



QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

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1995 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING BOOK OF REPORTS

April 29, 1995

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

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

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MINUTES OF THE 50TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS HELD APRIL 16, 1994, AT THE BEACONSFIELD GOLF CLUB

Registered and present during the April 15-16 Annual General Meeting (AGM) were 69 Voting Delegates representing 28 local Home & School Associations and 12 members of the Board of Directors. In addition, there were 21 guests and 5 other participants. Due to space limitations and a very crowded schedule, we did not have any commercial or educational displays.

The Annual Business Meeting was officially opened on Saturday morning, April 16, 1994, by Wendy Buchanan and Allan Locke, Co-Presidents (8:40 am).

1. Welcome and Introductions

The President welcomed the delegates and others present at our 50th AGM. The head table was introduced: Helen Koeppe, Resolutions Committee Chairman; Wendy Buchanan and Allan Locke, Co-Presidents, QFHSA; Rickhey Langlois, Recording Secretary; Debi Brown, Treasurer.

2. Appointments

Parliamentarian

MOTION: Buchanan (Board of Directors)/Locke (Board of Directors) to appoint Margaret Funnell as parliamentarian. CARRIED

Business procedures were briefly discussed for the benefit of the delegates.

Credentials Chairman

MOTION: Buchanan (Board of Directors)/Solomon (Board of Directors) to appoint Vikki Kouri, Credentials Chairman. CARRIED

Scrutineers

MOTION: Buchanan (Board of Directors)/Koeppe (Board of Directors) that Vi Minto and Marcus Tabachnick be appointed as scrutineers. CARRIED
Vikki Kouri, Credentials Committee, reported that over 15 of the 28 local associations registered were present, sufficient for a quorum.

3. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION: Bishundayal (E. Ballantyne)/Manker (Board of Directors) to adopt agenda. CARRIED

- ### 4. Adoption of Minutes 49th Annual General Meeting (1993) (pp.1-8, Bk of Rpts) Correction (by Marion Daigle): Item 7 (Highlights of the Canadian Home & School and Parent-Teacher Federation [CHSPTF]) - Change ...Also a government grant for the Literacy Project entitled, "Removing the Barriers"; what stops/hinders parents from taking part in their child's education... to ...Also a Heritage Canada grant for the Literacy Project entitled, "Removing the Barriers", focusing on the barriers limiting the participation of parents in education, especially of first generation Canadian parents.



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

MOTION: Straughton (Dorset)/Waters (Board of Directors/Lakeshore Reg'l Council) to adopt the 1993 Minutes, as corrected. CARRIED

5. Presidents' Report (pp.9-10, Book of Reports)

Presented by Wendy Buchanan. It has been a busy and interesting year and will continue to be so in the months to follow. The report is just a "highlight" of what has been going on. The work done by the Executive and Board on Bill 107 is to be commended. Everyone has been kept well informed in this area and we will continue to keep Bill 107 a focus for the year to come. Anyone who would like to help us work on Bill 107 or would like more information on Bill 107, we would be happy to accommodate you.

MOTION: Koepe (Board of Directors)/Daigle (Board of Directors) that this report be accepted. CARRIED

MOTION: Koepe/Langlois (E.P. Harwood) that on behalf of the Board of Directors we would like to thank Wendy and Allan for their hard work. CARRIED

6. Highlights of the Canadian Home & School and Parent-Teacher Federation (CHSPTF) (pp.11, Book of Reports)

Presented by Helen Koepe, Past-President, CHSPTF. Helen said there is no official national body looking at the future of education in Canada other than for funding purposes. For this reason, the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC), under the chairmanship of the Quebec Minister of Education, will be consulting with other national educational organizations here in Montreal at the end of May for their ideas on setting up national goals. One of these organizations will be the CHSPTF. Now that I have had the opportunity to work on several provincial committees, I am becoming more and more aware of how vital parent involvement is becoming, so please everyone stand up and take a bow.

I would like to remind everyone that next year's Annual Meeting of CHSPTF will be the 100th anniversary celebration and, therefore, I would like to make the following motion:

MOTION: Koepe/Straughton recommend that QFHSA urge individuals and local associations to contribute \$19.95 to help ensure that the celebrations in Baddeck are as significant and successful as they can be and that the administration fee, usually charged for using our tax credit number for charitable donations, be waived in this instance. CARRIED

Allan explained the beginning of Home & School in Canada. It was begun by Mabel Hubbard (wife of Alexander Graham Bell), in Baddeck, Nova Scotia.

7. Finance Committee Report

7.1 Auditor's Statement - year ending Aug 31/93 (circulated prior to AGM)

The Treasurer, Debi Brown, went over the audited statement. Said we have a combined loss of \$20,000. This means that before the year is over we will be spending next year's money. As a treasurer she finds this disturbing and it will require 3-5 years to get our organization back in the black. Some cost cutting measures: we have cut back on number of issues of the NEWS (from 5 to 4). One-quarter of the costs of the paper, telephone and postage will be charged to the Membership Development account, since these are all ways we promote off island membership in our organization. Translation costs are always high

(we had to pay \$900 to translate a brief into French for presentation to the Quebec government). GST and PST cost us \$7000. Debi suggested that it would be valuable for us to find people willing to donate their services (ex. translating) and/or equipment (ex. fax, photocopier and new computers). Discussion ensued on how best to solicit donated services and equipment and where to look for other sources for funding. Owen Buckingham, past President of QFHSA, and a member of the West Island Volunteer Bureau, said they would be glad to try to find someone who might lend a hand in the office.

MOTION: Brown (Aylmer and Board of Directors)/Cumyn (Board of Directors) to accept the auditor's report. CARRIED

7.2 Recommendation re Membership Fee (1994/95) (circulated prior to AGM)

MOTION: Brown/Echer (Dorset) that the Family Membership Fee for 1994/95 remain at \$12 and that the Group Affiliate Fee remain at \$50. CARRIED

7.3 Recommendation re Conference(s) Fee (94/95) (circulated prior to AGM)

Treasurer explained briefly what the conference fee was for and why it was important for local associations to pay it. Suggestion made from the floor that we change the name to "Conference(s) Publicity Fee". Wendy said that we would send out an invoice at the beginning of the school year.

MOTION: Brown/Kowalenko (Dorset) that the Conference(s) Fee for 1994/95, which covers extra costs associated with conferences and workshops, remain at \$50 per local association. CARRIED

7.4 Proposed Budget 1994/95 (p.30, Book of Reports)

Suggestion from the floor that we be more aggressive in getting funding from the government. Example given was for a French language Home & School provincial association receiving a \$120,000 operating grant to run their office because they were a minority group in that province.

MOTION: Brown/Milne-Smith (Board of Directors) that the budget be accepted. CARRIED

8. Caucus session and Coffee break

This new section of our Annual Business Meeting was explained by Helen Koepe. There would be 6 tables with 2 resolutions discussed at each table. The first half hour would be for the odd numbered resolutions and the second half hour would be for the discussion of the even numbered resolutions. Each table would have a captain whose job it was to see that both resolutions had equal time and that possible amendments were written down for submission to the floor.

The session was convened for one hour and then the regular business meeting continued.

We received greetings from John Killingbeck, President of the Association of Directors General of the Protestant School Boards of Quebec. He spoke briefly about the Kenniff Committee (Bill 107); commended us on the job we were doing; mentioned Gordon Robertson and his recent accident and said he was doing quite well; wished us a happy 50th from the DGs association and from the Lakeshore School Board.

Ann Bishundayal, VP QFHSA, made a presentation to our executive secretary, Donna Sauriol.

9. Reports - Standing Committees

9.1 Nominations (p.39, Book of Reports)

Presented by Barbara Milne-Smith. We have a full slate for 1994/95.

MOTION: Milne-Smith/Waters to accept the report. CARRIED

Congratulations were extended to all the candidates.

9.2 Education (p.27, Book of Reports)

Ann Cumyn presented the report.

MOTION: Cumyn/Dewar (John Rennie High) to accept the report.

CARRIED

Marion Daigle, on behalf of the QFHSA Board of Directors, thanked Ann for all her work on the Education Committee.

9.3 Membership and Newsletters (p.36 and 26, Book of Reports)

Membership report presented by Wendy Buchanan and Newsletters by Diane Radu. Winners were announced in both categories and congratulated. Lorna Aiken, a teacher from Seigniory School, won the special prize for a teacher member. Wendy said we must all work very hard to increase membership in Home & School.

MOTION: Buchanan/Koeppe to accept both reports.

CARRIED

9.4 Membership Development (p.37, Book of Reports)

Presented by Margaret Funnell, chairman.

MOTION: Funnell (Board of Directors)/Daigle (Board of Directors) to accept the report.

CARRIED

Margaret said we had to go after other sources of funding; needed to meet with MPs and MNAs.

9.5 Quebec Literacy Project (pp.33-35, Book of Reports)

Presented by Marion Daigle. Marion said we had acquired wonderful partnerships on the Lower North Shore. Thanked everyone for their contributions of money to help ship out the boxes of books we have acquired.

Mentioned the new activity sheets recently added to the Literacy Resource Book; schools which already have this Resource Book will be receiving the new sheets, new Home & School Associations will have to be given a book. A new section has been added, entitled "At School in Canada"; this is available in several languages.

A national conference was held in Ottawa last Fall on Literacy and Citizenship, called "Removing the Barriers" [to the participation of ethnocultural minorities, visible minorities and first-generation Canadian parents in the education of their children]. The project was done by parents; first time this has been done.

Recommendation: that Home & School Associations incorporate fun/learning activities into International Year of the Family celebrations.

MOTION: Daigle/Koeppe to accept the report.

CARRIED

9.6 Student Accident Insurance (p.42, Book of Reports)

Recommendation: that QFHSA continue with the Reliable Life Insurance student/family accident insurance plan for the 1994/95 school year.

MOTION: Locke/Ewen (Aylmer) to continue with Reliable Life.

CARRIED

9.7 Resolutions

Helen Koeppe, chairman, spoke to her report.

9.7.1 Disposition of 1993 Resolutions (pp.41-42, Book of Reports)

Responses to the 1993 resolutions are listed in the report. Suggested some resolutions be re-examined; encouraged associations to resubmit their resolutions if the answers are deemed inadequate.

Marion Daigle suggested that chairman follow up on these.

Resolution 93/3 - Charter Bus Safety - we received curt letter of acknowledgement; should be followed up.

Helen recommended that local associations receive copies of the replies that we receive to their resolutions.

MOTION: Koeppe/Straughton to accept report. CARRIED

9.7.2 Additions to Statement of Policy (circulated earlier)

MOTION: Koeppe/Marrett (Westmount High) to accept the additions, as circulated. CARRIED

Education - Added: #25. Show-casing schools and school boards which have adopted an open door policy towards parental involvement and have school-based committees with parents as active participants. #26. The inclusion of specific learning disabilities to the MEQ definition of learning disabilities and handicapped children.

Education - System - Added: #13. Mandatory open-door policy in schools to allow and encourage parent participation at all levels of school life. #14. Shared staff-parent training sessions and workshops as so to ensure a unified parent-school community. #15. Allocation of funds from local association budgets for training conferences and educational workshops pertaining to leadership, shared decision making, group dynamics, interpersonal skills.

Health - Added: #12. Establishment and recurrent funding for rehabilitative treatment centres and after-care services for chemically dependent adolescents. #13: Quebec medicare cover costs of treatment and after-care services for chemically dependent adolescents. #14. CLSC social workers be empowered to work extra-territorially (to serve all students in a school regardless of where they live). #15. Augmentation of school-based social services with social workers from CLSCs.

Safety- Changed: #2. Mandatory instruction [first aid included], examinations and periodic re-certification for school bus drivers and charter bus drivers responsible for the transportation of children. Added: #9. Charter bus companies, hired by schools and school boards, to meet present safety standards of school buses. #10. Charter buses, hired by schools and school boards, to be equipped with new safety equipment as required by law for school buses. #11. Gun ownership is a privilege not a right and gun ownership be linked to a rigid screening process. #12. Banning private ownership of military assault weapons or large capacity magazines and registration of all guns and controlled sale of ammunition.

Teachers - Added: #6. Teachers having training and education in media literacy.

Welfare - Added: #17. Parent conferences focused on training parents in the process of shared decision-making.

9.7.3 1994 Resolutions (green, circulated earlier)

94/1 - COLLABORATION FOR EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS AND QUALITY LEARNING

MOTION: Daigle/Thorne (Beacon Hill) to adopt the resolution.

Discussion by delegates of "exit profile". Mr. Chagnon's (Minister of Education) committee was comprised entirely of academics. Suggestion made that we should note in covering letter that there is no parental input.

Vote on resolution.

CARRIED

94/2 - POVERTY AND LEARNING

MOTION: Daigle/Lewis (Board) to adopt this resolution.

Discussion of breakfast programs in caucus session; what did we mean by "adequate resources in home"?; economic downturn has perhaps meant fewer home resources.

Vote on resolution.

CARRIED

94/3 - COMPULSORY PHYSICAL EDUCATION

MOTION: Cumyn/Ewen to adopt this resolution.

Grammatical changes okayed to the THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED. Minister of Education to at least maintain...changed to: Minister of Education to maintain at least... ..and that fully qualified Physical Education specialists...changed to: ...and to ensure that fully qualified Physical Education...

Sylvia Adams, past President of Canadian Home & School, said that Canadian has long promoted physical education as a major factor in keeping people healthy; also prevents young suicides.

Vote on resolution.

CARRIED

94/4 - VOCATIONAL EDUCATION FOR YOUTH

MOTION: Cumyn/Homer (Somerset) to adopt this resolution.

Ann Cumyn spoke to the resolution. Said vocational education is becoming more and more important to our society. Perception that vocational education is for weaker students; actually require Grade 10 math and english. Students should have their high school leaving so they can enter CEGEP or university if they wish to continue on at some future date.

Amendment had been proposed by Cedar Park and Susan Roy spoke to it. They wished to combine the current THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED and the FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED into one statement and to add a new BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED.

MOTION: Roy (Cedar Park)/Leon (Cedar Park) to accept the amendment(s).

Ann Cumyn was against the proposed amendment. Discussion ensued pro and con.

Vote on amended BE IT RESOLVED. Against-21; For-12. DEFEATED

Ann Cumyn spoke against the new BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED.

Cedar Park agreed that it was redundant and withdrew it.

Vote on the original resolution.

CARRIED

94/5 - PARENTS COMMITTEES FOR PROVISIONAL COUNCILS

MOTION: Cumyn/Ewen to adopt the resolution.

Ann Cumyn explained why parents were needed on the councils. Caucus session wished to insert another BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to read: BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations urge that this Parents Committee should be entitled to direct representation on the Provisional Council.

Vote on proposed amendment.

CARRIED

Vote on original resolution, with insertion.

CARRIED

94/6 - FAIR AND EQUITABLE SCHOOL BOARD ELECTORAL DIVISIONS

MOTION: Ewen/Brown to adopt this resolution.

Peter Frood, School Commissioner, Western Quebec Board, spoke to the resolution. Bill 106 has no recourse to appeal a decision or contest an electoral division.

Vote on resolution.

CARRIED

94/7 - INTEGRATION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS

MOTION: Daigle/Cumyn to adopt this resolution.

Marion Daigle spoke to the resolution. It updates our 1985 resolution. Jan Langelier, President, Provincial Association of Protestant Teachers, said that the teachers' provincial contract in 1988/89 had provisions for teachers to be informed before any child with special needs was placed in their class, at any time during the school year. PAPT has been visiting local unions to inform them of their rights.

Vote on resolution.

CARRIED

94/8 - GROUP B STREPTOCOCCUS TESTING

MOTION: Straughton/Manker (Board) to adopt the resolution.

Shirley Straughton spoke to the resolution. Prenatal testing is important; prevention makes sense - a \$12 test can prevent handicapped children. The Canadian Pediatric Society also recommends that this testing be done.

An amendment had been proposed by Greendale Home & School that in the THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED to change ...provide for mandatory testing of all pregnant women for Group B Streptococcus bacteria... to read: provide for routine testing of all pregnant women showing any one of the indications of high risk for Group B Streptococcus bacteria...

MOTION: Koeppe/Cumyn to accept the amendment.

Vi Minto spoke in favour of the proposed amendment. You can not force anyone to have the test.

The original mover of the resolution accepted the change from "mandatory" to "routine".

Vote on remaining portion of the amendment.

DEFEATED

Vote on original resolution, with one word changed.

CARRIED

Two names were added to destination - Quebec Nurses Association and Canadian Pediatric Society.

94/9 - MANDATORY BICYCLE HELMETS

MOTION: Straughton/Smith (Board) to adopt this resolution.

Discussion. Terri Tansey asked if "cyclists" included roller bladders, etc.? Shirley Straughton said that the majority of accidents are from bicyclists; mostly boys between 10-14; left

with severe disabilities.

Amendments proposed by Don Smith, QFHSA Safety Committee Chairman, and previously circulated, included:

To change the second WHEREAS to read: WHEREAS cyclists are most vulnerable to accidental injury, and most especially head injuries, and wearing an approved bicycle helmet can reduce the risk of said head injuries by as much as 85%; and ...

To change the THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED and the first two BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to read: THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations urge the Minister of Health and Social Services and the Minister of Transport and the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec to adopt legislation implementing the mandatory wearing of approved bicycle helmets for all cyclists; and ...

MOTION: Smith/Milne-Smith to put amendment on floor.

The changes to the second WHEREAS had been accepted in caucus. The changes to the THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED were accepted in caucus, but the two BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED were left as they appeared in the original resolution.

A small change was approved in the third BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to add after ...provincial sales tax... the words, on the purchase...

Vote on original resolution, with approved changes.

CARRIED (1 against)

94\10 - PEER MEDIATION

MOTION: Marrett (Westmount High)/Cumyn to adopt the resolution.

Charlene Paxton, student at Westmount High, spoke to the resolution. Said it was a way to resolve conflicts before they escalate.

Caucusing had approved the addition of "and that appropriate funding be made available" to be added at the end of the THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED.

An amendment had been submitted by Cedar Park Home & School, to change the THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED to read: THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations urge the Quebec School Boards Association and their member school boards to implement peer mediation programs, or equivalent programs which have as their aim reduction of violence, in their schools.

MOTION: Roy/Leon to adopt the amendment.

Susan Roy and Jill Leon spoke to their amendment. Discussion from delegates pro and con. Anna Marrett spoke against the amendment.

Vote on the amendment.

For-22; Against-8; CARRIED

A further amendment has been proposed by Greendale Home & School. To change the THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED to include: ...peer mediation programs in their secondary schools.

MOTION: Koeppe/Cumyn to accept the amendment.

Vote on this amendment.

DEFEATED

Vote on original resolution, with approved addition, and first [Cedar Park] amendment. Against-1; CARRIED

94/11 - WELCOMING ATMOSPHERE FOR PARENTS

MOTION: Marrett/Blizzard (Westmount High) to adopt the resolution.

The caucus session had approved the reworking of the THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED to read: THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations request that the Quebec School Boards Association urge member boards to encourage individual schools, administrators and principals to provide a designated room in each school for parent use.

Amendment received from Greendale to add at the end of the THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED ...for parent use, where possible.

Discussion pro and con on this resolution.

Vote on [Greendale] amendment. DEFEATED

Vote on resolution, with caucus changes. Against-3; CARRIED

94/12 - SCHOOL HYGIENE

MOTION: Blizzard/Marrett to adopt the resolution.

Changes were made at the caucus to the THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED. It now reads: THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations urge their local associations and local Student Councils to inquire of their school administration, local commissioner, and school board, about the allocation and dispersal of funds per student for building maintenance (i.e. provision of soap and towels).

The movers of the motion agreed to withdraw the BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED since it was now redundant.

Vote on resolution, with caucus changes. Against-2; CARRIED

The following motion was then put on the floor.

MOTION: Thorne/Marrett that all Home & School functions should be smoke free. CARRIED

9.8 Remaining reports

MOTION: Cumyn/Marrett to accept the remaining reports. CARRIED

10. New Business

There was no new business brought forward.

11. Additions to agenda

None.

12. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

Presidents' Report to the Annual General Meeting, April 29/95

Submitted by Wendy Buchanan and Allan Locke, Co-Presidents

A great deal of time and energy was spent during 1994 preparing for Bill 107 and its creation of linguistic school boards. When the Parti Quebecois was elected in September 1994 the newly appointed minister of education, Jean Garon, announced that linguistic school boards would not be implemented as previously scheduled. Many Home and Schoolers were involved in presentations and studies regarding the Bill. Their work was much appreciated by our association and many of the local Home and School Associations were strengthened by their involvement in this work, which would have had a major impact on our schools.

The new government will be holding a series of hearings toward a Provincial Estates General and we hope the locals will participate with the same interest and energy they did with the Bill 107 issue. This process will examine the state of education in Quebec and the Federation office will be happy to assist any local in preparing information for presentation.

The Annual Think Tank was the beginning of the 1994-1995 season again this year. The evening began in the Federation office for a brief reception and "tour of our facilities", and then moved to a restaurant downstairs. Following dinner an entertaining and lively workshop was led by Pat Waters. This is a very pleasant introduction for some new executive members of local Home & Schools.

Once again the Fall Leadership Conference was a great success. The keynote speaker was Tena Montague who set the tone for the conference with an insightful look at today's world and its impact on today's children. The entertainment, provided by Mr. Blackman and students of John Rennie High School, was uplifting as well as informative. Over one hundred and twenty-five parents, teachers and administrators attended the conference which was titled "The Family: Think Globally, Act Locally".

The PALS/COPAIN project was an exciting program during the past year. PALS stands for Parents Assist Learning and Schooling and COPAIN is the French equivalent. This series of parenting workshops was a project of the Canadian Home and School and Parent-Teacher Federation and the Stay-In-School Initiative of the Federal Government.

We continued to have close liaisons with our education partners. Among these were Quebec School Boards Association (QSBA), Provincial Association of Protestant Teachers (PAPT), Association of Moral and Religious Educators of Quebec (AMREQ), Superior Council of Education and its Protestant Committee, and The Council on English Language Education (CELE). On the local level close working relationships were maintained with School, Orientation and Parent Committees.

During the past year we joined with approximately fifteen other English Speaking Organizations here in Quebec to review our relationship with the Canadian Heritage department of the Federal Ministry of Citizenship and

cont'd ...

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Canadian Identity. All of the groups receive some financial support from this group. Several consultation meetings have taken place with more to come before a fair and equitable agreement can be reached with regard to future funding.

We continue to maintain close ties with Canadian Home and School Parent-Teacher Federation. Delegates attended the annual meeting in St. John's, Newfoundland, in the spring of 1994 and we look forward to helping the organization celebrate its 100th birthday in Nova Scotia this year. It is great to renew relationships with other Provincial Home & School Associations. The Co-Presidents also attended the Annual Mid-Term meeting in Ottawa in November. In March we also participated in a Parent Participation in Schools conference in Ottawa. The Canadian Association of Principals (CAP) and CHSPTF co-hosted this conference which examined the role of parents in today's schools across Canada. The Federal Government supplied the financing for this weekend gathering.

An all day strategic planning session is scheduled for the end of March this year and this will help focus our intentions and directions for the coming years. We anticipate a busy, productive day and hope for a valuable exchange of ideas.

In the coming years we must increase our membership if we hope to remain a viable, active organization. To this end we are pleased to note that new local associations are being formed and much interest is being expressed in our organization. This will be an ongoing focus for us in the years to come.

None of the above activities would have been possible without the dedication and hard work of our entire membership. While the Executive Committee and Board of Directors head up the Federation, it is the work done day by day, week by week, year after year at the local level that makes our Federation what it is.

Thanks also to Donna Sauriol, our Executive Director and our staff member Francie Gunther. Their tireless work on behalf of all members is truly appreciated. We certainly couldn't have managed without their goodwill and assistance.

This marks the end of our mandate as Co-Presidents. We believe we have left the Federation in good condition and we know that the future will be even brighter. Thank you for all your support during the past two years.

CANADIAN HOME AND SCHOOL AND PARENT-TEACHER FEDERATION (CHSPTF)
Report to the Annual General Meeting, April 29/95
Submitted by Wendy Buchanan, Co-President

This year marks the one hundredth year of parental involvement in the education and well being of children in Canada. The mission of CHSPTF is "to promote the social and educational well-being of children and youth". This has never been more important or relevant than it is right now. It has been shown that there are measurable improvements in a child's academic standing when there is parental guidance and interest. CHSPTF strives to bring parents together with educators from all levels. This has been the focus for this year.

The commemorative celebrations will take place in May in Baddeck, Nova Scotia, where Mabel Hubbard Bell called together the first meeting for concerned parents. QFHSA hoped to send our full allotment of representatives to this important annual meeting. Regrettably our financial situation does not allow for this. We are fortunate though that some of our board members feel strongly about our commitment to CHSPTF and they are willing to pay their own expenses in order to attend.

Important government connections were forged this year in the form of joint conferences and projects. A National Parent Involvement Project was launched in September in Memramcook, New Brunswick - PALS/COPAIN. This significant "Stay-In-School Initiative" program of parent workshops has been very well received across the country and especially in Quebec. CHSPTF has garnered valuable attention for a job well done with this project.

QFHSA also played an important role in the gathering of information for the Social Security Reform project which was sponsored jointly by CHSPTF and the Human Resources Development Dep't. of the Canadian government. Quebec was once again on the scene by hosting a series of information sharing sessions.

The Canadian Association of Principals (CAP) and CHSPTF held a joint conference in Ottawa this spring where Parent Partnership in Schools was the topic. Government funding permitted representation from coast to coast. QFHSA was fortunate to have been able to send two participants who gave a historical perspective of parental involvement in schools in Quebec.

This is just a sampling of the numerous activities of CHSPTF. As with most organizations that rely on memberships and government funding for their existence, CHSPTF is in a transition and redefining period. QFHSA will continue to work together with our counterparts from across the country to build a strong and vibrant organization with the well-being of children foremost in its "raison d'être".

CHSPTF BRIEF RE: IMPROVING SOCIAL SECURITY IN CANADA

Perspective of the Canadian Home and School and Parent-Teacher Federation - December, 1994

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/1995

Submitted by Marion Daigle, Co-ordinator, Quebec Consultation Group

As reported to the QFHSA Board in November 1994, QFHSA held a consultation related to the federal debate on Improving Social Security in Canada under the sub-heading Agenda: Jobs and Growth.

Copies of this brief were sent to all participants in the consultation (QFHSA participants are listed in my November report) and after consultation with Allan Locke, Co-President, I mailed copies to many of our partners in education.

More than sixty recommendations were made on issues related to the 3 main topics chosen by CHSPTF: Families, the Transition to the World of Work and the Role of a national parent organization. The Brief is also available in French. Copies in both languages are on file at QFHSA and available for circulation from CHSPTF.

Recommendations made to the QFHSA Board of Directors:

1. That highlights of the Brief be featured in the QFHSA NEWS.
2. That the Brief be highlighted by QFHSA representatives at meetings with our partners in education. We may be among a very few English language organizations in Quebec who have participated in a response. The Brief can reinforce the importance of QFHSA's link to our National Organization.

Members of the Executive and the Board who received copies of the Brief are: Allan Locke, Pat Waters, Jocelyne Pickler, Dorothy Nixon, Helen Koeppel, Debi Brown and Margaret Funnell.

Circulation of the Brief to partners in education:

MEQ	Jean Garon, Minister of Education Grant Hawley, Associate Deputy Minister, Protestant
Superior Council of Education	Judith Newman and Robert Bisailon
Superior Council of Education	Protestant Committee
QSBA	Quebec School Boards Association
PAPT	Provincial Association of Protestant Teachers
PACT	Provincial Association of Catholic Teachers
QASA	Quebec Association of School Administrators
QACSA	Quebec Association of Catholic School Administrators
FCPPQ	Fédération des comités des parents du Québec [also English sector]
LPQ	Literacy Partners of Quebec
QAAL	Quebec Association for Adult Learning
Alliance Quebec	
AMREQ	Association of Moral and Religious Educators of Quebec
Protestant Education Services	

AYLMER - AREA REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29, 1995

Submitted by Norma Ewen, Area Rep

This year the Aylmer Elementary Home and School Association has sponsored many activities. In the Fall, Joe Shepstone, a Naturalist at Large, brought his entourage of snakes, tortoises, and turtles, and entertained everyone with their personal histories. "A Promise is A Promise" by the theatre group Geordie Productions warmed up a Winter afternoon, and everyone is looking forward to the National Art Centre's Ayorama Wind Quintet in the Spring.

In addition to annually sponsored programmes/activities such as nutrition, Winter Activity Day, Teacher Appreciation Week, and prizes for Public Speaking, this year Aylmer Home and School funded a listening centre for Maniwaki Intermediate School, and helped to start a parent resource library at Aylmer Elementary.

Something new for Aylmer is the First Annual Parenting Conference, "Helping Children Learn", which will take place on the 1st of April. The Aylmer local will be hosting this event in conjunction with Q.F.H.S.A.

This year's book/fundraisers, most of which are activities in themselves, include the Christmas Bazaar, Scholastic and Troll Book Fairs, a World Book Read-a-Thon, the very popular "STIKEES", and the widely acclaimed year-end picnic.

LAKESHORE III - AREA REPORT

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95

Submitted by Theresa Tansey, Area Representative

Dorset Elementary - Lynda Kowalenko

The most important message is to increase parent/teacher communication and involvement. They would like to share this quote:

"One of the hardest things in life to learn -
which bridge to cross - which bridge to burn?"

Edgewater Elementary - Shirley McCallum

Their message this year is the importance and need of continual community spirit and involvement, as seen at Christmas time.

Evergreen Elementary - Lillian Olliver

Their message was expressed through this quote:

"Mankind owes to the child the best it has to give."

Ecole Primaire Harwood - Rickhey Langlois & Anne Swettenham

This Home and School started with emphasis on fundraising. It has evolved into a strong committee devoted to uniting a community both linguistically and geographically unique. By continually updating its constitution and by-laws, it has been able to reflect the expanding needs of such a diversified community. With the purchase of social (skill) games and by regularly rewarding positive behavior at all levels, they have put forward an effective effort to alleviate the present and increasing problems incurred by overcrowding.

Hudson High - Diane Williamson

The importance of parent/teacher and home communication was this year's emphasis. They have done this by sponsoring drug information meetings, certified babysitting course, a C.P.R. course and offering great support of their library, especially through the parting gift donation program of graduating students.

Macdonald High - Dale Horniak and Sunita Prasher

A much stronger community spirit was achieved this year through interaction with both the School and Orientation Committees.

Mount Pleasant Elementary - Debra L. Thompson

Their goal this year was on greater communication between the home and the school, through emphasis on parents' roles in education.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1994

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95

Submitted by the office & Barbara Milne-Smith, General Arrangements

The theme for the 50th Anniversary Annual Convention was **The Family: The Heart of Society**. Because of the success of last year's "Early Bird Special" held the Friday evening for local and out-of-town delegates, this workshop was offered again at the QFHSA office. Twenty-seven people gathered to share ideas and discuss concerns of mutual interest. The evening concluded with a buffet dinner organized by Joan Locke.

Awards

The Gordon Paterson Award for outstanding service to the education of children and for encouraging parent participation in school life was presented to Metha Bos, an educator who has taught all over the world. Since 1987 she has served as principal at Luke Mettaweskum School in Nemaska with the Cree School Board and is currently a teacher there. Recipient of the Leslie N. Buzzell Award for outstanding service to QFHSA was Ann Cumyn, Chairman of the Education Committee, as well as a commissioner with the Lakeshore School Board, a Vice-President of the Quebec School Boards Association, and past Chairman of the Protestant Committee of the Superior Council of Education.

The 50th Anniversary Luncheon was preceded by the cake cutting ceremony and toast. For the second year, the Golden Torch and Unsung Hero pins and certificates were presented to those selected for this honour by their Home & School Associations. Schools recognized for their outstanding achievements for membership and newsletters were given books donated by Reader's Digest during the morning's business meeting.

Program

Following the luncheon, guest speaker Kathryn McMorrow addressed the topic of the changing definition of the family and how it impacts on society. Time was all too short for the stimulating ideas offered for developing parenting skills within the family.

Registration

Of the 28 Home & School Associations which were represented, there were 57 delegates. In addition there were 12 members of the Board of Directors (who were not affiliated with a school), 21 guests and 5 other participants. We were pleased to welcome many friends who have served QFHSA on the Board of Directors as well as several honoured guests in the field of education. Due to space limitations and a very crowded schedule, there were no commercial or educational displays.

Hospitality

For the first time, the attractive and comfortable Beaconsfield Golf Club was the site of the conference. "Year of the Family" centerpieces were made by several schools which added a colorful accent to the other posters and displays celebrating the 50th anniversary of our provincial organization. Three groups made special donations towards the expense of the 50th conference: Dorset, Ecole Primaire Harwood & Lakeshore Regional Council. Refreshments were provided by Home & School Associations at Cedar Park, Ecole Primaire Beaconsfield, Seigniory and Valois Park.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AGM 1994

	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
Awards		
Buzzell & Paterson Awards (endowments)	\$	\$ 00.00
Gifts		50.00
Books [estimated]		50.00
Conference fees [Fall Conference & AGM]		
\$50 rec'd from 39 Local Associations	1,950.00	
Displayers [material included in kits]	25.00	
Donations [50th anniversary]	194.00	
Facilities [Beaconsfield Golf Club]		333.84
Hospitality		
Luncheon & coffee [97 meals]	1,536.00	1,956.68
Flowers [donated by LRC]		00.00
50th anniversary cake		75.00
Miscellaneous		
Registration		
Badges		30.00
Fees	30.00	
Kits (100 @ \$1.25)		125.00
Book of Reports [225 copies]		686.10
Preview Flyer [1100 copies]		232.40
Program		
Honorarium		300.00
Photography		140.00
Program Book [150 copies]		
Typesetting [includes preview flyer]		231.12
Printing		115.36
*Membership Development Fund [out-of-town delegates expenses]		
Accommodation		25.00
Hospitality [Friday night workshop]		66.73
Travel [Gaspé]		556.00
Travel [other]		78.40
	<u>\$3,735.00</u>	<u>\$5,051.63</u>

*Expenses reimbursed by the Membership Development Fund. [Printing and postage costs of reports and communications to the local associations have not been included in this statement. The estimated cost is approximately \$1000.]

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FALL CONFERENCE - October 22/94

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95

Submitted by the office and Wendy Buchanan, Conference Chairman

The theme of the 1994 Fall Conference, held at John Rennie High School in Pointe-Claire, was **The Family: Think Globally, Act Locally**. Consultant, educator and parent Tena Montague presented the Plenary Session program: "The Challenge for Families in the 21st Century."

For the second half of the morning's program, John Rennie High School students performed selected highlights from the play, "Our Heritage," followed by teacher Gordon Blackman discussing this innovative Black History Course.

During the buffet luncheon served in the cafeteria, the topic of the continuing importance of the family was addressed by special guest speaker Ghislaine Picard-Mayer, past-president of the International Union of Family Organizations and a member of the national organizing committee for the International Year of the Family.

Three concurrent workshops were offered in the afternoon:

- Step 120 - A look at the resource centre at Westmount High School, which offers students counselling, tutoring, mentoring, tracking and nurturing.
Speakers: Joyce Morison, Gary Leschuck
- Learning for the 21st Century - A working study of the Corbo Report in preparation for a province-wide debate on school exit profiles.
Speaker: Judith Newman
- Math Matters: Making Math Meaningful - How children become problem solvers and learn to reason mathematically.
Speaker: Dr. Vicki Zack

Concluding the day's activities was a special workshop introducing the new parental involvement program, "Parents Assist Learning and Schooling [PALS]," given by Master Trainers Jocelyne Godard-Pickler, Anna Marrett and Pat Waters.

Attendance for the day was approximately 125 participants, including guests, workshop leaders, Group Affiliate members, and the QFHSA Board of Directors. Twenty-eight Home & School Associations were represented.

There were eight registered displayers, whose tables of interesting exhibits offered fund-raising and educational information during registration and the free time at the nutrition and luncheon breaks. In addition, promotional material for another eight companies was included in the delegates' kits.

Evaluation comments were very positive, expressing enthusiasm for the excellent workshops and presentations, as participants had learned many new ideas to share with their families, colleagues and school communities.

THINK TANK - August 31/94

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95

Submitted by the office and Helen Koeppe

The 1994/95 school year began with the annual Think Tank get-together of 30 QFHSA Board of Directors and local Home and School Association executive members. The theme of this year's informal meeting was "Working with Others."

Following a reception at the Federation office where participants had an opportunity to become acquainted with the resources and materials available through the provincial organization, the group then enjoyed a Szechuan buffet at a downstairs restaurant.

The evening's agenda continued with a warm welcome by QFHSA Co-President Wendy Buchanan, who spoke of the busy summer experienced by many Federation Board members whose frequent meetings studied financial concerns and set priorities for up-dating office equipment to ensure efficient functioning of our organization.

After dinner, workshop presenter Pat Waters moderated a discussion on Group Dynamics, the art of managing volunteers, those selfless and hard-working individuals who comprise the backbone of our Federation.

Six groups were formed to exchange ideas and to formulate recommendations for encouraging volunteers to participate and the different ways of expressing appreciation for their leadership and service. Topics discussed and summarized were:

- ▼ Attracting Volunteers
- ▼ Keeping Volunteers
- ▼ Placing Volunteers
- ▼ Recognizing Volunteer Talents
- ▼ Mentoring and Communicating
- ▼ Directing and Managing Volunteers

Many practical suggestions were put forward as different schools shared their experiences in dealing with volunteers. One school, for example, utilizes the questionnaire/membership mailing in the fall to welcome new families by adding the inquiry: "Are you new to our school?" Someone is then designated as a liaison to phone each new parent to determine if there are questions to be answered or a desire to meet to discuss problems.

New friendships were formed and many valuable ideas were exchanged during the evening's networking.

PRESIDENTS/MEMBERSHIP/PUBLICITY/NEWSLETTERS WORKSHOP - June 2/94
Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95
Submitted by the office

A small but enthusiastic group of Home & Schoolers, plus a Group Affiliate member, turned out for this series of workshops, held in the QFHSA office. Since the group was small we remained as one for a brief overview on all the topics.

The evening affords us the opportunity to hand out the "kits" we have made up covering all these important jobs at the local level. Schools which don't get their kits on this evening are sent them as soon as they have given us the names of their new Executive for the coming year. Besides the four kits above, we have information for treasurers, program chairpersons (if the school has such a position) and even information on how to repair books for your school library!

We were fortunate to have present as facilitators, Vikki Kouri, outgoing Seignior Home & School President; Vivien Dagher, Editor of the Lindsay Place "Herald" speaking about school newsletters; and Don Sancton, Publicity chairperson at Allancroft, who offered us many valuable tips about how to get your local happenings into the local paper. Our own Executive and Board members contributed their valuable expertise as well.

The Evaluation/Registration sheets handed in indicated that the most important aspect of this evening is the networking.

A report of "helpful hints", that came out of our brainstorming, was sent out to those not present.

Since June is such a busy month we should perhaps consider changing the time of year when we hold these workshops. Possibilities are May and/or August.

QFHSA STRATEGIC PLANNING

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29, 1995

Submitted by Ann Cumyn

Any institution that wishes to remain relevant to the society that it serves must undertake a regular program of self evaluation and renewal. Members of the Board of Directors were made aware that the last major review of QFHSA's purpose and actions was through strategic planning sessions in 1986. Questions were being asked about the current nature of QFHSA. Are we providing the appropriate support for our children's education and are we serving our members adequately? As a result an ad-hoc committee was established to study the matter and recommend a process for review.

It was decided to undertake the review in three stages:

A survey of the locals to discover what we did and what we valued.

A strategic planning session to be run by a professional animator.

A follow up which would include consideration by the membership via the AGM and the Board of Directors of any changes and actions which might be recommended as a result of the above.

A questionnaire was drawn up out seeking opinion on the importance of the work of QFHSA's committees and its political role vis-a-vis the government and community. Local associations were asked to list their activities and comment on the benefits of Home and School. Input was sought on reasons why families do not join Home and School and in particular on the barriers to participation at the provincial level.

This questionnaire was distributed to the locals, group affiliates, members of the Executive and the Board. Twenty four replies were received. From these replies we learnt that the work of QFHSA and its committees was very important. There was almost unanimous approval of QFHSA's political role. We learnt that the range of activities of the local associations is far greater than the ad-hoc committee had imagined. In spite of the overwhelming support for the work of QFHSA the respondents has most difficulty in identifying the benefits, perhaps the fault was in the wording of the question.

The questions of particular interest to the Executive and to the Board related to the reasons for not joining Home and School and the difficulty of getting people to serve on the Board and the Executive. For the former the vast majority of responses cited lack of interest or knowledge and only a few considered that the fee is too high! For the latter the main reasons given were that people are either only interested in what directly affects their children or are too busy. A fair number considered that a fear of long term

commitment and finding the task too time consuming was a barrier to obtaining Board members, and half felt that QFHSA was too remote from local issues either physically or politically.

A Strategic Planning session was set for Saturday, 25 March at the Scout Centre. A group of about 14 persons comprised of Executive and Board members and members of local associations met under the tutelage of Frances Ravensberger of the Adult Education Service of the CECM. For the best part of a day we talked, thought, wrote, discussed, shared ideas and came to conclusions.

The first exercise was to examine the mission statement. We started with the current mission statement:

"The Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations is an independent volunteer organization dedicated to enhancing the education, health and general well-being of children and youth by encouraging public interest in education, promoting cooperative efforts among parents and educators and fostering public opinion favourable to the advancement of education."

Using the results of the questionnaire as background we worked in groups and then pooled our suggestions to produce a draft revised mission statement.

"QFHSA is an independent, incorporated, non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to enhancing the education and general well being of children and youth. QFHSA promotes the involvement of parents, educators and the community at large in the advancement of learning and acts as a voice for parents."

The second half of the day was devoted to listing the major challenges facing QFHSA and looking at some ways to meet these challenges. Through discussion the many challenges that were suggested were reduced to the following three which were considered both important and achievable:

Distribution of information

Involvement of the total school community

Avoiding burnout.

The day ended with an initial attempt to finding ways to meet these challenges.

The third step will begin with the endorsement of the revised mission statement by QFHSA's membership. This matter will be a topic for the caucusing session. It will then be the responsibility of everyone, with leadership provided by the Board, to find ways of meeting the challenges.

LAKESHORE REGIONAL COUNCIL

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95

Submitted by Pat Waters, President

The Lakeshore Regional Council of Home and School Associations has met three times to date. Highlights of the meetings are as follows:

- October 19, 1994: Chris Campbell, the Assistant Director General of the L.S.B., came and spoke to us about Liability Insurance. We were informed that Home & School activities are protected if they are sanctioned by the School Committee or the principal. It is a good idea to have this in writing or minuted. Activities not covered are independantly run businesses like a nursery school or a day-care facility, even if the principal is on the board. If there is a potential risk of injury in a Home & School extra-curricular activity, (ie. karote), the instructor should have his own insurance to protect himself. He also concluded that volunteers working for the benefit of the school and lunch-time supervisors are covered. Play-ground equipment injuries are if the equipment is approved by the School Committee or the principal.

Any equipment purchased by the Home & School Association is NOT insured LSB property as it belongs to the Home & School Association. It should be labeled as Home & School property in case of any school changes!

- Pat Waters reported that the QFHSA Fall Conference was to be on October 22, 1994 at John Rennie H.S. The theme is THE FAMILY: THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY.

- Pat also talked about the new parenting workshop program- PALS- coming out of the Stay-In-School Initiative, Dept. of Human Resources, Canada. It is being distributed by the Canadian Home and School, Parent-teacher Federation. She and 3 other Master Trainers will be training facilitators in Quebec from now until March 31, 1995.

- Local reports covered such topics as fundraising ideas, lunch-time activities, membership drives and safety issues.

- December 7, 1994: Marcus Tabachnick attended this meeting and filled us in on the results of the fall School Board election. Marcus is our new Director General and Ann Cumyn is the Assistant Dir. Gen. Marcus mentioned also that he will be finished his consultation on Sexual Harrassment in the schools by Feb. and a report will be completed by the spring. He is planning to come to our May 17th meeting and perhaps he will share this with us then.

- Pat Waters reported for the QFHSA about the PALS Project or Parents Assist Learning and Schooling. Three facilitator trainings had taken place and she had just returned from the Gaspé where she did a training for 16 people and a workshop at the Adult Ed. School. The AGM is being planned for April 29, 1995 and it is to be held at The Royal Montreal Golf Club on Ile Bizard. The theme is PARENT PARTICIPATION = PARENT POWER.

- February 15, 1995: Mabyn Armstrong of The Missing Childrens Network came and spoke to us about her seminar on "How to Protect Your Children". Mabyn is offering this service to the lakeshore schools for a donation of \$50.00 to the Network.

Her message is simple - child molesters are expert child manipulators. A child can only understand certain things about "strangers" in relationship to their age and cognitive development.

- Heather Parker from AMBCAL came as well and spoke about the work they do in the community. Families in crisis with a problem teen-ager are referred by the guidance dept. in the school.

- Local concerns were school security, as young children don't know not to open the side doors to strangers, TAW reports, upcoming fundraisers and a Multi-Cultural Quilt made at Seigniory. In conclusion, the LSB local Home & School Associations are extremely busy and productive!

PROTESTANT SCHOOL BOARD OF GREATER MONTREAL
Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95
Submitted by Howard Solomon, Parent Commissioner

Registration at the PSBGM remained at about 31,000 students this year. The annual report for operations ending June 1994 showed an operating surplus which was applied to programs in the budget for the 1994-95 school year. Commissioners decided to reduce their numbers from 21 to 15 for the 1994 School Board elections. Twelve incumbents were re-elected and three new commissioners won election to the re-constituted board. One of our commissioners, Elizabeth Annesley, was elected President of the Quebec School Boards Association.

The three year objective of the Board, to always keep the student as the central focus of all of its activities, has been extended for a further three years until June 1998. An important strategy for the implementation of this objective will continue to be the expansion of training in the use of Co-operative Education.

New three year transportation contracts have been signed to cover the busing of our students until June 1997. A strong effort by our transportation department has reduced the number of children who must cross in front of their school buses to about 15%. Most of the remaining group live on the "wrong" side of a one-way street or live on a street where the bus must pick up students who live on both sides of the same street. In most cases it is not possible to re-route the bus to further reduce the number of instances of crossing in front of the bus.

The PSBGM is in the latter stages of preparing an employment equity program. Implementation will be accomplished in conjunction with the Quebec Human Rights Commission. The Board has also created a group to review the advertising and marketing strategies of our various operations in an increasingly competitive environment.

A new report card format, along with its attendant philosophical changes, is being implemented in all of our elementary schools this year and next year. It has been field tested extensively over the last three years and several improvements have become part of the final product.

The Vocational Education "Skills Olympics" were hosted this year by the PSBGM and we were successful in winning 2 Gold, 1 Silver, and 3 Bronze medals during the competition. The Adult Education and Vocational Services Department also introduced a policy to help deal with the shortage of certified teachers in many of its course areas. The plan will allow the department to hire teachers who are not certified but will agree to obtain certification while employed.

The Outreach System of schools, created to deal with the problems of students at risk of dropping out, has been the subject of extensive study, analysis, and discussion. A detailed report has been received and became the basis for numerous recommendations to improve the operations of these specialized schools. The analysis remains ongoing and further recommendations will be made as necessary.

cont'd

PSBGM cont'd

A change in the major school change process now requires public discussion of the resolutions so that school groups, which usually work very hard on their presentations, will have the opportunity to hear the reasons for the decisions being made by the Commissioners.

The PSBGM has many older buildings which are in need of significant capital spending to fix roofs, windows, and boilers. The grants from the Ministry of Education are inadequate for this purpose. The Board has requested permission, from the Government, to borrow \$6.5 million to do some of the most urgent of the repairs. This loan would then be repaid from the sale of various Board owned properties.

Another new initiative involves the co-operation of the Board with three other island school boards in a project to implement a program of "Distance Education" using modern technology.

Co-operation with the City of Montreal is going to allow the Board long-term, preferred access to a sports complex which will be built on land adjacent to Shadd Academy.

The PSBGM continues to improve its budgeting process and the controls it has in place to maximize the efficiency with which it spends its increasingly scarce resources. This year department heads have been invited to present their budgets to the standing committees of the Board in order to help clarify the situation as it exists before decisions must be made on the budget preparation for the next year. The Audit Committee is being expanded and will begin to make reports on its work to the Commissioners. The Management Letter from our External Auditors will be made available to Commissioners who wish to see it.

QUEBEC SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95

Submitted by Allan Locke, Co-president

We have regularly attended their monthly Board of Directors meetings and submitted a written report to their Board on the current events happening at QFHSA.

One of the most noteworthy meetings attended was the October 28, 1994, meeting. Newly appointed Education Minister, Jean Garon, was present at this meeting and said that (1) linguistic school boards will be postponed indefinitely, (2) the Corbo Report will be shelved, (3) there will be an Estates General to discuss all aspects of education in this province. Following the regular Board meeting, Dr Calvin Potter, Past President, QFHSA, was honoured with a Life Membership in the Quebec School Boards Association.

The January Board meeting accepted the resignation of the Executive Director, David D'Aoust. David has accepted the position of Director General of the South Shore School Board. Jeff Polenz, former aide to Education Minister Claude Ryan, was named the new Executive Director at the February meeting. We will be guests at their annual Spring Conference, in Quebec City, and continue our close liaison with this organization. Theme: Partnership for Success.

AWARDS

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95
Submitted by Wendy Buchanan and Allan Locke, Co-presidents

The Selection Committees met on Friday, March 24, 1995. The nominations for the awards were reviewed and the following decisions were made:

The 1995 winners of the Leslie N. Buzzell Award, for outstanding service to Quebec Federation, are Ken and Diane Radu who have both worked for many years on our newspaper.

The winner of the Gordon Paterson Award, for an educator who has given long service to the education of children and has encouraged the participation of parents in the educational scene, is Miss Nancy Buzzell, Principal of Meadowbrook Elementary School in Lachine.

These three are most deserving of this recognition and it is an honour for the Selection Committees to put their names forward.

NEWSLETTER AWARDS

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95
Submitted by Diane Radu, Editor, "Focus on the Locals"

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

The criteria on which the newsletters were judged were:

1. Design (use of space and graphics)
2. "Mix" of content (school/student/teacher/classroom news)
3. Home & School coverage
4. Overall impression and readability.

The 1995 winners are:-

<u>E.P. Beaconsfield</u>	"Contact" - Wendy Wilson, editor.
<u>Evergreen School</u>	"Evergreen Events" - Wendy Oliver, editor.
<u>Mount Pleasant</u>	"Chalk Talk" - Dawn Hirsch, editor.

Both Evergreen and Mount Pleasant were winners in 1994 as well. Congratulations to all three schools for the calibre of their newsletters.

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95

Submitted by Gisela Amarica, Chairperson

An in-depth study of the Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules was suggested by an honorary member. On January 17, 1995, a letter was sent to all local Home and School Associations, asking if they wanted changes to the Constitution, By-Laws, or Standing Rules.

No changes were suggested to the Constitution or By-Laws by a local Home and School Association or by the Board of Directors. Therefore, the Constitution Committee does not feel that further study is advisable at this time.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95

Submitted by Ann Cumyn, Chairman

The year began with a review of the Corbo report and the sponsoring at the Fall Conference of a workshop on exit profiles. It had been anticipated that the Corbo report would be the basis of a community discussion on education. However with the election of a new government the Quebec education scene has been in a state of suspended animation.

Since the election we have been waiting to see what the immediate future would hold. Would the government push ahead with the establishment of linguistic school boards and what would be the plans for an Estates general on Education that was part of the election platform. At this moment there is an indication that a process for an Estates General will begin shortly and terminate in 1996. From this it can be deduced that it is unlikely that there will be any movement towards the establishment of linguistic boards in the immediate future.

The Minister of Education is expected to announce the details of his process for the Estates General on April 9th. The Education Committee will study this proposal and encourage and aid our members in their participation. If and when it is appropriate for QFHSA to present a brief the Education Committee expects to be responsible for the development of this brief.

This year's literary booklet has for its title "Canada - my home/mon foyer, my town/ ma ville, my province/ma province, my country/mon pays. To date contributions have been received from 12 schools.

With the growing demands on QFHSA's resources it is necessary to look at alternative ways of funding specific projects. To this end an application has been made to Canada Post for funding for our literary booklet. Applications are reviewed from the beginning of April and we expect to hear in the next few weeks whether or not our request has been granted.

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

OPERATING FUND	Audited Statement 1993-94	Budget 1994-95	#1 Proposed Budget 95/96	#2 Proposed Budget 95/96
REVENUES				
Membership - Family	59851	60000	60000	60000
Membership - Group	5030	4500	4500	4500
Interest	708	1000	500	500
Donations - Local	42	1000	100	100
Donations - QFHSA	1729	500	500	500
Conference Fee	2100	2000	2500	2500
Fall Conference	2590	2000	2000	2000
Annual General Meeting	2353	2000	2000	2000
Tax Rebates - GST & PST	6252	4000	4000	4000
Literacy Project	868	1000	1000	1000
Government Grant	20000	20000	20000	50000
Membership Materials	2156		2000	2000
Miscellaneous	228			
Total	103907	98000	99100	129100
EXPENDITURES				
CHSPTF Affiliation Fees	5491	5000	5000	5000
Donations	75			100
Conferences and Meetings				
- Fall Conferences	1254	1500	1000	1500
- AGM	3270	3000	3000	4000
- Board & Executive	52		100	100
- CHSPTF Meetings	953	1500	2000	3300
- Other		300	200	500
Projects - Literacy	1105	1000	500	1000
- PALS			500	1000
Membership Materials	3644	2000	2000	4000
Home & School NEWS (net)	18513	20000	19000	30000
Membership - Other Organ	18			
Provincial Office				
- Postage & Courier	3464	4000	4000	4500
- Office Supplies	4525	4500	4500	5000
- Telephone	1492	1500	1500	1800
- Administration	2646	2700	2800	2800
- Rent & Occupancy	11789	13000	14000	14000
- Salaries & Levies	36187	37000	38000	45000
Miscellaneous	1515	1000	1000	1000
Capital Expenditures				4500
Total	95993	98000	99100	129100
=====				
EXCESS OF REVENUES (EXP)N	7914	0	0	

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95
Submitted by Debi Brown, Chair/Treasurer

Committee members: Wendy Buchanan, Marion Daigle, Margaret Funnell, Helen Koeppe, Rickhey Langlois, Allan Locke, Barbara Milne-Smith, and Dorothy Nixon.

The committee has focused on three priorities this year:

- 1 - bringing in a balanced budget
- 2 - participating in the Re-positioning Group with Canada Heritage re the grant system
- 3 - defining needs (physical and financial) and exploring ways to secure the necessary funds

With much effort and sacrifice a balanced budget was achieved. In fact there was a surplus which was applied to the accumulated losses of the past 4 years.

There have been several meetings (beginning in June 94 and continuing) with Canada Heritage and the Re-positioning Group (the Minority Languages organizations of Quebec) re the grant money available and how it will be distributed. Canada Heritage is asking for a multi-year agreement and the Re-position Group has drafted a four year proposal. QFHSA has submitted its request and feels that the yearly amount asked for is not unreasonable. We receive a very small percentage of the money available and do not use it for sustaining funds but strictly for outreach. Without this money it would be very difficult to operate as a provincial organization.

A Fundraising Committee has been set up to look at the capital needs of QFHSA. It has been established that the following equipment is needed for the office: two new computers, a modem, laser printer, a photocopier, typewriter, and a proper computer work station. This committee has been working very hard with no visible success.

Alternate funds are being sought for the preparation and distribution of materials. ie. an application has been submitted to Canada Post for the printing of the Literary Booklet.

Much is being done and more is to be done. If you have the inside track on some funds or good working order equipment that may be available for a reasonable price (read free) we would be most interested in hearing from you.

HEALTH ISSUES COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95
Submitted by Shirley Straughton

Hepatitis B

The Quebec government has instituted a program of free Hepatitis B vaccinations for all Grade 4 students. However, thousands of children continue to be at risk to contract Hepatitis B unless their parents take the initiative to have their children vaccinated. The cost of the vaccination is expensive and may be beyond the financial abilities of many families.

Statistics prove that the number of Hepatitis B infections are increasing annually and there is no cure for this disease. The vaccine is 95% effective but it needs to be available for all our children. A resolution has been put forward to the Minister of Health and Social Services to include Hepatitis B vaccinations in the Quebec medicare plan.

Group B Strep

The resolution requesting testing of all pregnant women for the Group B Streptococcus bacteria was passed at QFHSA's 1994 AGM. Since then, the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada and the Canadian Pediatric Society have also recommended routine testing.

This infection is responsible for the deaths of 200 newborns annually in Canada and leaves others with physical and/or mental handicaps. All pregnant women should insist on being tested for Group B Strep to protect their infants from the effects of this disease.

Head and Spinal Cord Trauma

A bilingual information sheet has been developed by The Montreal Children's Hospital Head and Spinal Cord Trauma Program. It focuses on the importance of the use of helmets as well as many safety tips for a variety of winter and summer sports. All local Home & School Associations will receive a copy. It is recommended that further copies be obtained from The Montreal Children's Hospital and distributed among their parents, students, and staff.

Chicken Pox Vaccine

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved a vaccine that will prevent or at least reduce the severity of chicken pox. As yet, it is not available in Canada pending approval by the Canadian government.

Health Canada

"Injuries are Preventable" is a bilingual resource list published by Health Canada. Its goal is to promote injury prevention programs by encouraging all interested parties to share their information. This resource list will be published in the QFHSA NEWS for the benefit of all Home and School members.

LITERACY IN THE INFORMATION AGE - QUEBEC LITERACY PROJECTS

Report to the Annual General Meeting, April 29/95

Submitted by Marion Daigle

The project, Literacy in the Information Age, launched by The Canadian Home & School and Parent-Teacher Federation (CHSPTF) in 1989, continues as the foundation of all activities related to creating a literate society - in the home, the school and the community. It is a prevention model project in that it sets out to ensure that the younger generation growing up today will be able to function in an ever changing knowledge based and technological world.

PALS - Parents Assist Learning and Schooling

This phase was introduced in September and October, 1994 when Home and School leaders from across Canada were trained as Master Trainers at the Memramcook Institute in New Brunswick. Pat Waters, Anna Marrett, Jocelyne Godard Pickler and I have since trained facilitators representing all regions of Quebec. Pat Waters, Chair of the QFHSA Parental Involvement Committee, has reported on the year's activities elsewhere in the Book of Reports.

The following is a summary of events and activities in other areas of the Literacy Project.

September, 1994

Showcase for Literacy - International Literacy Day, Dawson College.
QFHSA exhibited at this showcase represented by Dorothy Nixon, NEWS editor, and Marion Daigle.

October, 1994

Literacy Exchange - La Tabatière and Mutton Bay, Lower North Shore
This exchange took place over five days with a full range of activities related to the home, the school and the community. Once again I was supported and helped by Harold Spanier of Nomad Scientists. A one day PALS training was also held. This trip was part of an ongoing series of leadership training and workshops for parents and community volunteers in the Lower North Shore over the past five years.

February, 1995

John Abbott College - Library Systems and Documentation Centre
Marion Daigle - workshop on literacy for students who annually raise funds for mailing boxes of donated books to outlying communities - Gaspé and Lower North Shore.

Books- 12 boxes of donated books were mailed in February, 1995 to Anne MacWhirter in New Carlisle for the Literacy Exchange and to Bonita Annett, teacher, Gaspé High School for their library.

Quebec Library Association - a notice will appear in their Bulletin in April in an appeal for reference books for the Gaspé High School library as they are in dire need of updated texts for research and projects.

March, 1995

Give your child A LIFESTYLE FOR LEARNING/Donnez à votre enfant UNE QUALITÉ DE VIE FAVORISANT L'APPRENTISSAGE! - a new CHSPTF brochure financially sponsored

cont'd

QUEBEC LITERACY PROJECTS cont'd

by the Fitness Directorate Health Canada directs its attention to parents about the relationship of good nutrition, exercise and rest for students to be alert and ready to learn at school. This brochure was an outgrowth of a workshop given by Dean Ted Wall of the Faculty of Education, McGill University, at the CHSPTF Annual Meeting in 1992 in Montreal. Copies of the brochures in both official languages are available for wide distribution through the QFHSA and CHSPTF offices. This is a further phase in our Literacy project, particularly for PALS.

Upcoming - May, 1995

St. Joseph School, Huntingdon - the School Committee and QFHSA membership development committee will jointly sponsor Janet Fisher, librarian, as a resource to spend a day examining the school library, speaking to teachers and giving a workshop for parents and teachers in the evening.

Resignation of Literacy Director

In October 1994 I formally resigned as QFHSA Literacy Director. In the absence of a replacement I have carried on with certain activities which have been ongoing and important. The PALS Project, fortunately, is in the capable hands of a dynamic committee. Working with the PALS committee has been especially rewarding.

Because all phases of the Project are designed to link with one another there is a need for a Literacy Director and for ongoing training for Executive, Board of Directors, Home and School Association leaders and members at large.

This project is a catalyst to give vision and meaning to Home and School and to its ability to **Make a Difference** in peoples' lives.

My heartfelt thanks to the membership who have given me moral and financial support in my efforts to implement this project throughout Quebec.

RECOMMENDATION:

That QFHSA continues to support the Literacy in the Information Age Project and to implement whichever phases are important to our membership throughout Quebec.

IT IS DO TO TOGETHER THAT WHICH WE CANNOT DO ALONE.

MEMBERSHIP

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95
Submitted by the office

MEMBERSHIP

	April 01/95	April 01/94
Associations submitting membership lists	48	47
Associations which have not submitted lists	1	2
Number of Family Memberships through H&S locals	4,885*	4,834
Supporting Members (not through a local H&S)	27	22
Group Affiliate Members	83	97

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

1994/95 MEMBERSHIP AWARDS¹ (based on number of families)

<u>ON ISLAND BOARDS - Elementary Schools</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Membership Chairmen</u>
Royal Vale	100.0%	Wendy Daitch
Beacon Hill	88.8%	Wendy Tonkin
Ecole Primaire Beaconsfield	76.4%	Haifa Darwiche
<u>Honourable Mention</u>		
Christmas Park	64.5%	Linda Ellyett
Seigniory	64.4%	Pam Godfrey
Elizabeth Ballantyne	63.7%	Catherine Maxham
<u>ON ISLAND BOARDS - Secondary Schools</u>		
Hudson High	26.5%	Heidy Berthoud
Macdonald High	26.5%	Sunita Prasher
<u>Honourable Mention</u>		
Royal West	22.8%	Kathryn Arrell
<u>OFF ISLAND BOARDS</u>		
Baie Comeau Elementary/High	58.2%	Pamela Lalonde
Shigawake	35.6%	Barbara Hottot
<u>Honourable Mention</u>		
New Carlisle Elementary/High	29.9%	Brenda Gallan

¹ Based on membership lists received at the office by March 1st, 1995.

Special draw for school staff/teachers

Winner - Terry Tinkler, teacher at Valois Park - M'ship Chm: Gail Saloranta.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95

Submitted by Margaret Funnell

In 1994 the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations [QFHSA] again received a Secretary of State grant [now a Canadian Heritage grant] for the purposes of membership development. In common with many federal grants the 1994 grant was reduced by five percent from the preceding year. This grant pays for a share of the QFHSA Annual Meeting and Fall Leadership conferences and covers workshops for Home and School presidents and executives, on-island workshops for parents and workshops on membership, newsletters and publicity. The grant especially covers out-reach to off-island parents either by means of workshops off-island or by other work done with or for these parents. It specifically enables off-island parents to attend on-island meetings, workshops and conferences. A Parent Workshop/Conference was held on April 1st in Aylmer and QFHSA gives support to this endeavour. Representation to outside educational groups and enabling off-island Board members to attend meetings are included as are materials to promote leadership and parenting skills and a share of the HOME and School NEWS.

QFHSA has applied for another grant in 1995 under the title of "Getting Parents Involved - The Key to Children's Success in School". This will complement the work done by the PALS project. Under the new budget restrictions the Federal Heritage Minister has indicated that the global sum for these grants will be cut a further three percent over the already five percent cut for 1995. QFHSA is a member of the Quebec Community Groups (QCG) which is preparing, in conjunction with the CANHER department, a 3 to 5 year agreement with the Federal Government for the manner of disbursement of the Official Languages Community Support Program funds.

MORAL AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95

Submitted by Betty Lou Manker, Chairman

This past year the Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations continued to develop communication and a cooperative working relationship with moral and religious education through the Association of Moral & Religious Educators of Quebec (AMREQ), which has a group membership in QFHSA.

The programmes of each group have been given recognition and support of the other, which has resulted in parents and teachers groups striving toward a common goal.

Those involved in these groups include: Betty Lou Manker, Helen Koeppel, and Allan Locke. The efforts of Donna Sauriol, also, to bring the two groups together is appreciated.

The MRE chairman continues to offer assistance in other QFHSA events.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29, 1995
Submitted by Barbara Milne-Smith, Chairman

The Nominations Committee was appointed, in accordance with our constitution, by the Board of Directors at the November meeting. In January, a letter inviting nominations was mailed out to Home and School locals and to the Board. It set a deadline of February 24th for their receipt in our office.

On March 1st the committee met, opened the nominations received, and considered further names to contact to try to complete our slate of executive members for 1995-96.

We are pleased to report that we were able to recruit members to fill all positions, except a one-year term for Recording Secretary. On March 15th we circulated the second Nominations Letter telling local Home and School Associations and our Board members that the following Home & School members have agreed to allow their names to stand for election to our QFHSA Executive Committee for a two year term:

President:	Patricia Waters	-	Beaconsfield High
Executive Vice-Pres.:	Miriam Lalande	-	Lachine High
Vice-Presidents:	Wanda Franklin	-	New Carlisle High
	Margaret Funnell	-	John Rennie High
	Barbara Chatelois-Page	-	E.P. Harwood
	Robin Telfer	-	Allancroft
Past Presidents:	Wendy Buchanan	-	John Rennie High
	Allan Locke	-	Lindsay Place High

For a one year term:

Vice-President	Josie Rodgers	-	Beechwood
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Members of the Executive Committee, continuing in office until 1996, are:

Recording Secretary:	vacant	-	a one year term
Treasurer:	Deborah Brown	-	Aylmer
Vice-Presidents:	Ann Bishundayal	-	Elizabeth Ballantyne
	Rickhey Langlois	-	E. P. Harwood
	Jocelyne Pickler	-	Courtland Park

According to our constitution, further nominations may be made for any position, provided they are accompanied by the signatures of at least twenty-five members, together with the nominee's acceptance, and they must be received not later than April 13th. If any such nominations do come in, we will then have an election by ballot for the position(s) in question.

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

The members of the Nominations Committee are:

Ann Bishundayal	Deanne Delaney	Monica Leonard
Tula Corber	Helen Koepppe	Barbara Milne-Smith

PALS/PARENTS ASSIST LEARNING AND SCHOOLING

Report to the Annual General Meeting, April 29/95

Submitted by Pat Waters and Anna Marrett, Parent Involvement Committee

The Parents Assist Learning and Schooling project, or PALS, has certainly hit Quebec! The story behind this national project will follow with a wonderful commentary by Anna Marrett. First I want to thank Anna Marrett, Jocelyne Pickler, and Marion Daigle for their hard work and enthusiastic contribution towards PALS. This program has proven to be an excellent means for teaching and sharing parenting skills and strategies that will help our children learn and "Stay-In-School." It is also an effective way to improve our public relations with the community as well as a tool for increasing Home & School membership.

The Parent Involvement Committee or
Did I Really Put My Hand Up for This?

The PALS Project was created by the Stay-In-School Initiative of the Department of Human Resources, Canada and distributed through the Canadian Home and School Parent-Teacher Federation (CHSPTF). Four of us, Pat Waters, Anna Marrett, Jocelyne Pickler and Marion Daigle attended training sessions in Memramcook, New Brunswick, in the fall of 1994. Since then we have been spreading the word in Quebec.

It's been a whirlwind tour de force! There's no other way to describe the Parent Involvement Committee and its dissemination of the information contained in the Parent Resource Kit. Eleven trainings for 87 facilitators to do the PALS workshops were held between September, 1994, and March, 1995. Ten workshops have been presented in schools throughout Quebec and 63 kits were distributed. And that's only the beginning!

We've been interviewed by the press. We've spread the word at conferences and information sessions. We've been featured prominently in the monthly Newsflash, a newsletter distributed to all master Trainers throughout Canada! Way to go, Quebec!!! We've taken the train to the Gaspé, the plane to the Lower North Shore and James Bay, cars to places like Chateaugay and Huntingdon and the bus to the QFHSA office! We've toted those tote bags all over Quebec. We've given kits to community leaders. We've given kits to parents who were shy but willing to share with other parents. We've even given kits to car thieves! Who says we haven't reached a diverse audience?

The project ended officially as of March 31, 1995, but our work continues. Follow-up will be a big project in itself. We want to assist those who are planning workshops and parenting conferences, continue to inform other parents and make sure that the kits we have received are circulated and put to good use. This should take us clear through to the year 2000!

We want to share with you the names of all those who have been trained as facilitators. We're proud of all these people!

cont'd

PALS/PARENTS ASSIST LEARNING AND SCHOOLING PROJECT
Quebec Facilitators

GREATER MONTREAL

Deanne Delaney	Edinburgh Home & School Association
Ines Borsoi	Edinburgh Home & School Association
Brana Bienstock-Smith	Wagar High School Committee
Helen Koepp	QFHSA
Barbara Courier	Head & Hands
Anne Childs	Willingdon Elementary Home & School Association
Donna Nebentall	Willingdon Elementary Home & School Association
Bruna Mastroianni	Kativik School Board
Bonnie Jacobs	Kahnawake Reserve
Neil Roberts	Quebec Association for Adult Learning
Irene Mitani	Elizabeth Ballantyne School
Anne Nayer	YWCA Literacy Program
Shelly Potter	YWCA Literacy Centre
Marie Serdynska	YWCA Social Service & International Coop.
Sandie Ashton	FCPPQ secretary
Linda Mackinnon	McGill Graduate Program

WEST ISLAND

Sharon Phillips	John Rennie High Home & School Association
Miriam Lalonde	QFHSA and Lachine High Home & School Association
Irene McKee	Family Life Course, Concordia
Wendy Buchanan	QFHSA
Donna Coughlin	Christmas Park Home & School Association
Patty Seeley	Christmas Park Home & School Association
Lynda Kowalenko	Dorset Elementary Home & School Association
George McCourt	Allancroft Elementary School Committee
Margie MacDonald	Beaconsfield H.S./Family Life Course, Concordia

OFF-ISLAND

Dorothy Nixon	Mount Pleasant Elementary Home & School, Hudson
Ellen Gauthier	MacDonald High School, Pincourt
Sophie Kaluga	Christmas Park Elementary, Vaudreuil

AYLMER

Nancy Peppy	Hadley Junior H.S./Philemon Wright, School Comm.
Charlotte Taylor	Aylmer Elementary/Hadley Junior High School
Annie St-Amour	CLSC Aylmer

SOUTH SHORE / TOWNSHIPS

Shirley Wallace	Huntingdon Academy School Committee
Susan Nagorny	Centennial Park School Committee
Susan O'Sullivan	Howick Elementary School Committee
Evelyn Caza	Chateauguay Valley High School Committee
Joanne Smith	FCPPQ English Affairs, Longueuil
Pat Martin	Ormsdown Elementary School Committee
Debbie Antonopoulos	St. Joseph's School Committee, Huntingdon
April Donnelly-Arthur	Huntingdon Academy, Athelstan
Barbara Elliot	St. Francis Literacy Council, Stanstead
Susan Tham Provencher	Mary Gardner School, Chateauguay
Carol Palardy	South Shore Mom's group, Brossard

LAURENTIANS

Astrid Norquay
Joanne Dubeau

Arundel Elementary/Laurentian School Board
Arundel Elementary School Committee

NORTHERN QUEBEC

Metha Bos

Luke Mettaweskum School, James Bay

GASPE

Yvonne McGie
Kathy Skene
Marilyn Crabbe
Cynthia Flowers
Lori-Ann Hayes
Susan Beebe
Francis McKinnon
Gertrude Dow
Becky Smith
Ruth MacWhirter
Brenda Gallan
Wanda Franklin
Faye Criffiths
Kim Butler
Lally MacKenzie
Anne MacWhirter

New Carlisle Home & School Association
New Carlisle Home & School Association
CASA Rep./Port Daniel
New Carlisle School Comm./Home & School
New Carlisle Home & School Association
St. Godefroi
New Richmond High School
St. Patricks Elementary School/Parents Committee
Port Daniel Home & School Association
New Carlisle Home & School Association
New Carlisle Home & School Association
New Carlisle Home & School Association
New Carlisle Home & School Association
New Carlisle Home & School Association
New Carlisle Home & School Association
New Richmond H.S. teacher/Special Educ. Coord.
New Carlisle School teacher/QFHSA Area Rep.

LA TABATIERE AND MUTTON BAY

Melinda Gallichon
Carrie Robertson
Valerie Vatcher
Tanya Poole
David Roberts
Lucy Mendonça
Nathalie Mathieu
Fay Collier
Betha Willcott
Cecily Mckinnon
Judy Wellman
Arlette Morency
Stella Nadeau
Laura Morency

Peoples Actions for Youth advisor/parent, teacher
La Tabatière-parent/Orientation/School Committee
Mutton Bay - parent/School Committee
Mutton Bay - Parent & teacher
Adult Education Services, Netagamiou School
Sept-Isles, Literacy Project Coordinator
La Tabatière, parent & teacher
La Tabatière, Adult Education Animator
La Tabatière, parent
La Tabatière, parent
La Tabatière, parent
La Tabatière Orientation/Welcome Committee
La Tabatière School Committee
La Tabatière Adult Literacy teacher

QUEBEC CITY

Viviane Mahy
John Martin
Alain Miville de Chene
Marilyn Baxter
Lynne Kiley
Ann Gauvin
Phil Joycey
Sherronlee Dion
Nancy Tassé

Ste-Foy Elementary, parent Orientation Committee
First Nations Education Council, Wendake
Holland Elementary School, parent
Holland Centre, Family Services Coordinator
Dollard des Ormeaux School Committee, Shannon
Quebec Literacy Working Group Coord., Sillery
Portneuf Elementary School, teacher, Donnacona
St-Etienne, parent, School Orientation Committee
Dollard des Ormeaux School Orientation Committee

Quebec Home & School NEWS

Report to the Annual General Meeting, April 29/95

Submitted by Dorothy Nixon, Editor

I am pleased to have taken on the task of editing the NEWS and the best part about it is that I get the chance to work with so many talented and resourceful contributing editors, those many experienced hands already "on staff."

With luck, Pat Lewis, John de Nora, Don Smith, Shirley Straughton, the Bishundayals (Ann and Deo), Anna Marrett, Ken Radu and Diane Radu (and our co-presidents, Wendy and Al) will continue to provide editing, articles, reviews and reports on issues of importance to the membership. And I am grateful to Joan Daigle for the layout of Focus on the Locals, as well. And then there is Donna Sauriol who puts the paper together. Without her experience and input, well, I don't know what I'd do.

If the questionnaires we received back from the membership indicate anything, it is that many people out there, members and non-members, aren't quite sure what the QFHSA is all about. What is the Historian? What about the Constitution? However, members are certain that Safety, Parental Involvement and Literacy (including Math and Science Literacy) are important issues in education today.

Future issues of the NEWS will try to address these concerns. Every issue will provide readers with relevant information on parental involvement and what I like to call "big picture literacy." I'll try to cover all age groups within each yearly period; for instance, our March issue featured a piece on media literacy and the pre-schooler and another on science literacy of 7-9 year olds. In June, I will cover media literacy in a context that relates to older children and Nomad Scientists will help provide tips for parents to promote science learning to youngsters during the summer months.

Every issue will have a theme woven through it, in rather subtle fashion. And of course each issue will promote the political activities of the Board, because you have made it clear with your questionnaires that this is **very important** to you.

March's edition of the NEWS was sent to targetted individuals in the Prime Minister's office, (Chrétien was on the cover); at the CRB Foundation; at the Conference Board of Canada; at Industry Canada; at the Reader's Digest; at Apple; to Nick Discepola, honorable member for Vaudreuil; and to the Director of News at CFCF TV, to name just a few places.

I will continue to edit each edition of the NEWS with an eye to promoting the QFHSA - and by extension all of you hardworking volunteers at the provincial and local levels - in every way imaginable. The NEWS then becomes not only your voice and your support, but a vehicle to spread the word far and wide about all the wonderful things you do.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95

Submitted by Helen Koeppe, Chairman

Following the call to members of the Board of Directors and the local associations for draft resolutions, members available met to review and consider resolutions received. Two resolutions were rewritten in national form and will be submitted to the delegates of the CHSPTF Annual Meeting in Baddeck, in late May, 1995.

The response to the resolutions of the 1994 Annual General Meeting have been acknowledged in the QFHSA Board of Directors Minutes Correspondence Received. The most interesting received was from the Provincial Association of Protestant Teachers, and was followed up by invitations to hold a Board of Directors meeting in the fall at their offices on the West Island and also to send 10 Board members to meet with the president of the Canadian Teachers Federation during his visit to Montreal at the time of the 1994 Fall Conference of the PAPT/PACT.

Thank you to members of the committee and for the advice and assistance which was provided.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That a resolutions how-to and information workshop be considered as part of the Fall Leadership Conference program for 1995.
2. That all Statements of Policy are studied and reaffirmed at ten year intervals following their adoption. This would not preclude reaffirmation of Statements of Policy in a shorter interval.
3. That the Resolutions Committee meet early in the new school year in 1995 to review current Statements of Policy in order to recommend deletion of redundant Statements.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95

Submitted by Donald Smith

1. Continued participation in the **Comité provincial de concertation sur les programmes de sécurité routière en milieu scolaire**. Two regular meetings were held, one in Québec City and the second in Montréal.
2. Attendance at the Board of Directors meetings of the QFHSA.
3. Continued contributions and editing of the Safety Scene page of the QFHSA NEWS.
4. Verification and answers to queries with regard to safety from members of the Board of Directors.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95

Submitted by the office

The Student Accident plan for 1995/96 of Reliable Life Insurance Company is identical to last year's and the premium costs have not changed. An effort was made in 1994 to make the "forms" more user friendly in response to the type of queries the company has received.

Three different plans (with different premiums) are offered primary and secondary students; one plan only for university, college and CEGEP students; and a plan for parents, adults, teachers, mature students, etc. - ages covered 6 months to 70 years. The three student plans vary from the Basic Plan (\$7/student) to Super Plan (\$17.50/student) to Super Plan PLUS (\$23.50/student). The three student plans have unlimited dental benefits/tooth for 5 years and \$500/tooth after 5 years, with the most expensive plan allowing \$750/tooth after the 5 year period.

You will be covered for a one year period from the date of your submission, rather than from one school year to the next. At the end of the year a renewal package will be sent to you at home should you wish to continue with the student accident insurance plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

That QFHSA continue with the Reliable Life Insurance Student/Family Accident insurance plan for the 1995/96 school year.

SOCIAL AFFAIRS/SUPPORT SERVICES COMMITTEE

Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95

Submitted by Pat Lewis

There's an old saying that the more things change the more they remain the same. That might be said of our committee, for many of the issues facing Home and School remain the same, even though there have been some gains.

The United Nations has declared that 1995 is the International Year for Tolerance. But we trust that this does not mean that any injustices should be tolerated. The UN wants society to understand our many cultures, races, peoples and organizations. That kind of "tolerance" is respected. We are reaching the age of the Global Village which was predicted many years ago. Since peaceful organization is much cheaper than financing wars, we hope that our Village can indeed become "Global."

What are some of the problems facing parents now and our children before long?

Violence in and around our schools and in society

A number of children have been assaulted or threatened in or near schools in the Montreal area. Most of these are girls. School boards are doing what they can to make the schools and their grounds safer. Organizations such as Neighborhood Watch are being reorganized and safety patrols are doing a fine job. These are not the entire answer, but the volunteers for such programs will undoubtedly help. Police forces in various cities are becoming involved as well. Educating children about how to keep themselves safe has restored confidence in a number of schools. It has led many boys and girls to form new friendships too.

During Valentine's week the Students Against Violence on the West Island held a purple-ribbon campaign at St. Thomas High School to help raise money and awareness about violence. It was also to remember 15-year-old Tara Manning who was murdered last May. Four young girls from Windermere School escaped a man who attempted to lure them into his car in January. Police from Station 13 have made regular visits to high schools in Lachine and Dorval in an attempt to stop youth violence in the area. Overall, youth crimes involving some degree of violence rose 8 percent, but this was because of the increase in the number of court cases stemming from minor incidents such as schoolyard scuffles. In the U.S. a recent study of 4,000 high school students shows substantial numbers of adolescents are being exposed to violence that often causes psychological trauma, such as anxiety, depression, anger and stress.

The American Bar Association announced the creation of the Commission on Domestic Violence, to find new ways for the legal, medical and other organizations to combat domestic violence. In January police warned that school violence is rising in some areas and asked parents to keep an eye on their children. Violence in the media affects children, as do abuse at home, alcoholic or drug addicted parents, broken families and especially poverty.

A recent study by the Canadian Centre of Justice Statistics shows there is little need to toughen the Young Offenders Act; however, there are some doctors who disagree. The evidence is in: violence in media affects children,

cont'd

SOCIAL AFFAIRS/SUPPORT SERVICES cont'd

but not all children. Some kids become more aggressive and they can take it out on other children. Sometimes an entire school is affected. In a recent poll the majority of children said that TV can help teach values, but often does not. Meaningful talk is down to just a few minutes a day. If parents watch TV with kids, they do not talk to them about it. Older kids even withdraw from their parents.

Environment

Twenty pulp mills in Quebec dumped excess toxic waste in rivers last year, showing that the government's promise to team with the U.S. to clean up the Great Lakes may come to nothing. However, the poisonous discharge has declined steadily.

The Hudson pesticide law has been challenged by a local lawncare firm. In Kirkland the City Council has passed a law that severely limits the use of pesticides. Much remains to be done.

International Women's Day

March 8th was marked with marches and sorrow all around the world. In Copenhagen a UN summit on poverty, unemployment and social injustice marked this day by declaring that women are the major victims of all three. Fifteen women at the conference, including the President of Canada's National Action Committee on the Status of Women, began a hunger strike to publicize the righting of wrongs against women around the world. Some of the UN's findings: One woman in 2,000 is reported to have been raped; nearly one-third of women report sexual abuse during childhood; nearly one-half of married women experience domestic violence; out of 1.3 billion people living in absolute poverty, over 70 percent are women; on average, women workers earn one-third of national incomes; among all the governments in the world, only six in 1993 were led by women; on average around the world, about one in ten parliament members are women and about one in twenty cabinet members are women. Women who operate small businesses are less likely than men to obtain financing from a bank, and end up paying higher interest rates when they do get a loan.

Gun Control

Justice Minister Allan Rock's legislation to tighten control of firearms and require registration of all weapons has not yet been passed. Again - more women are killed by guns than any other way.

AIDS

This disease has now become epidemic in many underdeveloped nations, and cases continue to rise in Canada. More women are now being affected, as well as children. A centre has now been set up to help women who are HIV-positive or have AIDS, in Montreal. The phone number of the centre is 725-7206. A recent report says that up to 90 percent of Canadians infected with AIDS by blood products could have been spared if the Red Cross had questioned donors about their sex lives and drug habits sooner.

Smoking

Recent emphases in anti-smoking campaigns have centered on the problems around second-hand smoke. Some cases of sudden infant death, childhood asthma and cancer have resulted.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK (TAW), February 12-18, 1995
 Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95
Submitted by the office

<u>TAW Orders 1995</u>	<u>TAW Orders 1994</u>	<u>TAW Orders 1993</u>
35 schools	37 schools 1 association 1 school board	34 schools 1 private school
TOTAL ORDERS: 1995 - 35	1994 - 39	1993 - 35

The office sent out CHSPTF Idea Files to all the Home & School Associations as well as to all the Group Affiliates. This year sixteen schools who participated in 1994 once again ordered materials for their teachers/staff. Apart from the nearby schools, there were schools from as far north as Baie Comeau, Sept Iles and Harrington Harbour, from the Eastern Townships, from Gaspé and from Western Quebec.

Press releases were sent out to various newspapers, and we let them know which schools in their areas were taking part in TAW; media coverage seemed to be quite good.

Many schools honour their teachers without purchasing TAW materials from us. This makes it difficult for us to know how many schools actually take part.

Once again Idea Files were sent out by the Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec; however, this year no mention was made of CHSPTF's part in TAW. A letter will be sent to the MEQ to point out this omission.

ELACC/ELEMENTARY ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
Report to the Annual General Meeting - April 29/95
Submitted by Carol Latimer, Liaison

Once again this year ELACC has a full agenda, trying to examine and promote the teaching of English in elementary schools.

Some of the information that was shared on the topic was the document presenting the National Conference on Family Literacy which took place last November, 1994, in Ottawa. Another conference entitled "Parents as Reading Partners" will take place in Prince Edward Island this coming July, 1995.

ELACC celebrated its 25th year of existence this January, 1995. This group is composed of 24 members representing every possible level of education in Quebec with English Language Arts as their priority.

ELACC's mandate is to provide advice to the Responsible for English Language Arts concerning the needs of the milieu and to represent the many varied aspects of the milieu.

The main topics being discussed this year are:

1. Portfolios - the ongoing development of childrens' writings and progress in English Language Arts.

There is constant growth in the communication between the MEQ, school boards, principals, teachers and parents on the importance of developing a portfolio that reflects the individual child's yearly progress.

2. Epreuve d'appoint - an "épreuve" is in production for Elementary English Language Arts for Grade 6. The épreuve is to be made available to the province in June, 1995.

