



QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

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1996 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING BOOK OF REPORTS

May 04, 1996

Meeting held at:
Royal Montreal Golf Club
25 South Ridge
Ile Bizard, 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.

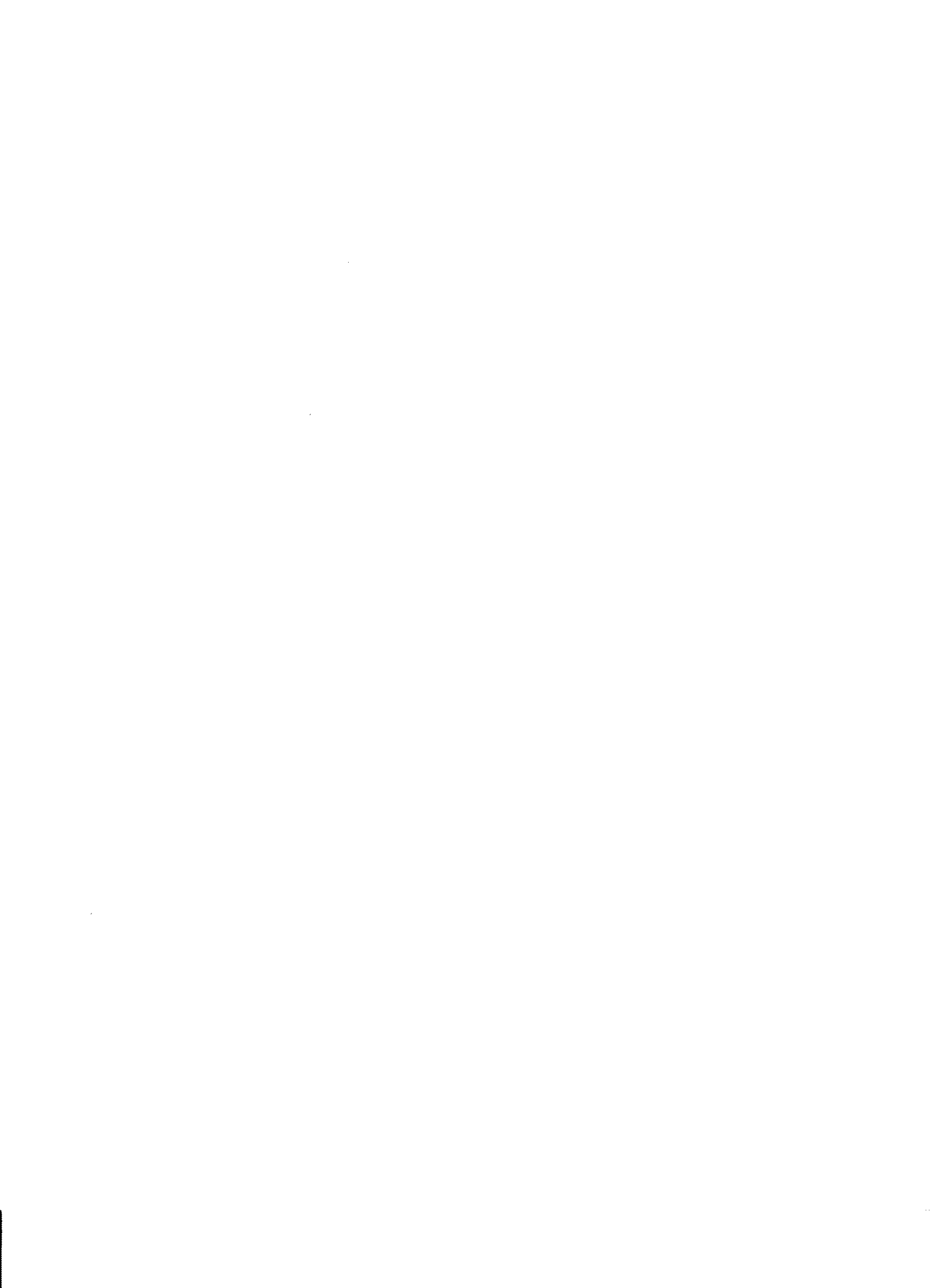


A MEMBER OF THE CANADIAN HOME AND SCHOOL AND PARENT-TEACHER FEDERATION



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MINUTES OF THE 51ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS HELD APRIL 29, 1995, AT THE ROYAL MONTREAL GOLF CLUB

Registered and present during the April 28-29 Annual General Meeting (AGM) were 68 Voting Delegates representing 28 local Home & School Associations and 10 members of the Board of Directors. In addition, there were 14 guests and 20 other participants. Due to space limitations and a very crowded schedule, we did not have any commercial or educational displays.

The Annual Business Meeting was officially opened on Saturday morning, April 29, 1995, by Wendy Buchanan, Co-President (8:40 am). Allan Locke, Co-President, was ill and unable to attend.

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Co-President welcomed the delegates and others present at our 51st AGM. The head table was introduced: Helen Koeppe, Resolutions Committee Chairman and Special Advisor to the Executive Committee; Miriam Lalande, Recording Secretary; Debi Brown, Treasurer. President asked delegates speaking from the floor to please stand so that it would be easier to hear them.

2. Appointments

Parliamentarian

MOTION: Milne-Smith (Board of Directors)/Amarica (Board of Directors) to appoint Marion Roberts parliamentarian. **CARRIED**

Credentials Chairman

MOTION: Koeppe (Board of Directors)/Milne-Smith to appoint Carol Ohlin, Credentials Chairman. **CARRIED**

Scrutineer

MOTION: Solomon (Board of Directors)/Koeppe that David Brodtkin and Caspar Esselaar be appointed as scrutineer. **CARRIED**

Carol Ohlin, Credentials Committee, reported that 28 local associations were present, sufficient for a quorum.

3. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION: Marrett (Westmount High)/Telfer (Allancroft) to adopt agenda. **CARRIED**

4. Adoption of Minutes 49th Annual General Meeting (1994) (pp.1-9, Bk of Rpts)

It was noted that all minutes of meetings should be in the third person. Quotation marks should not be used in minutes.

MOTION: Ewen (Aylmer)/Daigle (Board of Directors) to adopt the 1994 Minutes, as circulated. **CARRIED**



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

5. Presidents' Report (pp.10-11, Book of Reports)

Presented by Wendy Buchanan. Thanked the delegates for their having given her and Allan the opportunity to serve QFHSA.

MOTION: Buchanan (Board of Directors)/MacWhirter (New Carlisle High) that this report be accepted. CARRIED

6. Finance Committee Report (p.31, Book of Reports)

Debi Brown, Treasurer, reported that QFHSA had succeeded in balancing their budget. Canadian Heritage (formerly Secty of State), from whom QFHSA receives the Membership Development grant, is cutting back on funding to all groups they support in Quebec. QFHSA uses the grant for outreach to off-island communities. Treasurer noted QFHSA put in a database system last Fall (for the names of H&S members for the NEWS) which has resulted in a substantial saving; fax machine donated from the B.C. Parents Advisory Council (formerly BC Home & School Federation) to QFHSA; purchased a new, faster computer for office. Talked about the Conference(s) Fee invoice, sent to Home & School Associations in September; hoped the locals would understand the necessity for it.

MOTION: Brown/Solomon moved adoption of auditor's report. CARRIED

MOTION: Brown/Funnell that Conference(s) Fee remain at \$50 for 95/96 year. CARRIED

MOTION: Brown/Ewen moved recommendation from Board of Directors to raise membership fee to \$13/family for the 95/96 school year.

Discussion. Some schools felt the increase would make it harder to sell memberships. The first week of the new school year is a hard time to ask parents for money; could try to conduct membership drives in May (for the coming year). Mount Pleasant said they had done a survey of their parents to ascertain what they know about their Home & School and then had used this information as a basis for a fact filled newsletter to the parents about their Home & School.

Vote on Motion: CARRIED (opposed E.P. Pte Claire).

Proposed Budget 1995/96 (p.30, Book of Reports)

MOTION: Brown/Koeppe that proposed budget #2 be accepted.

MOTION: Cumyn (Board of Directors)/Milne-Smith that proposed budget #1 be amended to read 'working budget'. Amendment accepted by treasurer.

Vote on Motion: CARRIED

Vote of thanks extended to treasurer and Margaret Funnell, Chair of Membership Development Committee.

7. Book of Reports 1995 - recommendations

MOTION: Cumyn/Straughton (Mac High) to accept reports en bloc.

Correction: Lakeshore Regional Council report, p.24. Marcus Tabachnick and Ann Cumyn are Chairman, LSB, and Vice-Chairman, respectively. Not Director General and Assistant D.G.

Vote on Motion: CARRIED

Vote on Recommendations made in reports.Student Accident Insurance (page 43)

MOTION: Brown/Koeppé that QFHSA continue with Reliable Life Insurance/Student Accident insurance plan for the 1995/96 school year. **CARRIED**

Quebec Literacy Projects (pp.33-34)

MOTION: Daigle/Milne-Smith that QFHSA continues to support the Literacy in the Information Age Project and to implement whichever phases are important to our membership throughout Quebec. **CARRIED**

Marion Daigle stressed that QFHSA needed to appoint a new Quebec Literacy Director as soon as possible.

Nominations Committee (page 37)

MOTION: Milne-Smith/Amarica that the slate be accepted as stated; with one vacancy for a one-year term for Recording Secretary. **CARRIED**

Barbara Milne-Smith was thanked by the President for chairing this Committee so ably.

Education Committee (page 29)

Ann Cumyn, Chair, said that the Estates General on Education, starting in May, was to be a global debate on education and Minister expected to hear from citizens as well as business and other interested parties. The Commission is formed of 50 people. The regional hearings begin May 08; individuals and local groups will be heard here. Provincial organizations will be heard in August. If anyone is interested in working on the QFHSA brief please let Ann, or the office, know.

Prior to the Nutrition Break and our two Caucusing Sessions, the following items of business were disposed of:

Date of Think Tank - August 30, 1995. The format of the previous year would be repeated (reception in our office and dinner and workshop held downstairs). Delegates were asked if they had any suggestions to make as to topic. Membership suggested. David Brodtkin suggested that August is a good time for workshops and we should consider turning Think Tank in Membership, Publicity, Presidents, etc., workshops, rather than holding them in late May/early June.

Canadian Heritage agreement - Margaret Funnell, Mship Development chair, asked that the President or Executive Vice-President be given authorization to consult with Executive Committee members available and to sign our four year CanHer agreement.

MOTION: Milne-Smith/Solomon that this authorization be given. **CARRIED**

8. Resolutions (on green, circulated prior to AGM)

Helen Koeppé, Resolutions Chair, spoke briefly to the disposition of 1994 resolutions (p.42, Book of Reports). 1995 resolutions: 5 minutes to speak to a resolution; 2 minutes rebuttal, pro or con.

95/1 - HEPATITIS B VACCINE

MOTION: Straughton/Telfer to adopt the resolution.

Shirley Straughton, QFHSA Health Issues Chair, spoke in favour of the resolution. Medical experts recommend vaccinating all pre-teens and secondary students, not just Grade 4 as Quebec Government plan; prevention is cheaper than long term disability. Therefore it is recommended that the Hepatitis B Vaccine be included under the Quebec Medicare Plan.

Vote on resolution.

CARRIED

95/2 - GUN CONTROL LEGISLATION

MOTION: Koeppe/Solomon to adopt the resolution.

Ann Bishundayal (E. Ballantyne) and Jane Lavery-Leja (Meadowbrook) reported that the caucus session wished to have an amendment included, as follows:

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED ; that the screening process for gun ownership be improved *and include a mandatory program of education*;; that all guns be registered *and safely stored by the owner*;..... .[italics represent proposed amendments]

Discussion of resolution.

Vote on amendment.

CARRIED

Vote on amended resolution.

CARRIED (1 abstention; 1 against)

95/3 - COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

MOTION: Cumyn\Lewis (Beacon Hill) to adopt the resolution.

E.P. Harwood had recommended that in the THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Phase 2 of the Act be changed to read Phase 2 of Bill C-60. This was accepted by Resolutions Chair as a clarification.

Vote on resolution, with clarification.

CARRIED

95/4E - QFHSA MISSION STATEMENT

MOTION: Nixon (Mount Pleasant)/Daigle to adopt the resolution.

Dorothy Nixon spoke to the resolution and outlined the Strategic Planning Meeting in March which had resulted in this Statement.

Vote on resolution.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

95/5E - RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN AT RISK

MOTION: Kowalenko (Dorset)/Rodgers (Beechwood) to adopt the resolution.

An amendment had been proposed by the caucusing session.

MOTION: O'Rourke (E.P. Harwood)/August (Merton) that the THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED be enlarged to include, "...Quebec government to provide appropriate professional intervention and support, inclusive of existing services, for children at risk; and..."

Vote on amendment.

CARRIED

Vote on amended resolution.

CARRIED

Further discussion on this resolution ensued (see Resolution 95/7E). President of the Treasury Board was added to Destinations.

95/6E - OFHSA LETTERS PATENT

MOTION: Koepp/Langlois (E.P. Harwood) to adopt the resolution.

Brief discussion to explain to delegates the background of this resolution that will permit us to drop the phrase "that follow the course of study authorized by the Protestant Committee of the Council of Education".

Vote on resolution.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

95/7E - RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN AT RISK

MOTION: Agnew (E.P. Harwood)/Langlois to include with Resolution 95/5E the following:
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations strongly urge the Minister of Health & Social Services to ensure that appropriate levels of services be made readily available and accessible in French and English, and in other languages where numbers warrant, for those requesting same throughout the Province of Quebec.

Discussion. It was agreed by the delegates to add the idea of 'regardless of mother tongue' in the covering letter that will go out with this resolution.

Additions to OFHSA Statement of Policy, April 1994 (circulated earlier)

Helen Koepp thanked Anne Swettenham and Rickhey Langlois of E.P. Harwood for initiating our new statement category - Parental Involvement - on p.6.

MOTION: Koepp/Milne-Smith to accept the additions and changes as circulated.

Education

Added #26. Participation of parents in open discussions on concept of exit profiles.

Added #27. Participation of Ministries of Education and Health and Social Services, along with all the partners in a school community, to help ensure adequate resources for learning. Amendment proposed: "to help ensure adequate resources of people and materials for learning".

Vote on amendment: CARRIED

Added #28. To maintain current level of time requirements with fully qualified physical education specialists.

Added #29. A) Full accreditation to secondary school leavers in either academic or vocational pathways. B) Extending vocational education programs to all secondary school students, while ensuring quality core requirements. Amendment proposed: change "secondary school leavers" to participants preparing to leave secondary schools.

Vote on amendment: DEFEATED

Added #30. Implementation of peer mediation programs in schools.

Education System

Added #16. Consultation between Parent Committees and Provisional Councils of the proposed linguistic school boards.

Added #17. Fair criteria to ensure equity in the electoral process and implementation of appeal process.

Health

Added #16. Mandatory testing of all pregnant women for Group B Streptococcus bacteria.

Added #17. Federal and provincial government financial assistance to researchers involved in preparation of a vaccine for Group B Streptococcus.

Amendment. That mandatory be changed to routine (to agree with change made to resolution at 1994 AGM).

Vote on amendment.

CARRIED

Parent Involvement

Added #2. Designated room for parents' use in each school.

Added #3. Allow parents a meaningful role in allocation and dispersal of funds for materials used in school.

Safety

Added #13. Mandatory use of bicycle helmets.

Teachers

Added #7. Increased allocation from Ministry of Education for additional trained help to work with special needs students in the classroom.

Vote on additions to Statement of Policy, with approved amendments.

CARRIED

MOTION: Koeppe/Milne-Smith to accept the three recommendations that were made in the Resolutions Committee report to the Annual General Meeting [p.42, Book of Reports].

CARRIED

Suggestion made that we show year after each statement.

President thanked Helen Koeppe for ably chairing the Resolutions portion of the AGM.

9. **Adjournment**

MOTION: Daigle/Solomon that there being no further business the meeting be adjourned [12:40 pm].

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

President's Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Pat Waters, President

If I had to think of a theme to sum up the work of the QFHSA Board of Directors over the past year, it would be 'tuning into the needs and concerns of our local Home & School Associations'. Under the direction of our very capable executive vice-president, Miriam Lalande, we have heard what the highlights and issues are in all of our member schools over the 1995-96 school year. When visits or information were requested, we were there with answers, pamphlets, extra newspapers and a book for the school library. In all, we visited eighteen schools.

Highlights of our year were the Fall Conference, the Think Tank and the Mid-Term Executive Meeting [Leadership Workshop]. The Fall Conference, held at John Rennie High School on October 21 was expertly organized by one of our past-presidents, Wendy Buchanan. The theme was *Partnerships: Home-School-Community*. Our plenary speaker, Rev. Lorne Tardy, spoke about the issue of value formation in our youth today. The rest of the day was filled with workshops, displays and lunch.

The Think Tank was held on August 30 at the Szechuan Restaurant in the QFHSA office building. A buffet supper was enjoyed by all who attended and an excellent workshop was given by Pat Bigney on 'Time Management for Busy Volunteers'.

On February 1, the Mid-Term Executive meeting was held at the QFHSA office from 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. The format was a Leadership Workshop led by Pat Waters. Leadership temperaments and styles were explored in a fun, experiential way.

On the educational side, we continued our liaisons with the Provincial Association of Protestant Teachers (PAPT), the Protestant Committee, Superior Council of Education, the Quebec School Boards Association (QSBA), the Association of Moral and Religious Educators of Quebec (AMREQ), and the Council on English Language Education (CELE). The Estates General proved to be a major highlight as we presented our report on September 8 and it was greeted favorably. The second phase of this study is now underway.

The PALS/COPAIN project is active in all parts of Quebec. Reports have been coming into the office from Aylmer, the South Shore, Eastern Townships and all over the Island of Montreal. A French training was done in November.

We continue to maintain close ties with Canadian Home & School and Parent-Teacher Federation. Delegates attended the 100th Anniversary celebrations in Baddeck, Nova Scotia, last June, 1995, as well as the Mid-Term Meeting in November in Ottawa.

All of these special events and projects wouldn't be possible without the hard work and dedication of all of our Board members and office staff.

CANADIAN HOME & SCHOOL AND PARENT-TEACHER FEDERATION (CHSPTF)

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04/96

Submitted by Pat Waters, President

Our relationship with CHSPTF has continued to grow in the past year with the continuation of many successful projects and national meetings. The 100th anniversary celebrations in Baddeck, Nova Scotia, were attended by myself, Wendy Buchanan and Debi Brown. We took part in a special tree planting ceremony, local presentations and a banquet held in Louisbourg. We even came home with a brass commemorative bell to remind us of the part Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations has played in our national history.

On November 9-12, 1995, I attended Mid-Term meetings in Ottawa. We were introduced to the 'Schoolnet' in a workshop, discussed our finances, the state of our committee work and existing projects, as well as the possibility of future ones.

A summary of the CHSPTF projects is as follows:

1. PARTNERSHIP IN SCHOOLS

Across Canada in the 90's renewed efforts are being made to increase the level of parent involvement in the home, the school and the community. In March 1995 a two-day conference of representatives from CHSPTF and CAP (Canadian Association of Principals) met to focus on past, present and future forms of parent involvement in schools and the characteristics of successful partnerships among principals, teachers, students and parents. Wendy Buchanan and Rickhey Langlois represented QFHSA.

Decisions included the publication of resource materials for parents, school principals, teachers and other community members interested in the education of children. Two publications as tools for leadership and training are of particular interest:

Parents are Partners in Schools emphasizes the close communication and collaboration needed by the home, the school and the community to achieve educational objectives.

Effective Beginnings - A guide to New Partnerships in Schools - available in French and English, was released in December, 1995. It explains school governance in the Information Society, descriptions of the various structures in parental involvement and, importantly, gives useful background and information about the need for parental involvement and the tools for training for a leadership role.

2. IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST, a discussion paper on School-Community Councils is a joint project of CHSPTF and CTF (Canadian Teachers' Federation), in French and English, September 1995.

cont'd ...

CHSPTF cont'd

This discussion paper explores some of the changes of the late 20th century that provoke this question and it examines the circumstances that have led to growing interest in School-Community Councils. The paper discusses School-Community councils in theory and in practice and concludes with suggestions for their successful implementation.

3. **A LIFESTYLE FOR LEARNING:** a CHSPTF brochure and three new posters:
 - Eat Smart and Be Ready to Learn
 - Get Moving and Be Ready to Learn
 - Rest Up and Be Ready to LearnA radio ad was also produced and aired this winter.

4. **COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF EDUCATION, CANADA (CMEC)**
2ND NATIONAL CONSULTATION will be in held in Edmonton, May 1996. Our delegate is Helen Koeppel. The theme is 'Accountability in Canadian Education'.

LAKESHORE III - AREA REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Barbara Page, Area Liaison

During the year representatives of the Quebec Federation of Home and School Association, such as myself have been given the pleasure of contacting our local Home and School Associations. In doing so we keep updated on their needs and accomplishments. I am looking forward to continued contact and sharing with them.

E.P. BEACONSFIELD

PRESIDENT: Joanne Fraser.

The year has gone very smoothly and she is pleased with their accomplishments and plans to do a lot more fundraising for the benefit of the children for a sound system and play ground equipment. A PALS work shop is planned very soon.

BEACON HILL

PRESIDENT: Norma Cheng,

Has been concerned about the lower attendance at the Home and School meetings. There seems to be a lack of time or desire to attend. This seems to be due to a big change that occurred during the past year, but now things are picking up and the desire and need to be involved seems to be returning. They have many accomplishments to be proud. One of which is a Cookbook with over 200 recipes just published and a Spirit raiser for the children with incentives. One of our representatives will be attending a Home and School meeting at Beacon Hill, at the request of Norma.

BEACONSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

PRESIDENT: Janice Saba,

Everything is going smooth to date. The PALS Workshop done by Pat Waters of the Quebec Federation of Home and School Association on March 19th, 1996 went very well and was greatly appreciated. A discussion regarding the resolutions resulted and all questions were resolved.

CHRISTMAS PARK

PRESIDENT: Pat Seeley.

The last year has been very productive and many projects have taken place for the benefit of the children. The Christmas fair that the Teachers put on with the help of Home and School was very successful. The Home and School provides the bussing service needed to transport the children too and from all sports activities. All the Fundraising done during the year has gone very well. The children greatly appreciate the lunch time activities that keep them creative & busy.

LASALLE & MONTREAL WEST AREA REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Ann Bishundayal, QFHSA Executive Contact

Schools: Keith, Edinburgh, Elizabeth Ballantyne, Merton,
Royal West Academy

Contacts with local Home & School presidents proved both rewarding and beneficial. It's important to maintain that "personal touch" with locals to see how they are, what's happening in the schools and if QFHSA can help with any problems that may arise.

Keith Elementary School hosted a PALS workshop and we learnt of their Zero Tolerance policy. Edinburgh Elementary and Royal West Academy told us about their Spring Fair, Semaine de la Française, and Book Fair. Elizabeth Ballantyne parents attended a workshop in Defi-Math. Merton Elementary is fundraising to start a pilot project next year, "Step Program", to offer both remedial help and enrichment to all students.

WESTERN QUEBEC AREA REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Norma Ewen, Area Rep

The Home and School Association at Aylmer Elementary works closely with the School Committee. The emphasis of Home and School on parent power and responsibility permeated both organizations this year. The influence of Home and School was evident in increased parent participation, and a growing interest in learning about, and addressing issues.

This year, the Aylmer local started a newsletter for parents, the *Aylmer ARROW*, and has received some very positive feedback. Monthly PALS workshops were held, and a seminar, with guest speaker Brenda Henry, was organized. In addition, the Association continued to contribute to the school's Parent Resource Library.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1995

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by the office

The theme for the 51st Annual Convention was "**Parent Participation = Parent Power.**" For the first time the Saturday conference was held at the Royal Montreal Golf Club on Ile Bizard, a gracious setting which everyone enjoyed.

Early Bird Special

For the third consecutive year this Friday evening session was held at the QFHSA office. This net-working opportunity was attended by about 20 people, including four delegates from the Gaspé. The meeting concluded with a catered light meal.

Business Meeting

Three resolutions previously circulated and three emergency resolutions, including the new QFHSA mission statement, were discussed in two caucusing sessions and passed in the business meeting. The delegates voted to increase the family membership fee from \$12 to \$13. A complete account of the business proceedings appears in the Official Minutes.

Awards

The Gordon Paterson Award for outstanding service to the education of children and for encouraging parent participation in school life was presented to Nancy Buzzell, retiring principal of Meadowbrook Elementary School in Lachine. She generously researched and presented a history of her uncle's role in encouraging parent involvement in education and support of the home and school organization, and recognizing these achievements by endowing the Leslie N. Buzzell Award.

Recipients of the Buzzell Award for outstanding service to QFHSA were Diane and Ken Radu for their outstanding work with the *Quebec Home & School NEWS*. Since 1985 Diane has served as editor of the *Focus on the Locals* section and two years later Ken began a regular column reviewing children's books.

During the luncheon the Golden Torch and Unsung Hero pins and certificates were presented to those selected for this honour by their Home & School Associations. Schools recognized for their outstanding achievements for membership & newsletters were given books donated by Reader's Digest.

Program

The installation of officers was conducted by Barbara Milne-Smith, past-president. Following the luncheon, guest speaker Helen Hackett, a former director of the federal Stay-in-School Initiative, addressed the topic of promoting parent potential with particular attention to the PALS project.

Registration

There were 102 people attending, of whom 14 were guests. Of the 50 Home and School Associations, 28 schools were represented. Lunch was served to 95. Promotional material for five organizations was included in the 100th anniversary CHSPTF kits. Floral centerpieces for the luncheon tables were created by Grade 2 students of Ecole Primaire Harwood.

QFHSA FALL CONFERENCE - October 21, 1995
 Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996
Submitted by Wendy Buchanan, Coordinator

Program

The Fall Conference of 1995 was once again held at John Rennie High School in Pointe Claire. Rev. Lorne Tardy was the plenary speaker and his talk revolved around how to create a value system for teenagers in today's society. His message was a timely one and appreciated by all who attended.

There were seven workshops available for the delegates to choose from and all were well done and well received. The workshops were:

PALS:	Parent-Child Communication
PALS/COPAIN:	Developper l'estimate de soi
PALS:	Facilitator Get-together
LOVE:	Leave Out Violence
Peer Mediation	
Just Say No, Is It Really Enough?	
High School - Why Get Involved?	

Hospitality

A buffet luncheon was served. This consisted of sandwiches, salads, squares, cookies, apples, juice, coffee & tea. Stirling Bakers catered and the apples were donated by Macdonald College. Muffins for nutrition breaks were supplied by the Home & School Associations of John Rennie High School and Beacon Hill Elementary School.

Displayers

There were thirteen reservations for display tables and ten were present on the day. A very diverse group of ideas and products were showcased for the delegates. Lots of ideas were shared and samples enjoyed.

Registration

There were approximately 125 registrants to the conference and the evaluation sheets reflect that everyone appreciated the efforts of so many for such a successful day. Barbara Page organized the display tables; Carol Ohlin, Ann Bishundayal and Donna Sauriol managed the kits and registrations; Josie Rodgers and Wendy Buchanan handled hospitality, audio visual needs and general arrangements.

THINK TANK

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Pat Waters - President

The Think Tank held on August 30, 1995, at the QFHSA office and the Szechuan buffet restaurant located on the ground floor of the Cavendish office building.

Thirty-five Home & Schoolers attended and discussed *Time Management for Busy Volunteers*. This fun and dynamic workshop was led by Pat Bigney, a time management resource consultant. Participants learned strategies for managing their hectic schedules and how to say "No"! The evaluations suggested that the second week into September might be a more convenient date for scheduling future Think Tank sessions.

MID-TERM EXECUTIVE MEETING - February 01, 1996

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Pat Waters, President

The annual Mid-Term Executives meeting was held at the QFHSA office on February 1, 1996.

It was a leadership workshop led by Pat Waters entitled "Follow the Leader." The objectives were to help Home & School executives become more competent and successful leaders, to identify their own leadership style and learn why it is important to understand other peoples' styles. Approximately twelve local associations and four Board members attended and joined together to explore the characteristics of a good leader.

We listened to Connie Pedeska's tape on "Circles, Squares, Triangles or Squiggly Lines" and in a humorous way identified which 'style' we were. We worked in small groups to plan how to drop an egg without breaking it and we learned through a questionnaire the type of leadership temperament we were.

Miriam Lalande helped to coordinate this very successful evening and she organized the refreshments.

MEMBERSHIP WORKSHOP - June 06, 1995
Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996
Submitted by the office

Several presidents, membership chairpersons, and newsletter editors attended this annual workshop held at the provincial office in early June. Both previous executive committee members of local associations and their new successors were encouraged to attend. In addition to the opportunity to get acquainted, the workshop format was an informal occasion to network and to share ideas and resources. Membership campaign materials were also distributed. Leading the discussions were Pat Waters, the new president of QFHSA, Wendy Buchanan, past-president, and Dorothy Nixon, editor of the *Home & School NEWS*.

Some of the innovative tips for stimulating membership growth included:

Elementary

One school used a train to symbolize the membership figure. The engine began on one side of the principal's door and each family that joined was given a 'car' and tacked on to the engine. The goal was to get the train to go completely around the school and come back to the office.

Another school used a picture of an igloo. Each family's name was entered in an ice block with the objective to build a complete igloo. The same concept could be used to construct a tree with each leaf to represent a family name.

Teacher membership

When teachers are reluctant to join as individual members, perhaps they could be encouraged to have a Group Affiliate Membership and receive regular mailings of educational materials. The membership page of the *Home & School NEWS* lists teachers groups who have joined. Ecole Primaire Harwood allocates \$50 per teacher as spending money for classroom materials at the November teachers' convention.

Incentives

Mount Pleasant Elementary, when mailing out the membership cards, included gift coupons. Some suggestions for the coupons could be a waiver for the fee in selling equipment at the ski & skate sale, or spring bicycle sale. Or the coupon could be exchanged for a free pencil from the school supplies store, or free entrance to booths at the Country Fair, etc.

Another school canvassed local merchants for small prizes which were used as membership motivation. The participating retailers were mentioned in a letter to parents as well as in the school newsletter. The winners, merchants and prizes were posted in the school foyer for that year.

ASSOCIATION OF MORAL & RELIGIOUS EDUCATORS OF QUEBEC [AMREQ]

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Elizabeth L. Manker, AMREQ President

The Association of Moral and Religious Educators of Quebec continues to be pleased with our association with the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations, as an affiliate member. In this connection, our representative attends the regular QFHSA Board of Directors meetings. We have had several representatives attend the Spring and Fall Conferences, as well as the Annual General Meeting. We were pleased to be included in these events.

Our AMREQ Executive has invited QFHSA representatives to attend our regular meetings and special events. Allan Locke is the QFHSA representative who attends our regular AMREQ monthly meetings. Invitations we extended to special events include: December 21/95 Christmas dinner meeting; January 24/96 presentation by Tena Montague, held at McGill University; March 10/96 Royal Commonwealth Society Interfaith Service at St. James Church; as well as inviting QFHSA to hear our Teachers' Convention speaker on November 16/95.

We have appreciated the cooperation and courtesy extended by QFHSA and we look forward to continuing beneficial partnerships.

LAKESHORE REGIONAL COUNCIL (LRC)

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Rickhey L. Margolese Langlois, Executive Vice-President, LRC

Representatives from all the schools within the Lakeshore School Board who have an active Home and School Association make up the Lakeshore Regional Council. The Council's main function is to network for new ideas and to form a consensus on key issues.

One of this year's issues involved concern over whether Home and School Associations are indeed covered by their School Board's liability insurance policies. Discussions were held to determine whether each Home and School Association should purchase its own liability insurance policy to cover executives, volunteers, and personnel hired to give the courses for lunchtime and after-school activity programs.

The Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations has formed an ad-hoc committee to gather information and consult with legal advisors. They will report back to LRC when their mandate is completed.

Another issue was how to best help introduce mandatory CPR courses into the high school program. School boards are fully prepared to implement this program when funding has been found.

A third issue dealt with the nine reorganization resolutions proposed by the Lakeshore School Board. These turned out to be quite controversial and the Council's ability to network was invaluable in helping Home and School Associations to formulate their responses to these resolutions.

PAPT/PACT CURRICULUM COUNCIL

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Alice MacLeod, Liaison

At the meeting of February 14, 1996, Elaine Freeland, Directrice, MEQ, gave an overview of the MEQ Discussion Paper: *A Study of the Discrepancies Observed in the Performance of Students on Ministry Examinations in French and English*. Several proposals had come forward to deal with the results reported in the discussion paper including:

- that English teachers be present on the Program Development Committee rather than having the program development done largely in the French sector only as at present;
- that the initial implementation processes be the same for both the English and French communities and that the implementation sessions for English teachers be held separately from those for French teachers;
- that the English curriculum textbooks be congruent with those of the French curriculum;
- that examinations for the English community be developed in English and be congruent with the English textbooks, rather than using translations of the French examinations which tend to be congruent only with the French textbooks.

For June, 1996, the English community will develop its own examinations. Teachers were invited to complete the *Exam Assessment Form* to help in this process.

There was a review of the *PEOPT (Professional Enhancement Opportunities for Practicing Teachers)* grants for 1995-96. Copies are available for those interested.

PEP (Program Evaluation Project) reports for Mathematics, Cycle 1, Secondary and for Physical Sciences 416/436 (DRAFT) were presented. A draft report for Elementary Sciences is being prepared. Copies of the Mathematics report are available.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 2, 1996.

PROTESTANT SCHOOL BOARD OF GREATER MONTREAL [PSBGM]

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Howard Solomon, Liaison

PSBGM registration rose this year to over 32,500, but continuous budget cutting by the Ministry of Education is having a serious effect on operations. These problems have been complicated this year by the discovery of a large enrollment discrepancy, attributed to previous years, which has added almost \$2 million to the Board's accumulated deficit. There is also a serious shortage of Capital Investment funds to make urgently required repairs to buildings, roofs, windows, and boilers throughout the system. Popular Education programs have been discontinued because it has proved impossible to operate them without a deficit. Our schools have also lost the special funding, previously supplied by the school board, for gifted education. Replacement programs are still being sought.

Safety continues to be an important subject. A plan is already in place to switch all remaining long nose buses to the flat nosed variety. While this will take several more years to complete, all long nosed buses used by the PSBGM have been equipped with safety extension arms to help remind the children to go well in front of the bus before crossing the street. The number of students still forced to cross in front of their school bus has been reduced to 17%. The subject of children not met at their bus stop has been discussed extensively and the Board will make a stronger effort to remind parents of their responsibility to meet the school bus.

The PSBGM liability insurance coverage for parent operated programs has been reviewed and updated to make it the best in the province. All volunteers and all employees hired by parent operated groups, and the groups themselves, are now insured for liability during the course of approved activities.

The disappointingly low Math 436 results in June 1995 have led to a major project on school improvement at every level of the organization. More evaluation instruments are being created and used, methods to improve teaching training are being considered, and grassroots involvement and ideas are being sought. The PSBGM participated in the recent Estates General on Education and we now await its further phases and the renewed possibility of linguistic school boards.

This year saw the replacement of three of our five Regional Directors and the extension (via new three year contracts) of the tenure of our Director General and Deputy Director General. The Administration has begun the implementation of a new Employment Equity program to ensure that minorities are fully represented within the employees of the Board.

The Board is participating in a plan to build a major sports complex next to Shadd Academy with guaranteed access for PSBGM students. A creative lease plan is also being pursued to provide much needed pupil places for French immersion students in the quickly growing Rivière des Prairies area of the city.

QUEBEC SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION (QSBA)

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Pat Waters, President

The monthly meetings of the QSBA were held at their offices and attended by myself and Helen Koeppe. Information was exchanged among the school boards and liaison groups. Some highlights from the year were:

MEQ Presentation by Elaine Freeland:

An excellent report on the provincial exam results of anglophone students.

Estates General Update

Phase II is underway with Regional Meetings taking place.

The first document has been released in February, 1996.

The final phase will take place in May-June of this year.

Publication of the CEA on Secondary Schools in Canada:

The Report of the Exemplary Schools Project. CEA asked schools from across Canada what made their schools successful.

Portrait Statistique des Commissions Scolaires Protestantes

Presentation by Grant Hawley, Deputy Minister of Education.

QSBA Transportation Committee

A proposed Transportation Policy was presented by the QSBA Transportation Committee. It included a series of recommendations focusing on school transportation policies, bus safety programs and equipment.

AWARDS

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Wendy Buchanan, Past President

The Awards Selection Committees met on March 22, 1996 to open the letters of nomination for the Buzzell and Paterson awards. It was difficult to make decisions due to the caliber of the nominees. The members of the committees were:

Buzzell Award: Pat Waters, Miriam Lalande, Jocelyne Pickler,
Rickhey Langlois

Paterson Award: Wendy Buchanan, Allan Locke, Debi Brown,
Norma Ewen, Terri Tansey

The winner of the 1996 Paterson Award, given to an educator for long service to the education of children in Quebec and who has encouraged the participation of parents in the educational scene, is Kathleen Cumming. Miss Cummings is currently teaching at Willingdon School in N.D.G., Montreal.

The winner of the 1996 Buzzell Award, designed to recognize outstanding service to QFHSA and to the cause of furthering the aims of Home & School and education in general, will be announced at the Annual General Meeting.

The Committees express appreciation to the Local Associations for their essential participation in this process and encourage even more to take part next year.

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Gisela Amarica, Chairperson

No changes were suggested to the Constitution or By-Laws by a local Home and School Association or by the Board of Directors. The Constitution stays the same.

Each local Home and School Association should have a copy of the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Constitution. If your association does not have a copy, please ask the provincial office for one.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Ann Cumyn, Chairperson

The Education Committee has involved itself in two areas this year: the QFHSA Literary Booklet and the Estates General.

The 1996 Literary Booklet on the theme of "Winter" will for the first time be produced with a grant from Canada Post. Canada Post has contributed \$300 to this venture and we will be displaying the Canada Post logo on each copy in recognition of this grant. Submissions at the time of writing have been received from 16 schools with two more expected.

The writing of the QFHSA brief to the Estates General was overseen by the Education Committee. A report of the presentation by our president, Pat Waters, to the Estates General Commission is detailed separately.

Some members of QFHSA have attended the regional workshops at which specific suggestions contained in the Estates General report, Exposé de la situation, were discussed. It is suggested that some of the AGM caucussing time be devoted to the consideration of parts of the report with a view to submitting emergency resolutions to the AGM assembly.

Access to English Education continues to be problematic. It is felt that, with the current government's attempt at rapprochement with the English speaking community, the time is ripe to restate QFHSA's support for recommendation I of the Task Force on English Education and to urge the government to act upon it.

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

OPERATING FUND

	Audited Statement 1994/95	Budget 1995/96	Proposed Budget 1996/97
REVENUES			
Membership - Family	60330	60000	62000
Membership - Group	4600	4500	4700
Interest	1861	1000	1500
Donations - Local	167	100	200
Donations - QFHSA	153	1300	1300
Conference Fee	1875	2500	2000
Fall Conference	2372	2100	3000
Annual General Meeting	2225	2100	2300
Tax Rebates - GST & PST	2093	4000	2000
Literacy Project	229	500	250
CHSPTF Special Projects	754		500
Government Grant	20000	20000	50000
Membership Materials	2091	2000	2000
Miscellaneous	80		
Total	98830	100100	131750
EXPENDITURES			
CHSPTF Affiliation Fees	5471	5000	5000
Donations	50		50
Conferences and Meetings			
Fall Conferences	765	1000	1500
AGM	2952	3000	4000
Board & Executive	47	100	200
CHSPTF Meetings	1185	2000	5000
Other Organizations	114	200	500
Projects: Literacy	649	500	1000
PALS	513	500	2000
Membership Materials	2679	2000	2000
Home & Schools NEWS (net)	16747	19000	25000
Membership - other organiz.			
Provincial office			
Postage & courier	3055	4000	3500
Office supplies	2684	5500	6000
Telephone	1455	1500	1500
Administration	2805	2800	3000
Rent & occupancy	12263	14000	15000
Salaries & levies	33050	38000	50000
Miscellaneous	786	1000	1000
Capital Expenditures	2345		5500
Total	89615	100100	131750
=====			
EXCESS OF REVENUES (EXP)N	9215		0

HEALTH ISSUES COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Shirley Straughton, Chairperson

Mandatory High School CPR

One of the most exciting and innovative projects for the Health Issues Committee to be involved in is the Mandatory High School CPR. Designed by the ACT (Advanced Coronary Treatment) Foundation of Canada and implemented as a pilot project in the Ottawa-Carlton area, it was a tremendous success applauded by students, teachers, and the community.

A committee was formed which included representatives of QFHSA, ACT, the Pointe-Claire CPR Program, the Red Cross, and the Lakeshore General Hospital. Presentations were made to the Lakeshore, Baldwin-Cartier, and PSBGM School Boards. They were all in agreement to include Mandatory High School CPR in the 1996-97 school year as part of the Grade 9 physical education curriculum.

Fund raising is the remaining challenge. Efforts are underway to approach community groups and businesses for financial support.

QFHSA is proud to be involved with this vital project which will teach our youth lifesaving skills that will lead to increased self-esteem and confidence, enhanced awareness of social responsibilities, and improved community safety.

Measles Vaccination Campaign

The Quebec government decided to immunize over 1.4 million children against measles in the spring of 1996. Research has shown that a two-dose program is necessary for protection against measles.

Prior to this year, the Quebec government recommended only one dose at the age of 12 months. All infants will now be immunized at the age of 12 months and receive their second dose at 18 months.

Measles is highly contagious, difficult to isolate, and can lead to serious complications such as encephalitis and death. Recent epidemics in Ontario prompted the Quebec government to institute this massive campaign to ensure that all Quebec children are protected with a second dose of the measles vaccine.

Nut Allergies

An illustrated children's book No Nuts For Me has been published dealing with the serious issue of nut allergies. Twenty-five thousand English and five thousand French copies of the book were distributed free of charge to elementary schools across Canada. It is a worthwhile addition to any library.

cont'd ...

HEALTH ISSUES cont'd**Shaken Baby Syndrome**

"Whiplash-type" injuries are caused when babies are shaken and their heads bob back and forth. Bleeding in the brain starts at the site of impact and then as the brain hits the other side of the skull.

Preventative measures include better education of parents, caregivers, and siblings on the dangers of shaking babies even in play and how to properly support an infant's head, learning strategies to deal with crying babies, and stress management.

Osteoporosis

Osteoporosis is a disease that causes bones to become porous and brittle and presently affects 1.4 million people over the age of fifty. The Osteoporosis Society of Canada has estimated that over \$1 billion was spent in 1995 on treatment of fractures caused by osteoporosis.

Preventative measures include regular physical activity, a diet rich in calcium and vitamin D. The key to prevention is to help children develop good health habits with daily exposure to fresh air and sunlight. The challenge is to maintain this lifestyle when government subsidies for milk programs are cut, when physical education programs are in jeopardy, and when adolescents make choices which put them in high risk categories, i.e., decreased milk intake and smoking.

Recognition

The Health Committee would like to express gratitude to those individuals who have been extremely supportive over the year:

Donna Sauriol, Executive Secretary, QFHSA

Sandra Clarke, Executive Director, ACT Foundation

Joanne Charette, Project Manager, ACT Foundation

Lucille Rouleau-Ross, President, Quebec Section of the Osteoporosis Society of Canada

LITERACY IN THE INFORMATION AGE PROJECTS

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Marion Daigle, Resource.

CANADIAN HOME & SCHOOL & PARENT TEACHER FEDERATION (CHSPTF) HIGHLIGHTS:

1. **PARTNERSHIPS IN SCHOOLS** - a joint project (1995) of CHSPTF and CAP (Canadian Association of Principals) is now completed. The focus is on parent involvement in schools and the successful partnerships between principal, teachers, students and parents.
Excellent resource materials were produced and distributed to locals, school boards and educational liaisons.
 - Partnerships in Schools - Conference Procedures March 3-5, 1995
 - Partnerships in Schools - A Variety of Structures - March, 1995.
 - A brochure - Parents as Partners in Schools - available in English and French
 - Effective Beginnings - December, 1995 - a Guide to New Partnerships in Schools - available in English and French.
 All the above are excellent tools for leadership and training and available from QFHSA.
2. **IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST** - A Discussion Paper on School - Community Councils - a joint project of CHSPTF and CTF (Canadian Teachers' Federation) - September, 1995. Available in French and English.
3. **LIFESTYLES FOR LEARNING PROJECT** - completed in 1995 - distribution of 3 English and 3 French posters to Home and School Associations for schools and community centers.
The slogans are:
 - Eat Smart and Be Ready to Learn
 - Get Moving and Be Ready to Learn
 - Rest Up and Be Ready to Learn
 These posters are an addition to the Lifestyles for Learning brochures distributed earlier.

QFHSA ACTIVITIES TO DATE -

1. May, 1995 - ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL - HUNTINGDON, QUEBEC - co-sponsored by QFHSA and St. Joseph's School Committee, Janet Fisher, a school librarian from Beaconsfield reviewed the library resources and held workshops for teachers and parents.
2. September 7, 1995 - YWCA - International Literacy Day (Sept. 8) represented QFHSA at launch of new SPELLING GAME - a family game for ages 8 and up.
3. October 11, 1995 - PRIME TIME PARENT WORKSHOP - co-sponsored by QFHSA and the Centre for Literacy - at Dawson College - attended by several QFHSA members.

4. PUBLICITY AWARENESS PACKAGES - prepared by Literacy Partners of Quebec to accent literacy awareness in the wider community and for funding potential. QFHSA is a partner in this project.
5. October, 1995 - LITERACY EXCHANGE - NEW CARLISLE - a large box of children's books sent to Anne MacWhirter, co-ordinator.
6. November, 1995 - LITERACY AWARD - given by Literacy Partners of Quebec to Marion Daigle for her contribution to the public understanding and provision of English language literacy in Quebec
7. March 5, 1996 - JOHN ABBOTT COLLEGE - LIBRARY SYSTEMS AND DOCUMENTATION CENTRE - gave a presentation on the QFHSA Literacy in the Information Age project. A donation to QFHSA will be given in May in the name of a retiring staff member. This will be used to purchase books for a school library - to be named at that time.
8. March 7, 1996 - WOMEN, LITERACY AND SOCIAL CHANGE - attended by Marion Daigle at Dawson College Center for Literacy.

The PALS (Parents Assist Learning and Schooling) is reported separately by Pat Waters. In addition Marion Daigle has acted as a resource for the NEWS and Membership Development Committee where literacy projects apply.

MEMBERSHIP

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by the office**MEMBERSHIP**

	April 01/96	April 01/95
Associations submitting membership lists	48	48
Associations which have not submitted lists	2	1
Number of Family Memberships through H&S locals	4,943	4,885
Supporting Members (not through a local H&S)	21	27
Group Affiliate Members	84	83

N.B. The figures for Family Memberships indicate paid memberships; they do not include associate members (families who have joined at more than one school).

1995/96 MEMBERSHIP AWARDS (based on number of families)

ON ISLAND BOARDS - Elementary Schools	%	<u>Membership Chairmen</u>
Royal Vale	100.0%	Pam Wener
Beacon Hill	89.6%	Tina Storer
Merton	80.0%	Kathleen Fauteux and Paula Kimel-Cohen
Honourable Mention		
Westpark	73.4%	Jo-Ann Light
E.P. Beaconsfield	71.0%	Hanneke de Jonge
Dunrae Gardens	68.6%	Flora Lopes
Seigniory	66.5%	Pam Godfrey
Elizabeth Ballantyne	65.8%	Catherine Maxham
ON ISLAND BOARDS - Secondary Schools		
Royal West Academy	58.0%	Gaby Morency and Carol Stenhouse
Honourable Mention		
Macdonald High	20.9%	Susan Tweddell
Hudson High	19.1%	Hanna Daca
Beaconsfield High	18.7%	Judy Serve
Lindsay Place High	16.1%	Mary Yadgard and Raina Carolla
OFF ISLAND BOARDS		
Baie Comeau Elementary/High	61.5%	Pamela Lalonde
New Carlisle Elementary/High	36.6%	Brenda Gallan
Honourable Mention		
Shigawake-Port Daniel	23.7%	Barbara Hottot
Special draw for school staff/teachers		
Winner:	Mark Franklin, teacher at New Carlisle	
Membership Chm:	Brenda Gallan	

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Margaret Funnell, Chairperson**Government Grant and Projects**

In 1995 the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations [QFHSA] again received a Department of Canadian Heritage grant for the purposes of membership development. We were fortunate to have a minimal 0.6% decrease in our grant this year as there was approximately a 5% drop in the global mass available to groups such as ours. The grant pays for a share of the QFHSA Annual Meeting and Fall Leadership conferences and covers workshops for Home and School presidents and executives, on-island workshops for parents and workshops on membership, newsletters and publicity. The grant notably covers out-reach to off-island parents either by means of workshops off-island or by other work done with or for these parents. It specifically enables off-island parents to attend on-island meetings, workshops and conferences. Representation to outside educational groups and enabling off-island Board members to attend meetings are included as are materials to promote leadership and parenting skills and a share of the Home and School NEWS.

QFHSA has applied for another grant in 1996 under the title of "New Directions - Parents Can Make a Difference". This will help supplement the work done by the PALS project.

Networking

QFHSA is a member of the Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN) which has signed a 4 year agreement with the Federal Government for the disbursement of the Official Languages Community Support Program funds. QCGN has received a National Grant, i.e., across Canada eligibility, from the Department of Canadian Heritage to look at diversification of funding sources - provincial sources and numerous other sources of funding- and includes a project on demographic tools and one on the Internet which aims to bring the member QCGN groups up to Internet capability. QAAL [Quebec Association of Adult Learners] and QFHSA are partners in a project looking at provincial sources of funding, i.e., Quebec or tied to Federal devolution of powers to Quebec. As governments continue to give less in their usual grants, other sources of funding need to be found for the community groups.

MORAL AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Elizabeth L. Manker, Chairman

During the past year the MRE Chairman has worked mainly through QFHSA Affiliate Group, the Association of Moral and Religious Educators (AMREQ). Please refer to the AMREQ report for these details.

We have also represented QFHSA at various meetings and workshops, where a representative was important to speak informally and respond to questions.

On March 27/96, at a meeting with a principal of an elementary school of the Baldwin-Cartier School Board, we invited parents present to form a Home and School Association. They have responded favourably to this invitation and we will follow this up further.

On March 30/96, at a community event, we responded to Home and School inquiries and will encourage a parent new to another Baldwin-Cartier Board school to form a Home and School Association at this school, because the parent wished to join.

Other partnership events are listed on the AMREQ Report.

We have attended QFHSA Board of Directors meetings throughout the year and have provided assistance when required. We continue to represent Windermere Home and School and communicate with them about Federation business.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Wendy Buchanan and Allan Locke, Co-chairmen

The Nominations Committee was appointed, in accordance with our Constitution, by the Board of Directors at the November Board meeting. In January, a letter inviting nominations was mailed out to the local Home & School Associations and to members of the Board. The deadline for receipt of nominations was February 23, 1996.

In March the Committee met, accepted the nominations received, and considered further names to contact to try to complete our slate for 1996-97.

We are pleased to report that we were able to recruit members to fill all positions, except for the two-year term of office for Recording Secretary. April 01st we circulated the second Nominations Letter informing local Associations of members of the Board that the following Home & School members have agreed to allow their names to stand for election to our QFHSA Executive Committee for a two year term:

Treasurer	-	Karen Bilton	-	Meadowbrook
Vice-Presidents	-	Deborah Brown	-	Aylmer
		Rickhey Langlois	-	E.P. Harwood
		Jocelyne Pickler	-	Courtland Park
		Debra Thompson	-	Mount Pleasant
Recording Secretary	-	vacant		

For a one year term:

Vice-President	-	Kenneth Homer	-	Somerled
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Members of the Executive Committee, continuing in office until 1997, are:

President	-	Patricia Waters	-	Beaconsfield High
Executive V.P.	-	Miriam Lalande	-	Lachine High
Vice-Presidents	-	Wanda Franklin	-	New Carlisle High
		Margaret Funnell	-	John Rennie High
		Barbara Page	-	E.P. Harwood

and Past Presidents, Wendy Buchanan and Allan Locke, are also completing their second year as Past Co-Presidents.

According to our Constitution, further nominations may be made for any position, provided such nominations are accompanied by the signatures of at least twenty-five (25) members, together with the nominee's acceptance. Such nominations must be received in the QFHSA office not later than April 19 (QFHSA Constitution, By-law Article V, Section 5). If any such nominations are received, 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.

PARENTS ASSIST LEARNING AND SCHOOLING [PALS]

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Pat Waters - PALS Coordinator

PALS is becoming more and more popular as the word spreads among our locals and in our newspapers, (*Montreal Gazette* article, March 21, 1996). The following workshops have been held in Quebec since September, 1995:

Alymer:	Aylmer Elementary School, Charlotte Taylor "Building Self-Esteem" "Kids & Television" "Discipline"	January 23/96 February 20/96 March 13/96
Howick:	Howick Elementary School, Susan O'Sullivan "Kids & Television"	January 23/96
Stanstead:	Sunnyside Elementary School, Barbara Elliot "Self-Esteem"	November 14/95
Montreal:	Mothers of Preschoolers, Welcome Hall Mission, Pat Waters, "Role Models"	September 27/95
	John XXIII School, Dorothy Nixon & Caroline Harvey "Responsibility and Homework"	December 6/95
	Keith Elementary School, Pat Waters "Discipline" "Communication"	January 23/96 March 26/96
	Ecole Primaire Pierrefonds, Pat Waters & Jocelyne Pickler "Discipline" (multicultural)	March 11/96
	Beaconsfield High School, Pat Waters & Sue Short "Building Self-Esteem in Teenagers" "Communication"	March 19/96 May 1/96
	John Rennie High School, QFHSA Fall Conference PALS workshops done by Jocelyne Pickler, Nancy Peppy and Anna Marrett	November 21/95
Hudson:	Mount Pleasant Elementary School, Pat Waters & Dorothy Nixon "Role Models"	April 17/96

There may be many more PALS workshops that have been completed in the past year; these are the ones we have heard about! Added to this list is the French COPAIN training that Jocelyne Pickler presented in November and her work distributing the remaining French kits.

QUEBEC HOME & SCHOOL NEWS

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Dorothy Nixon, Editor

Four issues of the *Quebec Home & School NEWS* were printed once again this year: in August, November, February and (soon) in June. In the paper I attempted a number things: to tell Home and Schoolers about what was going on at the QFHSA; to tell Home and Schoolers what was going on at other Home and Schools; to explore parental involvement at all levels of education, preschool, elementary and high school; and to tell non-Home and Schoolers who might pick up the paper what Home and School is all about and why they should join.

I tried to create a mix of articles, to pique the interest of as wide a group as possible. Some articles were sophisticated and went into great detail about their subjects; others were short and sweet. I tried to use boxes to bring home some points about "helping children learn." I mixed useful "tips" with longer articles.

Articles came from all over. They came into the office. I pulled them off CompuServe and the Internet. I try to read as much as I can about as wide a variety of related subjects. I even read those huge reports that come in from the Superior Council!

I tried to cover a range of "literacies," print (reading and writing), media, math, science and computer in each issue. Donna Sauriol composed the Membership Page and acted as liaison between contributors and myself, advertisers, etc..etc..etc.. and also made many useful suggestions each issue.

Diane Radu and Joan Daigle (layout) did a great job with *Focus on the Locals*, as usual. Anna Marrett, Ann Bishundayal, Norma Ewen, Shirley Straughton, Don Smith, Pat Lewis, John de Nora, and others all contributed their talents and insights.

I am hoping to get a small group together in the near future, a type of Editorial Board, to re-evaluate the *NEWS* with respect to the organization's new mission statement. I would like to pack more parental involvement punch into each issue by adding some relevant features and by keeping most other items short and sweet. It works for *USA Today*! I am also hoping to computerize the layout of the paper, sooner than later. And I even would like to start a Home Page for QFHSA, which would be a complement to the *NEWS*. I believe every company and organization will soon have a Home Page on the Internet; in fact, it will be expected. Our Home Page would tell all about us, our history, our mission and perhaps have a few articles that could be changed each month or even more..

Once again, thanks to everyone for their contributions and suggestions over the year.

Newsletter Awards 1996

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Diane Radu, Editor, *Focus on the Locals*

Aylmer Elementary

Beacon Hill Elementary

*Arrow**School Scoops*

Danielle Lanyi, Editor

Maggie Tietjen, Editor

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Helen Koeppe, Chairperson

Local associations and members of the Board of Directors were invited to submit resolutions for consideration at the Annual General Meeting. All those submitted by the deadline were considered in committee and circulated for discussion and for amendment. Time was to be set aside for further discussion during informal sessions at the time of the A.G.M.

Responses to 1995 resolutions have been acknowledged in the regular Correspondence reports of the Board of Directors as received.

Recommendations:

1. That a resolutions how-to and information workshop be considered as part of the Fall Leadership Conference 1996.
2. That recommendations 2. and 3. of the 1995 report be completed.

SAFETY/TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Donald Smith, Chairperson

1. Attendance at Board of Directors meetings.
2. Continued participation on the *Comité provinciale de concertation des programmes de sécurité routière en milieu scolaire*.
3. Regular contribution to the *Safety Scene* in the *Quebec Home & School NEWS*.
4. Investigation into teenage drivers education courses with possibility of taking action to ease the financial burden of said courses.

SOCIAL ISSUES REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by Pat Lewis, Chairperson**Violence continues in society and in schools**

Violence on TV and in video games continues, even though Canadian programs, especially for children, have had many rules imposed by the CRTC. American networks have indicated that some changes have been made, but violence is still on U.S. channels, particularly on Saturday cartoons. The introduction of the V-chip may be of some help to parents, since it enables them to phase out any programs they consider inappropriate. But it is not a complete answer. According to many experts, parents have a choice to turn off the TV or to discuss the program after they have viewed with their kids the cartoon. Most young kids do not know the difference between TV and real life violence, but they can learn. Unfortunately, there is still violence in real life, as well. Both young people and adults are in danger, even though the number of violent acts involving youths is somewhat smaller during the past year, especially in Canada. Violent toys and video games continue to be a billion-dollar business. A report to the Home & School Board meeting of March 22nd gives an idea of how Beaconsfield-Kirkland communities attempted to respond to devastating local violence. The Young Offenders Act has been strengthened as of December 1, 1995, but still doesn't go far enough in dealing with a few cases where brutal young criminals show no remorse. More changes are needed. The editorial cartoon in the *Montreal Gazette* of March 20th shows the irony of doing something about TV violence without making changes in our society.

Smoking

Health Canada and a number of anti-smoking organizations are attempting to use ads on TV to carry messages to teens, particularly girls, and to young parents to discourage beginning smokers and second hand smoke in homes. The mayor of Montreal would like to make all public buildings in the city smoke free. Some investigative reports have shown that increasing taxes on tobacco causes teens to smoke less, but other studies do not agree, saying that the addiction is too strong for young people to quit, no matter what the price. Restaurant owners in B.C. are angry about a new smoking ban, but some studies suggest that customers don't go away when told to butt out. The new law in Vancouver will be enforced next December. A former senior scientist at Philip Morris alleged that the company controlled nicotine levels in cigarettes in full knowledge that it was addictive. The testimony of this scientist led to a drop in tobacco shares on the stock market. One tobacco company in the U.S. recently signed agreements to reimburse Medicaid expenditures related to Medicaid's problems related to smokers. A huge amount of money could be involved if four other states besides Florida are brought into the agreement. About 100 Quebec performers have joined 200 artists across Canada to block tobacco companies from sponsoring cultural events.

AIDS

AIDS is still an epidemic in many underdeveloped countries, particularly in Africa. Cases in Canada appear to be diminishing, but more women and babies are developing the virus. Some
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SOCIAL ISSUES REPORT

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SOCIAL ISSUES cont'd

scientists are now blaming the Red Cross for using blood which was contaminated by donors who had not been questioned about their sex lives and drug habits. The Red Cross now has special tests to determine whether a donor has blood contaminated by the HI virus. A new requirement to discharge military personnel with the AIDS virus in the U.S. is, according to President Clinton, offensive and cruel, but he does not have the power to rule it unconstitutional. The bill will probably go to the Supreme Court.

Merck & Co. Inc. of Canada has won marketing approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration just 42 days after the application was filed. The drug is called Crixivan and when combined with two other approved AIDS drugs reduces the AIDS virus to below detectable levels in up to 85 per cent of patients tested. Meanwhile, a report for the National Institute of Health recommends that the U.S. government coordinate and streamline AIDS research to reduce waste and inefficiency.

Gun Control

Allan Rock's law for gun control was passed with none of the threatened amendments. In a Scottish town, called Dunblane, a crazed gunman shot and killed 16 kindergarten kids and their teacher. Britain has one of the strictest gun laws in the world, and now citizens are asking why the gun law failed. The gunman then killed himself with one of his guns. Some critics said that police waste an inordinate amount of time on routine certificate renewals and don't concentrate on people with doubtful qualifications.

Now the task in Canada is to see that our new law, which did not come into effect until December 1, 1995, is obeyed and becomes effective.

Environment

Before many years pass, our children will be responsible for our world and our environment in general. According to David Bird, it is essential that we teach our kids about wildlife. He claims that human populations still spiral out of control, and habitats for wildlife, especially wetlands and tropical forests, disappear at a tremendous rate. Many adults still have not learned any lessons for today from the disasters caused by chemicals such as DDT. David Bird says that today's 5- to 12-year olds are the ones we should count on. But they need our help, both in school and in play. Education is the key.

Racism

Since February was Black History Month, it appears more than appropriate that Home and School and parents in general do what they can to combat racism and to teach children to love one another. Believe it or not, the Internet is the newest battlefield in the war against racists, and to refute lies and prejudice, spread by the technology of the Internet, should be on the agenda.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by the office

The Student Accident plan for 1996/97 of Reliable Life Insurance Company is unchanged from the last two years and there has been no change in the premiums. QFHSA has endorsed Reliable's plan for a number of years now because of their excellent dental benefits for children.

RECOMMENDATION:

That QFHSA continue with the Reliable Life Insurance Student/Family Accident insurance plan for the 1996/97 school year.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK (TAW), February 11-17th

Report to the Annual General Meeting - May 04, 1996

Submitted by the officeTAW Orders 1996

29 schools
4 private schools
1 liaison person

TAW Orders 1995

34 schools
1 private school

TAW Orders 1994

37 schools
1 association
1 school board

TOTAL ORDERS:

1996 - 34

1995 - 35

1994 - 39

CHSPTF Idea Files were once again sent out to all Home and School Associations and Group Affiliate members. We are not certain whether or not the MEQ also sent out information, as they have for the past two years.

Although the number of schools which ordered materials in 1996 is the same as in 1995, only seven schools are repeats. Participating schools came from the Montreal area, as well as the Townships, northern and western Quebec, the Lower North Shore, and the Gaspé area. Our numbers would be a bit higher; there were two or three schools which wanted to place orders, but our supplies were depleted.

Many schools honour their teachers without purchasing TAW materials from us. From the Participation Forms we receive, we can tell that ideas are often taken from the Idea File, and also that posters from previous years are reused. Many schools have very innovative ideas and plans. The Participation Forms are sent to CHSPTF.

No press releases were sent out this year, although TAW information appeared in several newspapers.

