

**QC** Quebec  
Community  
**GN** Groups  
Network

## Annual Report 2004-2005



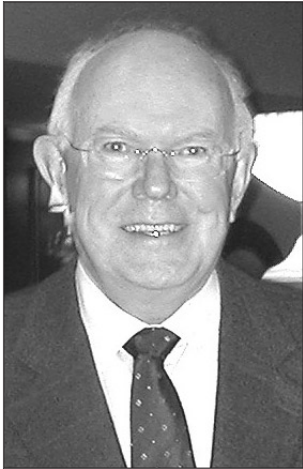
10 years of proudly serving Quebec's English-speaking communities

Alliance Quebec · Black Community Resource Centre · Châteauguay Valley English-Speaking People's Association · Coasters Association · Committee for Anglophone Social Action · Community Association for Saguenay-Lac St-Jean · Community Health and Social Services Network · Council for Anglophone Magdalen Islanders · English-Speaking Catholic Council · Heritage Lower St. Lawrence · Megantic English-speaking Community Development Corporation · Neighbours Regional Association of Rouyn-Noranda · North Shore Community Association · Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network · Quebec Association for Adult Learning · Quebec Community Newspapers Association · Quebec Drama Federation · Quebec Farmers' Association · Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations · Quebec 4-H Association · Regional Association West Quebecers · Townshippers' Association · Voice of English-Speaking Quebec · Youth Employment Services

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# Message from the President



*Martin Murphy*

**T**his is our 10th anniversary. It is a joyous moment, a time for celebrating, and an occasion for looking back with satisfaction and pride.

We live in times when it sometimes seems that merely surviving is an accomplishment. However, what we celebrate now is far more positive. It is recognition of an example of enduring dedication and generosity.

We must remember the conditions which existed before we came together in 1995. We must be encouraged by the remarkable progress that has been made over the last 10 years.

Today, we see the enthusiastic commitment of support for the Community Development Plan and the Strategic Plan for the Quebec Community Groups Network, guiding its direction for the future according to its mission and mandate.

I believe the implementation of the proposed strategic objectives will position the QCGN to respond more effectively to emerging community development challenges and the needs and aspirations of the English-speaking population.

Peters and Waterman's "In Search of Excellence" advocates adherence to a few basic values which are part of the culture of all successful organizations. These include:

- A belief in being the "best"
- A belief in the importance of the details of execution
- A belief in the importance of people as individuals
- A belief in superior quality and service

Mindful of these imperatives, the degree of success we will achieve will depend in large measure on participative leadership and governance.

Join me in saluting those who have been part of the events which have made the QCGN what it is today. I look forward to another new beginning and a brighter, promising tomorrow.

*Martin P. Murphy, Ed.D., QCGN President*

# The QCGN at 10 years: Looking back and ahead



QCGN members visit the Magdalen Islands in 2001

Ten years have passed since more than a dozen community groups banded together to create the Quebec Community Groups Network. And as the story goes, it all began in the trunk of Hugh Maynard's car.

"It all started out of my laptop, I guess, travelling across the province in my car," remembers Maynard, the first chair of the QCGN who in the early days was also executive director of the Quebec Farmers' Association.

"When the QCGN opens an archive and museum, I will still have that laptop. But it really doesn't work anymore."

At the time the QCGN was formed in 1995, the English-speaking population was in rapid decline. A study by the Townshippers' Association found that 50 per cent of high school grads from the early 1970s had left the province by the early 1980s. At the same time, Anglophone immigration to Quebec from the rest of Canada and abroad had dropped off. Fears were being realized that the demographic decline was indeed jeopardizing English-language institutions and reducing the visibility and political weight of the Anglophone population.

Various groups across the province spoke for their own segments of the English-speaking population. There were groups for farmers, parents, actors, community media and general language rights in addition to the regional groups representing people from the Abitibi and Montreal to the Lower North Shore. But there was an independent spirit, and many groups operated with little contact with one another.

Besides language, they soon learned they had another thing in common. All were feeling the pinch of the federal government cut-backs on their funding. They began to realize that for the population to face challenges such as community development, education and health care, they needed to come together under one network.

"With the groups that formed the QCGN, the budget was going to be 10 per cent less than the last year. For all of the groups it was a hardship, but for the smaller groups it was a nail in the coffin," remembers Maynard.

Canadian Heritage proposed that the English-language organizations engage in a re-positioning exercise. In June 1994, a process was launched to figure out a better way to manage the money, priorities and administration of resources. By 1995, the QCGN was born.

"There were 15 groups around the table at the time," recalls Maynard, "And 13 decided to sign on. Everybody was to some extent concerned. Was their money going to be taken away? But in the end most of the groups saw this as a consensual process that we couldn't afford not to go ahead with."

Sharon McCully sat at the negotiating table on behalf of the Quebec Community Newspapers Association. She says even though some groups were cautious about the idea, they realized that they needed to get on board. "People realized that you have to be at the table. What all of the representatives of the various committees said is let's sit around the table and make this work. This was the first positive step," says McCully.

“ It all started out of my laptop, I guess, travelling across the province in my car.”

- Hugh Maynard

New office of Heritage Metis unveiled, soon to be known as Heritage Lower St. Lawrence, 2002





*Taking in the lobster catch during visit to Magdalen Islands in 2001.*

The QCGN's primary mandate at the beginning was to co-manage the Canada-Community Funding Agreement between the minority language groups in Quebec and Canadian Heritage's Support for Official Language Communities Program. Canadian Heritage had been encouraging the various groups in Quebec to join together. Finally, the government had one main organization it could deal with on funding issues for the Anglophone community in Quebec.

By November 1995, QCGN and Canadian Heritage signed the first framework agreement. Mary Farrell managed the Official Languages Program in Quebec at the time. "I think when we started developing some of the clauses in the agreement, we just found it convenient to call this grouping of people, the Quebec Community Groups Network. It evolved into a more structured group and took on a life of its own," says Farrell.

"It started out as purely an administrative relationship at the beginning, but it has evolved into this entity with whom the department has a regular, on-going dialogue and exchange on community issues."

A major milestone in the life of the QCGN came in 1999 with the negotiation of the second Canada-Community Agreement. With Martin Murphy as chief negotiator, the QCGN persuaded the government to increase funding by 50 per cent to just over \$3 million. The QCGN also managed to secure funding for itself, hire a staff and create a secretariat.



*The QCGN headed to St. Paul's River in 2000.*

Maynard says the signing of the second agreement proved to any doubters that the QCGN was a worthwhile organization that was here to stay.

"Personally I'm convinced that working together is better than working apart," says Maynard. "When you look at the negotiation of that agreement, it couldn't have been done if people weren't brought together."

Away from the board table, something magical began to happen in 1999. The QCGN managed to have a small surplus in its own budget. The board and staff decided to spend the extra money taking their meetings on the road.

For the next few years, the members met in communities many had never seen from the Lower North Shore and Gaspé to the Magdalen Islands, Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean and the Lower Saint Lawrence.

Richard Walling was the president of Voice of English-speaking Quebec at the time. "I think the QCGN, when I look back on it from that perspective, has played a tremendous and positive role in shifting the community and really at a certain level

“ It started out as purely an administrative relationship at the beginning, but it has evolved into this entity.”  
- Mary Farrell





*Members go sailing in New Carlisle, 2000*

helping the community to develop its capacity to truly understand itself and the challenges it faces,” says Walling.

In the years that followed, QCGN began to branch out from its early, administrative role. As individual community groups grew with more stable funding, they turned their sights to development of their own communities. The QCGN began to take on a greater role co-ordinating the groups in Quebec and acting as a liaison with other minority language groups across the country. The QCGN began to speak up for the English-speaking community in Quebec on key issues. The network began offering human resources assistance to help individual groups better manage their operations.

In 2001, the QCGN kicked off a project that would become one of its main achievements. In November of that year, the QCGN brought together community representatives from across the province for the first time in decades. The goal was to create a community-wide development plan that could guide and help improve the life of minority Anglophones in Quebec. At first known as the Global Development Plan, the project later became known as the Community Development Plan.

Over the next four years, consultations were held across the province with citizens, government officials and experts from various sectors including health, education, arts and employment.

According to the recently completed final report, the plan will enable English-speaking Quebecers to face modern challenges, take charge of their own development and define their modern identity within Quebec and Canada. More recently, the QCGN has begun a renewal process of its own. A strategic plan has been developed to determine how the organization can best serve the community, given the QCGN's ever-expanding role.

“Two of the greatest accomplishments are the production of a community development plan and the strategic plan,” says QCGN President Martin Murphy. “The strategic plan will guide us, and give us a vision and direction for the next five years.”

Richard Walling, who is now executive director of the Holland Centre in Quebec City, says the QCGN has become an integral part of the English-speaking community. “We really see an evolution of an organization that in one sense was forced to come together,” says Walling. “It has really matured beyond that, and it is looking to play a much greater role in supporting its members who deal with very complex issues.”

*Members pose in front of William Price Museum in Chicoutimi in 2003*



To address those issues, the QCGN has taken the leadership role in a new research agenda. Studies already done about the Anglophone population have been gathered. A soon-to-be-created research secretariat will promote more research into what is being called “anglo-Quebec studies.”

“I can't underestimate the value the QCGN has done in bringing together the different partners across the province to develop that sense of what our similarities are, and what our differences are, and how we address our needs in the long term,” says Walling.



*A young Highland dancer entertains members in Hull in 2001*

Education, health care services and dwindling populations will all be major challenges for the QCGN to address in the coming decade. Many people believe the key to tackling those issues is engaging young people. Recent studies by the Voice of English-speaking Quebec and Quebec 4-H Association have found that more and more young people are deciding to leave the province.

However, there are others who want to stick around. Many have indicated a willingness to help improve the lives of Anglophones in Quebec. Stephanie Maynard, who conducted the Quebec 4-H's youth focus groups, says organizations such as the QCGN must reach out to the youth. "The number one thing throughout all of our focus groups was the desire to continue to be involved," says 23-year-old Maynard.

"Youth have an unending amount of energy and enthusiasm. Communities need to start putting that valuable resource to good use." Her father Hugh Maynard, the first chair of the QCGN, says the English-speaking communities of Quebec are well equipped to face the future, together. "Where you come from is important," he says. "But the next stage is where are you going."

The QCGN moves into its next 10 years armed with its development and strategic plans. It will go into funding negotiations with the federal government not as the new kid on the block, but with years of experience. The member groups have become stronger, and they are addressing their common issues together.

President Martin Murphy hopes the co-operation shown between the QCGN and federal departments will secure more money for member groups in the coming years.

"In the next 10 years, I hope we can build on that relationship, where the federal government will provide the necessary support in order to ensure the survival of our English-speaking communities across Quebec," says Murphy.

And with the QCGN family nearly doubled to 24 members, Murphy expects big things for the QCGN's second decade. "Over time, as we get to know each other," he says, "We do appreciate the value of this family."

*Kim McNairn, Consultant*



Youth have an unending amount of energy and enthusiasm. Communities need to start putting that valuable resource to good use."

*- Stephanie Maynard*



*Members of Quebec's English-speaking community participate in meetings on the Action Plan for Official Languages in Ottawa in 2004.*

# Report from the Executive Director



Deborah Hook

The year 2005 marks the 10th year of operations for the Quebec Community Groups Network which was initially founded in 1995 to co-manage the Canada-Community Funding Agreement between the minority language groups in Quebec and Canadian Heritage's Support for Official Language Communities Program.

Since its creation, the QCGN's responsibilities have grown to include minority language community development in Quebec and working with other language minority groups across Canada. The QCGN has acted on behalf of English-speaking communities in Quebec with government and community stakeholders including the multi-cultural communities. The QCGN has assumed important responsibilities on behalf of English-speaking Quebecers.

After 10 years of operations, the QCGN leadership felt that it was important to undertake a strategic planning exercise to review the past performance, what we have achieved, and find out what course the QCGN should be on for the future. To do that, we asked for input from our members, community stakeholders, government partners, the English-speaking communities at-large and Francophone colleagues in Quebec and Canada.

In this past year, the QCGN has also completed the multi-year project to establish a Community Development Plan, which is a framework for community development throughout the English-speaking communities of Quebec.

As the implementation of the Action Plan for Official Languages nears mid-point, the QCGN remains an important partner of the Government of Canada to ensure that the Plan achieves the intended results for communities in Quebec.

Other QCGN programs and initiatives included managing the Health and Social Services for Networking and Partnership Initiatives (HSSNPI), co-hosting the first annual Multidisciplinary Research Conference, supporting the Quebec Anglo Community Radio report on activities and results for 2004-2005, and supporting the first Quebec Arts Forum for the English-speaking communities.

Finally, the QCGN was present on the provincial scene in 2004-2005 as it was invited to participate in the *Forum des Générations sur l'état des finances publiques et les changements démographiques*. The QCGN was also active on the federal scene with presentations to the House of Commons Standing Committee and to different federal departments. Representatives of QCGN members participated on several national committees dealing with Official Languages.

## Strategic Planning

Since November 2004, the QCGN has been involved in an in-depth strategic planning exercise to establish its future direction over the next five years. The QCGN decided to review its current strategic orientation to ensure that it is aligned with and responsive to the expectations of its members, community and stakeholders to position itself to continue to effectively play a vital and valuable role in the ongoing development of Quebec's minority language communities.

The QCGN Strategic Planning Group, composed of volunteers and staff, explored a number of issues about the future of the QCGN with over 75 representatives of member organizations, community leaders, Government of Canada officials and other stakeholders. Issues discussed included the current and future organizational

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### A decade of making a difference

"The QCGN has really helped me with training. I also appreciate the integration with the other groups. We can learn from them."

Kim Harrison, CASA

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The QCGN has assumed important responsibilities on behalf of the English-speaking community in Quebec.

constituency, needs identification and expectations, key results and activities to be pursued and organizational impacts of all of these considerations on the QCGN.

Input from this consultation has been very revealing with comments such as: “The QCGN has evolved rapidly over the last five years and consolidated itself as an organizational network that has built confidence and trust among members.” Comments about the broad community noted that there are many English-speaking communities in Quebec, not just one. Increasingly, the issues are not perceived to be so much about language per se but more about local and regional community identification and development.

Other issues include community collaboration across the province in specific sectors and enhancing relations between the English-speaking minority and the Francophone majority. Many saw a need to broaden the QCGN beyond the group of organizations receiving funding under the Canadian Heritage agreement (the current requirement for membership). Finally, there was wide agreement that knowledge development, evidenced-based community development, policy development and organizational and professional development were vital areas for QCGN consideration and action in the years to come.

This exercise will result in a QCGN Five-Year Results-Based Strategic Plan to identify and respond to the needs of our communities, provide effective leadership, programs and service and be structured to operate effectively and efficiently.

The Volunteer Planning Group worked very hard to produce a quality plan that will bring great benefit to the members of the QCGN and ultimately English-speaking Quebecers.

## Community Development Plan

In 2004-2005, the QCGN undertook Phase III of the Community Development Planning Process for the English-speaking communities of Quebec. (Note that the community representatives felt that the name Community Development Plan better described the plan rather than the former name, the Global Development Plan. The name was changed accordingly.)

This comprehensive process, which began in November 2001, has been built through consultation. It has brought together representatives from English-speaking communities from across the province for the first time in decades. It is an opportunity for the English-speaking communities of Quebec to take charge of their current stage of development and identity within Quebec and Canada.

The Community Development Plan is the result of an ongoing process of consultation and validation that began in 2002 when we brought together task forces to identify development strategies in eight priority sectors: arts and culture, education, employment, health and social services, heritage, media, visibility and leadership, and youth. Representatives from ethno-cultural communities in Montreal suggested that work also be done in the justice sector. Experts and community leaders in each sector then came together in 2003 to define a common community vision and priorities.

In the Fall, the QCGN took the draft plan to 21 communities across the province for feedback. This consultation took the form of town hall meetings. The first one was held in Métis-sur-Mèr on September 1 and the last in Beaconsfield on November 30. Several days later, on December 6, we invited leaders from Montreal's ethno-cultural

The Community Development Plan is required for greater unity. Communities are strengthened when they work together.

organizations for a full day review of the plan. The QCGN also presented the plan to the Community Table.

The Community Development Plan is required for greater unity. Communities are strengthened when they work together. This plan should also help the English-speaking community better participate in decision-making in Quebec and Canada, serving as a guide to assist community development. As we look towards the future, the plan will help the community determine its priorities and development strategies for the next five years. Special thanks to all those volunteers who participated in this comprehensive exercise, particularly the task force chairs including Hugh Maynard (Past Chair) and Karl McKay (Chair). Also, an A+ to Susan Grundy and Hugh Maynard, the project consultants who guided us from beginning to end.

## Health and Social Services Networking and Partnership Initiative

This was the first full year of activities within the HSSNPI program which is funded by Health Canada as of the Government Action Plan. The program, which is now fully operational, supports a provincial network, a sector network and eight local and regional networks as they build partnerships with provincial regional planning authorities and service providers. The objective of HSSNPI program is to enable Anglophone communities deliver more responsive and efficient services to their populations and make important differences in isolated and vulnerable communities.

Further information about this very important undertaking is found in the HSSNPI Report and on the QCGN web site. Thanks to the Volunteer Committee of Sheilagh Murphy, Anne Usher and Robert Pincott for their invaluable expertise and hours spent ensuring the successful implementation of this program.

## Research Conference

On February 25 and 26, the first multidisciplinary Research Conference on the English-speaking minority of Quebec was held at the *Université du Québec à Montréal* (UQAM) at the invitation of the Concordia-UQAM Chair for Ethnic Studies and Richard Bourhis. The conference proved to be a great success, thanks to the invaluable support by Dr. Bourhis, William Floch and Dr. Rodrigue Landry in organizing the event which received financial assistance from Canadian Heritage, the Canadian Institute for research on Linguistic minorities and Quebec's Ministry of Education.

Close to 100 participants, including researchers, community organizers and government representatives took part. They heard presentations by academic researchers from the Anglophone and Francophone communities, in addition to talks by community leaders and government representatives. Topics provided a general overview of existing research concerning the English communities of Quebec and identified important research themes for the future conferences.

The wide range of speakers generated serious and light-hearted discussion between English-speaking leaders involved in community development and researchers from the academic world about the important role of research in shaping the English-speaking community. André Pratte, chief editorialist at *La Presse*, opened the conference by explaining that even after 40 years of living together, Quebec Francophones and Anglophones still don't understand each other. He suggested a renewed dialogue based on reality and the critical issues facing both groups. Josh Freed, noted humourist and contributor to *The Montreal Gazette*, closed the

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### A decade of making a difference

"I can't underestimate the value the QCGN has done in bringing together the different partners across the province to develop that sense of what our similarities... and our differences."

Richard Walling,  
Holland Centre

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*Deborah Hook with Official Languages  
Commissioner Dyane Adam*

conference by noting the changes that the Anglophone population has undergone and how well the “nouveau Anglo” fits right into the Quebec landscape.

At the conclusion of the conference, the QCGN was given the mandate by all those present to bring together researchers and community and work to establish a research network and multi-year research plan that will support knowledge development and create and maintain an up-to-date knowledge base on the English-speaking communities of Quebec.

## Implementation of the Government Action Plan

In 2004-2005, the QCGN has participated actively in the consultations concerning the implementation of the Official Languages Action Plan by the Government of Canada.

At the Second Ministerial Consultation in Ottawa in October, QCGN President Martin Murphy reviewed the results that have benefited the minority English-speaking population of Quebec. He also reminded the other Ministers involved in the plan that they must respond to the particular needs of our communities. QCGN members continue to work with government officials in consultations and meetings to monitor progress, give constructive input and build strong partnerships with the many different departments involved in the Action Plan.

## Deliberative Dialogue

QCGN members participated in two Deliberative Dialogue sessions with Canadian Heritage: one for urban communities and one for rural communities. This exercise brought community representatives together with department officials to discuss the relationship between Canadian Heritage and the English-speaking communities of Quebec. The goal was to explore new models and mechanisms for cooperation which could form the basis of future agreements to support linguistic minority communities.

Certain conclusions were noted, in particular the importance of flexibility with regard to differences in organizational capacities in the rural areas compared to urban areas. Community participants stressed the need for communities to set their own priorities. Canadian Heritage was committed to developing a renewed vision for cooperation.

## Community activities and development

QCGN support in several sectors resulted in exciting results for the English-speaking communities in Quebec. This included support for the Arts Summit in Montreal in November 2004, which led to the creation of the English Language Arts Network of Quebec (ELAN). This new network brings together Anglophone artists from all disciplines (writers, publishers, musicians, actors, directors, filmmakers, dancers, and visual and media artists). Check out their web site at [www.quebec-elan.org](http://www.quebec-elan.org).

The QCGN was also involved in the production of a report on the Quebec Anglo Community Radio Activity and Results Report. The activities carried out in 2004-2005 primarily followed up on a previous assessment and activity plan created two years earlier. This plan emphasized supporting development of existing radio stations in addition to helping them seek out other sources of funding for technical improvements,

QCGN Members continue to work with government officials... to build strong partnerships with the many different departments involved in the Action Plan.



*Minister Reponsible for Official Languages Mauril Bélanger meets QCGN officials and local community leaders in Quebec City in 2005.*

marketing and human resources. The report also examines the potential for community radio activities in under-served areas. Professional development sessions have also been held to bring people from the radio stations in contact with professionals via teleconferencing. The initiative is also examining possible areas of collaboration with the CBC, the Community Table and other organizations. The full report can be found on the QCGN web site at [www.qcgn.ca](http://www.qcgn.ca).

## Committees and presentations

Participation by representatives of QCGN members and community leaders in various national Canadian committees dealing with official languages has been effective.

Sincere thanks to Sharon McCully, the Co-chair of the National Cooperation Committee (Canadian Heritage and the English-speaking communities), who has been adamant that this committee would produce tangible results for the community. She is helping to keep the committee focused on important issues. The QCGN is also a member of the federal Justice Department's advisory committees which deals with access to justice and the implementation of Part VII of the Official Languages Act by the department. The committee and its work promise to be worthwhile and bring real benefits to English-speaking communities in Quebec.

Finally, the Consultative Committee for English-speaking Minority Communities, co-chaired by Eric Maldoff and Marcel Nouvet, has provided advice and recommendations on ways of improving the access to health and social services in English.

## Final thoughts and appreciation

Many thanks to all members of these important committees. Your contribution to the well-being of English-speaking Quebecers is invaluable and much appreciated.

QCGN representatives were invited to make several presentations over the course of the year about diverse subjects such as participation in the federal public service, access to justice in English in Quebec and the changing characteristics of the English-speaking communities of Quebec.

Finally, no executive director's report would be complete with a sincere thanks to those who make it all worthwhile! Genuine thanks to QCGN President Martin Murphy for his friendship and leadership. Thanks also to the Executive: Karl McKay, Peter Riordon, Helen Walling and Peter Quilliams. Thank you to the officials in the various government departments with whom we work. Your dedication and energy to support the official language minority communities is noted and appreciated. Thanks to Canadian Heritage for the financial support to complete both the Community Development Plan and the QCGN Five-Year Results-based Strategic Plan.

Finally, a special thank you to Denise Giguère, QCGN Operations Manager, who has grown to become an invaluable asset to the team, and to Sandra Vallée, QCGN Executive Secretary, who is always ready to do what it takes to get the job done. Thanks to all the QCGN members, collaborators and partners. It has been an exciting and fruitful year!

*Deborah Hook, QCGN Executive Director*

Thanks to all the QCGN members, collaborators and partners. It has been an exciting and fruitful year!



# President's report highlighting QCGN activities

The 2004-2005 year was a busy one for the QCGN. Here are some selected events over the past year to mark the progress of the organization.

- July
- Meeting in Montreal initiated by QCGN consulting representatives of the ethno-cultural communities for input to Community Development Plan
  - Meeting with Assistant Deputy Minister for the English Community (Education) Noel Burke regarding learning centres
- August
- Attended *Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada* AGM in Halifax
- September
- Attended consultation workshop organized by HRSDC to produce a program design options paper defining models of horizontal program delivery
  - Attended meeting with executive director with Commissioner of Official Languages Dyane Adam in Ottawa regarding her annual report to Parliament
  - Attended meeting with Hubert Lussier, Director General of Canadian Heritage
  - Attended meeting with executive director with Mauril Bélanger, Minister Responsible for Official Languages, in Ottawa
- October
- Participated in the *Forum des Générations* in St. Augustin to address the challenges of public finance and demographic changes
  - QCGN presentation at the Second Ministerial Consultations in Ottawa, Oct. 27, chaired by Minister Responsible for Official Languages Mauril Belanger
  - Deliberative Dialogue: Consultation to reinforce collaboration between Canadian Heritage and community development architects as well as to explore the basis of an eventual collaboration framework
- November
- Met with officials in Office of Commissioner of Official Languages (Quebec Region)
  - Attended meeting in Montreal on Deliberative Dialogue with representatives of the greater Montreal region (see reference in October section)
  - Attended meeting at McGill University on launch by the Commissioner of Official Languages Dyane Adam of the study "Going Forward: The Evolution of Quebec's English-speaking Community" by Jack Jedwab
  - Public consultation at Concordia University to validate a Community Development Plan for the English-speaking population of Quebec
  - Attended National QCGN/PCH Committee meeting in Gatineau with the mandate to work together to orient the policies, programs and services of Canadian Heritage in order to support the development of Quebec's English-speaking community
  - Attended meeting of Community Table regarding Community Development Plan
  - Attended meeting in Montreal's west island on Community Development Plan
- December
- Meeting organized by QCGN with leaders of the ethno-cultural communities
  - QCGN presentation to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Official Languages
  - Conference call with Diana Monnet regarding Official Languages Communications and Services to the Public Regulations
- January
- Meeting with ELAN, the English Language Arts Network
  - Meeting with Associate Deputy Minister for the English community

*Continued on bottom of page 14*

# Quebec Anglo Community Radio

## There are six English-language community radio stations in Quebec

- CHIP-FM Fort Coulonge
- CFBS-FM Blanc Sablon
- CJAS-FM St. Augustine
- CFTH-FM Harrington Harbour
- CJMQ-FM Lennoxville
- CIDI-FM Knowlton (coming soon)

The resumption of funding for the Quebec Anglo Community Radio (QACR) project in mid-year allowed for numerous accomplishments during the period of activity.

The most important accomplishment was the submission of a program funding application that will allow QACR to become a fully-fledged organization in the service of building capacity for community radio stations and their communities. A network agreement was also launched between the stations on the Lower North Shore, which will provide the basis for more improved and efficient programming.

The concept of micro-radio stations and the application of the latest information technologies have struck a chord in regional communities and promises to provide an innovative way to link stations and engage local communities in radio programming. The first step in this type of linkage could start in 2005 the implementation of high-speed Internet at the Lower North Shore stations.

The “Fone-in” teleconferencing sessions provided much needed contact among the different community radio stations, as well as offering good information to improve station management and operations. Plans were laid for the 2005 Forum in Sept-Isles which will further build upon the momentum from the founding of QACR and the Fone-in sessions.

Finally, the benefits of partnership will start to become evident with the formalization of partnership arrangements with the CBC to provide program material for the Outaouais region in collaboration with CHIP-FM in Fort Coulonge, as well as infrastructure support for community radio activities. Other collaborative initiatives were established with the *Association des radio-diffuseurs communautaire du Québec* (ARCQ), and the *Conseil régional de la culture et des communications de la Côte-Nord* (CRCC).

*Hugh Maynard, Consultant*

## President’s Report on Highlights of QCGN Activities (continued from page 14)

### February

- Meeting with Quebec representative of the Office of Commissioner of Official Languages
- Meeting with Canadian Heritage Regional Director Marc Lemay
- Presentation to Forum 2005 on Linguistic Duality - Equitable Participation in the federal public service in Quebec from a community perspective in Montreal
- Research Conference on the English-speaking communities of Quebec in Montreal
- Presentation to 2005 Joint Conference of the Public Service Human Resources Management Agency of Canada, the Council of the Network of Departmental Official Languages Champions and the Crown Corporations representatives, in Ottawa

### March

- Meeting in Quebec City with Mauril Bélanger, Minister Responsible for Official Languages and Director General, and Anne Scotton, Director General for Official Languages - Privy Council, regarding feedback on Government Action Plan
- Presentation to Industry Canada with regional development agencies, in Ottawa

### April

- Welcomed Megantic English-speaking Community Development Corporation to QCGN
- Attended Community Mapping and Evidence-based workshops in Montreal

### May

- Meeting with Canadian Heritage Minister Liza Frulla in Ottawa
- Meeting with Hubert Lussier, Canadian Heritage director general, and Anne Scotton, Director General, Official Languages - Privy council

The QCGN recognizes that that the time has come to review its strategic orientation in order to ensure that it is aligned with and responsive to the expectations of its members, community and stakeholders.

The QCGN was founded in 1995 to co-manage the Canada-Community Funding Agreement between the minority language groups in Quebec and Canadian Heritage's Official Language Community Organizations and Institutions Program.

Since its creation, the QCGN's responsibilities have expanded significantly. It coordinates minority language groups in Quebec, acts as a liaison with other language minority groups across Canada and does extensive promotional and representational work with all levels of government and community stakeholders. The QCGN has also begun to offer members organizational and human resource skills development. In addition, the network has become heavily involved in community research planning and development.

This has resulted in the QCGN assuming important responsibilities including leading the English-speaking community's participation in renewal of the Government of Canada official languages policies and programs. The QCGN recognizes that that the time has come to review its strategic orientation in order to ensure that it is aligned with and responsive to the expectations of its members, community and stakeholders.

In October 2004, the Board of Directors of the QCGN struck a Strategic Planning Group whose active members have been Deborah Hook, Donna Norris, Jane Needles, Jim Carter, Karl McKay, Peter Quilliams and Robert Donnelly. Kevin Saville of the consulting firm Sussex Circle has been project leader with help from his project associate Nigel Chippindale. The overall purpose of the 2004 strategic planning process is to validate, clarify, and update the QCGN's:

- Purpose, goals and objectives
- Key Results
- Governance and management requirements
- Essential strategies and action plan
- Financial and human resource requirements
- Evaluation methods

The group's mandate is to craft and present a Final Strategic Options Report to QCGN Board of Directors, along with an action plan for 2005-2008. Our final act will be to submit the report to the QCGN Board of Directors for final approval at the Annual General Meeting in May 2005. The objective is to revisit the basic roots of the association, to determine where we are, where we want to go and how we are going to get there.

The plan will benefit the community by providing a clear vision of what the QCGN is and what it can do. It will benefit associations by giving a clear vision to guide the QCGN in all of its activities. The plan also allows those associations to focus their energies and resources on priorities in their communities. The plan also offers the QCGN Board of Directors with they need to determine which issues are priorities and which ones the QCGN can address given available resources.

The rational for these changes enables a renewed QCGN to be, and be perceived to be, an autonomous organization that has an identified, community-based constituency. By being responsive to a more inclusive membership, the QCGN needs to position itself as an enabler, supporting its members in their common desire to work together to serve Quebec's English-speaking community.

*Peter Quilliams, Chair*

# Report on the Community Development Plan



Susan Grundy at CDP consultation,  
Photo by David Wright

The English-speaking population of Quebec has made huge adjustments in response to the profound social, economic and political changes that have taken place in Quebec society over the last 40 years. The change has left these communities in a reactive, quiet and even passive mode.

Yet, the English-speaking communities in this province continue to show a desire to make a place for themselves within the post-Quiet Revolution society of Quebec.

In doing so, they face the challenges of a falling birth rate, continued out-migration and social policies that severely limit the prospects of renewal from immigration.

The Community Development Plan, organized through QCGN and supported financially by Canadian Heritage, will enable English-speaking Quebecers to face these challenges, take charge of their development and define their modern identity within Quebec and Canada. The plan sets out a community vision supported by development strategies with the aim, starting in 2005, of ensuring that the English-speaking minority remains a strong, healthy and dynamic player contributing to Quebec's future.

## How the Plan was developed

Since November 2001, the development plan has been built on consultation with members of the English-speaking communities from across the province. Key to this process was the volunteer effort of the Steering Committee and 80 task force members representing eight sectors: visibility and leadership, youth, education and life-long learning, health and social services, employment, arts and culture, heritage and media. Consultation with ethno-cultural communities indicated that justice should be considered as a ninth sector.

At the Intersectoral Conference in May 2003, the task forces shared their visions and priorities with the aim to build a community-wide development plan. In the Fall of 2004, this plan was presented to English-speaking communities across the province.

The development plan is built on four cornerstones. Who is the English-speaking community? Where does the community see itself in the future? What are the main strategies needed to succeed in development? What action can be taken in each sector?

## Why we need a development plan

The Francophone community, despite its majority status in Quebec and protective language measures brought about through Bill 101, continue to look at the English-speaking community as a privileged and threatening (not threatened) minority. The focus of the Francophone community has been on the English language, not community vitality. The time has come for the English-speaking communities to set their own course.

The development plan for the English-speaking communities of Quebec is a guide to the future. The term guide is important since no one document can serve as everything for everybody. The plan is a starting point. It can apply and is adaptable to the efforts of individuals, organizations and institutions.

The plan will help to establish a dialogue with the Francophone community to reassure



## What's next for the Community Development Plan?

The plan sets out a vision supported by development strategies with the aim, starting in 2005, of ensuring that the English-speaking minority remains strong, healthy and a dynamic player contributing to Quebec's future.

that enhancing the vitality of the English-speaking minority communities is not a threat to the French language and culture in Quebec. By providing the majority community with essential information about the English-speaking communities, needs can be accommodated in the process of developing policy and programs - and not after the fact.

The plan provides a road map for action, and it is a basis for communities across Quebec to speak with one clear voice.

## Where does the community see itself in the future?

The starting point for development is the vision. The development plan presents the following community vision:

The English-speaking communities of Quebec choose to flourish in all aspects of Quebec society in all regions and sectors. The vitality of the communities will be strengthened by the engagement of their youth and their evolving cultural diversity and heritage.

The community thrives on networks and institutions that are accessible and provide support to English-speakers in the sectors of health care, education and life-long learning, employment, justice, heritage, arts and all other aspects of community development. The English-speaking communities need to be active participants in the social, economic and political life of Quebec and Canada.

## Main Development Strategies

Development of the English-speaking communities of Quebec between 2005-2010 is articulated around seven main strategies which are interconnected and overlapping:

- Build and promote a sense of cultural identity
- Strengthen visibility and participation in Quebec society
- Secure a future for English-speaking youth in Quebec
- Encourage greater dialogue within the English-speaking communities and the larger community (communications and networking)
- Provide greater access to services and programs
- Promote bilingualism
- Empower the community through research and knowledge

## Key milestones of 2004-2005

- Steering Committee prepares public consultation process
- Twenty-one public meetings held across the province to discuss community vision, development priorities and local concerns
- Second meeting with ethno-cultural community leaders to discuss sector plans
- Presentation of the development plan to the Community Table
- Development plan adjusted to reflect results of the consultations

*Excerpt from the Community Development Plan*

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## A decade of making a difference

The QCGN has been a great help in giving us heads up on important initiatives that have an impact on our English-speaking community in the Townships and on the communities across Quebec as a whole, and then advice about how to effectively respond to them.

Rachel Garber,  
Townshippers' Association

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# Health and Social Services Network Partnership Initiative



*Focus group participants helped the Townshippers' Association define the region's health care needs, Photo courtesy of Townshippers' Association*

**T**he Health and Social Services Networking and Partnership Initiative (HSSNPI) is designed to fund the development of provincial, regional and local networks within English-speaking communities across Quebec. These networks seek to help communities by enhancing access to health and social services in English.

The HSSNPI is supported by Health Canada's Contribution Program to Improve Access to Health Services for Official Language Minority Communities. The HSSNPI has received a five-year funding commitment valued at about \$4.3 million.

In 2004-2005, HSSNPI shifted into full gear. The Volunteer Committee, which is mandated by the QCGN to oversee the management of the program, received and analyzed 28 funding applications. It chose 10 successful candidates.

In this first comprehensive selection process, the Volunteer Committee respected the program's performance indicators which required that seven to 10 regional-local and/or sector groups be funded to create health and social service networks. Also, half of the selected organizations have to be from more isolated, demographically weak communities.

During 2004-2005, selected participants focused their efforts on launching their individual projects and getting on their organizational feet. Specifically, these participants have initiated the development of their respective network units by:

- Establishing steering committees and recruiting committed and knowledgeable community and public sector leaders
- Developing localized and sector knowledge bases
- Reviewing data and information related to health and social service needs in their respective communities
- Building and validating their work plans for 2004-2005 based upon available evidence
- Hiring and putting in place coordinators for their projects
- Planning their first communication activities
- Designing and pursuing community-based health and social services activities in the areas of seniors, youth, mental health, etc.

The HSSNPI, via its provincial network, also pursued the development of extensive support services to assist HSSNPI participants in developing their approaches to improving access to health and social services in their respective communities.

**There are eight regional and local networks, one sector network and a provincial network.**

- Community Health and Social Services Network (Provincial network)
- Catholic Community Services
- Coasters Association
- Council for Anglophone Magdalen Islanders
- Fraser Recovery Program
- Megantic English-speaking Community Development Corp.
- Townshippers' Association Estrie
- Townshippers' Association Montérégie
- Vision Gaspé Percé Now
- Regional Association of West Quebecers

Some of the provincial network's activities included:

- Developing knowledge tools and evidenced-based planning approaches
- Helping participants understand, analyze and use a wide variety of data and information regarding demographics and health determinants
- Updating the 2003-2004 Baseline Data Report
- Participating in activities with the Moncton Institute for Official Language Minorities
- Creating the Virtual Private Network (VPN) which shares data between the provincial network, McGill University, Canadian Heritage and the Moncton Institute
- Launching its Community Support Program
- Providing general information and assistance
- Identifying a lead member of its community support team to work with each HSSNPI participant on an individual basis
- Supplying individualized coaching support and advice
- Visiting each HSSNPI participant to provide advice on project development
- Holding a very successful HSSNPI retreat in Quebec City in November 2004 to
- Introducing HSSNPI participants to each other and reviewing their projects
- Discussing issues related to the program's results-based management approach
- Answering participant questions regarding the initiation of their projects, support services and the administration of the HSSNPI

In addition to these activities the provincial network also participated in a variety of federal and provincial advisory structures to ensure that English-speaking community priorities in the areas of health and social services are taken into consideration.

## Conclusion

In 2004-2005, the HSSNPI completed its first comprehensive funding process resulting in the selection of 10 participants. Fifty per cent of funded organizations are from more isolated, demographically weak communities.

The program initiated the development of regional and local networks composed of community and public sector representatives. It also began a regional, local and sector process to understand community health and social service needs and align planning with the needs of communities being served.

HSSNPI established effective evidenced-based and community support programs. It provided sustained interaction between the provincial network and regional/local network developers.

In addition, English-speaking communities in Quebec are more informed of the HSSNPI as a result of publicity campaigns, web sites, community consultations and networking activities.

In 2004-2005, the HSSNPI established a solid foundation upon which to build. Progress is very encouraging and the program has positioned itself to successfully generate its intended five-year results.

# Research Capacity Report



Conference participants Marie-Odile Magnan (left) and Madeleine Gauthier, Observatoire Jeunes et Société, INRS Urbanisation, Culture et Société

The research capacity project has taken an exciting turn this year with the QCGN moving a few steps closer to its vision of a secretariat dedicated to anglo-Quebec studies.

In 2003-04, the QCGN carried out its first research capacity project. With the assistance of consultant Lorraine O'Donnell, the QCGN defined what it meant by "research capacity," a flexible and wide-ranging concept involving everything from developing a base of existing research, fostering new partnerships, promoting research by outside sources, encouraging communities to get involved, and improving how the research is gathered, documented, and shared.

The QCGN then prepared a preliminary inventory of researchers working on the topic of Quebec's English speakers. It surveyed QCGN's member organizations to determine their research capacities and needs. The QCGN also organized a roundtable on the subject held on May 11, 2004.

The 30 members of the roundtable proposed that a research secretariat be created to study, what the roundtable referred to, as anglo-Quebec studies. Consultant Lorraine O'Donnell also proposed that the QCGN build a research base and encourage communities to become involved in research that affects them. The report was adopted by the QCGN in June. In 2004-05, the QCGN followed up on the recommendations with some very productive and positive results.

Professor Richard Bourhis of the *Université de Québec à Montréal* offered to host a conference dedicated to research on English-speaking Quebec. This conference, held on February 25-26 at UQAM brought together academic and professional researchers, representatives of community groups, Quebec English-speakers and others interested in anglo-Quebec studies.

The conference was a wonderful success. It was organized into three symposia addressing demolinguistic trends and evolving identities, territorial identity (a sense of place) and institutions and services. During each symposium, academic researchers presented scholarly papers, O'Donnell provided an overview of the literature, and a community respondent weighed in. Even in its structure, the conference effectively addressed one of the main research capacity development priorities identified by the QCGN: fostering networks and partnerships.

The conference was a collaborative effort resulting from a partnership of the QCGN, UQAM, Canadian Heritage and the Canadian Institute for Research on Linguistic Minorities. This landmark conference allowed its many participants to get to know one another, and get a much deeper understanding of research on Quebec's English-speakers.

Participants left with a sense there is much more to be done. They agreed on the need for a research secretariat and a research agenda. With support of the participants, the QCGN agreed to take a leadership role in the coming months in developing the secretariat. A steering committee will be set up, funding sought and the results communicated back to interested parties.

Professor Bourhis will also publish the conference proceedings as one of the *cahiers* of the Concordia-UQAM Chair in Ethnic Studies. The QCGN has begun the initial steps required to developing both an online and an on-site document centre for research on Quebec's English-speaking communities.

*Lorraine O'Donnell, Consultant*



The Quebec Arts Summit (Nov. 25-27, 2004) brought together English-speaking artists from all disciplines including writers, publishers, musicians, actors, filmmakers, dancers, visual and media artists. The Summit clearly demonstrated that the English-language community in Quebec actually consists of many communities fragmented by interest or isolated by geography. The consensus of the Quebec Arts Summit was that establishing an English Language Arts Network (ELAN) would benefit English-speaking artists in a number of ways.

ELAN raises the blinds on a community that has traditionally suffered from a double level of invisibility. The reason we are overlooked is not difficult to understand. Quebec is officially a French-speaking province with a lively Francophone culture. When Canadian presenters, producers, festival artistic directors and conference organizers decide to include a Quebec artist, they invariably think of French-language artists. Meanwhile, Quebec presenters, producers, festival artistic directors and conference organizers tend to overlook English-speaking artists, thinking they are more at home in English Canada.

A generation ago, the obvious solution was to leave Quebec and so we lost artists like Leonard Cohen, Mordecai Richler, Oscar Peterson, William Shatner and Christopher Plummer. A new generation of artists born in Quebec, or drawn here by its dynamic cultural life, is determined to break the old patterns of isolation, fragmentation and invisibility. In recent years, the English-speaking and French-speaking populations have shown an increasing interest in local English-speaking artists.

Last fall David Solway became the first English-speaking writer ever to receive *Le Grand Prix de Montréal*. The view had long been held in the literary community that no Anglophone writer would ever be awarded this prestigious prize, so David's win was cause for a double celebration. Then in February 2005, filmmaker Jeremy Peter Allen was invited to open the *Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois* with his English-language film, *Manners of Dying*. That was another noteworthy first.

In April 2005, Jeffery Moore won the 2005 Canadian Authors Association award for his novel, *The Memory Artist*. English-language culture in Quebec is also of increasing interest beyond our borders. In January 2005, both Spin Magazine and the New York Times reported that the coolest music in North America is being made by English bands from Montreal.

ELAN is determined to strengthen the sense of community and belonging among the many artists who have chosen to live and work in Quebec. Those who work in theatre and literature are already well organized thanks to the Quebec Drama Federation and the Quebec Writers' Federation. Visual artists, dancers and musicians are less well served. We are reaching them through individual galleries, studios, art schools and alumni associations. We are also making contacts with the education sector and other community partners to create a true network for the exchange of information and collaborations.

Major plans are underway to develop ELAN'S web site to provide an event calendar which will become the reference point for information about English-language culture in all regions and all disciplines. We have reached an agreement with [culturescope.ca](http://culturescope.ca) to host a community forum and bulletin board service to permit the exchange of expertise, resources and ideas.

ELAN is only a few months old but the community has shown it is keen to build a network that can break down the old fragmentation, isolation and invisibility.

Guy Rodgers, ELAN Committee

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## A decade of making a difference

"QCGN has been instrumental in helping the English-language arts community get organized during the past few years. From the earliest stages of IPOLC discussions, through to the organization of the Quebec Arts Summit and the creation of ELAN, QCGN has been a valuable ally."

Guy Rodgers, ELAN

# Community Mapping and Evidence-based Planning

One participant said the training will help her make a more convincing pitch for projects and funding.

Members of the QCGN are continually working to address the concerns of people in their communities. A new training project is helping many groups do it better.

On April 25 and 26, 2005, member groups of the QCGN met at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel in Montreal to receive training in community mapping and evidence-based planning.

The training challenged participants to dig deeper into the needs, resources, studies and statistics about the people they serve. The session also gave the participants some new skills to design relevant and responsive strategies for their communities based on hard evidence.

Consultant Kevin Saville gave each participant homework before, during and after the intensive two-day session.

The second day of training was devoted to the presentation of a case study of the development of the Holland Day Centres in the Quebec City area by Holland Centre Executive Director Richard Walling. It was a clear, step-by-step example of exactly why and how to use evidence-based planning to successfully provide for a community need.

Participant Eunice de Gruchy from the Quebec Association for Adult Learning says all participants worked very hard during these workshops.

She says the result will be more effective planning to achieve goals, serve members more effectively, and ultimately benefit the minority English-speaking people of Quebec.

Participant Kim Harrison from the Committee for Anglophone Social Action in New Carlisle says the training helped her realize that you can't do anything without having all the facts to back up your position.

She says the training will help her plan for the future in addition to helping her make a more convincing pitch for projects and funding.

*Eunice de Gruchy, Participant*

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## A decade of making a difference

As the newest member of the QCGN, Megantic English-speaking Community Development Corporation congratulates you on your 10th anniversary for your dedicated work and tireless effort given to the English-speaking communities. The MCDC shares the vision of working together for vibrant communities and for our regions to become the place our youth will call home.

Ann Marie Powell  
MCDC

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It was decided by both community and government partners that youth must take the leading role in determining the issues they deemed important.

The Canadian Heritage and Quebec Anglophone Community Co-ordination Committee brings together key members of the English-speaking community with government departments responsible for minority languages.

Although the committee meets only twice a year and has had a different government co-chair each time, the meetings have delivered positive results.

Each co-chair has proved to be a champion of Quebec's minority language community and committed to marrying government and community resources to advance the interests of English-speaking Quebecers.

The introductory meeting of the co-ordination committee held in the fall of 2004 painted a portrait of the community in broad strokes. The meeting highlighted some specific areas of concern such as arts, communication and youth which were also identified in the QCGN Community Development Plan.

Government representatives responded by identifying programs, resources and bureaucrats to help address some of those needs. More comprehensive research and statistical information on the areas of concern were brought forward at the next meeting to lay the groundwork for action.

By the second meeting in November 2004, meetings between representatives of the artistic community and Canadian Heritage had already taken place, and plans were underway to hold a three-day arts summit in Montreal.

Building on information gathered through QCGN's province-wide consultations, the idea for a summit germinated in less than 10 weeks with 100 delegates from across the province meeting to discuss every dimension of culture, with a particular emphasis on far-flung regions where access is often hampered by geography and a lack of cultural infrastructure.

Delegates left the summit with the long-term goal of forming a representative group to encompass all of the arts and to work closely with government partners and French-speaking groups where common interests can be shared.

The national co-ordination committee decided for its third meeting to focus on youth - a critical component within the English-speaking community. After an intensive brainstorming session, the committee agreed on a two-pronged strategy: to deal with issues of youth education, employment and exodus; and to examine youth empowerment and leadership issues.

It was decided by both community and government partners that youth must take the leading role in determining the issues they deemed important. Since no single voice or entity represents Quebec Anglophone youth, the Quebec 4-H Association was tasked with consulting English-speaking youth in communities throughout Quebec with the view of holding a youth summit.

A late May meeting of the co-ordination committee will hear results of the youth consultation and discuss plans for a province-wide youth summit.

*Sharon McCully, Co-chair*

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## A decade of making a difference

The QCGN has become an increasingly effective voice for the English-speaking communities in Quebec, making interventions to both the federal and provincial governments that are based on solid research and democratic consultations with various community groups. Its ear is to the ground, its heart is in the community, and its voice is gaining strength! The QCGN has a vital role to play in enabling our communities to become more active participants in the Quebec of tomorrow.

Rachel Garber,  
Townshippers' Association

The actions taken to promote the vitality of English-speaking communities rely heavily on the participation and continued networking of the communities themselves.

As part of the federal government's aim to promote development of official language minority communities, Health Canada established the Consultative Committee for English-speaking Minority Communities (CCESMC.) The committee provides advice and recommendations on ways of improving the access of English-speaking communities to health and social services in their own language in Quebec.

In its 2002 report to the Minister of Health, the committee identified gaps in accessibility of health services, the erosion of social support networks, and weakening of regional coordination of access to English-language services. To meet these challenges, it recommended three priorities for action: community networking, training, recruitment and retention of health professionals, and primary health care service delivery.

In its March 2003 Action Plan for Official Languages, the Government of Canada noted the difficulties faced by these communities and committed to reinvesting in initiatives in the health sector to address community concerns. The Government of Canada committed \$26.7 million over five years to support these measures.

The actions taken to promote the vitality of English-speaking communities rely heavily on the participation and continued networking of the communities themselves.

In the last two years, a number of networks have been created to ensure more equitable access to health care services by mobilizing institutional and community capacity.

Health Canada commissioned the QCGN to administer a funding program for English-speaking communities aiming to build networks of community and institutional stakeholders (see HSSNPI report.)

This initiative promotes professional development and language training as well as the development of incentives for recruitment and retention of English-speaking personnel. Among the various achievements, McGill University has begun work with regional health planning authorities, service providers and communities to identify training needs. The committee is also promoting initiatives to bring together research communities, funding bodies and English-speaking communities into new partnerships.

Primarily health care services are using new technology to extend services to remote and rural communities, and developing new service delivery models for regions and communities.

The Community Health and Social Services Network, in partnership with Quebec's health and social services system, is implementing three broad measures by March 2006 to improve access to primary health care for English-speaking communities.

Major progress has been achieved to date in a short time frame. To build on this momentum, all stakeholders continue working together on initiatives aimed at offering quality health and social services for English-speaking Quebecers.

*Excerpt from Health Canada, CCESMC Report Card 2005*

# Justice & Project Selection Committees

## Official Languages Committees on Justice Issues

Over the past year, the QCGN has participated in various committees created by Justice Canada to oversee access to justice in both official languages. Three committees were formed:

- The Advisory Committee-Justice in Official Languages works in partnership with the legal community, official language minority communities and the Department of Justice which reports to the Associate Deputy Minister of Justice. This committee acts as a liaison between legal and official language minority community stakeholders and the Department of Justice. The activities of the committee promote the development, vitality and access to justice in official language minority communities.
- The Advisory Sub-Committee on Access to Justice in Both Official Languages creates links between official language minority communities and the legal community. The goal is to understand and take into account issues related to the access to legal and judicial services in minority official languages.
- The Advisory Sub-Committee on the Implementation of Section 41 of the Official Languages Act was established to allow official language minority communities and the Department of Justice to open the lines of communication on the implementation of the department's strategic plan, policies and programs.

While participation by QCGN representatives and community stakeholders on these committees is in the beginning stages, we are encouraged by the interest of department officials to better understand the issues that affect access to justice in English in Quebec. Thanks to the community volunteers who are members of these committees.

Deborah Hook, QCGN Executive Director

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### A decade of making a difference

As the QCGN continually grows and helps define the needs of the English-speaking community of Quebec, we have appreciated the efforts of the many volunteers and staff who have worked hard to give us a voice at federal, provincial and community levels. Without this important collective we would individually continue to be marginalized in our various important initiatives that serve our communities. Individual organizations could never have achieved the levels of service that the QCGN has provided as a whole through its evolution over the past 10 years.

Greg Duncan, QCNA

## Project Selection Committee

The Project Selection Committee is a committee of volunteers who read and evaluate applications to the Canadian Heritage development fund.

A variety of project proposals were received this past year from across Quebec, from both QCGN member-groups and others. Evaluations took place in two rounds. First, letters of intent were evaluated in December 2004. Complete applications for the top-ranked proposals were then evaluated in February 2005.

In addition to the evaluations, committee members also took part in a Results-Based Management Workshop led by Kevin Saville.

The 2004-2005 Project Selection Committee members were Rachel Garber (chair), Riva Heft, Jane Needles and Barbara Nichols. The committee's work was ably facilitated by Helen Meredith and Tarek Toni of Canadian Heritage.

I have been on this committee for the past three years, and found it an extremely useful learning experience. I am impressed by the creative and resourceful ideas and efforts by community groups to respond to the varied needs of their communities. I thank the QCGN board of directors for the confidence shown in me, but unfortunately I am unable to continue in this position and have signalled my resignation.

Rachel Garber, Chair



# QCGN Member Organizations

- Alliance Quebec** Dedicated to shaping and enriching the lives of English-speaking Quebecers  
1980 Sherbrooke St. W., Suite 830, Montreal (QC) H3H 1E8  
Phone: 514-932-3292, Fax: 514-932-3917  
E-mail: [info@aq.qc.ca](mailto:info@aq.qc.ca), Web site: [www.alliancequebec.ca](http://www.alliancequebec.ca)
- Black Community Resource Centre** Professional support to develop programs for Black Anglophone youth  
6767 Cote-des-Neiges, Suite 440, Montreal (QC) H3S 2T6  
Phone: 514-372-2247, Fax: 514-342-2283  
E-mail: [bcrc@qc.aira.com](mailto:bcrc@qc.aira.com), Web site: [www.blackyouthproject.org](http://www.blackyouthproject.org)
- Châteauguay Valley English-Speaking People's Association** Supporting the English-speaking minority in southwest Quebec  
1493 Rte 138, Box 1357, Huntingdon (QC) J0S 1H0  
Phone: 450-264-5386, Fax: 450-264-5387  
E-mail: [cvespa@cvespa.qc.ca](mailto:cvespa@cvespa.qc.ca), Web site: [www.cvespa.qc.ca/](http://www.cvespa.qc.ca/)
- Coasters Association** Creating, supporting and promoting actions that contribute to the vitality of the Lower North Shore  
P.O. Box 188, St. Paul's River, Cte Duplessis (QC) G0G 2P0  
Phone: 418-379-2356 or 1-877-447-2006, Fax: 418-379-2621  
E-mail: [coasters@globetrotter.qc.ca](mailto:coasters@globetrotter.qc.ca), Web site: [www.htmlweb.com/LNS/](http://www.htmlweb.com/LNS/)
- Committee for Anglophone Social Action** Addresses problems experienced by the English-speaking people of the Gaspé Peninsula  
208 Gerard D. Levesque, P.O. Box 219, New Carlisle (QC) G0C 1Z0  
Phone: 418-752-2127 or 1-877-752-5995, Fax: 418-752-6864  
E-mail: [casa75@globetrotter.net](mailto:casa75@globetrotter.net), Web site: [www.casa-gaspe.com](http://www.casa-gaspe.com)
- Community Association for Saguenay-Lac St-Jean** Ensuring health and social services in English are available in Saguenay-Lac St-Jean  
P.O. Box 1414, Jonquière (QC) G7S 4L1  
Phone: 418-548-5333, Fax: 418-548-5339, E-mail: [casl@qc.aira.com](mailto:casl@qc.aira.com), Web site: [www.casl.ca](http://www.casl.ca)
- Community Health and Social Services Network** Organizations, resources and institutions aiming to ensure access to health & social services  
2100 Marlow, Room 317, Montreal (QC) H4A 3L5  
Phone: 514-369-2811 Fax: 514-369-8417  
E-mail: [chssn@sympatico.ca](mailto:chssn@sympatico.ca), Web site: [www.chssn.org](http://www.chssn.org)
- Council for Anglophone Magdalen Islanders** Defends rights to language, social services, health, education, justice, culture and heritage  
787 Ch. Principale, Grosse Île Magdalen Islands (QC) G4T 6B5  
Phone: 418-985-2116 Fax: 418-985-2113  
E-mail: [c.a.m.i@sympatico.ca](mailto:c.a.m.i@sympatico.ca), Web site: [www.ilesdelamadeleine.com/cami](http://www.ilesdelamadeleine.com/cami)
- English-Speaking Catholic Council** Education, health & social services, social justice and cultural focus with a religious approach  
2005 St-Marc, Montreal (QC) H3H 2G8  
Phone: 514-937-2301 Fax: 514-907-5010  
E-mail: [esccl@bellnet.ca](mailto:esccl@bellnet.ca), Web site: [www.catholoicentre.ca/esccl](http://www.catholoicentre.ca/esccl)
- Heritage Lower St. Lawrence** Working towards the development of the Anglophone communities of the Lower St-Lawrence  
468 Beach Road, Box 146, Métis-sur-Mer (QC) GOJ 1S0  
Phone: 418-936-3239 Fax: 418-936-3239, E-mail: [heritagelstl@globetrotter.net](mailto:heritagelstl@globetrotter.net)
- Megantic English-speaking Community Development Corporation** Serving the English-speaking population of the l'Amiante, Lotbinière and l'Érable regions  
97 Notre-Dame West, Suite 206, Thetford Mines QC G6G 1J4  
Phone: 418-332-3851, Fax: 418-332-3153  
E-mail: [mcdc.exdir@bellnet.ca](mailto:mcdc.exdir@bellnet.ca), Web site: [www.mcdc.ivic.qc.ca](http://www.mcdc.ivic.qc.ca)
- Neighbours Regional Association of Rouyn-Noranda** Neighbours Regional Association of Rouyn-Noranda  
P.O. Box 2277, Rouyn-Noranda (QC) J9X 5A3  
Phone: 819-762-0882m Fax: 819-763-0883  
E-mail: [neighbours@cablevision.qc.ca](mailto:neighbours@cablevision.qc.ca)

North Shore Community Association	Instilling pride within the English-speaking community from Tadoussac to Havre St-Pierre P.O. Box 163, Baie-Comeau (QC) G4Z 2G9 Web site: <a href="http://www.quebec-nsca.com">www.quebec-nsca.com</a>
Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network	Linking and individuals interested in local, regional and provincial Anglophone history 257 Queen Street, Suite 400, Lennoxville (QC) J1M 1K7 Phone: 819-564-9595 or 1-877-964-0409, Fax: 819-564-6872 E-mail: <a href="mailto:home@qahn.org">home@qahn.org</a> , Web site: <a href="http://www.qahn.org">www.qahn.org</a>
Quebec Association for Adult Learning	Leadership in matters pertaining to lifelong learning 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd W., Room LB 614-3, Montreal (QC) H3G 1M8 Phone: 514-848-2424 Ext. 2036, Fax: 514-848-4520 E-mail: <a href="mailto:degrue00@sympatico.ca">degrue00@sympatico.ca</a> , Web site: <a href="http://doe.concordia.ca/qaal/">doe.concordia.ca/qaal/</a>
Quebec Community Newspapers Association	Development of English community newspapers and other community media 21-111 Lakeshore Road, PO Box 195, Glenaladale House, Macdonald Campus, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue (QC) H9X 3V9 Phone: 514-398-7706, Fax: 514-398-7972, E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@qcna.qc.ca">info@qcna.qc.ca</a> , Web site: <a href="http://www.qcna.org">www.qcna.org</a>
Quebec Drama Federation	Encourages and maintains English-language theatre by providing leadership (Metro Place-des-Arts) 460 St. Catherine St. West, Suite 807, Montreal (QC) H3B 1A7 Phone: 514-875-8698, Fax: 514-875-8873 E-mail: <a href="mailto:qdf@cam.org">qdf@cam.org</a> , Web site: <a href="http://www.quebecdrama.org/">www.quebecdrama.org/</a>
Quebec Farmers' Association	A voluntary association of Quebec's English-speaking farmers and rural citizens 555 Roland Therrien Blvd, Longueuil (QC) J4H 3Y9 Phone: 450-679-0530 Ext. 8536, Fax: 514-398-7972 E-mail: <a href="mailto:qfa@upa.qc.ca">qfa@upa.qc.ca</a> , Web site: <a href="http://www.qfa.qc.ca">www.qfa.qc.ca</a>
Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations	Dedicated to the well-being of children with parents, students, educators and the community 3285 Cavendish Blvd., Suite 560, Montreal (QC) H4B 2L9 Phone: 514-481-5619 Fax: 514-481-5610 E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@qfhsa.org">info@qfhsa.org</a> , Web site: <a href="http://www.qfhsa.org">www.qfhsa.org</a>
Quebec 4-H Association	Promotes personal development of youth aged 6-21 in agricultural and rural communities 41 Grand Boulevard, Ile Perrot, QC J7V 4W3 Phone: 514-453-1731, Fax: 514-453-7017 E-mail: <a href="mailto:tammy. Kearney@quebec4h.com">tammy. Kearney@quebec4h.com</a>
Regional Association West Quebecers	Serving the English-speaking population of western Quebec 53 rue Principale, Aylmer (QC) J9H 3L4 Phone: 819-682-9602 or 1-877-733-0177, Fax: 819-682-4033 E-mail: <a href="mailto:wq@magma.ca">wq@magma.ca</a> Web site: <a href="http://www.westquebecers.com/">www.westquebecers.com/</a>
Townshippers' Association	Promotes the interests of the English-speaking community in the Eastern Townships 257 Queen Street, Bureau 100, Lennoxville (QC) J1M 1K7 Phone: 819-566-5717 or 1-866-566-5717, Fax: 819-566-0271 E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@townshippers.qc.ca">info@townshippers.qc.ca</a> , Web site: <a href="http://www.townshippers.qc.ca">www.townshippers.qc.ca</a>
Voice of English-Speaking Quebec	Dedicated to the preservation of a dynamic community in Quebec-Chaudière-Appalaches (Pavillon Jeffery Hale) 1270 chemin Ste-Foy, Suite 2141, Quebec (QC) G1S 2M4 Phone: 418-683-2366 Fax: 418-688-3273 E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@veq.qc.ca">info@veq.qc.ca</a> , Web site: <a href="http://www.veq.qc.ca">www.veq.qc.ca</a>
Youth Employment Services	Delivering English-language job-search and self-employment services to Quebecers 630 boul. Rene-Levesque Ouest, Bureau P-185, Montreal, Quebec H3B 1S6 Phone: 514-878-9788 Fax: 514-878-9950 E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@yesmontreal.ca">info@yesmontreal.ca</a> , Web site: <a href="http://www.yesmontreal.ca">www.yesmontreal.ca</a>



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