



Quebec
Anglophone
Heritage
Network

ANNUAL REPORT
JUNE 2007

MACDONALD COLLEGE
STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUEBEC

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Notice in Writing: *Please note that any proposals for resolutions or business to be brought before the general meeting must be presented in writing in advance and not later than 9:30 a.m. on the day of the meeting. This would include items for discussion, amendments to the by-laws, resolutions, and nominations for election. Within the meeting, only amendments of clarification to wording of previously submitted written proposals will be considered.*

Voting Rights: *Voting delegates are described in the Charter and By-Laws. Formal voting will be restricted to delegates of Core member groups in good standing for 2007/08 as of the opening of the meeting.*

AGENDA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING — JUNE 9, 2007

10:00 A.M. - 12:15 P.M.
BUSINESS MEETING

Room R-046, Raymond Building

1. Registration and call to order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Acceptance of the Minutes of 3 June 2006
4. Financial Statement for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2007
5. Appointment of an auditor
6. President's Report
7. Activity Reports
 - a.. *Quebec Heritage News*
 - b. *Quebec Heritage Web*
 - c. *Montreal Outreach*
 - d. *Cemetery Heritage Inventory and Restoration Initiative*
8. Resolutions
 - a. Motion to appoint a voting delegate and alternate to the Quebec Community Groups Network
 - b. Motion to ratify the 2006-07 Operations Review
9. Other Business
10. Election of Directors
 - Seats up for re-election:
 - #1. West and Northwest Quebec
 - #3. Eastern Townships
 - #5. Central/Eastern Quebec
 - #9. Education
 - #11. At Large
11. Report of Election of Officers as chosen by the Board
12. Adjournment

12:00 P.M. - 1:30 P.M.

LUNCHEON AND AWARDS
Faculty Lounge, Raymond Building

1:30 P.M. - 4 P.M.

HERITAGE VISITS: Aviation museum and walking tour of the Campus

MINUTES: QAHN 2006 AGM

STEWART MUSEUM AT THE OLD FORT, ST. HELEN'S ISLAND, MONTREAL

Directors present: Rod MacLeod, Michael Cooper, Wiliam Campbel, Heather Darch, Richard Evans, Sandra Stock, Patrick Donovan, Kevin O'Donnell

Staff: Dwane Wilkin, Kathy Teasdale, Josianne Caillet, Charles Bury

Regrets: Monique Nadeau, Richard Smith

Call to Order

Rod MacLeod, president of the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN), called the annual general meeting of the to order at approximately 10 a.m. in the Théâtre de la Poudrière outbuilding on the grounds of the historic military fort complex. By way of introductions, all members gathered for the assembly identified themselves and the various heritage organizations they represented.

Approval of the Agenda

Dick Evans of Heritage Huntingville requested that the subject of MacDonald College's upcoming centennial celebrations be added to the meeting's agenda, under New Business.

MOTION

Heather Darch of the Missisquoi Historical and Museum Society then moved to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Michael Cooper of the Gatineau Valley Historical Society. All voted in favour.

MOTION PASSED

Acceptance of the minutes

A brief review of the minutes from QAHN's 2005 annual general meeting, held at the Canadian Railway Musuem in St-Constant, ensued, with Rod drawing particular attention to a discussion regarding QAHN's policy towards heritage-at-risk, which has since formed the basis of QAHN's heritage awareness and stewardship training initiative, also known as HASTI.

MOTION

Dick Evans moved that QAHN members accept the minutes from the 2005 annual general meeting as presented. This motion was seconded by Sandra Stock of the Morin Heights Historical Asociation. Members approved the motion unanimously.

MOTION PASSED

Financial Report

Rod MacLeod advised members that, because of time delays in receiving anticipated public funding for the HASTI project that QAHN undertook in in the winter of 2006, a complete audited financial report of QAHN's operations in 2005-2006 was still pending as of June 3, 2006.

Referring members to the unaudited financial statements contained in their copies of the annual report, Dick Evans, QAHN's treasurer, prefaced his remarks on the organization's financial status by cautioning that, although significant

figures for revenues and expenses as presented to the membership are complete and accurate, it was possible that upon review, the auditor might move certain amounts into different categories of expenditure and expenses.

Overall, Dick reported that instead of experiencing financial shortfall at the end of the 2005-2006 fiscal year (March 31), as has often occurred in the past, QAHN's cash position in fact appeared to show a small surplus. This, said Dick, was because overall expenses amounted to slightly less than overall revenues in 2005-2006.

On the subject of revenues, Dick noted that in 2005 QAHN benefited for the first time since its inception from an important financial contribution from the provincial Ministry of Culture and Communications. He suggested that this \$15,000, coupled with a \$15,000 increase in the amount of Core operations funding QAHN received from the Department of Canadian Heritage in 2005-06, in large part explained the healthier cash position as of March 31, 2006.

Dick pointed out that the biggest single expense for QAHN in 2005-06 was for salaries, that the most significant liability was in the form of accounts payable and that the largest current asset is in the form of cash in the bank.

MOTION

Dick Evans moved that QAHN members accept the unaudited 2005-06 financial statements, provisionally, and that arrangements be subsequently be made to vote on acceptance of the audited statements when they become available. This motion was seconded by Kevin O'Donnell of the Hudson Historical Society. All voted in favour.

MOTION PASSED

MOTION

Dick Evans moved to appoint Sylvain Bouchard as QAHN's auditor once again for the upcoming fiscal year, 2006-2007. Michael Cooper seconded the motion. All voted in favour.

MOTION PASSED

Project Reports

Outaouais Heritage WebMagazine

Michael Cooper presented highlights from his report on the Outaouais Heritage Webmagazine project, developed and implemented by QAHN as part of ongoing efforts to expand its Quebec HeritageWeb program across the province. Michael described as enthusiastic and helpful the response given to QAHN throughout the six-month long development phase by local community groups and he commended Matthew Farfan, the project's coordinator and HeritageWeb editor, for a job well done bringing the history and heritage of West Quebec to the world-wide web.

"Now I encourage you all to come and visit the Outaouais region in person," he quipped, "and be sure send your friends."

Prospecting for Heritage

Dwane Wilkin, executive director of QAHN, presented a brief overview of the Prospecting for Heritage research project, which resulted in the completion of a formal report on anglophone heritage resources in four Quebec regions: Gaspé, North Shore, Lower St. Lawrence and Mauricie. This project was made possible by a contribution from the Museums Assistance Program (MAP) of the Department of Canadian Heritage. Dwane reported that Dr. Lorraine O'Donnell was hired to design and implement the study in collaboration with four research associates. It was noted that one of the main organizational objectives of this project was to identify contacts, heritage sites, artifacts, archival collections and other heritage resources with a view to stimulating development of the heritage network in these regions. Dwane reported that Dr. O'Donnell's final report was being prepared for publication, and that these findings would be posted on the main QAHN website at www.qahn.org.

Heritage and Stewardship Training Initiative

Josianne Caillet, who was hired by QAHN to oversee development and implementation of the Heritage Awareness and Stewardship Training Initiative (HASTI) briefly outlined her report on this innovative bilingual workshop series, which was conceived as a means of promoting interest and developing expertise in heritage conservation among smaller, rural municipalities. She noted that the workshops were a great success, attracting more than 250 people in

13 municipalities over a six-week period, from late March to early May, 2006.

Kevin O'Donnell, who helped to organize the HASTI workshop held in Hudson, described the meeting as very informative, and mentioned that a number of municipal councillors who attended the workshop have since expressed interest in taking steps to save a local heritage property, namely the historic MacAulay Farm barn where much of the breeding stock for Canada's dairy industry originated. The workshop, said Kevin, "was very significant in bringing a change of mindset to the town of Hudson."

Randi Olsen, a new QAHN member representing the Viking Ski Club in the Laurentians and a resident of Hudson who attended the workshop, commented, "I'm very impressed with what you're doing as a group."

Sandra Stock reported that the HASTI workshops held in the Laurentians appear to have contributed to community activism in her region, as well. She attributed strong community support for a proposal to protect a natural area near Shawbridge (Prevost Municipality) to attendance at the first HASTI meeting in the Laurentians. Three weeks following the workshop, a demonstration took place in support of a creating a new designated protected area. The land in question contains the earliest ski trails cut by Quebec ski pioneer Jackrabbit Johansen.

Another HASTI workshop seems to have encouraged the St. Sauveur Historical Society to consider taking measures to protect a rare and unusual local church designed by the famous Quebec architect Victor Nymark. "I really feel that we were able to have an impact," Sandra said.

Charles Bury, a workshop presenter who organized three meetings in the Eastern Townships, perceived that for many people who took part, participation in the HASTI workshops constituted their first real bilingual experience. "I got a very positive response from the francophone community," he said.

Eunice De Gruchy, an associate member of QAHN who represents the Quebec Association for Adult Learning (QAAL) commented that the HASTI project is "a wonderful example of informal learning" and expressed interest in publishing Josiane's full report.

President's Report

Rod MacLeod introduced his remarks by reminiscing that, for many years, the Poudrière building on St. Helen's Island served as backdrop for numerous English-language theatre productions, including an Alan Ackburn production presented "30 years ago almost to the day," according to Rod, who added, "that was the last time I was in this room."

Rather than repeating all of the points found in his official written report to members, contained in QAHN's 2006 Annual Report document, Rod called particular attention to his continuing apprehension about finding a volunteer to replace him when he eventually resigns as president, and he assured members that his search for a suitable candidate will be "on my agenda" in the year ahead.

In terms of strategic development, Rod reported that QAHN's main goal in the coming months will be to make inroads into Montreal, whereupon he briefly described a proposal currently before the Department of Canadian Heritage to help QAHN sponsor a major event in the city, possibly in the spring of 2006-2007.

Rod concluded by thanking the many individuals who contributed to QAHN's successes in 2005-2006, including his fellow volunteer directors, paid staff and professional consultants who, over the course of the year, helped the Network further its goal of promoting and protecting the heritage of English-speaking Quebecers.

Resolutions

Rod introduced a written motion to change QAHN's bylaws to create a new, separate seat on the board of directors for a representative from the Laurentians region.

He explained that the Laurentians area hasn't seemed to have a clear place on the QAHN board, noting that this observation is also contained in QAHN's 2004 Needs Assessment Survey.

Rod read the motion as drafted, after which Michael Cooper commented that he was "totally in favour" of smaller constituencies for board members.

MOTION

Beverly Prud'homme moved to adopt the resolution modifying QAHN's bylaws to create a separate seat on the board of directors for the Laurentians region. The motion was seconded by Michael Cooper. All voted in favour.

MOTION PASSED

2006 Operations Review

Dwane Wilkin briefly explained the rationale for conducting a formal assessment of QAHN's progress so far in meeting the goals contained in the organization's 2004-2009 Strategic Plan, and read aloud the eight recommendations contained in the 2006 Operations Review. It will be recalled that these recommendations are based on the findings of a formal review conducted by a committee of four QAHN board members in the winter of 2006.

MOTION

Sandra Stock moved to accept the 2006 Operations Review and its recommendations. This motion was seconded by Sharon Moore-Laberee. All voted in favour.

MOTION PASSED

Other Business

Macdonald College Centennial

Dick Evans informed members that Macdonald College in St. Anne de Bellevue is preparing to mark its 100th anniversary in 2007. In light of the fact that many QAHN members are former teachers and alumni who received training at Macdonald College, Dick said he hopes that QAHN will consider holding its 2007 annual general meeting at the college. Dick suggested that QAHN members could use the occasion of the anniversary to promote the AGM as a reunion of sorts for other college alumni.

Quebec City's 400th anniversary

Rod agreed that QAHN should be planning ahead, and added that the 400th anniversary of Samuel de Champlain's settlement at Quebec City the following year strongly recommends that city as the location for QAHN's 2008 annual general meeting.

Election of QAHN's board of directors

Rod MacLeod explained the process for nominating directors to serve on QAHN's board and the preference for having regional members nominate candidates in advance. Michael Cooper accepted to act as this year's elections officer.

Michael recalled his decision to step down this year as the representative for the West Quebec constituency, half-way through his two-year term, and proceeded to announce the nomination of Kevin O'Donnell as his replacement.

Michael then introduced the full slate of nominees for seats on the QAHN board of directors and asked for a motion to accept them.

MOTION

Ruth Evans of the Lennoxville and Ascot Historical and Museum Society moved to accept the nominees as presented by Michael. Beverly Prud'homme seconded the motion. All voted in favour.

MOTION PASSED

Dick Evans, treasurer, took a few moments to underline the positive developments that QAHN and Quebec's heritage community have witnessed this past year, as well as the remaining challenges. First, he reported on the presentation on religious heritage in Quebec that QAHN gave before the National Assembly's Culture Committee last February,

recalling that the committee at times supported and at times were harshly challenging of the various interveners.

“One thing that’s obvious,” Dick reported, “is that they don’t want to create the impression that just because you have a church, it has to be saved.” In his estimation, the churches that are most at risk in Quebec today are the large cathedrals whose restorations are costly and therefore prohibitive for government-funded agencies such as the Fondation du patrimoine religieux. “What I can see,” Dick added, “is that they’re interested in preserving little churches, if there’s support locally.”

Dick also talked positively about his experience meeting with the Montreal Gazette’s editorial board last February. At this point, Randi Olsen asked whether QAHN has considered developing a plan to prioritize heritage-at-risk projects, based on some inventory with established criteria.

“If you go through the exercise of establishing criteria it would help build credibility,” Randi said.

Louise Hall of the United Empire Loyalists Sir John Johnson Branch urged QAHN members to send birthday wishes to Marion Phelps, who continues to be an active and contributing member the Brome-Missisquoi Historical and Museum Society.

Helen Meredith, who is QAHN’s advisor with the Department of Canadian Heritage, noted that Concordia University is now offering a course of studies in Public History, and suggested that this might represent an opportunity for QAHN to develop a relationship with the university.

Meeting adjourned

Rod MacLeod adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:15 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

When I sauntered along out of curiosity to the QAHN founding conference seven years ago I could hardly have imagined that I would now be marking the end of seven years sitting on its board of directors, yet alone writing a report as its president, the fourth occasion when I do so. I would certainly have been pleased to know that QAHN is doing as well as it is after all this time, that its original objectives continue to be carried out and expanded upon in so many creative ways.

This past year has been one of triumphs. The two outstanding achievements were the recasting of the *Quebec Heritage News* as a glossy magazine and the very successful Montreal Mosaic symposium held at the McCord Museum on April 1st, 2007. We have also begun what I hope will be a tradition of awarding commemorative plaques to Quebec institutions that have contributed significantly to Anglophone heritage. We have taken part in a number of community-related events, and made many new contacts, especially in urban areas where QAHN's profile has always been far too low. On a smaller level, I have developed a distinct taste for hibiscus juice — something else I would not have anticipated seven years ago.

FINANCES

The federal Department of Canadian Heritage (PCH) continues to provide the lion's share of QAHN's revenue out of its Official Languages Minority program, but we also received another welcome grant of \$15,000 from the Quebec Ministère de Culture et Communications, and raised more funds from membership dues than ever, thanks to the diligence of Office Manager Kathy Teasdale. The board and staff continue to explore additional means of securing revenue, concerned as we always are not to rely too heavily on one source or to assume consistency from public funding programs, especially in this day of fragile minority governments. We were pleased to be able to take up PCH's offer to apply for a two-year operating grant, something that, should we prove successful, would relieve our Executive Director of at least some of the obligatory paperwork for the 2007-2009 period, and allow us to budget more efficiently for a longer term.

This past year we were also fortunate in receiving

a substantial grant to fund our Montreal Outreach project, which occupied a great deal of QAHN's time during the past winter. It was this project that culminated in the Montreal Mosaic symposium. While the project was still underway we were approached by Multiculturalism, another branch of PCH, who seemed interested in aiding our efforts to make QAHN more culturally diverse. We are currently exploring ways to turn this interest into another phase of Montreal Outreach which would come into effect during 2007/08. We have also applied for project funding to conduct an inventory of anglophone cemeteries (if you'll excuse the personification there!) There's much in store for the future.

RECOGNITION

QAHN's Montreal Outreach project did wonders for our name — although it did, I think, raise yet again the question of whether the word "anglophone" is something of a liability, or at any rate an obstacle, for greater recognition. On numerous occasions this past year I have observed both positive and negative reactions to the idea of anglophones doing things as a group — the negative coming largely from people who are themselves Anglophones but are either afraid of offending the majority in some unspecified way or wary of somehow going down a slippery slope to the open language wars of the 1980s. I have also heard the challenging idea that the anglophone-francophone distinction is outdated and that a considerable percentage of Quebec is both, or neither, or something new. These to me are fascinating issues which deserve much more thought as we continue to fulfill our mandate.

In September 2006 QAHN hired Carolyn Schaffer as coordinator of Montreal Outreach. Carolyn's job was to make contacts with individuals and groups within urban Montreal, whose interests and activities have always been underrepresented, and find their stories. By various routes these stories made their way into the *Quebec Heritage News*, but they also opened doors for Carolyn to a multiplicity of worlds of which we had little inkling. (I was fortunate to be exposed to a couple of these, and it was on one such occasion that I first sampled the hibiscus juice.) Carolyn's quiet manner and infectious curiosity won her the trust of those she approached to hear and in some cases to tran-

scribe their experiences. This was, to say the least, good publicity for the News and indirectly for QAHN.

In the search for a venue for our symposium, Carolyn, Dwane, and I met several people at the McCord Museum, including executive director Victoria Dickenson, who proved willing to collaborate with us. This collaboration included the use of the museum's very comfortable auditorium for the conference and atrium for serving food and networking. Working with "the Montreal committee" (Doreen Lindsay, Rick Smith, Kevin O'Donnell and Bill Campbell) Carolyn put together a stunning array of speakers from her contacts, making for an exhausting but fascinating day. "Montreal Mosaic: Sketches in a Multicultural History" was a complete success. The opening address was given by the Hon. Marlene Jennings (MP for NDG-Lachine), accompanied on the podium by Dr Dickenson and the QAHN president. A morning session entitled



Rod MacLeod and Kevin O'Donnell at the 2007 Montreal Mosaic symposium.

"Hidden Histories," featuring insight into Montreal's Black, Asian, Chinese and Irish experience, was followed by "Gathering Time," a session on how different cultural communities view their history, and finally "Tongue Ties," which addressed the question of language as a not always successful force for unity. This intellectual activity was interspersed with dance, music and film presentations, as well as an array of delicious food and drink - including hibiscus juice. I have heard nothing but praise for the symposium, and from a great many participants there has been positive rapture. As well as putting on a good show, QAHN is now better understood by a wide variety of people.

The Quebec Community Groups Network, of which QAHN is a member, also launched a Montreal Outreach project last winter, with the goal to attract new members and facilitate the creation of new groups. I contributed to this process by commenting on the research documents this project generated, and by taking part (along with Kevin O'Donnell, Rick Smith, and Carolyn Schaffer) in a public forum to discuss the state

of Montreal's anglophone community. As a member of the QCGN board of directors I served on a search committee which hired new staff including a director general: Sylvia Martin-Laforge, a highly competent and very personable lady whose face and name have appeared on TV and in print, respectively (QAHN's turn will come!). I was struck recently by how many people I have come to know within government and community circles through involvement with the QCGN—and who know of QAHN as a result. Last June we met the Minister for Official Languages Josée Verner, and this year I look forward to lunch with Graham Fraser, the new Commissioner of Official Languages.

In late May 2006, Dwane, Kevin & I took part in a workshop at the Atwater Library given by SODEC (Société de développement des entreprises culturelles), which suggested some interesting paths for QAHN to explore but chiefly allowed us to chat with people from the arts community, many of whom are useful contacts. In September, Sandra Stock and I represented QAHN at the launch of the Morrin Centre in Quebec City (Patrick Donovan was far too busy to represent QAHN!) where we spoke to local community people about possible collaboration on future projects; at least one attendee was later a participant at the Montreal Mosaic.

But given that an acronym in the hand is worth two in the bush, I could not overstate how much recognition QAHN has received as a result of the *Quebec Heritage News*. This always admired publication underwent a major facelift last summer thanks to a Young Canada Works grant which enabled us to hire Dan Pinese, a computer wizard whose day job is a Concordia grad student and who developed a new layout for the magazine using up-to-date software. The September 2006 issue was the first to feature glossy pages, clearer photos, a slick layout, and a professional organization of content. The new look won enthusiastic praise immediately. Indeed, on two occasions I have heard it lauded as the magazine of the QCGN—which of course it isn't, and we have to make sure in future that readers get their institutions straight, but the implication of these comments is that the English-speaking community in Quebec has produced a fine magazine, and it is the News. The QHN's new directions also include securing more advertising (heritage related, of course), improving distribution, and expanding the range of contributors.

EVENTS

Although the highlight of the year was of course Montreal Mosaic symposium, QAHN has enjoyed a run of satisfying events, beginning with the launch of our Outaouais Heritage WebMagazine in late April 2006. Our annual general meeting took place at the Old Fort on St Helen's Island: the meeting itself in La Poudrière, luncheon with musical entertainment from the 78th Fraser Highlanders in the Festin des Gouverneurs, and then a tour of the Stewart Museum. The Marion Phelps

Award was presented to Byron Clarke of the Magdalen Islands; QAHN also honoured the student winners of the heritage video contest (Vincent Massey Collegiate, for the second year running) and Valérie Bridger for her four years' service as QAHN executive director.

On September 8th, I presented a commemorative plaque to representatives of the Douglas Hospital in Verdun in honour of the 125 years during which they served (among others) the anglophone community and made a contribution to its heritage as a result. The hospital also let us use their beautifully restored Douglas Hall to hold a board meeting.

At this year's AGM, it is our intention to present a commemorative plaque to Macdonald College in honour of its centenary.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It has been a pleasure to work with several new board members whose formal addition to the team in June 2006 has proved a real asset to QAHN: Kevin O'Donnell from Hudson and Sandra Stock from Morin Heights have been active within QAHN for many years but we are fortunate to have their involvement on the board; Ann MacLeish from Ormstown has also provided an invaluable Chateaugay Valley perspective. The collaboration with and friendship of Heather Darch, Doreen Lindsay, Patrick Donovan, Monique Nadeau, Bill Campbell, Rick Smith, and Dick Evans make being part of QAHN meaningful and delightful.

Dwane Wilkin, QAHN's executive director, deserves major credit for every QAHN achievement this past year: if he was not directly doing something he was finding ways to make it happen. His competence is matched only by his inspiration: as networker, planner, writer, editor, number cruncher, and preparer of intricate government applications, he excels. As well as keeping Dwane sane (yes, there are plenty of trying

moments, I know) Kathy Teasdale does wonders in the office, and what she does to keep track of the QAHN membership is more than a wonder. We all rely on the dedication and scrupulousness of assistant treasurer / bookkeeper Marion Greenlay; I extend to her my profound thanks, as well as to our treasurer Dick Evans. Charlie Bury continued to edit the *News* until he was obliged to step down from that role in December; in recent months, regular contributors Joe Graham and Sheila Eskenazi have been easing into his shoes, and I look forward to working with them.

The real tour-de-force this year was Carolyn Schaffer's work on the Montreal Outreach project. The quality of candidates applying for the coordinator's job was so high that in the end we just had to go with a hunch—and if I say we were right it would be to take too much of the credit. Carolyn rose to the occasion, met it, and surpassed it—who would have guessed someone so skilled at gathering stories would be equally adept at organizing a conference, arranging catering, and choreographing the day's endless dramas? It would be wonderful if QAHN could find a way to bring Carolyn back for Phase II. Let me be sure to thank everyone else who helped out on that amazing day: Dwane, Kathy, Matthew (for providing the display of our WebMagazines), Renee, Kevin (did you ever wash so many dishes?), Doreen, Sandra, Rick, Bill, Patrick, Heather, and all the staff at the McCord. Even my son Andrés got roped into helping out, and at last he got a sense of what QAHN was all about—or as much as he could with his arms plunged in soapy dishwater for four hours!

And yes, sometimes that's what it is all about.

*Rod MacLeod
Montreal West*

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

In 2006-07 the Eastern Townships Chapter of La Fédération des sociétés d'histoire du Québec (FSHQ) which is comprised of twelve Eastern Townships' historical societies, met three times and communicated through the resources of both the FSHQ and the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN).

Active with their own projects, regular meeting schedules and fundraising activities, the historical societies meet on this regular schedule to share project ideas, present fundraising activities and communicate their ongoing struggles with limited resources or particular issues directly affecting the operating of their organizations.

The following historical societies meet on a regular basis and receive guidance and support from QAHN:

Compton County Historical and Museum Society
Lake Massawippi Historical Society
Old North Church Cemetery Association
Heritage Huntingville
Georgeville Historical Society
Little Forks Branch of the United Empire Loyalist Association of Canada
Richmond County Historical Society
Heritage Sutton
Brome County Historical Society
Missisquoi Historical Society
Lennoxville-Ascot and Museum Society
Patrimoine-Ascott-Heritage

The Missisquoi Historical Society, has been working closely with museum experts in a firm called "Cultura" in order to set forth a long-term strategic plans for the Missisquoi Museum and the provincial heritage site known as the Walbridge Barn. The complicated process of strategic planning, museum design and long-term fundraising will take the historical society in a new and challenging direction for the 21st century.

The Lennoxville-Ascot Historical and Museum Society (LAHMS) was proud to have contributed, in cooperation with Uplands Cultural & Heritage Centre, and under the direction of the Borough of Lennoxville, to the creation of a heritage walking tour of Lennoxville. LAHMS volunteers researched and wrote the captions for the thirty buildings mentioned. The 2007 edition should include their suggested corrections,

have a proper title and credits, and will also be produced in an audio version.

Heritage Sutton, which has been almost dormant for the past several years, is now rediscovering a new energy with a creative project. The most important work of the society is the building of a model of the Town of Sutton in 1895-1898 just prior to the fire that destroyed 28 buildings, and as many barns and stables. The model is not yet complete but the members of Heritage Sutton are extremely pleased with their efforts.

One major project that was undertaken by the Stanstead Historical Society was a fundraiser to purchase a digitized version of the Stanstead Journal. Enough money was raised to purchase the years 1845 to mid 1976. This valuable tool will enable the society to preserve the original copies of the Journal and allow easier access to the paper. Currently, the society is in the process of scanning the J. J Parker collection of photographs, this data base will also allow easier access of the photos and help preserve the originals.

In September, the majority of the historical societies came together to celebrate Townshippers' Day in Richmond, QC. This day offered the opportunity for the historical societies to meet the public and present historical information and promote their activities. The Richmond County Historical Society played a major role in Townshippers' Day as they were largely responsible for overseeing heritage information tours of the region and their museum.

The Eastern Townships continues to be a place with varied activities among the historical societies, non-profit museums and individuals concerned with the history and heritage of this region. Each of the Eastern Townships' historical societies faced similar anxieties including the challenges of maintaining old buildings, a declining volunteer base, sustaining effective communications with membership and government, funding difficulties and rising expenses. The HASTI initiative created and sponsored by QAHN was seen as very important information for the societies and valuable information concerning heritage resources were taken back to the societies and to their communities.

*Heather Darch,
Stanbridge East*

LAURENTIANS

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Since our last Annual General Meeting of June, 2006, the main focus of QAHN in the Laurentians area has been on communications with groups and individuals, both those already involved in heritage activities and also those seen as potential members for QAHN. As this year there was no specific QAHN project in my constituency, these contacts were initiated by me and were very much situations of working with what arose and what is available.

The on-going St. Columban Cemetery project is perhaps the most successful new group with an English-speaking focus in the Laurentians that QAHN has supported and encouraged. The fundraiser at Loyola, held in January, was a great success and this group appears to be working diligently towards their goal of cemetery restoration and the creation of a memorial for the Irish pioneers of St. Columban.

The Morin Heights Historical Association and QAHN also intervened in the "heritage at risk" situation of the St. Francis of the Birds Church Hall in St. Sauveur, built by Victor Nymark in the Scandinavian style. This was done quietly, but effectively, as this important large building is now to be saved, moved and preserved in another location in St. Sauveur village. We received support from the mayor of St. Sauveur, the Société d'histoire et généalogie d'Pays-d'en-Haut, the MRC Pays-d'en-Haut and the Nymark family of St. Sauveur.

One of the best vehicles for promoting QAHN is definitely *Quebec Heritage News* magazine. I approached the Morin Heights Library and it appears that they have taken a subscription. As Morin Heights (and area) has a large English-speaking population who use this library, this should help inform about our common history.

Also, on April 21st, 2007, QAHN representatives attended the Annual General Meeting of the Historical Society of Argenteuil County at the Argenteuil Museum in Carillon. We spoke briefly about QAHN and the Quebec Heritage News and it does appear (at last!) that the directors and members who were present received this positively, and, hopefully this group will follow through and join QAHN.

The Morin Heights Historical Association sold several copies of the Quebec Heritage News to interested individuals, especially after the the item about St. Francis of the Birds Church and the architectural legacy of Victor Nymark appeared in the January-February

2007 issue.

A representative of QAHN communicated by phone with Beverley Prud'homme of the Rawdon Historical Society this past year to have an update on the status of Canadiana Village. It seems that the new owners are quite competent, but this site is only available for large groups holding events and not easily accessible for the general public to visit. They have a web site www.canadianavillage.com and at least appear to be preserving what remains of what is a vast and somewhat chaotic collection. I intend to try to visit Rawdon this summer and gain access to the site.

For over the past year I have been writing monthly articles on heritage for the Laurentian Sun, an English language monthly newspaper produced out of Ste.Adèle, with a focus on English speaking communities and anglophone heritage, though not exclusively, of course. I also helped represent QAHN at the official opening of the Morrin Centre in Quebec City in September 2006, and at the Montreal Mosaic event at the McCord Museum on April 1, 2007.

Also, thanks in part to efforts by the Morin Heights Historical Association, English-speaking and bilingual historical groups were well represented at the May 2007 conference of the Fédération des sociétés d'histoire du Québec, held at Hotel Mont-Gabriel in Ste.Adèle. A good turnout from Morin Heights Historical Association was anticipated, as one of our past presidents, Don Stewart, was to have given a presentation on the history of anglophone settlement in Argenteuil.

It is very important that QAHN participate as much as possible in events at the local and Quebec levels. Not to do so is to become invisible. In my region, we have always received positive support from the whole population that we have encountered and it is my hope that we can continue to thrive.

*Sandra Stock
Morin Heights*

MONTREAL

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

SUMMARY OF WESTMOUNT HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

Ongoing research into the history of the people who developed the City of Westmount, their built environment, religious, civic and commercial buildings as well as parklands is continuously being added to by organizing eight lectures per year for the members of the Westmount Historical Association. Information gained by inviting knowledgeable guest speakers adds to the Association's expanding knowledge and archives. Lectures were free to members and open to the general public who paid \$5 per lecture at the door.

The Westmount Historical Association has 140 members.

Two Lecture Series were coordinated by Doreen Lindsay. They were the Fall-Winter Lecture Series: Restoration of Older Homes in Westmount, held in September, October, November and December; and the Spring Lecture Series: Dorchester Boulevard in Westmount, held in February, March, April and May.

The Westmount Historical Association published two issues of their newsletter, *The Westmount Historian*. The September 2006 issue (Volume 7 Number 1) was a special enlarged edition devoted to the life and work of Westmount architect Robert Findlay and his son Frank. Information was based on the 2006 Spring Lecture Series as well as research coordinated by Caroline Breslaw. This was the first attempt to compile a list of buildings by this very prolific local Westmount architectural firm. Findlay family members provided never before seen photographs and information. Original architectural drawings were donated. The newsletter was edited by Doreen Lindsay. Additional copies were printed and sold for \$5 each.

The February, 2007 newsletter (Volume 7 Number 2) was entitled 'Preserving Westmont's Unique & Diverse Architectural Heritage' and was based on the information generated by the Fall-Winter Lecture Series and presented an overview of the various architectural styles that have been built in Westmount since 1739, the year that the first stone house was constructed. Westmount contains an extremely rich variety of architectural styles from the early French-Canadian, Norman-inspired stone home through Gothic and Romanesque Revival, Queen Anne homes and

Victorian to Classical Revival up to the Modernist styles. Case histories of preserving individual homes were presented.

ACTIVITIES RELATED TO OUR 2006 SPRING LECTURE SERIES

1. A walking tour of Findlay-designed buildings was conducted on Sept. 30, 2006.

On the occasion of the Opération patrimoine architecturale de Montréal 2006 and in partnership with the City of Westmount, guided tours were conducted of public buildings and private homes designed by Robert Findlay (1859-1951) and his son Frank. Caroline Breslaw set up a very successful training programme during the year. The guides, Caroline Breslaw, Barbara Covington, Doreen Lindsay, Monique Frezza, and Jacqueline Varin-Holm conducted tours beginning at the Public Library while Ruth Allan-Rigby, Margarita Schultz and Jane Martin conducted tours beginning at the Murray Park Shelter.

2. Postcards based on photographs of buildings designed by Robert and Frank Findlay within Westmount were created and sold for \$2 each.

3. A brochure to accompany the walking tour was prepared in collaboration with the City of Westmount. The text was developed by Caroline Breslaw and Jane Martin with photos and layout design by Doreen Lindsay.

4. An exhibition of photographs with captions of Findlay-designed buildings within Westmount was displayed on panels in the lobby of the Westmount Public Library from Sept. 22 to Oct. 7, 2006.

*Doreen Lindsay,
Montreal*

MONTREAL HERITAGE OUTREACH

PROJECT LEADER'S REPORT

English-speaking communities of Greater Montreal are composed of people from many different cultural backgrounds, all of whom in their own way have helped to shape the story of Quebec and Canada. This heritage is no longer defined strictly in terms of French and British ancestry, but has rather come to suggest a great family of cultures bound by one or both of Canada's official languages. It is a living heritage that continues to nurture the cultural life of Quebec's largest city.



The McCord Museum was host to the 2007 Montreal Mosaic heritage summit.

The broad purpose of QAHN's 2006-07 Montreal Heritage Outreach Project was to foster greater understanding of the origins of Montreal's cultural diversity through dialogue and exchange, by bringing together leaders of the city's various ethnic minorities to share recollections of their communities' historical development in Canada and Quebec.

This report describes the procedure used in this six-month project, documents its outcome and provides a strategic plan and recommendations for the future.

The main three activity components of this project were to:

1. Develop a strategic plan to engage Montreal's culturally diverse English-speaking communities in a lasting dialogue about their heritage;
2. Establish a knowledge base on the heritage of Montreal's English-speaking cultural communities;
3. Celebrate and promote recognition of the multicultural identity of English-speaking communities on

the island of Montreal;

In addition, it was anticipated that by undertaking this project QAHN would:

4. Increase the Heritage Network's presence and visibility in Montreal;

5. Encourage new membership subscriptions from multicultural communities to make the Heritage Network more representative of the diversity of Quebec's English-speaking communities.

These activity components are intended to nurture the development of the Heritage Network and ensure the long-term development of minority communities.

ACTIONS TAKEN

1. Initial steps to develop a strategic plan were developed in collaboration with QAHN's executive director. The following actions were taken:

—A list of target individuals, groups and associations was compiled, focusing on English-speaking cultural communities and their history in Quebec.

—Project leader interviewed leaders and other representatives of these communities and wrote general articles about their heritage and historical experience for *Quebec Heritage News* magazine, QAHN's flagship member publication.

—Interviewees were made aware of the existence and broad mission of QAHN and its magazine.

—A list identifying Network growth potential for QAHN was drafted and possible intercultural dialogue themes were developed

—A strategic plan, including recommendations, was drafted.

RESULTS

During the course of this phase of the project, numerous groups and individuals were contacted. Most people were very receptive to being interviewed for stories for *Quebec Heritage News* magazine. Many were interested in QAHN's mission and goals. People were also very receptive to the idea of holding an heritage summit. Most people contacted by the project leader welcomed the opportunity to tell about their community's history and reflect on its heritage issues and were also interested in attending the summit to hear about other communities' history and heritage. QAHN has made significant progress clarifying its role as a facilitator for promoting the multicultural face of English-

speaking Quebec, and has a valuable information tool for strengthening Quebec's heritage sector.

2. Establish a knowledge base on the heritage of Montreal's English-speaking cultural communities.

—Project leader and QAHN's executive director developed magazine content that reflects the historical diversity of Montreal's English-speaking communities

—QAHN's volunteer Montreal Committee led by president Rod MacLeod and in conjunction with the project leader and the executive director, secured the collaboration of the McCord Museum in support of a conference devoted to Montreal's multicultural history.

—A list of potential speakers and participants for the proposed Montreal Mosaic heritage summit was compiled, based on these initial interviews and further community consultation

—Project leader planned and organized the April 1 heritage summit around a multicultural theme

Describe and analyze the outcome of the project and make recommendations for the future.

RESULTS

The research, including the interviews, revealed that much of the history of Montreal's English-speaking cultural communities is "buried treasure". Prior to this Montreal Heritage Outreach initiative, QAHN had little organized knowledge of these stories, which are part of our communal past as Quebecers. This knowledge has reinforced the importance of QAHN's work in Montreal. Contact was made and ties were established with numerous groups throughout the city's many English-speaking communities and heritage sector to determine how best QAHN can meet the needs of Montreal's cultural communities in the future. Stories in *Quebec Heritage News* brought to light the significant cultural-heritage issues and concerns of many English-speaking communities who do not necessarily identify themselves as having British ancestry. Some of the community resources uncovered and reinterpreted as important part of Quebec's heritage include built landmarks, neighbourhoods, historical institutions and individual members of diverse cultural communities who possess special knowledge of Montreal history.

3. Celebrate and promote recognition of the multicultural identity of English-speaking communities on the island of Montreal.

—Project leader, QAHN executive director and Montreal Committee coordinate and finalize development of conference theme.

—Programme of speakers and cultural performances showcasing a range of cultural community voic-

es is established

—Montreal Mosaic publicity, through Heritage Network communications channels, board members and *Quebec Heritage News* is generated

—Coverage of heritage concerns of interest to Montreal cultural communities is timed for publication in the lead up to the April 1 conference

—Mass media news releases are created, translated and sent out

The final culmination of the Montreal Heritage Outreach project,

a day-long conference devoted to dialogue and exchange around the theme of multicultural history and identity, was by all accounts a terrific success: as the conference registration list suggests, the more than 100 participants included a very broad and dynamic range of voices. In fact, though, recognition of the multicultural identity of English-speaking communities in Montreal was promoted throughout this project in a series of *Quebec Heritage News* magazine articles, which appeared in the November/December,

A complete summary of the Mosaic heritage summit proceedings has been posted on the QAHN website at www.qahn.org. Go to 'What is QAHN' on the main page, scroll down and click on 'Relevant documents.'



Scottish Dancers perform at the Montreal Mosaic.

January/February, March/April and May/June editions. Further articles are in reserve, to be published in future issues. Although the few magazine articles that were generated by this project do by no means constitute a complete knowledge base or exhaustive record of the history and heritage of these communities, it represents a valuable contribution to the dialogue on minority group heritage that must continue to take place.

4. Increase QAHN's presence and visibility in Montreal and increase memberships.

Very few of the groups contacted during the course of the project had previously heard of QAHN. Now, many more groups are aware of QAHN, so in this

respect the project has been very successful. Copies of QHN were distributed to targeted groups and individuals and several new memberships were attained. While the five new members who signed on at Montreal Mosaic is perhaps not as high a number as was hoped, the interest generated in QAHN that day and during the course of the project will hopefully lead to more memberships in the near future (indeed, several more memberships have come in within the past two weeks).

It is crucial that QAHN build on this interest by contacting potential members (those who attended the summit) as soon as possible to encourage them to join (and get their feedback on the event, as well). QAHN's visibility can also be increased through widening the distribution and visibility of *Quebec Heritage News* magazine.

5. Encourage new membership subscriptions from multicultural communities to make the Heritage Network more representative of the diversity of Quebec's English-speaking communities.

Again, more work needs to be done. Three of the five new memberships gained at Montreal Mosaic are from non-Anglo-Saxon people and this is a good start. However, none of them signed on as Core members so this must be particularly encouraged.

SUMMARY

The contacts established over the course of the project as well as the visibility and interest generated at Montreal Mosaic will help QAHN promote its endeavours in Montreal and increase its membership. Initial results have been positive but it is imperative that support for following up on these contacts be secured, possibly through a second phase of the Montreal Heritage Outreach project.

Montreal Mosaic was a success in that it brought together a capacity audience at the McCord Museum of over 100 people to A) become aware of QAHN and B) focus their attention on the diversity of the English-speaking communities of Quebec and C) share insight and experience related to their work in history and heritage conservation. QAHN must now harness the energy and enthusiasm generated that day to engage participants in the subsequent phase of the Montreal Heritage Outreach project which will keep working to sensitize the public to English-speaking history and heritage in Quebec.

The project must build on the momentum created through the contacts made in the first phase of the project. At Montreal Mosaic, many of our targeted groups and individuals met for the first time. Little-known histories were discovered, experiences shared, new alliances forged. The seeds for a lasting dialogue on Montreal history and heritage were planted, and inspiration was gained for future projects. Now, QAHN must build on what was begun by forging links between interested parties. Two priorities for action emerge:

-Assist cultural community groups in Montreal to

access resources for heritage conservation

-Sustain efforts to inform and educate the general public about the history, heritage and diversity of Montreal's English-speaking groups.

Feedback on the project so far has been very positive. Montreal Mosaic got rave reviews from both participants and speakers. Others who were unable to attend asked to be put on QAHN's mailing list for future events. People also responded very positively to the magazine as well as the idea of a multicultural heritage network in Montreal.



Discussing heritage issues over coffee.

HERITAGE OUTREACH: NEXT STEPS

Through my contact with cultural community groups and their members, I have found that there is an interest in learning more about becoming part of a heritage network. Many individuals and groups are interested and engaged in heritage conservation projects throughout the English-speaking communities in Montreal, but they are not necessarily either professionals in the field or connected with other groups with similar priorities, goals and initiatives. It is my opinion that QAHN can help connect them and provide a means for them to share knowledge and experiences and help them access resources on heritage conservation. Functioning in this role will help QAHN to be relevant in Montreal and attract more members. Further work can be done; more articles written for *Quebec Heritage News* and future multicultural heritage summits or public events organized, potentially with more space for attendance by the general public.

Some community groups want to know how to research and preserve their history, how to put the information together in a presentable way and how to get support for their projects. There is a need for cultural heritage conservation both within Montreal's cultural communities and with the broader English-language heritage sector.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

QAHN could play a role facilitating the exchange of information, by sponsoring Montreal workshops on such skills as collecting oral histories, creating historical displays and exhibits and the like, and providing an opportunity for cultural community groups to share their knowledge and skills. Members could be inspired by other members' projects. Such interesting projects as Laurier-Macdonald High School's Rainbow of Dreams series of books, as well as their film project Ripples in Time are good examples of what I'm talking about. By being connected to the QAHN network, key members of these organizations and communities would come to understand that there are benefits to be gained from contributing to this ongoing dialogue on heritage.

Action plan and further recommendations

The Montreal Mosaic symposium of April 1 2007 ended the first phase of QAHN's Montreal Heritage Outreach Project. In this section, a new strategic plan is presented for a second phase of the project, in which QAHN will continue to develop its Montreal base over the course of the next twelve months.

The goals of phase two are to build on the contacts established in phase one in order to continue to promote and preserve the history and heritage of Montreal's English-speaking communities, foster dialogue among these groups and in society in general, and to increase QAHN's membership and profile in Montreal.

ACTION PLAN

—Follow up on contacts established at the Montreal Mosaic symposium and reach out to new groups in order to increase QAHN membership and QHN subscription sales. Target groups are listed in Appendix A.

—Set up a listserv or email list to keep members and interested people informed about QAHN activities.

—Continue to research and publish articles on the history and heritage of Montreal's diverse English-speaking communities in QAHN's bi-monthly magazine, the Quebec Heritage News (QHN).

—Solicit new contributors to the QHN through promotion in schools and organizations.

—Increase the circulation and distribution of the magazine in universities, institutions and libraries as well as private subscriptions through a marketing campaign.

—Plan and implement a promotion campaign for both QAHN and QHN.

—Develop an on-line version of the Quebec Heritage News.

—Improve QAHN's website: create networking forums for members such as a newsgroup as well as links to resources for heritage conservation education and tools. Also, make it easier to find the archives of QHN on the site (right now it's hard to find).

—Contact heritage conservation educators and experts to solicit membership and collaboration.

—With the above-mentioned experts, develop and

lead workshops for members and other interested parties on topics and skills in heritage conservation. Examples of potential topics could include: recording oral histories; creating historical displays and exhibits; creating community 'memory-books'.

—Plan and organize the second edition of QAHN's heritage summit (a follow-up to the Montreal Mosaic symposium of 2007).

—Collaborate with other organizations and participate in their events to promote QAHN and its work. Potential collaborators could include Culture pour tous/Les journées de la culture (September), Culture Montreal's summit (November), the Action Week Against Racism / La Semaine d'actions contre le racisme (March), Montreal Intercultural Festival (June-August), les Rencontres montréalaises de la Diversité (May) as well as the many festivals particular to specific cultural communities: Montreal's Italian Week (August), Accès Asie/Montreal Asian Heritage Festival (May), St-Patrick's Day (March), and more.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Much more publicity needs to be generated about QAHN and *Quebec Heritage News* magazine in Montreal in order to raise QAHN's profile and attract new members. In addition to contacting the individuals with whom initial contacts have been made to encourage them to become members, I also suggest QAHN host another event in Montreal before the next edition of Montreal Mosaic, such as a lecture or workshop on information with practical application such as heritage conservation strategies or creating a historical exhibit.

What would be possible and perhaps beneficial would be to link with other individuals and groups who have documented or are in the process of documenting the history and heritage of these communities, and holding events/talks on this subject. QAHN could also develop an annotated bibliography and list of sources and resources for this information on its website.

I would also suggest that QAHN seek to increase the distribution of *Quebec Heritage News* to libraries (university and public) and university departments of history and Canadian Studies, as well as newsstand distribution, if possible. I suggest that the second edition of Montreal Mosaic be held in a larger-capacity venue that would allow more members of the general public to attend. I suggest that an online version of *Quebec Heritage News* be developed.

Resources should be found to revive QAHN's HeritageLine listserv, which would help maintain interest in QAHN by members and potential members with whom contact has been established.

*Carolyn Shaffer,
Montreal*

2007 OPERATIONS REVIEW

VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

KEVIN O'DONNELL, HEATHER DARCH, DICK EVANS, RICK SMITH

The 2005-09 Strategic Plan for the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN) set forth the following (3) priority goals for the organization. These broad goals were intended to assist QAHN in the channelling of energy and resources between 2004 and 2009, and subsequently provided the basic framework for the 2005-06 Operations Review.

The main goals laid out in the Strategic Plan are:

- 1: Nurture the development of QAHN's heritage network
- 2: Strengthen communications within QAHN's network
- 3: Seek a higher profile outside the heritage community

In addition, the Strategic Plan includes two subsidiary Goals:

- 5: Pursue Board development
- 6: Diversify funding

This 2005-06 operations review indicated that volunteers and staff were addressing most of the organizational challenges raised by the 2004 Needs Assessment Survey. It was the general opinion of the 2006 Operations Review Committee that progress could be expected to continue.

In reviewing QAHN's performance in 2006 the Operations Review Committee recommended that the organization focus on the eight (8) actions/activity areas as a means of attaining most, if not all, of its strategic objectives by 2009. One of the conditions of QAHN's 2006-07 financial contribution agreement with the Department of Canadian Heritage is to implement these recommendations. It was the main task of the 2007 Operations Review Committee to determine whether or not and to what extent QAHN's volunteer board members and staff have indeed managed to do so in 2006-07.

Of the eight (8) recommendations contained in the 2005-06 Operations Review, only two were satisfactorily acted upon in 2006-07.

COMMITTEE EVALUATIONS

Recommendation 1 — *Address under-representation of Saguenay Lac St. Jean, North Shore, Lower St. Lawrence, Mauricie and Abitibi-Temiscaming regions.*

These regions remain under-represented. Little effort was put forth by the QAHN board of directors in

2006-2007 to find new Core members and/or directors. The problem has been identified but not solved. Each director should take responsibility for an unrepresented region and try to find at least one new Core member. We could perhaps work through the local historical society or some other existing structure. We need to redouble our efforts in this area as we have thus far made little progress.

Recommendation 2 — *Budget for developing a Montreal outreach strategy*

We can consider that our Montreal Outreach strategy for the past year was successfully carried out with commitment and energy. QAHN obtained a grant which allowed it to hire an organizer for an event in Montreal which, it was decided by the director, president, and Montreal board members, would constitute a symposium to be held on the theme of history and heritage among Montreal's diverse English-speaking communities. The McCord Museum subsequently agreed to collaborate on the event. It went off on April 1 and must be considered a great success with 107 participants. We even received some publicity in the *Montreal Gazette*.

NEXT STEPS:

1. We need to clean up our members' list and assign someone from the Montreal committee to liaison with these members from time to time; perhaps a yearly meeting when we can exchange comments and concerns.
2. We should also work on improving our communication with the media. Other than *The Gazette*, we need to increase our visibility via radio, television, local newspapers, so that when there is an issue regarding English heritage, QAHN's views will be solicited.
3. We need to do some contact work with the local municipal bureaucracy, such as the Comité du patrimoine de Montreal and Culture Montreal.
4. We also need to systematically contact English-speaking groups that are potential QAHN members.
5. Finally, we should work toward staging another high-profile function during the next fiscal year.

Recommendation 3 — *Seek ways to expand the Prospecting for Heritage project to other regions.*

In 2006-2007, QAHN was unable to expand this research project into other regions due to a lack of financial resources. The Prospecting for Heritage report by Dr. Lorraine O'Donnell was an initiative commissioned by the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN) in 2005 and completed in March 2006. Its purpose was to discover and create an inventory of Anglophone heritage resources in four regions of Quebec: Mauricie, North Shore, Gaspé and the Lower St. Lawrence. The initial project was successful in that it focused on regions with which QAHN had only limited contact; a wide range of heritage resources including books and documents, sites and people were not only "discovered" but were utilized to create depth in the research; and the nature and status of Anglophone heritage in these regions were identified and recorded for the first time in an understandable and comprehensive format. However, project limitations due to time and budget restraints meant that there were elements to the study that were not sufficiently studied. The original report was made possible by a grant from the Museums Assistance Program of the Department of Canadian Heritage.

NEXT STEPS:

1. QAHN should pursue ways to finance further research, to translate and to publicize the existing pilot study. This effort will serve to identify Quebec's heritage community, Quebec's English-speaking communities, government and historians of the current status of Quebec Anglophone heritage in these four regions.

2. It is also recommended that the project be extended throughout Quebec as each region should have a comprehensible inventory of its resources, sites and organizations. All of the information data should be made accessible to both language communities through a publication and/or an on-line access to the inventories. If possible, the Prospecting for Heritage project should include time and resources for the actual promotion of QAHN and the recruitment of new members to its network.

Recommendation 4 — QAHN's board should seek ways to continue offering local information workshops such as those which have taken place under the Heritage Awareness and Stewardship Training Initiative (HASTI)

In 2006-07 little effort was made to market these workshops in other communities, owing to a lack of resources.

In June 2005, QAHN adopted a formal policy to address endangered heritage in the province. The many requests received since that time seeking advice and assistance in the protection of historic sites and monuments resulted in QAHN addressing the situation directly by offering a series of heritage awareness and training workshops designed to educate town coun-

cilors, local conservationists and concerned citizens on how to save important landmarks. These meetings demonstrated how sound management and promotion of heritage resources can stimulate community development and not drain municipal budgets.

The original HASTI workshops were staged in the Laurentians, Montérégie, Outaouais and Estrie regions and took place between March 31 and May 4 2006. Funding for the Heritage Awareness Training and Stewardship Initiative (HASTI) workshop series was provided under the federal Official-Languages Communities Program of the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Under the direction of project leader Dr. Josiane Caillet the series of workshops were well organized and promoted which resulted in good attendance levels in each region. Press coverage in the local media was positive and well received. Approximately 250 people attended 13 workshops. As the workshops were presented bilingually by a small team of "workshop coordinators," the events were a positive exercise in promoting mutual understanding between the two language communities. An electronic version of the presentation guide "Bright Futures Begin in the Past/Parlons de notre patrimoine" was made available to the wider community for consultation through the QAHN website following the workshops.

NEXT STEPS:

1. It is recommended that efforts be stepped up to offer more workshops in rural municipalities. The excellent quality of the guide will allow for this project to move forward without little alteration in its design and format except perhaps for the inclusion of updated material since the guide's first publication. This important project has certainly made the heritage communities and varying municipalities more aware of their potential to preserve their history and heritage landscapes. It also gave a "face" to QAHN and a pro-active and "can-do" character in the heritage field and general public.

Recommendation 5 — A formal motion should be put forward at QAHN's AGM in favour of reserving a seat on the board of directors for representatives of regional community groups.

No such motion was put forward at QAHN's 2006 annual general meeting.

NEXT STEP:

1. QAHN should "persuasively invite" regional community groups such as Townshippers' Association, CASA, VEQ and RAWQ etc., to designate a person from their governance boards to oversee heritage and cultural activities and concerns undertaken within their range of activities and responsibilities. From among those regional delegates, they would themselves select one person to represent them on QAHN's board of

directors. The designate directorship would be for terms of one year's service and renewable at each annual general meeting of QAHN.

Recommendation 6 — *Adopt a formal policy for identifying which QAHN documents should be translated into French and allocate a portion of operating budget for translation costs.*

No such policy was formally adopted by QAHN in 2006-07.

NEXT STEP:

2. Recognizing that QAHN's prime funding and responsibilities are to serve Quebec's English-speaking communities, in particular by stimulating the knowledge and preservation of the heritage of these communities, it is my view that a Communication Committee be put in place. One responsibility of this committee would be to identify which communications should usefully and importantly be translated into French. To enable this, an appropriate supportable annual budget should be developed and incorporated into the overall communications budget.

Recommendation 7 — *Cultivate stronger ties with Quebec government*

Although the base level of support QAHN receives from the provincial government for its operations remained unchanged in 2006-07, there is every reason to believe that QAHN's record of sound financial management and its acknowledged contributions to Quebec's heritage sector are resulting in stronger ties with Quebec City.

In addition, QAHN is currently developing a project concerned with rural cemetery conservation in which a partnership with Emploi-Quebec involving youth employment is envisioned.

While QAHN is familiar with Culture et Communications Québec, receiving a \$15,000 yearly contribution from this ministry for the last two years, the organization is less familiar with the role of another agency of the provincial government which helps guide community organizations towards financial aid programs: the Secretariat à l'action communautaire autonome du Québec (SACA). SACA is a department of the Ministère de l'Emploie et de la Solidarité sociale. The mandate of SACA includes :

—Facilitating access to government resources for community organizations

—Determining the administrative "home ministry" (Ministère d'attache) of community groups

SACA helped to disburse \$17.6 million in 2006-07, supporting 350 organizations, as well as another \$800,000 for the development of autonomous community action projects (approx. 30 such projects) in this same fiscal year.

Given the importance of this branch of the provin-

cial government, the President, Executive Director and vice president of QAHN attended a "VIP Community Forum" organized by the Centre for Community Organizations (Centre des organismes communautaires). This event took place on May 26, 2006 at the Atwater Library in Montreal.

NEXT STEPS:

1. Strike an ad-hoc Provincial Affairs committee among QAHN directors to oversee and guide efforts at strengthening ties with the Quebec government

2. Establish initial contact with SACA and explore potential funding sources within the provincial government, including the Ministry of Culture and Communications, that may have been overlooked.

Recommendation 8 — *Adopt clear procedures for soliciting new members and maintaining regular contact with existing members.*

The QAHN board has adopted formal procedures for soliciting new members and maintaining contact with existing members. On June 3, 2006, QAHN passed a resolution outlining the process by which directors agree to nominate new board members, but this Board Succession Planning Resolution made constituent development dependent on the allocation of constituency-specific funds for this purpose. In 2006-07 QAHN's budget did not allow for such allocation. An anticipated rise in revenues in 2007-08 may correct this situation.

Directors recognize that *Quebec Heritage News* magazine is a significant vehicle to promote QAHN to organizations and individuals within the province, and have focussing efforts to make the magazine better known to existing and prospective members. We are encouraging individuals in the various constituencies to subscribe to the magazine.

This past year year *Quebec Heritage News* completed its transformation from a newsletter format to a glossy, high-quality magazine format (or rather, it was transformed with a lot of hard work on the part of the editor, the executive director and the layout designer.) The magazine has garnered praise from a variety of sources for the quality of its graphic design as well as for the range and depth of articles that appear in it.

The QAHN website (www.qahn.org) and HeritageLine, a listserv, continue to provide information and opportunities for feedback to established and prospective members.

NEXT STEPS:

1. Discuss membership and retention issues at each board meeting and set realistic recruitment targets for each constituency.

2. Identify obstacles

3. Redouble efforts to follow procedures for soliciting new members and maintain regular contact with existing members.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN) sustained a fairly ambitious level and range of activities in 2006-07, activities that promise to resonate in many regions of the province and for which the Network's effective, prudent use of public finances was duly acknowledged by our major funding partners. It is with great satisfaction that I am able to report that the Department of Canadian Heritage has favourably received a request I prepared and submitted in November, 2006 for a two-year long financial contribution to QAHN's core operations. In the past, operational funding from the Department was only awarded on a year-to-year basis. The two-year funding commitment will enable QAHN much greater latitude for planning and effective budgeting.

Even more noteworthy is that the Department of Canadian Heritage recently indicated that it has authorized a 26 per cent increase in the amount of annual core funding that QAHN receives from Ottawa. Starting this fiscal year and for the next 48 months, pending negotiation of a formal agreement, QAHN can anticipate an annual contribution from Canadian Heritage in the amount of \$95,000—an increase of \$20,000 per year. Quebec's provincial Ministry of Culture and Communications (MCC), which has contributed \$15,000 annually to QAHN's operations for the last two years, is currently considering an request for \$40,000 in support of our activities in 2007-08.

An encouraging side effect of QAHN's rising public profile has been the steady increase in self-generated revenue, derived mostly from new membership subscriptions, but also from advertising in *Quebec Heritage News* magazine. In 2006-07, self-generated revenues reached their highest level in QAHN's seven-year history, though it still accounted for just 5.6 per cent of total operating revenues. I believe that a doubling of this revenue could be achieved fairly easily with the active support of our current Core and Affiliate member groups. If, for instance, each of QAHN's forty-two institutional members were to sell just 10 new individual subscriptions to *Quebec Heritage News* magazine through their own networks at \$20 apiece, they would not only generate \$2,100 in sales commissions for their own activities, it would bring in \$6,300 for QAHN.

Clearly, this is an area where QAHN's board of directors have an excellent opportunity to lead by example. In the coming fiscal year, I feel that a target of 40 per cent growth in self-generated revenue, to \$7,500 is a realistic goal, one that could be achieved if each board member were to bring in 10 new members before March 31, 2008.

MONTREAL OUTREACH

In December 2005 I applied to the Department of Canadian Heritage's Community Development Fund for a grant to develop QAHN's profile in Montreal. The Montreal Heritage Outreach project was conceived in response to the board of directors' desire to hold consultations with various English-speaking cultural communities of Montreal. It was to have comprised a research component and a multicultural celebration and conference sponsored by QAHN. As most people connected with QAHN now know, this proposal was financed by the Department of Canadian Heritage and attracted a generous in-kind donation from McCord Museum. In October 2006 a Concordia University graduate named Carolyn Shaffer was hired to coordinate the project's development which, due in great measure to her enthusiasm, her creativity and her professionalism, was a brilliant success.

The requirements of the project helped to focus the efforts of Montreal-area board members while providing a worthwhile incentive for collaboration with various partners in the heritage field. Prior to this initiative, QAHN had little knowledge of the history of Montreal's cultural communities or the nature of their ties to the English language and anglophone institutions. As it turns out, there are a number of anglophone community groups working to protect and promote neighbourhood heritage in the city, as well as a surprising degree of academic interest in what's often termed "public history." The process of reaching out to these groups and consulting them about their historic ties to Quebec society planted seeds for a continued dialogue on Montreal history and heritage.

During the course of this project, Carolyn made contact with more than 70 community groups and leaders from various English-speaking

communities, and used many of these encounters as the basis for a series of feature articles on Montreal's diverse historic communities, which appeared in *Quebec Heritage News* magazine. The stories told and concerns raised during the subsequent Montreal Mosaic conference, which attracted 111 participants, constitute a small but important contribution to this growing knowledge base. It is to be hoped that QAHN can build on this knowledge in the future by attracting further contributions of articles from individual community members. The Montreal Heritage Outreach project has started to pay off, strategically, too. As of March 31, 2007, QAHN had recruited seven (7) new individual members, one (1) new Core and one (1) new Affiliate member from the Montreal region. Thanks to the success of this initiative QAHN now possesses an effective action plan and necessary information for achieving the strategic goal of attracting more new members and potential directors from the Montreal area.

QUEBEC HERITAGE NEWS

Vastly improved production standards of *Quebec Heritage News* magazine stand as a considerable achievement for our organization over the last year, one that will surely help QAHN to better communicate the concerns and interests of the heritage community to stakeholders, members and the public at large. Further progress is necessary and possible, but will depend on QAHN's success in building up readership and revenues from advertising.

It has been my great pleasure these last six months to work with Joe Graham and Sheila Eskenazi, who joined the staff of QAHN's flagship print publication as associate editors in January, 2007. Their passion for heritage and commitment to excellence, combined with nearly three decades' experience running a small business, will no doubt prove a tremendous asset as we chart the magazine's continued development in the months and years ahead. Joe and Sheila and contributors from across Quebec, including several of QAHN's volunteer board members, are helping to fill what I consider to be a significant opportunity for nurturing intelligent dialogue among English-speaking heritage groups and history buffs across Quebec.

I am pleased to welcome Dan Pinese back to QAHN for another summer. Dan, who was hired this year with financial assistance from the federal Young Canada Works in Heritage program, was instrumental in the 2006 redesign of *Quebec Heritage News* and will be working in 2007 as an editorial assistant.

In an effort to raise paid circulation this office introduced a new policy whereby QAHN's Core member groups may earn a 25 per cent commission on sales of subscriptions to *Quebec Heritage News*

magazine. Preliminary results suggest that this strategy is effective, but it will require a sustained and prolonged effort at promoting the magazine through our Core members' own communications channels. To continue improving the quality of the magazine, it is QAHN's further intention in 2007-08 to devise and introduce a revenue-sharing programme that will enable non-profit Core and Affiliate member groups to earn a percentage of any advertising revenue they generate by selling magazine advertisements to businesses in their communities.

QUEBEC HERITAGE WEB

It costs QAHN less than \$10,000 per year to maintain the Quebec Heritage Web portal, which is a comparative bargain considering the service's immeasurable publicity value. Directors agree, however, that it is not feasible for QAHN alone to assume further development of these online heritage publications and have therefore endorsed the idea of pursuing partnerships with member organizations or other community groups. This strategy has yet to prove effective. During the summer of 2006 QAHN solicited and gained the moral support of a Gaspé-region anglophone community group, the Committee for Anglophone Social Action (CASA) to collaborate on development of a fourth regional heritage website. In late 2006 CASA spearheaded fundraising efforts to develop the Gaspé HeritageWebmagazine, by applying to the Department of Canadian Heritage's Community Development Fund. As of June 2007, there was still no indication whether this request will be approved. A concerted effort at raising financial support for the future expansion of the Quebec Heritage Web initiative is sorely needed.

CHEMINS DES CANTONS/TOWNSHIPS TRAIL

In response to a request for support from the Eastern Townships tourism bureau, I looked for and was finally able to find financial resources to assist in the development of English-language interpretative and promotional materials for a thematic driving tour that is largely focused on the region's anglophone heritage. The Townships Trail, as it will be known in English, draws its inspiration from the Townships' unique settlement history, marked by successive waves of immigration, first from New England, then the British Isles and later, from older established French-Canadian settlements along the St. Lawrence River. As of June, 2007 a series of signs had already begun to appear along the 415-kilometre route. After looking in vain at the possibility of raising money for this initiative through a federally sponsored translation-funding program, I applied instead to the Young Canada Works in Both Official Languages (YCWBOL) program, which

recently approved my request for funds to hire a summer student in 2007. I have since recruited Bishop's University student Andrea Hughes, who will undertake translations of text for an Internet site, a DVD-video, a CD audio guide and, time permitting, a printed guide to the historic towns and villages along this route. The total cash value of this contribution to the Chemins des Cantons project is approximately \$6,100, of which \$4,215 will be provided through the YCWBOL program, with the balance coming from QAHN's general operating revenues.

GOVERNANCE AND BOARD-SUCCESSION PLANNING

QAHN's stated commitment to fulfill its goals regarding constituency development and governance planning was put to the test in 2006-2007, and came up somewhat lacking. In June 2006 QAHN's board of directors ratified the findings and recommendations of a formal Operations Review as well as board-succession planning procedures designed to strengthen the Network's governance structure. Eight (8) recommendations of the 2006 Operations Review formed the basis of a subsequent evaluation in the spring of 2007. The Operations Review committee was made up of volunteer board members Richard Evans, Richard Smith, Kevin O'Donnell and Heather Darch. Analysis of the 2007 Operations Review reveals that only one of the eight recommendations were successfully implemented over the last year.

Failure to implement the board's policy on leadership renewal should be regarded as posing a serious threat to QAHN's status as a province-wide organization. Efforts to identify suitable potential replacement board members, especially in constituencies where director inactivity is acknowledged and clearly detrimental to QAHN, simply did not occur or, if they did, were not successful. As noted in QAHN's 2007 Operations Review, with the exception of Montreal, "little effort was put forth by the QAHN board of directors to find new Core members and/or directors." Some directors have said that they do not feel capable or comfortable assuming the role of recruiting new Core members, in which case clearly a conflict may be said to exist between QAHN's strategic objectives and the interests of its governing board. It has also been suggested that directors would be more inclined to meet with constituents if they had a budget, in which case a conflict may be said to exist between QAHN's needs and its present means. Either way, strategic networking and governance planning goals were not met.

Each director has been furnished with a comprehensive information and membership kit since 2005; up-to date lists of contact information for potential members, drawn from participation records at

QAHN's HASTI workshop series and the Montreal Mosaic Heritage Summit, and from the Prospecting for Heritage study, exist on file and await action.

Collaborating with the prestigious McCord Museum was a significant accomplishment for QAHN in 2006-07, one that may potentially yield future beneficial partnerships. It goes without saying that McCord's extensive contacts and benefactors also represent a potential source of support for QAHN's own activities. Now it is time to turn that potential into the reality of new Core memberships.

UPCOMING PROJECTS

Cemetery Heritage

As part of a long-term effort to recognize and preserve the small cemeteries of Quebec, QAHN has proposed to identify historic burial sites in a number regions and to develop a resource guide for the sustained maintenance of these crucial pockets of heritage. This resource guide would be tailored especially to the needs of individuals who serve as volunteer cemetery trustees in rural communities.

This project, dubbed the Cemetery Heritage Inventory and Restoration Initiative (CHIRI) grew out of board discussions in the fall of 2006 and responds to a growing sense that small cemeteries in remoter parts of Quebec are threatened with neglect and disrepair, primarily as a result of demographic decline in traditionally anglophone communities. Despite the hard work of historical societies and other dedicated groups and individuals, the history of these cemeteries and the records of those buried in them are often unknown or unavailable.

There are three main components to the original CHIRI project proposal, which I prepared and submitted along with a funding request to the Department of Canadian Heritage in late 2006 and which is currently under study. They are:

1. *Survey-Inventory*. QAHN proposes to collaborate with English-speaking community groups and cemetery trustees in four regions to conduct a survey of historic graveyards and burial sites deemed to be at great risk of deterioration through abandon or neglect: Montérégie, Estrie, Laurentians and Saguenay Lac-St-Jean. The object of this exercise would be to compile comprehensive information for each site.

2. *Conservation Handbook*. QAHN proposes to develop an informational guide to conserving historic cemeteries, tailored especially to the needs of English-speaking Quebecers who serve as volunteer cemetery trustees. A comprehensive informational guide for English-language cemetery trustees in Quebec will assist them as they face critical, practical conservation questions in the years to come.

3. *Heritage Youth Corps*. QAHN proposes to collaborate with Core member groups and government-sponsored youth-employment agencies to

recruit crews of local youth in participating communities to carry out light maintenance on target heritage properties, including cemeteries, churches and community-owned properties of local heritage value.

In early 2007 I applied for and subsequently received on QAHN's behalf a donation of \$1,500 from Townshippers Foundation in support of this cemetery heritage project. Though we are still hoping to receive assistance for this project from the Department of Canadian Heritage, this donation means that QAHN can now move forward in 2007 to share valuable information about heritage conservation with volunteer cemetery trustees in the Eastern Townships.

Roots Quebec 2008

This office has been working on a proposal with the Morrin Centre and other anglophone community groups in the Quebec City area to jointly sponsor an activity in 2008 that would help mark the 400th anniversary of that city's founding. English-speaking communities in Quebec are composed of people sharing many different cultural backgrounds, all of whom in their own way have at one time helped to shape the story of the city. There is a growing body of research into the history of these communities that deserves broader public recognition. QAHN proposes to organize and stage a one-day conference to explore the history of Quebec City's culturally diverse English-speaking communities, followed by an optional second-day conference devoted to Quebec City's Jewish history.

It is anticipated that the Morrin Centre and Voice of English-speaking Quebec will be able to collaborate with QAHN to organize this unprecedented event. Roots Quebec 2008 will raise awareness of Quebec City's multicultural heritage significantly, and encourage participants to reflect on the importance of such institutions as the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec and other landmarks and traditions that recall the city's history of cultural diversity. A request for funding in the amount of approximately \$18,000 has been submitted to the Société du 400ième Anniversaire. If successful, QAHN will plan to bring members to Quebec City for the Roots Quebec event by bus from Montreal, sometime in the fall of 2008.

Multicultural Outreach - 2008

Preparations are underway to raise funds to hold a second phase of QAHN's highly successful Montreal Heritage Outreach initiative, which culminated in the 2007 Montreal Mosaic heritage summit. This office has been in frequent contact with the Multiculturalism Branch of the Department of Canadian Heritage since February and anticipates completing an application for project funding that would permit QAHN to re-hire Carolyn Shaffer as our Montreal Outreach coordinator, and to stage a second edition of the Montreal Mosaic summit in early 2008.

*Dwane Wilkin,
Sherbrooke*