

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

A Voice For Education



**Annual General Meeting
2013**

2013 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

BOOK OF REPORTS

April 20, 2013

**Sheraton Airport Hotel
12505 Côte de Liesse
Dorval, Quebec**

Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc.

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YEAR AT A GLANCE 2012-2013

April 2012

- April 16 Liette Chamberland attended a meeting with ABEE
- April 16 Book of Reports went to print
- April 17 AGM program went to print
- April 19 Carol Meindl, Executive Director, had a meeting with Quebec Farmer's Association & 4-H to discuss Agriculture in the Classroom project at Macdonald's College
- April 21 68th Annual General Meeting – 1 new Board member brought on board – president Liette Chamberland begins 2nd year of term
- April 24 mailed out balance of awards and certificates
- April 26 Carol Meindl attended a workshop on Lively Meetings at Gerald McShane CLC facilitated by Lise Palmer
- April 30 Carol Meindl attended a QCGN Membership committee meeting as representative for the E.D. Steering Committee
- April 30 Rights Committee meeting (led by Brian Rock & Larry DePoe)

May 2012

- May 7 Carol Meindl met with Evelyn Castillo to discuss YES workshops
- May 8 Carol Meindl met with Marion Daigle to discuss Literacy Committee
- Carol Meindl represented QFHSA at a QCGN Townhall meeting
- May 9 Employee evaluations done and contracts reviewed by Liette Chamberland and Carol Meindl
- May 11 President attended official opening of Birchwood Elementary
- May 11 Board of Directors' meeting
- May 12 Carol Meindl represented QFHSA at QAHN AGM
- May 23 Carol Meindl attended CLC CRC meeting
- May 26 Liette Chamberland and Carol Meindl attended Quebec Association for Lifelong Learning (QALL) AGM
- May 31 - Rickhey Margolese attended CHSF AGM in Charlottetown, PEI
- June 3

June 2012

- June 1-2 Liette Chamberland attended the FCPQ conference in Quebec City
- June 4 Rights committee meeting
- June 5 Carol Meindl participated in the Official Language Survey on behalf of the QFHSA
- June 8 Liette Chamberland attended the Advisory Board on English Education (ABEE) meeting
- June 9 Board of Directors' meeting
- June 14 NEW – Executive Workshops held for Presidents, Membership and Treasurers – all in one session
- June 14 Carol Meindl participated in a QCGN Tele-conference
- June 15-17 Carol Meindl attended the QCGN AGM

June 22 Summer issue of QFHSA NEWS went out
June 29 Carol Meindl and Liette Chamberland attended QPAT
President, Serge Laurendeau's retirement party

July 2012

July Office closed for summer vacation – one month
July Marion Daigle and Carol Ohlin continue to work on the
Archives project
July 12 First Fall Conference Meeting

August 2012

August Staff back to work
Aug 14 Fall Conference planning meeting
Aug 16 Editorial meeting with Lisa Fougere, newsletter editor
Aug 29 Carol Meindl took part in a QCGN conference call
Aug 31 Vera Young chaired a Membership Committee meeting

September 2012

Sept 4 Provincial elections held – PQ minority government in power
Sept 7 Rights Committee meeting
Sept 8 Board of Directors' meeting
Followed by a Fall Conference planning meeting
Sept 10 Carol Meindl had a meeting with DM Family Services to review
partnership agreement and explore new possibilities
Sept 19 Carol Meindl and Larry DePoe attended a Research Round
Table on Minority Education
Sept 21 Executive Workshops evening with workshops for Presidents,
Treasurers and Membership chairs
Sept 26 Bell Data Protection program was activated
Sept 26 QFHSA executive members met with local H&S looking for
guidance
Sept 27 Fall Conference planning meeting
Sept 28 Finance Committee meeting

October 2012

Oct 1 Membership Committee meeting
Oct 3 all President's, Treasurer's and Membership Chair's kits mailed
out to each local
Oct 4 Mary Skagos & Carol Meindl visited Honoré-Mercier
Elementary in preparation of the Fall Conference
Oct 4 Literacy Meeting
Oct 5 Liette Chamberland attended the ABEE meeting
Oct 9 Sept issue of QFHSA NEWS went out to members
Oct 10 Fall Conference planning meeting
Oct 13 Board of Directors' meeting
Oct 16 Carol Meindl attended a meeting with QAHN
Oct 18 Carol Meindl attended the QCGN Goldbloom Awards dinner

- Oct 19 Carol Meindl met with Marion Daigle to prepare submission for SOFTI project
- Oct 20 Carol Meindl attended a meeting at QCGN
- Oct 22 Larry DePoe attended a PACTE meeting, in the place of Marlyn Brownrigg
- Oct 25 Carol Meindl attended a meeting of CLC-CRCs
- Oct 25-26 High School students in Netagamiou participated in 3 YES workshops for free, which they won in our YES contest. They were offered by Evelyn Castillo via web-conferencing
- Oct 27 QFHSA held its Fall Conference at Honoré-Mercier Elementary with Dr. Shaheen Shariff who spoke about cyber-bullying and digital citizenship
- Oct 30 Mary Skagos, administrative assistant, attended a workshop on Charitable Receipt guidelines given by the Canada Revenue Agency

November 2012

- Nov 6 Carol Meindl attended a Consultation by Canada Heritage
- Nov 6 QFHSA Executive Meeting was held at the QFHSA head office
- Nov 7 Larry DePoe and Carol Meindl met with David Birnbaum (QESBA) to discuss a potential project aimed at Anglophone parents
- Nov 8-11 Rickhey Margolese went to Ottawa to participate in the CHSF mid-term meetings
- Nov 9 Liette Chamberland attended Sherwood Forest H&S meeting
- Nov 10 Carol Meindl attended a meeting about Mapping the Mosaic
- Nov 12 Membership meeting held at the office
- Nov 15 Editorial Meeting chaired by Lisa Fougere
- Nov 15 Literacy Committee Meeting chaired by Leah Trineer held in the evening at QFHSA office
- Nov 17 Board of Directors' meeting
- Nov 19 Deadline to submit PCH Project funding request. Application form sent in for a proposed project with DM Family Services
- Nov 21 Carol Meindl and Leah Trineer, Literacy Chair, did a mini-presentation on Literacy at CLC Conference
- Nov 22-23 QFHSA had a displayer's table at the QPAT conference
- Nov 26 Rights Committee meeting
- Nov 30 2012 Resolutions were mailed out to all their destinations
- Nov 30 Carol Meindl attended a QCGN Special Meeting

December 2012

- Dec 4 Carol Meindl attended a Grant Writing Workshop
- Dec 7 Liette Chamberland attended the ABEE meeting
- Dec 7 Leah Trineer, Literacy Committee Chair, and Casey Stilwell gave a literacy workshop at John Abbott College to the students of the Information and Library Technologies Program
- Dec 7 Lisa Fougere, NEWS Editor, and Mary Skagos attended a Tech-Works conference offered by COCo

- Dec 10 Carol Meindl met with Sylvia Martin-Laforge to discuss creating a guide for Anglophone parents living in French Quebec. The meeting was a positive one.
- Dec 13 Members of the QFHSA Executive met with the executive of a local association to discuss membership issues.
- Dec 13 Invitation to submit resolution drafts went out to our Home & School associations
- Dec 18 Carol Meindl took part in teleconference for Agriculture in the Classroom
- Dec 19 Winter issue of QFHSA NEWS went out by MailChimp
- Dec 19 Carol Meindl took part in a Canada Helps seminar

January 2013

- Jan 7 Carol Meindl participated in a teleconference with the Agriculture in the Classroom Project Group
- Jan 10 1st AGM mailing went out
- Jan 10 Rights Committee meeting to discuss writing a Brief on Bill 14
- Jan 11 Board of Directors' meeting – Richard Balfour, director, handed in his resignation
- Jan 14 Brian Rock requested a medical leave of absence for the next 3 months
- Jan 21 Liette Chamberland attended the ABEE meeting
- Jan 21 Official launch of Family Treasures and Famous Family Recipes Essay Competitions
- Jan 25 Brian Rock attended a LRSP Round Table of National Dialogue discussion
- Jan 28 Editorial meeting
- Jan 29 Carol Meindl and Mary Skagos met with Corey Szwarcok from Dynamix to discuss offering Dynamix workshops to our locals in the Gaspé
- Jan 30 Finance Committee meeting to create Budget

February 2013

- Feb 3-9 Teacher Appreciation Week (Quebec)
- Feb 4 all Charitable Tax Receipts for 2012 were mailed out
- Feb 5 DM Family Services gave a free workshop at the QFHSA office about The Implications for Parents about the New Anti-Bullying Law (Bill 56/Law 19)
- Feb 7 Membership Committee meeting held
- Feb 11 FCPQ held a press conference and Carol Meindl attended. Then went to QCGN and met with Geoff Kelley
- Feb 8 The Brief on Bill 14 was finalized and sent to the National Assembly in Quebec
- Feb 9 Board of Directors' meeting
- Feb 10-16 Teacher Appreciation Week (Canada)
- Feb 12 AGM meeting with Patricia Willis, chair
- Feb 25 Literacy Committee meeting held
- Feb 26 Executive Appreciation Dinner held at Casa Grecque with guest speaker James Watts
- Feb 28 2nd AGM mailing went out to all Presidents by email

March 2013

- Mar 4 received invitation from the National Assembly to present our Brief on Bill 14
- Mar 11 Meeting to prepare Bill 14 Brief presentation
- Mar 13 Orientation day for YES workshops in Laval (Carol Meindl and Evelyn Castillo)
- Mar 16 1st of YES workshops took place at Riverdale High School CLC with Evelyn Castillo with 4 CLCs participating and students from 5 schools
- Mar 17 Meeting to prepare Bill 14 Brief presentation
- Mar 19 Liette Chamberland, Rickhey Margolese, Patricia Willis, Joyce Shanks and Carol Meindl went to Quebec City to defend our Brief on Bill 14 before the National Assembly
- Mar 21 Carol Meindl attended the CBC's Living in English Event
- Mar 22 Winners of Family Treasures were announced
- Mar 22 Liette Chamberland and Carol Meindl represented the QFHSA at the QALL Gala
- Mar 23 Yes Workshop #2
- Mar 27 AGM meeting
- Mar 28 Board of Directors' meeting

GLOSSARY OF ORGANIZATIONS 2013

- AAESQ** **Association of Administrators of English Schools of Québec** www.aaesq.ca
Provincial organization representing administrators working for English-speaking school boards across Quebec
President: Christine Denommée (English Montreal School Board)
Executive Director: Ron Silverstone
- ABEE/
CELA** **Advisory Board on English Education/ Commission de l'éducation en langue anglaise**
Chair: Cathrine Le Maistre
Contact: Lynn Travers (Secretary)
QFHSA parent-rep 2012-13: Liette Chamberland
<http://www.mels.gouv.qc.ca/cela/default.htm>
- ADGESBQ** **Association of Directors General of the English School Boards of Quebec**
President: Bob Mills (Lester B. Pearson School Board)
- ATEQ** **Association of Teachers of English Quebec** <http://www.ateq.org>
President: Mary Sauvé
- CSDM** **Commission Scolaire de Montréal** www.csdm.qc.ca
Largest French school board in Quebec
Président: Daniel Duranleau
Director General : Gilles Petitclerc
- CEQ** **Centrale des syndicats du Québec** www.csq.qc.net
Provincial union of the majority of French-speaking teachers of Quebec
- CHSF** **Canadian Home & School Federation**
The national federation composed of provincial Home and School Federations
President: Janet Walsh
QFHSA rep: Rickhey Margolese
<http://www.canadianhomeandschool.com/CHSF/Welcome.html>
- CLC** **Community Learning Centres (CLC)** <http://www.learnquebec.ca/en/content/clc>
Located in many English-speaking schools, these centres provide a range of services and activities, often beyond the school day, to help meet the needs of learners, their families, and the wider community. Their aim is to support the holistic development of citizens and communities
- CPC** **Central Parents Committee (at each school board)**
- CSEQ** **Conseil supérieur de l'éducation** (Superior Council of Education)
Advisory body to the Ministry of Education. Membership includes five commissions [primary, secondary, CEGEP, university and adult education]
President: Claude Lessard www.cse.gouv.qc.ca

GLOSSARY OF ORGANIZATIONS 2013

- EPCA** **English Parents' Committee Association**
President: Pierre Chouinard
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/English-Parents-Committee-Association-EPCA-Quebec/303759089872>
- FCPQ** **Fédération des comités de parents du Québec** www.fcpq.qc.ca
(Federation of Parent Committees for the province of Quebec).
FCPQ gathers members from parents' committees from 61 Quebec's school boards (2 parents from each parent committee)
Président: Gaston Rioux
Vice-president for English Affairs: Darren Kotania
- FCSQ** **Fédération des commissions scolaires du Québec** www.fcsq.qc.ca
Federation of French School Boards of Quebec
Présidente: Josée Bouchard (Alma, Quebec)
- LEARN** **Leading English Education and Resource Network** <http://www.learnquebec.qc.ca>
Provider of educational services and support through e-learning initiatives to English-speaking communities of learners within Quebec
CEO: Michael Canuel
- MELS** **Ministère de l'éducation, du loisir et du sport** <http://www.mels.gouv.qc.ca/>
The Ministry of Education of Quebec is the centralized body in Quebec which is responsible for developing and proposing educational policies throughout the province.
Minister: Mme Marie Malavoy
Assistant Deputy Minister, Services to the English-speaking community: Leo LaFrance
- PACTE** **Provincial Advisory Council of Teachers of English**
QFHSA rep: Marlyn Brownrigg
- PCH** **Patrimoine Canadian Heritage** <http://www.pch.gc.ca>
Government body responsible for national policies and programs that promote Canadian content, foster cultural participation, active citizenship and participation in Canada's civic life, and strengthen connections among Canadians.
- PPO** **Parent Participation Organization**
- QAHN** **Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network** www.qahn.org
Non-profit organization whose mission is to help advance knowledge of history and culture of English-speaking society in Quebec

GLOSSARY OF ORGANIZATIONS 2013

- QALL** **Quebec Association of Lifelong Learning** <http://www.qall.ca>
A not-for-profit English-language lifelong learning association that supports those who support learners. It is located at Concordia University.
President: Ilze Epnors
- QCGN** **Quebec Community Groups Network** www.qcgn.ca
A provincial coalition of English-speaking organizations to contribute to the development and enhancement of the vitality of the English-language minority communities of Quebec. President: Dan Lamoureux
Director General: Sylvia Martin-Laforge
- QFA** **Quebec Farmers' Association** www.quebecfarmers.org
Not-for-profit organization that defends the rights and advocates on behalf of the English-speaking agricultural community in Quebec
- QFHSA** **Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations**
An independent non-profit organization made up of local associations of parents and volunteers active in the schools (one of the provincial organizations comprising the CHSF).
President: Liette Chamberland
<http://www.qfhsa.org> e-mail: info@qfhsa.org
- QFHSA Regional Councils**
The councils are composed of the president (or delegate) from each local Home & School Association within a specified region. They meet two or three times a year to share ideas and discuss local concerns.
- QPAT** **Québec Provincial Association of Teachers** <http://www.qpat-apeq.qc.ca>
Association provinciale des enseignantes et enseignants du Québec (APEQ)
The provincial union for English-speaking teachers in Quebec
President: Richard Goldfinch
- 4-H** **Quebec 4-H Association** www.quebec4h.com
Promote the personal development of youth in agricultural and rural communities
- * * * * *
- QESBA** **Quebec English School Boards Association** <http://www.qesba.qc.ca>
Composed of members from 9 English boards in Quebec.
President: David D'Aoust (New Frontiers School Board)
Executive Director: David Birnbaum
- CQSB** **Central Quebec School Board** <http://www.cqsb.qc.ca>
Chairman: Stephen Burke
Director General: Marielle Stewart

GLOSSARY OF ORGANIZATIONS 2013

EMSB	English Montreal School Board Chairman: Angela Mancini Director General: Robert Stocker	http://www.emsb.qc.ca
ESSB	Eastern Shores School Board Chairman: Audrey Acteson Director General: Howard Miller	http://www.essb.qc.ca
ETSB	Eastern Townships School Board Chairman: Michael Murray Director General: Ms. Chantal C. Beaulieu	http://www.etsb.qc.ca
LBPSB	Lester B. Pearson School Board Chairman: Suanne Stein Day Director General: Robert Mills	http://www.lbpsb.qc.ca
LITTORAL	Littoral School Board Director General : Lucy de Mendonça	http://www.csdulittoral.qc.ca/
NFSB	New Frontiers School Board Chairman: David D'Aoust Director General: Robert Buttars	http://www.csnewfrontiers.qc.ca
RSB	Riverside School Board Chairman: Moira Bell Director General: Sylvain Racette	http://www.rsb.qc.ca
SWLSB	Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Chairman: Nick Milas Director General: Stephanie Vucko	http://www.swlauriersb.qc.ca
WQSB	Western Quebec School Board Chairman: Michael Chaisson Director General: Paul Lamoureux	http://www.wqsb.qc.ca/

QFHSA 69th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – April 20, 2013
BUSINESS MEETING PROCEDURE

1. The **Annual General Meeting** [AGM] is **conducted in accordance** with our Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules. In the case of any procedural dispute reference shall be made to Robert's Rules of Order Revised.
2. Each **official voting delegate** of each Member Association shall have **one vote** on any question which comes before the meeting, **except** for associations more than 250 kilometers from Montreal. Such Associations will still be entitled to three votes, expressed either as an identical or divided vote. Application for such privilege is to be presented in writing to the Executive Secretary prior to the start of the business portion of the Annual General Meeting.
3. The **quorum for transaction of business** at the Annual General Meeting shall be twenty-five percent [25%] of **Member Associations in good standing**, represented by their official representatives or accredited alternates.
4. **Voting** shall be by ballot or show of hands. All questions shall be **decided by a majority of those present** and entitled to vote, **except** those which require a two-thirds [2/3] majority. On ballot votes, the votes of each association shall be handed in by the voting delegates of each association individually but at the same time. Counting of the votes shall be done by non-voting participants.
5. A **delegate** may not **speak** for more than two [2] **minutes** on any question under discussion, nor more than twice on any particular motion or resolution. Any person wishing to speak needs to stand and come to the microphone (if 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

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

PURPOSE

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

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

THE MAIN MOTION

WHAT IS A MOTION?

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

WHEN IS A MOTION NEEDED?

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

THE STEPS TO PRESENTING A MOTION ARE:

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

"The motion is carried" (or is defeated).

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

SUBSIDIARY MOTIONS

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

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

Inserting or adding a word, phrase or sentence.

Striking out a word, phrase or sentence.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Chairman announces the outcome:

"The amendment is carried (or defeated)."

"The motion now before the meeting is"

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

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

TO REFER: A question is referred to the 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 68th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS INC.**
Held April 21, 2012 at the Sheraton Airport Hotel in Dorval

Registered and present during the 68th Annual General Meeting were 78 people including special guests:

Serge Laurendeau, President, Quebec Provincial Association of Teachers;
Janet Walsh, President, Canadian Federation of Home & School;
Charles Taker, Liaison Officer, Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages;
James Sweeney, Vice-President for English Affairs, FCPQ; Marcus Tabachnick, past chair, LBPSB; Rita Legault, Director of Communications, QCGN; our partners DM Family Services, Directors and past presidents. A special feature of the morning's program was a panel discussion on School Board Governance
The panelists were: Kate Le Maistre, Chair, ABEE; Frank Verrillo, Vice-President, QESBA; Mark Massarelli, President, AAESQ; Robert Mills, Vice-President, ADGESBQ;

The Saturday evening Awards Dinner was attended by 98 people, including special guests: Leo La France, Assistant Deputy Minister, MELS and his wife; 2013 Paterson Award Winner Charles Taker, Liaison Officer, Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages; Evelyn Castillo, Livestuff; Janet Walsh, President, Canadian Federation of Home & School; Mona Segal and Deb Kellman, DM Family Services

The theme of the 2013 AGM was *Get Involved: Education Matters*

There were 28 local Home & School Associations present. Local Associations with voting delegates were:

Beacon Hill Elementary	Honore Mercier Elementary	St. John Fisher Elementary
Beaconsfield HS & Sherwood Forest	John Rennie High School	St. Patrick Elementary
Beurling Academy	Lindsay Place High School	Thorndale Elementary
Birchwood Elementary	Macdonald High School	Westpark Elementary
Dorset Elementary	New Richmond High School	Westwood High School
Dunrae Gardens Elementary	Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary	Wilder Penfield Elementary
Edinburgh Elementary	Sherwood Forest Elementary	William Latter Elementary
Evergreen Elementary	Shigawake Port Daniel	Willingdon Elementary
Gardenview Elementary	St. Charles Elementary	
Hillcrest Academy	St. Edmund Elementary	

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was chaired by the President, Liette Chamberland. She welcomed everyone and introduced those at the Head Table: Debi Brown, Past-President of QFHSA, serving as Parliamentarian; Rosalind Hoenig, Secretary, Scrutineer; Patricia Willis, Director, Speakers List; Brian Rock, Director, Speakers List; Carol Meindl, Executive Director; Rickhey Margolese, Executive Vice-President; Mary Skagos, Administrative Assistant, Recording Secretary.

The remaining Directors were also presented to the delegates and thanked for their services: Vera Young, Director and Time Keeper and Lawrence DePoe, Director (not at head table). Wanda Leah Trineer, Director; Suanne Stein Day, Treasurer; and Jennifer Bogart, Vice-President sent regrets.

The President welcomed guests Serge Laurendeau, President, Quebec Provincial Association of Teachers; Janet Walsh, President, Canadian Federation of Home & School; Charles Taker, Liaison Officer, Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages; James Sweeney, Vice-President for English Affairs, FCPQ; Marcus Tabachnick, past chair, LBPSB; Rita Legault, Director of Communications, QCGN; Richard Tardiff, Executive Director, QCNA; David Johnston, Community Editor, Montreal Gazette; past presidents, Barbara Milne Smith, and Marion Daigle; and our partners DM Family Services,.

Regrets were sent from:

Tarek Toni, Advisor, PCH/Canadian Heritage; Line Beauchamp, Minister of Education; David D'Aoust, President, QESBA; Glyn Morgan, President, NBFHSA; Lee Gowers, President, OFHSA; Debbie Horrocks, CLC; Mike Dawson, President, ADGESBQ and Bobby Brown, Chair, CPC of LBPSB. Mr. Leo La France, Assistant Deputy Minister, also sent his regrets for the AGM but attended the award dinner as the Paterson Award Winner.

GREETINGS

Mrs. Janet Walsh, President, brought greetings from Canadian Home and School Federation. She gave our delegates an update of all the activities and programs that CHSF has initiated or been involved in over the past year such as Copyright Reform, a Minister for Children, an Energy Drink Resolution and W.I.T.S., an anti-bullying program. **Mr. Charles Taker** also brought greetings from the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages and gave praise for all our achievements and accomplishments. **Mr. Serge Laurendeau** spoke on behalf of the Quebec Provincial Association of Teachers and thanked us, the parents and members of QFHSA, for all that we do. He informed us that he will be retiring this year and told us that he has enjoyed his time with us. **Mr. James Sweeny**, as Vice-President of English Affairs, also brought greetings from the FCPQ. He advised us that they, too, work with parents and gave us an overview of their accomplishments.

MEMBERSHIP AND NEWSLETTER PRIZES

Membership awards were presented by Carol Meindl, Executive Director and Membership Coordinator, to 11 local associations and she also welcomed 2 new associations. Newsletter awards, which were judged and chosen by Martha Farley, were presented by Liette Chamberland, President, to 2 Elementary Schools and 2 High Schools.

EXPLANATION OF AGM KIT

Liette Chamberland, the president, gave an explanation of the documents included in the kit and explained how to use the voting cards. She mentioned that an evaluation form was included in the kits but that an evaluation form would also be sent out electronically following the AGM. A draw for Impact Soccer tickets will be done at the end using the completed evaluation forms.

She also thanked Entertainment Book, LBPSB, EMSB, E-Cause and Educaloi for providing our delegates with gifts.

PANEL DISCUSSION

In March 2012, the QFHSA created a Special Edition of the QFHSA NEWS focusing on School Board Governance. Articles were submitted by a variety of individuals providing many different opinions. To assist our delegates to better understand what School Governance represents and what is at stake, 4 panelists agreed to speak at our AGM.

Larry DePoe served as moderator and introduced the 4 panelists: Kate Le Maistre, Chair, ABEE; Frank Verrillo, Vice-President, QESBA; Mark Massarelli, President, AAESQ; and Robert Mills, Vice-President, ADGESBQ. Theodora Stathopoulos, President of Canadian Music Educators' Association could not attend but sent in a letter giving her opinion on School Board Governance. Kate Le Maistre emphasized that school boards need to educate the public of their functions because many people do not understand the importance of what they do and the function they serve particularly in the regional schools. She would like to ensure that school boards facilitate equitable access and fair distribution of resources to local schools as individual schools cannot do that on their own.

Mark Massarelli explained how administrators work in conjunction with the school boards by recognizing the issues and trying to find solutions. He quoted "Efficiency is doing things right: effectiveness is doing the right things".

Frank Verrillo presented the English public school boards as an example of school success. The English system has a graduation rate of 80% which is significantly higher than that of the French sector. He stated that we should use public education as an ally not an adversary.

Robert Mills stressed that school boards ensure equitable distribution of funds and resources regardless of their tax base. He also emphasized the importance of school board elections but that the system needs to be improved.

Many questions and comments were made by the delegates, as well as suggestions on how to improve the image of school boards in the eyes of the general public.

AGM BUSINESS SESSION

The 68th Annual General Meeting was then officially called to order.

Carol Meindl, Registration Credentials, reported that there were presently 29 Home & School Associations in attendance which fulfilled the requirements for a quorum.

1.1 Appointments & Procedures

Parliamentarian	Debi Brown
Recording Secretary	Mary Skagos
Speakers List	Brian Rock, Patricia Willis
Time Keeper	Vera Young
Credentials	Carol Meindl
Scrutineers	Rickey Margolese and Carol Meindl
Steering Committee	Brian Rock and Rosalind Hoenig

MOTION: Barbara Schnider (Lindsay Place)/ Linda Roach (Lindsay Place) to accept these appointments. **CARRIED**

1.2 Business & Parliamentary Procedure

Debi Brown briefly reviewed the Business Meeting Procedures described in the Book of Reports, page 9, and the principles of Parliamentary Procedure, p. 10-11.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

MOTION: Betty Skagkos (Gardenview)/ Patricia Saputo (Hillcrest) to accept the agenda as presented. **CARRIED**

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF 2011 AGM (Book of Reports, p. 13-22)

MOTION: Myrna Howatson (New Richmond)/ Lisa Fougere (Birchwood) to accept the 2011 AGM Minutes in the Book of Reports.

CARRIED

There was no business arising from the 2011 AGM Minutes.

4. PRESIDENT' S REPORT (Book of Reports, p. 23-25)

Liette Chamberland, President, spoke to her report which stated the different activities and duties that she performed in her first year. She included 3 recommendations which were as follows:

Recommendation #1 – That the Executive Workshops be made available to the members bi-annually with a workshop in June and another in September.

Recommendation #2 – required a motion

MOTION: Susan Tones (Willingdon)/Linda Roach (Lindsay Place) to accept the recommendations to send a survey to all members to ask them what services, resources and supports they need. **CARRIED**

Recommendation #3 – That the liability insurance be reviewed yearly.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Book of Reports, p. 28-30)

Carol Meindl, Executive Director, explained the duties of an Executive Director. She gave an overview of where our funding comes from and the work that is required to get it. She also explained that as Executive Director, she interacts with a variety of organizations on behalf of the QFHSA such as QCGN and CLCs. She went on to talk about all the different projects that the QFHSA created and offered over the last year like YES and From Farm to Fork.

6. RIGHTS COMMITTEE (Book of Reports, p. 31-32)

a. QFHSA NEWS Special Edition on School Board Governance

Brian Rock, co-chair of the Rights Committee, thanked the Rights Committee members for all the hard work that they did that year. They decided to focus on three major issues for 2012 – School Board Governance which resulted in the Special

Edition of the NEWS, School Board Elections and Wider Access to English Education which were both the focus of the resolutions. Brian also spoke about the History and Archives Project that Marion Daigle and Carol Ohlin were working on. Marion Daigle spoke briefly to the delegates to encourage them to keep important documents in their archives which tell the story of their school and in turn, their community.

MOTION: Betty Skagkos (Gardenview)/ Linda Roach (Lindsay Place) for local Home & School associations to take steps to record their history and to catalogue their archives. **CARRIED**

7. **RESOLUTIONS REPORT** (Book of Reports, p. 34-36)

a. **Disposition of 2011 Resolutions**

All 4 resolutions were translated and bilingual versions, with covering letters, were sent to their specified destinations. Rickhey asked delegates to take note that both QPAT and ESSB had passed motions and resolutions to support our efforts. She also asked delegates to take into consideration her recommendation to form a sub-committee to work on the QFHSA Statement of Policy.

Caucus Sessions on Resolutions

Rickhey Margolese explained that the caucus sessions help everyone to gain a greater understanding of the issues being addressed. She said to ask questions; give suggestions about follow up, etc. These sessions are an informal way of reaching a consensus. Destinations can be added and changes can be made to the resolutions but the intent must not be changed.

Only one caucus session was held because it was felt that everyone needed to be a part of the discussion on each of these important issues.

b. **RESOLUTIONS 2012 (kit)**

A simple majority is required to pass; the procedure for amendments was explained. Additions and/or changes to the destinations do not require an amendment.

(If there are proposed changes to the wording, these are indicated in *bold italics*.)

8. **VOTE ON RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution 2012/1 Responsibility for Education: School Boards and Local Autonomy

There were no amendments or changes to this resolution previously circulated

MOTION: Beverley Hynes (Westwood High)/ Raymond Taylor (Beurling) to adopt Resolution 2012/1. **CARRIED**

Resolution 2012/2 Permanent Linguistic Voters List for School Board Elections
Editorial changes to the 1st And Therefore be it further resolved:

AND THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such lists be based on the school board where dependent children attend *or attended*;

Editorial changes to the 2nd And Therefore be it further resolved:

AND THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in cases where there are no dependent children in school:

- ~~Parents remain on the linguistic list that they were on when their youngest child leaves the secondary school system.~~
- *Eligible voters, upon turning 18 years of age, voters are placed on the linguistic list based on the language of education of their last year of secondary school. who attended English schools, should be deemed to have chosen to be registered on the list of electors of an English language school board.*

Editorial changes to the 1st Whereas:

WHEREAS restrictions exist preventing the automatic **placement registration** on an English voters list, and

Editorial changes to the 2nd Whereas: (deleted from the resolution)

~~WHEREAS when the youngest dependent graduates from the English school system, the parents are automatically transferred to the French voters list, and~~

Editorial change to the 3rd Whereas:

WHEREAS all Quebec citizens, when they turn 18 years of age, are **placed registered** on the French voters list regardless of the language of their secondary education, and

MOTION: Patricia Saputo (Hillcrest)/ Beverley Hynes (Westwood) to accept the amendment described above and adopt Resolution 2012/2. **CARRIED**

Resolution 2012/3 Wider Access to English Education

The destination list was reordered:

The Prime Minister of Canada was moved to the top of the list.

MOTION: Connie De Giorgio (Dunrae Gardens)/Mimi Tabaczuk (St. Patrick) to accept the amendment described above and adopt Resolution 2012/3.

CARRIED

9. CONSTITUTION / BY-LAWS (Book of Reports p. 37)

Rickhey Margolese, Chair, spoke to her report. She explained that the revision to the Constitution and By-laws is in process and close to being complete. It has been brought to our lawyer, Brian Sher, for review. Once complete, it will have to be presented to the Board of Directors before it can be brought to the members.

Rickhey made two recommendations in her report.

10. LITERACY COMMITTEE (Book of Reports p. 39-40)

Casey Stilwell, exiting co-Chair, gave an overview of her report which gave a month-by-month outline of all the literacy activities that the committee took on over the year. She thanked all committee members for helping fulfill the mandate of the Literacy Committee.

11. **COMMUNICATIONS – Media/Publicity/QFHSA NEWS** (Book of Reports p. 41)
In the absence of Jennifer Bogart, Communications Chair, Lisa Fougere, NEWS Editor, spoke to the report. She explained the mandate of the committee which is to oversee the content of the newsletter and the website. Four issues of the NEWS were published. The NEWS was distributed via MailChimp which allowed the office to track the distribution at the local level. Hard copies also continue to be mailed out to those without email access. The website was also redesigned and is now much more user-friendly.

12. **CANADIAN HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION (CHSF) REPORT**
(Book of Reports p. 43-44)

Rickhey Margolese, QFHSA Delegate, explained how the Canadian Federation functions and what they have been working on. She highlighted two points: Two CHSF representatives laid a wreath on behalf of Canadian during the Remembrance Day Ceremony in Ottawa. Also CHSF invited the Governor General, His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston to be their Patron and he accepted. Rickhey then invited Marion Daigle to speak about Maybelle Durkin. She was a remarkable volunteer who gave her time to both the QFHSA and CHSF. A written tribute was included in the kits.

13. **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE** (Book of Reports, p. 45)

Carol Meindl, Membership Coordinator, explained briefly the various functions of the Membership Committee. She advised the delegates that this year, in response to members' requests, we would be offering Executive Workshops in June. She reviewed our membership numbers and welcomed 2 new associations – Birchwood and Leonardo da Vinci.

MOTION: Tania Nichol (Sherwood Forest)/ Regina Pereira (Sherwood Forest) to take a 15 minute break. **CARRIED**

14. **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT** (Book of Reports p. 47-60)

In the absence of Suanne Stein Day, Treasurer, and Leah Trineer, Finance Committee Chair, Lawrence DePoe spoke to the Financial Report. Larry gave credit to the Finance Committee and the staff for keeping the finances in good order especially in light of the fact that we did not receive our regular funding from MELS.

a. 2011 Financial Statement and Auditor's Report (p. 47)

MOTION: Stephanie Hill (Thorndale)/ Wendy Gray (St. John Fisher) to accept the 2011 financial statements and the Auditor's Report. **CARRIED**

b. Proposed Budget 2012 (p. 59)

Larry presented the proposed budget for 2012. He answered the various questions put from the delegates. An inquiry was made regarding whether our membership fees make up the bulk of our funding but Larry answered that they only make up 30% of our funding. The rest comes from grants from Canadian Heritage and MELS. It was

suggested that the proposed budget have three columns – budget vs. actual of previous year vs. proposed budget.

MOTION: Beverley Hynes (Westwood)/ Betty Skagkos (Gardenview) to accept the proposed 2012 budget

CARRIED
(3 against)

c. Re-Appointment of Auditor for 2012 – Verelli Arrizza

MOTION: Raymond Taylor (Beurling)/Patricia Saputo (Hillcrest) to re-appoint Verelli Arrizza as auditor for the QFHSA for the year 2012

CARRIED

15. NOMINATIONS REPORT (Book of Reports p. 61)

Patricia Willis, Director, presented the Nominations Report. She explained the duties and obligations of a director and of an officer. Then she introduced the nominees for Directors for the years 2012-2014 and the nominees for officers.

Election of Directors/Officers

Six (6) Directors will be completing the second year of a 2 year term.

Current Directors completing 2nd year of term 2011-2013

Liette Chamberland	Lawrence DePoe	Rickhey Margoese
Suanne Stein Day	Vera Young	Brian Rock

Four (4) individuals are up for election of a 2 year term.

Nominations for a two-year term, 2012 - 2014

Rosalind Hoenig	Wanda Leah Trineer
Patricia Willis	Richard Balfour

Liette Chamberland will be completing the second year of her mandate as President and Rickhey Margoese will be completing the second year of her mandate as Executive Vice-President.

Nominations for Officers 2012-2013

Lawrence DePoe for Vice-President
Brian Rock for Vice-President
Suanne Stein Day for Treasurer
Rosalind Hoenig for Secretary

There were no nominations from the floor. The Nominations for Directors were declared closed.

Let the record show that the new slate of Directors as presented was elected by acclamation.

Let the record show that the new slate of Executive, as presented by the nomination committee, was elected by acclamation.

Installation of Board of Directors for 2011-2012

Debi Brown, Past-President of QFHSA, installed the Board of Directors for 2012-2013.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Tania Nichol (Sherwood Forest)/ Lisa Fougere (Birchwood) the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Liette Chamberland, President

Rosalind Hoenig, Secretary

Date

Date

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2013

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 20, 2013

Submitted by Liette Chamberland, President

Theme - The theme for 2012-13 was *Get Involved- Education Matters!*

The Executive of the QFHSA for the year 2011-2012:

President	Liette Chamberland
Executive Vice-President	Rickhey Margoese
Vice-President	Larry DePoe
Vice-President	Brian Rock
Treasurer	Suanne Stein Day
Secretary	Rosalind Hoenig

Directors:

Richard Balfour (Resigned Jan. 2013)
Brian Rock
Leah Trineer
Patricia Willis
Vera Young

Immediate Past President:

Carol Meindl, Executive Director

Main Activities - In 2012-13, the QFHSA Board of Directors held 8 Board meetings from May 2012 to March 2013. In addition to attending to the regular business of running the organization, the Board members organized and attended the Annual General Meeting, Post AGM Meeting, two Executive Workshops, the Annual Fall Conference and the Executive Appreciation.

A variety of workshops, forum and focus groups were attended by Directors.

In addition, Standing and regular Committees held meetings.

Committees - The various committees were diligent in pursuing the issues and concerns of the local associations. Please see the respective reports in this book for a summary of their activities.

Executive	Liette Chamberland, Chair and member ex-officio to all committees
Finance	Leah Trineer, Chair
Administration/Office Services-Personnel	Patricia Willis, Chair
Rights and Education	Brian Rock, Chair
Education	Larry DePoe, Chair
Literacy	Leah Trineer, Chair
Membership Development	Vera Young, Chair
Communications	Mary Skagos, Chair

Editorial
Fall Conference
Resolutions
Nomination
Annual General Meeting
Constitution/By-Laws

Lisa Fougere, Chair
Vera Young, Chair
Rickhey Margolese, Chair
Rosalind Hoenig, Co-Chair
Patricia Willis, Chair
Rickhey Margolese, Chair

Activities

For detail activities, please refer to the Executive Director's report and to each Committee's Report.

ADMINISTRATIVE/OFFICE SERVICES-PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 20, 2013

Submitted by Carol Meindl/Patricia Willis

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 the activities to the Board of Directors, including recommendations when appropriate.
- To oversee the organization of the various committees of the Federation, including finding chairpersons.

Members:

Patricia Willis (Chair), Rickhey Margolese (Executive Vice president), Leah Trineer (Director), Carol Meindl (Executive Director), Suanne Day (Treasurer), Liette Chamberland (President)

Administrative changes: There were some changes in administration this year. The committee mandates were reviewed and were organized into the current committee structure:

Executive	Chair	Liette Chamberland
Finance	Chair	Leah Trineer
Administration/Office Services-Personnel	Chair	Patricia Willis
Nominations	Chair	Lawrence DePoe
AGM Planning Committee	Chair	Patricia Willis
Literacy	Chair	Leah Trineer
Communications	Chair	Mary Skagos
• Editorial	Chair	Lisa Fougere
Membership Development	Chair	Vera Young
Rights	Chair	Brian Rock
Education	Chair	Lawrence DePoe
Resolutions-Policy	Chair	Rickhey Margolese
Constitution-Bylaws/ Standing rules		

Staffing Changes:

There were no staffing changes

QFHSA Office Staff 2012-2013:

Carol Meindl	Executive Director
Mary Skagos	Administrative Assistant

Contract workers

Lisa Fougere
Marion Daigle

Editor, QFHSA NEWS
Archives

Board of Director Changes:

In January, 2013, Richard Balfour resigned from the Board. At the same time, a medical leave of absence was requested by Brian Rock for 3 months and was granted by the Board of Directors.

Board of Directors 2012-2013:

Liette Chamberland	President
Carol Meindl	Immediate Past President, Executive Director
Rickhey Margolese	Executive Vice-President, Resolutions & Policy, Constitution-Bylaws-Standing Rules Chair
Suanne Stein Day	Treasurer
Brian Rock	Vice President, Rights Chair, on leave as of January 2013
Lawrence Depoe	Vice President, Nominations Chair, Education Chair
Rosalind Hoenig	Director, Executive Secretary
Wanda Leah Trineer	Director, Finance Chair, Literacy Chair
Patricia Willis	Director, Administration/Office Services/Personnel, AGM Planning Committee Chair
Vera Young	Director, Membership Chair, Fall Conference Planning Committee Chair
Richard Balfour	Director - resigned in January 2013

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting, April 20, 2013

Submitted by Carol Meindl

The extent to which the QFHSA is to be successful is a function of a Board of Directors that focuses on making informed policy decisions: a capable, committed staff working in a positive culture of cooperation: and a contributing community of local associations that understands and values what we do, and pushes us to do even more.

The scope of QFHSA's endeavors spans a broad spectrum. At one end, there are basic things that must be done to fulfill our not-for-profit and charitable organization status such as the Annual General Meeting, nominations process, By-Law updates and reports filed with the Canada Revenue Agency. At the other end, there are the programs and services that we wish to continue to offer to our membership and to build upon. Limited resources, both financial and in terms of able and willing volunteers to plan and deliver them, can be a limit to what we can accomplish. Nevertheless, when a core group of people stay focused and committed, many good things can still be accomplished.

The year 2012-13 has been a relatively stable year within our organization. We maintained a small yet committed and capable staff and although the number of directors on our Board did not exceed 11, those who sat at the table were engaged and active. We lost two long-standing local associations to inactivity but gained a brand new member association in Central Quebec. Welcome La Tuque Home and School!

In terms of **Communications**, in addition to our four regular issues of the QFHSA NEWS, we published a Special Edition on School Board Governance in May, which was very well received. We produced two new pamphlets: one on Anti Bullying and the other on Conflict Resolution which are available for our local associations to distribute to their members.

In terms of **Representation**, on behalf of our membership, we responded to *Bill 56: An Act to prevent and stop bullying and violence in schools* and to *Bill 14 An act to amend the Charter of the French Language, the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms and other legislative provisions*. We wrote and submitted briefs to the National Assembly and we did this in the best interests of our parent members as well as the best interests of all Quebec parents. We truly believe that wider access to English education is one of the factors that will improve the quality of life in Quebec for all residents. We braved the snowstorm on March 19, 2013 and were successful in presenting our Brief on Bill 14 to the Committee on Culture and Education.

We continued to provide liaisons to represent the perspective of parents at important educational tables throughout the year: Marlyn Brownrigg represented us at the Provincial Advisory Council on Teachers of English, Liette Chamberland, at the Advisory Board on English Education, Carol Meindl at the Quebec Community Groups Network, the Community Learning Centers and the Quebec Anglophone Heritage

Network, Brian Rock at the Language Rights Support Program and Lawrence DePoe at the Round Table on Minority Language Instruction.

In terms of **Service** we offered a variety of activities for our students. We again offered the *Youth Exploring Science* activities as well as the Essay Contests, *Family Treasures* and *Famous Family Recipes*. We also supported the Agriculture in the Classroom joint project, *A Day in the Life of a Farmer*, which we hope will be offered again next year and will enjoy even wider participation. We offered best practices workshops for Presidents, Treasurers, and Membership Chairs as well as a presentation from DM Family and School Services on the implications of Law 19 (the Anti Bullying legislation) to interested parents. We often open our services to the wider school community as knowledge of best practices are skills everyone should have. As part of our Literacy program we continued to buy new and used books and to ship them to small school and community libraries in the regions and to support the Born to Read program.

In terms of **Membership Activity**, we continue to respond to requests from our local associations for resources, advice and guidance as they lead their own school membership through a variety of projects and activities. We are open to suggestions of additional services to provide for our members to help them run their local associations with accountability and confidence and we welcome your calls to the office.

In 2013-14, we look forward to offering more workshops to our members and helping them adapt the new Constitution and Bylaws template to their own local association's needs. We are prepared to make visits, upon invitation, from school parent committees who are interested in forming Home and School associations of their own. And, as always, we encourage our 'graduating-out' parents to consider joining the Board and serving as Directors for a few years. Your experience and expertise are greatly valued.

The year 2013-14 will mark the 70th anniversary of QFHSA parents enhancing the educational experience of children and youth. We have much to be proud of in what we have accomplished and can look forward with confidence to the challenges ahead.

I would like to thank Mary Skagos for all her hard work, in the office and at home, and to Carol Ohlin, for helping to keep the QFHSA humming. I would also like to thank the Board of Directors for their advice and expertise this past year as we navigated this ever changing political and social landscape together.

RIGHTS COMMITTEE and EDUCATION COMMITTEE JOINT REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting-April 20, 2013

Submitted by Rickhey Margolese, Committee Member

Mandate:

QFHSA is concerned with the well being of children and their cultural health as a proper environment in which to raise them. QFHSA is responsible for maintaining and developing education policy as defined by the Mission Statement. Rights are not simply an abstraction. Rights define our obligations to our children. We, Home and Schoolers, have a long and proud history of pleading and defending the rights of children and parents. Parents should have the choice of the Official Language used in the education of our children.

Committee members:

Brian Rock, Chair (on a leave of absence), Liette Chamberland (ex-officio), Rickhey Margolese, Lawrence Depoe, Joyce Shanks, Mona Segal, Martin Roloff, Barbara Schnider, Marlyn Brownrigg, Carol Meindl, Marion Daigle (resource)

Activities:

The year 2012-13 was an active year for the Rights Committee. Three major endeavours occupied our time and energies.

1. School Board Governance

In the spring of 2012, there had been much discussion in the media regarding school board governance and various opinions proposed that school boards were outdated, bloated, inefficient and unnecessary. In response to the rhetoric, the QFHSA Rights Committee decided to publish a special issue of the QFHSA NEWS on School Board Governance and invite various stakeholders in education to contribute opinion pieces on the role of school boards and what effects their dissolution might have on our children's educational experience.

Articles were subsequently received from:

Rod McLeod, member of Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network

David D'Aoust, President of Quebec English School Board Association

Marcus Tabachnick, former Chair of Lester B. Pearson School Board

Michael Canuel, President of LEARN

Serge Laurendeau, President of Quebec Provincial Association of Teachers

Stephen Burke, Chair of Central Quebec School Board

Marlyn Brownrigg, Parent in Lester B Pearson School Board

Noel Burke, Interim President of Quebec Community Groups Network

A Joint submission from the Members of the National Assembly of 7 Quebec ridings with English populations*, and

Diane Lamarche Venne, Commissaire, Présidente de la Commission Scolaire Marguerite Bourgeoys.

An effort had been made to offer a balanced view and invitations were extended to the Coalition Avenir Quebec and the Parti Quebecois to contribute opinions, but no articles were submitted in time for the date of publication

The special issue was distributed across Quebec in March, 2012 with the QFHSA receiving many compliments and congratulations on its effort to educate and inform its parent members on this important issue.

An effort was also made to inform our parent members on the need to be registered on the voters' list of their chosen school board and be ready to vote, if the long overdue election was finally called. Links to the voter registration forms of the various English School Boards were posted on the QFHSA website as a resource.

2. Bill 56

An Act to prevent and stop bullying and violence in schools

On February 15, 2012, Madame Line Beauchamp, Minister of Education, Leisure and Sport, introduced *Bill 56 an Act to prevent and deal with bullying and violence in schools* to the National Assembly. An invitation to submit briefs was issued by the Minister and Liette Chamberland, President, decided QFHSA would write a brief and request to present it to the Committee on Culture and Education. Although many stakeholders believed this piece of legislation (Anti-Bullying) was long overdue in Quebec, much of the wording of the proposed bill was deemed problematic and in need of amendments. The QFHSA Brief on Bill 56 was subsequently submitted within the deadline of March 29. Although QFHSA was not invited to present our brief before the Committee we did offer articles on Bill 56 in the September 2012 issue of our QFHSA NEWS and a copy of our Brief is on our website.

After several weeks of consultations and presentations, Bill 56, (now Law 19) *An Act to prevent and stop bullying and violence in schools* was adopted by the National Assembly on June 12, 2012. Many of the suggested amendments from the consultations were implemented in the amended Bill.

As the Bill required schools and school boards to draft policy and procedures in response to incidents of bullying and violence, this had implications for our parents. The QFHSA, in partnership with DM Family and School services, offered a workshop presentation on Law 19 at the Fall Conference at Honoré Mercier Elementary school, October 27 and also on February 5 at the QFHSA offices.

3. Bill 14

An Act to amend the Charter of the French Language, the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms and other legislative provisions

On December 5, 2012, following the Parti Quebecois' win as a minority government in the National Assembly earlier that fall, Madame Diane De Courcy, Minister responsible

for the Charter of the French Language, introduced Bill 14 *an Act to amend the Charter of the French Language, the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms and other legislative provisions*. Much like Bill 104 and Bill 103 before it, this Bill increased restriction on access to English education and proposed many amendments the QFHSA believed were not in the best interests of Quebec parents. The Rights Committee resolved to write a brief on Bill 14 to submit to the Committee on Education and Culture by February 11, 2013. The brief was submitted within the deadline and a subsequent invitation to present our position was granted for March 19, 2013. Despite the snowstorm, missed trains and last minute bus rides to Quebec City, the delegation from QFHSA arrived at the National Assembly on time. The QFHSA delegation consisted of: Liette Chamberland, President, Rickhey Margolese, Executive Vice-President, Patricia Willis, Director, Joyce Shanks, member Rights Committee and Carol Meindl, Executive Director. The presentation went well with some excellent points being made by our presenters. A copy of our Brief can be found on our website and the presentation to the National Assembly can be found at <http://www.assnat.qc.ca/fr/video-audio/AudioVideo-44577.html>

Bill 14 will come to a vote in the National Assembly in the Fall of 2013.

2013 Resolutions

There were no resolutions submitted by the Rights Committee as the preparations for Bill 56 and Bill 14 and the presentation of Bill 14 took up the majority of the time and efforts of the members.

Summary

The QFHSA Rights Committee remains committed to keep abreast of rights issues that affect our membership and to address them at the various stakeholder tables and National Assembly committees when the opportunity arises. As we state in our mandate:

”Rights are not a simple abstraction; they define our obligations to our children”.

QFHSA has always taken that obligation very seriously.

* Geoff Kelley, MNA *Jacques-Cartier*, Yolande James, MNA *Nelligan*, Pierre Marsan, MNA *Robert-Baldwin*, Kathleen Weil, MNA *Notre-dame-De-Grace*, Lawrence Bergman, MNA *D’Arcy-McGee*, Lucie Charlebois, MNA *Soulanges*, and Francois Ouimet, MNA *Marquette*

QFHSA HISTORY AND ARCHIVES PROJECT

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 20, 2013

Submitted by Marion Daigle, Coordinator

Mandate:

To bring both the QFHSA History and Archives up-to-date. This will be a valuable tool in educating our membership and the wider public about the influential role that parental involvement has played in Quebec's schools and communities in the 20th century. It should stimulate further involvement in this century.

At the present time the Project work is focused on organizing the Archives. This must be completed in order to provide access to our extensive resource materials for researching and writing our History.

Project Staff

Marion Daigle, Carol Ohlin

Highlights 2012 – 2013

- **Archival Work – Assessment, Sorting, Organizing**

Marion Daigle and Carol Ohlin have continued to assess, sort, organize and set up extensive preliminary archives comprising a time frame from the early 1940s to 2009. Records show a remarkable range of activities involving the local, provincial and national associations, including substantial files of meetings, research and resource materials and correspondence.

Apart from the hundreds of files related directly to the work of the Federation, there are detailed records of our partnerships/liaisons with a large number of organizations with whom we have collaborated on common concerns: education, parental rights, social and cultural programs and issues.

Projects and Events

In addition, QFHSA has developed and carried out many major projects – some over several years. Some examples are: Literacy, Advocacy, Community Kitchens, Smoking and Health, Fitness/Nutrition, International Year for Youth, International Year of the Family. Fall Conferences, Annual General Meetings, Regional Conferences, workshops and other special events highlight in detail the longstanding work of the Federation and its local association membership.

Photographic Collection

Extensive work is underway to sort, identify and date the photographic collection dating back to the 1950s. This gives us an enriched understanding of the many and varied Federation activities, along with photos of the tireless Home and Schoolers working on behalf of the home, school and community.

Summary

The richness of the QFHSA archives is due to the commitment and dedication of generations of volunteers who have contributed to the educational and social lives of families and communities across Quebec and Canada as a whole. It should be noted that QFHSA has been a stalwart supporter of the Canadian Home and School Federation (CHSF) since 1944. The archives reflect this commitment.

- **SOFTI Project (Significant Objects for Telling Identity):
English Quebec Through 100 Cultural Artifacts**

The Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN) has developed this project through its province-wide network of members and partners to create an online portrait of the culture and heritage of Quebec's collective and diverse English-speaking communities.

QFHSA is affiliated with QAHN. A decision was made to submit the QFHSA NEWS as a significant historical document. The 1945 first issue of the Home and School NEWS was selected for submission and it has been accepted.

The launch of the 100 objects, expected in March, 2013, will be available at 100objects.QAHN.org.

There is probably no other English-speaking community organization in Quebec which, for close to 70 years, has consistently provided a direct NEWS link to its membership and the public at large province-wide. Throughout its history the NEWS has painted a picture of a rich educational, social and cultural history of both rural and urban community life.

- **Recommendation for Local Associations**

It is recommended that local Home and School Associations take steps to record their history and to catalogue their archives. This is particularly important where school closures are concerned.

Information is included in the AGM Conference Kit.

RESOLUTIONS/POLICY COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 20, 2013

Submitted by Rickhey Margolese, Resolution Chair

Annual General Meeting 2012

Resolutions 2012

Three resolutions were circulated to the Local Associations:

Resolution 2012/1	Responsibility for Education: School Boards and Local Autonomy
Resolution 2012/2	Permanent Linguistic Voters List for School Board Elections
Resolution 2012/3	Wider Access to English Education

There was a caucus session of the whole to discuss the 3 resolutions because it was felt that all members present needed to be a part of the discussion. Editorial changes were suggested to Resolution 2012/2. The destination list was reordered in Resolution 2012/3. All of the resolutions were then passed.

(See the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2012.)

▪ Resolution 2012/2

Editorial changes to the 1st And Therefore be it further resolved:

AND THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such lists be based on the school board where dependent children attend *or attended*;

Editorial changes to the 2nd And Therefore be it further resolved:

AND THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in cases where there are no dependent children in school:

- ~~Parents remain on the linguistic list that they were on when their youngest child leaves the secondary school system.~~
- *Eligible voters, upon turning 18 years of age, voters are placed on the linguistic list based on the language of education of their last year of secondary school. who attended English schools, should be deemed to have chosen to be registered on the list of electors of an English language school board.*

Editorial changes to the 1st Whereas:

WHEREAS restrictions exist preventing the automatic **placement registration** on an English voters list, and

Editorial changes to the 2nd Whereas: (deleted from the resolution)

~~WHEREAS when the youngest dependent graduates from the English school system, the parents are automatically transferred to the French voters list, and~~

Editorial change to the 3rd Whereas:

WHEREAS all Quebec citizens, when they turn 18 years of age, are **placed registered** on the French voters list regardless of the language of their secondary education, and

- **Resolution 2012/3**

- The destination list was reordered:**

- The Prime Minister of Canada was moved to the top of the list.

Disposition of Resolutions

Following the adoption of the resolutions at the Annual General Meeting, French translations were made and bilingual versions, with covering letters, were mailed to the appropriate destinations.

We received, from December 4, 2012 to February 11, 2013, thirteen letters in response to these mailings. Twelve of them were letters of acknowledgement, some with additional comments and one was a follow-up letter from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Department of Education, Office of the Minister stating that they have not established a position on our resolutions at this time.

Most of the acknowledgements with additional comments suggested additional destinations for us to try, informed us that they had forwarded our resolutions to destinations they deemed appropriate and/or useful or let us know that education is strictly a provincial matter and therefore they had no comment.

Of note, the Eastern Shores School Board has again supported our resolutions. Diane De Courcy, the Parti Québécois Associate Deputy Minister, invited QFHSA to take part in the public consultation on Bill 14. The Coalition Avenir Québec (CAQ) responded by saying it would forward our resolutions to the organizing committee for consultation.

Annual General Meeting 2013 – Proposed Resolutions

The Rights committee and the Resolutions committee were called upon to write a Brief on Bill 14, An Act to Amend the Charter of the French Language, The Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms and other Legislative Provisions. We were then invited to present our Brief to the National Assembly of Quebec's Committee on Culture and Education. This time commitment did not allow us to review previous resolutions or to create new ones for the 2013 AGM.

The QFHSA did not receive any resolutions from the local associations by the deadline date. However, one local association has since come forward with a resolution that cannot be deemed an emergency resolution. QFHSA does not wish to discourage local associations from submitting resolutions and so has decided to allow the local home and school (as per standing rules) to present this resolution to the membership for discussion only at the AGM.

Statement of Policy

The *Statement of Policy* is a compilation of statements based on resolutions passed over the years by the delegates at the Annual General Meeting. It complements the purposes and objectives of Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc. Following the AGM, it should be

updated each year and copies distributed to the local associations. Due to difficulties beyond our control, the *Statement of Policy* has not been updated since 2007 and remains a project in progress.

The Resolutions/Policy committee continues to seek interested persons willing to work on the Policy project. If you are interested, please contact the QFHSa office.

LITERACY COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting- April 20, 2013

Submitted by Leah Trineer, Chair

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 – Leah Trineer, Chair, Casey Stilwell, Kuljinder Kaur Magee, Joan Burke, Lawrence DePoe, VP, Carol Meindl, Executive Director, and Marion Daigle, Resource

Activities 2012

January 2012

- QFHSA received an invitation to the Conference on School Readiness and Family Literacy being offered by Frontier College. (Casey Stillwell and Lawrence DePoe attended with Carol Meindl)

February 2012

- QFHSA sent an e-mail out to all Home and School Presidents asking them to participate in a literacy survey that the QFHSA Literacy Committee created.
- M. Daigle sent a letter to the Grenville Home and School President explaining Born to Read and other literacy opportunities available to locals.

March 2012

- Posters of "From Farm to Fork" were sent out to all CLCs and local Associations to launch the Essay Contest.

April 2012

- Several boxes of books were sent to Gary Briand from Gaspé Literacy Council.
- Two boxes of books were sent to Jennifer Harrison for Bonaventure High School.

May 2012

- Six boxes of books were sent to the attention of Kathleen Paquet at the Book Club in Cascapedia, QC

May 2012, con't

- A letter was received from the 2011 The Gazette Raise-a-Reader program announcing the granting of \$4000.00 to the QFHSA Literacy Committee for Literacy activities.

July 2012

- An announcement was received that the "The Gazette" Raise-A-Reader program was not going to be continued in 2012.

August 2012

- Over 65 boxes of books were purchased and shipped to elementary schools and community libraries on the North Shore and Central Quebec.

October 2012

- On an invitation from the New Frontier School Board, Leah Trineer attended a day with Library Technicians and Volunteers held at Howick Elementary.
- A grant application for Project funding was submitted to Canadian Heritage (PCH) for support of an Early Child Education Readiness project. The Literacy Committee worked with Christopher Popowycz, Parkdale CLC coordinator, to further develop that project.

November 2012

- Leah Trineer and Casey Stilwell presented an information session to John Abbott College Library and Information Technology students. The students gave a contribution of \$125.00 to the QFHSA Literacy Committee.

December 2012

- Two large bags of French and English children's books for pre-school and elementary aged children were sent to Dans La Rue for children that they service.
- Contributions of books were made to Westwood High School for inclusion in Christmas Baskets for families at Verdun Elementary School.

The Literacy Committee looks forward to continuing with the activities reported above in its effort to help promote literacy among children and youth. We welcome ideas for further projects from our local membership. If you have a passion for literacy, join our committee and add your ideas to ours.

COMMUNICATIONS

Home & School NEWS and Website

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 20, 2013

Submitted by Lisa Fougere, Editor of NEWS (on behalf of Mary Skagos)

Mandate: The Editorial Board oversees the content of our newsletter, Facebook page and the website. Additionally flyers and QFHSA advertising are designed and distributed by this committee.

Committee Members:

Chairperson – Mary Skagos

Editor – Lisa Fougere

Website – Cathy McKeogh of Cathy's Web, Mary Skagos, Carol Meindl

Members: Carol Meindl, Rickhey Margolese, Liette Chamberland, Mary Skagos, Lisa Fougere

Activities:

We published 4 issues of our QFHSA NEWS since our last AGM, one in June, September, December of 2012 and one this past March 2013. We continued with the 24 page full color hard copy and digital issues containing updates on committee involvement and briefs, messages from the President and Executive Director as well as regular sections for education, literacy, Rights, Focus on the Locals, and QFHSA event announcements. We also included our QFHSA Director Spotlight page, featuring one or two directors per issue to give our members an idea of their progression from local level educational involvement to the provincial level at the QFHSA. We hope this will spur some involvement from the local associations to progress on to the provincial level with us.

We continue to distribute our NEWS electronically via MailChimp to local associations for further dissemination to their individual family members. We also send out the NEWS by Canada Post to various education stakeholders such as universities, school boards, libraries and regional newspapers. Every English school in Quebec receives two copies – one for the principal and one for the Governing Board chair. Our distribution numbers were 4600 paid subscriptions and about 800 complementary subscriptions. With our MailChimp distribution, on average, we have a reach of 7000 readers. Many must be taking their digital copies on vacation with them, as IP address opens tracked suggest we had 61 readers from a US location, 2 in Italy and 1 from the UK for the March 2013 issue!

We had continual input from our partners, Dynamix and DM Family and School Services, both providing full page articles on relevant and timely parenting/education topics in each QFHSA News issue.

Advertising:

The big news with the NEWS this year was the confidence we received from our advertisers. We hope that the advertisers we contract provide our readers with educational value of their services. We have surpassed our initial idea of a few ads per issue with:

Total Advertising Revenue in the June 2012 of \$700, September 2012 of \$450, December 2012 of \$800, and finally our most popular issue March 2013 with \$1,650. This year's total earnings were \$3,600. Thank you to all our advertisers for placing confidence in our publications.

The local associations are asked to send in their own school news for inclusion in their section of the paper, *Focus on the Locals*. Even if you don't have a writer on your team, a copy of your own newsletter will enable us to let other parents know what exciting things are happening at your school. Be sure to include news@qfhsa.org on your distribution list!

Deadline dates for local submissions to the NEWS are:

May 6, 2013

Sept. 9, 2013

November 4, 2013

February 24, 2013

We are pushing our September and March issues a week or two further to allow for more input at the start of the year from the locals as well as to allow for more Teacher Appreciation Week input in the March issue.

QFHSA Website:

We continued with our current website contract with Cathy McKeogh of Cathy's Web. Over the past year, we are pleased to have found that many associations are looking to the website to obtain documents and forms. We have also updated the Briefs Page with our briefs on Bill 14 and Bill 56.

We have been expanding our use of the QFHSA Facebook page to immediately announce or publish information that is useful for our members and associates. We continue to welcome contributions from the local associations for the QFHSA NEWS and welcome comments on Facebook and suggestions for content on the website.

As of this week our page has 262 Likes, meaning 262 people will receive our posts in their Facebook News Feed and subsequently, on Twitter. Our typical Facebook posts are updates on news items like the ongoing Bill 14 hearings, Education and Rights issues, Literacy information to share, our events, other partner events and public information messages, workshop details and NEWS deadlines for local submissions. Our posts are typically seen by an average of 150 people each time. The number is growing by about 20 users each week as word spreads.

More and more people are using Facebook for all their news updates and information sharing. We encourage locals to post on our page, questions that other H&S's may have information on or would like to know what other schools do, post their upcoming craft fairs or fundraising events and share information with others. If your Home and school has a Facebook page, link to ours please. We would like to see updates from the locals as well.

THE CANADIAN HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION (CHSF)

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 20, 2013

Submitted by Rickhey Margolese, QFHSA representative

CHSF 2012 Spring Board Meeting and AGM

The Annual Spring Board meeting and AGM were held in Charlottetown, PEI, from May 31st to June 2nd, 2012.

Present: Janet Walsh (NS); Deb Giesbrecht (MB); Cynthia Richards (NB); Eva Cameron (MB); Glyn Morgan (NB); Cheryl Kennedy (NS); Owen Parkhouse (PEI); Rickhey Margolese (QC); Michelle Ercolini (ON); Susan Wilson (BC); Annabell Welling, Non-Voting Attendee (PEI); Shirley Jay, Observer (PEI) and Pam Montgomery, Non-Voting Attendee (PEI).

The 6 Directors named to the Board: Pam Montgomery (PEI); Cheryl Kennedy (NS); Glyn Morgan (NB); Susan Wilson (BC); Michelle Ercolini (ON) and. Rickhey Margolese (QC).

The Executives: Janet Walsh (NS) – President; Deb Giesbrecht (MB) – 1st VP; Cynthia Richards (NB) – 2nd VP; and Eva Cameron (MB) – Secretary/Treasurer.

Much of the 3 days of meetings dealt with:

- setting priorities for CHSF
 - Organizing a Strategic Planning session
 - Creating a Communications Plan
 - Need to have two-way ongoing communications between the provinces and CHSF.
 - Technology – how it can help us be more efficient in getting our message out.
- brainstorming on how to get all the provinces back to the table.
 - Finding funding and manpower to create projects to benefit children, youth and their families.
 - Being more visible and recognized as the national voice for parents.
- understanding and passing the budget for 2012/2013
- approving policy and changes to the Constitution & Bylaws.
- continued endorsements with our partners
 - WITS (Walk away; Ignore; Talk it out; Seek help) – will continue to disseminate information received to the provinces
 - CCA (Concerned Children's Advertisers) – will disseminate pamphlets to provinces on their new project (The Children's Mental Health Project). Our logo will be on the pamphlet. This should be ready in 2013/2014.

On Saturday evening delegates and guests met to celebrate award winners at the Gala Dinner where, amongst others, two of the CHSF Board members were also honored. Owen Parkhouse and Cynthia Richards were given the President's Volunteer Award.

Mid-Term Meeting November 2012

The Mid-term meeting was held in Ottawa from November 08-10, 2012. Three of its six directors were unable to attend the Mid-term meeting (some due to the costs involved). Much discussion ensued about why they were not there and how we could do things differently so that

the same thing would not occur again. It was suggested to try a videoconferencing session instead of a face-to-face for directors and the executive at Mid-term. The executive would continue to meet face-to-face in Ottawa as this is the time when they meet with government and partners. The savings to the provinces would be large but we were not sure if the meeting would be as effective as Mid-term is always a working meeting. It was decided to hold some virtual meetings before Spring Board and AGM meetings and then discuss it further at the Spring Board meeting.

Board members formed into working groups to examine priorities, policies, communications and the constitution and bylaws.

CHSF decided on the 2012-2013 top priorities:

- 1) To continue to become more visible nationally;
- 2) To communicate more effectively with provincial member associations;
- 3) To find additional funding to launch National projects.

Headway has been made to become more visible nationally.

- CHSF executives met with the Canadian Association of Principals (CAP) to discuss common issues and to develop opportunities in working together.
- CHSF President, Janet Walsh, sits on the Advisory Council of the Canadian Education Association (CEA)
- The Learning Partnership is looking at inserting the CHSF brochure in the Welcome to Kindergarten Kits being distributed across Canada.
- D. Giesbrecht coordinated with Rod Bruinooge, MP for Winnipeg South, a meeting with Members of Parliament (MPs). J. Walsh, D. Giesbrecht, R. Margolese and E. Cameron met with four MPs on Wednesday, November 7th to provide information on CHSF. R. Bruinooge suggested that CHSF request another meeting with MPs at a time when more would be available to attend. D. Giesbrecht will be coordinating this meeting.
- The Board, as a whole, also met with Jean Proulx, Parliamentary Assistant and Press Attaché to MP Marc Garneau's Office and Sean Pierce, an intern who presented to us the proposed Private Member's Bill C-420 - Commissioner for Children and Young People. CHSF's Policy 5.1.14 supports the establishment of a Commissioner for Canada's Children. Therefore, it was agreed that the information would be disseminated as well as a letter campaign completed. Information on this Bill was posted on the CHSF website.

Varia

- CHSF started Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week (TSAW) in 1988, and the tradition continued in 2013 as TSAW was scheduled for Feb 10 – 16, 2013. A poster was sent electronically to all provincial associations for them to disseminate to schools.
- CHSF continues to work towards banning the sale of Energy Drinks to minors and is now looking at national anti-bullying initiatives to support. CHSF will keep its members apprised of any new developments.
- In an effort to improve communication with its member associations, improvements are being made to the CHSF website. Please visit this site to see the changes. (www.canadianhomeandschool.com).

- CHSF is working on a PowerPoint presentation (explaining who we are and what we do) which it will use when meeting with government, partners, provincial associations, etc. It is hoped that it will be completed and approved at the 2013 Spring Board meeting.
- CHSF is looking for a replacement to Big Online (a resource to find funding) which ended on November 17, 2012. It was noted that Volunteer Canada provides a free two month subscription for Ajah Fundtracker. E. Cameron tried this database with Rickhey Margolese and found it to be easier to work with. The cost of this database is \$499/year. It is something provincial associations could look at using.
- J. Walsh participated in the Education Coalition Partners' Meeting on November 9th on the federal Copyright legislation Copyright Modernization Act, Bill C-11 and reported the following:
 - The legislation came into effect on November 7, 2012.
 - A new edition of "Copyright Matters" will be printed and available mid-December. J. Walsh will request copies for the Board and to send copies to the provinces.
 - Fair Dealing Guidelines (which permits limited use of a copyright-protected work without the permission from the copyright owner or the payment of copyright royalties) will be available as well. J. Walsh will email the Guidelines to the Board once received so that they can also be sent to the provinces.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

REPORT to the Annual General Meeting 2013

Submitted by Vera Young, Membership Chair and
Carol Meindl, Membership Coordinator

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.

Committee Members: Vera Young, Chair, Marlyn Brownrigg, Barbara Schnider, Mary Skagos, Martin Roloff and Carol Meindl, Membership Coordinator

Executive Workshops

Executive Workshops were held in June and September at the QFHSA office. Those assembled at the June event participated as one group and were briefed on the responsibilities and obligations of the three major positions on an Executive: President, Treasurer and Membership Chair. Those assembled at the September event were divided into two groups in order to focus specifically on skill-building and information sharing for Membership chairs and Presidents. Both groups were encouraged to exchange ideas and best practices. A membership kit with information and suggestions for best practices was distributed to each local. This event is well received by those who participate. We believe that this event, combined with the Fall Conference and Executive Appreciation Evening are essential to maintaining a clear line of communication and support to the locals.

School Visits

School Visits were the focus of concerned discussion throughout the year. Although there were few visits to locals this year, the concept of visits to locals is perceived as crucial to maintaining an openness with the locals, developing an understanding of the requirements from QFHSA and supporting locals in the many endeavors they undertake. Members of the Board of Directors expressed an interest in participating in this activity which we believe is well in place to begin in an organized fashion next program year. In the meantime, committee members were involved with supporting locals which phoned the office to identify a need, or whom we saw needing help organizing and submitting required data to QFHSA.

On-Going Projects:

Membership is a major priority for the QFHSA. The committee has drafted an updated version of pamphlets made available to promote membership. The need to monitor and update our publications is ongoing.

Membership fee: The annual Membership Fee is maintained at the current rate of \$18.00.

Regional Councils:

October 27, 2012 : Three (3) Regional Councils were organized for the Fall Conference setting, animated by members of the Board of Directors. Topics discussed ranged from fundraising success stories to school-implemented Anti-Bullying policies.

Members Services: In addition to the Executive Workshops, Membership Committee offered an information meeting on Bill 56 now Law 19, presented by Mona Segal and Deb Kellman of DM Family and School Services, which highlighted the implications for parents regarding the new Anti-Bullying policies being implemented in local schools. 25 parents attended the workshop.

Results of 2012/2013 Membership Campaign:

	2012-13	2011-12
Family Memberships (through locals)	4645	4581
Associate Memberships	86	96
Individual Family Membership	8	14
Local Associations	83	84
Group Affiliate Memberships	0	2
Local Associations in good standing* (as of February 1, 2013)	71	61

**In good standing refers to having all required paperwork and reports submitted to the office by February 1, 2013*

*Loss of local associations (2012-2013) - Royal Vale High School, Westmount Park
Loss of local associations (2012-2013) through school closures: none*

The following application to become new Home and School associations was accepted by the Board of Directors:

La Tuque High School, (CQSB)

Welcome to La Tuque High School as the newest Home and School Association.

QUÉBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2012

QUÉBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2012

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

TO THE DIRECTORS OF QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations (Federation) which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2012, and the statements of changes in net assets, operations and cash flow 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 control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

In common with many charitable organizations, the Federation derives its revenue generally from individual and government agencies, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of this revenue was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Federation and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to revenue, expenses, assets and changes to net assets.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

TO THE DIRECTORS OF QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described above in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Federation as at December 31, 2012 and its results of financial operations, its changes in net assets and its cash flow for the year then ended December 31, 2012 in accordance with Canadian standards for not-for-profit organizations.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained in our audits is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Comparative Information

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 2 to the financial statements which mentions that the Federation adopted Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations on January 1, 2011 with a transition date of January 1, 2010. These standards were applied retrospectively by management to the comparative information in these financial statements, including the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2011 and January 1, 2011, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flow for the year ended December 31, 2011 and related disclosures. We were not engaged to report on the restated comparative information, and as such, it is unaudited.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Anthony Verelli", followed by a small superscripted number "1".

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

Pointe Claire, Quebec
April 13, 2013

1 Anthony Verelli, CPA - Auditor CA


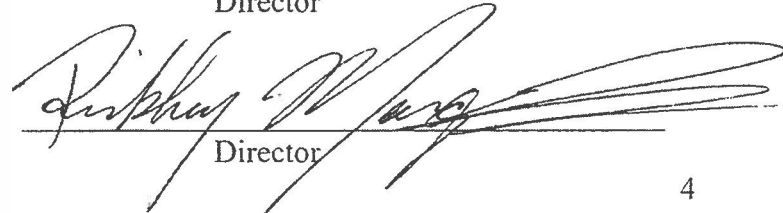
QUÉBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS
(Incorporated under the laws of Québec)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2012

	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011
ASSETS			
CURRENT			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 161,992	\$ 132,045	\$ 130,788
Marketable securities (Note 5)	4,951	4,641	4,575
Funds held in trust (Note 6)	9,500	9,500	9,500
Sales taxes receivable	6,077	5,383	8,020
Grants receivable	4,500	29,500	24,000
Prepaid expenses	14,904	16,163	16,572
	\$ 201,924	\$ 197,232	\$ 193,455
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 7)	\$ 9,614	\$ 7,362	\$ 5,277
Deferred program grants (Note 8)	22,500	39,167	45,750
Deferred history and archive grant (Note 9)	-	6,180	10,933
Deferred membership fees (Note 10)	57,631	57,688	55,059
	89,745	110,397	117,019
NET ASSETS			
NET ASSETS RESTRICTED FOR AWARDS PURPOSES (Note 6)	9,500	9,500	9,500
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	102,679	77,335	66,936
	112,179	86,835	76,436
	\$ 201,924	\$ 197,232	\$ 193,455

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:


 Director

 Director

QUÉBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012

	Restricted for awards purposes	Unrestricted	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011
BALANCE - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 9,500	\$ 77,335	\$ 86,835	\$ 76,436	\$ 76,436
Excess revenues over expenses	-	25,344	25,344	10,399	-
BALANCE - END OF YEAR	\$ 9,500	\$ 102,679	\$ 112,179	\$ 86,835	\$ -

QUÉBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012

	2012	2011
REVENUES	\$ 220,798	\$ 212,231
EXPENSES		
CHSF Affiliation fees and others	2,150	3,350
Travel and conferences	15,561	18,671
Home and school news	17,511	12,000
Committee expenses	4,241	3,713
Insurance	15,716	16,446
Provincial office		
Postage and courier	6,528	3,414
Office supplies	8,469	9,823
Telephone	4,444	5,053
Professional fees	4,641	3,561
Rent, electricity and occupancy charges	21,451	20,139
Salaries and employee benefits	63,606	66,945
Fees and honorariums	16,227	10,523
Raise a Reader	123	3,594
History and archive project	9,333	4,753
Unrealized gain on marketable securities	(310)	(66)
Other projects	5,763	19,913
	195,454	201,832
EXCESS REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ 25,344	\$ 10,399

QUÉBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012

	2012	2011
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess revenues over expenses	\$ 25,344	\$ 10,399
Unrealized gain on marketable securities	(310)	(66)
Decrease (increase) in sales taxes receivable	(694)	2,637
Decrease (increase) in grants receivable	25,000	(5,500)
Decrease in prepaid expenses	1,259	409
Increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,252	2,085
Decrease in deferred program grants	(16,667)	(6,583)
Decrease in deferred history and archive grant	(6,180)	(4,753)
Increase (decrease) in deferred membership fees	(57)	2,629
CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	29,947	1,257
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	132,045	130,788
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - END OF YEAR	\$ 161,992	\$ 132,045

QUÉBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012

	2012	2011
REVENUES (Note 3(a))		
Membership fees - family	\$ 86,445	\$ 83,903
Membership fees - other	60	623
Federal Canadian heritage program grant	90,000	93,250
Quebec government grant	16,667	8,333
Municipal grant	-	1,000
Raise a Reader	2,000	4,000
History and archive project	6,180	4,753
Other project revenues	2,394	1,659
Donations - other	839	885
News - advertising and subscriptions	3,283	163
Conferences	7,575	7,735
Membership materials	1,183	1,415
Interest earned	322	182
Administration fees	3,850	4,400
	220,798	212,301
Donations received for locals	24,995	36,760
Donations remitted to locals	(24,995)	(36,830)
	\$ 220,798	\$ 212,231

QUÉBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2012

1. NATURE AND PURPOSE OF THE ASSOCIATION

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. ADOPTION OF A NEW ACCOUNTING FRAMEWORK

The Federation has elected to apply the Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, the new standards issued by the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA) as set out in Part III of the CICA Handbook. In accordance with Section 1501 of Part III of the CICA Handbook, First-time Adoption (Section 1501), the date of transition to the new standards is January 1, 2011 and the Federation has prepared and presented an opening balance sheet at the date of transition to the new standards. The opening balance sheet is the starting point for the entity's accounting under the new standards. In its opening balance sheet, under the recommendation of Section 1501, the Federation:

- a) recognized all assets and liabilities whose recognition is required by the new standards.
- b) did not recognize items as assets or liabilities if the new standards do not permit such recognition.
- c) applied the new standards in measuring all recognized assets and liabilities

In accordance with the requirements of Section 1501, the accounting policies set out in Note 3 have been consistently applied to all years presented. The adjustments resulting from the adoption of the new accounting standards have been applied retrospectively, subject to certain exemptions allowed under the standards.

These financial statements are the first financial statements for which the Company has applied the Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, hereafter referred to as "ASNPO".

The financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2012 were prepared in accordance with the Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and provisions set out in FIRST-TIME ADOPTION, Section 1501, for first-time adopters of this basis of accounting.

QUÉBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2012

2. ADOPTION OF A NEW ACCOUNTING FRAMEWORK (CONT'D)

The Federation issued financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2011 using generally accepted accounting principles prescribed by CICA Handbook - Accounting XFI (Accounting XFI). The adoption of ASNPO results in adjustments to the previously reported assets, liabilities, equity and net earnings of the Company. Accordingly, the effect of adopting ASNPO retrospectively with the election to record the marketable securities at fair value and adjust for deferred membership fees as follows:

	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011
Net Assets as reported in accordance with CICA Handbook - XFI	\$ 106,600	\$ 95,354
Adjustment for deferred membership fees claimed in error	(19,229)	(18,317)
Adjustment to the fair market value of marketable securities	(536)	(601)
	\$ 86,835	\$ 76,436

As a result of these adjustments:

- Deferred membership fees on the balance sheet as at December 31, 2011 and January 1, 2011, increased by \$19,229 and \$18,317, respectively.
- The marketable securities were adjusted to fair market value as at December 31, 2011 and January 1, 2011 and they decreased by \$536 and \$601, respectively.

The above changes resulting from the adoption of ASNPO account for the following adjustments to the statement of earnings for the year ended December 31, 2011.

	Accounting XFI	Change in Surplus	ASNPO
Unrealized gain on marketable securities	\$ -	\$ 65	\$ 65
Adjustments for deferred membership fees	-	(912)	(912)
EXCESS EXPENSES OVER REVENUES	\$ -	\$ (847)	\$ (847)

These changes did not result in material changes to the statement of cash flow.

QUÉBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2012

3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Revenue Recognition

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

- i) 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.

b) Expensing Capital Assets

The Federation expenses all capital assets in the year they are acquired.

c) Contributed Services

All volunteers at all levels of the Federation contribute approximately 24,300 hours per year to assist the Federation in carrying out its activities. Because of the difficulty in determining their fair value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

d) Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with ASNPO requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the year. Significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include the amortization expense and accrued liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

e) Cash and Cash Equivalents

The entity'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.

QUÉBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2012

3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

f) Financial Instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are initially recognized at fair value when the Federation becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. Subsequently, all financial instruments are measured at amortized cost, except for the investments that are recognized at fair value at the date of the financial statements. Fair value fluctuations, which include interests earned, accrued interests, realized gain and loss and unrealized gain and loss, are included in the investment's revenue.

Transaction costs related to financial instruments measured at fair value are expensed as incurred. Transaction costs related to the other financial instruments are added to the carrying value of the asset or netted against the carrying value of the liability and are then recognized over the expected life of the instrument using the straight-line method. Any premium or discount related to an instrument measured at amortized cost is amortized over the expected life of the item using the straight-line method and recognized in net earnings as interest income or expense.

With respect to financial assets measured at cost or amortized cost, the Federation recognizes in net results an impairment loss, if any, when it determines that a significant adverse change has occurred during the period in the expected timing or amount of future cash flows. When the extent of impairment of a previous written-down asset decreases and the decrease can be related to an event occurring after the impairment was recognized, the previously recognized impairment loss shall be reversed in net result in the period the reversal occurs.

4. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Certain figures in the January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011 financial statements have been reclassified to conform with the basis of presentation used on the December 31, 2012 financial statements.

5. MARKETABLE SECURITIES

The marketable securities are recorded at fair value.

QUÉBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2012

6. FUNDS HELD IN TRUST

The Federation has funds in trust amounting to \$9,500. The donors have requested that the interest earned on the funds in trust be used to pay for awards given out at the annual general meeting. A committee was formed to consider all submissions for the awards, and to choose the ones they consider best meet the guidelines.

7. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities consist of the following:

	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011	January 01, 2011
Trade payables and accrued liabilities	\$ 8,841	\$ 5,981	\$ 4,019
Amounts due to employees	773	1,381	1,258
	\$ 9,614	\$ 7,362	\$ 5,277

8. DEFERRED PROGRAM GRANTS

The deferred program grants from Canadian Heritage and the Québec Ministry of Education are utilized for operating activities and are calculated as follows:

	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011
Balance - Beginning of year	\$ 39,167	\$ 45,750	\$ 53,350
Plus: Amount received during the year	76,583	95,000	136,000
	115,750	140,750	189,350
Less: Amount recognized as revenue during the year	(93,250)	(101,583)	(143,600)
Balance - End of year	\$ 22,500	\$ 39,167	\$ 45,750

QUÉBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2012

9. DEFERRED HISTORY AND ARCHIVE GRANT

	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011
The deferred history and archive grant is utilized to set up a history and archive project for the federation.	\$ -	\$ 6,180	\$ 10,933

10. DEFERRED MEMBERSHIP FEES

The deferred membership fees are from members of the federation and are utilized for operating activities.

	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011
Balance - Beginning of year	\$ 57,688	\$ 55,059	55,059
Plus: Amount received during the year	86,388	86,532	-
	144,076	\$ 141,591	55,059
Less: Amount recognized as revenue during the year	86,445	83,903	-
Balance - End of year	\$ 57,631	\$ 57,688	\$ 55,059

11. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Risks and Concentrations of Risk

The Association is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments without being exposed to concentrations of risk. The following analysis provides a measure of the Company's risk exposure as at December 31, 2012.

a) **Credit Risk**

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. The Association's main credit risks relate to its amounts receivable.

QUÉBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2012

11. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

b) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Association will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Association is exposed to this risk mainly in respect of the accounts payable and accrued liabilities and that its government grants are not continued in future years.

c) Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises three types of risk: currency risk, interest rate risk and other price risk. The Association has no currency risk as all of its transactions are carried out in Canadian dollars. The level of risk that the Association is exposed varies depending on market conditions and composition of the asset mix.

d) Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Presently the Association has no bank financing and as such is not impacted by the interest rate risk.

12. SECTION 1501 FIRST TIME ADOPTION EXEMPTIONS

The Company has elected for the one time exemption from retrospective application for the following items:

1) ASSET RETIREMENT OBLIGATIONS

Not-for-profit organizations that have not previously recognized asset retirement obligations on a basis consistent with CICA sec. 3110, may measure the obligation at the date of transition in accordance with ASNPO and estimate the amount that shall be included in the carrying amount of the related asset based on the original and remaining life of the asset;

2) FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION

The option to deem the Cumulative Translation Account to be zero at the date of transition; and

QUÉBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2012

12. SECTION 1501 FIRST TIME ADOPTION EXEMPTIONS (CONT'D)

3) FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Not-for-profit organizations are permitted to re-designate any financial asset or liability to be measured at fair value and need not separate the components of a financial instrument that contain both a liability and equity component if the liability component is no longer outstanding at the transition date.

4) RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Not-for-profit organizations are not required to restate assets or liabilities related to related party transactions when such transactions occurred prior to the date of transition, January 1, 2011, to ASNPO.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting, April 20, 2013

Submitted by Suanne Day, Treasurer and Leah Trineer, Chair

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.

Members: Leah Trineer (Chair), Carol Meindl (Executive Director), Suanne Day (Treasurer), Mary Skagos, Liette Chamberland (President), ex-officio

Activities:

- Prepared the Proposed 2013 and 2014 budgets for the 2013 AGM.
- Discussed and reviewed QFHSA committee's 2012-13 budgets with respective chairpersons.
- Reviewed and revised policies and procedures on expense reporting.
- Collaborated with President and staff with preparation of Grant Applications.
- Reviewed Financial Reports for locals and advised staff of any issues arising.
- Shared financial report information at Board of Director and Executive Meetings.

Financial changes: The board acknowledged that we follow generally accepted accounting principles for non-profit organizations. No changes to reporting or maintaining our financial records took place this year.

Please see the proposed budgets for 2013 and 2014 fiscal year and the financial statement for January 1 to December 31, 2012, herein.

RECOMMENDATION: The Finance Committee recommends that the proposed budgets for 2013 and 2014 be approved by the membership at the Annual General Meeting, April 20, 2013.

QFHSA**Budget**

	Actual 2012	Budget 2012	Budget 2013	Budget 2014
REVENUE				
Membership & Services Income				
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP REVENUE	124,725.67	81,000.00	81,000.00	82,000.00
GROUP AFFILIATE REVENUE	0.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
ADMINISTRATION FEE REVENUE	3,850.00	4,250.00	4,000.00	4,050.00
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP REVENUE	180.00	360.00	360.00	360.00
SALES OF MATERIALS & SERVICES	245.00	400.00	400.00	400.00
NEWS Revenue (Subsc. & Adv)	3,282.61	2,500.00	3,500.00	3,800.00
Ttl Membership & Services Income	132,283.28	89,010.00	89,760.00	91,110.00
Grants, Sponsorship, Donations Inc.				
CANADIAN HERITAGE ANNUAL PROJECT	112,500.00	103,000.00	90,000.00	105,000.00
OTHER FEDERAL GRANTS INCOME	0.00	15,000.00	0.00	0.00
MELS GRANTS INCOME	41,666.67	30,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00
OTHER PROVINCIAL GRANTS INCOME	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
HISTORY PROJECT REVENUE	-4,753.30	-	-	-
YES PROJECT REVENUES	1,354.00	-	1,350.00	1,500.00
OTHER PROJECT REVENUES	0.00	-	-	-
DONATIONS TO QFHSA	498.03	250.00	-	-
Raise-a-Reader Grant	2,000.00	4,000.00	-	-
Literacy Revenue	440.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
LOCALS EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT	0.00	500.00	-	-
AGM Conference Revenues	5,565.00	4,820.00	5,500.00	6,000.00
FALL CONFERENCE REVENUES	2,010.00	3,750.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Interest Revenue	209.00	50.00	200.00	200.00
Donation-Processing Fee Revenue	839.30	750.00	750.00	750.00
Miscellaneous	766.57	-	-	-
Ttl Grants, Sponsorship, Donations	163,095.27	163,320.00	127,000.00	143,650.00
TOTAL REVENUE	295,378.55	252,330.00	216,760.00	234,760.00
EXPENSE				
PROFESSIONAL FEES/INSURANCE				
ACCOUNTING/AUDIT FEES	-71.01	3,250.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
LEGAL FEES	1,212.35	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
INSURANCE	30,618.10	17,000.00	16,150.00	17,000.00
MARKET RESEARCH	0.00	-	-	-
HONORARIA & COMMITTEE EXPENSES	0.00	500.00	-	-
Ttl General Operations	31,759.44	22,750.00	21,650.00	22,500.00

Human Resources

SALARIES	54,711.08	60,000.00	65,000.00	66,300.00
EI EXPENSE				
QPP EXPENSE				
QHIP EXPENSE (FSS)				
QPIP EXPENSE				
CSST & CNT EXPENSE				
DAS/CSST ADJ. & INTER.				
WAGE LEVIES	6,270.55	0.00	6,500.00	6,630.00
STAFF DEVELOPMENT	322.46	1,000.00	500.00	1,000.00
Ttl Human Resources	61,304.09	61,000.00	72,000.00	73,930.00

Office Operations

RENT	19,161.69	19,000.00	21,000.00	23,000.00
Property Insurance & Mun. Taxes	0.00		-	-
BANK CHARGES & INTEREST	269.19	200.00	300.00	300.00
CLEANING, REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	15.00	750.00	750.00	750.00
ELECTRICITY & HEATING	800.05	550.00	800.00	800.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT	7,430.21	10,000.00	8,000.00	10,000.00
POSTAGE/COURIER	6,527.80	4,500.00	5,000.00	5,500.00
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	4,181.62	5,000.00	4,400.00	4,400.00
TRAVEL, MEALS & MISC. EXPENSES	78.56	500.00	200.00	200.00
Ttl Office Operations	38,464.12	40,500.00	40,450.00	44,950.00

PROMOTIONS/PUBLICITY SERVICES

NEWS PRINTING	10,334.77	22,000.00	10,000.00	11,000.00
NEWS POSTAGE	5,065.88	4,500.00	4,400.00	4,500.00
CONTRACT SERVICES	15,485.51	7,500.00	17,000.00	14,000.00
PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES & MATERIALS	862.05	8,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
TRAVEL/ACC/MEALS - OUTREACH	0.00			
MEDIA PRODUCTION & PRINTING	218.19		250.00	-
PRESS RELEASES	0.00		-	-
Translation services	646.30	500.00	3,000.00	4,000.00
SPONSORSHIP & PROMOTION	0.00		-	-
WEBSITE	262.17	500.00	500.00	500.00
TOTAL PROMOTIONS & PUBLICITY	32,874.87	43,000.00	36,150.00	36,000.00

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

FALL CONFERENCE HONORAR/SUPPLIES	1,925.50	5,000.00	3,000.00	5,000.00
FALL CONFERENCE MEALS	999.51		-	-
FALL CONFERENCE TRAVEL/ACCOMODATION	955.59		-	-
AGM HONORARIUMS/SUPPLIES	3,449.74	18,000.00	16,000.00	18,000.00
AGM MEALS	6,372.01		-	-
AGM TRAVEL/ACCOMMODATIONS	2,931.44		-	-
LOCAL EXEC DEVELPMT HONOR/SUPPLIES	474.44	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00
LOCAL EXEC DEVELPMT MEALS	570.31		-	-
LOCAL EXEC DEV TRAVEL/ACCOMODATIONS	16.36		-	-

REGIONAL COUNCILS	21.70	200.00	200.00	200.00
TOTAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS	17,716.60	25,000.00	21,000.00	25,000.00
BOARD OF DIRECTORS				
FEES/HONORARIUM/SUPPLIES	243.70	750.00	500.00	500.00
TRAVEL & ACCOMODATIONS	1,814.10	2,500.00	2,000.00	2,500.00
MEALS	939.75	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
TOTAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS	2,997.55	4,250.00	3,500.00	4,000.00
COMMITTEE EXPENSES				
EXECUTIVE COMM.	0.00	200.00	100.00	100.00
MEMBERSHIP COMM.	0.00	200.00	100.00	100.00
LITERACY COMM.	1,143.03	700.00	1,200.00	1,500.00
RIGHTS COMM.	640.42	200.00	200.00	200.00
EDUCATION COMM.	85.90	700.00	200.00	200.00
FINANCE COMMITTEE	0.00	200.00	100.00	100.00
OTHER STANDING COMMITTEES	0.00	-	-	-
TOTAL COMMITTEE EXPENSES	1,869.35	2,200.00	1,900.00	2,200.00
MEMBERSHIP FEES & DONATIONS				
DONATIONS TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS	125.00	125.00	-	-
CHSF MEMBERSHIP FEES	2,150.00	2,500.00	2,150.00	2,150.00
CHSF MEETING EXPENSES	2,371.86	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
OTHER MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION	404.27	250.00	400.00	400.00
Ttl Membership Fees & Donations	5,051.13	4,875.00	4,550.00	4,550.00
SPECIAL PROJECTS				
LITERACY PROJECTS	123.31	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
OLYMPIC TORCH HONORA/SUPPLIES	0.00	-	-	-
HISTORY & ARCHIVES PROJECT	3,658.81	8,000.00	1,000.00	500.00
YES PROJECT	4,611.77	5,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
OTHER SPECIAL PROJECTS	746.37	1,500.00	2,500.00	3,000.00
TOTAL SPECIAL PROJECTS	9,140.26	19,500.00	14,500.00	14,500.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	201,177.41	223,075.00	215,700.00	227,630.00
NET INCOME	94,201.14	29,255.00	1,060.00	7,130.00

NOMINATIONS

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 20, 2013

Submitted by Lawrence Depoe, Nominations Chair

Mandate To receive nominations for, and to recruit qualified people to the Board of Directors. The term of office for a Director is two years and each year one-half of the Board of Director positions come up for election. The Board consists of 20 elected Directors, plus the Past President.

The first call for nominations was mailed to the local associations on January 22, 2012 with a deadline set for February 15, 2013. A second call for nominations was sent February 15, 2013. Nominees must be paid-up members in good standing. [QFHSA By-Laws Articles VI,4]. Nominations should be signed by at least two, and preferably three, persons from the Local Association and/or the QFHSA Board of Directors.

Deadline

The deadline for receiving nominations to be voted on at the AGM was March 22, 2013. Nominations received after that date would be considered by the Board of Directors for appointment. (QFHSA Standing Rules Article VII,3.)

Officers of the Federation

According to our By-Laws [Article ii, 2(a)] "*The officers of the Federation shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting from among the Directors of the Federation.*" These positions can be nominated from the list of present Directors as well as from the list of newly-nominated Directors.

Nominees - As of March 22nd, the committee has received the following nominations:

Nominees for a two-year term 2013-2015

Wanda Leah Trineer	Patricia Willis	Mona Segal	Joyce Shanks
Rosalind Hoenig	Rickhey Margolese	Lawrence Depoe	

Current Directors completing their two year term 2011-13

Liette Chamberland	Suanne Stein Day	Vera Young
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Director Brian Rock has requested and has been granted a three month medical leave of absence. Richard Balfour (2012-2014) resigned his seat in October 2012 and will not be completing the second year of his two year term.

Election of Officers 2013-2015

The following people have accepted nominations to serve in the following positions for a two year term

President	Lawrence Depoe
Treasurer	Wanda Leah Trineer
Executive Vice President	<i>Open</i>
Vice President	Rickhey Margolese
Vice President	<i>Open</i>
Secretary	Rosalind Hoenig

AGM 2012

Report to the Annual General meeting, April 20, 2013

Submitted by Mary Skagos

Theme: “*Get Involved – Education Matters*” was kept as our theme for the second year in a row because of its continued relevance

<u>Arrangements:</u>	Coordinators	Patricia Willis (chair)/ Liette Chamberland/ Mary Skagos/ Carol Meindl
	Book of Reports	Carol Meindl/ Mary Skagos/ Liette Chamberland/ Patricia Willis
	Nominations	Patricia Willis (chair)/ Liette Chamberland/ Carol Meindl
	Registration	Office
	Resolutions	Rickhey Margolese
	Membership Awards	Membership Committee
	Newsletter Awards	Martha Farley
	Awards & Prizes	Carol Meindl/ Rickhey Margolese/ Patricia Willis/ Mary Skagos/ Liette Chamberland/ Marlyn Brownrigg/ Lisa Fougere
	Parliamentarian	Debi Brown
	Speakers List	Brian Rock/ Patricia Willis
	Recording Secretary	Mary Skagos
	Time Keeper	Vera Young
	Credentials	Carol Meindl
	Scrutineers	Rickhey Margolese/ Rosalind Hoenig
	Steering Committee	Rosalind Hoenig/ Patricia Willis

Highlights: For the ninth consecutive year, the AGM was held at the Sheraton Airport Hotel (same hotel different name) in Dorval.

1. **Annual General Meeting & Conference** – Saturday, April 21, 2012
 - a) Registration: 78 people, including representation from 28 Home & School Associations; including special guests Serge Laurendeau (QPAT president), Janet Walsh (CFHS president), Charles Taker (OCOL Liaison Officer), James Sweeny (FCPQ VP), Rita Legault (QCGN Director of Communications), Marcus Tabachnick (past chair, LBPSB), panelists Kate Le Maistre (ABEE chair), Frank Verrillo (QESBA VP), Mark Massarelli (AAESQ president), Robert Mills (ADGESBQ VP), our partners DM Family Services, directors, past presidents.

- b) Two schools attended from outside the Montreal area: New Richmond, Shigawake – Port Daniel.
- c) Eleven Membership and four Newsletter Awards were presented at the beginning of the meeting by Carol Meindl and Liette Chamberland.
- d) Greetings were brought forth from QPAT, CFHS, OCOL, FCPQ
- e) A panel discussion on School Board Governance was facilitated by Lawrence DePoe, QFHSA VP. The panelists were Kate Le Maistre (ABEE chair), Frank Verrillo (QESBA VP), Mark Massarelli (AAESQ president), and Robert Mills (ADGESBQ VP).
- f) The business session passed three resolutions which were all caucused in one session.
- g) Election of the Board of Directors was held and Debi Brown, Past President of QFHSA, conducted the Installation Ceremony.

2. **Awards Dinner** – Saturday evening, April 21, 2012

- a) Attended by 98 people (actually 95 as 3 did not show up) including Directors, guests, award winners and members. There were 16 local home and school associations represented.
- b) The Master of Ceremonies was Tracey Carson Burns, president at Dorset Elementary.
- c) Greetings were brought by Leo La France, Assistant Deputy Minister, MELS.
- c) The winners of four major awards were:
 - The Leslie N. Buzzell Award – Carol Meindl, QFHSA past president, current Executive Director
 - The Gordon Paterson Award – Leo La France, Assistant Deputy Minister to the English Community, MELS
 - The Pat Lewis Humanitarian Award – Marilyn Carroll, teacher from St. Anthony Elementary
 - Lewis Peace Prize – Cheryl Smith, spiritual animator from Souvenir Elementary
- d) Certificates and pins for Unsung Hero and Golden Torch were distributed to the members in attendance.
- e) This year we added dancing after the awards dinner. A few schools stayed and continued the celebration.

FALL CONFERENCE REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting, April 20, 2013

Submitted by Mary Skagos, Administrative Assistant

Plenary Session:

The Fall Conference was held at Honoré Mercier Elementary School (EMSB) in St-Leonard on Saturday, Oct. 27th, 2012. Liette Chamberland, QFHSA president, welcomed all the members and special guests. Greetings were then brought from the following special guests – Frank Verrillo (EMSB Commissioner, Ward 17 & QESBA VP), Kate Le Maistre (ABEE Chair), Leo La France (MELS) and Mrs. Manos (Principal of Honoré Mercier Elementary School).

Our Keynote speaker was **Dr. Shaheen Shariff**, Associate Professor from the Department of Integrated Studies in Education at McGill University. Her presentation to our members was entitled “Define the Line: Clarifying the blurred lines between cyber-bullying and digital citizenship”. After her presentation there was a question & answer period. According to the feedback that we received from our members, everyone found her presentation to be interesting, thought-provoking, informative and well-researched. Most members stated that they would definitely be visiting her website to get more information.

Workshops:

6 excellent workshops were offered:

Morning

- Anti-Bullying Law, Bill 56- Facilitated by DM Family and School Services
- ABC’s of School Fundraising-Facilitated by Betty Skagos
- Technology in the classroom- Facilitated by Réal Heppelle and Jody Wilson

Afternoon

- How to Motivate a Potato-Facilitated by James Watts
- Build Relationships to Prevent Bullying- Facilitated by DM Family and School Services
- Working with your Principal- Facilitated by Maria DeWolfe

Registration:

There were 35 members and 1 non-member attending Fall Conference, representing 21 schools (2 from off-island). 8 directors plus 2 staff were also in attendance. Attendance was down compared to the previous year.

Schools who attended the Fall Conference:

- Beaconsfield High School
- Birchwood Elementary
- Evergreen Elementary
- Hillcrest Academy
- Beurling Academy
- Bonaventure Polyvalent
- Gardenview Elementary
- Honoré Mercier Elementary

- John Rennie High School
- Les Petits Bouts-de-Choux de L'est
- Macdonald High School
- PETES
- St. John Fisher Elementary
- William Latter School
- Leonardo da Vinci Elementary
- Lindsay Place High School
- New Richmond High
- St. Charles Elementary
- St. Thomas High School
- Willingdon Elementary

One non-member school represented:

- FACE

Publicity:

The registration flyer was mailed out to our local associations followed by email reminders. It was posted on our website and promoted on our Facebook page site as well as the Montreal Families electronic magazine. A press release was written and sent out to the EMSB's Mike Cohen who posted it on the EMSB's social media sites, as well as to a variety of English media contacts

Regional Councils:

There were 3 Regional Council meetings that took place. The members were divided into three groups –

LBPSB High schools,
LBPSB elementary schools and
EMSB/SWLSB/RSB elementary schools.

As always, a lot of topics were covered in the Regional Councils and everyone enjoyed the opportunity to connect with others in the same situation.

Displayers:

There were 12 displayers at this year's conference and nearly half of them were first-timers. We also had 2 organizations that paid to have their materials put in the kits. All the displayers were satisfied with the set-up and pleased to make so many new contacts. Some of them held raffles at their tables and a few prizes were given out at the end of the day.

Recommendations:

To mail out Fall Conference brochures to all QFHSA members not just the executive, either by email or post, to encourage attendance. Fall Conference workshops are offered and available to all Home and School members.

EXECUTIVE WORKSHOPS

Report to the Annual general Meeting-April 20, 2013

Submitted by Mary Skagos, Administrative Assistant

Mandate: To provide information to local association executive committee leaders on how to fulfill the responsibilities of their jobs; to distribute materials pertinent to their executive positions; to offer an opportunity to network and exchange ideas with representatives from other schools; to meet the Board of Directors and office staff; to visit the provincial office and to learn about the resources available to them and their schools.

The workshops for local association executive committee members were held Friday, September 21, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the QFHSA office. 14 Local Associations were represented by 37 members – 6 of whom also attended the June Executive Workshop Evening. We also had 5 Board of Director members, and two staff members (Carol Meindl & Mary Skagos) making a total of 44 people. Crudités, cheese, fruit, desserts and coffee were served.

QFHSA President, Liette Chamberland, welcomed everyone and then everyone was asked to split up into groups according to their current position or interest.

Workshops

Presidents' Workshop

Moderators/Presenters

Liette Chamberland, QFHSA, President

Had 18 attendees

Membership

Carol Meindl, QFHSA, Executive Director

Barbara Schnider, Lindsay Place Membership Chair

Had 10 attendees

Treasurers

Leah Trineer, QFHSA Director

Had 9 attendees

Media/Publicity/Newsletters

** was offered but since no one registered, it was canceled

Everyone who attended received their 3 kits – President, Treasurer, & Membership – for their Home & School. A lot of work went into updating many of the documents that went into the kits last year so updates were minimal this year

The Media & Publicity, Born to Read and Literacy Guide hand-out documents, as well as posters and newsletters, were made available for pick-up. Tembec paper was also offered to the H&S members in attendance.

The balance of the kits was mailed out the following week.

June 2012: Executive Workshops were offered in the month of June 2012, as well, to offset the number of members who attend in September. We had 11 schools attend with a total of 20 members. The format for the June workshops was different than the one used in September. Everyone stayed in one room with presentations from various directors and members about the various executive positions. It gave everyone the chance to learn about all the responsibilities and obligations of all the different positions and to ask questions. Everyone enjoyed it and found it very helpful. Unfortunately, with so many things to discuss and so many questions to answer, the workshop went into overtime.

A huge concern seemed to be “minute taking” so a document & template will be created to help locals take better minutes.

EXECUTIVE APPRECIATION DINNER

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 20, 2013

Submitted by Carol Meindl and Mary Skagos

Mandate

This annual event is hosted by the QFHSA Board of Directors to thank the dedicated Executives and special Volunteers in the local Home and School Associations. Each local association received an invitation for 3 members to attend. The cost of the event is wholly subsidized by QFHSA. This social evening is an opportunity to network in an informal setting and to exchange ideas. A guest speaker may be invited on a topic of interest to parents.

Date

The 9th annual Executive Appreciation event was held on February 26, 2013 from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm and, again, was free of charge for the local associations.

Venue

This event took the form of a sit down dinner with a guest speaker and was held at the Casa Greque, at 13081 Gouin Boulevard, Pierrefonds.

Program

This year's guest speaker was James Watts, co-founder and principal of Education Plus High School, governing board chair and parent of 2 teens. He spoke on better approaches to parenting and how to become the elusive "Happy Parent" Gift bags were raffled to executive members as well as bottles of wine as a token of our appreciation for all their hard work and dedication at the local level

Attendance

Forty-eight guests (48) attended representing eighteen (18) Home and School Associations in addition to the Board of Directors and office staff. Schools represented were:

Beacon Hill	Beaconsfield High
Birchwood	Dorset
Dorval	Edgewater
Forest Hill	Genesis
Greendale	John Rennie
Leonardo Da Vinci	Macdonald High
PETES	Sherwood Forest
Souvenir	St Paul
St Thomas	Westpark

Evaluation

The format of either a dinner or a Wine & Cheese party with a speaker seems to be the most appreciated and will be repeated in the next year.

YES (Youth Exploring Science) Report
Report to Annual General Meeting- April 20, 2013
Submitted by Carol Meindl, Executive Director

Mandate The YES project was initiated by QFHSA to provide science workshops to member schools in more remote regions of Quebec via the video-conferencing network of the Quebec Community Learning Centers. To inspire tomorrow's young scientists.

The Project

Three science workshops were offered to Netagamou as the lucky winners of a draw that QFHSA held in September. 16 high school students (12-17 year olds) participated in the following activities:

- October 25 /DNA Extraction**
- October 26 /Cosmetic Workshop**
- October 26 /Leaf Pigmentation and Photosynthesis**

Three science workshops were also offered this year to students (7-11 years old) in the eastern and western regions of Quebec and were animated by Biologist Evelyn Castillo of Livestuff, Inc:

- March 16 /Mad about Bats**
- March 23 /Hydroponics**
- April 6 /Silly Putty**

CLC participation: We enjoyed the participation of 4 CLCs this session: New Carlisle CLC in New Carlisle, Gaspé Tri-School CLC in Gaspé, (*Eastern Shores School Board*) La Tuque CLC in La Tuque (*Central Quebec School Board*) Laurentian Regional High School CLC in Lachute (*Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board*). Riverdale CLC in Pierrefonds (*Lester B. Pearson School Board*) was the broadcast location.

School participation: There were 30 students registered from 5 schools: New Carlisle, Gaspé, La Tuque, Morin Heights* and Grenville.
(* not a Home and School)

Summary: There is a continued interest in participating in the YES project. It is serving a need that is apparent in the regions. The QFHSA will continue to offer YES as part of our regular programming.

ESSAY PROJECTS: Family Treasures/Famous Family Recipes

Report to the Annual General Meeting, April 20, 2013

Submitted by Carol Meindl

Mandate:

To offer students the opportunity to combine the elements of English Language Arts with History/ Culture where they can explore their own sense of self as well as their family's history.

By researching, asking questions and writing creatively, children will have an opportunity to share some of their family history and culture with their classmates and their community.

FAMILY TREASURES

History:

Family Treasures was first launched in 2011 after the original concept was presented by Ben Loomer (LEARN) to a Community Learning Center conference as an opportunity for community organizations to participate in Family Literacy Day.

General Information/Family Treasures

The essay contest was open to all Home and School Members Associations, targeting Cycle 3 (Grade 5-6) and Secondary 1 & 2 (Grade 7-8). Information packages were sent to all principals in September 2012 and followed up by postcard reminders in early January 2013.

Students were invited to write a 250 word essay (Cycle 3) or a 450 word essay (Secondary 1&2) describing a family treasure (or family story), why it was important to their family and what it meant to them. Submissions could include a digital photograph or illustration, if desired.

QFHSA assembled a panel of three judges: Anne Montgomery, Director, Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network, Mary Skagos, QFHSA Administrative Assistant, and Lisa Fougere, QFHSA NEWS Editor. Essays were judged on content, spelling, grammar and poignancy.

Winning submissions were announced on March 23, 2013. Winners were notified by telephone and email. Then prizes and certificates were awarded and mailed out. The winning essays will be published in a special feature of the QFHSA NEWS June edition.

Participating schools:

Lester B Pearson School Board:	Lindsay Place High school
English Montreal School Board:	Gardenvue Elementary
Eastern Townships School Board:	North Hatley Elementary

FAMOUS FAMILY RECIPES

History:

The *Famous Family Recipes* essay contest was launched for the first time this year in conjunction with Health and Nutrition week. It offered students a chance to explore favorite family recipes, enjoy the stories that go with them, and share their family history and culture with their classmates and community.

General Information/ Famous Family Recipes

The essay contest was open to all Home and School Members Associations, targeting Cycle 3 (Grade 5-6) and Secondary 1 & 2 (Grade 7-8).

Students were invited to write a 250 word essay (Cycle 3) or a 450 word essay (Secondary 1&2) describing a family recipe along with a story about why it is important to their family and what it means to them. Submissions could include a digital photograph or illustration, if desired.

QFHSA assembled a panel of three judges: Leah Trineer, QFHSA Literacy Chair, Vera Young, Membership Chair, and Maria Palamara, President, Honoré Mercier Home and School. Essays were judged on content, spelling, grammar and poignancy.

Winning submissions were accepted up to March 22 and winners will be notified by telephone and/or email on May 10, 2013. The prizes will be awarded and the winning essays will be published in a special feature of the QFHSA NEWS June edition.

Participating schools

Lester B Pearson School Board:	Souvenir Elementary Sherwood Forest Elementary
English Montreal School Board:	Willingdon Elementary

COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS: An English Minority Language Initiative for the Province of Quebec

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 20, 2013

Submitted by Carol Meindl/liaison

Mandate: The CLCs initiative is aimed at supporting the development of a diverse group of CLCs that will serve as ‘hubs’ for English-language education and community development in their respective communities, as well as offer models for future practice. Some of the key results anticipated from CLCs are:

- Provide access to the conditions deemed necessary for student success
- Respond to the particular culture and needs of the communities they serve
- Provide services that are accessible to the broader community
- Deliver a range of services that are self-supporting and sustainable over time
- Integrate existing services and resources with those available from external agencies
- Develop financial/resource partnerships that insure long-term sustainability
- Resonate within their communities as a successful response to their needs
- Demonstrate flexible and innovative approaches to service delivery

The CLC Provincial Resource Team (PRT) was founded in 2007 with the mandate to facilitate communication and collaboration between the Community Learning Centers and community partners (such as QFHSA). At this time there are 36 CLC across the province. The CLC Provincial Resource Team facilitates relations between the 36 CLCs and their 20 community partners serving English-speaking communities across Québec.

As a result of its participation on the CRC, the QFHSA has been actively working in partnership with the established CLCs and has participated in two projects in 2012-13:

- The YES (Youth Exploring Science) project (March 16, 23 and April 6) offered a series of science workshops to 30 students (7-11 years) from schools in ESSB, SWLSB and CQSB and broadcast them through the video-conferencing network from Riverdale High school CLC in Pierrefonds.
- Agriculture in the Classroom: A Day in the Life of a Farmer, which broadcast taped visits to two local farms to students through the CLC network. The students had an opportunity later to interact directly with the farmers through the video-conferencing system and ask questions. QFHSA provided subject-related books and an essay contest “From Farm to Fork” to the participating schools.

The QFHSA will continue to explore areas of collaboration with the CLCs in 2013-2014.

QUEBEC COMMUNITY GROUPS NETWORK (QCGN) REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting, April 20, 2013

Submitted by Carol Meindl

Mission: The Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN) identifies, explores and addresses the strategic issues affecting the development and vitality of English-speaking Quebec. It encourages dialogue and collaboration among its member organizations, individuals, community groups, institutions and leaders. In partnership with member organizations, stakeholders, community leaders and institutions, it articulates the views of English-speaking Quebec on issues of strategic concern and takes action to address them.

The QCGN strives to be the recognized voice for English-speaking Quebec with the Federal and Provincial Governments. They are often invited to participate in round table discussions and to submit briefs to government committees.

The QCGN had its Annual General Meeting in Montreal, June 2012 and Carol Meindl attended as the QFHSA representative. Although she did not stand for re-election on the QCGN Board of Directors, as the current Executive Director for the QFHSA, she will serve as a member of the QCGN Membership Committee.

Activities: The QCGN, in partnership with David Hodges and with support from Jean Francois Lisée, launched the “Notre Home” music video to help express the sense of belonging today’s youth feel as Quebecers. The QCGN has been active with the Strategic Priorities Forum, as well as advocating on the Community’s behalf on the federal electoral boundaries readjustment process. They have challenged Bill 14, presenting a Brief on April 11 to the National Assembly. Members of the QCGN Board of Directors have met with CAQ and Solidaire members on issues that are important to the English-Speaking Community. They have been active with the Language Rights Support program (LRSP) focusing on English-Speaking Quebec.

The distribution of seats on the QCGN Board of Directors is as follows:

- 5 delegates from the Regional organizations – all 5 of which must be from the regions (outside the Greater Montreal Area)
- 5 delegates from Sector organizations
- 4 delegates ‘at large’

The current Board of Directors 2012-2013:

- Dan Lamoureux, President (Greater Montreal Community Development Initiative)
- Brian A. Gameau, Vice-President (Voice of English-speaking Quebec)
- Walter Duszara, Secretary (Policy development and management consultant)
- Joe Rabinovitch, Treasurer
- Cheryl Gosselin (Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and coordinator of the Gender, (Diversity and Equity program at Bishop’s University.)

- Irene Tschernomor (Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Queen Elizabeth Health Complex)
- Clara Ann Martin Labadie (Member the board of the CSSS Côte-Nord)
- Colleen Bronson (Sacred heart School of Montreal)
- Bradley Dottin (Black Community Resource Centre)
- Noel Burke (Dean of the School of Extended Learning, Concordia University)
- Jan Anderson-Toupin (Jeffery Hale Community Services)
- James Shea, Membership Chair (School board Commissioner for the Western Quebec School Board)
- Sylvia Martin-Laforge, Director General

In 2009, the Quebec Community Groups Network launched the **Sheila and Victor Goldbloom Distinguished Community Service Award** which recognizes individuals who have contributed to strengthening the English-speaking community and to building bridges of understanding between Quebecers of different backgrounds.

The 2012 Sheila and Victor Goldbloom Awards were held at Montreal's St James Club on October 18 and awards were presented to:

The Honorable W. David Angus, who retired from the Senate this past spring, is a former chair of the McGill University Hospital Centre (MUHC) board which oversaw the merger of five leading Montreal hospitals including the Montreal Children's, the Montreal General, the Royal Victoria, the Montreal Chest Institute, and the Montreal Neurological Hospital in 1997.

Gretta Chambers, whose name is synonymous with education in Quebec, has served in a number of high profile roles including as a member of McGill's Board of Governors and its first female Chancellor, and as the chair of a major task force on the state of English-language in 1992 that led to the Advisory Board on Education that she chaired for 15 years.

Father John Walsh personifies the combination of the spiritual and the practical. Father Walsh, who retired in 2011, deserves the award for his tireless work among the diverse community groups that make up the social fabric of the Montreal area.

The QFHSA values its membership with the QCGN and will continue to participate as an Active Member organization striving to bring the voice of English-speaking parents to the discussion table whenever possible.