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The ESCC Newsletter

August 2024

Welcome to the second edition of the ESCC Newsletter!

As August comes to a close, we have had an exciting summer thus far to build and change – with many events and updates to supply you with. Here we will be covering the months of May, June, and July.

Upon that note, we have realized our plans for monthly newsletters needed some rethinking. Instead, we will transition to publishing quarterly newsletters aligned with our 2024-2027 strategic roadmap. Expect our next edition to cover August and September. Followed by an October, November, and December edition.

If you would like to receive our newsletter directly within your inbox, please send us [an email](#), or subscribe by clicking the 'Subscribe' button located in the upper left corner. You can unsubscribe at anytime.

Bonne lecture!



AGM Season – Renewal Journeys in Common!

June was filled with Annual General Meetings (AGMs), including our own. The ESCC's 2024 AGM was a moment to share the pivot that will drive it into the future. Our partners at Seniors Action Quebec (SAQ) and the Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN) respectively held their AGMs on June 19th and 20th. Meanwhile, our partners at Catholic Action Montreal (CAM) had an early start with their May 13th AGM. Renewal and change was a unifying theme, enthusiasm and resolve omnipresent!

“The call to serve enriches and drives us forward”, Paula Celani (on the ESCC Board of Directors from 2017 to 2024 and recipient of a 2024 Certificate of Merit in recognition for service in the English-speaking Catholic Community of Montreal).

[Read more](#)



Overview of 2023-2024

“This journey started at the Annual General Meeting of 2023, when we reached out to our membership to help us. It was and continues to be vital to the Board as a whole to hear the voices of those we serve and those who serve with us.” – M. Catherine Bolton (on ESCC Board of Directors from 2018 to 2024 and recipient of 2024 Certificate of Merit in recognition for service in the English Speaking Catholic Community of Montreal)


[Consult our 2023-2024 Annual Report](#)


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YOUTH COMMITTEE

Help guide us in building a safe space for youth in the ESCC.

Contact: escc@catholiccouncil.ca

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Youthville motherhouse | C - 216/220

 <https://catholiccouncil.ca/>

Representation & Capacity-building

We are now on [Instagram](#)! We aim to connect with a wider audience to build diversity, equity and inclusivity within our organization and programs. The posting of our Communications and Project Coordinator position is a critical step in that direction as the position will focus on building relationships with new partners and collaborators, strengthening the ones we already have as well as building pilot projects centred around helping underrepresented groups. Followed by the Youth Committee; aimed to connect the youths of Greater Montreal, provide leadership opportunities and tackle issues that are affecting youths. We are excited to expand our team and look forward to work alongside those who will be an integral part of our mission!

Learn more about the ESCC's Youth Committee



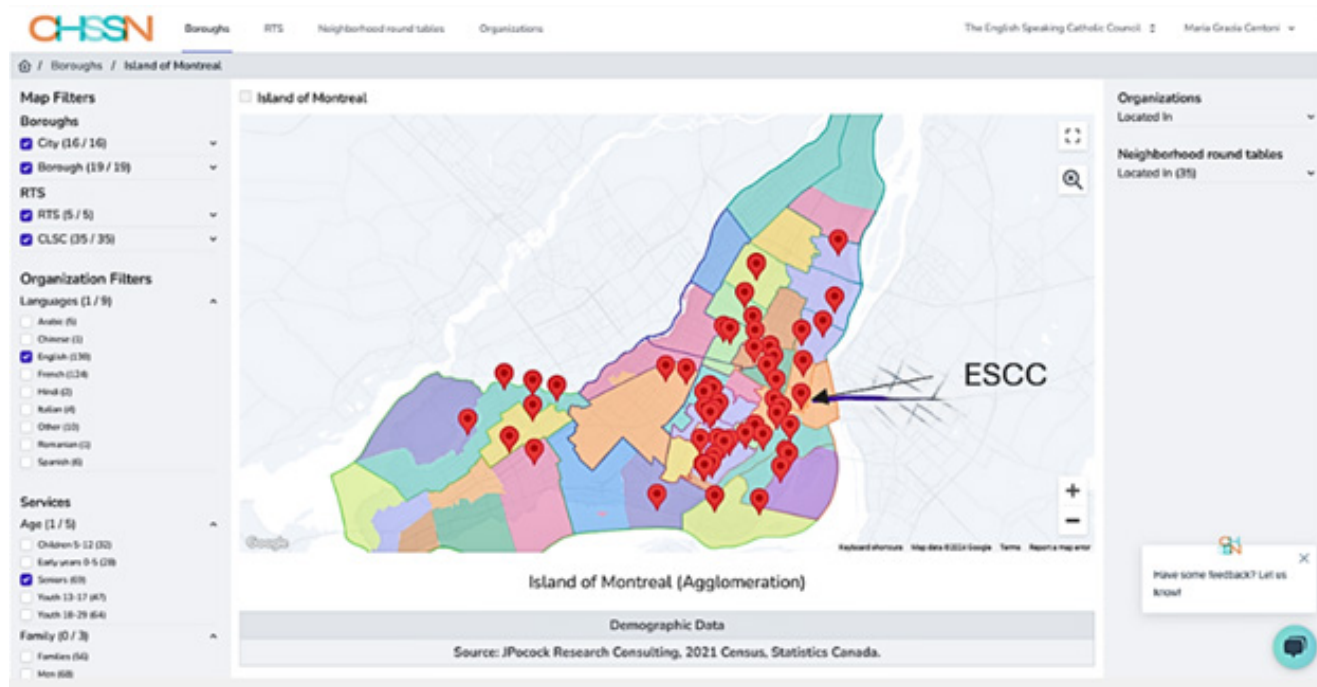
Photo: Courtesy of the QCGN

Capacity-building with QCGN leadership

May's 31st roundtable meeting once again proved to be a time filled with valuable discussions on progression toward achieving the desired outcomes part of the 2022-2027 Community Development Plan (CDP) for English-speaking Quebec –in essence, a preparation for members' validation and refinement of the 2025-2026 community priorities and the strategies to actualize them. Furthermore, support for the CDP to be hopefully used as a frame of reference for funding decisions was confirmed.

The ESCC is actively invested in initiatives to build connections between English-speaking Quebecers and our organizations to foster a new generation of leaders, contribute to the development of supple skillsets by providing meaningful and varied

how members of the network could strengthen their capacity for advocacy. We plan to attend more like it in the future!



Screenshot used with CHSSN permission

Diving into Partnership with the CHSSN

The CHSSN has been a close partner of the ESCC's, notably via long-standing representation on their Board of community organisations with health and social services from Paula Celani, ESCC's 2023-2024 Past President. Contributions at the level of governance have been coupled with collaborations on projects and initiatives; mostly related to the wellness of seniors, data acquisition and analysis. Their many programs and projects, their inclusion of faith-based activities, and initiatives makes them a source of important possibilities for us. Equally, we are delighted to contribute to the stability and coherence in their leadership.



One Voice Coalition Update

On June 6th, the One Voice Coalition held a networking lunch-review of their mission statement, coming to a consensus of the basis on which the members will collaborate, and formalizing guidelines aligned with its mission. The organization itself serves as a pilot project relating to responsive advocacy for older adults and seniors, serving to bring ideas forward for simple and impactful projects. Each member organization was invited to select their representatives – Maria will continue to partake in the Coalition’s upcoming meeting and events. We look forward to being a part of this journey and help build towards something greater than ourselves.

[Visit the Coalition’s Facebook page](#)

Upcoming events

In late November 2024, we and our OEPS collaborators will host a conjointly organized community vitality event. The primary goal will be to gather, to celebrate shared values, support relationship-building across faith-based community resources and more.

Details for this event are yet to be decided. We will keep you posted and hope to see you there!

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