

**Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network
Board of Directors Meeting
28 April 2007**

Quebec National Library and Archives (Viger Street Building)
Montreal, Quebec

Directors present: Rod MacLeod, Patrick Donovan, Richard Evans, Sandra Stock,
Heather Darch, Doreen Lindsay, Rick Smith

Guest: Mark Bandy (*sitting in for Ann MacLeish as a non-voting observer*)

Staff present: Dwane Wilkin

Regrets : Ann MacLeish, Monique Nadeau, Bill Campbell, Kevin O'Donnell

1. Call to Order.

Rod MacLeod opened the meeting at 10:10 a.m. by wondering aloud if everybody present could remember that the 28th of April signifies the 40th anniversary of the official opening of Expo 67.

2. Acceptance of the Agenda.

Doreen moved to accept the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Patrick Donovan. All voted in favour.

MOTION PASSED

3. Acceptance of the January 20, 2007 minutes.

Doreen asked a question pertaining to procedures for preparing and adapting minutes at meetings. Rod and Dick classified that all minutes of board meetings are draft versions until they are accepted by a vote of the board. Consensus was reached that QAHN should continue to circulate draft versions by email or regular post prior to the subsequent meeting, and to make corrections and such modifications as are necessary, to save time.

Heather Darch moved to accept the January 20, 2007 minutes. Sandra Stock seconded the motion. All voted in favour.

MOTION PASSED

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

Apart from the above mentioned discussion, no further business arose from the January 20, 2007 minutes.

5. Operations and Governance

5.1 Board succession: Renewal of seats 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11.

Rod MacLeod raised the matter of pending board elections and proposed that odd-number seat holders Kevin O'Donnell (Seat 1), Rod MacLeod (Seat 9) and Patrick Donovan (Seat 5) as well as Richard Smith (Seat 11) stand for re-election at the 2007 annual general meeting in June. Rod reminded the board members that candidates for the QAHN board should come to the June AGM with formal nominations from their respective organizations, signed by two people.

Rod further expressed his desire not to run for re-election as Education sector representative, but rather as an at-large member.

It was acknowledged that the pattern of two-year-long terms of office for aspirants to the QAHN board of directors is not entirely consistent with the proposed slate of candidates: Rick Smith was last elected during the June 2006 annual general meeting and so is technically only half-way through his current term. By accepting to stand for re-election in 2007, however, it was understood that Rick would help the board revert to pairing elections to odd-numbered seats with odd-numbered years, and even-numbered seats with even-number years.

For health reasons, it was noted that Ann MacLeish's role on the board at the upcoming annual general meeting may also be in doubt, and discussion ensued regarding Ms. MacLeish's colleague, Mark Bandy, a fellow member of the Chateauguay Valley Historical Society. Dick Evans proposed that Mark Bandy be appointed by the QAHN board, with voting privileges, as Ann's replacement during the upcoming AGM.

5.2 Operations Review

Membership recruitment

On the question of how to solicit new Core members and directors for QAHN, and specifically with respect to Recommendation 1 of the *2007 Operations Review* pertaining to Quebec regions that are currently underrepresented, Dick Evans, a member of the volunteer Operations Review Committee, commented that, "if there are no groups there, there is no way to get a Core member." One strategy, which was formally proposed in Recommendation 5 of the same document—the concept of reserving a seat on the board for representatives of regional community groups—raises its own technical difficulty, Dick observed. Groups not expressly formed to concern themselves with heritage and/or history may be Affiliate but not Core members, as stated in QAHN's bylaws; and as such, "We have to think about not letting them get too dominant," he said. "At most we want one, no more than two, sitting on our board."

One logical prospect for Core membership, it was noted, would be Heritage Lower St. Lawrence. Dick also mentioned the possibility of working through local Community Economic Development and Employability Committees (CEDECs).

Rod reported that the Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN) is preparing to modify its own governance structure in a bid to expand membership rapidly.

Sandra Stock said that in the Laurentians there is an active environmental heritage group that could be approached. She added that she has so far not had success in enticing a group of environmental activists from Shawbridge.

Doreen Lindsay suggested that, in smaller communities, it would perhaps be advisable for QAHN to find one person who could be encouraged to form a local heritage group.

Sandra Stock offered to pursue the Argentueuil Museum in Carillon as a possible Core member; Patrick Donovan agreed to pursue Heritage Lower St. Lawrence, but reiterated his view that Seat 5, encompassing Central and Eastern Quebec, is far too large an area for one board member to represent.

Regarding Recommendation 4 of the Operations Review, it was suggested by Dick Evans that QAHN approach the provincial Ministry of Culture and Communications for funding future HASTI workshops, because staging such information sessions is in their interest, as well as QAHN's.

Some discussion centred on the notion of occasionally running French-language articles in Quebec Heritage News magazine; Dwane indicated that one of the prohibitive factors to consider in doing so would be the sheer cost of translation from English into French; however, no one objected to the idea of occasionally translating and reprinting in English pertinent articles originally published elsewhere in French.

Rod thanked the Committee for their work in conducting the Operations Review.

Sandra Stock moved to accept the report of the 2007 Operations Review Committee. Patrick seconded the motion. All voted in favour.

MOTION PASSED

6. Finances

6.1. Dick Evans briefly reviewed QAHN's current financial situation, beginning with a preliminary Income Statement for the fiscal year 2006-2007, which predicts a \$3,900 operating surplus, generated from revenues received in support of the Montreal Heritage Outreach project. Dick noted that QAHN has tried for a couple of years now to create a cash float to help sustain the organization financially through that difficult period of time

each spring and early summer when the Department of Canadian Heritage withholds 10 per cent of its annual contribution pending completion of a financial audit.

6.2 Rod reviewed the prospects for QAHN in 2007-08, noting that QAHN has applied to the Official Languages Branch of the Department of Canadian Heritage for two years' of funding. The deadline for applying to Quebec's Ministry of Culture and Communications is also looming, Dwane added.

Multicultural Outreach

Rod reported that he, Dwane and Carolyn Shaffer had recently met with officials from the Multiculturalism Branch of the Department of Canadian Heritage to solicit financial support for a second phase of QAHN's Montreal Heritage Outreach project. Such funding would help QAHN to continue to build inroads into the city's multicultural communities.

Charitable Foundation

Dick reported that family obligations have prevented him from moving forward on the paperwork necessary to begin setting up a charitable foundation in support of heritage works.

Quebec 2008

Patrick reported that in partnership with the Morrin Centre, QAHN may be able to tap into some funding connected to 400th anniversary celebrations being held in Quebec City next year.

Summer students

In response to a question from Patrick, Dwane reported that he was able to secure funding through two separate Young Canada Works program-delivery organizations this winter, which will enable him to hire two students over the summer of 2007. One will work on Quebec Heritage News magazine, the other will develop English-language translations for the Townships Trail heritage tourism project on which QAHN is collaborating with Tourisme Cantons de l'Est.

7. Montreal Mosaic

A summary of the proceedings of the Montreal Mosaic heritage summit at the McCord Museum, prepared by Sylvia Welke, was distributed to members of the board. The question was raised as to what could be done with the Montreal Heritage Outreach project's anticipated budget surplus, estimated to be around \$3,900. Dick Evans suggested that QAHN might eventually spend the surplus on a follow-up outreach activity in Montreal, an idea that received enthusiastic approval from other members of

the board. In Doreen Lindsay's opinion, "The money was given to us for this project; if we can do more with the money then it is a credit to the organization." No agreement was reached on a specific allocation or timeline for using the surplus, and indeed, as Dwane made clear, QAHN's current cash position necessarily precluded making any additional expenditure commitments at this time.

8. Upcoming events

8.1. Macdonald High School Reunion

Rod MacLeod reported that he is planning to attend the Macdonald High School reunion on May 20 along with Kevin O'Donnell.

8.2. FSHQ Congres on May 25-27

Sandra Stock reported that Morin Heights Historical Society will be attending and participating in the Fédération des Sociétés d'Histoire du Québec's (FSHQ) annual general meeting and conference. She also reported that she has been active promoting the event to other anglophone heritage groups in the Laurentians and commented on the high quality of the FSHQ's organizational abilities and promotional materials.

Rod reported that he had been in contact with Kevin, who said he planned on attending, and asked for volunteers to coordinate a QAHN booth at the FSHQ event. Both Sandra and Rick urged QAHN to attend and to organize a display to promote QAHN.

8.3 QCGN annual general meeting: June 1-3

Rod wondered aloud if QAHN should seek to have a delegate on the Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN) board, noting that, as of 2007 automatic membership will not be extended to QAHN. Rod added that he doesn't think there is anything to be gained by conspicuously dropping out of the QCGN during its annual general meeting. He recommended that QAHN monitor the effectiveness of QAHN's continued membership in the QCGN.

Patrick asked whether there had, in fact, been any benefits to QAHN's membership, so far.

Dick Evans gave a brief history, from his perspective, of how the QCGN came to be and its evolution over the years. In the last eight or nine years, the QCGN has become "increasingly bureaucratic" Dick said. "They've created a monster and in a sense created what they set out to get rid of in the first place."

Rod related comments made by Helen Meredith from the Department of Canadian Heritage, that QAHN's Montreal Mosaic event managed to bring out such a cross-section of English-speaking Montrealers, in comparison with the turnout at the QCGN's Greater Montreal initiative. "We've made our mark and should capitalize on it," said Rod, to

which Dick added: “We’ve got something that the QCGN doesn’t—a network of organizations.”

Patrick Donovan had the last word on this subject: “What we came up with was certainly more fun than the QCGN’s.”

8.4 QAHN annual general meeting, June 9, 2007

Dwane Wilkin briefed the board members on his progress making arrangements for the upcoming annual general meeting and Marion Phelps Award luncheon at Macdonald College, which celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2007.

Dick Evans described the setting at the Raymond Building on Madconald College campus in Ste. Anne de Bellevue as having good parking and being in close proximity to the Barton Building, which offers certain heritage aspects. Sandra Stock suggested that QAHN create a directional map to be included with invitations to the AGM, and posted on the QAHN website.

A discussion concerning public transportation options for Montrealers wishing to attend the Saturday meeting ensued; unfortunately, bus and train service between Ste Anne de Bellevue and downtown is quite limited on weekends.

Having recently attended an alumni function at Macdonald College himself, Dick added that board members would do well to have dean Chandra Madramootoo speak to their gathering immediately following the Marion Phelps Award Luncheon. It was further recommended that QAHN present Dean Madramootoo with some sort of commemorative plaque to mark the college’s centenary and acknowledge the institution’s contribution to the development of Quebec society. Patrick Donovan volunteered to translate the plaque text into French, if desired.

Dwane said he would contact the college administration shortly to solicit the dean’s presence. After some discussion, it was agreed that the AGM participants would be offered the following choices of afternoon activity:

- * A walking tour of the campus, led by Dick Evans
- * A visit to the Canadian Centre for Aviation Heritage
- * A visit to the Morgan Arboretum

Dwane then circulated two letters of nomination for the 2007 Marion Phelps Award: one for Home Children advocates Sarge and Pauline Bampton and one for Eunice de Gruchy, executive director of the Quebec Association for Adult Learning. Dick spoke on behalf of the nomination for Sarge and Pauline Bampton, who have worked tirelessly to promote recognition of the important legacy of the Home Children in Quebec and Canadian history. Although the nomination deadline was still two days away, Heather Darch moved to accept the Bamptons’ nomination, provided no further nominations were

forthcoming. This was seconded by Sandra Stock. All voted in favour of awarding the 2007 Marion Phelps Award to Sarge and Pauline Bampton.

MOTION PASSED

Dick suggested that previous winners of the Marion Phelps Award be invited to the AGM, as well.

Dwane reported that the number of entries in the student history writing and video contests sponsored by QAHN was proving once again this year to be disappointingly low. Only one English Quebec school had responded to the essay writing contest, and none had submitted a video. Heather Darch suggested that at another meeting, QAHN discuss whether or not QAHN should continue to sponsor the contest.

8.5 Quebec City's 400th anniversary commemoration in 2008

Patrick Donovan gave a brief portrait of the efforts undertaken so far by the Morrin Centre in Quebec City to underscore the Anglophone contributions to Quebec's history during next year's 400th anniversary celebrations. Patrick reported that the Morrin Centre had already submitted a funding request to the 400th Anniversary Committee on QAHN's behalf; also, he reported that money from the federal government may be allocated for an event that QAHN proposes to host. For instance, QAHN could presumably put together a symposium along the lines of the 2007 Montreal Mosaic heritage summit.

Dick Evans expressed support for a one-day symposium that examines the contributions of minority communities to the history of Quebec City.

As an alternative suggestion, Sandra Stock offered the idea of organizing a trip to Grosse Île and other Anglophone heritage sites in and around the Quebec City area.

9. Quebec Heritage News

Dwane Wilkin led a brief discussion on the status of the editorship at Quebec Heritage News magazine, recalling that the last two issues of the publication have been produced with assistance from long-time contributor Joseph Graham and his wife Sheila Eskenazi. Without such help, the energy required to solicit and work with volunteer contributors on feature articles and reviews, to develop and select news-section content, to copyedit and write headlines, to find and process suitable archival images and ensure reproduction rights, to solicit and format Core Member events publicity and carry out the myriad other small editorial tasks, will severely tax Dwane's ability to remain effective as the Heritage Network's chief administrator.

That being said, Dwane expressed reservations about granting complete responsibility for the magazine's editorial content and production to Joe and Sheila. For practical reasons having to do with the technical aspects of electronic page layout and proximity of QAHN's printer in Lennoxville, Dwane said he believes it would be in the best interest of

the publication at this time for page-layout and production functions to remain in the QAHN office. Dwane then reiterated his view that QAHN can and should pay an honorarium for the professional editorial services offered by Joe and Sheila, and contract separately for page-production services, as has been the case since the departure of the former editor Charles Bury.

Dick Evans reminded the board that Dwane's responsibility is not to be the editor of Quebec Heritage News, but rather to be the executive director of QAHN.

Dick moved to authorize Dwane and QAHN president Rod MacLeod to negotiate a formal arrangement with Joe and Sheila whereby they will continue to provide their services in the capacity as associate editors in return for financial compensation in the form of honoraria. This motion was seconded by Heather Darch. All voted in favour.

MOTION PASSED

Rod agreed to draft a letter of offer to Joe and Sheila outlining the above proposed agreement.

10. Adjournment of the meeting.

Rod MacLeod adjourned the meeting at approximately 5 p.m.