

# **Home & School**

# Advocating for Education

# QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS



# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING BOOK OF REPORTS

June 3rd, 2021 Via: Zoom



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No Loi 21	

# ANNEX 'A'

**Auditor's Report** 

# Year at a Glance 2020 - 2021

## **MAY 2020**

**8 H&S** meetings on Zoom **QFHSA/LEARN webingr**:

K. Delage A Time of Crisis: An Opportunity for Transformation

**QFHSA Board** of Directors meeting

**Regional** Council meeting

#### **JUNE 2020**

9 H&S meetings on Zoom QFHSA Board of Directors meeting

NoLoi21 Rally

**APPELLE Quebec** meeting

**4 Regional** Council meetings

#### **JULY 2020**

**APPELLE** Steering

Committee meeting

**QFHSA Board** of Directors

meeting

Special QFHSA BOD

meeting on Bill 40 and QCGN letter

#### **AUGUST 2020**

**QFHSA BOD** Meeting Stay Bill 40

QFHSA AGM 2020

**APPELLE Quebec** meeting

1 H&S meeting on Zoom

#### **SEPTEMBER 2020**

**5 H&S** meetings on Zoom

**QFHSA Board** of Directors

4 Regional Council

meetings

**QCGN** Forum

**QFHSA Finance** Committee

#### OCTOBER 2020

**QFHSA Board** of Directors meeting

**5 H&S** meetings on Zoom

3 days of Executive

workshops

**QCGN** Forum

**APPELLE Quebec** meeting

2 Karen Delage LEARN &

QFHSA workshops:

**Empowered parents** 

#### **NOVEMBER 2020**

Fall Conference over 2

weeks online

NoLoi21 Protest

1 H&S meeting on Zoom

**QPARSE** meeting Geoff

Kelley BIII 40

**APPELLE** Quebec meeting

**ComECH** Quebec Meeting

**QAHN** AGM

**QFHSA Board** of Directors

meeting

Education, Rights and

Resolutions Meeting

#### **DECEMBER 2020**

**QFHSA Board** of Directors

meeting

**QCGN** meeting

**ComECH** Quebec Meeting

2 H&S meetings on Zoom

Karen Delage workshop:

Teens

**Education** Committee

**Meeting** with Secretariat

#### **JANUARY 2021**

**ComECH** Quebec Meeting

**Resolutions** Committee

3 Presidents' meetings

**Education** Committee

meeting

**Rights** Committee meeting

#### FEBRUARY 2021

**Finance** meeting

**QCGN** Meeting on Official

Languages

**Education** Committee

**QFHSA Board** of Directors

meeting

**QAHN** Board meeting

**APPELLE** Steering

**QCGN** Roundtable

meeting with education

sector

Online Platform meeting

with H&S presidents

#### **MARCH 2021**

**Rights** Committee with

Richard Bourhis

**ComECH** with Furara-Safi

Karubara

**QFHSA Board** of Directors

meeting

**Resolutions** Committee

#### **APRIL 2021**

3 H&S meeting on Zoom

**QFHSA Board** of Directors

meeting

**Education** Committee

**Nominations** Committee

**Resolutions** Committee

Finance Committee

**ComECH** Quebec Meeting

# QFHSA 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – June 3rd, 2021 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 the 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 one is available).
- 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 PURPOSE

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

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 <u>finances</u> 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  $\underline{may}$  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 guestion 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 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOLS ASSOCIATIONS

Held Saturday, August 22, 2020 Via ZOOM

Registered and present during the 2020 Annual General Meeting were 42 people including one (1) special guest, 3 Observers, 6 Directors and 3 Staff. The theme of the 2020 AGM *Home and School: Staying Connected-Under the circumstances*. There were 22 Local Home and School Associations present. The voting associations were:

Beacon Hill Elementary Beaconsfield High School Chelsea Elementary Children's World Acad. Eardley Elementary Edinburgh Elementary Forest Hill Sr. Gardenview Elementary	Grenville Elementary John Rennie High School Lindsay Place High School Lord Aylmer Elementary Maple Grove Elementary Pierre Elliot Trudeau (WQ) Roslyn Elementary	South Hull Elementary St. John Fisher Elem. Saint Patrick Elementary Saint Thomas High School St. Michael's High School Willingdon Elementary
Gardenview Elementary	Saint Charles Elementary	

#### AGM BUSINESS SESSION

The 2020 Annual General Meeting was officially called to order at 10:00 AM.

- 1. Quorum: Marlyn Brownrigg, Registration Credentials, reported that there were 22 Home and School Associations in attendance which fulfills the requirements for a quorum.
  - 2. Adoption of the agenda: There were no additions to the agenda.

**MOTION:** (Barbara Whiston, Roslyn Elementary / Nathalie Tremblay, Children's World Academy) to adopt the agenda as presented.

All in favour

# **MOTION CARRIED**

3. <u>Acceptance of the minutes of May 4th, 2019 AGM</u> (Book of Reports, pages 9-12) There were no corrections to the minutes.

**MOTION**: (Nick Giannakoulis, South Hull Elementary / Melissa Lim, Beacon Hill Elementary) to approve the 2019 AGM minutes as presented.

All in favour

#### **MOTION CARRIED**

4. <u>Book of Reports</u>

**MOTION**: (Barbara Whiston, Roslyn Elementary / Nathalie Tremblay, Children's World Academy) to accept the Book of Reports *en bloc*.

All in favour

**MOTION CARRIED** 

# 5. <u>Finance Committee Report</u>

5.1 Financial Report (Book of Reports, page 17): Carol Meindl, Executive Director, spoke to the financial report on behalf of Wanda Leah Trineer, Treasurer. Meindl reported that in 2019 revenue had increased and she went through the various income and expense lines, reporting a large surplus of \$25,296.63 for 2019 due to the increase in revenue via Canadian Heritage and the Secretariat responsible for Relations with English-Speaking Quebecers.

MOTION: (Nathalie Tremblay, Children's World Academy / Mimi Tabaczuk, St Patrick's Elementary) to accept the Financial Report and the Auditor's Financial Review. (Annex A) All in favour MOTION CARRIED

5.2 Proposed Budget for 2021: the Treasurer presented the proposed budget for 2021. (Book of Reports, page 18)

**MOTION:** (Debi Brown, Lord Aylmer Elementary / Corrinne Joseph, Beaconsfield High School) to accept the proposed budget for 2021.

All in favour

MOTION CARRIED

The financial report was received.

5.3 Reappointment of auditor for 2020-Verelli-Arrizza

MOTION. (Nathalie Tremblay, Children's World Academy / Maggie Holmes, St Michael High School) to re-appoint Verelli-Arrizza as auditors of the QFHSA for the year 2020.

All in favour

MOTION CARRIED

6. <u>Nominations Report</u> / Elections of Directors and Officers (Book of Reports, pages 19-20)

Election of Board of Directors: Linton Garner presented the Nominations Committee Report.

The following directors were completing the 2nd year of a two-year term 2018-2020:

Brian Rock Rosemary Murphy Mike Nalecz\*

Interim Directors appointed and seeking election for 2-year term 2020-2022:

Natasha Drysdale Meaghan Dufour

\*Mike Nalecz declined to run for a second term.

**AMENDED MOTION:** (Nathalie Tremblay, Children's World Academy / Jennifer Carbonnell, Pierre Elliot Trudeau Elementary-Hull) to re-elect two Directors (Brian Rock and Rosemary Murphy) and to elect two Directors (Natasha Drysdale and Meaghan Dufour) for the two-year term 2020-2022 as presented by the Nominations Committee.

All in favour

#### MOTION CARRIED

<u>Election of Officers</u>: According to the by-laws article ii. 2 (a) " *These positions can be nominated from the list of present directors as well as from the list of newly elected directors.*" The following slate-of-officers was presented by the Nominations Committee and were elected by acclamation. (Book of Reports, page 20)

President Linton Garner Executive Vice-President Rosemary Murphy

Vice-President vacant

Vice-President Maxime Côté

Treasurer Wanda Leah Trineer

Secretary Debi Brown

**MOTION:** (Sharad Bhargava, St Thomas High School / Corrinne Joseph, Beaconsfield High School) to elect the slate of Officers of the Federation as presented by the Nomination Committee.

All in favour

#### **MOTION CARRIED**

7. <u>Installation of the new Board of Directors and Officers:</u> The usual installation ceremony was foregone due to limits of time and venue.

The Directors and Officers for 2020/2021:

President Linton Garner Immediate Past President Brian Rock

Executive Vice-President Rosemary Murphy

Vice-President vacant

Vice-President Maxime Côté

Treasurer Wanda Leah Trineer

Secretary Debi Brown

Director Ginette Sauvé-Frankel
Director Elizabeth (Bobbi) Brown

Director Renate Sutherland
Director Natasha Drysdale
Director Meaghan Dufour

8. <u>Adjournment:</u>	
MOTION: (Barbara Whiston, Roslyn / Col	lleen Sardinha, Forest Hill Senior) to adjourn the
August 22, 2020 Annual General Meeting of	of the Quebec Federation of Home and School
Association.	
All in favour	MOTION CARRIED
Meeting adjourned at 11:18AM	
Linton Garner, President	Debi Brown, Secretary
Date	Date

#### **OFHSA President**

Report to the Annual General Meeting, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 Submitted by Linton Garner

We have come full circle and have lived with this pandemic now for well over a year. We have witnessed some unimaginable occurrences both tragic and uplifting. It seems like we have seen and felt more in the last 15 months than we have over the course of human events in our lifetimes, and we have for the most part risen to the challenge.

I think of the brave parents who have sent their kids to school even amongst great doubts about the safety conditions within our schools. I think of the teachers and administrators on the frontlines, so to speak, doing their best to ensure the health and safety of their charges. I think also of the parents, teachers, and administrators working together to normalize the situation as best they can so that the students are not traumatized by the experience and will not lose a year of schooling due to the pandemic.

Local Home and School associations faced the challenge and still organized lunches, activities, and events so that students would have some sense of normalcy in their school day. You have remained undaunted and have resolved to be a part of the school life, just in different ways than you have before. From all reports you have made a difference in the life of the school amidst arduous conditions and your efforts are greatly appreciated by students, staff, and administrators alike.

As President of the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations, I could not be prouder, nor more humbled by the yeoman's work and effort our local Home & School associations have put into reducing the stress endured by all in the school setting. You have endured and overcome many obstacles along the way, but nonetheless succeeded in enriching each child's educational experience, and creating happy memories during an unusually challenging time.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I thank you for your hard work and dedication through the pandemic and wish you all the best for the coming school year, which promises to be far more tranquil.

As I step away from the presidency of the QFHSA I would like to thank the members of the Board of Directors for their unwavering support during these last 4 years. I have really enjoyed my terms in great measure because of the professionalism you have exhibited, the knowledge you have given me and the kindness and courteousness you have shown me throughout.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge and thank Carol Meindl our Executive Director for the tremendous work she has done for the organization and the support she has given me, words cannot express how grateful I am for the guidance and kindness you have afforded me over the years. I would also like to thank Mimi Tabaczuk, Marlyn Brownrigg, and Karen Henchey our staff who have so ably accomplished the tasks the Board has set them and even exceeded our expectations. My sincerest gratitude for your hard work and diligence.

To the incoming President, I pledge my wholehearted support in your leadership and look forward to the direction you will take the QFHSA in the future.

Thank you all.

#### **Executive Director**

Report to the Annual General Meeting, June 3, 2021 Submitted by Carol Meindl

It is an understatement to describe 2020/2021 as an unusual year for the QFHSA.

So many of our original plans were side-railed and revised, given the realities of lockdowns and other restrictions. Our three major events, the Annual General Meeting, the Awards Banquet, and the Fall Conference — events which take the most time and budget to deliver — were shadows of their usual selves.

Our August 2020 **Annual General Meeting** was delivered online, with a pared-down agenda that just addressed the pressing obligations: financial reports, the appointment of the auditor, and Board of Director elections. The caucusing of resolutions, usually a formidable part of our AGM program, was absent. Indeed, there were no resolutions to discuss in this most unusual of AGMs.. The entire 2020 event, which would normally run from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on a Saturday and be followed by a 3-hours Awards Banquet, was reduced to a scant 2 hours. Yet, we got our business done and were satisfied.

**Fall Conference**, again, usually a one-day event in November, with a keynote speaker, a variety of workshops, and a catered lunch, was adapted to an on-line format. Instead of one Saturday, the conference was offered as evening workshops over a two-week period. All in all, the participation rate and number of workshops offered was comparable to our in-person conference. The feedback was generally positive and so we were satisfied.

**Regional Council Meetings,** which are usually hard to organize with everyone having such busy schedules, moved online and, suddenly, people had time. Without having to worry about babysitters, parking and getting supper on the table before leaving for the school, parents just sat down in front of their computers and interacted with one another. We usually have one or two regional council meetings a year outside of the AGM and Fall Conference formats, but in 2020/2021 we had 15, which had been unprecedented and so we were very satisfied!

**Parenting Workshops**, which we organize for the benefit of our membership, and are usually part of the Fall Conference, were also made available through a partnership with LEARN Quebec. Instead of organizing one workshop, we delivered four parenting workshops, facilitated by Karen Delage, Family Life Educator, and so we were satisfied.

**Board of Director meetings,** of which there are usually eight per year, enjoyed an almost 95% attendance rate. Sipping your coffee and attending a meeting from the comfort of your own living room on a Saturday morning certainly beats travelling

2.5 hours from the Gatineau, for example, for a 10 a.m. meeting in Montreal! And so we were satisfied.

Unfortunately, the restrictions on parents in schools and the on-again, off-again scheduling that schools were put through made it difficult to organize the **Youth Exploring Science program**. Teachers were not sure students would be in class in person long enough to launch special science projects. In the end, Metis Beach School and Westwood High School were the only two schools benefiting from the QFHSA micro-grants in 2020. Even the tanker stuck in the Suez Canal affected the delivery of this program as materials were delayed in shipping. Not so satisfying....

Travel expenses were greatly reduced as were our membership fees revenue. However, as luck would have it, the 2019 MEES (Minister of Education and Higher Education) contribution, coming as late as it did, was a cloud with a silver lining, as it boosted our grant revenue in 2020 by \$37,000. This helped offset the drop in membership and administration fees. However, the real pinch will be felt down the road in the 2021 financial year..

What has truly been missed was the "getting together in person," be it at Board and Committee meetings, H&S meetings and especially in the office with the QFHSA staff. (Our plants have missed us, too.) Zoom is all well and good, but humans are social creatures and need to rub shoulders with one another. Home & School is primarily about **enhancing education**, but the **community aspect** cannot be denied. Although both were strained, both retained their integrity and so, we are satisfied.

Thank you to the Board of Directors, the QFHSA staff, the H&S executives and all the H&S volunteers who worked diligently, despite the pandemic, to bring activities and events to the students and to maintain the ties that bind the members of their community together, one with each other.

#### FINANCE

Report to the Annual General Meeting, June 3, 2021 Submitted by Leah Trineer, Treasurer

<u>Committee members:</u> Leah Trineer, Treasurer; Carol Meindl, Executive Director; Marlyn Brownrigg, Membership Services Coordinator and Mimi Tabaczuk, Administrative Assistant.

Mandate: Prepare annual budgets for the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc. (QFHSA) Board of Directors and its Committees. Review accounting procedures, the auditor's report and the expense sheets for directors. Prepare recommendations for the membership and administration fees. Review the Charitable Information Return. Oversee the finances, comparing actual results to budgets and prepare financial reports and recommendations for the Board to review at its periodic meetings. Reviews the financial reports submitted by the local home and schools.

#### Activities:

- Prepared the Proposed 2022 budget for 2021AGM.
- Reviewed and revised policies and procedures on expense reporting.
- Shared financial report information at Board of Director and Executive Meetings.

<u>Financial changes</u>: The board acknowledged that we follow generally accepted accounting principles for non-profit organizations.

<u>Funding</u>: *Canadian Heritage* granted QFHSA a three-year grant (2020-2023) of \$114,000 each. *The Quebec Ministry of Education* has decided to support us for two years- 2019-2020 (\$37,000) and 2020-21 (\$45,000). In 2020 we show a family membership revenue loss of about \$6000 compared to 2019. However, the full effect of the pandemic and Home and School decline in activity will be reflected more acutely in the 2021 financial statement.

The Finance Committee held regular weekly meetings online to manage the cash flow and prepare for the financial review in 2021.

<u>Budget</u>: A proposed budget for 2022 was presented to the Board of Directors by the Committee at a special Board meeting on June 2, 2021. The financial review for January 1 to December 31, 2020, as prepared by Verrelli-Arrizza, was approved for presentation to the AGM at the same meeting.

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Finance Committee recommends that the proposed budget for 2022 be approved by the membership at the Annual General Meeting, June 3, 2021.

GENERAL BUDGET FOR 3 YEARS	2020	2020		2021	, ,	2022
REVENUE	BUDGET ACTUALS	ACTUAL		BUDGET	Bl	BUDGET
						DRAFT
Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations						
Membership Fees-Family	\$ 84,000.00	\$ 73,598.67	7 \$	82,000.00	❖	70,000.00
Membership Fees-Individuals	\$ 100.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 0	400.00	ş	400.00
Administration Fees	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,350.00	\$ 0	4,500.00	ş	4,500.00
Federal Canadian Heritage Grant	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 114,000.00	\$ 0	114,000.00	\$1	\$114,000.00
Quebec Minister of Education and Higher Education Contribution	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 70,750.00	\$ 0	45,000.00	Υ٠	45,000.00
Other Government Grants	\$ 742.50	\$ 5,935.75		200.00	<b>ئ</b>	200.00
Other Revenue	\$ 1,650.00		❖	300.00	Υ٠	300.00
News, Advertising and Subscriptions	\$ 2,500.00		❖	1,000.00	Υ٠	1,000.00
Conferences	\$ 9,500.00		Ş	7,200.00	<b>ئ</b>	7,200.00
Interest Earned		\$ 121.75	5 \$	200.00	Υ٠	200.00
Miscellaneous		-\$ 4,476.65	5			
NL21		\$ 1,103.12	2			
	\$ 227,992.50	\$ 265,532.64	4 \$	254,800.00	\$2	\$ 242,800.00
EXPENSES						
Consultant-Professional Fees						
Honoraria						
Legal Counsel	\$ 2,075.00	\$ 3,357.28	⊗ \$-	3,000.00	❖	3,000.00
Accounting/Audit	\$ 7,250.00	\$ 1,290.58	8	7,000.00	❖	7,000.00
Archivist	\$ 2,200.00	٠ ج	Ϋ́	6,000.00	❖	6,000.00
Workshop Facilitators Karen Delage/FC gifts			Ϋ́	1,000.00	❖	2,500.00

Travel								
Board Meetings	\$ 2,	2,500.00	↔	27.86	δ.	2,000.00	-\$>	1,000.00
Community Tables			<b>ب</b>	160.00	↔	500.00	↔	500.00
Committee Work	\$ 1,	1,500.00	Ş	32.61	❖	1,000.00	❖	1,000.00
AGM (Board)			Ş	ı	❖	1,000.00	❖	1,000.00
AGM (delegates)			❖	ı	٠	2,500.00	↔	2,500.00
Fall Conference (Board)			<b>ب</b>	ı	↔	1,000.00	↔	1,000.00
Fall Conference (delegates)			<b>ب</b>	ı	❖	1,000.00	❖	1,000.00
Executive Workshops Montreal (Board)			<b>ب</b>	ı	❖	00.009	❖	00.009
Gaspé								
Executive Workshops Gatineau			<b>ب</b>	ı	↔	00.009	↔	00.009
Regional Councils x 8			\$	ı	❖	1,000.00	❖	500.00
Introductory H&S presentations x 5			<b>ب</b>	ı	❖	800.00	❖	800.00
Outreach to Member Associations			Ş	ı	❖	1,000.00	❖	200.00
Executive Appreciation Montreal (Board)			Ş	ı	❖	1,000.00	↔	1,000.00
Executive Appreciation Gatineau (Board)			<b>ب</b>	ı	ş	00.009	❖	00.009
Gaspé							❖	00.009
CHSF meetings	\$ 2,	2,000.00	<b>ب</b>	ı	❖	2,000.00	❖	1,500.00
Promotion and Communication								
Marketing and Promotion								
4 issues QFHSA NEWS printed /AGM printing	, 9,	9,000.00	❖	6,554.40	ᡐ	7,000.00	ᡐ	7,000.00
AGM/Fall Conference Promotional Items	<b>ب</b>	900.006			ᡐ	700.00	ᡐ	700.00
Advertisements in Other Publications					ş	200.00	❖	200.00
Home and School Field Guides							↔	1,500.00

Administration Expenses							
Salaries, Fees and Benefits							
	\$ 82,900.00	ş	88,300.15				
Executive Director Part Time 20hrs/wk				Ş	36,000.00	Ş	36,500.00
Administrative Assistant Full Time 30hrs/wk				ş	29,000.00	Ş	29,500.00
Membership Services Coordinator Part Time 15hrs/wk				ş	15,500.00	Ş	16,000.00
Communications Officer Part Time 10hrs/wk (Editor NEWS)	\$ 6,000.00			⊹	11,200.00	⊹	11,700.00
Gaspé Regional Officer		ş	ı	⊹	8,000.00	⊹	8,000.00
Wage Levies	\$ 12,000.00	↔	9,347.39	↔	10,500.00	↔	11,000.00
General Administration							
Liability and Property Insurance	\$ 17,000.00	❖	18,373.29	٠	20,000.00	\$	20,000.00
Rent, Electricity and Occupancy Charges	\$ 26,000.00	❖	27,116.76	❖	30,000.00	٠	30,500.00
Fees and Honorariums	\$ 500.00			Ŷ	500.00	Ŷ	500.00
Office Supplies	\$ 10,630.00	⊹	10,973.22	↔	8,000.00	↔	8,000.00
Postage and Courier	\$ 4,500.00	Ş	1,295.48	Ş	4,000.00	Ş	3,000.00
Telecommunications	\$ 4,500.00	Ŷ	6,024.92	⊹	5,000.00	⊹	5,000.00
Translation	\$ 500.00	ş	193.49	⊹	200.00	⊹	200.00
CHSF Membership Fee	\$ 2,150.00			ş	2,150.00	Ş	2,150.00
Donations to Other Organizations		❖	550.00				
Other							
Special Projects: Literacy							
Born to Read	\$ 3,000.00	⊹	6,240.93	↔	3,600.00	↔	3,600.00
Reluctant Readers		Ş	310.33	Ş	3,750.00	Ş	3,750.00
Youth Exploring Science	\$ 3,900.00	ş	3,103.87	ş	4,000.00	Ş	4,000.00
Other Projects NL21	\$ 3,200.00	❖	1,103.12				

Hospitality							
Food and Beverages							
Fall Conference	\$ 5,500.00	❖	994.29	❖	2,500.00	÷	2,500.00
Annual General Meeting	\$ 17,500.00	Ş	970.53	ş	4,500.00	Ş	4,500.00
Annual Awards Banquet		٠		ş	5,500.00	❖	5,500.00
Regional Councils	\$ 3,200.00	Ş	99.909	ş	500.00	ş	500.00
Executive Appreciation Dinner (Montreal, Gatineau, Gaspé)		↔	2,025.00	❖	5,500.00	❖	5,500.00
Executive Workshops		↔	674.34	❖	1,100.00	❖	1,000.00
Home and School 101 introduction workshops		٠		ş	500.00	❖	500.00
Equipment Expenses							
Other							
Video-Conferencing Flat Screen TV 60"		❖		٠	ı	❖	1
Yeti Microphone		↔	ı	❖	1	ş	1
Logitech Mobile Camera		٠		ş	1	❖	1
Laptop		↔		❖		❖	1
Cisco Meeting Service Contract		❖	ı	❖	1,200.00	⊹	1
	\$ 230,405.00	\$	\$ 189,626.40	\$	254,800.00	\$2	\$256,600.00

#### NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting, June 3, 2021 Submitted by the Chair, Brian Rock

Members: Brian Rock, Immediate Past President *(Chairman);* Renate Sutherland, Director; Mike Nalecz, Local Association Member; Linton Garner, President *(ex officio); and* Carol Meindl, Executive Director.

## PROPOSED SLATE FOR THE OFHSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The following directors are in the midst of a two-year term and therefore not up for election:

- Natasha Drysdale
- Rosemary Murphy
- Brian Rock

The following people have agreed to serve a one-year term and are to be considered for election today:

- Debi Brown
- Chris Schaler (nominee from the floor)\*\*\*

The following people are nominated for a two-year term:

- Elizabeth "Bobbi" Brown
- Maxime Côté
- Linton Garner
- Ginette Sauvé-Frankel
- Wanda Leah Trineer
- Carl Garret\*\*\*
- Nick Giannakoulis\*\*\*
- Samantha Patel\*\*\*

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank **Renate Sutherland** and **Meaghan Dufour** for their stellar service to the Federation.

# **PROPOSED SLATE FOR OFHSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

2021-2022 2021-2023

Vice President: Maxime Côté President: Rosemary Murphy

Vice President: *Natasha Drysdale* Executive Vice President: *Ginette Sauvé-Frankel* Treasurer: *Wanda Leah Trineer* Executive Vice President: *Ginette Sauvé-Frankel* Immediate Past President (ex officio): Linton Garner

Secretary: Debi Brown

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Newcomers to the Board\*\*\*

#### **Education Subcommittee**

Report to the Annual General Meeting June 3, 2021 Submitted by Debi Brown, Chair

**PURPOSE** - The members of the Education Subcommittee have the duty to provide direction to the Board on issues of education that have a direct impact on the student, educators and/or school administration.

The Education Subcommittee is open to any member of QFHSA who is interested in education.

The Subcommittee met five times in the 2020-2021 year.

In addition to Education issues, the Education Subcommittee oversees the Literacy Subcommittee which is responsible for the distribution of books to designated schools, the *Born to Read* program and the distribution of grants under the *Reluctant Reader* program. (see separate report)

The first order of business was to create a Mandate. To create the mandate the Subcommittee discussed areas of concern and 18 issues were identified:

Curriculum content	Drop-Out Rates	Technical and Vocational Education
Textbooks	Special Education	Four-year-old Kindergartens
<b>Textbook Translation</b>	Anti-Bullying	Quality of Drinking Water
Distance Education	Cyber-Security	Ventilation
School libraries	Teacher Shortage	Home Schooling
Literacy	Student Success	Children's Literacy Resource Guide

Three (3) critical issues were given priority and were developed into resolutions for 2020-2021 - Curriculum Development, Healthy Buildings and Teacher Shortages.

To better understand the issues of the current teacher workload and concerns, the Subcommittee invited Heidi Yetman, President of QPAT (Quebec Provincial Association of Teachers) to speak. Ms. Yetman shared the four areas of concern in the current negotiations: salary, improvements in class composition, more investment in special needs classes and teacher workload.

Although it is preferred to not mention Covid-19 and the impact it has had on education for the past year and a half, the Subcommittee should/will explore issues the pandemic highlighted, and the lessons learned. It is hoped that the Subcommittee will be able to develop some resources/guidelines for parents that will encourage and help them to deal with the various partners of their child's education.

The Subcommittee welcomes all parents/partners to join the Subcommittee. We also welcome suggestions for areas of concern.

## **Rights Subcommittee**

Report to the Annual General Meeting – June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 Submitted by Natasha Drysdale, Chair

**Members:** Natasha Drysdale (Chair), Mike Nalecz (Vice-Chair), Brian Rock, Carol Meindl, Marlyn Brownrigg, Bobbi Brown, Sharad Bhargava, Barbara Schneider, Ginette Sauve-Frankel, Rosemary Murphy.

**Mandate:** The mandate of the QFHSA Rights Subcommittee is to address topics concerning individual rights and liberties within the Quebec education system and to provide suggestions to the QFHSA Board of Directors where deemed necessary and/or valuable.

#### **Established 2020-2021 Priorities:**

- Curriculum; History, Ethics
- Law 101, Section 23, and Entente Canada Quebec
- Systemic Racism and Law 21
- Electoral Voters' Lists
- COVID-19 Pandemic

#### **Actions Undertaken:**

- Collaborated with ComECH-QC to address the shortcomings and inaccuracies of the History curriculum
- Researched the availability of supplemental materials to History teachers of Secs. 3 and 4
- Secured a presentation by Professor Richard Y. Bourhis, Emeritus Professor, Department of Psychology, UQAM, regarding Law 40 and the government's continued protection/promotion of French, to which the members of other committees were invited
- Initiated a discussion with QPAT president Heidi Yetman regarding teacher concerns in the age of COVID-19 in order to determine the best interests of parents in relation to distance learning
- Initiated a discussion with Noel Burke, Chair of the Lester B. Pearson School Board, regarding supplemental history materials to History teachers of Secs. 3 and 4
- Submitted two resolutions for consideration in 2021:
  - o RESOLUTION 2021-03 Mail-In Ballots for School Elections
  - o RESOLUTION 2021-05 Permanent English Voters' List for School Elections

#### **Proposed Future Actions:**

- Secure a meeting with Russel Copeman (Executive Director at the QESBA) to determine the best way to ensure all teachers have access to a comprehensive collection of supplemental History materials
- Establish an action plan with regards to English minority rights in response to government initiatives such as the recently released Bill 96
- Submit a resolution for 2022 regarding the transparency and overhaul of how the Quebec government spends federal funding based on the Entente Canada
   Quebec
- Establish an action plan regarding Law 21 upon resolution of the court case
- Create a fact/FAQ sheet for voters and/or similar initiatives to increase voter participation in school elections

#### **Resolutions Subcommittee**

Report to the Annual General Meeting June 3, 2021 Submitted by Brian Rock, Chairman

Members: Brian Rock (Chairman), Sharad Bhargava, Bobbi Brown, Debi Brown, Jennifer Carbonnell, Natasha Drysdale, Meaghan Dufour, Ginette Sauvé-Frankel, Rosemary Murphy, Mike Nalecz, Barbara Schnider, Renate Sutherland, Linton Garner (ex officio), and Carol Meindl (Executive Director)

The 2019-2020 year produced no resolutions, so there is no adoption or disposition report to present. However, the Resolutions Committee was very active following the August 22, 2020 AGM and worked with the Rights and Education subcommittees to present resolutions to the 2021 AGM. A Special Resolutions Meeting was held on May 19, 2021 to caucus the resolutions, as there would not be enough time at an online AGM to caucus eight resolutions adequately and efficiently. Each of the eight draft resolutions were read aloud by a member of the subcommittee (Education, Rights, or Resolutions) who had been involved in the drafting Minor amendments of style (alternative wording) and form (grammar, spelling, punctuation, and typographical errors) were received. All amendments were considered friendly due to the fact that none of the proposed amendments changed the original intent of the resolution.

Final Resolutions Meeting of Review: All eight draft resolutions were approved unanimously by the subcommittee members present at a follow-up May 27 meeting and were sent on to a regular meeting of the QFHSA Board of Directors where they also were approved unanimously to be presented to the QFHSA Annual General Meeting for consideration.

These are the titles of the eight draft resolutions and their origins:

Resolution 2021 01 FREE FRENCH INSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR ALL WHO REQUEST THEM: from the Resolutions Subcommittee.

Resolution 2021 02 EVALUATION, IMPROVEMENTS, AND INVESTMENTS IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS: from the Education Subcommittee.

Resolution 2021 03 MAIL-IN BALLOTS FOR SCHOOL ELECTIONS: from the Rights Subcommittee.

Resolution 2021 04 REQUEST TO REVISE AND IMPROVE THE SECONDARY III AND SECONDARY IV HISTORY OF QUEBEC AND CANADA CURRICULUM: from the Resolutions Subcommittee.

Resolution 2021 05 PERMANENT ENGLISH VOTERS' LIST FOR SCHOOL ELECTIONS: from the Rights Subcommittee.

Resolution 2021 06 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT: from the Education Subcommittee.

Resolution 2021 07 ADDRESSING THE ISSUE OF THE TEACHER SHORTAGE IN QUEBEC: from the Education Subcommittee.

Resolution 2021 08 ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS: from the Saint Thomas High School Home and School Association.

All eight draft resolutions will be proposed at the 2021 Annual General Meeting for adoption by the voting delegates.

Members of the subcommittees of Education, Rights, and Resolutions are sincerely thanked for their determination in producing eight draft resolutions while working virtually.

QUITE AN ACCOMPLISHMENT, INDEED!

# ADMINISTRATION/OFFICE SERVICES - HIRING REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting – June 3, 2021 Submitted by Carol Meindl, Executive Director

#### Mandate:

- To oversee the office, technology, equipment/supplies, contracts, etc.
- To oversee Human Resources hiring, contracts, evaluations, and staff meetings, etc.
- To submit written reports of office activities to the Board of Directors, including recommendations when appropriate.
- To oversee the organization of the various committees of the Federation, including finding chairpersons.

<u>Administrative Changes:</u> There were some changes in administration this year. The committee mandates were reviewed and were maintained with the following committee structure:

Standing Committees Executive Chair - Linton Garner

History/Archives project, Constitution/By-Laws (QFHSA) Outreach/Communications (external) *Chair - Linton Garner* 

**Nominations** Chair - Brian Rock

Finance Chair - Wanda Leah Trineer

Ad Hoc Committees

Membership Co-Chairs - Rosemary Murphy and Maxime Côté

Membership Services Communications (internal)

Constitution/By-Laws (Associations)

**Education Subcommittee** Chair - Debi Brown

Literacy

**Rights Subcommittee** *Chair - Natasha Drysdale* **Resolutions Subcommittee** *Chair - Brian Rock* 

OFHSA Office Staff 2020-2021:

Mimi Tabaczuk Administrative Assistant

Marlyn Brownrigg Membership Services Coordinator

Carol Meindl Executive Director
Karen Henchey Communications Officer

**Contract Positions:** 

Mayali Cousineau CLRG Update March 9, 2020 -November 29, 2020

**Board of Director Changes:** 

Natasha Drysdale Director (elected)
Meaghan DuFour Director (elected)

# Communications, Media, and Public Relations

Report to the Annual General Meeting, June 3rd, 2021 Submitted by Karen Henchey, QFHSA Communications Officer

#### Mandate

To oversee the implementation of initiatives to promote the mission and highlight the activities of the QFHSA through various media, including the *QFHSA News* newsmagazine, the QFHSA website, social media (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter), press releases, interviews, and articles.

#### The Team

The communications team is composed of the QFHSA's four staff members. Leading the group is Executive Director Carol Meindl. Marlyn Brownrigg and Mimi Tabaczuk join her on the editorial board of the QFHSA News, and Communications Officer Karen Henchey is responsible for creating most of our organization's print and electronic communications.

#### **Our Activities**

This report covers approximately 10 months of QFHSA communications activity—from August 1, 2020 until May 10, 2021.

#### **Communications**

The QFHSA has been using all means of communication at its disposal to connect with and support local associations through this long, tumultuous pandemic school year.

#### **E-Bulletins**

In the last 10 months, the QFHSA sent out 39 email bulletins via Constant Contact, which add up to 14,987 emails. Close to 60% of the emails were opened by the recipients, which compares well with the industry average (22%). Of the 39 e-bulletins sent, 24 (or 62%) were destined for Home & School presidents. E-bulletins were also sent periodically to other executive members of local Home & School associations; the general membership; schools/organizations/community members on our QFHSA News mailing list; and the QFHSA board of directors.

#### **QFHSA News**

Three issues of the *QFHSA News* were published. All were 28-page full-colour magazines. The electronic versions of the magazines were posted on our website and made available via links on our social media platforms. It is encouraging to see that the readership of the latest issue is higher than for the previous two. Print copies of the news magazines are distributed to Home and School members and every English language public school in Quebec.

QFHSA News: Star	tistics on the El As of May 4, 2021	lectronic \	ersion/
Issue	Publication Date	No. of Readers	No. of Views
<b>Fall 2020</b> (Volume 58 Issue 2)	November 5, 2020	224	455
Winter 2020 (Volume 58 Issue 3)	January 8, 2021	211	318
Spring 2021 (Volume 59 Issue 1)	March 29, 2021	242	427

#### **Social Media**

## Facebook, Twitter, Instagram

On average, the QFHSA publishes 36 Facebook posts each month. The posts offer a range of information, including breaking news on the COVID situation to parenting support, news about upcoming QFHSA events, and weekly "Friday Fun" suggestions for families. A total of 15 posts had over 600 views. Our followers were very interested to hear news about the court battle to save English school boards and the Ministry of Education's decisions about the 2020-2021 school year. Enthusiasm for our Facebook posts dropped off somewhat in the new year. The QFHSA Facebook page currently has 749 followers, and it is an ongoing effort to attract more.

On a typical day, information shared on Facebook is shared simultaneously on the QFHSA's Twitter and Instagram accounts. The goal is to reach the younger demographic that tends to use these platforms. Since its creation in August 2020, the QFHSA Instagram account has gathered 23 followers. With 316 followers, our Twitter account is more viewed. We began using Twitter again in earnest in early October. Between October and early May, our tweets were seen 30,426 times and are read 150 times a day on average.

#### **QFHSA Website**

The current QFHSA website, which was launched in the Spring of 2019, is updated with QFHSA news and information regularly. In particular, the Home Page is packed with announcements and must-see information. In a recent one-month period (April 7 to May 6), there were 2,134 views of the webpage, and 62% of our visitors were new to the site. The launch of a new website has been delayed, but the hope is it will happen early in the 2021-22 school year. A key ingredient of the new site will be an attractive Home Page to show our latest news/information at a glance.

#### **Press Releases**

Two press releases were sent, as follows:

- February 4, 2021: On behalf of the QFHSA Board of Directors, Board Chair Linton Garner released a
  statement denouncing the lack of funding by the Quebec Ministry of Education for tutoring of students
  in the English school system.
- May 6, 2021: The QFHSA announced its upcoming 77<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting. The release shared the news that the meeting would open with a presentation by Ms. Heidi Yetman, president of the Quebec Provincial Association of Teachers (QPAT).

#### Surveys

Three major surveys were conducted.

- August 25, 2020: Annual General Meeting Post-Event Survey: Attendees of the 76<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting completed a post-event feedback survey.
- November 10, 2020: Survey on Home & School Activity in the Fall 2020: Local Home and School
  Association presidents were surveyed on how the year was unfolding at their schools, given the
  pandemic.
- Nov. 27, 2020: Feedback Survey on the Fall Conference: Attendees completed a post-event survey for our first ever virtual conference.

#### **Publicity**

When publicizing upcoming events, the QFHSA uses a combination of email bulletins, social media posts, the QFHSA News, and on our website. Some observations:

#### **Parenting Workshops**

For the workshops held jointly with LEARN Quebec, the communications officer worked with the LEARN team on publicity. For the two parenting workshops offered in May 2021, the QFHSA ran four bi-weekly "Parenting Pre-Teen Tips" on social media, which were written by Karen Delage, our workshop facilitator. The posts had the dual purpose of generating interest in the upcoming workshops and providing support to parents.

#### The Fall Conference

In the post-event survey, participants were asked how they heard about the event. Although the sampling was small, the answers were revealing. The most successful publicity methods were **emails** and the **QFHSA News**. Much farther down the list was the QFHSA website, a situation we hope the new site will remedy.

# **Goals/Recommendations**

- QFHSA News: Develop a feedback survey for QFHSA News readers as requested by Executive Director Carol Meindl. This will help us understand what readers are finding useful and what aspects of the publication need to be changed/improved.
- Surveys: Look at creating feedback surveys for additional QFHSA events, including the Home and School presidents' meetings and parenting workshops.
- QFHSA Website: Transition to the new website as soon as possible. It may be necessary to enlist the help of IT professionals to ensure the transition goes smoothly.
- As always, explore ways to boost readership of the QFHSA's communications—everything from the *QFHSA News* to our Facebook posts, tweets, etc.
- It is important for the communications officer to attend presidents' meetings and other QFHSA events whenever possible to gather information so that it may be shared with the Home and School community via such means as the *QFHSA News*, e-bulletins, social media, and the website.

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#### **MEMBERSHIP SERVICES**

Report to the Annual General Meeting – June 3, 2021

<u>Submitted by: Marlyn Brownrigg, Membership Services Coordinator; Rosemary Murphy and Bobbi</u> Brown, Membership Committee Members

#### Mandate:

To promote, encourage and assist Home and School associations with membership activities. To evaluate and update membership kits and other membership materials designed to promote membership. To offer training for membership chairpersons via the executive workshops and the fall conference. To visit local Home and School associations and other schools interested in forming a Home and School. To encourage local associations to host regional council meetings for Home and Schools in their area.

#### **Preamble:**

This report covers membership activities from September 1, 2020 to May 30, 2021. Due to the pandemic, the QFHSA Membership Committee, like the QFHSA's local associations, had to run training workshops, meetings, etc., online this year. There are advantages to both in-person and virtual sessions and the QFHSA and local associations will most likely benefit from a hybrid model in future years.

## **Executive Workshops:**

In October 2020, three (3) Executive Training workshops were held online for Presidents/Vice Presidents, Treasurers and Membership/Communications Coordinators. Registrants were emailed kits ahead of time and various documents were shared with the participants during the presentations.

Presidents/Vice-Presidents: Facilitator—Marlyn Brownrigg Attendance – 17

Treasurer: Facilitator—Mimi Tabaczuk Attendance – 13

Membership/Communications: Facilitators—Marlyn Brownrigg/Karen Henchey Attendance – 20

#### **Presidents' Meetings/Regional Councils:**

- Three (3) sets of meetings on Zoom were facilitated by QFHSA staff and board members. The meetings were held in September 2020, January 2021, and May 2021. Each set was scheduled over a period of three or four evenings. "Ice-breaker" topics were broached by the QFHSA and there was always time allotted for open discussion at the end of the meeting.
- Participation: Since the Home and Schools could choose one or more dates, there was always a different mix of representatives from local associations. It became apparent that a Home and School's access to the school and activity level depended not only on the alert-designation of the municipality, but also on the directives from the school board and the school principal.
- Online Platform Discussion: Following up on interest expressed at the 2020 Fall Conference, and the need for Home and Schools to adapt their activities and payment procedures, the QFHSA

organized a meeting dedicated to online platform usage. The meeting was held in February 2021 and participants were asked to share their experiences with different online services, social media, etc. It became evident that the switch to e-transfer banking and online fundraising has been beneficial. The reduction in the amount of paperwork as well as the home delivery of orders available from some vendors has decreased the workload of Home and School volunteers.

# **Meetings with Local Associations:**

Members of the membership committee held meetings with three (3) different associations via Zoom. Committee Members ran one (1) Home and School election and will facilitate another one in June 2021. Another ten (10) Home and School Executives contacted the QFHSA to discuss a variety of topics.

# Results (approximate) of the 2020/2021 Membership Campaign (to May 26th, 2021):

	2020-2021	2019-2020
Family Memberships (thorough locals):	~1920	4100
Associate Memberships (through locals)	~61	50
Individual Memberships	6	3
Affiliate Memberships	1	0
Local Associations in Good Standing	73	80

# **The Consequences of the Pandemic:**

Many associations saw monthly meeting attendance increase after switching to a virtual platform. Ever resourceful, Home and School volunteers (with the help of school staff) found ways to organize activities such as staff appreciation, holiday treats for the students, fundraisers, etc.

Unfortunately, some parents took a step back since they were not allowed to physically volunteer in the school. Although the QFHSA Board of Directors extended the family membership drive to December 31, 2020 (instead of October), the membership campaign was difficult for many Home and School Associations (see above chart). As a result, a few associations went on hiatus for the school year and some postponed elections from Spring 2020 to September 2020 in the hope of filling executive positions.

<u>Conclusion:</u> This Covid-19 pandemic year encouraged both the local associations and the QFHSA to institute new ways to reach out to parents. For the QFHSA, online Presidents'/ Regional Council meetings have been very successful and this initiative should continue. At the local level, it will be interesting to see if activities, volunteer commitment, etc., return to pre-pandemic levels.

## **LITERACY COMMITTEE (A subset of the Education Sub-Committee)**

Report to the Annual General Meeting - June 3, 2021 <u>Submitted by Debi Brown - Chair, Carol Meindl - Executive Director, Marlyn Brownrigg - Membership Services</u>

#### Mandate:

- To promote awareness of the requirements for literacy in a knowledge-based society.
- To mobilize school and community volunteer resources to advocate and deliver literacy programs for prevention and remediation.

A Children's Literacy Resource Guide (CLRG) is available to help deliver programs.

### **Committee Members:**

Debi Brown (Chair), Carol Meindl (Executive Director), Marlyn Brownrigg (Membership Services), Renate Sutherland, Bobbi Brown, Brian Rock, Meaghan Dufour, Sharad Bhargava, Jennifer Carbonnell

# **Activities May 2020-April 2021:**

# **Reluctant Reader Project (High School Support):**

Three (3) high schools took advantage of this project aimed at finding appropriate reading material for teenagers reading below grade level.

The following grants were disbursed:

- Laval Junior Academy (SWLSB): \$300.00
- La Tuque High School (CQSB): \$200.00
- New Richmond High School (ESSB): \$300.00

# Born-To-Read:

- The QFHSA Literacy Committee is pleased to announce that Souvenir Elementary Home and School (SWLSB) started a *Born-to-Read* program in January 2021. A total of 25 families participated and the QFHSA donated 10 Born-to-Read bags to the program.
- Souvenir, along with long-time Born-to-Read participants Edgewater and Roslyn Home and Schools, was unable to plan an in-person event due to Covid-19 restrictions.
- St. Patrick's Elementary Home and School (LBPSB) has approved a *Born-to-Read* program and it will be formally launched in September 2021.

- The QFHSA Literacy Committee approved a donation of 14 bags to the Benny Farm "On Our Own" project, but distribution has been postponed until a community event can be held.
- The Born-to-Read logo was printed on the 94 bags already in the QFHSA's inventory. In addition, the QFHSA ordered 106 new bags and had the logo printed on them as well. Total cost: \$1726.00.

# Children's Literacy Resource Guide (CLRG):

Mayali Cousineu-Paley has finished updating the CLRG and a selection of pages has been uploaded to the QFHSA website. Due to the size of the file and the limitations of the website, the whole document cannot be loaded at once. Selected pages will be shared through the QFHSA Facebook page.

# Book Donations – (Inventory purchased through *First Book Canada*):

- Benny Farm: 40 new books for children aged 6-11 years were purchased for the "On Our Own" project.
- New Carlisle: Two (2) boxes of mainly new books were donated to 13 students in a Grade Three/Four class.
- La Tuque: Along with the Reluctant Reader grant mentioned above, one (1) box of new books was donated for students in a high-school class.
- New Richmond: 35 students received a variety of books from the QFHSA, and the school was able to purchase more books through the *Reluctant Reader* grant.

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) August 22, 2020

Report to the Annual General Meeting on June 3, 2021 Submitted by the Office

AGM Planning Committee: Rosemary Murphy, Carol Meindl, Mimi Tabaczuk, Marlyn Brownrigg, Karen Henchey.

The QFHSA Annual General Meeting was held on August 22, 2020 with an online format. Our usual AGM format consists of a full day event, with keynote speaker, business session, a caucusing of resolutions session, catered lunch and health breaks followed by an Awards Banquet. COVID-19 restrictions put a halt to all that. Instead of hosting the AGM at the end of April/ first of May, as usual, we experienced such a delay in the completion and delivery of our financial review that we postponed the AGM to August 22, 2020. The agenda was stripped down and kept to a minimum, only dealing with items that were required of Not-for-profit/ Charitable organizations.

We had 23 Member association delegates attend the online event, which satisfied the requirement of quorum.

Beaconsfield High Beacon

Hill Elementary Chelsea

St Patrick Elementary

Elementary Children's

South Hull Elementary

World Academy Eardley

PETES (Vaudreuil)

Elementary Edinburgh Elementary PETES (Hull)
Elementary Forest Hill Elementary Roslyn

Elementary Forest Hill Elementary Roslyn

Senior Gardenview Elementary

Elementary Grenville St Charles Elementary

Elementary John Rennie St John Fisher Elementary St

High Lindsay Place High
Lord Aylmer Elementary

Michael's High
St Thomas High

Willingdon Elementary

In addition, we had 5 Board members, 3 QFHSA staff and 3 observers participate. The meeting ran from 9:00 am to 12:30pm and everyone was invited to a Regional Council meeting afterwards to discuss various events and topics of concern that had come up over the summer and fall.

Results from an electronic survey commissioned afterwards showed that 100% of attendees felt better informed and empowered to advance education and promote civic involvement in their Home and School community.

94.4% of Delegates indicated an appreciation for having the opportunity to discuss on-going opposition to Bill 40, back-to-school and H&S fundraising challenges and indicated they felt it was edifying to speak to, and hear from, other Home and School Associations.

In addition 88.89% felt it was the right decision to hold the AGM online and limit the items on the agenda to basic business and adopt the required motions only.

There were no resolutions presented or adopted at the 2020 AGM.

There was one article in the fall issue QFHSA NEWS as a recap of AGM in the Winter issue. There were two posts on Facebook regarding the AGM, one prior to and one post afterwards. There were no press releases on highlights of the AGM as there were no real highlights to report but we did elect two new Directors, Meaghan Dufour and Natasha Drysdale. The recipients of the Unsung Hero and Golden Torch Awards were listed in the fall 2020 QFHSA NEWS.

#### Fall Conference 2020

Report to the Annual General Meeting June 3, 2021 Submitted by: The Fall Conference Committee

Fall Conference Committee: Rosemary Murphy, Carol Meindl, Mimi Tabaczuk, Marlyn Brownrigg, Karen Henchey.

Like so many things in 2020, this year's edition of the QFHSA's Fall Conference was done a little differently. Instead of our traditional day-long event, we re-imagined our conference as a series of evening workshops on Zoom.

- A series of seven (7) evening workshops were planned over a two-week period from November 17<sup>th</sup> to November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020. A workshop on vocational education was postponed to Spring 2021 due to low enrolment.
- Workshop formulation/presentation varied greatly as some facilitators had more professional facilitating experience than others and were more comfortable with an online presentation. Two (2) presenters are current, active members of local associations.
- For the Zoom conferences, office staff monitored the chat when requested. Board and staff members handled the introductions, closing remarks, and will write the summaries for the OFHSA NEWS.
- Facilitators were given the option of having the session recorded and shared on the QFHSA social media platforms. Four of the six workshops were recorded.
- Participants registered through *Eventbrite*, a free service for charities. *Eventbrite* also automatically sent email reminders to the participants. Despite these reminders, some registrants did not attend the workshops, which was unfortunate. The following table shows spaces reserved versus actual attendance.

Workshop	Registered	Attended	BOD/Staff present
Media Literacy	18	15	6
Head and Heart – Emotional Health	11	8	4
Vocational Education	2	Cancelled	
School at Home	15	7	6
ABC's of Canadian Black History	10	6	5
Home & School Online	22	14	5
Physical Literacy	9	1	4
TOTALS	87	51	30

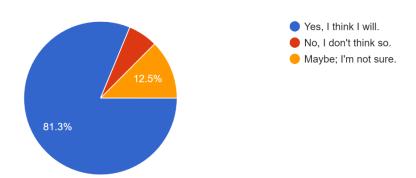
Of the 49 people who attended the event, 8 were either QFHSA staff or board members.

H&S associations who participated: Soulanges, LaurenHill, Macdonald, Clearpoint, St Thomas, Beacon Hill, Royal West, St Gabriel, Forest Hill Junior, St Charles, Beaconsfield High, Margaret Manson, Kingsdale, William Latter, St Patrick, Westpark, Children's World, Easthill.

- A follow-up survey was sent out to participants. As of December 1<sup>st</sup>, 16 individuals (33.3%) have completed the survey. Here are some of the insights we have gained:
  - □ When asked to rate their level of satisfaction in each workshop they attended, most respondents answered 4 or 5 (on the scale where 1 was "Very dissatisfied" and 5 was "Very satisfied").
  - □ Similarly, when asked to rate the usefulness of the information they received at each workshop, most respondents gave high marks (answering 4 or 5 on a scale where 1 was "Not useful at all" and 5 was "Very useful").
  - ☐ The "Home & School Online" workshop received the most negative feedback, both with regards to satisfaction and usefulness.
  - ☐ It is very gratifying to see that most respondents (81.3%) said they anticipated using the information they learned in the future, as shown in the following graphic:

Do you anticipate using the information from any of the workshops in the future, either personally or at your local Home & School association?

16 responses



- □ 87.6% of respondents agreed it was very/extremely important for the QFHSA to organize this type of event.
- □ Some elements of this year's online event were less well received. 50% of respondents gave the Eventbrite registration process a middling grade; 60% of respondents gave middling or lower grades to the frequency of the workshops (6 in 2 weeks). That said, 87.5% of respondents expressed satisfaction with the conference overall.
- Additional comments from respondents:
  - The information was interesting, I thought they would be a little more informative, it seems the ones I attended were more targeted to get the topic or product brought into the classroom.
  - My "3" is based on the fact that I missed having it in person no one's fault here. Hopefully next year! Page 37

- Thank you QFHSA!
- My appreciation to the staff and their team for mounting a successful Fall Conference.
- Thank you for organizing these. I found them incredibly informative and interesting. Definitely things to bring back to the classroom.
- The fact that the H&S Online workshop had one of the highest attendances means that there is a need for a regular meet-up to discuss best practices regarding getting as many things done online.
- There is every likelihood that next year's Fall Conference will have to be on line as well. Hopefully lessons will be learned from this first effort to improve the roll out next year. Still, I appreciate QFHSA making the effort.
- Individuals who attended had their names put in a draw for a hard drive, one entry per person. Two (2) winners were chosen, one from Margaret Manson and the other from Soulanges.
- The Pros and Cons of organizing an online conference (as opposed to an in-person event).

#### Pros:

- o Participants can attend from the comfort of their own homes.
- o The staff learned some new skills i.e., *Eventbrite* registration tool, additional *Zoom* functions, etc.
- o Although the staff still handled the booking of presenters, publicity, etc., the added level of liaising with the host school, booking caterers, finding a keynote speaker, etc., was avoided.
- o The QFHSA has the option of sharing the recorded workshops, which will allow more people to benefit from the conference.

#### Cons:

- o Since there was no Saturday commitment or cost, some registrants may not have felt "obliged" to attend. This is de-motivating to the facilitator and not a good use of staff resources.
- Zoom has its limitations, i.e., visually seeing participants, having participants monopolize the conversation, etc. During an in-person presentation, a board or staff member can help the presenter get back on track.
- o People may be tired of attending online events, given how frequently they have had to do so since March.
- o The educational component of the keynote speech is lost as are the lunchtime and regional council networking opportunities.

#### **Parenting Workshops:**

Outreach to our Membership and the Community

Report to the Annual General Meeting, June 3rd, 2021 Submitted by Karen Henchey, QFHSA Communications Officer

The Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations offered several parenting webinars between August 1, 2020 and May 10, 2021. All were collaborations with LEARN Quebec. The workshops allowed the QFHSA to support the personal development and strengthen the parenting skills of QFHSA members as well as parents in the community at large.

Karen Delage, a family life educator with over 15 years of experience working with the Youth Protection Mandate, presented the workshops. As Ms. Delage's area of specialization is the preteen and teen years, all but one of the workshops focused on this age group. Given the pandemic, the workshops were offered on Zoom. A short description of each event follows.

## Returning to School Post COVID — How Parents of Teens (and Preteens) Can Help Their Children Feel Safe and Self-Assured

Offered twice on Wednesday, August 26, 2020

Daytime event (10 to 11:30 a.m.): **57 registrations; 22 participants** (based on a Zoom poll) Evening event (7 to 8:30 p.m.): **61 registrations; 11 participants** (based on a Zoom poll)

There was a phenomenal amount of interest in this workshop. Our partners at LEARN Quebec handled the registration and reported that both workshop sessions filled beyond capacity within days of the launch of the publicity campaign. The message was clear: parents were worried what back-to-school would look like in the Fall of 2020 and wanted to learn how best to support their teens through the process.

A summary of this workshop (and the parenting tips Karen Delage shared) can be found on pages 22 and 23 of the Fall 2020 issue of the QFHSA News.

#### **Empowered Students = Student Success**

Offered on Wednesday, October 21, 2020 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.: 51 registrations; 23 participants

The goal of the workshop was to help parents focus on the things they can control when it comes to their children's success — both academically and in life in general.

#### **Helping Our Teens Stand Tall During the Pandemic**

Offered on Wednesday, December 9, 2020 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.: **52 registrations; 24 participants** 

Another popular event, this webinar gave parents tips and strategies to help their children navigate through the tumultuous teen years (made far more challenging by the pandemic). Parents learned how to decipher their teens' behaviours; create a welcoming home environment for expressing/sharing emotions; and build resilience in their teen through a strong family foundation.

A summary of this workshop (and the parenting tips Karen Delage shared) can be found on pages 20 and 21 of the Winter 2020 issue of the QFHSA News.

#### Goals/Recommendations

- For future parenting workshops organized solely by the QFHSA, distribute a post-event survey to participants for feedback on all aspects of the event.
- Follow up on Executive Director Carol Meindl's recommendation to survey QFHSA
  members about our parenting workshops. The goal: to find out parents' needs in terms of
  topics and the age groups covered by the workshops so that the QFHSA may plan
  workshops to address those needs. It is very likely the QFHSA will want to offer an
  ensemble of workshops that support parents through different ages and stages in their
  children's lives from preschool through high school.

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### **Youth Exploring Science 2020/2021**

Report to the Annual General Meeting of June 3rd, 2021 Submitted by Carol Meindl, Executive Director

#### **Objective of the Program:**

To encourage tomorrow's scientists by supporting today's students in developing and nurturing an interest in science. To provide science experiment materials/equipment to high schools in the regions; to encourage science activities proposed by secondary-level science educators.

#### **Schools participating in 2020-21 Program:**

Youth Exploring Science was a bit more of a challenge this year than usual. The uncertainty of whether school would be closed to in-person classes and delays in ordering supplies and shipping materials all affected the success of the program. Nevertheless, two schools did take us up on the offer of micro-grants to fund intra-curricular science projects.

#### **Metis Beach School** (Eastern Shores School Board):

#### Rocket Club

<u>Project Description</u>: Design and build a miniature solid-fuel rocket with recovery parachute and associated launch pad to achieve a variety of specific targets such as reaching a particular height.

<u>Project Curriculum Objective</u>: Students will research and learn the multiple scientific aspects of the design and fabrication processes. Students will learn aerodynamics, property of materials, machining and assembling processes, and basic electricity and associated soldering and wiring through flexible guidelines promoting ingenuity and innovation. Students will learn the guidelines of Transport Canada in relation to the use of model rockets. They will also learn the history and the pioneers of rocket science, including Robert Goddard.

At the end of the project, each student will have completed a full launch of her or his own rocket and will be able to reuse it for future launches. Each project will be compared to others in order to see which student/team best achieved each of the specified objectives.

Students Involved: 23 students from Secondary 1 to Secondary 5.

#### Wind Turbines

<u>Project Description</u>: Develop and investigate wind turbine rotor designs to evaluate which produces the most energy at a certain wind speed.

<u>Project Curriculum Objective</u>: What is it about the shape of a rotor on a wind turbine that makes it spin easily in the wind? Is it because of the aerodynamics of the rotor—its shape and curvature? In this science project, students will investigate the efficiency of turbine rotors by making a small turbine model and several rotors, varying their shapes and

curvatures. They will determine efficiency by measuring energy output using work. The wind turbine model will do work on a small weight by hauling it up from the ground to the top of the turbine. This will represent the energy output of a wind turbine. Students will measure the output of each rotor design by how much weight it can haul. The rotor that hauls the most weight is the most efficient design.

Students Involved: 23 students from Secondary 1 to Secondary 5.

#### **Westwood High School (Lester B. Pearson School Board):**

#### Green Race Car

<u>Project Description</u>: Explore the science behind alternative energy sources and choose an energy source to power race cars — elastic, solar, or electric.

<u>Project Curriculum Objective</u>: Students will be asked to design and print the wheels for race cars. They will use online CAD programs to produce the wheels for their race cars. Students will then create (with the help of the teacher) a suitable experimental situation in which they can test which energy source and wheel design works best.

Students Involved (Approx.): 56 Secondary II students; 20 boys and 36 girls.

(NOTE: The shipment of the components needed for the green race car project was delayed due to the Suez Canal tanker incident. There was a huge backlog at the port of Nova Scotia and, as a result, needed materials were held there for weeks. The project has not been abandoned, but will probably be launched in September 2021 with the new school year.)



#### **Canadian Home and School Federation (CHSF)**

May 4, 2021

CHSF is a national parent organization that promotes its involvement at every level of education to ensure decisions are made in the best interest of children. Members meet at Spring and Fall Conferences to share information and resources and to raise concerns that must be addressed at the national level. CHSF has, since its inception in 1895, advocated for Canadian children in their homes, public schools, and communities.

There are four provincial federations that regularly attend meetings. Our last face-to-face meeting was held in November 2019. Rosemary Murphy was elected Vice-President, which allowed the QFHSA to elect or appoint a delegate to Canadian. Ginette Sauvé-Frankel was appointed the QFHSA's delegate at the March 2020 meeting of the QFHSA Board of Directors. She was then elected to the CHSF Board of Directors in January 2021. The executive and directors have met three times via ZOOM.

CHSF has been working with Members of Parliament and the Senate for the past couple of years on two very important issues, as follows:

- To ensure the passage of Bill S-210 to establish the Office for the Commissioner of Children and Youth (a recommendation of the Laurent Report).
- To ensure the development of national standards for a dedicated School Food Fund.

We have invited the other six provinces and the territories to a cross-country discussion at our May meeting. We will also plan our Fall Conference and AGM, which is to be held November 19, 20, and 21 in person. We hope.

Respectively submitted by, Rosemary Murphy, Vice-President, Ginette Sauvé-Frankel, Director

### QFHSA LIAISON OF THE QUEBEC COMMUNITY GROUPS NETWORK (QCGN)

Report to the Annual General Meeting June 3, 2021 Submitted by: Brian Rock, QCGN Director

The Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN) requested member organizations, of which the QFHSA is one, to submit candidates in nomination for the QCGN Board of Directors who would be elected at the 2020 Annual General Meeting in November.

The QFHSA Board of Directors submitted the name of Brian Rock, a QFHSA Director, in nomination for a position of QCGN Director. The three-man QCGN Nominations Committee did not include Brian Rock on their slate of eight (8) nominees for the QCGN Board of Directors.

The QFHSA Board of Directors resubmitted the name of Brian Rock in nomination for a position of Director. This created an election for members of the QCGN Board of Directors at the 2020 Annual General Meeting. There was already an election for QCGN President as both incumbent Geoffrey Chambers and Marlene Jennings had been nominated for the post of President.

Energetic election campaigns ensued for the posts of President and Directors of the Quebec Community Groups Network. On the evening of the virtual Annual General Meeting. Marlene Jennings was elected as QCGN President, and Brian Rock was elected as one of the eight QCGN Directors.

QCGN is in the midst of a renewal process. Brian Rock has actively participated in all meetings of the QCGN Board of Directors, briefing sessions, consultations, webinars, and related QCGN activities to which he had been invited to. He follows the QCGN Daily Briefings and the QCGN Weekly Updates. He reports on these activities at each meeting of the QFHSA Board of Directors.

Brian Rock was elected as an agent of change candidate and continues to lobby for improvements in the QCGN processes regarding internal democratic procedures, the nominations committee, the establishment of an active QCGN subcommittee on education, and related issues.

Brian Rock makes all efforts to remain as informed as possible on current educational and rights issues surrounding Law 21, Law 40, Bill 96, the Charter of the French Language, the Official Languages Act of Canada, the Canadian Constitution, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, and relevant matters addressed by the National Assembly of Quebec, the House of Commons, and the Senate.

Brian Rock's first term as Director is until the QCGN Annual General Meeting in 2022.

### QFHSA LIAISON OF THE QUEBEC ANGLOPHONE HERITAGE NETWORK (QAHN)

Report to the Annual General Meeting June 3, 2021 Submitted by: Brian Rock, QAHN Liaison

I would like to begin this report with thanks to Carol Meindl, QFHSA Executive Director and former liaison, for her years of dedication to the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network and for keeping the QFHSA informed about QAHN's significant contributions over the years to the preservation and promotion of the history of Quebec.

I was pleased to participate in my first QAHN Annual General Meeting virtually on November 14, 2020. Jon Bradley and Sam Allison, two stalwarts of the Committee for the Enhancement of the Curriculum of the History of Quebec (ComECH-QC), presented a fascinating talk with the title "Fake and Foul: Quebec's New History Textbook." If you ever get a chance to listen to these two scholars, now retired out of McGill University's Faculty of Education, sign up for it. You will not be disappointed!

I was honoured to be invited as ComECH-QC Chairman to meet with the QAHN Youth and Education Committee at its virtual meeting on February 17, 2021 to discuss with the members the mandate, interests, and activities of ComECH-QC.

I am pleased to announce that ComECH-QC applied for and has been welcomed as an institutional member with voting rights to the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network. The Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network's **2021 Annual General Meeting** will take place over Zoom on **Saturday**, **June 26**, at **10:00** a.m.

You may join the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network as an individual member and receive Heritage Line, its online newsletter, and the Quebec Heritage News, its quarterly magazine at <a href="http://qahn.org">http://qahn.org</a>. The Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network is an excellent resource for anyone wishing to increase their knowledge of the historical contributions of the English community to the development of Quebec society.

I have purchased and am presently reading <u>Historical Views: Selections from Quebec Heritage News: 2000-2020</u>, a two-volume anthology set produced by QAHN and edited by Matthew Farfan and Rod MacLeod. A very interesting read!

#### **APPELE-Quebec (November 2020 - June 2021)**

Report to the Annual General Meeting June 3, 2021 Submitted by Linton Garner and Carol Meindl, Steering Committee Liaisons

#### **Background**

On January 31, 2020, APPELE-Quebec (The Alliance to Promote Public English Language Education in Quebec) announced its launch. The goal was to assemble a wide range of community leaders and organizations reiterating a strong stand against Bill 40, an act to amend mainly the education act with regard to school organization and governance. APPELE-Quebec is a broad-based Quebec-wide community coalition established to promote the continued existence of English school boards, and to ensure they are governed by commissioners who are democratically elected by the English-speaking community at large. The alliance is comprised of 16 supporting organizations and 9 observer groups.

The chair is Geoffrey Kelley, and the vice-chairs are Joan Fraser and Kevin Shaar. The steering committee is made up of representatives from the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA), the English Parents' Committee Association (EPCA), the Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN), and the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations (QFHSA). The QFHSA is represented by QFHSA Board President Linton Garner and Executive Director Carol Meindl, with Brian Rock stepping in on behalf of the President when requested.

#### **Activities**

APPELE-Quebec met several times in 2020/2021.

On November 14, 2020, the group met to discuss the on-again, off-again school board election decisions by the Ministry of Education. (In the end, school board elections were postponed from their original November 1st date — first to December 20th, and then the elections were postponed indefinitely.)

On February 17, 2021, APPELE-Quebec released a statement urging the Quebec government to extend voting-by-mail beyond the pandemic. Further, APPELE-Quebec stated that voting-by-mail should be a permanent feature of all Quebec elections. The QFHSA responded by sending a similar letter to the English community with copies sent to Premier François Legault; Pierre Reed, the director general of Elections Quebec; and Jean-François Roberge, the minister of Education.

APPELE-Quebec continues to support the QESBA court challenge to Bill 40. As the court ruling in August 2020 granted a stay on proceedings and the stay was upheld after an appeal by the government in September 2020, Bill 40 cannot be applied to the English-speaking community. Indeed the English-speaking community maintains its right to manage and control its education system. The ruling did leave the other elements of the law intact as it applies to the French-language school system. Nevertheless, the case was finally heard on its merits by the

Superior Court of Quebec in April 2021 and a final ruling is still expected. Once it comes down, it will likely be appealed by the Quebec government and sent, ultimately, to the Supreme Court of Canada for a final decision, which will be years from now. Contributions to cover the court fees can be made to the GoFundMe page at:

https://www.gofundme.com/f/quebec-bill-40-court-challenge?utm\_medium=email&utm\_source=product&utm\_campaign=p\_email%2B4803-donation-alert

The QFHSA continues to stand with its partners in education, the Quebec English School Boards Association and the English Parents' Committee Association, in defending the right of our English-speaking community to manage and control our minority-language education system.

## QFHSA LIAISON OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF THE CURRICULUM OF THE HISTORY OF QUEBEC (ComeCH-QC)

Report to the Annual General Meeting June 3, 2021 Submitted by: Brian Rock, ComECH-QC Chairman

The Committee for the Enhancement of the Curriculum of the History of Quebec began meeting again in November of 2020 at the request of its members. An executive committee was formed in November with Brian Rock as Chairman, Katherine Korakakis as Vice-Chairperson, Carol Meindl as Secretary, and Haydn Baggoo as Treasurer. Robert Green was thanked for his work during his two-year term as Chair.

Mandate: The interests of ComECH-QC center around the present curriculum of the History of Quebec courses offered in Secondary III and Secondary IV, the textbooks, the workbooks, and the resources used, enhancement of local history, and recent related current events.

ComECH-QC is a not-for-profit organization which aims to enhance the curriculum of the history of Quebec classes in Secondary III and Secondary IV. ComECH-QC advocates for the improvement of the historical content of the curriculum to include a fair and balanced presentation of the contributions to the development of Quebec over the centuries by the minority communities including those of the Anglophones, Allophones, Indigenous, Blacks, Jewish, Muslim, and other minority groups.

ComECH-QC brings together some thirty (30) members and observers who are directors and/or members of other important associations and organizations involved in the sector of English education in Quebec.

ComECH-QC invites special guests to discuss the enhancement of the curriculum of history:

Mr. Christopher Skeete, M. N. A., Parliamentary Assistant to the Premier, in December and January;

Mr. Gregory Kelley, M. N. A., Official Opposition Critic for Indigenous Affairs and Relations with English-speaking Quebecers, in April; and Mr. Noel Burke, Chairman of the Lester B. Pearson School Board (L.B.P.S.B.) and Vice-President of the Quebec English School Boards Associations (Q.E.S.B.A.,) in May.

The Honourable Marc Miller, M. P., Minister of Indigenous Services of Canada, has been invited to the next ComECH-QC meeting planned for June.

ComECH-QC wishes to thank the QFHSA for hosting ComECH-QC meetings through ZOOM and the valuable implications of members of the QFHSA subcommittees on Education, Rights, and Resolutions. ComECH-QC would also like to thank QAHN ( Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network) for graciously hosting our May 26th meeting. ComECH-QC became an institutional member of QAHN in January 2021.

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it!" – George Santayana

#### Non a la loi 21 (NL21)

Report to the Annual General Meeting, June 3, 2021 Submitted by Carol Meindl, Liaison

Steering Committee: Co-Chairs Frank Baylis and Carol Meindl, *QFHSA*; Ehab Lotayef; Chantal Sundaram & Zeid Hamida – *Droits Diversité Dialogue* in Gatineau; Diane Rollert – *Coalition Inclusion Quebec*; Saskia de Boer; Khadija Ahmed; Sara Varanos; Thomas Woodley; Anamjit Sivia Singh – *World Sikh Organization*; Ayo Ogunremi – *VP McGill Students*; Stefan Christoff – *Artists Together Against Law 21*; Yusuf Faqiri – *National Council for Canadian Muslims*.

The Non a la loi 21 (NL21) campaign remained active in 2020/2021. Carol Meindl continued to serve as the liaison between the NL21 steering committee and the QFHSA Board of Directors.

After the June 14th rally outside Premier Legault's Montreal office (reported at the 2019 AGM), the steering committee took the summer off and reconvened on October 22, 2020, with guest speakers Diane Rollert, Chair, and Gregory Bordan, Secretary, of Coalition Inclusion Québec. Diane and Greg gave an overview of the next few months' proceedings and what to expect. The Coalition Inclusion Quebec is a collective of citizens against Bill 21 whose goal is to mobilize opposition to Bill 21 through peaceful and significant actions. It was launched in April 2019.

The court case began on November 2, 2020, and ran 5 days a week for 6 weeks. It was presided over by the Honourable Marc-André Blanchard, Justice of the Superior Court of Quebec. It was expected that the result (perhaps by April 2021) would be appealed to the Quebec Court of Appeal regardless of the outcome. This appeal would be heard most likely in 2023. That result, in turn, will most likely be appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada, likely in 2024 or thereabouts.

A demonstration was held on November 2, 2020, at the Montreal courthouse, timed to coincide with the arrival of the lawyers at the beginning of the proceedings.

Donations were collected for the Comité Juridique de la Coalition Inclusion Québec.

NL21 donated \$1000.00 toward the court fees; the QFHSA donated \$500.00

Total funds collected by the QFHSA for NL21 in 2020: \$2552.73

Total NL21 expenses in 2020 were \$248.34

Total raised by NL21 since August 14, 2019: \$21,529.25 Total expenses NL21 since August 14, 2019: \$18,551.94

Plans got underway to move the strategy away from street rallies to changing public opinion. Workshops would target students, unions, the general public, and the Francophone population. The goal of the on-going activity is to speak in a humanitarian rather than a confrontational way, to our Francophone co-citizens, focusing on the negative effect that Bill 21 is having on individuals and human rights. These workshops should show how *Laicite* is not being threatened and, more specifically, that the state does not have to be protected from religion. Religion has to be protected by the state. Contributions are still welcomed to help cover the expenses connected to the ongoing court case. Donations may be sent to: Comité juridique de la Coalition Inclusion Québec. (Attention Gregory Bordan, Secretary, 1 Place Ville Marie, Bureau 2500, Montreal, QC, H3B 1R1)

# Annex A

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2020 (Unaudited)

### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2020 (Unaudited)

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## VERELLI · ARRIZZA S.E.N.C.

Societé de Comptables Professionnels Agréés Partnership of Chartered Professional Accountants

### Anthony Vereil, OFA CAINDEPENDANT PRACTITIONERS REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

#### To the Directors of Québec Federation of Home and School Associations

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of Québec Federation of Home and School Associations (Federation) that comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2020, and the statements of changes in net assets, operations and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and for such internal controls as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Practitioner's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the Federation, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

#### Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Federation as at December 31, 2020, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for profit organizations.

erelli firuzza Chartered Professional Accountants

Pointe Claire, Québec June 5, 2021

By 1 Anthony Verelli, CPA-Auditor, CA

## QUÉBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS (Incorporated under the laws of Québec)

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

## AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2020 (Unaudited)

	 2020		2019
ASSETS			
CURRENT			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 143,076	\$	124,417
Funds held in trust (Note 3)	9,500		9,500
Membership fees receivable	13,633		16,699
Sales taxes refundable	4,690		7,415
Grant receivable	10,000		4,300
Prepaid expenses	18,724		
	\$ 199,623	\$	162,331
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 4)	\$ 6,663	\$	11,757
Donations payable (Note 5)	-		1,900
Deferred contributions Program No to 'Loi 21' (Note 6)	2,786		1,234
Deferred program grants (Note 7)	39,750		34,436
Deferred membership fees (Note 8)	28,640		58,979
	 77,839	·	108,306
NET ASSETS			
NET ASSETS RESTRICTED FOR AWARDS			
PURPOSES (NOTE 3)	9,500		9,500
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	112,284		44,525
	121,784	.,	54,025
	\$ 199,623	\$	162,331

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

mary

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	for	estricted awards urposes	Un	restricted	-	2020	 2019
BALANCE - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$	9,500	\$	44,525	\$	54,025	\$ 71,236
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses		-		67,759		67,759	(17,211)
BALANCE - END OF YEAR	\$	9,500	\$	112,284	\$	121,784	\$ 54,025

### STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

	2020	2019
REVENUES (PAGE 7)	\$ 266,963	\$ 253,979
EXPENSES		
CHSF Affiliation fees and others	_	2,150
Travel and conferences	3,481	36,719
Home and school news	6,554	14,565
Committee costs	33	1,606
Insurance	19,936	18,158
Provincial office		
Postage and courier	1,500	2,568
Office supplies	13,458	9,423
Telecommunications and internet	6,025	4,676
Professional fees	9,998	8,040
Rent, electricity and occupancy charges	26,781	27,245
Salaries and employee benefits	102,863	89,066
Fees and honorariums	1,856	2,750
No to 'Loi 21' project	1,103	12,375
Yes Project	3,104	2,161
Literacy projects	1,651	1,997
Secretariat project	-	34,228
History and archive project	-	725
Other projects	861	2,738
	199,204	271,190
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES		
OVER EXPENSES	\$ 67,759	\$ (17,211)

### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	2020	2019
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	\$ 67,759	\$ (17,211)
Decrease in membership fees receivable	3,066	10,922
Decrease (increase) in sales taxes refundable	2,725	(1,658)
Decrease (increase) in grant receivable	(5,700)	10,700
Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses	(18,724)	6,647
Decrease in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(5,094)	(4,825)
Increase (decrease) in donations payable	(1,900)	1,900
Increase in deferred contributions - Program No to 'Loi 21'	1,552	1,234
Increase (decrease) in deferred program grants	5,314	(5,914)
Increase (decrease) in deferred membership fees	(30,339)	9,075
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	18,659	10,870
INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	18,659	10,870
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	124,417	113,547
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - END OF YEAR	\$ 143,076	\$ 124,417
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS MADE UP AS FOLLOWS:		
Cash	\$ 122,055	\$ 103,506
Canadian treasury bill fund	21,021	20,911
	\$ 143,076	\$ 124,417

### **SCHEDULE OF REVENUES**

	2020	2019
REVENUES		
Membership fees - family	\$ 70,442	\$ 79,393
Membership fees - individuals	150	90
Federal Canadian heritage program grant	114,000	114,000
Other provincial grant	76,686	33,914
No to 'Loi 21' project	1,103	12,375
Other revenues (refunds)	12	1,485
News - advertising and subscriptions	-	254
Conferences (refunds)	-	8,140
Interest earned	220	378
Administration fees received	4,350	3,950
	\$ 266,963	\$ 253,979

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2020 (Unaudited)

#### 1. NATURE AND PURPOSE OF THE FEDERATION

The Québec Federation of Home and School Associations (Federation) 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. The Federation is a registered not-for-profit organization.

#### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) The Federation applies the Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNFPO), which are in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

#### b) Revenue Recognition

The Federation uses the deferral method of accounting and recognizes revenue in the period in which the related expenses are incurred. Under the deferral method, endowment contributions are reported as direct increases in net assets.

- Membership fees are received mostly in the Fall of each year and are taken into revenue over the period from the first of September to the following thirty-first of August.
- ii) Program funding and grants are received from Federal and Provincial agencies. The revenue from Federal agencies is recognized over the donor fiscal year which is from the first day of April to the following thirty-first day of March. The revenue from the Provincial agency is from the Ministry of Education and is recognized over the period from the first day of September to the following thirty-first day of August.
- iii) All other revenues are recognized when received.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2020 (Unaudited)

#### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

#### c) Contributed Services

All volunteers at all levels of the Federation contributed 32,864 hours in 2020 (2019: 81,553 hours) to assist the Federation in carrying out its activities. There is a substantial decrease in the current year of the hours volunteered due to the COVID-19 lockdowns. Because of the difficulty in determining their fair value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

#### d) Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses for the periods covered.

The main estimates relate to the impairment of financial assets.

#### e) Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Federation's policy is to disclose bank balances under cash and cash equivalents including bank overdrafts with balances that fluctuate from being positive to overdrawn and temporary investments with a maturity period of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

#### f) Financial Instruments

### Initial and Subsequent Measurement

The Federation initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value, except for certain related party transactions that are measured at the carrying amount or the exchange amount, as appropriate.

The Federation subsequently measures all of its financial assets and financial liabilities at cost or amortized cost. Changes in fair value of these financial instruments are recognized in the statement of operations during the year.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost on a straight-line basis include cash and cash equivalents, funds held in trust, membership fees receivable and grant receivable.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2020 (Unaudited)

### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

### g) Financial Instruments (Cont'd)

Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost on a straight-line basis include the trade accounts payable and accrued liabilities, amounts due to employees, donations payable, deferred contributions program, deferred program grants and deferred membership fees.

#### **Transaction Costs**

Transaction costs related to financial instruments that will be subsequently measured at fair value are recognized in the statement of operations in the year incurred. Transaction costs related to financial instruments subsequently measured at amortized cost are included in the original cost of the asset or liability and recognized in the statement of operations over the life of the instrument using the straight-line method.

### **Impairment**

For financial assets measured at cost or amortized cost, the Federation determines whether there are indications of possible impairment. When there is an indication of impairment, and the Federation determines that a significant adverse change has occurred during the year in the expected timing or amount of future cash flows, a write-down is recognized in the statement of operations. A previously recognized impairment loss may be reversed to the extent of the improvement. The carrying amount of the financial asset may not be greater than the amount that would have been reported at the date of the reversal had the impairment not been recognized previously. The amount of the reversal is recognized in the statement of operations.

#### 3. FUNDS HELD IN TRUST

The Federation has funds in trust amounting to \$9,500 (2019: \$9,500). The donors have requested that the interest earned \$109 (2019: \$95) on the funds held in trust be used to pay for awards given out at the annual general meeting.

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2020 (Unaudited)

### 4. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities consist of the following:

	2020		2019		
Trade accounts payable and accrued liabilities  Amount payable in respect of government remittances	\$	6,462	\$	10,584 808	
Amounts due to employees		201		365	
	\$	6,663	\$	11,757	

#### 5. DONATIONS PAYABLE

The Federation remits all donations collected through an online platform "Canada Helps" for the South Hull Elemetary School Grounds Project to a local school. The donations payable represents the balance of the donations collected which have no yet been paid out.

### 6. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS - PROGRAM NO TO 'LOI 21'

The deferred contributions collected are utilitized for specific costs relating to project No to 'Loi 21' to support the cause in the media and in the purchase and distribution of buttons throughout the province.

		2019		
Balance - Beginning of year	\$	1,234	\$	-
Plus: Contributions received in the year		2,655		13,609
Less: Expenses incurred in the year		3,889 (1,103)		13,609 (12,375)
Balance - End of year	\$	2,786	\$	1,234

# QUÉBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2020 (Unaudited)

#### 7. DEFERRED PROGRAM GRANTS

The deferred program grants from Canadian Heritage are utilized for operating activities and are calculated as follows:

		2020		2019	
Balance - Beginning of year	\$	34,436	\$	40,350	
Plus: Amount received for subsequent year		39,750		34,436	
		74,186		74,786	
Less: Amount received in the prior year recognized				,	
as revenue in the current year		(34,436)	<u></u>	(40,350)	
Balance - End of year	\$	39,750	\$	34,436	

### 8. DEFERRED MEMBERSHIP FEES

The deferred membership fees are from members of the Federation. They are utilized for operating activities and are calculated as follows:

	20:	20	2019		
Balance - Beginning of Year	\$ 58	3,979	\$	49,904	
Plus: Amount received during the year	28	3,640		58,979	
Less: Amount received in the prior year recognized	87	7,619		108,883	
as revenue during the current year	(58	3,979)		(49,904)	
Balance - End of Year	\$ 28	3,640	\$	58,979	

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2020 (Unaudited)

#### 9. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

#### Financial Risks:

The Federation is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments without being exposed to concentrations of risk. The main risks are broken down below:

#### a) Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the Federation by failing to discharge an obligation. The Federation's main credit risks relate to membership fees receivable and grant receivable.

#### b) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Federation will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Federation is exposed to this risk mainly in respect of its trade accounts payable and accrued liabilities and amounts due to employees.

#### c) Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Federation is exposed to interest rate risk on its fixed and floating interest rate financial instruments. Fixed interest rate instruments subject the Federation to a fair value risk, since fair value fluctuates inversely to changes in market interest rates. Floating interest rate instruments subject the Federation to related cash flow risk.

#### 10. CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATION

The minimum rental payable under an operating lease in 2021 is \$27,000, exclusive of certain operating costs for which the Federation is responsible. The lease is renewed on an annual basis.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2020 (Unaudited)

#### 11. CONTINGENT LIABILITY

In August 2019, a member of the South Hull Home and School Chapter (Local Home and School Association) instituted proceedings against the Local Home and School Association, Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations and their directors for defamation resulting from disciplinary measures applied to the plaintiff. The plaintiff is seeking damages of \$25,000.

The Association carries legal liability insurance with Lloyds of London. Management maintains that the Lloyds of London's insurance policy will cover all settlement costs. Lloyds of London has already been covering all legal costs incurred to date. In the event of a condemnation to which management assignes a 50% probability, the Association will be responsible for the \$1,000 deductible from the insurance policy.

#### 12. SUBSEQUENT EVENT

#### **COVID-19 IMPACT**

Prior to the Federation's year-end, the outbreak of the novel strain of coronavirus, specifically identified as "COVID-19", resulted in governments worldwide enacting emergency measures to combat the spread of the virus. These measures, which included the implementation of travel bans, self imposed quarantine periods, social distancing and the closure of certain business and certain schools, have caused material disruption to businesses and government services globally resulting in an economic slowdown. Global equity markets have experienced significant volatility and weakness. Governments and central banks have reacted with significant monetary and fiscal interventions designed to stabilize economic conditions. The duration and full impact of the COVID-19 outbreak is unknown at this time, as is the efficacy of the government and central bank interventions.

The outbreak had a relatively minor impact to the Federation for the year ended December 31, 2020, as schools remained mostly open or transitioned to on line schooling in Quebec. Although vaccinations for Covid-19 have already started, it is too early to estimate the impact of these new vaccines against the severity of this Covid-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 outbreak may have a material impact on the future operations, financial results and condition of the Federation, as it is not possible to reliably estimate the length and severity of this pandemic even in light of the recent developments with the mobilization of several vaccines. Directors are confident that with the present progress of the vaccination effort, governments will relax the travel restrictions and remove the lockdowns, and allow the resumption of travel and gatherings so that the Federation operations and activities may return to pre-pandemic times.