



QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

3285 CAVENDISH BLVD., SUITE 562, MONTREAL, QUEBEC H4B 2L9 TELEPHONE: (514) 481-5619

1994 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING BOOK OF REPORTS

April 16, 1994

Meeting held at:
Beaconsfield Golf Club
49 Golf Avenue
Pointe-Claire, Quebec

Please bring this **Book of Reports** with you to the A.G.M., or give to your Registered Voting Delegates. There will be a limited number of additional copies available at the conference for your other delegates.



A MEMBER OF THE CANADIAN HOME AND SCHOOL AND PARENT-TEACHER FEDERATION

TABLE OF CONTENTS

QFHSA Reports

Minutes of the 1993 Annual General Meeting	1
Presidents' Report	9
Summary of The Canadian Home & School and Parent- Teacher Federation's (CHSPTF) Activities	11

QFHSA Area Directors Reports

Aylmer	12
Gaspé	13
Lakeshore Regional Council of Home & School	15
Lakeshore II/Lakeshore IV	15
Protestant School of Greater Montreal	12

QFHSA Conferences

Annual General Meeting 1993	17
Fall Conference	19
Think Tank	20

QFHSA Workshops

Mid-Term Presidents' Meeting	21
Presidents/Membership/Newsletter/Publicity	22

QFHSA Liaisons

CELE [Council for English-Language Education]	23
PSBGM [Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal]	24
QSBA [Quebec School Boards Association]	25
SLACC [Secondary Language Arts Consultative Committee]	23

QFHSA Board of Directors Reports [Committees]

Awards	26
Constitution	27
Education	27
Finance	28
Proposed Budget 1994/95	30
Health Issues	32
Literacy in the Information Age Project	33
Membership	36
Membership Development	37
MRE [Moral and Religious Education]	38
Nominations	39
Official Languages in Education	38
Quebec Home & School NEWS	40
Disposition of 1993 Resolutions	41
Social Affairs/Support Services	43
Teacher Appreciation Week	45
Student Accident Insurance	42



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MINUTES OF THE 49TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS HELD APRIL 24, 1993, IN THE PSBGM ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Registered and present during the April 23-24 Annual General Meeting (AGM) were 82 Voting Delegates representing 25 local Home & School Associations and 14 members of the Board of Directors. In addition, there were 11 "others" (including 6 who were Individual Home & School members), 8 guests and 6 workshop leaders. This year we did not have any commercial and educational displays due to the very full business meeting and program planned.

The Annual Business Meeting was officially opened on Saturday morning, April 24, 1993, by Barbara Milne-Smith, Co-president (8:30 am). Jon Percy, Co-president, chaired the second half of the meeting.

1. Welcome and Introductions

The President welcomed the delegates and others present at our 49th AGM. Mention was made of 1994 being QFHSA's 50th anniversary and 1995 the 100th anniversary of the first Home & School in Canada.

Also the loss of the New Richmond High School which had recently burned to the ground, their urgent need for library books for the children and that Aylmer Home & School Association is holding a Book Fair and donating all the profits to New Richmond - a wonderful gesture.

Virginie Larivière, the young girl responsible for a 1,000,000+ signatures on a petition against TV violence, was honoured with a special President's Youth Achievement Award from YTV; spearheading the nomination of Virginie was our own Pat Lewis (Social Affairs/Support Services Committee Chairman) and her Kids For Peace Club at Beacon Hill School.

Mentioned that this year we had based our Membership Awards on the number of families in each school, as requested by the local associations.

Mention was made of the two new awards we have introduced this year: The Golden Torch/Le Porteur du Flambeau and The Unsung Hero/Le Prix Exploit Méconnu.

The head table was introduced: Margaret Funnell, Resolutions Committee Chairman; Jon Percy and Barbara Milne-Smith, Co-Presidents, QFHSA; Wendy Buchanan, Executive Vice-President; Rickhey Langlois, Recording Secretary; Debi Brown, Treasurer.

2. Appointments

Parliamentarian

MOTION: Cumyn (Board of Directors)/Amarica (Board of Directors) to appoint Allan Locke as parliamentarian. **CARRIED**

Credentials Chairman

MOTION: Daigle (Board of Directors)/Solomon (Board of Directors) to appoint Brenda Dewar, Credentials Chairman. **CARRIED**

Scrutineers

MOTION: MacWhirter (Board of Directors)/Dewar (John Rennie High) that Ken Cooke and Joan Locke be appointed as scrutineers. **CARRIED**



A MEMBER OF THE CANADIAN HOME AND SCHOOL AND PARENT-TEACHER FEDERATION

Brenda Dewar, Credentials Committee, reported that 20 of the 25 local associations registered were present, sufficient for a quorum. Allan Locke, Parliamentarian, briefly discussed the business procedures for the benefit of the delegates.

3. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION: Lewis (Beacon Hill)/Amarica to adopt agenda. CARRIED

4. Adoption of Minutes 48th Annual General Meeting (1992)(pp.1-08, Bk of Rpts)

MOTION: Brodtkin (Sunnydale Park)/Fortin (Thetford Mines) to adopt the 1992 Minutes. CARRIED

5. Business Arising from 1992 AGM Minutes

11.1 Lakeshore Teachers' Association letter of request for support in their negotiations with the government. The delegates had agreed that we should write a letter in support and this was done. We wish them well in their negotiations.

6. Co-President's Report (pp.09-11, Book of Reports)

Marion Daigle was thanked for her hard work on the Literacy in the Information Age project which had begun in 1990 and was still going strong. Jon Percy explained that the President's Report is a very short summary of all the reports. Mention was made of the various workshops QFHSA had sponsored during the year.

MOTION: Milne-Smith(Board of Directors)/Buchanan(Board of Directors) that this report be accepted. CARRIED

7. Highlights of the Canadian Home & School and Parent-Teacher Federation (CHSPTF) (pp.12-13, Book of Reports)

Helen Koeppe, Past-President, CHSPTF, brought greetings on behalf of the President, Dolores Neil of Saskatchewan. Mentioned that Canadian had received a grant to publish, and cover translating costs, the CHSPTF Newsletter. Also a government grant for the Literacy Project entitled, "Removing the Barriers"; what stops/hinders parents from taking part in their child's education. This year's annual meeting is being held in Winnipeg, Manitoba, at the beginning of June.

MOTION: Brodtkin/Daigle to accept the CHSPTF report.

CARRIED

8. Finance Committee Report

8.1 Auditor's Statement - year ending Aug 31/92 (circulated prior to AGM)
The Treasurer, Debi Brown, went over the audited statement. Said we had received two federal government accounts this past year in the Membership Development Fund - \$20M and \$7M. The \$7M was for producing the new red Leadership Handbook which was mailed to all Home & Schools early last Fall.

MOTION: Little (Beacon Hill)/Cumyn to accept the auditor's report. CARRIED

8.2 Recommendation re Membership Fee (1993/94) (circulated prior to AGM)

MOTION: Brown (Board of Directors)/Bishundayal (Elizabeth Ballantyne) that the Family Membership Fee remain at \$12. CARRIED

MOTION: Brown/Swettenham (Ec. Prim. Harwood) that the Conference(s) Fee, which covers extra costs associated with conferences and workshops, be increased to \$50 per local association. CARRIED

- 8.3 Proposed Budget 1993/94 (p.39, Book of Reports)
Correction, 2nd line under Revenues should read "Membership Fees - \$40/Group Affiliate (the extension is correct).
The Treasurer explained that we were requesting a grant of \$80M from the MEQ; this to pay for additional office staff (with fewer available volunteers we want the volunteers to be working at their local level), to cover increasing costs related to our newspaper (more issues/year and perhaps for layout work), more materials for membership and schools to have, costs of literacy project work, capital expenditures - a new photocopier and a fax.
There were no questions.

MOTION: Brown/Fortin that the budget be accepted. CARRIED

Barbara Milne-Smith mentioned the new KIDS ARE WORTH IT buttons drawn up by the Membership Development Committee. Sliding scale for what they will cost to purchase; available on display now at our QFHSA table with the two new pins mentioned earlier.

Treasurer mentioned that the number of Group Affiliate Members was slightly down this year, mainly because the number of School Boards in the Protestant sector was drastically reduced by the government. We had originally thought we might show a small surplus this year; now hoping to break even.

Marion Daigle said it was important that we keep our newspaper up front. It is our only vehicle for passing information to other groups. Talked about the need for us to find ways to raise funds to cover operating costs. Would anyone solicit ads for the newspaper; help edit and lay it out?

9. Caucus session

This new section of our Annual Business Meeting was explained by Anne Swettenham. She and Rickhey Langlois had attended the New York PTA Annual Meeting last November and were very impressed by the informal discussions on the resolutions that took place before the voting.

MOTION: Little/Brodkin that the meeting break for a caucus session of 1½ hours. CARRIED

Rickhey Langlois and Anne Swettenham explained to the assembled delegates how the caucusing session would work. Barbara Milne-Smith explained that our Standing Rules had been changed so as to allow amendments to resolutions from the floor provided they arose from the caucusing session and were approved by the Resolutions Chairman and the Parliamentarian. Following the caucusing session:

MOTION: Langlois (Board of Directors)/Swettenham to return to the Business Meeting. CARRIED

Meeting continued, chaired by Jon Percy.

10. Reports - Standing Committees

10.1 Nominations (p.46, Book of Reports)

Helen Koeppe spoke to the report; Anne Swettenham had agreed to be

the Executive Vice-President which meant there were two vacancies (for one year terms) for Vice-President.

MOTION: Koeppel(Board of Directors)/Dewar to ratify the slate.

CARRIED

Congratulations were extended to all the candidates.

10.2 Education (p.37, Book of Reports)

Ann Cumyn spoke to the report. It was mentioned that Ann was our representative on the Gretta Chambers Task Force on English Language Education and is presently a member of the Advisory Board on English Education (also chaired by Ms Chambers). Helen Koeppel mentioned that through the QFHSA Education Committee we had a vehicle for expressing anglophone concerns. Mr. Ryan had stated he did not hear from anglophones, thus suggesting we had no concerns.

10.3 Membership (p.44, Book of Reports)

Donna Sauriol, QFHSA Executive Secretary, spoke to the report.

10.4 Membership Development (p.45, Book of Reports)

Wendy Buchanan, Executive Vice-President, spoke to report. Said her wish was for every local association to request a speaker for a parent evening. There are also a lot of videos, booklets, pamphlets, etc. available from the office which are not being used to their full potential. An update to our Leadership Handbook will include new resources available.

10.5 Quebec Literacy Project (p.41, Book of Reports)

Marion Daigle spoke to report. Marion showed the green Resourcebook for the Literacy Exchange - explained its extremely helpful contents and the origin of the "book". Canadian Home & School has been given \$47M to print additional activity sheets for the back of the book. Marion thanked all the schools and individuals who contributed so generously to the "Book Drives". Approximately 300 boxes of books have been sent out to date. Anne MacWhirter, Area Rep/Gaspe, spoke about the Gaspe Literacy project "Born to Read" where they give bags of books to new mothers for their babies. The second part of this project is to hand out bags of books to young children (up to age 5). Would like to have a T-shirt to hand out that says, "Read to Me".

10.6 Rights

Cal Potter, Chairman, stated that in 1987 we were the only organization that said there had to be abrogation of Section 59 before there is a further devolution of powers to the provinces. Mentioned that the United Nations had ruled that Bill 178 [sign law] was illegal. Said that Section 23 of The Charter of Rights and Freedoms is a "policy" rather than a "freedom". In 1977 we had written to Prime Minister Trudeau asking that he make a distinction between bilingualism and the territorial concept. We can readdress this issue now.

10.7 Student Accident Insurance

A meeting with Reliable Life Insurance Company had only taken place that week; too late to include the report in the Book of Reports. A report was, however, included in the AGM kits (on yellow).

MOTION: Locke(Board of Directors)/Dewar that we accept the Committee's recommendation to continue with the Reliable Life Insurance Student/Family Accident Insurance plan for the 1993/94 school year.

CARRIED

10.8 Resolutions (p.49, Book of

Reports)

Margaret Funnell, chairman, spoke to her report.

10.8.1 Disposition of 1992 Resolutions (p.49, Book of Reports)

The responses to the 1992 resolutions are all listed in the report. Mentioned that Resolution 92/7 Help for Learning Disabled Students had been picked up on by the Quebec Association of Protestant School Boards who had followed up on the resolution and used it as the basis for one of their own. Margaret said that she felt that we should, as a provincial body, try to meet with the Ministers involved.

10.8.2 Additions to Statement of Policy (green, circulated earlier)

MOTION: Funnell(Board of Directors)/Swettenham that the proposed changes to the Statement of Policy be accepted as circulated to the local associations.

CARRIED

Changes made were: Safety: Change #2 to read: Mandatory instruction [first aid included], examinations and periodic recertification for school bus drivers. Change #5 to read: Inclusion of safety education and awareness programs both in the classroom as part of the school curriculum and by the bus driver for children on his bus. Add #8: School bus drivers able to communicate in the language of the students, be it English or French. Welfare: Add #16: The promotion, development and support of local school-based strategies for preventing and dealing with student aggressive behaviour. Education: Add #24: Special accommodation for learning disabled students in administering examinations. Education System: Add #12: Access to education in English to include any child who was being educated in English or who has a parent from an English speaking part of the world.

10.8.3 1993 Resolutions (green, circulated earlier)93/1 - PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT - A PROVINCIAL PRIORITY [revised]

MOTION: Swettenham/Daigle to adopt the revised resolution. Anne Swettenham said that Harwood feels strongly that parental involvement is a "must". Parents are the education system's "employers" and should be involved in basic policy making workshops. Marion suggested that the FCPPO be added to groups receiving the resolution for information purposes.

Vote on resolution. CARRIED(1 abstention)

93/2 - PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT - A SCHOOL PRIORITY

MOTION: Swettenham/Straughton(Dorset) to adopt this resolution.

Amendment (proposed by movers) that the background be deleted and added to references ("Parents on your side" by Lee Canter and Marlene Canter [1991]).

Discussion. Mary Jane de Koos (Lindsay Place High) noted that the money given to School Committee is for parent education. Anne Swettenham said we need to better educate parents to help them be more effective partners in education; we could start with the Fall Conference.

Ann Cumyn proposed two small editorial changes. In the first

BE IT RESOLVED change "a Parent Involvement Conference" to "Parent Involvement Conferences".

Vote on resolution.

CARRIED

93/3 - CHARTER BUS SAFETY

MOTION: Langlois/Brodkin to adopt this resolution.

Rickhey Langlois said they are worried about other buses (not the school buses) that are used for student activities.

Marion Roberts (QAPSB liaison) suggested that #2 be changed from "as and when it is required for school buses" to "as and when it is required by law for school buses".

Vote on resolution.

CARRIED

93/4 - ADOLESCENT DRUG REHABILITATION SERVICES

MOTION: Heron(Lindsay Place High)/Dagher(Lindsay Place High) to adopt this resolution.

Amendment from caucusing session: to add to #1 of the BE IT RESOLVED "[and] furthermore that this funding not be taken from existing drug education funds".

Vote on amendment.

CARRIED

Margo Heron spoke to the resolution. Anne Swettenham asked if the resolution shouldn't mention "female" adolescents. Margo said the letter accompanying the resolution should also mention "English" adolescents. Suggestion made that Régie Régionale be added to "for information".

93/5 - DEFINITION OF "LEARNING DISABILITIES" USED BY THE MEQ

[revised]

MOTION: Ewen(Aylmer)/Graham(Aylmer) to adopt the revised resolution.

Amendments from caucusing session: (1) to add to the second WHEREAS "and results in inadequate funding available to support these children". (2) to rework the THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED to read "... [MEQ] to revise the definition of learning disabilities and handicapped students to include those with specific learning disabilities to bring it into line with the definition used by the Learning Disabilities Association of Canada; this revision should be made in consultation with representative groups of parents, teachers, and health professionals (i.e., doctors, psychologists, social workers, etc.), including, but not limited to, Home and School Associations, School Committees, Special Education Advisory Committees and Special Education Parity Committees".

Vote on amendment #1.

CARRIED

Vote on amendment #2.

CARRIED

Vote on amended resolution.

CARRIED

Margaret Funnell mentioned that she had received a letter of support for the resolution from the Western Quebec School Board. Greg Graham (Aylmer) said that funding for these students is "capped".

93/6 - GUN CONTROL LEGISLATION

MOTION: Lewis/Milne-Smith to adopt the resolution.

Pat Lewis spoke to resolution; said it was very relevant to today's society.

Vote on resolution.

CARRIED(1 abstention)

93/7 - ESTABLISHMENT OF GAMBLING CASINOS IN QUEBEC

MOTION: Milne-Smith/Amarica to adopt this resolution. Barbara Milne-Smith spoke to the resolution; said it was an update from one passed in 1980. There was a great deal of discussion on this resolution. E.P. Harwood felt that this resolution was after the fact and we should move on to other issues. It was brought out that schools hold Family Fun Nights and/or bingos.

MOTION: Swettenham/Gibson(Harwood) to withdraw the resolution.

Vote: FOR withdrawal 22; AGAINST withdrawal 21; Abstentions 8. Resolution was withdrawn.

93/8 - MEDIA LITERACY IN THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM

MOTION: Daigle/Liben(Ec.Prim. Beaconsfield) to adopt the resolution.

Marion Daigle spoke to resolution; said it had been well covered in the caucus session. McGill, Dept. of Curriculum and Instruction, added to destinations. QAPSB, FCPPO and the CPC of the PSBGM were added to "for information".

Vote on resolution. CARRIED(1 abstention; 1 against)

93/9 - COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION [revised]

MOTION: Koeppe/Little to adopt the revised resolution.

Helen Koeppe spoke to resolution. It is difficult to get updated information. We want the powers that be to know that we are still interested in having a fair use clause.

Vote on revised resolution. CARRIED

93/10 - TASK FORCE ON ENGLISH EDUCATION - RECOMMENDATION (1)

MOTION: Cumyn/Buchanan to adopt the resolution.

The mover to the resolution accepted the amendment that the BE IT RESOLVED be changed to conclude at "be widened; and" and that a second BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED be added, to read: "...and Minister of Education to permit any child who has begun his/her education in English to continue his/her education in English". A further destination was added: Minister of Cultural Affairs. Discussion. Gordon Robertson (Hon. V.P. of the Lakeshore Regional Council of Home & School Associations) said that Mr. Ryan had stated publicly that he had not heard from English groups and that all local associations should phone or send a fax of this resolution. It was agreed that a letter would go forward from the AGM delegates as quickly as possible.

Vote on amended resolution. CARRIED

David Brodtkin suggested we post the phone number to call in the lobby.

93/11E [emergency] - ASSIGNMENT OF SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS

MOTION: Dougherty(Westmount High Student Council)/Blizzard (Westmount High) to adopt the resolution.

Joshua Dougherty spoke to the resolution. Editorial changes suggested. In the THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED changed "the CLSC which serves the school's territory" to "the CLSC which serves the school's community". It was also pointed out that the last line of #5 in the background had been omitted. Missing is "...

[union] complains' - not enough money allotted to reduce waiting lists by April 1".

Vote on corrected resolution.

CARRIED

Helen Koeppe thanked the Resolutions Chairman for a job well done. Margaret Funnell offered her thanks to Rickhey Langlois and Anne Swettenham for their handling of the caucusing session. It had been a real learning experience and definitely a helpful one. Marion Daigle thanked the local Home & School Associations for sending in so many thoughtful and well researched resolutions.

10.9 Remaining reports

No one else spoke to their reports.

10.10 Adoption of reports

MOTION: Fortin/MacWhirter to adopt the remaining reports.

CARRIED

11. New business

11.1 Dates of upcoming QFHSA meetings

Membership/Presidents/Newsletters workshop - Wednesday, June 09

Think Tank - Wednesday, September 01

Fall Conference - Saturday, October 23

11.2 Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence in Science, Technology and Mathematics

Barbara Milne-Smith explained what the awards are. Deadline for sending in names is April 30, forms available from the office.

12. Additions to agenda

12.1 Teacher Appreciation Week (TAW) materials

Straw vote taken on the need for us to have French materials. Approximately 20 persons said yes.

12.2 Caucus session

Generally felt that this was a good idea. The noise level was too high though and we should consider partitions or separate rooms. Regular amendments should still be sent in prior to the meeting so that local associations can consider them. Suggestions: (1) appoint a schedule so that people can move from one group to another; (2) local associations should know ahead of time so they can plan where their delegates will go; (3) fewer resolutions to be discussed in each group setting.

Anne MacWhirter called for a vote of thanks for the outgoing Executive, especially Barbara Milne-Smith and Jon Percy, the Co-presidents.

13. Adjournment

MOTION: Brodtkin/Heron to adjourn the annual business meeting (12:40).

CARRIED

(File: Conferen\AGM\Mins1993)

PRESIDENTS' REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, April 16, 1994
Submitted by: W. Buchanan & A. Locke, Co-Presidents

This past year might well have been called the year of Bill 107. This Bill, which was announced previously, became a reality when the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that the Quebec Government had the constitutional powers to establish linguistic School Boards.

Your Provincial Executive, and indeed many of the local associations, spent a great deal of time and effort dealing with this change and its impact on School Boards and local schools. The Ministry of Education is following its established plan of action which will mean new School Boards effective September 1996.

We should all remember that our Federation is made up of local School Associations and each member school is part of the Federation regardless of which School Board they may be affiliated with. Your Executive believes that QFHSA will provide a steady influence throughout these changes and will enhance and expand our role in Quebec education.

During the past year two past presidents of QFHSA were honoured. Dr. Calvin Potter was awarded the Eugene Forsey Award by the Chateauguay Valley English Speaking Peoples Association (CVESPA), for his work on behalf of our English rights and education. Helen Koeppé was appointed to the Protestant Committee of the Conseil Superior de l'éducation.

Workshops and training sessions were held in June for presidents, membership chairmen, and newsletter editors. A mid-term presidents meeting was organized in February.

The annual "Think Tank" was again held at the Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club on September 1st. The newly appointed Associate Deputy Minister of Education, Protestant, Mr. Grant Hawley was our guest.

The Fall Conference was better than ever in 1993. It was held at John Rennie High School on October 23rd. and a full turnout of keen Home & Schoolers participated in a wide range of workshops and information sessions.

Teacher Appreciation Week, held February 13 - 19th., was conducted in many schools with a wide range of creative activities and thank you gifts for our teachers and school support staff. For the first time the Ministry of Education participated in this event and many schools experienced Teacher Appreciation for the first time.

We continue to maintain close ties with Canadian Home & School and Parent Teacher Federation. Delegates attended their annual meeting held in Winnipeg in May and also participated in the mid-term meeting and Education Conference, held in Ottawa in November.

QFSHA was one of the few education groups selected to make a presentation in response to a document entitled "Moving Ahead". These hearings, chaired by then Education Minister Madame Lucienne Robillard, were held in Montreal in December. Copies of the brief were sent to all local associations.

A Brief has been prepared to the Kennif Committee as well as a reply to a questionnaire submitted by the Advisory Board on English Language Education (Chambers Committee).

We maintained close liaisons with several of our partners in Quebec Education. These include the Quebec School Boards Association, the Provincial Association of Moral & Religious Educators in Quebec, and the Council on English Language Education (CELE).

Your Co-presidents truly appreciate the many hours of dedicated service put in by members of the Executive, the Board of Directors and the local Associations. Also, a special thank you to our Executive Director, Donna Sauriol, and the members of the office staff, Francie Gunther and Carol Ohlin. All of these are people who really believe that "KIDS ARE WORTH IT".

CANADIAN HOME AND SCHOOL AND PARENT-TEACHER FEDERATION (CHSPTF)
Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16, 1994
Submitted by Helen Koeppé

In general, without being too specific, this has been a year of transition. The Constitution is undergoing revisions as the notices of motion circulated will attest. The primary objective of maintaining a national link with input from all the provinces remains intact in theory and to a greater or lesser degree in practice. Each provincial federation or parents' advisory council is beset by the harsh realities of the nation-wide recession. Those federations with financial reserves and good management are doing better than those relying totally or in part on grants from government.

The National network has provided opportunities for input to other educational organizations and collaborative efforts continue to benefit the federation and to increase the exposure necessary for survival. The ongoing problem of finances has limited participation in person by officers at events and perhaps more use could have been made of provincial presidents in such cases. Quebec Federation was invited to send two delegates, as was Ontario Federation to the Canadian Association of School Administrators Changing Times, Changing Schools dialogue among education leaders and government officials at the Chateau Laurier Hotel, Ottawa, November 30, 1993. Quebec Federation was represented by Anne Swettenham and Helen Koeppé, and CHSPTF by Maybelle Durkin. Ann Smith and Bette Turner were funded by Ontario Federation. Networking with others from your own province and with delegates from across Canada brings the need for national goals in education into focus quickly.

The date of the Annual Meeting has been changed to allow participation by CHSPTF delegates at the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada [CMEC] consultation being held here in the province of Quebec, in Montreal under the chairmanship of the Quebec Minister of Education. The CHSPTF meeting in St. John's, Newfoundland, has been moved up a week to May 16th. It will be interesting to see if any provision is made for observers from the host province's educational organizations to attend.

Plans are also ongoing for the 100th anniversary celebrations to be held in Baddeck, Nova Scotia, on Cape Breton Island next year. Having visited the area and the site of the cairn commemorating the first home and school meeting in Canada in Baddeck I wish God-speed to the organizers and planners of this momentous event. One hundred years of advocating and activity on behalf of the children in Canada is something to celebrate.

Recommendation: That individuals and local associations contribute \$19.95 to help ensure that the celebrations in Baddeck are as significant and successful as they can be. This year's Quebec delegates would be more than pleased to present the donations to CHSPTF in St. Johns this May.

AYLMER AREA REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94
Submitted by Norma Ewen, Area Representative

Home and School has a long history in Aylmer. Membership lists dating back to the late 1940's (and pre-Aylmer Elementary School years) were recently rediscovered in the school's bookstore.

Over the years, the Home and School Association at Aylmer Elementary School has taken on a number of responsibilities. The Association routinely funds a nutrition program within the school, a variety of cultural programs, as well as transportation (and hot chocolate) for Winter Activity Day. Home and School volunteers operate the school's bookstore, organize and staff the annual Christmas Bazaar, the Scholastic book fair and other in-school events.

This year Home and School sponsored a production for the senior students by the Rolling Thunder Theatre Company, a troupe of physically disabled actors, to promote understanding of people with disabilities. The entire student body was invited to "A Prairie Boy's Winter", a play by Geordie Productions, and a performance by the National Arts Centre Orchestra's Ragtime Brass Quintet.

Teacher Appreciation Week at Aylmer Elementary has expanded to include the equally invaluable staff. Home and School presented everyone with t-shirts, personally autographed by students from grade one to grade six. "Bob and Wayne Day" gave each class the opportunity to acknowledge their role in maintaining the school's good image.

This year's main fundraisers have been a Fall Gift Wrap Sale, a Winter Raffle, and of course the Christmas Bazaar. Another raffle could be arranged in the Spring should there be a need.

PROTESTANT SCHOOL BOARD OF GREATER MONTREAL AREA REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94
Submitted by Howard Solomon, Acting Area Representative

Schools: Beechwood, Carlyle, Dunrae Gardens, Gardenvue, Perce Neige and Westpark.

Contacts this year began with calls in September to remind locals about our Fall Conference and to offer the services of the QFHSA if local matters required wider distribution or discussion.

Calls in November were follow ups to locals to ask how the year was progressing. Calls in March were mainly reminders about our 50th Annual General Meeting.

GASPE AREA REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94
Submitted by Anne MacWhirter, Area Representative

New Richmond

This year is certainly one to be remembered at two of our schools in the Gaspé. In New Richmond, fire destroyed their school in early March 1993, so students and teachers have been housed in difficult locations in some cases. On March 2nd, 1994, staff and students moved into the "new" New Richmond School. Home and School President Sheila Campbell persevered in holding meetings during the year. A Christmas celebration, with Santa appearing for the children, was organized for the school. Basically, everyone was just waiting for the school to be ready. A public opening is planned for this spring, and Home & School plans to participate at that event. A further project is the annual public speaking contest.

Good luck to Home & School in the new New Richmond School.

Shigawake-Port Daniel

The Shigawake-Port Daniel school underwent a large-scale faceleft this fall and winter. Students were able to be relocated all in the same building in Sainte Godefroi along with the regular students in the French section. The move back to their refurbished school is expected to take place in early March.

President Cindy Major reports regular meetings during the year. A bake sale was held at the November meeting. The March meeting is a special one for new parents in the school system. Hopefully, many of the new parents will become active members of Home and School.

Good luck to you in your renovated building.

New Carlisle

New Carlisle Home and School had a productive year. President Ruth MacWhirter reports terrific co-operation between executive, parents and the school staff. Some new people got involved in activities this year. The 40th anniversary of the association was celebrated with a tea. Former members and some founding members were present to relate incidents and share memories.

A new doctor, Dr. Denise Chapados, spoke to interested parents at the January meeting. It was agreed that the presentation was worthwhile and informative.

Parents were generous in supplying treats during Teacher Appreciation Week. The annual book fair was held in late November. Sales were excellent, thus making our library better stocked with close to \$900.00 in new books.

Congratulations on a great year, New Carlisle.

Born to Read/Readers are Leaders

The Bag Ladies, Anne MacWhirter and Lally MacKenzie and company, are still fund-raising to provide books, badges and supplies for the Born to Read baby book bags and for Phase II - educational books, crayons, scissors, etc. for the preschool siblings of new babies.

cont'd ...

Gaspe Area Report

Born to Read/Readers are Leaders cont'd

One fund-raiser was a food freezer draw which received home cooking from teachers, IODE, Home & School and church groups. Because of the financial success, we were able to extend our area to Maria at the western point. We continue to have the support of health-care nurses in distribution of the bags.

In February, the group held a Scholastic book fair at New Carlisle and at Port-Daniel schools. The books taken as profit will be used in reading circles and the book exchange.

Working with CASA, the Born to Read group has applied for Challenge 94 projects to employ students in literacy camps during the summer in Gaspé communities. Projects undertaken in previous years have been successful.

We are pleased to see our projects so well presented in the new pages for the literacy binder [CHSPTF Resourcebook on the Literacy Exchange].

Any donations to our baby book bag project will be gratefully accepted and well-used to encourage families to read to their young children. (Bonus - you get a tax-receipt from QFHSA.)

One again, thanks to all of those who help make our projects a success.

LAKESHORE REGIONAL COUNCIL

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94

Submitted by Pat Waters, President

The Lakeshore Regional Council of the Lakeshore School Board has met three times up to the time of this report being written, with two more meetings slated for March 23, 1994 and May 11, 1994.

Our first meeting was held October 20, 1993 and Jerry Chacun, a paramedic, came and spoke to us about a CPR/First Aid Course he is offering to the schools. It is called "Kids for Life" and is taught over a ten week period.

A major area of concern this year has been Bill 107 and on December 1, 1993 Bill Stockwell, Secretary General for the LSB and Ann Cumyn, a commissioner for the LSB, attended our meeting and informed us of the status of the position paper and how the Board is approaching it. Ann spoke of the role of the newly elected commissioners who will be dealing with the implementation of the new linguistic school boards and also the importance of the Parent Representatives on the Provisional Council.

At the December meeting, Karen Foley, a Director of the Strategic Learning Centre, spoke briefly on the programs they are offering individual students, as well as groups, in the school. These include study skills, remedial reading, tutoring and workshops for teachers, as well as parents.

On February 2, 1994, Barbara Milne-Smith, Past-President of the QFHSA, came and spoke to our members about the upcoming elections for the QFHSA executive. She also talked about the 50th Anniversary "Spring Conference" coming up on April 16, 1994.

Our LTA representative, John Goff, reported on the teachers' concerns about mainstreaming, Bill 107, contract negotiations and what is happening with the Education Policy Committee questionnaire.

Ed Holland, our LSB representative and commissioner, kept us up to date on the school security badge program, the ongoing consultations on Bill 107, the school rental policy and the school insurance coverage of Home & School activities.

Each of the Local Home & School reports was full of the hard work and wonderful achievements of their volunteers, but certain issues of concern surfaced as well: school security systems, changes to the Physical Education program, school vandalism, bus safety, school drop-off zones, new playground equipment and safety on our playgrounds, and finally, the proposed changes for the new linguistic school boards.

At our meeting on March 23, 1994, we will be discussing school security systems with Brian Lane, Chairman of the Security Committee for the LSB. On May 11, 1994, we have invited Margaret Mitchell to speak to us about "The Year of the Family" and the part the Home & School Association plays.

cont'd ...

Lakeshore Regional Council cont'd

The highlights of our meetings have been the presentation of the "Unsung Hero Award" to Gordon Robertson, and the excellent dialogue that takes place and nourishes the leaders in our Home & School Associations. Not only are we working to provide the best education for our children, but we are continually learning too!

LAKESHORE II - AREA REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94

Submitted by Brenda Dewar, Area Representative

Schools: Cedar Park, Seigniory, Greendale, Thorndale, John Rennie High

All of these local associations have active membership and personal contact has been maintained, sometimes challenging when local executive members are so very busy and volunteer numbers decline. Prior to various dates, e.g., Fall Conference and the Mid-term Presidents' Meeting, each local president was telephoned to reiterate information from QFHSA and to offer assistance. Several times local members have interacted with varied concerns and projects and hopefully all benefited from this dialogue.

LAKESHORE IV - AREA REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94

Submitted by Margaret Funnell, Vice-President

Schools: Allancroft, Beacon Hill, Windermere

Home and School Associations were called during the year to enquire about local activities, to ask how Quebec Federation might assist and to mention specific items or events that the locals should note. Allancroft and Beacon Hill replied that they were satisfied with the operation of their Home and Schools and Windermere requested sponsorship of a workshop speaker. James Thyer spoke at the school in February on the subjects of self-esteem and homework skills.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1993

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94

Submitted by the office & Ann Bishundayal, Hospitality Chairman

The theme for the 49th Annual Convention was **A Lot to Learn: Responding to Change**. In a change of format from previous years, an Early Bird Special workshop was held at the QFHSA office on Friday afternoon, April 23rd. This was an opportunity for out-of-town delegates to join others to discuss concerns of mutual interest. The Awards Banquet, held that evening at the PSBGM Administration Building, featured guest speakers Olivia Rovinescu and Clifton Ruggles on the topic of "Parenting Across Differences."

Awards

The Gordon Paterson Award for outstanding service to the education of children and for encouraging parent participation in school life was presented to Richard Meades, principal of Westmount High School. Recipient of the Leslie N. Buzzell Award for outstanding service to QFHSA was Marion Daigle. Her boundless energy, skills and commitment have served this organization in many capacities, including her most recent crusade as Quebec Literacy Director for the Literacy in the Information Age project of CHSPTF.

Two new awards were inaugurated this year designed to encourage schools to recognize the important role of their own volunteers. The Golden Torch Award honours an outstanding Home & School volunteer, while the Unsung Hero Award acknowledges the contribution of the dependable, conscientious volunteer.

Reader's Digest Association (Canada) Ltd. provided many of the book awards presented to school libraries for membership and newsletter achievements.

Program

Three concurrent workshops were presented on Saturday afternoon, April 24th:

Communication - A Look at One School's Educational Project

Presenter: Leo Lafrance

Hooked on Learning: All Year Round

Presenters: Philippe Gendron, Heather McDowell, Lorena Morante

Focus on Learning: Keeping Teens Stimulated about Learning

Presenters: Ann Olney Belden, Dennis Wall

Registration

There were 82 voting delegates representing 25 local associations and 14 members of the Board of Directors. In addition there were 11 others (including 6 who were individual members), 8 guests and 6 workshop leaders. Due to time limitations and a very crowded schedule, there were no commercial or educational displays.

Hospitality

Hospitality arrangements were coordinated by Ann Bishundayal and Anna Marrett. The Mother's Day placements for the two meals were created by students of Elizabeth Ballantyne School, and muffins and juice were provided by parents of that school.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AGM 1993

	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
Awards and gifts		
Buzzell & Paterson Awards (endowments)	\$	\$ 00.00
Gifts		122.04
Conference fees (Fall Conference & AGM)		
\$35 rec'd from 27 Local Associations	945.00	
Displayers	200.00	
(material included in kits)		
Facilities (PSBGM Administration Bldg.)		1,200.78
Hospitality		
Banquet, luncheon & coffee breaks	1,434.60	2,075.24
Flowers		67.02
SAQ permit		27.00
Sherry party		79.20
Miscellaneous		18.82
Registration		
Fees	15.00	
Kits (100 @ \$1.25)		125.00
Badges		30.00
Book of Reports (325 copies)		1,051.75
*Membership Development Fund		
[Out-of-town delegate expenses]		
Accommodation		297.12
Hospitality		50.00
Travel		782.71
Preview Flyer (1400 copies)		
Printing		249.78
Program		
Books for workshop leaders		170.81
Banquet speakers' expenses		87.78
Photography		125.00
Program Book (175 copies)		
Typesetting		231.12
Printing		34.67
	<u>\$2,594.60</u>	<u>\$6,825.84</u>

*Expenses reimbursed by the Membership Development Fund. [Printing and postage expenses of reports and communications to the Local Associations have not been included in this statement. The estimated cost is approximately \$1,000.]

FALL CONFERENCE - October 23/93

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94

Submitted by the office & Norma Ewen, Aylmer Area Representative

The theme of this year's conference was **Family Matters: Our Children, Whose Responsibility?** Dr. Oscar Grossman, Director, Research Department, and co-founder of the Argyle Institute of Human Relations, and Richard Meades, Principal of Westmount High School and the 1993 QFHSA Paterson Award winner, were the keynote speakers. If you missed the conference, you missed two fabulous speakers!

Following the plenary session, four concurrent workshops concluded the morning's activities:

La Loi 107. Travaillant vers de nouvelles associations et relations.

Presenters: Ann Cumyn, Sarah Dougherty

Barriers to Parental Involvement

Presenters: Nari Kumar, Nicole Le Bihan, Sunita Prasher

Volunteers - How to Get 'em and Keep 'em

Presenters: Alma Baker, Nancy Peppy

How to Organize a Home & School and Keep it Vital and Running

Presenters: Anne Swettenham, Debi Brown, & other Home & Schoolers

After a buffet luncheon served in the John Rennie High School cafeteria, three more concurrent workshops were offered in the afternoon:

Bill 107. Working Towards a New Partnership - Scenarios and Concerns.

[English version of the morning workshop]

Perspectives on Integration

Presenters: Diane McLean-Heywood, Anne MacWhirter

Mutual Respect within the Family

Presenters: Margaret Mitchell, Ed Cukier

Attendance was very good, with 114 registered delegates and workshop leaders. Of this number, the 13 pre-registered people who did not attend were balanced by 13 who came who had not registered. Thirty-four Home & School Associations were represented, including four from off-island. There were 21 school committees, including some non-Group Affiliate members who learned about the conference in the September membership campaign mailing. Three school boards were also represented - Lakeshore, PSBGM and Saguenay. Seventeen from the QFHSA Board of Directors were also present.

Of the 19 registered displayers, three were offered complimentary tables: The Gazette, Photo Art and Notre Dame Publishing. Of the remaining 16, 9 were commercial and 7 were non-commercial. The variety of displays generated enthusiastic interest from the delegates. The Home & School table with its display of resource materials also received many requests for additional materials and/or information.

Everyone who participated in the day's activities felt that it was time well-spent, from the informative workshops to the opportunity for exchanging ideas and concerns with other delegates from across the province.

THINK TANK - September 1/93

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94

Submitted by Vi Minto, General Arrangements

The annual "Back to School" Think Tank dinner for members of the Board of Directors, and past and current presidents of local associations of QFHSA was held on Wednesday, September 1/93, at the Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club with approximately 48 members in attendance. The special guest for this occasion was Grant Hawley, the new Associate Deputy Minister (Protestant), MEQ.

As introduced by Co-President "Coach" Allan Locke's "team spirit" pep talk, the evening's discussion focused on ways for the Board and local Home & School members to help each other to better do their jobs.

Following a discussion at each table, a spokesperson presented a summary of concerns and suggestions. Co-President Wendy Buchanan served as moderator for this wrap-up of the program. Of particular concern to parents was the impact of Bill 107 regarding linguistic school boards. Other topics included "family groupings" of classrooms, split classes, and uniforms and/or dress codes for high school students. Ideas were exchanged for encouraging volunteers to become involved in school activities and to share the work load of Home & School projects.

Evaluation comments were very positive about the format of the evening, but recommended that future Think Tank dinners allow more time for sharing information. One intriguing suggestion proposed a map indicating the location of the schools represented by those attending.

Ideas for future conferences included special workshops targeted at subjects of interest to high school parents, for families who move frequently, for children adjusting to parental divorce, for children with academic "smarts" who are afraid to use them because of peer pressure, and grouping classrooms/split classes.

Comments were also enthusiastic in stating that the evening provided a great networking opportunity to get new ideas and information.

MID-TERM PRESIDENTS' MEETING - February 05, 1994
Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16, 1994
Submitted by the office

The Mid-Term Presidents' Meeting was organized by Wendy Buchanan, Co-President. Besides the current local associations' presidents, future presidents and any other interested executive members were invited to attend. Ten schools were represented with 18 participants in all.

As always, the local exchange of ideas, questions and concerns was a highlight. One local president said - "liaison with someone on the QFHSA Executive is great; it's nice to get that phone call and know someone's there to help"; another said - "the sponsorship of speakers is an excellent addition; the written communication from the office is excellent".

Following a mid-morning break, Jan Gregory, Storyteller, entertained and entertain she did! First she explained what story tellers did - the importance of imparting your family's "history" and "background" to your children. This gives them a strong sense of self and a solid grounding for their own self respect. She told us a little about her parents and the mystery surrounding her paternal grandmother. Explained about some of the classes of students to whom she has told stories and the impact the stories and the sharing of the audience's stories seems to have on everyone, no matter what their age level. She was positively spell-binding and we were all sorry when she blew out the candle which she had lit at the beginning of our story telling and said it was over. We were only sorry that more schools had not had the opportunity to hear her and perhaps bring this idea back to their own schools.

PRESIDENTS/MEMBERSHIP/PUBLICITY/NEWSLETTERS WORKSHOP - June 9/93
Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94
Submitted by the office

We had a turnout of 26 persons for these annual workshops which are held in the QFHSA office. The group was divided into two groups: Anne Swettenham, QFHSA Executive Vice-President, chaired the Presidents/Publicity/Newsletter section. The Membership Workshop was conducted by Rickhey Langlois, QFHSA Recording Secretary. In hindsight it would perhaps have been better to distribute the participants somewhat differently, but a lot depends on group dynamics, etc.

We were pleased to welcome three people from the Ottawa/Aylmer area, plus one Group Affiliate member from the Laval area. They hoped to have a Home & School Association by the Fall.

A report of "helpful hints", that came out of each group's brainstorming, was sent out to those not present.

There were some interesting observations made on the registration sheets which were returned at the end of the evening:

Esther MacLeod, editor of the "Cedar Reader" at Cedar Park Elementary School in Pointe-Claire, felt that newsletter editors would like to have the opportunity to get together on their own to discuss technical details that would only be of interest to them.

Louise Amy, membership chairman of Lindsay Place High School, wondered if a telephone list of all membership chairpersons could be distributed. This would facilitate communication among membership committees for discussing ideas and pointers for their areas. [This was done, as the office has a list of the chairpersons which includes phone numbers. At this time of year it would be the previous year's people, but it would likely still be helpful, as not everyone changes and even if a person wasn't continuing in the position the successor would have been selected.]

Also, since June is such a busy month, some comments suggested perhaps a May date would be more convenient. Although this is a valid point, it is difficult to find time to prepare the kits and mail invitations in time. Although Group Affiliates are usually invited to these workshops, this year there was no time for an additional mailing.

COUNCIL FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION [CELE]
Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94
Submitted by Allan Locke, Co-president

This organization is coordinated by Alliance Quebec and is composed of representatives from the English Education sector, both Protestant and Catholic.

Bill 107 will create linguistic school boards; hence the work of this committee has intensified during this past year in anticipation of this major change.

Each member group has been encouraged to submit briefs to the Kenniff Committee and also to present its views directly to the Minister of Education.

This council is a valuable networking tool for QFHSA and enables us to keep in touch with our partners in Quebec education on an ongoing basis.

SECONDARY LANGUAGE ARTS ADVISORY COUNCIL [SLAAC]
Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94
Submitted by Esther MacLeod, liaison

The first meeting of SLAAC was held on October 21, 1993, at which time procedural matters were discussed and the video, *Failing Grades*, was viewed.

Two more meetings are scheduled for April 21 and May 12. The main topic on the agenda of the April meeting is feed back to the booklet, *Parents and the Language Arts*, prepared by a sub-committee on which Home & School was represented. This booklet for parents will be available from school boards in late 1994.

PROTESTANT SCHOOL BOARD OF GREATER MONTREAL [PSBGM]

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16, 1994

Submitted by Howard Solomon, QFHSIA liaison

This year the PSBGM celebrated excellence with the announcement that two of its teachers, John Allen and Morrie Bakerman, were winners of the Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence. The board refused to accept the Youth News Network but did approve the principle of a media literacy program. A new daycare policy has been instituted to recognize centralized control of PSBGM daycares. A review of problems associated with the new daycare system will be conducted soon.

Enrollment this year has increased again and is well over 31,000. A balanced budget was approved in June 1993 which forecasts the use of the last \$800,000 of accumulated surplus left on the books of the board. This is also the year that a new transportation contract must be negotiated.

Discussions are progressing for the sale of Westbrooke School and a \$1.5 million expansion of Lauren Hill Academy has been approved. A review of existing unused oil tanks will eventually lead to an evaluation of the cost involved in removing them safely and in accordance with existing environmental protection laws. The board has decided to purchase a new telephone system for its main office which will also allow an experiment on giving teachers voice mail lines for students to call to get homework assignments or information. A new policy on budget preparation and accountability procedures is expected to improve the control of board spending.

The new school in Rivière-des-Prairies has just been completed and should relieve some of the overcrowding in our French sector. The board also granted "Alternative" school status to DeRoberval, making it the first alternative school in the French sector. The long range planning department is about to undertake a review of the policy on alternative schools.

Parents have been concerned this year about a continuing decrease in services provided by government. Last year we lost the free milk program in many of our schools and this year we are facing a drastic change in the way the police "Youth Squad" will operate.

This has been a year of unusually heavy governmental involvement in school operations. Education Minister Michel Pagé was replaced by Lucienne Robillard who was, in turn, replaced by Jacques Chagnon. During this time the government has issued an educational reform paper called "Moving Ahead", and introduced Bill 198 on administrative cutbacks and Bill 102 on public service salary cutbacks.

Since the Supreme Court decision accepting the government position on linguistic school boards, the Minister of Education has created a committee to report to him on the best way to implement Bill 107. We are also in the last year of school board mandates and the new Councils elected in November 1994 will be responsible to organize the new linguistic school boards. The PSBGM consultation document on linguistic school boards was issued in January with returns expected in mid-March. It advocates existing Catholic school board

PSBGM con'td

boundaries for French linguistic school boards and existing Protestant school board boundaries for English linguistic school boards. The PSBGM suggests that all of its students transfer to the linguistic school board (English or French) which serves their local area. While the official board position advocates two Montreal Island English language school boards, the Chairman of the PSBGM has said that he would prefer one English school board for the whole island. He is hoping the consultation will allow him to suggest that position in his capacity as a member of the Kenniff committee which must report to the Minister of Education before the end of June 1994.

QUEBEC SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94
Submitted by Allan Locke, Co-president

This organization representing all Protestant School Boards in Quebec has changed its name during the past year from the QAPSB [Quebec Association of Protestant School Boards] to reflect the changes coming with new linguistic school boards.

A workshop was held in conjunction with their annual meeting to explore the best ways to integrate the former Protestant and Catholic school boards into linguistic boards to be operational by September 1996. The creation of these new school boards will be a major area of activity by the existing boards for the coming two years.

We were guests at their annual Spring Conference in Ottawa and continue our close liaison with this organization.

AWARDS

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94
Submitted by Wendy Buchanan

The Selection Committee met on Sunday, March 20, 1994. The nominations for the awards were reviewed and the following decisions were made:

The 1994 winner of the Leslie N. Buzzell Award, for outstanding service to Quebec Federation, is Mrs. Ann Cumyn of Baie d'Urfé.

The winner of the Gordon Paterson Award, for an educator who has given long service to the education of children and has encouraged the participation of parents in the educational scene, is Miss Mehta Bos, of Nemaska, James Bay.

Both of these women are most deserving of this recognition and it is an honour for the Selection Committee to put their names forward.

NEWSLETTER AWARDS

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94
Submitted by Diane Radu, Editor, "Focus on the Locals"

The varied and outstanding newsletters put out by the local associations continues to impress us all greatly.

The criteria on which the newsletters were judged was (1) design (use of space and graphics); (2) "mix" of content (school/student/teacher/classroom news); (3) Home & School coverage; and (4) overall impression and readability.

The 1994 winners are:-

Elizabeth Ballantyne School - "EB Update" - Ann Bishundayal, editor.

Evergreen School - "Evergreen Events" - Wendy Oliver, editor.

Mount Pleasant - "Chalk Talk" - Dawn Hirsch, editor.

Westmount High - "Westmount High Home & School Newsletter" - Anna Marrett, editor.

CONSTITUTION

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94
Submitted by Gisela Amarica, Chairman

No changes were suggested to the Constitution, By-laws and Standing Rules this year. Last year one change was made to the Standing Rules by the Board of Directors at the March 12, 1993, Board meeting. This change permitted us to accept amendments to resolutions as a result of information obtained during the [new] Caucus Session held during the Annual General Meeting.

In January 1993 all Home & School Associations were sent a new copy of the QFHSA Constitution (as of April 1992). It is not practical to send out a new constitution each time a change is made, but if you want your copy to be up to date you need only ask the office for an updated version.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94
Submitted by Ann Cumyn, Chairman

The former Minister of Education, Mme Robillard, gave the educational community food for thought and an opportunity for discussion in the consultation document "Moving Ahead." The Education Committee was mandated by the Board of Directors to respond to this document on behalf of QFHSA. Provincial organizations were given the opportunity to present their responses directly to the Minister via a series of hearings. QFHSA was one of those organizations which was privileged to make an oral presentation.

It is our belief that QFHSA was well received by the Minister. It is important that QFHSA not ignore its provincial role of communicating, on behalf of its members, with the Minister of Education on pedagogical and other matters relating to the total education of our children.

QFHSA's response has been circulated to the local associations in the "resolutions package". Two of these resolutions, submitted to the AGM by the Education Committee, are reinforcing points made in the response.

The booklet of children's writing is being produced again this year. The media today is saturated with messages of bad news. To counteract this, the focus of this year's booklet is on animals, a topic which most children view positively.

The work of the members of the Education Committee who have contributed to the above is very much appreciated - Allan Locke, Marion Daigle, Barbara Milne-Smith, Gordon Robertson, and, helping with the 1993 literary booklet, Wendy Buchanan, Pat Lewis, Laurie Echer.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94
Submitted by Barbara Milne-Smith, Past-president

Several members of the committee met in October to brain storm ideas to increase our members and our finances.

We first enumerated our present main sources of income:

- Membership fess - were increased to \$12.00 a year ago.
- Quebec Ministry of Education grant - usually about \$20,000.
- Secretary of State Membership Development grant - cut by 10% this year to \$18,000.

MEMBERSHIP

Rather than considering an increase in our membership fee rate, we discussed some of the things we should be doing to help increase our membership numbers:

- Target schools that are having problems to see what help we can give them.
- Give more training to chairmen.
- Twin membership chairmen with a board or executive member or another membership chairman.
- Speak to people one-on-one.
- Everyone, including board members, should carry a few membership cards with them to be able to take memberships wherever and whenever.
- In view of coming linguistic boards, start contacting English-Catholic schools.
- Try to expand our membership base.
- One suggestion towards this was to look into the feasibility of forming locals outside a home-school base.

QUEBEC MINISTRY OF EDUCATION GRANT

In view of our increasing costs, we had requested a much larger grant this year but received the same amount as last year; but will again, in 1994, ask for an increase.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANT

This grant from the Secretary of State is given to us to assist us to service our membership living off the Island of Montreal and to help us be able to increase our membership numbers all across the province. It is part of the Secretary of State's Support to Official Language Community Organizations and Institutional Program of the Promotion of Official Languages Branch program. We receive it because we are the minority language in Quebec.

It is used both to allow us to visit areas all across the province and to bring our off-island members to our Montreal conferences, to help with the costs of our Home & School NEWS which goes to all members, and to help fund new materials.

cont'd ...

Finance Committee cont'd

FUNDRAISING

This discussion led us quite naturally to think about further ways of generating income. Some of the ideas were:

- Today's Home Library - a shop-at-home book catalogue.
- Freezer draw.
- Find a sponsor for one of our conference meals.
- Stay-in-School Initiative programs, in partnership with a local.
- Multiculturalism Quebec.
- Secretary of State - project grant - if any available this year.
- Use of our Charitable Tax Number to encourage donations.
- Technology for Learning project -to possibly get a new copier.
- Literacy Partners' Project - With the share of the profits they received from the PGI Tournament, they are ready to accept proposals for \$3000 for projects under the theme, Family and Community Literacy.

ACTION

It was agreed we should prioritize our needs and our activities, and several of those present agreed to follow up on some of the suggested ideas.

In December some of the members met twice to complete and submit our application for a 1994 Membership Development grant, and to consider a topic for a special project application. It was decided to apply for funds to prepare a document called "A Celebration of Fifty Years of Home & School." Both these applications were due December 31st.

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Deborah Brown
Wendy Buchanan
Marion Daigle
Margaret Funnell

Helen Koeppe
Allan Locke
Barbara Milne-Smith
Donna Sauriol

**QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS**

3285 CAVENDISH BLVD., SUITE 562, MONTREAL, QUEBEC H4B 2L9 TELEPHONE: (514) 481-5619

Proposed Budget for 1994-95**OPERATING FUND**

	Audited Statement 1992/93	Budget 1993/94	Proposed Budget 1994/95
REVENUES			
Membership Fees - \$12/family	\$51,719	\$60,000	\$60,000
- \$50/Grp. Aff.	4,540	4,500	4,500
Government Grant	20,000	80,000	80,000
Donations	876	1,500	1,500
Annual and Fall Conferences	5,127	5,000	6,000
Projects (Literacy)	809	-	1,000
Interest	1,437	1,500	1,000
GST and PST Refund	3,547	2,000	4,000
CHSPTF Annual Meeting	1,715	-	-
	<u>89,770</u>	<u>154,500</u>	<u>158,000</u>
EXPENSES			
Salaries and wage levies	35,876	60,000	60,000
Home & School NEWS [netted]	26,962	30,000	35,000
Membership Materials [netted]	429	6,700	5,500
Meeting/Conferences			
AGM and Fall	4,167}		6,000
CHSPTF	1,634}		3,000
Committees	1,727}	8,500	2,000
Other	18}		1,000
Affiliation fees to CHSPTF	4,840	5,500	5,000
Donations returned to H&S locals	862	1,300	1,000
Administration	2,603	3,000	3,000
Rent and occupancy (no taxes)	11,669	14,000	13,000
Telephone	1,488	3,000	2,000
Postage and courier	5,466	5,500	7,000
Maintenance and supplies	4,089	6,000	5,500
Miscellaneous	696	2,000	2,000
Projects (Literacy/ Year of the Family)	1,390	4,000	3,000
Capital Expenditures	-	5,000	4,000
	<u>\$ 105,763</u>	<u>154,500</u>	<u>158,000</u>
Excess of expenses	(14,146)		

(File: Comm\Finance\Budget\1994-95)



A MEMBER OF THE CANADIAN HOME AND SCHOOL AND PARENT-TEACHER FEDERATION

HEALTH ISSUES

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16, 1994
Submitted by Shirley Straughton, Chairperson

The Canadian health care system is a model for many countries. But while the United States is investigating the implementation of such a system, there are concerns raised about the reliability of Canada's medicare program.

Studies show that only 2% of the health care budget is directed to preventative measures. Yet prevention is much more cost-effective than the treatment of illness or accidental injury. The Canadian government should be encouraged to take an active role in prevention. The health issues that have been raised throughout the 1993 - 1994 year are:

Hepatitis B Vaccine

Hepatitis B is becoming as widespread as the AIDS virus and is transmitted via the blood, sperm or vaginal secretions of an infected person. This disease affects the liver and can lead to cirrhosis of the liver, liver failure, and cancer of the liver. The symptoms may appear 6 weeks to 6 months after the virus enters the body so the infected person can be contagious and pass on this disease long before there is awareness of the infection.

Both the Canadian Pediatric Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics are recommending routine immunization of the Hepatitis B vaccine. It has been proven to be 90% effective and is administered in a series of 3 doses with only mild side effects reported. However, despite these recommendations, the Hepatitis B vaccine is not covered by the Quebec government as part of the routine vaccination program.

Bicycle Helmets

Head injuries are one of the leading causes of death and disability in the pediatric and adolescent population. As cyclists, children are vulnerable to accidental injury due to their higher center of gravity.

The use of a bicycle helmet will decrease the number of children injured each year. A helmet will absorb the force of impact, distributing it over the surface and padding instead of the head. A child's risk of serious head injury will be reduced by 85%.

A resolution has been submitted to QFHSA calling for legislation of mandatory bicycle helmets directed to the Quebec Minister of Health and Social Services as well as the Minister of Transport. Recommendations have been directed to parents to act as role models by wearing helmets themselves and for local Home & School Associations to inquire into discounts for their students. The Canadian Tire Child Protection Foundation deserves recognition for its efforts in offering safe and inexpensive helmets to local Home and School Associations.

CPR

Choking, electrocution, drowning, and heart attacks are all situations in which the knowledge of CPR is essential. Immediate and effective resuscitation can prevent irreversible brain damage. Ninety-one percent of

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the time that CPR is used, the rescuer knows the victim and 64% of the time, it is a family member. The investment of 4 - 6 hours to learn CPR from a certified instructor has been proven worthwhile.

Local Home and School Associations are urged to organize CPR courses for their members, students and staff. As well, they are asked to question the requirements of their daycare personnel, lunch time supervisors, etc., within their schools.

Group B Strep

Fifteen to 35% of all healthy, adult women are thought to be carriers of the Group B Streptococcus bacteria. This bacteria has been found to be one of the major causes of life-threatening infections in newborn infants. Shock, pneumonia, and meningitis can result, leading to death or permanent brain damage.

The Canadian Group B Strep Association estimates that 1200 newborns in Canada will become infected with Group B Strep causing approximately 200 deaths and 500 babies left with physical and/or mental handicaps. There is testing available but it is NOT routinely done on all pregnant women. Treatment consists of intravenous antibiotics during labor for women who are positive for Group B Strep and who are in a high risk group, i.e.: prolonged rupture of membranes, premature labor, fever during labor, or a prior history of Group B Strep.

A resolution has been submitted to QFHSA directed to the Minister of Health and Social Services of Quebec urging the implementation of legislation to provide for mandatory testing of all pregnant women for the Group B Streptococcus bacteria.

LITERACY IN THE INFORMATION AGE - QUEBEC LITERACY PROJECTS

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16, 1994

Submitted by Marion Daigle, Quebec Literacy Director

The project Literacy in the Information Age, launched by CHSPTF in 1989, continues to expand its activities to suit the needs of many different groups and communities.

Literacy and Citizenship: Removing the Barriers

With funding from Heritage Canada at the national level, a major survey (Phase VI) was conducted regarding the participation of ethnocultural minorities, visible minorities and first generation Canadian parents in the education of their children. The results of this survey became the focus of a national consultation (Phase VII) on Literacy and Citizenship - Removing the Barriers, held in Ottawa on November 12 and 13. An excellent booklet was produced describing the results of the survey and is available at the QFHSA office.

The following is a summary of suggested To-Do's for Home and School Associations:

- Understand your community.
- Provide in-service training for volunteers for understanding new cultures in Canada.
- Restructure Home & School Associations to promote inclusion.
- Be alert - listening for new parents.
- Build partnerships.
- Use a "buddy" system; help a new parent to understand Canadian life.
- Circulate information explaining what Home & School is all about.
- Identify needs at home to qualify support for the school.
- Organize Welcoming Models.
- Solicit inter-agency cooperation.

It is clear that all established organizations need to do more to be inclusive. The Resourcebook on the Literacy Exchange, updates and new additions, especially to the activity section, were sent out to all Home & School Associations across Canada.

The following is a summary of events and activities from March 1993 to March 1994. Detailed reports have been submitted to QFHSA Board of Directors and CHSPTF on a regular basis. Unless otherwise stated, Marion Daigle represented QFHSA.

March 1993

- Technology for Learning Project - The Huntingdon Networking for Youth Exchange was chosen as a pilot site in Quebec. Under the sponsorship of the Learning Support Council of Canada and CHSPTF, this project recycles technological equipment into community organizations, schools, etc., as a means of building a literate learning environment.
- Meadowbrook School - panel member on topic "Understanding the Need to be Media Literate in the TV Age" sponsored by Citizens Against Violence on the Screen.

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Quebec Literacy Project

April 1993

- QFHSA Annual Meeting - A Lot to Learn: Responding to Change. Theme and workshops had a basis in the literacy project.
- Campbell's Bay - Outaouais region - a literacy exchange

May 1993

- Literacy Exchange - Shigawake/Port Daniel - part of the Stay-in-School Initiative.
- CASA - attended Annual General Meeting and conference of the Gaspé Committee for Anglophone Social Action.
- New Carlisle Literacy Exchange - see report from co-ordinator Anne MacWhirter. This exchange is making a difference with its reading projects.
- Book Fair, Montreal - a literacy display manned by Helen Koeppé, Anna Marrett, Donna Sauriol and Wendy Buchanan.
- FCPPQ Conference, Saint Augustin-de-Desmaures - held a four hour workshop on Creating a Learning Environment: The Home, The School, and The Community.
- QAAL (Quebec Association for Adult Learning) - elected to the Board of Directors.

June 1993

- Awareness and Knowledge: Tools for Living with the Media, Dawson College - panelist at conference for educators, parents, community workers, researchers and media professionals.
- Welcome Wagon - speaker on importance of reading for young children; also a display table about Home & School - for expecting parents.
- 97th Annual National PTA Convention - Harold Spanier, Nomad Scientists, took CHSPTF information about Literacy Project to this event.

August 1993

- Peter Gzowski Invitational Tournament for Literacy - organized by The Gazette and Literacy Partners of Quebec (LPQ). As a member of LPQ we participated in selling tickets. Tournament raised approximately \$30,000. Attended by Helen Koeppé and her husband.
- Huntingdon Literacy Exchange was one of 12 groups awarded funds for a community reading program.

September 1993

- YWCA - Women and Literacy Conference. Theme: Women and Literacy - Breaking the Barriers to Learning - first conference on this topic in Montreal.

October 1993

- Gaspé Tour - Belle Anse Literacy Exchange, Technology for Learning meetings, Rural Schools Educational Conference, meetings with New Carlisle Literacy Exchange.
- Fall Conference QFHSA - presented workshop on Barriers to Parental Involvement, part of Phase VII of CHSPTF project.

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Quebec Literacy Project

November 1993

- Literacy for Citizenship - Removing the Barriers - CHSPTF Consultation Conference - discussed previously in this report.
- Literacy Partners of Quebec - Annual General Meeting - a coalition of all English language organizations, groups and individuals. Elected as secretary of the Board of Directors for 1993-94.
- Welcome Wagon - a second opportunity to speak on reading to children and a display for Home and School - for expecting parents.
- PAPT-PACT Convention - Circulation of literacy information to teachers, etc., by Home & School volunteers.

December 1993

- QFHSA Education Committee - worked as a member on writing brief to Minister of Education on the consultation document "Moving Ahead."
- Membership Development Committee - member of committee on submission to the Secretary of State for funding.
- Association of Media Educators of Quebec - continue as a member.

January 1994

- Resolutions for AGM - worked with Education chair Ann Cumyn on resolutions on Poverty and Learning, Law 107, Physical Education, etc.
- Reading Recovery Information Session - sponsored by LPQ and Centre for Literacy.

February 1994

- Family Fun Fair - Dawson College - for adult literacy learners and their families. Activities included music, storytelling, art, computers, science, Youth Theatre, food, family and fun. Attended for QFHSA.
- John Abbott College - Department of Library Systems and Documentation - third annual bake sale for my book campaign. The funds raised help with the mailing costs to the Gaspé and Lower North Shore. Gave a workshop.
- McGill University Centre for Leadership in Education - attended a presentation by Barbara Coloroso, of Colorado, educator, on Winning at Teaching without Beating your Kids - part of her Kids Are Worth It series.

March 1994

- Kegaska and Harrington Harbour - two more literacy exchanges on the Lower North Shore - QFHSA and Nomad Scientists funded in partnership with Littoral School Board Adult Education Services and LPQ. Presentations will focus on International Year of Family literacy themes.
- Lakeshore School Board - a presentation to LSB elementary principals and administrators on the project with special emphasis on The Resourcebook with its new additions.
- Network for Youth - Huntingdon Literacy Exchange - Margaret Mitchell, LSB, will give a second presentation for parents on family and self-esteem at St. Joseph's School - open to the community.

Book Drives

Contributions of books continue from many sources. Philippe Gendron, Read Canada, and Harold Spanier, Nomad Scientists, have been particularly generous in their support.

Recommendation:

That Home and School Associations incorporate fun/learning activities into International Year of the Family celebrations.

MEMBERSHIP

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16, 1994

Submitted by the office**MEMBERSHIP**

	March 01/94	March 01/93
Associations submitting membership lists	47	44
Associations which have not submitted lists	2	1
Number of Family Memberships through H&S locals	4,708*	4,308
Supporting Members (not through a local H&S)	21	31
Group Affiliate Members	93	84

* This figure indicates paid memberships; it does not include associate members (families who have joined at more than one school).

1993/94 MEMBERSHIP AWARDS ¹ (based on number of families)

ON ISLAND BOARDS - Elementary Schools

	<u>%</u>	<u>Membership Chairmen</u>
Royal Vale	100.0%	Cindy Schwager, Pres.
Elizabeth Ballantyne	98.0%	Catherine Maxham
Beacon Hill	89.1%	Wendy Tonkin
Christmas Park	80.3%	Cheryl Patton

Honourable Mention

Ecole Primaire Beaconsfield	75.0%	Haifa Darwiche
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ON ISLAND BOARDS - Secondary Schools

Hudson High	23.8%	Heidy Berthoud
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Honourable Mention

Royal West	19.4%	Kathryn Arrell
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OFF ISLAND SCHOOLS

Baie Comeau Elementary/High	70.8%	Pamela Lalonde
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Honourable Mention

New Carlisle Elementary/High	23.7%	Janice Sylvestre
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¹ Based on membership lists received at the office by March 1st, 1994.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94
Submitted by Margaret Funnell

Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations [QFHSA] again received a Secretary of State grant for the purposes of membership development, though in common with all federal grants it was reduced by ten percent from the preceding year. This grant helped pay for off-island members to come to the QFHSA Annual Meeting and Fall Leadership conferences and it made possible workshops for Home and School presidents and executives, on-island workshops for parents and workshops on membership, newsletters and publicity.

Out-reach to off-island parents, QFHSA literacy projects and Teacher Appreciation Week work done with or for parents were also part of the membership development program. Representation to outside educational groups and enabling off-island Board members to attend meetings were covered as were materials to promote leadership and parenting skills and a share of the cost of the Home and School NEWS. QFHSA has applied for another grant in this 1994 International Year of the Family under the title Family matters: Our Children - Whose responsibility?

In particular, in Spring 1993 during the last grant year, QFHSA visited Shigawake - Port Daniel where work was done to create learning environments in school and community and to provide leadership for community volunteers. Several trips were made to Huntingdon in the interest of helping parent leaders with literacy enrichment and, in Fall 1993, QFHSA were able to go to Belle Anse in the Gaspé for a project on parental responsibility for education in the home. The community was able to set up a 'Born to Read' program to encourage parents with preschoolers to read to them. At the time of writing of this report, QFHSA hopes to be going to the lower North Shore in early March.

On-island workshops for parents included sponsorship of speakers at Edinburgh, Northview and Windermere Home and Schools and at the time of writing several more are planned.

MORAL AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION [MRE]

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94

Submitted by Elizabeth L. Manker, Chairman

This past year efforts were directed mainly at gaining support of the continuation of the Moral and Religious Education programs in schools. In this effort we have been actively involved with the Association of Moral and Religious Educators of Quebec [AMREQ], encouraging support from administration, teachers, and parents, as well as pointing to the importance of the program, for our students.

This year we were successful in officially joining forces with AMREQ: this organization has taken a group affiliation membership in QFHSA. QFHSA has, in turn, joined AMREQ and will serve on AMREQ's Executive Committee.

We have networked with other groups also, encouraging interest in QFHSA. We represented QFHSA at the International Peace Symposium (October 2/93) and met with officials of the Loyola Peace Institute, the Symposium planners.

The MRE Chairman has attended other meetings and conferences and has provided general support for our goals.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES IN EDUCATION

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94

Submitted by Marion Daigle

This year there was no consultative meeting as there has been in past years.

Reports from firms of consultants hired in 1991-92 have been received:

1. Evaluation of the 1988-89 to 1992-93 Protocol for Agreements - Final Report: Do note some of the concerns from QFHSA on accountability; e.g. definition of additional costs and lack of consultation by Quebec bureaucracy with school boards and other educational partners. This is not to say that any action on these matters will be reflected in the new Protocols. We can only wait and see.
2. Official Languages in Education Program; an Evaluation - Summary, January 31, 1992: This outlines concerns expressed across the country about how well the programs were implemented in the last five years. Again, the Department of the Secretary of State is looking to improve and/or make necessary changes.

Both reports are weighted on concerns of the francophone population living outside Quebec.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94

Submitted by Barbara Milne-Smith, Chairman

The Nominations Committee was appointed, in accordance with our constitution, by the Board of Directors at the November meeting and, in January, a letter inviting nomination was mailed out to our Home and School locals and our Board of Directors' members. It set a deadline of February 16th for their receipt in our provincial office.

On February 17th the committee met, opened the two nominations received, and considered further names to contact to try to complete our slate of executive members for 1994-95. We met again on February 21st, reported our results and decided on further names to call.

We are very pleased to report that we were able to recruit members to fill all positions and, on March 4th, we circulated a letter telling our local Home and Schools and our board members that the following members have agreed to allow their names to stand for election to our QFHSA Executive Committee for a two year term:

Recording Secretary:	Miriam Lalande	-	Meadowbrook
Treasurer:	Deborah Brown	-	Aylmer
Vice-Presidents:	Ann Bishundayal	-	Elizabeth Ballantyne
	Rickhey Langlois	-	E. P. Harwood
	Jocelyn Pickler	-	Courtland Park
	Albert Thorne	-	Beacon Hill

Together with the following present members of the Executive Committee who are continuing in office until 1995, this gives us a complete slate of officers for the 1994-95 year:

Co-Presidents:	Wendy Buchanan	-	John Rennie High
	Allan Locke	-	Lindsay Place High
Executive Vice-Pres.:	Anne Swettenham	-	E. P. Harwood
Vice-Presidents:	Peggy Aitken	-	New Richmond High
	Margaret Funnell	-	John Rennie High
	Betty Lou Manker	-	Windermere
	Patricia Waters	-	E. P. Beaconsfield
Past President:	Barb Milne-Smith	-	John Rennie High

According to our constitution, further nominations may be made for any position, provided they are accompanied by the signatures of at least twenty-five members, together with the nominee's acceptance, and they must be received not later than April 2nd. If any such nominations do come in, we will then have an election by ballot for the position(s) in question.

We wish to extend our thanks to all those who have so generously agreed to be part of our provincial Executive Committee and to wish them well in their deliberations next year.

The members of the Nominations Committee are:

Ann Bishundayal	Julia Curry	Barbara Milne-Smith
Tyla Corber	Helen Koeppel	Cindy Schwager

Quebec Home & School NEWS

Report to the Annual General Meeting, April 16, 1994

Submitted by the office

While we still do not have a formal Editor and/or Layout person, our newspaper is faithfully served by several Home & Schoolers and "friends". We are indebted to Joan Daigle, Marion Daigle's daughter, who lays out approximately half the paper each issue, proof reads, etc. If any one of you would like to do lay out you can work on it here in the office, or at home.

The newspaper is meant to come out every other month during the school year, i.e. five issues a year. During the calendar year of 1993 there were five issues, but there will only be four during 1994 due to financial constraints.

We are grateful to all the schools that faithfully send in material on their activities for **Focus on the Locals** and are pleased to report that this section has grown during the past year. Photos, school logos or crests, are all welcome as they add interest to your articles. Diane Radu, Editor of **Focus on the Locals**, does a wonderful job finding interesting information from your Minutes, newsletters sent to your parents, etc., so if you do not have a Publicity Chairperson why not ask someone if they would send along the school notices, minutes of meetings, etc., to us and Diane will work her magic.

Our Book Review section has grown. Besides Ken Radu, who handles **Books on Review**, and does a super job reviewing Canadian children's stories, we have Leslie Hirst (Seigniory), Anna Marratt (Westmount High) and Ann and Deo Bishundayal (Elizabeth Ballantyne) who review other types of books for us. Reading is so crucial in our lives that it is nice to have such capable reviewers "on staff".

Don Smith, Editor of **Safety Scene**, continues to bring forward topical safety issues. Last June he wrote a provocative article on school bus accidents versus bicycle accidents [when not wearing a helmet]. He wondered aloud why, when the ratio of school bus related deaths to bicycling deaths (in the same age group) was 7 to 95 over a four year period, there was no outcry re the urgent need for children to wear helmets.

Patricia Lewis continues to address **Social Issues** and her concern for all our children is very evident. Pat includes a good list of possible **Resource Materials**, of interest to parents and teachers, with her articles. This year she has been joined by Shirley Straughton who is addressing **Health Concerns**. Shirley, a parent at Dorset, is a nurse at the Montreal Children's Hospital and has first hand knowledge of what some of the problems are. John DeNora writes on **Human Sexuality and Sex Education** and he too often supplies a list of reading material if you wish to research a topic in greater depth. John has a Masters degree in Human Sexuality and has been a teacher for 35 years.

We are always delighted to receive editorials, or ideas for editorials, on issues that you feel are important and should be addressed. Last year we ran two articles by Ron Macfarlane, Principal at Royal West Academy, on what he sees as the Principal's role in a school. We also welcome articles for **Other People's Opinions** and/or **Letters to the Editor**. Remember it is **YOUR** newspaper; it should reflect **YOUR** concerns.

DISPOSITION OF 1993 RESOLUTIONS

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94

Submitted by Helen Koeppé

Resolutions adopted by the delegates at QFHSA Annual General meetings cover a lot of territory both in terms of issues and in destinations. The direct responses received reflect this diversity. The importance of the action is not directly reflected by either the substance or the number of the responses, but in the process of considering, polishing, amending and putting concerns in writing. QFHSA members have an enviable track record of consultation and action in regard to their concerns.

93/4 Adolescent Drug Rehabilitation Services**93/11 Assignment of School Social Workers**

The most responses garnered for 1993 resolutions were for the resolutions regarding drug rehabilitation services and the assignment of school social workers. In addition to an acknowledgment from the office of the Minister of Health and Social Services, five others were received from CLSCs in Outaouais, Montre-Centre, Saguenay-Lac-St. Jean, and Laval. These resolutions merit re-examination and reaffirmation at a future meeting.

93/3 Charter Bus Safety

Charter Bus Safety addressed in Resolution 93/3 received a curt letter of acknowledgement from the Minister responsible for the Treasury Board, then Mr. Daniel Johnson.

93/5 Definition of "Learning Disabilities" used by the MEQ

This resolution on the Definition of "Learning Disabilities" used by the Ministry of Education was acknowledged. No discussion.

93/6 Gun Control Legislation

Resolution 93/6 expressing support for the Coalition for Gun Control received three responses from the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada (outlining the progress made in legislation, screening process, etc.); an acknowledgement from the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police in Ottawa; and also one from the office of the Executive Committee of the City of Montreal. Phone calls were also received from CGC.

93/8 Media Literacy in the School Curriculum

The Canadian Radio-TV & Telecommunications Commission was sent a copy of Resolution 93/8 Media Literacy and responded at length, outlining progress made in consultations with other groups and agencies concerned about the "impact of television on youth and children". A CRTC fact sheet listing initiatives regarding violence on television was attached.

93/9 Schools and the Copyright Act

This resolution was answered by the office of the Secretary of State and Minister of Communications (Canada) by a brief letter stating that work on Phase II was ongoing and that copyright reform legislation would exclude exemption for educational institutions.

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Disposition of 1993 Resolutions cont'd**93/10 Task Force on English Education - Recommendation (1)**

The thorny issue of greater access to English schools addressed by Recommendation 1 of the Task Force on English Education report and by QFHSA Resolution 93/10 was responded to by an acknowledgment from the offices of the Quebec Minister of Culture and Minister of Education. In addition, an aide to the Minister responsible for the application of the Charter of the French Language [Law 101] replied that it "was not advisable to open the question of access to English schools".

As committee chairman I would encourage submitting associations to resubmit resolutions if the answers received are deemed inadequate. Copies of responses are available from the office upon request.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94

Submitted by Allan Locke, Vice-President

The Student Accident plan for 1994/95 of Reliable Life Insurance Company is very similar to last year's and the premium costs have not changed. An effort has been made to make the "forms" more user friendly this year in response to the type of queries the company has received.

Three different plans (with different premiums) are offered students; one plan only for university, college and CEGEP students; and a plan for parents, adults, teachers, mature students, etc. You will be covered for a one year period from the date of our submission, rather than from one school year to the next. At the end of the year a renewal package will be sent to you at home should you wish to continue with the student accident insurance plan.

RECOMMENDATION: that QFHSA continue with the Reliable Life Insurance Student/Family Accident insurance plan for the 1994/95 school year.

SOCIAL AFFAIRS/SUPPORT SERVICES COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94

Submitted by Pat Lewis

The past year has been very busy for the Social Affairs Committee. For the most part the same issues exist today, although there have been some changes for the better since last April.

The United Nations has declared that 1994 is International Year of the Family. If we want to have a better world in the 21st century, then we should help each other to take steps to preserve this heart of our society, even though the family is changing in purpose and composition. Penelope Leach, author of Children First, spoke on a recent CBC Newsworld program about the importance of child care and part time work, and about how young parents may get support. Quite a number of people are deciding not to have children at all, because of the financial problems of raising kids in the 90's, she says, and one of the questions to be answered is how to integrate school systems with many kinds of children - not the other way around. For more information about the International Year of the Family, contact: Lise Lavoie, Coordinator, International Year of the Family, Health Canada, Room 964, Jeanne Mance Building, Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa K1A 0K9; (613) 941-6244.

CHILDREN'S BASIC RIGHTS

Are they being met? According to the 1994 Report on the State of the World's Children from UNICEF, AIDS is overtaking measles and malaria as the leading killer of children in several African countries. Only about two per cent of development aid is directed to educating young children. One in five children in the U.S. now lives below the poverty line. Millions of children are not growing as they should. Many are brain damaged just because they lack tiny amounts of iodine. There are still about 40,000 children who die every day from malnutrition and preventable diseases.

Following are some goals passed at the 1990 World Summit for Children and considered feasible to attain by the end of this decade:

1. A one-third reduction in death rates of under fives;
2. Halving of maternal mortality rates;
3. A halving of severe to moderate malnutrition for under fives.
4. Safe water and sanitation for all families;
5. Basic education for all children and completion of primary education by at least eighty per cent;
6. Halving of the adult illiteracy rate and equal educational opportunity for males and females;
7. Protection for the many millions of children in especially difficult circumstances.

Where does this leave the U. N. - with the 35 wars going on at present?

SMOKING

"Smoking can kill you" and "Cigarettes are addictive" are two of the blunt warnings the tobacco industry in Canada has been ordered to put on cigarette packages by September. The companies claim that these warnings will have no

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Social Affairs/Support Services cont'd

greater impact than the current ones. The new Tobacco Products Control Act bans tobacco ads in the media, as well as other things. The Supreme Court of Canada has agreed to hear the arguments of the companies that this act violates their freedom of speech. In Canada smoking has decreased among adult males; it has increased among females and very young boys and girls. The reduction of taxes on cigarettes has brought down the sales of smuggled and illegal cigarettes, but it has to be proved that this will reduce smoking among teenagers - even though the age for being able to legally buy cigarettes has been raised to eighteen. Also Ottawa will prosecute cigarette sellers who advertise by mail. There have been recent reports that the tobacco companies are adding extra nicotine without informing cigarette buyers, which may increase nicotine addiction. A West Island resident spearheaded a campaign against smoking in McDonald's Restaurants, and it appears that he has won, because McDonald's Restaurants of Canada has declared that it will ban smoking in all 253 company owned restaurants.

Canadian scientists have discovered the first biological proof that daily exposure to second-hand smoke can affect the fetuses of pregnant women. This means that "significant amounts of smoke find the way through the placenta into the baby even if the mother does not smoke." Other studies show that there is danger to offspring of mothers who smoked during pregnancy as well.

VIOLENCE IN SOCIETY AND IN MEDIA

In late 1993 the Canadian Association of Broadcasters announced that by January 1, 1994, the toughest Television Violence Code in North America must be accepted. It provides for an outright ban on 'gratuitous violence,' confinement of scenes of violence intended for adults to later than 9 p.m., and viewer advisories to help adults in program selection for kids. There are stiff, specific rules for children's programming, and other guidelines for violence in news, sports and public affairs programming. Even Ann Landers cautions parents to monitor children's TV habits. In the U. S. the four broadcast networks agreed in principle to use an independent monitor to review their programs for violent content. Even Pope John Paul condemned television as a major threat to family life.

The March issue of National Geographic's WORLD magazine (for children) carried a special tribute to Virginie Larivière's campaign against TV violence. Virginie was given credit also in an article by Rose Dyson in the January issue of PEACE magazine. And Virginie will be leading a campaign in March for the YMCA in Montreal to collect stuffed toys for children who are victims of conjugal violence or sick or in hospitals.

In February statistics showed that youth crime in Quebec is down, but crimes involving violence are up among young people. A bill has been tabled in Ottawa to ban the importation of a game in which players try to kill as many babies as possible. There are other games which are horrible, as well. In the U. S. young people are organizing against youth crime, and in Canada the juvenile justice system is on trial!

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Social Affairs/Support Services cont'd**OUR SCHOOLS**

Aside from the massive reorganization of school boards along linguistic lines, the new education minister, Jacques Chagnon, is proposing other changes: four years for degrees in education for teachers, instead of three years; 700 hours of practice teaching instead of the current 115; implementation of most plans proposed by former education minister Lucienne Robillard, especially at high school levels; more measures to keep students from dropping out; continuation of a program to provide food and special teaching for kids who are poor, but without the extra funding requested by the school boards. Chagnon appears to oppose English immersion classes for French schools, unless parents specifically request such an arrangement.

As usual, our committee welcomes questions from parents, students and/or teachers.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK (TAW), February 13-19
 Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16, 1994
Submitted by the office

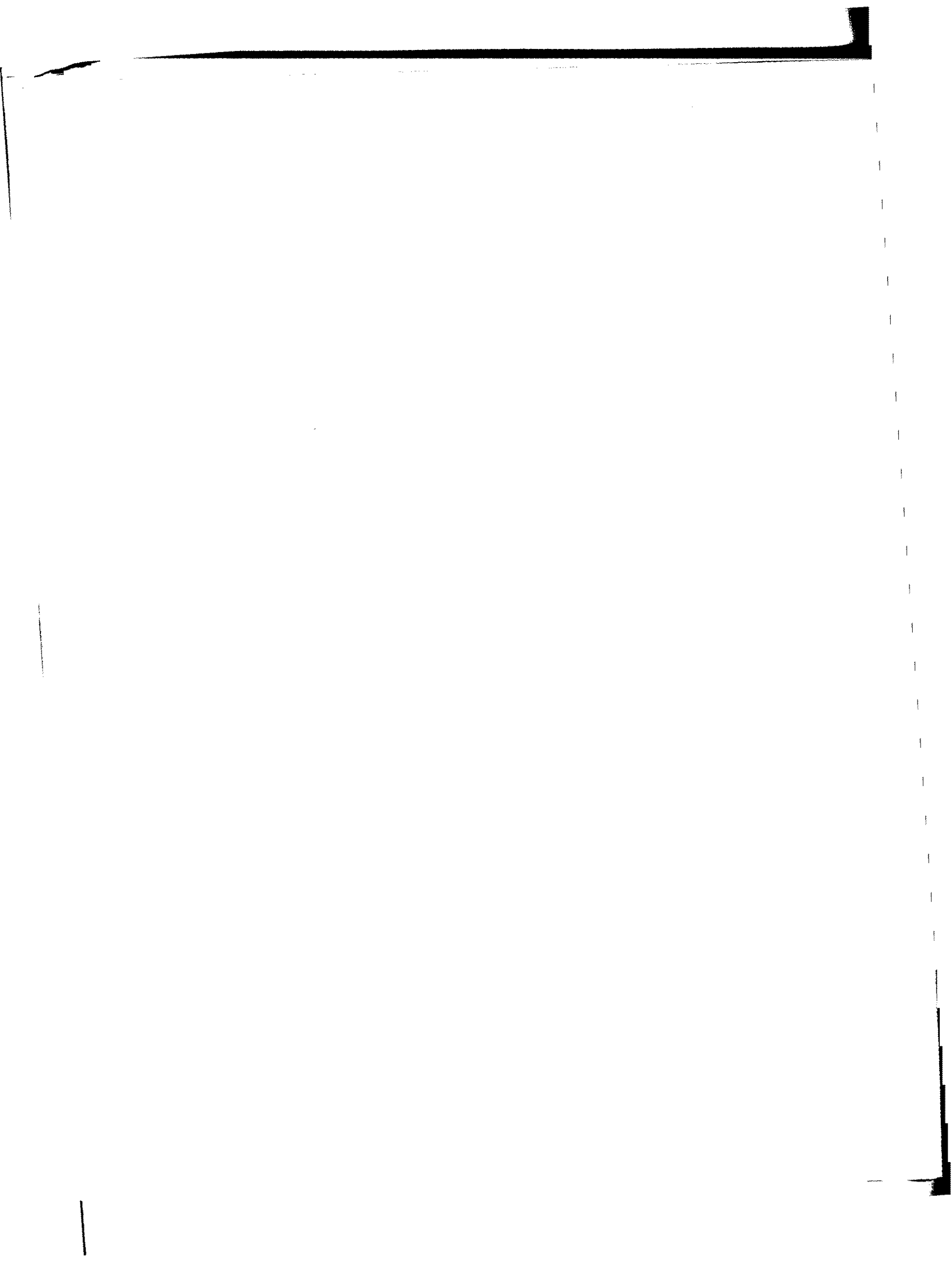
<u>TAW Orders 1994</u>	<u>TAW Orders 1993</u>	<u>TAW Orders 1992</u>
37 schools	34 schools	30 schools
1 association	1 private school	1 private school
1 school board		3 school boards
1994 TOTAL ORDERS - 39	1993 - 35	1992 - 34

There was a good response to TAW this year, with schools participating from as far away as Sept Iles (Flemming School), Quebec City (Ste-Foy and Holland Schools), Shawville (Dr. McDowell School), and the Lower North Shore (Netagamou School). The Association for the Advancement of Jewish Education and Kahnawake Education Center both ordered materials.

We also had a request from Ecole Champlain, in Sherbrooke, probably because this year the MEQ decided to send out TAW Idea Files, bookmarks and posters to all Quebec schools; they are hoping that French schools will be interested in participating. Their Idea File, based on ours, included an acknowledgement of CHSPTF's initiative in launching TAW in 1988.

QFHSA once again sent out press releases to various newspapers. If possible, we let them know the names of the schools in their areas which we knew were taking part. This seemed to work quite well.

Although The Gazette did not give as good coverage to TAW this year as in the past couple of years (they were focussing on the Olympics in their children/teacher section), many newspapers included articles on various school activities. Copies have been sent to CHSPTF for their files.



ELEMENTARY LANGUAGE ARTS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE [ELACC]
 Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94
Submitted by Carol Latimer, Liaison

Topics and concerns covered so far this year at the last three meetings are as follows:

There was a discussion concerning the announcement, in two successive MEQ Instructions, of an "epreuve d'appoint" at grade six, to be administered on June 10, 1994.

In January of 1994, B. Steele (MEQ) met with representatives of the elementary language arts community to develop a variety of assessment scenarios, in conformity with the Definition of Domain, which could be developed and offered to anglophone schools around the province.

This year various prototypes will be developed and experimented within certain school boards. In 1995 the validated model or models will be made available to the province at large.

Portfolio Think Tank

This group (a sub-committee of ELACC and SLAAC) of school boards where teachers are actively involved in portfolio research had arranged to meet on the floor of PAPT/PACT Teachers' Convention, on Friday November 26, 1993 from 4 to 6 p.m. Gail Goodman explained that this get-together is by invitation only, since the reason for organizing the event was in order to encourage networking/professional relationships among teachers who are actively involved in portfolio research. The teachers and school board personnel who will be invited are also members of the Portfolio Think Tank. The event was sponsored by QRA/AQL and ATEQ.

Re-visioning teacher education; Department of Curriculum and Instruction, McGill - February 15/94

Dr. David Dillon, Chair of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at McGill, presented the department's proposal for the revision of the current undergraduate program in teacher education (elementary and secondary) pending faculty approval:

The explosion in teacher education over the last ten years is tied to a changing vision and knowledge both in and about schools, among and about teachers, and about the dialectical relationship between education and society. The trend across Canada, in faculties of education, is towards a lengthier period of teacher-training, into which candidates enter with a baccalaureate. The training which the candidate receive in faculties of education culminates in a teaching diploma. The existing curriculum for the training of teachers at McGill was developed during the Sixties and reflects traditional notions about teacher education which were popular at this time. Dr. Dillon pointed out that the revision to this curriculum was department-initiated, and had received faculty approval (i.e. "go-ahead) three (3) years ago. In light of the contemplated revision, Dr. Dillon spoke to other faculties of education across Canada, in order to get a sense of

how each had reformed their teacher education programs. As well, throughout the process of revision at McGill, extensive consultation took place with different associations and affiliations in the community that McGill serves. This process of consultation has been ongoing; in addition, a wide range of representatives from the educational community served on various working subcommittees to submit program proposals and recommendations for the reform of both elementary and secondary teacher education.

SAFETY/TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 16/94

Submitted by Don Smith, Chairman

This committee remained very active the with the Comité provincial de concertation sur les programmes de sécurité routière en milieu scolaire.

The Safety/Transportation Committee kept the members of the QFHSA informed through the Safety Scene column in the NEWS.

The Committee kept abreast of the latest in safety, both with legislation and programmes. (It was happy to see one amendment to legislation with regard to school bus drivers, to wit the obligation of all school bus drivers to take an approved course in dealing with school age children.)

