canadian Cowboy Carnival, we celebrated with outstanding student dance performances from each grade level & our marvelous Wilder Poppers skipping team’s routines. We soaked everyone with Beat-the-Bucket, and frolicked with a multitude of Carnival games with yummy Carnival Concession Stands (hotdogs, drinks, cotton candy and popcorn). Special thanks to Constable Potts and chief cook/teacher Stephan Gaines for cooking a million hot dogs for our hungry fans! Our team is very proud to provide fun, innovative activities to the valued families from our very special Wilder Penfield community.

As part of our upcoming 50th anniversary of our Wilder Penfield school, we welcome new parent members and special partners to provide informative workshops, new activities/projects and extend our community network for our students. We are very grateful to all our volunteers, sponsors and donors for their generosity in 2016/2017 and look forward to your continued support in 2017-18. Thanks again to our Teachers, Custodians, Daycare Staff, and School Administration. Thanks to all the students for their continuous enthusiasm & happy smiles. “Live a Little Wilder” after the relaxing summer and Join the Force to continue our Home and School’s awesome work in 2017/2018!



Your Home and School can be a star!

Who? YOU! Any Home and School can send in their story.

What? Send updates and pictures about your events, fund- raisers, holiday celebrations, volunteers and students.

Where? Send your stories and jpeg photos to marlynbrowrigg@qfhsa.org

When? The next deadline for submissions is: November 3, 2017



Articles on our desk...

Read a short excerpt from one of the articles on our desk.



Start the School Year on the Right Foot: Brush up on Food Safety for Students of all ages during National Food Safety Education Month

September is National Food Safety Education Month and Back-to-School month, making it the perfect time to review good food safety practices. **Stop Foodborne Illness**, a national non-profit, public health organization dedicated to preventing illness and death from foodborne pathogens, is reminding students from pre-K to college on the importance of food safety and how to keep school lunches free from foodborne illness.

Since parents generally pack lunches for young kiddos, learning how to keep harmful pathogens out of the lunch box is important for the whole family. Parents can use Stop's kid-friendly factsheet **Rylee & Rusty Discuss Food Safety** to start a conversation with children about washing produce and hands. Teachers can bring food safety to their classrooms using Stop's **Curriculum Materials and Education Resources for Teachers** to help their students make a difference.

- **Wash your hands.** Washing your hands thoroughly when preparing lunches reminds kids of the importance of hand-washing in preventing foodborne illness. Encourage your child to wash their hands before and after eating. Hand-washing with soap and water is best, but wet wipes or hand sanitizer that is 60% alcohol will work in a pinch.
- **Use an insulated lunchbox.** Whether hard-sided or soft, an insulated lunchbox helps keep food at the appropriate temperature and out of the bacteria "danger zone." To ensure hot foods stay hot and cold foods stay cold, go the extra mile; use an insulated thermos to keep soups, chili or mac and cheese hot. Freezing milk, juice boxes and water bottles keeps cold foods cold. Bonus: the frozen drinks will melt during morning classes and be ready for drinking at lunch. Don't forget to **clean and sanitize** lunch boxes each evening before packing the next day's lunch. Learn more with these **box cleaning tips**.

Read the rest of the article for more tips at www.stopfoodborneillness.com

Canadian Parents for French

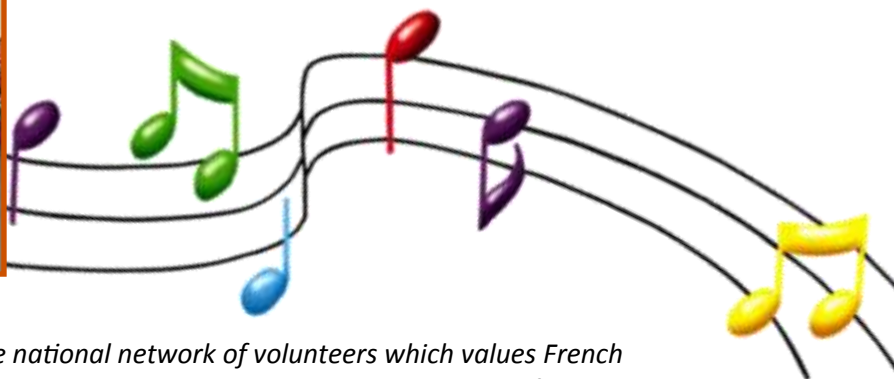
CPF-Québec Virtual Choir

The upcoming school year is just around the corner and Canadian Parents for French is preparing to launch its 3rd French as a second language (FSL) Virtual Choir in Quebec. After two successful projects, the Virtual Choir will be back with an original song based on a well-loved classic. We're not unveiling the surprise quite just yet, but you'll certainly hear more from us in September! As in past years, this activity predominantly targets elementary school students but is intergenerational and cross-cultural in scope and welcomes community choirs, both young and distinguished, to take part. The participating English-speaking communities are strongly encouraged to invite choirs from neighbouring French-speaking communities to join them in song. The choirs will be recorded singing and the individual videos will be uploaded and edited into a single video, available for all to watch! To view the previous Virtual Choirs, please visit: the CPF website.



If your school or choir is interested in learning more about the project, please contact the CPF-Québec Coordinator, Marla Williams, at mwilliams@cpf.ca. Be on the lookout for more Canadian Parents for French activities in the province, such as the long-standing *Concours d'art oratoire*, a public speaking contest for secondary students in FSL programs across Canada, and *O'Poésie*, a poetry contest that allows Quebec youth aged 10-17 to explore the French language in a fresh and creative way. You can also visit our Facebook page, *Poutine,svp?*, where we post French word tips, reading suggestions and much more to help FSL learners, young and old, with their second-language skills!

For more information on CPF activities in Quebec, please visit <https://qc.cpf.ca/>



Canadian Parents for French (CPF) is the national network of volunteers which values French as an integral part of Canada and which is dedicated to the promotion and creation of French-second-language learning opportunities for young Canadians.



WHERE IS MY SCHOOL?

Disappointed that your school is not in the Focus on the Locals section? Please talk to your Home and School members and submit the wonderful things your association is doing to news@qfhsa.org for our next issue in December, 2017



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