

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



2009 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

BOOK OF REPORTS

April 25, 2009

Montreal Airport Hilton
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QFHSA YEAR AT A GLANCE 2008-2009

April 2009

25 QFHSA Awards Banquet and 65th Annual General Meeting

March 2009

11 Department of Canadian Heritage Minority-Language Education Research Round Table in Ottawa
attended by Roch Gamache, Executive Director

11 QCGN Executive Directors meeting, attended by Harold Spanier on behalf of Roch Gamache

12 Legal Information Forum for Community Groups, Centre for Community Organizations(COCo)
attended by Roch Gamache, Executive Director

13 Leadership in English-speaking Quebec - QCGN meeting, attended by Roch Gamache

20 National Strategy for Early Literacy (NSEL) - conference on low literacy among Quebec youth
Montreal conference (7 of 8 public consultations across Canada) - attended by Marion Daigle

20 Executive Appreciation Dinner for H&S associations; Program - Otis Grant, Speaker

21 Board of Directors meeting

February 2009

8 - 14 CHSF & QFHSA Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week

21 Board of Directors meeting

26 South Shore Reading Council at St-Lambert CLC Born to Read information meeting -
Harold Spanier & Marion Daigle

January 2009

6 Education Committee Meeting

9 Roch Gamache, Executive Director, presentation on Strategic Planning

10 Board of Directors meeting

20 "How to Read to Children" workshop - James Lyng H.S. CLC-Harold Spanier, Marion Daigle, Leah Trineer

25 Sherwood Forest Home & School launch of Born to Read project

27 Family Literacy Day

28 QFHSA meeting with Alberta School Councils President and Executive Director

December 2008

2 Education Sub-committee on Special Needs Students, convened by Margo Pedersen, Chair

November 2008

5-9 CHSF Mid-Term meeting in Ottawa; QFHSA represented by Marlyn Brownrigg, Vice-President

18 MELS Consultation Committee on Schools (CSC). QFHSA represented by Leah Trineer
& Liette Chamberland. Topic: Community Learning Centres

19 Rights Committee Meeting

20-21 QFHSA Display table at QPAT (Quebec Provincial Association of Teachers) Convention

20 QFHSA hosted Ontario author Wendy A. Lewis, for TD Canadian Children's Book Week tour

22 Board of Directors meeting

October 2008

15 Education Committee meeting convened by Liette Chamberland, Chair

16 Marion Daigle & Diana Donnelly met with James Lyng H.S. to discuss literacy projects

24 COCo workshop on Board liability for non-profit organizations attended by Roch Gamache, Exec. Dir.

25 Fall Conference hosted by Riverview Home & School
Special Guest - Leo LaFrance, Associate Deputy Minister for English Education
Keynote Speaker - Suzanne Longpré - The new Ethics & Religious Education Curriculum

29 Rights Committee meeting convened by Brian Rock, Chair

September 08

12 Executive Workshops for local association leaders at the QFHSA office

13 Board of Directors Meeting

24 Gazette Raise-a-Reader campaign with participation of Diana Donnelly & Lindsay Place H.S. -
vice-principal, teachers, parent volunteers, and 18 students.
QFHSA literacy projects have received RAR grants for 2006, 2007 & 2008

June 2008

- 7 QFHSA Board of Directors Meeting
- 13 Graham Fraser, Commissioner of Official Languages, Virginia Adamson, Assistant Commissioner, and Eva Ludvig, Quebec Regional Representative, meet with QFHSA
- 13 QCGN Annual Meeting - attended by Donna Norris, QFHSA Past President
- 27 Marion Daigle & Diana Donnelly met with the Director of Vanguard School to discuss literacy projects.

May 2008

- 13 H&S information meeting at St Charles School in Pierrefonds - Marlyn Brownrigg & Barbara Schnider
- 21 CLC Conference at LEARN - Harold Spanier, QFHSA Liaison, & Jennifer Holmes, Riverview School
- 28-31 CHSF (Canadian Home & School Federation) Annual Meeting in Oakville, Ontario. QFHSA represented by our delegate, Marlyn Brownrigg

2008-2009

Continuing Activities

- Canadian Heritage reports submitted quarterly for grant projects & programs
- Parenting Workshops conducted by Pat Waters across the province
- Literacy Projects -*Children's Literacy Resource Guide with 4 new pages for a total of 16 new pages;*
 - Born to Read; book donations across the province; Raise-a-Reader projects
- Committee meetings - Board of Directors, Executive Committee, AGM, Fall Conference, Education, Membership, Rights, Community Learning Centres liaison
- NEWS - 4 issues - March, June, September, December
- QFHSA Website and the new *Download*, a seasonal newsletter with parenting tips & information
- School visits

QFHSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2008/2009

Deborah Brown	President	Gatineau
Donna Norris	Past-President	Gatineau
Wanda Leah Trineer	Executive Vice-President	Westmount
Marlyn Brownrigg	Vice-President	Pointe-Claire
Beverlee Bishundayal	Secretary	Montreal
Oliver Cole	Treasurer	Pierrefonds
Liette Chamberland	Director	Beaconsfield
Diana Donnelly	Director	Pointe-Claire
Anne MacWhirter	Director	Gaspesie
Rickhey Margolese	Director	Dorion
Carol Meindl	Director	Cote St-Luc
Charlene Morrison	Director	Gatineau
Brian Rock	Director	Baie-Comeau
Barbara Schnider	Director	Pointe-Claire
Sheila Splane	Director	Gatineau

Staff

Roch Gamache	Executive Director	Coteau-du-Lac
Donna Sauriol	Executive Secretary	Montreal
Carol Ohlin	Executive Assistant	Pointe-Claire

RESOURCE PERSONS/COMMITTEES

[in addition to the Board of Directors]

Director, Community Services	Harold Spanier
Health Issues	Shirley Straughton
Literacy	Marion Daigle, Dorothy Nixon, Harold Spanier
Parenting Workshops	Pat Waters
QFHSA NEWS, Newsletters/Focus on the Locals	Diane Radu
Resolutions/Rights	Barbara Milne-Smith

QFHSA 65th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – April 25, 2009
BUSINESS MEETING PROCEDURE

1. The **Annual General Meeting [AGM]** is conducted in accordance with our Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules. In the case of any procedural dispute reference shall be made to Robert's Rules of Order Revised.
2. Each **official voting delegate** of each Member Association shall have **one vote** on any question which comes before the meeting, **except** for associations more than 250 kilometers from Montreal. Such Associations will still be entitled to three votes, expressed either as an identical or divided vote. Application for such privilege is to be presented in writing to the Executive Secretary prior to the start of the business portion of the Annual General Meeting.
3. The **quorum for transaction of business** at the Annual General Meeting shall be twenty-five percent [25%] of **Member Associations in good standing**, represented by their official representatives or accredited alternates.
4. **Voting** shall be by ballot or show of hands. All questions shall be **decided by a majority of those present** and entitled to vote, **except** those which require a two-thirds [2/3] majority. On ballot votes, the votes of each association shall be handed in by the voting delegates of each association individually but at the same time. Counting of the votes shall be done by non-voting participants.
5. A **delegate** may not **speak** for more than two [2] **minutes** on any question under discussion, nor more than twice on any particular motion or resolution. Any person wishing to speak needs to stand and come to the microphone (if we have one).
6. **Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws** require a two-thirds [2/3] **vote** of the delegates present and entitled to vote. Notice of the proposed amendments must have been mailed to all Member Associations at least ten [10] weeks prior to the meeting. Modifications to these proposed amendments received two [2] weeks before the AGM will be considered, but **no modification may be made from the floor.**
7. **Resolutions** to the Annual General Meeting must have been circulated to the Member Associations eight [8] weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting. Resolutions received after the date specified will be presented as **Emergency Resolutions** only after consideration by the Chairman of the meeting and the Resolutions Committee. Delegates presenting resolutions are reminded that they must be present at the time designated on the agenda for the presentation of their resolution. The **presenting party** may **speak** to the resolution, or amendments thereto, for not more than FIVE [5] **minutes**. In addition to amendments received two weeks before the AGM there may be amendments emanating from the caucus session held earlier, **but no further amendments may be made from the floor.**

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

PRINCIPLES

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

PURPOSE

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

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

THE MAIN MOTION

WHAT IS A MOTION?

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

WHEN IS A MOTION NEEDED?

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

THE STEPS TO PRESENTING A MOTION ARE:

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

"Abstentions?" (pause while the count is taken by the secretary)
"The motion is carried" (or is defeated).

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

SUBSIDIARY MOTIONS

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

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

Inserting or adding a word, phrase or sentence.

Striking out a word, phrase or sentence.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Chairman announces the outcome:

"The amendment is carried (or defeated)."

"The motion now before the meeting is"

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

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

TO REFER: A question is referred to committee for further study and to submit a recommendation to the group at a later time.

TO TABLE: To set the matter aside until someone moves to reconsider it.

TO POSTPONE DEFINITELY: Postpone discussion until more facts are available.

TO POSTPONE INDEFINITELY: The motion may not be considered again that year.

- ▶ Recommended useful resource materials available for reference during a meeting:
A copy of your organization's Constitution and By-Laws. Robert's Rules of Order or other guide to basic rules of parliamentary procedure.

**MINUTES OF THE 64th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS INC.**

Held May 3, 2008 at the Montreal Airport Hilton, Dorval

Registered and present during the 64th Annual General Meeting were 60 people.

The Friday evening Awards Dinner was attended by 118 people, including special guests – Brian Peat, Central Vice-President, Canadian Home and School Federation; Eva Ludvig, Quebec Representative of the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages; Debbie Horrocks, President, and Carolyn Curiale, Vice-President, Quebec English School Boards Association. There were 23 local Home & School Associations present (out of a possible 70).

Local Associations with voting delegates were:

Baie-Comeau High School	Lakeside Academy	Riverview
Bishop Whelan	Lindsay Place High School	Roslyn
Dorval	Lord-Aylmer	Shawinigan High School
Dunrae Gardens	Macdonald High	Sherwood Forest
East Hill	Margaret Manson	St. John Fisher
Edgewater	Merton	St Patrick
John Rennie High School	New Carlisle High School	Thorndale
Jubilee	Pierre E. Trudeau [Vaudreuil]	

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was chaired by President Debi Brown. She welcomed everyone and introduced those at the Head Table: Sylvia Adams, Past-President of QFHSA and a Life Member of Canadian Home & School Federation, serving as Parliamentarian; Anne MacWhirter, Director, Time Keeper; Sheila Splane, Director, Speakers List; Carol Ohlin, Recording Secretary.

The remaining Directors were also presented to the delegates and thanked for their services: Leah Trineer, Executive Vice-President; Oliver Cole, Treasurer; Marlyn Brownrigg, Vice-President; Beverlee Bishundayal, Secretary; and Directors: Diana Donnelly, Carol Meindl, and Barbara Schnider. Director Brian Rock, recipient of this year's Leslie N. Buzzell Award, was not present as his return flight from an education conference in Portland, Oregon, had been delayed in Chicago due to bad weather. Past President Donna Norris, Chair of the Nominations Committee, was unable to attend. Also present were Marion Daigle, a Past President and QFHSA Literacy Director, and Barbara Milne-Smith, a Past President and Secretary of the Rights Committee.

The President welcomed guest Tarek Toni, QFHSA Advisor, Official Languages Support Programs, Department of Canadian Heritage.

Membership awards were presented by Marlyn Brownrigg and Barbara Schnider, Membership Co-Chairs. Suzanne Gionet of Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary School (P.E.T.E.S.) was the recipient of the teacher book draw. Newsletter awards were presented by Diane Radu, Editor of the QFHSA *NEWS Focus on the Locals* section.

The President welcomed everyone and briefly explained the contents of the Conference Kits.

The 64th Annual General Meeting was officially called to order at 9:00 a.m.

1.1 Appointments & Procedures

Parliamentarian	Sylvia Adams
Recording Secretary	Carol Ohlin
Speakers List	Sheila Splane
Time Keeper	Anne MacWhirter
Credentials	Barbara Schnider & Carol Ohlin
Scrutineers	Beverlee Bishundayal and Oliver Cole

MOTION: Diana Donnelly (Lindsay Place High School)/Joanie Beaubien (Sherwood Forest) to accept these appointments. **CARRIED**

Carol Ohlin, Registration Credentials, reported that there were presently 23 Home & School Associations in attendance which fulfilled the requirements for a quorum.

1.2 Parliamentary Procedure

Sylvia Adams briefly reviewed the Business Meeting Procedures described in the Book of Reports, page 3, and the principles of Parliamentary Procedure, pages 4-5.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

The President noted that the Membership Report should be added to the Agenda as the 6th item.

MOTION: Lindsay Macleod (St John Fisher)/Leah Trineer (Roslyn) to accept the Agenda with the addition of the Membership Report. **CARRIED**

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF 2007 AGM (Book of Reports, pages 7-12)

MOTION: Steve Pomerleau (PETES)/Joanie Beaubien (Sherwood Forest) to accept the 2007 AGM Minutes in the Book of Reports. **CARRIED**

There was no business arising from the 2007 AGM Minutes.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Book of Reports, pages 13-14)

Debi Brown presented her report, noting that it has been a very busy year, including media attention resulting from our public stance on the Bill 104 Legal Defence Fund. The January meeting with the Minister of Education, Leisure and Sport (MELS) to discuss the Governance of School Boards was highlighted in the April issue of the QFHSA *NEWS*.

MOTION: Diana Donnelly (Lindsay Place High School)/Lindsay McLeod (St John Fisher) to accept the President's Report. **CARRIED**

5. CANADIAN HOME & SCHOOL REPORT (Book of Reports, page 25)

Marlyn Brownrigg, the QFHSA delegate to CHSF, spoke to her report. In June 2007, she attended the CHSF Annual Meeting in Saskatoon and the Midterm meeting in Ottawa in November. The two main CHSF initiatives are directed towards educating and informing parents: the DrugWise Parents project and Parenting the Net (MNet). The 2008 Annual Meeting will be held at Sheridan College in Oakville, Ontario, at the end of May.

MOTION: Leah Trineer (Roslyn)/Liette Chamberland (Sherwood Forest) to accept the CHSF report. **CARRIED**

6. MEMBERSHIP REPORT (Book of Reports, page 36)

Barbara Schnider and Marlyn Brownrigg, Membership Co-Chairs, presented their report. During this year the Membership Committee focused on reviewing the contents of the Membership Kit, initiating the Group Affiliate Membership campaign, and contacting the local associations on a regular basis with phone calls and email by the Directors. Sherwood Forest Home & School will host a LBPSB Sector 3 Regional Council meeting on May 7.

MOTION: Terina McLaren (John Rennie High School)/Liette Chamberland (Sherwood Forest) To accept the recommendation that the 2008/09 membership fee remain at \$16 per family. **CARRIED**

MOTION: Diana Kowal-Gibson(Lindsay Place High School)/Charlene Morrison (Lord Aylmer) to accept the Membership Report. **CARRIED**

7. LITERACY REPORT (Book of Reports, pages 32-34)

Marion Daigle highlighted some of the major activities of the year listed in the report, including mailings of boxes of books to different regions of Quebec that do not have access to bookstores and libraries. She noted that 14 new topics have been added to the *Children's Literacy Resource Guide* since its original distribution, including two new pages included in the Conference Kit – *Magazines for Children* and *Literacy and Comics*. Dorothy Nixon was thanked for her work in developing these additional pages. Also acknowledged for their financial support were the Gazette Raise-a-Reader campaign and Geoffrey Kelley, MNA. Tembec Paperboard Group has donated many boxes of magazines for pre-school children and a generous supply of craft paper. Diana Donnelly described the Lindsay Place High School pilot project - a special literacy program for students reading below grade level. Funds from the Raise-a-Reader grant have been used to provide age-appropriate books for these teen “reluctant” readers. These students were enthusiastic volunteer participants in the September 2007 RAR fundraising campaign.

MOTION: Louise Mattiucci (Lindsay Place High School)/Patricia Willis (Dunrae Gardens) to accept the Literacy Report. **CARRIED**

8. RIGHTS REPORT (Book of Reports, pages 43-44)

In the absence of the Rights Committee Chairman, Brian Rock, the report was presented by Marion Daigle. At the 2007 AGM, two resolutions proposed by the Rights Committee were approved:

2007/4 Retention of English Schools

2007/6 Permanent Linguistic Voters List for School Board Elections

- In January 2008, Debi Brown and Leah Trineer met with Michelle Courchesne, Minister of Education, Leisure and Sport (MELS), for the consultation on school boards. At that meeting, the Minister indicated she had read the 2007 resolution on the Permanent Voters List and agreed that the automatic transfer of parents to to a French school board voting list after their children graduate from an English

high school was not logical. The Minister stated that she intended to raise this issue with the Cabinet.

- The 'Bill 104' Legal Defence Fund has been established to assist the 26 families who are appealing this law to the Supreme Court.
- Graham Fraser, Commissioner of Official Languages, will meet with QFHSA on June 13.
- Enrollment figures for Quebec English language schools for 2006/07 and 2007/08 continue to indicate a serious decline as the number of high school students is not replaced with incoming kindergarten students.

MOTION: Diana Kowal-Gibson (Lindsay Place High School)/Barbara Schnider (Jubilee) to accept the recommendation to vote on Resolution 2008/1 *Wider Access to English Education.* **CARRIED**

MOTION: Diana Donnelly (Lindsay Place High School)/Marlyn Brownrigg (Jubilee) to accept the Rights Report. **CARRIED**

9. RESOLUTIONS AND POLICY (Book of Reports, pages 41-42)

Rickhey Margoese reported on the 2007 resolutions, the Statement of Policy, and explained the procedure for the caucusing sessions to discuss the 2008 resolutions.

9.1 Disposition of 2007 Resolutions (Page 41)

- The six resolutions from 2007 were mailed to the appropriate destinations.
- Resolution 2007/5 *Firearms Control* received a comprehensive reply from Stockwell Day, Minister of Public Safety, Canada, which was reprinted in the April issue of the QFHSA NEWS.
- Resolution 2007/6 *Permanent Linguistic Voters List for School Board Elections* was discussed with the Minister of Education, Leisure and Sport. (See President's Report and the Rights Report.)

9.2 Statement of Policy

To be added from the resolutions passed at the 2007 AGM

EDUCATION

Add to #36

Adequate and sufficient funds and teacher training to be allotted when curriculum is changed (1999/10); provision of textbooks and materials needed by students and teachers are available prior to required implementation date.

(Resolution 2007/3 *New Curriculum – Financial Resources*)

Add to #42

Materials and teacher training be available as soon as new curriculum (2001/3); new curriculum be implemented only after textbooks have been approved and translated and made available simultaneously in French and English.

(Resolution 2007/2 *The New Curriculum: High School Textbooks in English*)

EDUCATION – SYSTEM

Add to #7

Provide sufficient funding to ensure all English speaking residents have access to current network of English schools within a reasonable distance.

(update of Resolution 1998/4)

(Resolution 2007/04 *Retention of English Schools*)

Add to #22

That there be a permanent linguistic voters list for School Board elections (2005/5); said list to be dependent on School Board attended by voters' children, and that the voters remain on this list after their children have finished their secondary education.

(Resolution 2007/6 *Permanent Linguistic Voters List for School Board Elections*)

SAFETY

Add to #11 and #12

Gun ownership is a privilege, not a right, and gun ownership should be linked to a rigid screening process; with improved mandatory program of education, military assault weapons be banned, all firearms be registered, sale of ammunition be controlled. (update of Resolution 1995/2)

(Resolution 2007/5 *Firearms Control*)

MOTION: Diana Kowal-Gibson (Lindsay Place High School)/Liette Chamberland (Sherwood Forest) to approve the additions to the Statement of Policy.

CARRIED

9.3 RESOLUTIONS 2008

A simple majority is required to pass; the procedure for amendments was explained. Addition, or changes to the destinations, do not require an amendment. (If there are proposed changes to the wording, these are indicated in *bold italics*.)

Resolution 2008/1 Wider Access to English Education

Recommendation of the caucusing group – to add 'Bill 22' to the background information; an amendment is not required for this.

MOTION: Liette Chamberland (Sherwood Forest)/Terina McLaren (John Rennie High School) to accept the following amendments:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that s. 23(1)(a) of the Constitution Act, 1982, which guarantees access to minority *official* language education . . .

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc. urge the Minister of Education, Leisure and Sport to recognize that neither *waiting for* the confirmation of a parent's . .

CARRIED

MOTION: Lindsay McLeod (St John Fisher)/Joanie Beaubien (Sherwood Forest) to accept Resolution 2008/1 as amended.

CARRIED

Resolution 2008/2 Increased Funding for Libraries and Librarians

MOTION: Diana Kowal-Gibson (Lindsay Place High School)/Diana Donnelly (Lindsay Place High School) to accept the following amendments:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations *Inc.* strongly urge the Ministry of Education, Leisure and Sport (MELS) to augment current financial resources, in order to upgrade and maintain the school library and to provide *fulltime* qualified library services as a vital component of the education system.

CARRIED

MOTION: Lindsay McLeod (St John Fisher)/Leah Trineer (Roslyn) to accept Resolution 2008-2 *Increased Funding for Libraries and Librarians.*

CARRIED

Add to Destinations:

Quebec English School Boards Association – each school board
SCIM – School Council of the Island of Montreal
FCPQ – Federation of Parent Committees of Quebec
LEARN – Leading English Education and Resource Network
John Abbott College Information & Library Technologies Department
Schools of Library Science

Resolution 2007/2 The New Curriculum – High School Textbooks in English

MOTION: Liette Chamberland (Sherwood Forest)/Brian Johnston (Riverview) to reaffirm Resolution 2007/2.

CARRIED

10. FINANCE REPORT (Book of Reports, pages 28, 15-24, 29-30)

Oliver Cole, Treasurer, presented the Financial Reports and Statements. He noted that during the year the Finance Committee had reviewed and simplified the reporting statements to the Board of Directors; prepared the 2008/09 proposed budget; developed guidelines for donations to the Legal Defence Fund and drafted guidelines for a proposed sales tax rebate claims for local associations.

Finance Report

MOTION: Barbara Schnider (Jubilee)/Cluney Hurley (Baie Comeau) to accept the 2008 Finance Report and the Recommendation that QFHSA implement funding and grant writing strategies with an Executive Director or a Consultant to diversify and increase resources to better serve members.

CARRIED

Revised Budget 2008

MOTION: Joanie Beaubien (Sherwood Forest)/Heidi Muller (Lakeside Academy) to accept the Revised Budget for 2008.

CARRIED

Proposed Budget 2009

MOTION: Cluney Hurley (Baie Comeau)/Lindsay McLeod (St John Fisher) to accept the proposed 2009 Budget.

CARRIED

Re-appointment of Auditor

MOTION: Heidi Werbin (Sherwood Forest)/Joanie Beaubien (Sherwood Forest) to re-appoint Verelli Arrizza C.A. as QFHSA auditor for the year 2008.

CARRIED

Sales Tax Rebate for local associations

A draft of the proposed new guidelines for GST/PST rebate applications program was included in the conference kits. Leah Trineer explained this will be offered as a service to the local associations to help them recoup expenses on Home & School purchases from suppliers which charge sales tax. This is a working document; discussion and feedback are requested. The draft will also be mailed to all local association before the end of the school year. The Guidelines will be included in the President and Treasurer Kits for the new school year in September. Claims will be filed on a calendar year and submitted to QFHSA by January 15th. The minimum combined sales tax claim will be \$500 with a

10% administration fee assessed by QFHSA. This is a pilot project and will be reviewed and revised as necessary.

11. REMAINING REPORTS [except Nominations]

MOTION: Connie De Giorgio (Dunrae Gardens)/Lindsay McLeod (St John Fisher) to accept the remaining reports (except Nominations) from the Book of Reports *en bloc*. **CARRIED**

12. NOMINATIONS REPORT (Book of Reports, page 37, with up-dates circulated in the AGM Mailing #4 and in the Conference Kits)

Nominations

In the absence of Donna Norris, Nominations Chair, Leah Trineer, Executive Vice-President, presented the Nominations Report and conducted the election for the Board of Directors 2008-2010. She noted that nominations from the floor would be referred to the Board of Directors for appointment. There were no nominations from the floor.

Current Directors completing the term 2007-2009

Beverlee Bishundayal	Anne MacWhirter	Brian Rock
Diana Donnelly	Carol Meindl	Sheila Splane

MOTION: Leah Trineer (Roslyn)/Joanie Beaubien (Sherwood Forest) to elect the following nominees to the Board of Directors for a two-year term – 2008-2010:

Debi Brown	Oliver Cole	Barbara Schnider
Marlyn Brownrigg	Rickhey Margoese	Leah Trineer
Liette Chamberland	Charlene Morrison	

CARRIED

MOTION: Lindsay McLeod (St. John Fisher)/Connie De Giorgio (Dunrae Gardens) to declare Nominations closed. **CARRIED**

Election of Officers

MOTION: Lindsay McLeod (St John Fisher)/Amanda Tweedie-Smith (St Patrick) to accept the slate of officers:

President	Deborah Brown
Executive Vice-President	Wanda Leah Trineer
Secretary	Beverlee Bishundayal
Treasurer	Oliver Cole
Vice-President	Marlyn Brownrigg

CARRIED

INSTALLATION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sylvia Adams, Past-President of QFHSA and a Life Member of Canadian Home and School Federation, invested the Board of Directors for 2008-2010.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Debi Brown, President

Beverlee Bishundayal, Secretary

Date

Date

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Report to the Annual Meeting – April 25th, 2009

Submitted by Debi Brown, President

The theme for 2008 – 2009 was *Building Partnerships*.

The theme for 2009 – 2010 is *65 Years of Partnership*.

The Board of Directors has been very active during the past year since the previous AGM. Board meetings were held on Saturdays in June, September, November, January, February, and March. In addition, the Directors organized and attended the AGM, Post-AGM meeting, Executives Workshops for local associations, the Fall Conference, and the Appreciation Dinner. Additional meetings, particularly of the Executive Committee, were held through teleconferencing. One-third of our Directors live outside of the Montreal area and travel long distances to attend our functions and Board meetings.

Committees were working hard on behalf of our membership and schools.

Please see their reports for a summary of these committee activities:

- Education – Liette Chamberland, Chair
- Literacy – Diana Donnelly, Marion Daigle, Harold Spanier
- Membership - Marlyn Brownrigg and Barbara Schnider, Co-chairs
- Resolutions – Rickhey Margolese, Chair
- Rights – Brian Rock, Chair
- Communications – Telephone Chain – Anne MacWhirter & committee

CHSF – Canadian Home and School Federation. Marlyn Brownrigg, QFHSA Vice-President, represented our provincial organization at the 2008 CHSF Annual General Meeting in Oakville, Ontario, and at the Mid-Term meeting in Ottawa in November. In June, she will attend the 2009 AGM in Winnipeg.

Communications with local associations

- 4 issues (June, September, December, March) of the Home and School *NEWS* were mailed to the home addresses of all members, as well as Group Affiliate members, liaison organizations, and English schools across the province.
- Local association presidents received phone calls and e-mail messages on a regular basis from the Directors.
- Mailings were sent throughout the year with information and invitations to special events such as the Executive workshops, Fall Conference, Appreciation Dinner, AGM.
- The provincial office was available as a resource for information.

Other activities

1. On May 3, at our 2008 Annual General Meeting, the keynote speaker, Brent Tyler, presented a history of the restrictions of the right of parents to choose for their children the language of instruction in education in Quebec. Mr. Tyler has been fighting on the behalf of students who have not been allowed to enter English language instruction schools. Although in August 2007 the Quebec Court of Appeal ruled that Law 104 was unlawful, the Quebec government filed an appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada. In

- December 2008 Mr. Tyler appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada to represent the families challenging the government's appeal. QFHSA launched a fund-raising campaign to assist the legal expenses of these families and raised \$1,345.
2. At the AGM we welcomed new Directors Liette Chamberland and Charlene Morrison to the Board and welcomed back Rickhey Margolese, a long-time Home & Schooler.
 3. At the June Board meeting the President reported that interviews were underway to find an Executive Director. She shared her vision for a change in the role of the Directors of the Board when an Executive Director is hired. It centered on streamlining committees and to have them take a more active role.
 4. In May, QFHSA Vice-President Marlyn Brownrigg attended the Canadian Home & School Annual Meeting in Oakville, Ontario, on our behalf.
 5. In August, the Personnel Committee completed its interviews and selected a candidate, Roch Gamache, for the position of Executive Director for a term to end March 31, 2009, subject to renewal if funding is secured.
 6. In August, Directors and staff were surveyed to determine how much time and what duties they perform for QFHSA with an objective to re-organize the committee structure.
 7. In September the President and Executive Director met with a representative of the Department of Canadian Heritage Official Languages to discuss our funding.
 8. In September QFHSA offered its support to several English Montreal School Board local Home and School Associations operating daycare services which had received a summons from the Commission des relations du travail. The Confédération des syndicats nationaux challenged the operation of these daycares since the employees were not covered by the collective agreement governed by the CSN. Roch Gamache, Executive Director, organized an information session with the local associations at the EMSB and other follow-up meetings. Our legal counsel was also present.
 9. In September Rickhey Margolese, Brian Rock, Roch Gamache and Debi Brown met with Christos Kritsidimas, political attaché for MNA Yolande James, Minister of Immigration and Cultural Identity in response to our Resolution on Wider Access to English Education.
 10. Throughout the year the Directors have discussed the liability insurance coverage for local associations and continue to work on finding a solution that meets their needs.
 11. Under the guidance of the Executive Director there have been weekly staff meetings with the President in attendance.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Leah Trineer, Beverlee Bishundayal, Oliver Cole, Marlyn Brownrigg, Liette Chamberland, Diana Donnelly, Anne MacWhirter, Rickhey Margolese, Carol Meindl, Charlene Morrison, Brian Rock, Barbara Schnider and Sheila Splane for their dedication and hard work to the QFHSA Board of Directors and its committees

.I would also like to thank our resource persons, without whom much work would not have been done: Harold Spanier, Marion Daigle, Sylvia Adams and Pat Waters.

A thank you beyond description goes to the QFHSA support staff, Donna Sauriol and Carol Ohlin, who keep all of the Directors on task and are a tremendous resource and support to the local home and schools. A special thank you to our Executive Director, Roch Gamache, who

enthusiastically stepped into the job and handled several difficult portfolios in the first month, including filling in for the Treasurer who took a leave of absence in the fall.

Finally, I would like to say a special thank you to two very dedicated Home and Schoolers who have retired this year – Don Smith and Donna Norris. Their unfailing dedication to QFHSA over the years is, and will be, greatly missed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 25, 2009

Submitted by Roch Gamache, Executive Director

In line with the strategic development plan that we submitted to the Board earlier this year, we are now in the midst of deploying a new organizational structure that will permit the QFHSA to increase its service offering to better serve local communities. In this context and acting on my recommendation to the Board of Directors, we have added a Director of Community Services to the organization's staff.

What's more, the QFHSA is currently working to institute a series of new programs that are in step with our community-focus. For instance, a service-learning program, which could serve as a possible strategy and program geared toward increasing student success and achievement, is currently being closely analyzed by our staff. Also noteworthy is the initiative to develop a Quebec-wide video conferencing system to enable our more remote regions to benefit from workshops and tools not always accessible to them.

It is important to mention that new collateral and promotional material will be available as we are now working on a new marketing-communications plan that will also provide local associations with various items including a "beginning of the year package" where each local president will be given tools to be used in the course of an H&S presentation that may be given during each member school's Annual General Assembly. Also, in the course of our communications strategy, our Leadership Building Campaign tour has begun and we hope to develop strong alliances with many Central Parents Committees and Governing Boards.

I have also undertaken the initiative of modernizing our website. By reorganizing and adding to its content, our goal is to create a space that better reflects who we are; a welcoming place where all our members and where the community at large, near and far, can come together, gather information and exchange on topics relating to our mandate. "QFHSA.org" will become our calling card in homes, schools and other Anglophone institutions. Within the next few weeks, an ftp access will be given to our members thus giving each and everyone the possibility of consulting and exchanging many documents pertaining to QFHSA activities and programs

Once the current challenges are met and the short list of priorities are addressed, we can begin working on the mid-term and long-term plans, which I can assure you include many more exciting projects that we will venture to undertake as we continue to focus on the QFHSA's innovation and growth to better serve our children and parental community. The framework for a review of our public affairs outreach strategy will be laid, the goal of which is to ensure we fully substantiate our role as advocate for Anglophone parents. Our goal is to strengthen our position as the body that is best poised to defend our community's rights and interests in matters relating to the education of Québec's young Anglophones.

HIGHLIGHTS

Communications and market research

- Over the course of the last months, I have met with many community organizations and private companies in order to develop co-marketing opportunities and partnerships.
- The strategic development plan outlines a marketing-communications strategy where new promotional and collateral material has been developed and is currently being produced.

- The Leadership Building Campaign Tour will strengthen our outreach geared towards parents involved within schools as we are recruiting new members from Governing Boards.
- QFHSA is now part of the Youth Count initiative.
- I am currently in the process of reviewing the QFHSA *NEWS* concept and looking at an integrated and multimedia approach.
- A database management strategy has been implemented and new technological tools have been acquired.
- Focus groups are being created in order to adapt the QFHSA service offering to its members needs.

Administration

- A new organizational chart and structure has been implemented for improved efficiency and a new director of Community Services is now part of the executive staff.
- A review of the liability insurance parameters is taking place.
- Daycare issue: QFHSA has actively supported its members by intervening in a dossier involving our members who faced legal challenges in a context of “after school services” involving the Commission des relations du travail du Québec, the CSN and the English Montreal School Board.
- Through approaches with organizations such as LEARN, we are seeking ways to implement a permanent regional structure that will provide local administrative support to our members.
- While consolidating QFHSA’s relationship with its actual financial partners such as Canadian Heritage and MELS, I have been working on funding diversification using a project management approach targeting such potential partners as the Secrétariat à la jeunesse.

Community Services

- I have asked Harold Spanier to join the executive staff team and he is now acting as Director of Community Services.
- A new service offering including the currently offered programs and workshops will be presented to QFHSA members.
- Special pilot projects are being explored and preliminary development has been initiated:
 - Service Learning Program;
 - Québec en forme;
 - Promo Science;
 - Public Safety- Crime Prevention Program;
 - A cultural/sports related program (not yet public);
 - A series of workshops dedicated to integration and disciplinary issues within schools.

Advocacy and Public Affairs

- Work is being done in order to ensure QFHSA is formally recognized at MELS (Ministère de l’Éducation, du Loisir et du Sports) and the Secrétariat à la jeunesse du Gouvernement du Québec.
- Starting in 2010, QFHSA’s AGM will host a public affairs plenary session and workshops where policy driven initiatives will be discussed and resolutions pertaining to public administration in the education field will be adopted.
- I am discussing various avenues with other groups such as the Anglophone parents of the FCPQ that could lead to strategic alliances where Anglophone youths’ interests will be better represented.

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008



VERELLI - ARRIZZA

Comptables Agréés - Chartered Accountants

Adriano Arrizza, C.A.
Anthony Verelli, C.A.

AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members of
QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

We have audited the statement of financial position of Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations (Federation) as at December 31, 2008, and the statements of changes in net assets, revenues and expenses and cash flow for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Federation management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

Except as explained in the following paragraph, we conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In common with many charitable organizations, the Federation derives revenues and contributions from various sources, the completeness of the non-government revenue and contributions are not susceptible to complete audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Federation and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to revenues and net assets.

In our opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves concerning the completeness of the non-government revenues and contributions referred to in the preceding paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Federation as at December 31, 2008, and the results of their operations and their cash flow for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.



Chartered Accountants

Montreal, Quebec
February 24, 2009

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS
(Incorporated under the laws of Quebec)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008

ASSETS

	2008	2007
CURRENT		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 80,570	\$ 69,061
Funds held in trust (Note 3)	9,500	9,500
Sales taxes receivable	6,381	6,669
Grants receivable	59,500	60,000
Prepaid expenses	<u>12,845</u>	<u>14,674</u>
	<u>\$ 168,796</u>	<u>\$ 159,904</u>

LIABILITIES

CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Deferred program grants (Note 4)	52,100	48,350
Deferred history and archive grant (Note 5)	10,933	10,933
Deferred membership fees (Note 6)	<u>31,705</u>	<u>36,681</u>
	<u>97,738</u>	<u>98,964</u>

NET ASSETS

Net assets restricted for awards purposes (Note 3)	9,500	9,500
Unrestricted net assets	<u>61,558</u>	<u>51,440</u>
	<u>71,058</u>	<u>60,940</u>
	<u>\$ 168,796</u>	<u>\$ 159,904</u>

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

Director

Director

See accompanying notes

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	Restricted for awards purposes	Unrestricted	2008	2007
BALANCE - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 9,500	\$ 51,440	\$ 60,940	\$ 54,934
Excess of revenues over expense	<u>-</u>	<u>10,118</u>	<u>10,118</u>	<u>6,006</u>
BALANCE - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 9,500</u>	<u>\$ 61,558</u>	<u>\$ 71,058</u>	<u>\$ 60,940</u>

See accompanying notes

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	2008	2007
REVENUES (Exhibit D)	\$ <u>212,357</u>	\$ <u>216,196</u>
EXPENSES		
CHSF Affiliation fees and others	7,071	5,000
Meetings	3,328	9,137
Conferences and outreach	21,379	19,355
Promotional material	1,909	4,828
Home and school news	22,968	28,059
Insurance	15,502	16,005
Provincial office		
Equipment purchases	319	1,878
Postage and courier	4,588	3,201
Office supplies	7,892	6,532
Telephone	4,570	4,248
Professional fees	9,161	2,689
Rent, electricity and occupancy charges	18,880	18,484
Salaries and employee benefits	60,938	60,870
Fees and honorariums	14,802	19,763
History and archive grant	-	1,000
Literacy partners of Quebec grant	-	3,420
Federal Canadian heritage special project	-	330
Raise a reader	<u>8,932</u>	<u>5,391</u>
	<u>202,239</u>	<u>210,190</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ <u>10,118</u>	\$ <u>6,006</u>

See accompanying notes

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	2008	2007
REVENUES (Note 2(a))		
Membership fees - family	\$ 69,405	\$ 74,388
Membership fees - other	2,354	953
Federal Canadian heritage program grant	83,250	83,264
Quebec government grant	20,000	20,000
History and archive grant	-	1,000
Raise a reader	4,531	9,707
Drugwise parents project	9,328	-
Donations - other	2,171	891
News - advertising and subscriptions	1,566	1,992
Conferences	11,523	12,460
Membership materials	730	666
Miscellaneous	5,280	3,957
Interest	969	1,068
Administration fees	<u>3,750</u>	<u>3,350</u>
	214,857	213,696
Donations received for locals	31,672	45,360
Donations remitted to locals	<u>(34,172)</u>	<u>(42,860)</u>
	\$ <u>212,357</u>	\$ <u>216,196</u>

See accompanying notes

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	2008	2007
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 10,118	\$ 6,006
Decrease in sales taxes receivable	288	231
Decrease in grants receivable	500	7,561
Decrease in prepaid expenses	1,829	383
Decrease in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	-	(1,250)
Increase in deferred program grants	3,750	20,000
Decrease in deferred history and archive grant	-	(1,000)
Increase (decrease) in deferred membership fees	<u>(4,976)</u>	<u>5,011</u>
CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	11,509	36,942
 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	 <u>69,061</u>	 <u>32,119</u>
 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - END OF YEAR	 <u>\$ 80,570</u>	 <u>\$ 69,061</u>

See accompanying notes

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008

1. NATURE AND PURPOSE OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations is an incorporated, independent, not-for-profit volunteer organization dedicated to enhancing the education and general well-being of children and youth. It promotes the involvement of parents, students, educators and the community at large in the advancement of learning and acts as a voice for parents.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Revenue Recognition

- i) Membership fees are received mostly in the Fall of each year and are taken into revenue over the period from the first of September to the following thirty-first of August.
- ii) Program funding and grants are received from Federal and Provincial agencies, the revenue from Federal agencies is taken over the donor fiscal year which is from the first of April to the following thirty-first of March. The revenue from the Provincial agency is from the Ministry of Education and is taken over the period from the first of September to the following thirty-first of August.
- iii) All other revenues are recognized when received.

b) Expensing Capital Purchases

The Association expenses all purchases of a capital nature.

c) Contributed Services

Volunteers at the Federation level contribute approximately 24,700 hours per year to assist the Federation in carrying out its activities. Because of the difficulty in determining their fair value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

Cont'd

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont'd)

d) Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

e) Future Accounting Changes - Financial Instruments

In December 2006, the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants issued Section 3862, Financial Instruments - Disclosures and Section 3863, Financial Instruments - Presentation. These two Sections will be applicable to financial statements relating to fiscal years beginning on or after October 1, 2007. Accordingly, the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations will adopt the new standards for its fiscal year beginning January 1, 2009. Section 3862 on financial instruments disclosures requires the disclosure of information about the significance of financial instruments on the entity's financial position and performance as well as the nature and extent of risks arising from financial instruments to which the entity is exposed during the period and at the balance sheet date, and how the entity manages those risks. Section 3863 on the presentation of financial instruments is unchanged from the presentation requirements included in Section 3861.

The Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations is currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of these new Sections on its financial statements.

3. FUNDS HELD IN TRUST

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

Cont'd

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008

4. DEFERRED PROGRAM GRANTS

The deferred program grants from Canadian Heritage and the Quebec Ministry of Education are for funding operating costs.

	2008	2007
Balance - Beginning of year	\$ 48,350	\$ 28,350
Plus: Amount received during the year	<u>107,000</u>	<u>123,264</u>
	155,350	151,614
Less: Amount recognized as revenue during the year	<u>(103,250)</u>	<u>(103,264)</u>
Balance - End of year	<u>\$ 52,100</u>	<u>\$ 48,350</u>

5. DEFERRED HISTORY AND ARCHIVE GRANT

The deferred history and archive grant is utilized to set up a history and archive project for the association.

Balance - Beginning of year	\$ 10,933	\$ 11,933
Plus: Amount received during the year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	10,933	11,933
Less: Amount recognized as revenue during the year	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,000)</u>
Balance - End of year	<u>\$ 10,933</u>	<u>\$ 10,933</u>

6. DEFERRED MEMBERSHIP FEES

The deferred membership fees are from members of the Association and for funding operating costs.

Balance - Beginning of year	\$ 36,681	\$ 31,670
Plus: Amount received during the year	<u>64,429</u>	<u>79,399</u>
	101,110	111,069
Less: Amount recognized as revenue during the year	<u>69,405</u>	<u>74,388</u>
Balance - End of year	<u>\$ 31,705</u>	<u>\$ 36,681</u>

Cont'd

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008

7. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Fair Value

The fair value of all financial instruments, approximate their carrying value due to their short-term to their maturities.



CHSF [CANADIAN HOME & SCHOOL FEDERATION]

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 25, 2009

Submitted by: Marlyn Brownrigg, QFHSA CHSF Delegate

CHSF June 2008 Board Meeting and Annual General Meeting

The 2008 CHSF board meeting and Annual General Meeting took place at Sheridan College in Oakville, Ontario. The board members continued the strategic planning and marketing workshop started in November 2007. Goals are to increase the visibility of CHSF, update the website and logo, and develop new partnerships with other organizations. A resolution on a sex offender registry submitted by the Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations was adopted and the QFHSA resolution on firearms (adopted at the QFHSA AGM in April 2007) will be voted on this June.

Mid-Term Meeting November 2008

Due to the resignation of President Bev Mullin, Janet Walsh (N.S.) was installed as interim president until the AGM in June 2009. Cynthia Richards (N.B.) replaced her on an interim basis as Eastern Vice-President.

The “Drugwise” project with Health Canada has ended with the final audit still to be completed. This project was more successful in some provinces than others. The “Parenting the Net” project supported by Bell Canada has also finished and Cathy Wing of MNet is looking at how CHSF and the provinces can continue to use the materials at a reasonable cost. The June 2009 board meeting and Annual General Meeting will be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Varia

As is the case with many volunteer organizations, CHSF is struggling financially and is looking for sustainable grants. Cost cutting measures were implemented at the November 2008 mid-term meeting. Some provinces are also finding it a challenge to pay the CHSF membership dues and to fund travel expenses for delegates. With fewer delegates at the board table the workload falls to fewer and fewer volunteers.

CHSF has been keeping the provinces informed on the changes to the copyright bill which is now slated for Fall 2009. The changes may adversely affect how schools can use materials especially those available on the web.

CHSF supported the Centre for Science in the Public Interest’s policy on school nutrition.

COMMUNICATIONS

Home & School NEWS

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 25, 2009

Submitted by the office

Mandate: The Editorial Board oversees the content of our newspaper and the website.

There were four regular issues published last year, of 16 pages each. Circulation has remained steady and the average paid distribution is 5,800; average total distribution of a single issue is 7,300. Local associations are welcome to have additional copies of our newspaper at no extra cost.

The local associations are asked to send in their own school news for inclusion in their section of the paper, *Focus on the Locals*. Even if you don't have a writer on your team, a copy of your own newsletter will enable us to let other parents know what exciting things are happening at your school and to "steal" any ideas that appeal to them. Diane Radu is Editor of *Focus on the Locals* and also judges the schools' newsletters for Newsletter Prize winners, given out at the AGM. In 2008 the winners were: Gardenview, Sherwood Forest and Macdonald High School. The school winners for 2009 are: Gardenview, Macdonald High School, Evergreen, Willingdon, and Edgewater.

The NEWS is grateful to our regular contributors: AMCAL Family Services, Marlyn Brownrigg and Barbara Schnider (Membership), Shirley Straughton (Health Issues), Don Smith (Safety Issues), Canadian Home & School Federation, and Debi Brown, QFHSA President. Our Margaret Funnell covers the West Island Networking Lunches with an array of family oriented topics. And, this past year, we've had contributions from Martha Farley, DM Family and School Services, Christine Clarke, Centre for Literacy, LEARN (Leading English Education & Resource Network) and Dorothy Nixon.

QFHSA would like to take this opportunity to thank Don Smith, our safety expert, for his years of contributions to our newspaper. He began his column in 1981 and has decided that he is not as up-to-date on safety issues as he once was. As a police officer, dealing with youth, he had a very unique and common-sense approach to many safety issues.

We also publicize the Terry Fox Run, Geordie *Youth Theatre*, Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week, *The Gazette's* Raise-a-Reader campaign, and the Quebec Literacy Foundation, as well as Family Literacy Day (January 27th).

This past year we had meetings with Michelle Courchesne, Minister of Education, reported on in April, and with Gordon Fraser, Commissioner of Official Languages, reported in the September issue. And we supported the families appealing Bill 104 with their legal expenses by organizing a donations campaign (June issue).

Deadline dates for the NEWS are:	June 30	October 30
	January 30	April 30

Website: Is updated quarterly and includes the newspaper, resolutions passed at the AGM, information on the two major conferences including pictures, listing of all our Home & School Associations, and much more. There is also a special downloadable newsletter directed to parents and available for schools to use in their own newsletters, to include with report cards, etc. This is done by Beverlee Bishundayal, a QFHSA Director. Ideas and suggestions for information to include in the *DOWNLOAD* are welcomed. [See Media & Publicity Report]

COMMUNICATIONS

Telephone Committee Report

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 25th, 2009

Submitted by Anne MacWhirter, Director

Mandate: The Telephone Committee was established by the Board of Directors to facilitate and encourage communication between the Board members at the provincial level and the local associations. This provides another avenue of information in addition to the mailings. With regular conversations by telephone and email, we can keep in touch with each other, exchanging ideas and learning what issues are of concern in the schools. The Directors' experience and leadership can be a helpful resource for the executives at the local level.

Committee members:

Anne MacWhirter, Coordinator

Members: Carol Meindl; Barbara Schnider, Sheila Splane, Leah Trineer, Charlene Morrison, Diana Donnelly, Liette Chamberland, and Oliver Cole helping when extra calling was needed.

Activities

During the course of the year we:

- Called (or e-mailed) each local association to ask them to update their files at the office. The items needed for each local association include the following:
 1. Executive list for the current year (with contact information)
 2. Reaffirmation letter
 3. Administration fee
 4. Membership list and fees for those members
 5. Financial and end-of-year reports for the office files.
- Called to remind locals about the AGM, Fall Conference and the Executive Appreciation Dinner.
- Anne made additional calls to encourage those local associations who had not sent in reports, lists, etc. to do so before the February 1st deadline.
- Anne did a series of calls in the Spring 2008 to check in with the locals who were tardy in sending information. Good contacts were made and many of these locals were successful in submitting all of the documentation needed for their files at head office for 2008-2009.
- A huge thank you to all those who sent e-mails, made calls and checked to make sure we contacted each local.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 25, 2009

Submitted by Liette Chamberland, Chair

Mandate

- To ensure that the Federation's Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules allow a functioning organization;
- To vet the constitutions of local associations when submitted and to make suggestions for improvements or additions.

Committee members: Liette Chamberland

Activities 2008-2009:

During the course of the year, the Constitution and By-Laws Committee has looked at the possibility to change the Constitution and By-Laws "all in one format" to a Constitution that would stand on its own and would be separate from the By-Laws. The reasoning behind the change was brought up by the difficulties sometimes experienced by the local Associations at creating their own set of Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules.

Furthermore, when a new local Association is in the process of writing its official documents, the difference in the timeline for sending in the documents - Constitution within the first six (6) months, and By-Laws within the first two (2) years – it often results that, for as long as the By-Laws are not attached to the Constitution, the latter is invalid.

A first draft of amendments has been proposed and will be studied in depth over the course of the year 2009-2010.

The new changes, if accepted and approved at the next AGM, will in no way affect the official documents sent by the local Associations. It will only concern the new local Associations.

However, for those who would like to follow-up with the changes, workshops would be available to help them at understanding the concept of the different documents and in writing their own documents.

Consequently, new templates of each document would be offered to all local Home and School Associations.

At this time, there are no proposed changes to the Constitutions and By-Laws to be voted on.

Recommendation:

- That the QFHSA recruits assistance from at least 4 local Associations to review the first draft of proposed amendments.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 25, 2009

Submitted by Liette Chamberland, Chair

Mandate:

The mandate of the QFHSA Education Committee is incredibly broad: it is to follow everything that is going on in education. Since this is not really feasible, it has adopted the following strategy:

1. To adopt priorities for the year, which include at least one "deliverable" (in other words, something tangible);
2. To review articles on education in La Presse, Le Devoir and The Gazette;
3. To have liaison members attend various committee meetings at the MELS and elsewhere;
4. To invite speakers to give presentations on various topics in education;
5. To be consulted by the QFHSA Board of Directors on education issues;
6. To prepare resolutions for the AGM.

Committee members:

Liette Chamberland, Education Committee Chair.

Joannie Beaubien-Rossy - *ad hoc*, Rita Burnatowski, Rosalind Byers, Suanne Stein Day, Fiona du Jardin, Jean Fillatre - *ad hoc*, Lisa Fougere, Christine Harris, Rickhey Margolese – Textbook Sub-Committee Chair, Bryden Murray – French Second Language Sub-Committee Chair, Margo Pedersen – Special Needs Sub-Committee Chair, Kim Sutherland, Heidi Werbin, Marion Daigle – Literacy Liaison, Brian Rock – Rights Committee Liaison, Harold Spanier – CLC Liaison.

Activities 2008-2009:

Education Committee:

At the beginning of the year, the Education Committee has reviewed many different issues and concerns:

- Drop-Out rate
- Mainstream vs. Resources
- Ethics and Religious Culture Program
- Immersion
- Ratio Teacher / Children
- Textbook
- Teacher shortage

For lack of resources, the Education Committee has selected to examine closely the following issues:

- Textbook;
- Special Needs;
- French Second Language (originally Immersion).

Textbook Sub-Committee:

Sub-Committee members:

Rickhey Margolese – Textbook Sub-Committee Chair;
Liette Chamberland - Education Committee Liaison, Marion Daigle – Literacy Committee Liaison, Brian Rock – Rights Committee Liaison.

Activities:

The Science and Technology III text has been received as has the French version of the Cultural Math text (course replacing Math 416). The first volume of the English version arrived in January and subsequent volumes are set to come at a rate of two chapters per month. However, the teacher's guides with answers to the problems have not been received, making the teaching of the new math curriculum more difficult than it needs to be. There has been some backing off on deadlines for some Sec. V courses slated for compulsory implementation in Fall 2009. Leo LaFrance, Assistant Deputy Minister for English Services, MELS, has a set of short-to-long-term goals to follow which will ultimately have English and French texts published concurrently. In the long run, we need to push for these materials to be in the schools during the spring prior to the year of implementation.

The Sub-Committee is keeping up to date with this issue.

Special Needs Sub-Committee:

Sub-Committee members:

Margo Pederson – Special Needs Sub-Committee Chair.
Rosalind Byers, Liette Chamberland – Education Committee Liaison, Marion Daigle – Literacy Liaison, Suanne Stein Day, Christine Harris, Bryden Murray – French Second Language Liaison, Kim Sutherland, Heidi Werbin.

Activities:

In order to better orient itself, the Sub-Committee has concentrated its efforts at defining its views on different terms that are commonly used.

In the process, it has collectively adopted the following three-fold purpose of Education:

- First, to extend children's knowledge, experience and imaginative understanding, and their awareness of moral values and capacity for enjoyment;
- Second, to enable them to have the skills and abilities to apply them, in order to be active citizens and responsible contributors to society, capable of achieving as much independence as possible;
- Third, to develop an appreciation of life long learning.

Since then, this principle has been approved, and will become part of the Education Committee's mandate.

The remaining goals until the end of this term are to achieve a consensus on the following definitions:

- Mainstream;
- Inclusion;
- Integration;
- Special Needs.

The rationale of this exercise is to have a common understanding of these terms, thus enabling the Sub-Committee to better assess the concerns and make informed decisions.

French Second Language Sub-Committee:

Sub-Committee members:

Bryden Murray – French Second Language Sub-Committee Chair.

Liette Chamberland – Education Committee Liaison, Fiona du Jardin, Margo Pederson – Special Needs Sub-Committee Liaison, Heidi Werbin,

Activities:

The Sub-Committee has studied the Immersion situation in New-Brunswick, since recently the Government of New-Brunswick had announced drastic changes to the Province’s French Second Language Program. Two studies were examined: 1) PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP evaluation of the NB French Language Programs which was commissioned by the New Brunswick Department of Education in 2000, and 2) the February 2008 Report of the French Second Language Commission, A Comprehensive Review of French Second Language Programs and Services Within the Anglophone Sector of the New Brunswick Department of Education which provide the background to the decisions taken last winter and also to the revised model, which feature an additional Grade Three Immersion entry level, announced in August, 2008. Several aspects of the studies and the Program decisions were discussed by the Sub-Committee: the consultation process, the context, their standards, the motivating concerns.

This study was followed by many questions and concerns:

- a. Immersion and Streaming;
- b. Immersion and Special Needs Students;
- c. High School Retention;
- d. Exit Profiles / Expectations;
- e. Student Perceptions of their Second Language Capacity;
- f. Literacy, Readiness, Support;
- g. Content Subjects in French;
- h. Oral / Auditory Focus;
- i. Teacher training;
- j. Models of Delivery;
- k. Single, Double or Multiple Models;
- l. Social / Emotional Factors;
- m. Scheduling Concerns;
- n. Research.

The Sub-Committee agreed that the Education Committee propose a Resolution to the 2009 Annual General Meeting of the QFHSA:

Resolution 2009/01– French Second Language Programs in Quebec

Following, are other initiatives that will be taken by the Sub-Committee:

- 1) Meetings with:
 - a. Fred Genesee, Professor of Psychology, McGill
 - b. Patricia Lamarre of Univ. de Montreal et Centre d'études ethniques;
 - c. Lawrence DePoe, Quebec Executive Director, of Canadian Parents for French.
- 2) A presentation on French Intensive programs;
- 3) A panel discussion at the 2010 Fall Workshop;
- 4) Articles for QFHSA NEWS.

Recommendation:

- That the QFHSA recruits additional assistance from local Associations in order to cover more concerns and issues.
- That the QFHSA recruits additional assistance from off Island and from the regions in order to have a better view of the situations throughout the whole of the province.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Report to Annual General Meeting – April 25, 2009

Submitted by Oliver Cole, Treasurer

Mandate: Request budget submission to the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc. [QFHSA] by the Board and its Committees. Review accounting procedures, the auditor's report and the expense sheet for Directors. Prepares recommendations for the membership and administration fees, applies for government grants. Review the Charitable Tax Number Information sheet and the Quebec Home and School NEWS funding.

Members: Oliver Cole – Treasurer; Debi Brown; Leah Trineer, Marlyn Brownrigg, Beverlee Bishundayal, Harold Spanier, Roch Gamache – Executive Director, Carol Ohlin - Office Staff

Activities

- Discussed and reviewed QFHSA committee's 2009/2010 budgets with respective chairperson.
- Collaborate with Board members and staff with preparation of Grant Applications.
- Prepared annual filing of Charitable Information Returns.
- Shared financial report information at Board of Director and Executive Committee meetings.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	QFHSA						
2	2010 Proposed Budget						
3	AGM April 25, 2009						
4	updated - March 26, 2009						
5			2010			2009	
6	REVENUE		Proposed Budget			Approved Budget	
7							
8	MEMBERSHIPS & GRANT INCOME						
9	Family Membership Revenue		102,300			90,000	
10	Administration Fee Revenue		4,500			4,500	
11	Affiliate Fee		2,600			2,600	
12	Individual Membership Revenue		600			600	
13	MEMBERSHIP INCOME Subtotal			110,000			97,700
14	Federal Grants Income		165,000			161,550	
15	Provincial Grants Income		30,000			25,000	
16	Special Projects Grants		35,000				
17	Non-government Grant - Raise a Reader		5,000			5,000	
18	GRANTS INCOME Subtotal			235,000			191,550
19	TOTAL MEMBERSHIPS & GRANTS			345,000			289,250
20							
21	MISC. INCOME & DONATIONS						
22	Sales of Materials		1,000			1,500	
23	Conferences' Revenues		12,500			13,500	
24	Advertising & Subscription Revenue		2,000			2,100	
25	Miscellaneous other Revenues		2,500			1,500	
26	QCGN Activity (recoverable)		500			500	
27	Interest Revenue		500			500	
28	MISC. INCOME Subtotal			19,000			19,600
29	Donations received for locals et al						
30	Donations remitted to locals et al						
31	Donations-Processing Fee Revenue		500			700	
32	Donations to QFHSA - Other						
33	Donations to Specific Projects (Literacy)		500			500	
34	DONATIONS Subtotal			1,000			1,200
35	TOTAL MISC. & DONATIONS			20,000			20,800
36	Recovery from Reserves						
37							
38	TOTAL REVENUES			365,000			310,050
39							
40	Volunteer - In Kind Time Dollar Value *			35,000			31,050
41							
42	TOTAL REVENUES & VOLUNTEER VALUE			400,000			341,100
43							
44							
45							
46							
47							
48	QFHSA		2010			2009	
49	EXPENSE		Proposed Budget			Approved Budget	
50	GENERAL OPERATIONS						
51	Accounting/Audit		2,500			1,800	
52	Legal Fees		3,000			2,500	
53	SUBTOTAL Professional Fees			5,500			4,300
54							
55	CHSF Affiliation Fees		4,500			4,500	
56	Donations to Other Organizations		300			100	
57	Salaries & related expenses		72,725			72,175	
58	SUBTOTAL general operations			77,525			76,775
59							
60	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR						
61	Salaries & related exp. - Executive director		85,075			80,075	
62	Travel		7,000			15,200	
63	Operating		4,050			4,400	
64	SUBTOTAL Executive Director			96,125			99,675
65							
66							
67							
68							
69							
70							
71							
72							
73							

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
74							
75	QFHSA			2010		2009	
76	EXPENSE			Proposed Budget		Approved Budget	
77							
78	OFFICE OPERATIONS						
79	Rent		23,000			23,000	
80	Cleaning, Repairs & Maintenance		350			350	
81	Electricity & Heating		1,000			1,000	
82	Property Insurance/Business Tax		500			500	
83	Office Supplies & equipment maint.		6,500			5,000	
84	Postage & Courier		6,500			6,500	
85	Telephone/Fax/Internet/Website		4,500			4,500	
86	Furniture/Equipment & Installation		500			500	
87	Bank Charges & Interest Expense		100			100	
88	SUBTOTAL Office Operations			42,950			41,450
89							
90	MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT						
91	Leadership Campaign Tour - Special Project		44,000				
92	Members Insurance		20,000			20,000	
93	NEWS printing/postage		28,000			28,000	
94	Publicity materials		4,500			3,000	
95	Promotional Activities		2,000			1,000	
96	Travel & Accommodation - Outreach		2,000			1,000	
97	SUBTOTAL Membership Development			100,500			53,000
98							
99	FALL CONFERENCE						
100	Fees/Honorariums/supplies		1,200			1,100	
101	Meals		1,500			1,400	
102	Travel & Accommodation (Outreach)		3,500			2,500	
103	SUBTOTAL Fall conference			6,200			5,000
104							
105	AGM						
106	Fees/Honorariums/supplies		2,600			3,000	
107	Meals		9,700			8,500	
108	Travel & Accommodation (Outreach)		2,500			3,000	
109	SUBTOTAL AGM			14,800			14,500
110							
111	EXECUTIVE APPRECIATION DINNER						
112	Fees/Honorariums/supplies						
113	Meals		1,100			1,200	
114	Travel & Accommodation (Outreach)						
115	SUBTOTAL Appreciation dinner			1,100			1,200
116							
117	BOARD OF DIRECTORS						
118	Fees/Honorariums/supplies		500			500	
119	Travel/Accommodation/Meals (Outreach)		3,500			5,500	
120	CHSF Meetings expenses		2,000			2,500	
121	Board Development - Travel/Accom/Meals		800			700	
122	Board Development - Consulting fee		700			700	
123	SUBTOTAL Board of Directors			7,500			9,900
124							
125	COMMITTEE EXPENSES						
126	Education Committee		1,800			350	
127	Finance		300			350	
128	Membership		500			350	
129	Literacy		2,700			1,000	
130	Rights Committee		500			350	
131	Resolution Committee		500				
132	Constitution and Bylaws		500				
133	Special Project - Raise a Reader		5,000			350	
134	SUBTOTAL committee			11,800			2,750
135	QCGN Activity (recoverable)						
136	Regional Council (Outreach)			1,000			1,500
137	SUBTOTAL GENERAL OPERATIONS EXP.			365,000			310,050
138							
139	Volunteer - In kind time dollar value offset			35,000			31,050
140							
148	SUBTOTAL BUDGETED EXPENSES			400,000			341,100
149							
150	SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		0	0			0
151							
158	**Volunteer - In kind time dollar value						
159	(1944 hours @\$18 per hour = \$35,000)						

HEALTH ISSUES REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 25, 2009

Submitted by Shirley Straughton, Resource

Mandate: To identify health risks affecting children and adolescents, to promote preventative health measures and to serve as a Health Issues resource to the QFHSA Board of Directors.

Summary of Activities:

NEWS – Articles were published on the following subjects:

- Health information obtained via the internet.
- Baby bath seats and safety.
- Influenza Vaccine.
- Garage “sales” safety considerations.
- Annual mini-medical school held at the Montreal Children’s Hospital.
- Over-use of antibiotics in young children

Preventative Health Care

Since our health system is facing a crisis and more nurses are not likely to appear any time soon – there are a few things everyone can do to practice good health skills. I would like to mention the importance of a good diet, exercise, practicing sport safety, accident proofing your home and - **the #1 way to prevent the spread of infection – Wash Your Hands.**

www.caringforkids.cps.ca web site

This is a web site specifically designed for parents and it was recently accredited by Health on the Net Foundation.

Treatment for Young Children

Children with colds should NOT be treated with antibiotics. Antibiotic resistance in children is now a major problem. Viruses cause colds and flu, bacteria cause strep throat and skin infections.

LITERACY

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 25, 2009

Submitted by Diana Donnelly – Committee Chair

Mandate: To promote awareness of the requirements for literacy in a knowledge-based society.
To mobilize school and community volunteer resources to advocate and deliver literacy programs for prevention and remediation.

A Children's Literacy Resource Guide (CLRG), in hardcopy or CD format, is available to help deliver programs.

Committee Members

Diana Donnelly (chair-outgoing), Marion Daigle (resource), Harold Spanier, Anne MacWhirter, Dorothy Nixon, Casey Stilwell, Debi Brown, President (*ex-officio*)

Activities 2008-2009

April 2008:

Springboards Conference – organized by ATEQ (Association of Teachers of English of Quebec) in Montreal. Marion Daigle and Anne MacWhirter made a literacy presentation on “Inspired Conversations”. Much interest was shown in our Born to Read program and the *Children's Literacy Resource Guide*.

Marion Daigle attended Recognition Awards for Adult Literacy, organized by the Centre for Literacy of Quebec.

May 2008:

Raise-a-Reader Grant (RAR) received from the Gazette (CanWest Global Foundation) 2007 Campaign, in the amount of \$3,253.54. An additional \$500 was received in November 2008.

June 2008:

- Diana Donnelly & Marion Daigle visited Lindsay Place High School and pledged an additional \$200 from the new 2007 RAR grant, for its Literacy Program for teens.
- Diana & Marion visited Vanguard School in Ville St Laurent. This bilingual school for students with special needs is a Group Affiliate member. QFHSA pledged \$300 from our 2007 RAR grant towards their library. We also donated a box of books as well as a supply of Tembec Art paper and stationery.
- Through the office of MNA Geoff Kelley, an application was sent for increased funding to the Minister of Education, Leisure and Sports requesting a monetary donation to help cover shipping & postage costs. (In the past we have received \$500 annually from his office).
- Marion finalized her report from the 2006 RAR Grant.

September 2008:

- Literacy & RAR coordinators meeting was held at the QFHSA office. Marion Daigle stepped down as Literacy Chair after 20 years.
- Diana Donnelly, Marlyn Brownrigg and various students, staff and volunteers from Lindsay Place High School Literacy Program participated in the *Gazette* Raise a Reader Day by “hawking” newspapers for donations in downtown Montreal.
- QFHSA Executives Workshop: Born to Read presentation by Casey Stilwell and Marion Daigle.
- Diana Donnelly was interviewed by a *Gazette* reporter via telephone re: QFHSA, RAR & Literacy and an article appeared in the September 22nd issue of the *Gazette*.
- Harold Spanier and Marion Daigle received several boxes of quality second-hand books donated by the Santé/Health Nova bookstore, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue.
- Books from the 2006 RAR campaign were distributed to Vanguard, New Carlisle H.S., New Richmond H.S., St Patrick’s school (Chandler), Netagamiou CLC (Lower North Shore)

October 2008

- Marion & Diana visited James Lyng CLC to discuss QFHSA Literacy activities.
- QFHSA Fall Conference – Carol-Ann Hoyte, Quebec Regional Coordinator, TD Canadian Children’s Book Week, presented her workshop- Hidden Treasure: English Children’s Books made in Quebec. Marion Daigle, Harold Spanier, & Pat Waters made a 60 minute presentation on QFHSA’s Parenting and Born To Read (BTR) programs, to group affiliate members via video conferencing for off island participants.
- John Abbott College – Marion gave her annual QFHSA’s Parenting workshop presentation to the Information & Library Technologies class.
- December – Donation of books to Dans la Rue.

November 2008

- Children’s author Wendy A. Lewis visited guests at the QFHSA offices as part of the TD Canadian Children’s Book Week, organized by Carol-Ann Hoyte, Marion & Diana.
- QFHSA members set up our annual display at the Quebec Association of Provincial Teachers (QPAT) convention in Montreal.
- The committee began to fill the one hundred new BTR bags purchased with 2007 RAR grant money.
- Two boxes of adult books, donated by Santé/Health Nova, were sent to new libraries in Gaspé and Chevery.
- Sherwood Forest School in Beaconsfield confirmed establishment of a BTR program.

January 2009

- Family Literacy Day –Several Community Learning Centres (CLC) as well as Sherwood Forest, Roslyn and Edgewater Home and School Associations held BTR activities and celebrations on or close to Jan 27, 2009.
- How to Read to Children, a 90 minute workshop, was held at James Lyng High School (CLC) This was organized by Harold Spanier and Elizabeth Macdonnell (Montreal Children’s Library) was the presenter. Video conferencing to the off island was a feature.

February 2009

- South Shore Reading Council (SSRC) workshop for Born-to-Read was held at the St. Lambert CLC conducted by Marion Daigle and Harold Spanier.
- Lobster Press book sale – quality books at reduced prices made available for schools and Group Affiliate CLCs, coordinated by Harold Spanier.

Other:

- Four new pages of the *Children's Literacy Resource Guide (CLRG)* were researched and produced by Dorothy Nixon with the assistance of Marion Daigle.
 - Magazines for Children* (Reading 0-16)
 - Literacy and Comics* (Reading 0-16)
 - Health and Safety* (Reading 0-13)
 - Teaching Children about Nutrition* (Reading 0-13)Cost: \$20 for CD or paper copy includes shipping and handling.
- Donations: Tembec Paperboard Group- donation in kind
A generous donation of National Wildlife Federation Magazines for pre-school children were distributed throughout Quebec daycares, community pre-school groups and schools.

Upcoming:

- 2007 RAR Grant – a final report by Diana Donnelly will be submitted to the Gazette (sponsor)
- September 2009 -Born to Read will be set up at CLC James Lyng High School (Montreal) & Riverview Elementary (Verdun)

MEDIA RELATIONS & PUBLICITY

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 25th, 2009

Submitted by Beverlee Bishundayal, QFHSA Secretary

Mandate: Responsible for coordinating the promotion of QFHSA events to the general public through various media outlets, producing the online newsletter - The QFHSA Download, and writing articles for the QFHSA NEWS.

Summary of Activities:

A. Online Newsletter

- The QFHSA Download is a seasonal online newsletter containing parenting tips and information available at: www.qfhsa.org/onlinenews.html. This past October, the newsletter celebrated its second-year anniversary. Local associations have been encouraged to give out or post the newsletter in their school. Thank you to those who contributed this year.

B. QFHSA Publicity

- **AGM 2008**
Media releases were sent out in late-April regarding the winners of the Buzzell Award, Gordon Paterson Award, Lewis Peace Prize, and the Pat Lewis Humanitarian Award. The media releases were sent out to Montreal-area print, radio, and television outlets, as well as 28 community newspapers throughout the province.
- **Executive Workshop – September 12th, 2008**
A workshop was given on media and publicity by Donna Sauriol. Themes discussed in the workshop included: contributing to the QFHSA NEWS, school newsletters, press releases, and how to promote your local Home & School association effectively. The newsletter/publicity kit was distributed to the schools represented that evening.
- **Fall Conference**
Media releases were sent out in mid-October to Montreal-area print, radio, and television outlets, as well as 28 community newspapers across Quebec highlighting the Keynote Speaker, Suzanne Longpré, who spoke about the new moral and religious education program as well as the other workshops offered at the Conference.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 25, 2009

Submitted by Marlyn Brownrigg and Barbara Schnider, Co-Chairs Membership Committee

- Mandate :**
- To promote, encourage, and assist Home and School associations with membership activities;
 - To evaluate and update membership kits and other membership materials designed to promote membership;
 - To offer training for membership chairpersons via the Executive Workshops and the Fall Conference;
 - To visit local Home and School associations and other schools interested in forming a Home and School.

Executive Workshops/Fall Conference

- Executive Workshops were held in September at the QFHSA office. Membership chairs were encouraged to exchange ideas. Each chair person received their membership kit at the workshop or by mail.
- At the Fall Conference the membership committee along with Director Diana Donnelly, President of Lindsay Place High School H&S, facilitated a workshop for local Home and School executives entitled "*Teamwork Begins at the Top.*" Topics included duties of the executive, how to conduct a meeting, and the locals responsibilities to the QFHSA.

On-Going Projects:

As membership is a major priority of the QFHSA, the membership committee will:

- Contact local Home and School executive members using the phone/email chain and the tracking list provided by the QFHSA office.
- Continue with the Group Affiliate membership plan targeting small schools, Governing Boards, Community Learning Centres, and other educational organizations.

Membership Fee: To remain at \$16.00 for 2009/2010.

Results of 2008/2009 membership campaign:

Family Memberships (through locals)	4555 (as of March 1/09)
Individual Family memberships (directly with QFHSA)	28
Local Home & School Associations	72
Group Affiliate Memberships	16

These applications to become new H&S associations were accepted by the Board of Directors:

- Namur (Western Québec)
- St. Charles (LBPSB)

Group Affiliate Members 2008-2009:

- CLCs – Netagamou, Mountainview, St. Lambert, Gaspé-Percé, James Lyng, Baie-Comeau, Mecatina, Riverview
- Other: Harrington Harbour Governing Board, Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's School, Family Ties New Carlisle, Quebec English School Boards Association, Pearson Teachers Union, New Frontiers School Board, Quebec Music Educators Association, Vanguard School.

NOMINATIONS

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 25, 2009

Submitted by Carol Meindl, Director

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

The first call for nominations was mailed to the local associations on January 16th, 2009 with a deadline set for Friday, February 20, 2009. A second call for nominations was sent March 6/09. . Nominees must be paid-up members in good standing. [QFHSA By-Laws Article VI, 4]. Nominations should be signed by at least two, and preferably three, persons from the Local Association and/or the QFHSA Board of Directors.

Deadline

The deadline for receiving nominations to be voted on at the AGM is April 20th, 2009. Nominations received after that date would be considered by the Board of Directors for appointment. (QFHSA Standing Rules Article VII, 3.)

Officers of the Federation

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

Nominees As of March 1st, the committee has received the following nominations:
There are seven (7) vacant positions as Director for a two-year term and one (1) vacant position as Director for a one-year term.

Current Directors completing the second year of their two year term 2007-2009

*Anne MacWhirter *Carol Meindl *Brian Rock

**Diana Donnelly **Beverlee Bishundayl

*MacWhirter, Meindl & Rock – will stand for re-election to the Board for a two-year term

**Donnelly & Bishundayl – will not be returning to the Board

Nominees completing the first year of their two-year term 2008-2010

Debi Brown	Oliver Cole	Barbara Schnider
Marlyn Brownrigg	Rickhey Margolese	Sheila Splane
Charlene Morrison	Leah Trineer	Liette Chamberland

Committees

Committee chairs can be held by a Director **or a Resource person**. Volunteers are always welcome to participate on any Committee that interests them. Our most active Committees, at the present time, are: Education, Literacy, Membership, Rights, Home and School NEWS.

PALS PLUS – PARENTING WITH CONFIDENCE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 25, 2009

Submitted by: Pat Waters, Coordinator/Resource

Mandate:

PALS PLUS is a parenting workshop program that is offered to our member schools throughout the year. The first one is free, others cost a minimal amount. New workshops are also offered as they are needed and advertising is done through the QFHSA office.

Highlights:

Twenty-two workshops and presentations took place over the 2008-09 school year. A new addition this year was the CLC video-conferencing workshops offered to Anglophones in Quebec by LEARN, a non-profit educational foundation supported by the Quebec-Canada Entente for Minority Language Education. They are as follows:

- October 6 – *Homework: Teaching your child to be responsible*, TMR Parents Group
- October 25 – PALS PLUS Workshop Overview for the Community Learning Centres (CLC), QFHSA Fall Conference, Riverview, Verdun
- October 27 - *Building Your Child's Self-Esteem*, Greendale Elementary, Pierrefonds
- November 3 - *Learning Styles: Help your child be a successful learner*, Beacon Hill, Beaconsfield
- November 15 - *Building Your Child's Self-Esteem*, North Hatley
- November 19 & 26 – *Homework: Teaching your child to be responsibility*, Community Learning Centres
- January 14 & 28 - *Learning Styles: Help your child be a successful learner*, CLC
- January 27 – *Parenting Styles: Which one is best?*, Orchard Elementary, LaSalle
- February 9 – *Hurried Children, Stressed Children*, TMR Parents Group
- February 18 & 25 - *Building Your Child's Self-Esteem*, Community Learning Centres
- February 23 - *Building Your Child's Self-Esteem*, Genesis Elementary, Laval
- March 24 – *Getting Angry Doesn't Work: It only complicates the problem!* Beaconsfield High School
- April 1 & 8 – *Communication: Listening with both ears*, Community Learning Centres
- April 20 – *An Approach to Positive Discipline*, Genesis Elementary, Laval
- April 22 – *Victims, Bullies and Violence: What can parents do about it?*, Dorval Elementary
- April 27 – *Building Your Child's Self-Esteem*, Arundel Elementary
- April 29 - *Learning Styles: Help your child be a successful learner*, CLC
- May 25 – *Homework and Responsibility*, Genesis Elementary, Laval

RESOLUTIONS/POLICY COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 25, 2009

Submitted by the office

Annual General Meeting 2009 – Proposed Resolution (previously circulated to the local associations)

Resolution 2009/1	<i>French Second Language Programs in Quebec</i>
Resolution 2009/2	<i>English School Eligibility for Children of Parents with Serious Learning Disabilities</i>

Resolutions 2008

During the Annual General Meetings, the two resolutions were discussed in separate caucuses and passed with minor amendments to the wording.

Resolution 2008/1	<i>Wider Access to English Education</i>
Resolution 2008/2	<i>Increased Funding for Libraries and Librarians</i>

Resolution 2007/2 The New Curriculum – High School Textbooks in English

A motion was passed to re-affirm this resolution.

Disposition of 2008 Resolutions

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

- In September, Rickhey Margolese, Brian Rock, Roch Gamache and Debi Brown met with Christos Kritsidimas, political attaché for MNA Yolande James, Minister of Immigration and Cultural Identity, to discuss the resolution on *Wider Access to English Education*.
- In a letter dated September 3, 2008, the President of the Quebec English School Boards Association, Debbie Horrocks, responded to Resolution 2008/1 *Wider Access to English Education*.
“ . . . QESBA has decided to seek to intervene before the Supreme Court of Canada in the Bill 104 case. Clearly, the future of our English public school system, so central to the future of our communities across the province, requires that the government of Quebec allow our schools to benefit from greater enrolment growth and stability. QESBA hopes to make that case before Canada’s highest court in the coming months.

I would welcome the chance to meet with you to discuss this and other matters of mutual interest.”

STATEMENT OF POLICY

The *Statement of Policy* is a compilation of the resolutions passed over the years by the Annual General Meeting. It complements the purposes and objectives of Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations. Following the AGM, it is up-dated each year as needed and copies distributed to the local associations. The 2009 *Statement of Policy* will reflect the resolutions passed in 2008 and 2009.

RIGHTS COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 25th, 2009

Submitted by Marion Daigle and Brian Rock, Chair

Mandate

QFHSA is concerned with the well-being of children and the cultural health of our community as a proper environment in which to raise them. Rights are not simply an abstraction. They define our obligations to and opportunities for our children. We, Home and Schoolers, have a history of pleading and defending the rights of all children and their parents. Parents should have the choice of the Official Language used in the education of their children.

Members

Brian Rock (Chair), Barbara Milne-Smith (Secretary), Debi Brown (*ex officio*), Liette Chamberland (Education Committee liaison), Sam Allison, Marion Daigle, Connie De Giorgio, Rohinton Gandhi, Rickhey Margolese, Bryden Murray, Dr. Winifred Potter, Elizabeth Shannon, Chris Eustace, Jim Wilson, and Nick Zaferis.

Recommendation:

That the delegates to the 2009 AGM vote on Resolution 2009/2:
English School Eligibility for Children of Parents with Serious Learning Disabilities

Activities

1. AGM 2008

Resolution 2008/1 *Wider Access to English Education* was passed. In September, Brian Rock, Rickhey Margolese, Roch Gamache and Debi Brown met with Christos Kritsidimas, political attaché for MNA Yolande James, Minister of Immigration and Cultural Identity, in response to this resolution.

2. Bill 104 – Legal Defence Fund

In December 2007 the Board of Directors set up a fund-raising campaign to give financial support to the 26 families who were seeking leave to appeal this law to the Supreme Court of Canada. The appeal was heard in December 2008. QFHSA received donations totaling \$1,345 which have been forwarded to Me Brent Tyler and his legal team, who are representing the families. QFHSA wishes to thank everyone who contributed to this fund.

3. June 13, 2008 – Special Meeting with Graham Fraser, Commissioner of Official Languages of Canada. There were four major topics under discussion:

- *Wider Access to English Education* – Rights Chairman Brian Rock presented the background to our Resolution 2008/1 and emphasized the conditions facing the English-language minority families related to schooling.
- Bill 104* – Mr. Fraser indicated he was studying a possible intervention.

- English Language High School Textbooks – Rickhey Margolese, Education Committee, spoke about the difficulties facing both teachers and students who must wait for translations of curriculum materials, particularly at the Secondary 4 level – math, science and history.
- Funding for Minority Language Education and Second Languages Instruction – Nick Zaferis, Rights Committee, gave a very descriptive over-view of the accountability measures, especially in the delay in the province’s reporting to the federal government.
- Federal Court Challenges Program -
At the time of our meeting this program had been discontinued. It had allowed for Canadians of modest means to be given funding to bring meaningful cases to the Supreme Court of Canada. QFHSA had attempted to do this in 1983 related to Bill 101, but we were refused.

Mr. Fraser is very aware of the situation of Quebec’s English population as a minority within a minority.

[Note: The Court Challenges Program has been re-instated, but with new terms.]

This was a very productive meeting.

4. Other

Meetings held in October and November, 2008, dealt with research and study on the following:

- Bill 88 – The Law to Amend the Education Act
This refers mainly to school boards covering vast geographical areas. Of particular interest to Anglophones is the move to have school board chairmen elected directly by the general population, rather than by elected commissioners. This could be very costly.
- Quebec-Canada Agreements on Minority Language Education and Second Languages Instruction:

A sub-committee has been set up to study the upcoming protocols and agreements.

SAFETY/TRANSPORTATION

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 25, 2009

Submitted by Don Smith, Resource

Mandate: To contribute information or articles for the “Safety Scene” in the *Quebec Home & School NEWS*, and
To serve as a resource on current safety issues as they affect children and students for the QFHSA Board of Directors.

Activities:

- Monitoring safety issues in transportation as well as safety programmes for children and schools.
- Regular contributions made to the Safety Scene page of our newspaper.
- On-going concerns with regard to gun control in Canada.

Topics covered this past year in our newspaper were:

Back to School – Safely – a reminder for parents and guardians.

Summer Jobs – what you need to be a baby sitter.

Pellet guns – potentially deadly, but not regulated.

Don also bid adieu to QFHSA at the end of December, saying that retirement had not brought more time to do things like *Safety Scene*, but had given him different responsibilities and that he did not feel he was on top of the topic as he had been. Don’s career was as a policeman, usually involved with youth, and then he taught at the police academy in Nicolet for several years. We will miss his broad understanding of these important issues.

AGM 2008

Report to the Annual General Meeting 2009

Submitted by the office

Mandate: It is the mandate of the AGM Arrangements Committee and the Events Committee to organize the Annual General Meeting and Conference in accordance with the timeline as defined in the QFHSA By-Laws and to organize the Awards Dinner.

Theme: The 64th anniversary theme was *Home-School-Community: Building Partnerships*.

<u>Arrangements:</u>	Coordinator	Debi Brown & Carol Meindl
	Book of Reports	Anne MacWhirter & Carol Ohlin
	Nominations	Donna Norris & Directors
	Publicity	Beverlee Bishundayal
	Resolutions	Rickhey Margolese, Marion Daigle, Brian Rock
	Membership Awards	Marlyn Brownrigg & Barbara Schnider
	Newsletter Awards	Donna Sauriol & Diane Radu
	Awards & Prizes	Sylvia Adams, Wendy Buchanan, Helen Koeppel, Allan Locke
	Parliamentarian	Sylvia Adams

All members of the Board of Directors participate in planning and organizing the events.

Highlights: For the 5th consecutive year, the AGM was held at the Montreal Airport Hilton, Dorval.

1. Awards Dinner – Friday evening, May 2, 2008
 - a) Attended by 117 people including Directors, guests, award winners, and schools.
 - b) The Master of Ceremonies was Diana Donnelly, QFHSA Director and President, Lindsay Place High School Home & School Association.
 - c) The winners of the four major awards were:
 - The Leslie N. Buzzell Award – Brian Rock, Chair, QFHSA Rights Committee.
 - The Gordon Paterson Award – Principal Hans Bulow, nominated by Edgewater H&S.
 - Lewis Peace Prize – Challenge Day Team, nominated by John Rennie High Home & School.
 - The 3rd Annual Pat Lewis Humanitarian Award was given to Evergreen Elementary School in St-Lazare for its *Spirit of Giving*.
2. Annual General Meeting & Conference – Saturday, May 3, 2008.
 - a) Registration: 60 people, representing voting delegates from 23 Home & School Associations, and Tarek Toni, QFHSA Advisor, Official Languages Support Programs, Department of Canadian Heritage; Directors, Past Presidents, and staff.
 - b) Four schools attended from outside the Montreal area. – Baie-Comeau High School, Lord-Aylmer Elementary, New Carlisle High School, Shawinigan High School.
 - c) Membership and Newsletter Awards were presented at the beginning of the meeting.
 - d) The business session passed two resolutions:
Wider Access to English Education and Increased Funding for Libraries and Librarians.
 - e) Election for the Board of Directors was held and Sylvia Adams, Past President of QFHSA and Life Member of CHSF, conducted the Installation Ceremony.
3. Keynote Speaker
Brent Tyler, legal counsel and an advocate for wider access to English education, spoke on *Bill 104: Moving the Yardsticks*.

FALL CONFERENCE 2008

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 25, 2009

Submitted by the office

The 2008 Fall Conference was held at Riverview Elementary School in Verdun on Saturday, October 25. The theme was *Home School Community: Building Partnerships*. The Riverview H&S and its volunteers, including enthusiastic high school students from nearby Beurling Academy, did a wonderful job in organizing the host school and providing generous hospitality. Principal Deborah Gross welcomed the conference participants to her school. Leo LaFrance, Associate Minister for the Anglophone Community, represented MELS and addressed parents' concerns about the availability of new high school English textbooks for the curriculum reform.

A video-conferencing session for CLC Group Affiliate members, organized by CLC liaison Harold Spanier, was held during the morning session. Pat Waters, parenting workshops, and Marion Daigle, literacy projects, also participated on behalf of QFHSA. LEARN provided the financial and technical support thanks to Executive Director Paule Langevin, who also attended the event.

Program

- Plenary session: Keynote speaker was Suzanne Longpré, McGill teacher and part-time MELS consultant, on the new Moral and Religious Education Program.
- 1st Set of Workshops: 10:30 – 11:45
 1. *Teamwork Begins at the Top* with Marlyn Brownrigg, QFHSA Vice-President; Barbara Schnider, QFHSA Director and Membership Chair at Jubilee H&S; Diana Donnelly, QFHSA Director and President of Lindsay Place High H&S.
 2. *The Arts: Music, Dance, Theatre, Visual Art: An essential Educational Experience* – Theodora Stathopoulos, FACE music educator and President of the Quebec Music Educators Association.
 3. *Talking to Your Kids about the Birds and the Bees* – Dr. Laurie Betito, clinical psychologist, sex therapist and President of Springdale H&S.
 4. *Parenting Today's Youth: Building Healthy Families in a Changing World* - Deb Kellman & Mona Segal, DM Family and School Services.
 5. *How to Survive Homework* – Jody Gibson, Tutoring/Homework Specialist
- Regional Councils 12:45 – 1:30 Five meetings organized by Marlyn Brownrigg.
- 2nd Set of Workshops 1:45 – 3:15
 6. *Why Bother to LEARN* – Michael Canuel, CEO of LEARN
 7. *Hidden Treasure: English Children's Books Made in Quebec* – Carol-Ann Hoyte, Quebec regional coordinator for TD Canadian Children's Book Week
 8. *HPV Should your daughter have the vaccine?* – Dr. Abby Lippman, McGill – this workshop was cancelled as the speaker was not available.
 9. *Learning Styles: Great Minds Don't Always Think Alike* – Gail Ewing, teacher, LaurenHill Academy

Registration

Total attendance	112	Does not include Riverview H&S and volunteers
Participating schools	33	(includes 5 which are not local associations)

EXECUTIVE WORKSHOPS – September 12, 2008
Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 25, 2009
Submitted by the office

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

The workshops for local association executive committee leaders were held Friday, September 12, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the QFHSA office. The attendance was 16 Montreal-area schools, 8 from the Board of Directors, and two office staff. The new Executive Director, Roch Gamache, was introduced.

Following the welcoming introduction by President Debi Brown, the group divided into sections to discuss their different areas of interest and responsibility.

<u>Workshops</u>	<u>Moderators/Presenters</u>	
Presidents' Workshop	Liette Chamberland Debi Brown	Director, Past President Sherwood Forest QFHSA President
Membership	Marlyn Brownrigg Barbara Schnider	LPHS & Jubilee, Director Jubilee, Director
Treasurers	Leah Trineer	Director Roslyn & Royal West Academy
Born to Read	Casey Stilwell Marion Daigle	Edgewater & Macdonald HS Literacy Resource
Media/Publicity/Newsletters	Donna Sauriol	Office - NEWS

Executives' kits were given to those schools which had not previously received them and membership materials were available.

EXECUTIVES APPRECIATION DINNER 2009
Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 25, 2009

Mandate This annual event is hosted by the QFHSA Board of Directors to thank the dedicated volunteers in the local Home and School Associations. Each local association receives an invitation for two people to attend. The cost of the dinner is partially subsidized by QFHSA. This social evening is an opportunity to network in an informal setting and to exchange ideas. A guest speaker may be invited on a topic of interest to parents.

Date This 8th annual dinner was held on Friday evening March 20th. Evaluation comments from previous years had suggested that it would be preferable to hold the event a bit later in the Spring, after Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week and the March vacation break.

Venue For the second time the dinner was held at La Casa Grecque in Pierrefonds. The location is easily accessible with free parking. In addition to the salad bar and hors d'oeuvres, there was a choice of three main courses and dessert.

Program This year's speaker was Otis Grant, retired award-winning boxer, coach, special needs counsellor at Lindsay Place High School, motivational speaker, and founder of a charitable foundation to assist children and their families and youth group programs. He is currently the Coordinator of the Riverdale High School Community Learning Centre in Pierrefonds.

A mixer activity was organized by Anne MacWhirter. Each person received a generous gift bag with donated items, including a gift certificate for the MacWhirter B&B in the Gaspesie.

Attendance Home and Schools attending were:
Beaconsfield High School
Dorval
Dunrae Gardens
Edgewater
Jubilee
Lindsay Place High School
Lord-Aylmer
Macdonald High School
Merton
Orchard
Roslyn
Sherwood Forest
Thorndale
Westpark

TEACHER/STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK (T/SAW), February 8-14, 2009

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 25, 2009

Submitted by the office

National Celebrations – 22nd consecutive year

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is sponsored by the Canadian Home and School Federation to encourage parents and the wider community to recognize the important contributions, both personal and professional, made by teachers and school staff to the lives of children and their education. T/SAW lets them know that they are appreciated, that we want to work with them and that we are on the same team.

Every school has dedicated teachers – who really make a difference – and caring school staff members, such as secretaries, teacher aides, nurses, bus drivers and custodians, to name a few. This special week lets them know that they are appreciated for all the myriad things they do for our children.

QFHSA NEWS

In the December 2008 issue of our newspaper we announced the dates for this year and provided them with what we thought was an ingenious idea. St. John Fisher H&S decided they appreciated their teachers so much that they would celebrate them all year long – starting in January and continuing on until May. Clever.

In the current March issue of the paper we have included write-ups from:

Ayers Cliff	Evergreen	Macdonald High
Beaconsfield High	Jubilee	Orchard
Edgewater	Lindsay Place High	

Ayers Cliff's theme was *Hip Hip Hurray for Teachers* all based on I Want a Hippopotamus for Xmas! Evergreen chose a Broadway theme, while Lindsay Place High chose *Fun, Fit and Fantastic!* and, as a high school, had approximately 130 people to fête.

But we know that just about every Home & School does fantastic things for all their staff. Everyone provides themed luncheons and edible treats, plus gifts, draws and surprises. We think the parents have as much fun doing it as the staff appreciates the change from the usual school routine!

Community Learning Centres

Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 25, 2009

Submitted by Harold Spanier, CLC liaison

Background information:

The Community Learning Centres (CLCs) are an initiative to enhance educational success for children and youth, and to provide greater support to their families and communities. The intention is that CLCs enable English-language schools and the communities they serve to develop the capacity to secure their future in their own region.

The following activities have been completed in the past year:

- 2008 Fall Conference workshop: Marion Daigle, Harold Spanier, and Pat Waters made a 60 minute presentation about Home and School, Parenting and QFHSA Born To Read programs. The Group Affiliate members present in the room were joined via video-conferencing with participants in the regions.
- Presentation to CLC coordinators at their Montreal Conference and gathering.
- Community visits to Steering Committees, and other partners.
- Help, encouragement and assistance to launch Born to Read to our CLC Group Affiliates.
- January 2009, How to Read to Children: a 90-minute workshop held at James Lyng High School (CLC Group Affiliate member). Organized by Harold Spanier, featured presenter Elizabeth Macdonnell, (Montreal Children's Library). Montreal participants were joined through video-conferencing with participants in the regions. This was the first in a series of successful family literacy workshops.

Quebec Community Groups Network
Report to Annual General Meeting – April 25, 2009
Submitted by Debi Brown

QFHSA President Debi Brown and Executive Director Roch Gamache participated in QCGN tele-conference calls during the year.

On March 11, 2009, Harold Spanier, Director of Community Services, attended a QCGN Executive Directors meeting at the Atwater Library and Computer Centre in Westmount on behalf of Roch Gamache.

The governance changes brought into the QCGN have resulted in new directions for the organization.

The Board met in February 2009 and drafted a new statement.

“The English Speaking Community of Quebec is a confident and integral part of Quebec and Canada. It is publicly respected and recognized; activity participates and contributes to the social, economic and cultural community.”

The Board is now working on an environmental scan and looking for input from the membership on the issues and the opportunities they present.

The following people make up the QCGN Board:

Bob Donnelly- President	Jane Needles – Vice President
Heather Dickson – Secretary	vacant - Treasurer
Martin Murphy – Past President	Anthony Dumas – Director
Shawna Dunbar - Director	Corine Desrosiers – Director
Jennifer Johnson – Director	Roderick MacLeod – Director
Mario Pasteris – Director	Shawn Peppy – Director
Brent Platt – Director	Ann Marie Powell – Director
Dennis Smith – Director	Marion Standish – Director
Sylvia Martin-Laforge - Director General (<i>ex-officio</i>)	

Donna Norris, QFHSA Past President, has submitted her resignation from the Board.

QCGN can be accessed at Web Site: <http://www.qcgn.ca>

Quebec Provincial Teachers Association (QPAT) Convention
Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 25, 2009
Submitted by Anne MacWhirter, Director

The QPAT Convention was held at the Palais des Congrès on November 20-21, 2008. QFHSA participates as an educational partner. As a non-profit organization we are given a display table at a reduced fee. In previous years we have also sponsored workshops.

This year's display kiosk was organized by Anne MacWhirter with the office assembling the promotional materials to transport to the conference. Roch Gamache, Executive Director, supplied a new backdrop for the display table, making it one of the most attractive not-for-profit displays at the convention.

Board members Anne MacWhirter, Marlyn Brownrigg, Liette Chamberland with Roch Gamache and Donna Sauriol (and Marion Daigle for a short period) took turns greeting those who stopped by the table.

The table was stocked with current copies of the NEWS, copies of our brochures and selected topics from the *Children's Literacy Resource Guide*. The most recent pages were highlighted and all were taken by teachers and student teachers.

We also promoted the CLRG and the Born to Read program. Three CLR Guides were sold at the table. Purchasers become members for the year as well and receive the NEWS.

To entice people to stop at the table, we had a raffle basket of gifts which included books, candles, a reading light, etc. The winner was a teacher from the Faith Christian Academy in Saint-Lazare.

Many contacts were made as the volunteers explained the mission and work of Home and School (we also cleared up some misconceptions about "Home Schooling" being mistaken for Home and School).

Gaspé Area Report

Submitted by Anne MacWhirter, Director and Area Rep.

Three active local associations held regular meetings during 2008-2009:

- New Carlisle High School continues to support school projects and activities.
- Shigawake/Port-Daniel offers financial and volunteer support to the school staff and students.
- The newly formed New Richmond High School group continues to grow. They are active in the school as volunteers.

All three held fundraisers to purchase equipment, software, books and other needed items. Volunteers showed appreciation for the staff of each school during Teacher-Staff Appreciation Week.

The New Carlisle Executive met with member Diane Sawyer in February at a local restaurant to celebrate her involvement in Home and School for more than 50 years. She was presented with a gift of a book entitled "Tea", a calendar and a tea set with assorted teas. Diane was a founding member and has maintained her membership ever since. We have appreciated her wisdom and support over the past years.

We have two Group Affiliate members on the Gaspé coast. They are Family Ties in New Carlisle and Gaspé CLC in Gaspé/Belle Anse.

Anne met with the CLC in Gaspé via teleconferencing (at the Family Ties Building) in the Fall, 2008 to give them the information needed to set up a Born to Read program within the CLC.

Recently, Bonaventure Polyvalent School has expressed interest in forming a Home and School Association. New Carlisle and New Richmond are feeder schools to Bonaventure, so the parents are very well aware of the Home and School and the work it does for the schools. Anne MacWhirter met with the Governing Board on March 18th to give information to the members. QFHSA office sent Principal Alice Dell a package of information in advance of the meeting.

