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Monthly Report

October, 1984

Vol. 2, No. 7

QUEBEC TO APPEAL FORGET DECISION

Calling the government's decision "petty and provocative", Alliance Quebec has promised all necessary support and assistance to Nancy Forget in defending against the planned Quebec government appeal to the Supreme Court.

Ms. Forget, a nursing assistant and her lawyer, Julius Grey (a member of Alliance Quebec's legal committee) successfully challenged the legality of French testing for professionals under Bill 101.

On August 31, the Quebec Court of Appeal ruled that the testing regulations violate the Quebec Charter of Rights and Freedom by discriminating on the basis of language.

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There is an element of irony in the government's decision to appeal, since it will, in effect, be challenging its own human rights legislation - the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Alliance Quebec has supported and represented Ms. Forget throughout her legal battle; a fight she initiated in 1981 after losing her job as a consequence of failing the written portion of the language test. She had passed the oral.

DEMOGRAPHIC WORK GROUP TO SUBMIT BRIEF

The Work Group on Demographic Trends will submit a brief on October 5 to the Standing Cultural Committee of the National Assembly, chaired by Liberal MNA Richard French.

The Committee has asked for reaction from the public to a recent government document, "The Evolution of Quebec's Population and its Consequences.

The Work Group, co-ordinated by former Townshippers' Association Executive Director, Royal Orr, will explain some of the more important demographic factors and their effects on the English-speaking community. Their brief will also give a complete picture of the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of English-speaking Quebecers. A special study, commissioned from University of Montreal demographer Jacques Henripin, will be appended to the AQ brief.

The broader aim of the Work Group is to demystify the process of charting demographic trends and to encourage discussion of the uses and interpretation of such research.

The Work Group is co-chaired by John Trent of Outaouais Alliance and Catherine Duff-Caron, member-at-large of AQ's executive. Members include: Graham Weeks, Stuart Richards, Richard Joy, Sonia Aronow, Barbara Rowley, Peter Turner and Kevin Saville.

The Work Group is expected to make a formal presentation to the Standing Committee later this month.

ACTIVITIES IN CHAPTERS AND ASSOCIATIONS

St. Laurent Chapter congratulates its chairperson, Helen McLellan, and chapter member Mary Kieran, for their election to the advisory of CLSC-St. Laurent and CLSC-New Bordeaux/Cartierville respectively.

The Employment/Business & Signs Committee was successful in its summer-long campaign to have bilingual warning signs posted at metro construction sites in St. Laurent. Committee chairperson Craig Berger lobbied the Bureau de Transport Métropolitain to authorize the posting of such signs, which fall under the public health or safety provisions of Bill 101.

The same committee also succeeded in convincing the municipal administration to request a bilingual listing for the City of St. Laurent in the blue pages of the telephone directory. Previously, municipal authorities were unaware of their legal right to have this.

The NDG/Montreal West Chapter held a board meeting Sept. 10 at which AQ Cultural Liaison Animator Sophia Skiadas discussed her role of outreach to cultural communities. The Chapter will be working closely with Sophia to develop contacts and participate in meetings with various cultural communities. The chapter is also planning a number of public meetings and will begin intense networking with other community organizations.

'Sunday in the Park' was held Aug. 26 at Loyola Park. Chapter Chairperson Ron Silverson and Animator Fred Anderson manned the AQ booth, with assistance from chapter volunteers.

The Côte Nord Chapter is conducting a membership campaign with emphasis on Sept-Îles where no organized campaign has yet been held. The AQ booth was set up in the malls of the two main shopping centres during the last two weekends of September. Elliott Ryan is responsible for membership in Port-Cartier and Hans Schobesberger in Sept-Îles.

The Education Committee, under the chairmanship of Brenda Barnes, is exploring the possibility of opening an English section in the local Cégep. Area parents have expressed concern over the travel and costs associated with sending their children to English Cégeps elsewhere. A preliminary feasibility study of the number of English-speaking post-secondary students in the area will be prepared by Committee members for study and possible recommendations to appropriate authorities.

The Health & Social Services Committee, under Louise Jones, is looking at the availability of services for senior citizens.

The West Island Chapter will set up a booth at the Pointe Claire Community Awareness Day to be held Oct. 12 and 13 at the Pointe Claire Shopping Centre on St. John's Road.

The Chapter will sponsor an information meeting for the Hudson members on Oct. 16 at 7:30 at Hudson High School.

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Rights

V.E.Q. (Voice of English Quebec) has completed the second part of a study on the community in the Saguenay/Portneuf region. This demographic profile includes statistical information and a compilation of the attitudes of English-speaking people. The study will be released early next year.

V.E.Q. sponsored a kiosque at the Quebec '84 summer festivities to highlight the contributions of the English-speaking community to the economic, socio-cultural and religious development of the Quebec City region.

This summer, the Employment Opportunities Committee of the Animation Department placed over 100 students in part-time employment. The Job Club gave local English-speaking youths a chance to work in French. During the next year, V.E.Q. will co-ordinate a Young Achievements Club as an outgrowth of this club.

Sister Marianna O'Gallagher, a history teacher at St. Patrick High for 20 years, has been named Director of Heritage and Cultural Programmes at V.E.Q. The association's participation in Quebec '84 was her first project. The programme now will concentrate on setting up an information resource centre for the English-speaking community in the areas of local history, genealogical research and institutional services.

Finally, V.E.Q. will hold its annual Fall Fest '84 under the theme "Fall Fun For All/Ca se Fête Ensemble". Activities run from Oct. 6 to 8 with a pancake breakfast Sat. a.m. at the Manège Militaire on the Grande-Allée in Quebec City; games and rides all weekend on the grounds of Place Georges-V; a Sunday evening casino and dance at the Château Frontenac; and an equestrian event on Mon. on the grounds of St. Patrick Church. The festival brings together members of the local English-speaking community to share their heritage and culture with all Quebecers.

Saguenay Chapter's Health & Social Services Committee is currently compiling a directory of services available to the local English-speaking community. The booklet will include listings of doctors, lawyers and other professionals who offer services in English. Committee Chairperson Eric Thompson reports that many names have been listed for the Saguenay; however, the Committee is still seeking information for the Lac St-Jean region.

Public meetings of the chapter will continue to be held on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at the Club de la Direction at 8:15 pm.

The Lower Laurentians Chapter will kick off its membership campaign with the Second Annual Heritage Day Family Outing on Sat., Oct. 13 from 2 to 5 pm at the Harrington Community Centre. Activities will include slide presentations on natural resources of the area, on the 108-year history of the local paper, The Watchman, as well as handicraft, quilting and wood carving displays. Harrington is about 1½ hours from Montreal with access through Brownsburg or by following the Rivière-Rouge North.

Outaouais Alliance recently set up a committee to represent community concerns over the possible closing of the Maniwaki rail line. CP Rail wants to shut down the line which runs from Laman (near Hull) to Maniwaki. The Gatineau Valley Railway Committee will study the line's impact and will fight to preserve it for future development. The Committee will make representations to the National Capital Commission, the Museum of Science and Technology, CP Rail and the Canadian Transport Commission.

The Papineau Zone of Outaouais Alliance will co-sponsor a dance with the School Committee of Lady of Victory School on Nov. 17 at the Polyvalente in Buckingham. The 'Jug-10-Punch' band will entertain.

The Pontiac Zone will hold its annual meeting on Oct. 18 to elect a new executive.

After nearly one year of lobbying, Outaouais Alliance is pleased to see that the daily, The Ottawa Citizen, has agreed to regularly publish news of West Quebec. The "Outaouais Column", which will run once a week, made its debut Sept. 18.

The Upper Laurentians Chapter Health & Social Services Committee is compiling an inventory of English-language services available in the area. They are also helping to organize CLSC information sessions for the Senior Citizens Club and the Child and Youth Centre in Morin Heights.

Chapter representatives were recently invited to speak to the Morin Height's Women's Guild.

Tom Mulcair, Legal Affairs Director for Alliance Quebec, spoke on the topic, "Language and the Law" at a public meeting on Sept. 27 in Shawbridge sponsored by the chapter.

C.V.E.S.P.A. is planning a number of projects for the fall and winter months. A "Career Night" is planned for area high school students. A "Small Business and Cooperative Business Seminar" will explore the potential for expansion of private and cooperative businesses in the Valley. A travelling audio-visual presentation on CLSCs will be presented as a project of the Health & Social Services Committee chaired by Kenneth Campbell. And a Public Lecture Series is being planned in conjunction with the Châteauguay Valley Education Department, as well as A Time Management Seminar to be given by Carol Anne Fried of McGill, for those working in community associations. These two projects are overseen by the Education Committee under Chairperson Mary Sherry. Prominent local and national speakers will be presented in a four-lecture series, in Ormstown and Rockburn. The Culture and Heritage Committee, under Roberta Brocklehurst, will work with the Rockburn Cultural Center to promote the development of cultural activities within the English-speaking community. The Government Institutions and Services Committee, under Chairperson Hugh Maynard, will continue meeting with representatives of all levels of government with special emphasis on municipal services and Bill 101.

The Townshippers' Association sponsored the 5th Annual Townshippers' Day on Sept. 22 in Knowlton at which nearly 1,500 people were in attendance.

A highlight of the day was the annual meeting of the Association, at which 12 new directors were elected. Marjorie Goodfellow was given the continued support of the membership as she was re-elected President of the Townshippers' Association.

The Day was a showcase for Townships talent as fiddlers, singers, square dancers, breakdancers, barbershoppers and artisans of all types were on hand to demonstrate their expertise.

The 1984 festival premiered a number of new events including a fashion show of 18th and 19th century clothing, the "Hysterical Historical Trivia Quiz of the Eastern Townships", as well as a tug-of-war contest between staff members and the new board of directors. The directors gave it their best shot, but went down to defeat to the staff! There will no doubt be a revenge match next year!

The Townshippers' would like to thank the hundreds of volunteers who made the 5th Annual Townshippers' Day such a success!

The South Shore Chapter organized a French Immersion Summer Day Camp for children aged six to 12 years old. The camp took place over an eight-week period during the months of July and August. Federal government assistance was provided in the way of a Summer Work Program grant and the talents of four university students were enlisted to run the camp. The camp was designed to help kids learn French in an atmosphere of fun and games.

In August, the chapter set up a booth at the annual Highland Games and many new members signed up.

The TMR/Outremont/Côte-des-Neiges/Snowdon E. Chapter is pleased to announce the nomination of Maria Wichers, a member of the chapter's health and social services committee, to the advisory board of the pre-CLSC serving Snowdon East. She will sit on the committee as a representative of a socio-economic organization - the local AQ chapter. This is a first for Alliance Quebec. Lilly Katofsky, Chairperson of the chapter's Health & Social Services Committee, will sit on AQ's provincial programme committee. This appointment is in recognition of Lilly's strong leadership in promoting AQ programme objectives at the chapter level.

The board of the Côte St. Luc/Hampstead/Snowdon W. Chapter met on Sept. 12 and elected five new members: Soula Tsafaras, Beverly Jusko, Johnny Sgru, Michael Colson and Elisabeth Colson.

Jonathan Herman, Health & Social Services Committee Chairperson, Marlene Baran, Chapter Animator and Dianne Allison, Programme Assistant in Health & Social Services at the Provincial Office, had a constructive first meeting with the co-ordinator of the pre-CLSC for the chapter area. No date has been set so far for the election of representatives to the CLSC Advisory Board. The Committee will monitor developments.

EDUCATION PROGRAMME

The network of Education Committee Chairpersons from chapters and associations will meet in Montreal on Oct. 9 to discuss programme priorities for the year. Also on the agenda is an update on the Bill 40 revisions and a report from the Local History Work Group.

Continuing Education

A new government policy on continuing education aims to transfer responsibility for adult education from the Ministry of Education to the regional CFPs (Commissions de Formation Professionnelle) and the MMSR (Ministère de la Main-d'oeuvre et de la Sécurité du Revenu). The Education Programme has been working with organizations active in the adult education sector to exchange information and develop common positions.

French Second Language

On Sept. 11, representatives of 13 provincial organizations met in response to a request from AQ to plan joint action on a number of issues regarding French second-language instruction. Items such as federal funding, responses to the Superior Council Report and community-based approaches elicited interest from the groups, which will meet again Oct. 25.

Ontario School Board Reorganization Case to Supreme Court

The decision of the Ontario Court of Appeals which granted the control and management of schools to the linguistic minority is being appealed to the Supreme Court. AQ intervened in the Ontario case, based on the impact the decision would have in Quebec.

English-speaking Parents' Network

Ross Clark and Fred Wiseman are working as co-ordinators for the Network - or ESPN as it is often called. A phone line has been installed and requests for information can be made by calling (514) 288-3703. ESPN's founding convention will take place Nov. 16 and 17. AQ provides support services to the network, which will be the first organization to bring together all English-speaking parents in the province.

1984-85 Programme Committee

The board of directors of AQ has approved the nomination of the following people to the Education Programme Committee: Catherine Duff-Caron (Chairperson), Martin Murphy (Vice-chairperson) and: Sylvia Chesterman, Ross Clark, Graeme Decarie, Alan DeSousa, Kevin Drysdale, Sheila Goldbloom, Paulina Grant, Ethel Gravelle, Robert Lavery and Paul Noble.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMME

The first provincial seminar of the 1984-85 programme year will be held Oct. 12 and 13 at the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal offices, 6000 Fielding Avenue, in Montreal. The seminar will include workshops designed to develop a better understanding of the MAS (health and social services) system, as well as sessions dealing with the provincial and regional implications of the reorganization of social services.

Included during the weekend are presentations on the use of the Information and Documentation Project, as well as workshops designed to develop contact and negotiation skills with institutions on local issues.

CLSC Development

With completion of the CLSC network underway, Alliance Quebec has a unique opportunity to participate in the process. Chapters and Associations can get involved by fielding candidates for election to advisory committees or by proposing candidates for appointment.

Within the next few months, many elections for advisory committees will take place: three in the South West Chapter area; three in East Island; one in TMR/Côte-des-Neiges/Outremont/Snowdon E.; one in the Côte St. Luc/Hampstead/Snowdon W. area; and two in West Island. A meeting has been scheduled in early October between Alliance Quebec and the Federation of CLSCs to discuss the relationship between CLSCs and the English-speaking community.

Summer Works Project

Alliance Quebec sponsored a Summer Works Project on the South Shore recently. Three students researched English-language social services in the area covered by CSS Richelieu. The local AQ chapter is making good use of the information gathered by the students in its local projects.

Other chapters and associations may consider applying for government grants to aid work in the health and social services field.

1984-85 Programme Committee

The board of directors of AQ has approved the nomination of the following people to the Health and Social Services Committee: Marylee Kelley (Chairperson), Geoffrey Chambers (Vice-chairperson) and: Pat Camacho, Jim Carter, Marni Cheesebrough, Lilly Katofsky, Marguerite Laflamme, Gayle Hawley MacDonald, Peter Macklem, Janice Napp-Marchand and Joan Richards.

Off-Island Committee: Wendell Sparkes (Chairperson); and: Lynden Béchervaise, Bob May, Hugh Maynard, Joe Nancoo, Royal Orr and Carol Wilson.

Communications Programme Committee: Ron Silverson & Michael Goldbloom (Co-chairpersons); and: Julie Lawson, Gary Lyon, Helen McLellan, Andy Passiour and David Powell.

The committee met Sept. 11 and established two sub-committees: Mainland Media, chaired by Ron Silverson and made up of members of the Communications and Off-Island Committees; and Public TV, chaired by Helen McLellan.

On Oct. 20 Cultural Liaison Animator Sophia Skiadas will attend a one-day colloque of the Federation of Ethnic Groups of Quebec. Workshop topics will include heritage language instruction, inter-cultural relations, ethnic community schools, as well as parent/teacher/student relationships and educational problems in disadvantaged milieus. Cultural Communities Minister Louise Harel and Education Minister Yves Bérubé have been invited to the colloque.

Vaughan Dowie, Executive Director of Alliance Quebec, will speak about the organization at a meeting of the Guyanese Canadian Congress of Montreal on Oct. 14.

COMMENT IN THE FRENCH PRESS

During the past month, a number of important events have occurred which could affect the linguistic dossier in Quebec and Canada. A new federal government has been elected. D'Iberville Fortier has started as the new Commissioner of Official Languages. At the provincial level, a new Minister, Louise Harel, has taken over Cultural Communities and Immigration, while Gérald Godin has retained responsibility for the application of Bill 101. September was also the month of Canada's first-ever papal visit, which saw Pope John Paul II encourage Canadians to take pride in their bilingual heritage.

Jean-Louis Roy in a Le Devoir editorial, Sept. 14, comments on the future of bilingualism in Canada. He believes Mr. Fortier will carry on the tradition of Keith Spicer and Maxwell Yalden and execute the job of Official Language Commissioner with "steadfastness and prudence". Mr. Roy is also happy with the election of Brian Mulroney, singling out his responses to the questions which were asked of all three parties by the Fédération des Francophones Hors Québec (FFHQ) concerning minority language rights. "Mr. Mulroney," he writes, "on more than one occasion, has proven his respect for the Official Languages Act as well as his preoccupation with the protection of minority rights." Although a certain level of bilingualism has been reached on a federal level, Mr. Roy believes that linguistic equality is a long way off and will require a "strong signal" from Mr. Mulroney. "This signal will indicate to us whether or not we will be condemned to stagnation and regression," he writes, "or on the contrary be revitalized with a breath of fresh air."

In a Le Devoir editorial of Sept. 26, Gilles Lesage compliments the Lévesque government for its wisdom in retaining Gerald Godin as Minister responsible for Quebec's language dossier. "By his flexibility and charm", writes Mr. Lesage, "he has succeeded over the last four years in reducing the amount of tensions in a delicate situation." Mr. Lesage also commends Mr. Godin's efforts in making his colleagues understand that "political solutions are by far preferable to judicial dictates."

Many Canadians were surprised at the frank comments made by Pope John Paul II on his recent visit to Canada. Michel Roy in La Presse Sept. 17 notes the appropriateness of the Pope's plea for Canadian unity made in Manitoba, "that pinnacle of Canadian multiculturalism and stage for the exhaustive fight of Franco-Manitobans for their constitutional rights." He then urges all Canadians to make a daily practice of the Pope's observations that, "the historic experience of the two founding peoples of Canada, that have moulded together in a life existing on mutual respect and assurance for each other's cultural uniqueness, has providently created a climate of cultural diversity which is the character of Canada today."

AQ IN BRIEF

Alliance Quebec has a new Off-Island Animator. He is Bill Floch, a teacher for the last five years in Chevery on Quebec's North Shore and a former President of the Lower North Shore English Teachers' Association.

Congratulations to Maureen Carey who has been named Programme Assistant in Community Development. Prior to September, she had been the Animator with the Laval/North Shore Chapter.

Finally, Alliance Quebec welcomes Frank Rackow as the new Communications/Research Programme Assistant. His background includes community journalism and minority language rights research with the Canadian Federation of Students in Ottawa.

FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN KICKS OFF

The Alliance Research and Education Institute has set an objective of \$1,000,000 for its 1984-85 fund-raising campaign which gets underway this month.

The honorary chairmen for the 1984-85 campaign are Louis-Philippe de Grandpré, C.C., Q.C.; Senator Hartland de M. Molson, O.B.E.; and Phillip Vineberg, O.C., Q.C.

The Institute funds all major non-political research projects undertaken by the Alliance. The research provides the informational support vital to the effectiveness of the Alliance and to the future of the English-speaking community.

Allan Berezny, Institute Fund-raising Director, in conjunction with the Fund-raising Committee, will contact major Canadian corporations with head offices located in Quebec, as well as large Quebec firms and smaller businesses. The campaign will also appeal to all Alliance Quebec members and to professional groups and associations.

All members are reminded that their contributions may be matched, doubled or even tripled if their employer is a participant in the fund-matching aspect of the campaign.

Work on the campaign has been made more efficient through the use of an AES Word-processor, kindly lent to the Institute by AES Data Corp.

For further information and/or suggestions, contact the Institute at (514) 845-8127. (You can also call if you want to donate!)

*****NEWS BULLETIN*****

QUEBEC SCHOOL TELECASTS MOVE TO RADIO-QUEBEC

Radio-Québec will air some programs in English starting this month.

The Quebec School Telecasts, educational programming produced by the Ministry of Education, will be broadcast on the provincially-owned network as of Oct. 15. The English-language programs will be aired twice daily from 11:00 to 11:30 am and from 1:00 to 1:30 pm, Monday to Friday, except holidays, until the end of May.

The move comes as a result of a decision last spring by the Government of Quebec to transfer all responsibility for educational programming from the Ministry of Education to Radio-Québec. Coincidentally, the federally-owned network, the CBC, had already decided to cease providing air time to Provincial Education Ministries.

The Radio-Québec network, by and large, covers most of the geographic areas of the province to which the CBC broadcasts.

