

The Quebec
Provincial Association
of Retired School
Educators



Association provinciale du
personnel d'enseignement
retraite du Quebec



Ann Macleish

Autumn Newsletter (Nov-Dec) 2012

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Please accept my apologies for the lateness of this edition of the Newsletter

Richard Meades. Editor

**QPARSE PROGRAM CALENDAR
2012-2013**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
2012		
DECEMBER 6th	10.30 A.M. (Thurs.)	Rosedale, Queen Mary Community Hall 6870 Terrebonne. Holiday Celebration McGill Choral Society & Woman Making Music Conductor: Mary Jane Puiu Dix Milles Villages Table (arts & crafts, jewelry & gift items) NDG Food Bank ("Free Will" Donation")

2013

FEBRUARY 12 th	11:00a.m. (Tues.)	<u>Carmine's Tuscany Grill Restaurant</u> Seniors Tours Presentation Escorted Tours/ Limousine Pick up 500 Destinations / Health cancellation & much more Lunch (Optional)
MARCH 22nd	10:00 A .M. (Fri.)	<u>EMSB/Patterson Room</u> Wellness Seminar "Achieving Vibrance" Harmoni Health Center. Registration Fee \$20.00 Coffee: 9. 30 A. M.
APRIL 18th	10. A.M. (Thurs.)	<u>EMSB/Patterson Room</u> Insurance/ Medical: Paul Barnes/ QPAT Insurance/ Home/Car, ESSOR Lunch: Carmines Tuscany Grill (Optional)
MAY 7 th	10:00A.M. (Tues.)	<u>EMSB/Patterson Room</u> AGM Coffee 9. 30 A.M Lunch: Carmines Tuscany Grill (Optional)

Carmine's Tuscany Grill Restaurant is at 5525 Cote St. Luc Rd., H3X 2C6. (514-484-7525)
Guest welcome. Please inform Events coordinator Ken Cooke (514-485-9118) if you are attending the luncheons. Program information, contact Erene Anthony 514-626-8002
www.qparse-apperq.org

Watch for details for Special Events:
February 3-15 Caribbean Cruise
May 13 -20 Alaskan Cruise
September 13-25 The British Isles, Norway & France

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

QPARSE has been quite busy since the last Newsletter. Jan Langelier and Robin Narsted attended the Eastern Canada Retired Teacher Organizations meeting. This is the region of ACER-CART to which we now belong. They picked up much valuable information on pensions, health plans and much else. The Strategic Planning Committee has also met and looked at communications with members, financial viability, and other items to better serve you, our members. Also some of our members have been serving on a committee dealing with the aftermath of the sale of the Robinson residence.

As usual the Events/Program Committee, chaired by Erene Anthony, has prepared a fine program for this year. Details are elsewhere in this issue. I would like to note that our annual Fall Luncheon is in November this year due to the renovation of the Patterson Room. I hope that both new and experienced members will join us at 12:00 November 16th for a light luncheon. Also please join us for our Holiday Celebration on December 6th at which the McGill Choral Society will perform.

Lastly I must report that all of QPARSE was saddened by sudden passing of Ann MacLeish on October 11, 2012. Ann served QPARSE for many years both as a Board member and as President. QPARSE however was just one of many organizations in which Ann was involved. She was an amazing woman and will be greatly missed.

Ken Cooke. Vice President.

We have decided to dedicate this issue of the Newsletter to the life & works of Ann MacLeish. She meant so much to so many people in so many ways.... She made significant contributions to: The P.S.B.G.M throughout her professional career as well as "The Canadian Council of Women", The Women's Institute", "Delta Kappa Gamma", "The Retired Educators Investment Club", "Howick United Church" and probably many more that I am unaware of.

We have included an Obituary written by Pat Steele, Past president of Q.P.A.R.S.E. and excerpts from an eulogy presented by Don Taylor a retired school board administrator at the memorial service at Howick United Church 29th October. It must be noted that Pat Steele, Valerie Delacretaz & Ann's dear friend Ila Grayland all spoke & shared memories with the congregation at the "standing room only" service.

Richard Meades, Editor.

Ann MacLeish

We were very saddened, indeed shocked, to hear of Ann's sudden death on October 11th. She seemed like a permanent fixture and certainly a leading light of our community. I have known Ann for many years but knew her best from our time on the Board of Directors of QPARSE.

Ann had a long and distinguished career with the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal from 1954 to 1995 – 41 years! She was a science teacher at various schools, notably John Grant, where she spent the last two years of her stay as Vice-Principal. When we were together at various functions, there were invariably a number of people who had taught with her at John Grant and I'm sure many of you will remember her with affection. She went on to become Vice Principal at Riverdale, Acting Principal at St. Laurent and, for the final 16 years of her career, Regional Director of Region IV. She was very well liked and respected by all her colleagues. I worked with her on several Board-Union committees and always found her well informed, sensible and very easy to get along with.

After her retirement, Ann joined QPARSE and soon became President, a post she held for ten years. She was a very hard act to follow! She developed PAPRT, as it was then, from a mainly social chat club which shunned any political involvement, to a legitimate voice for retired teachers. She recruited a dynamic and hard-working Board of Directors, of which I am happy to be a part. She also supervised the change of name following the deconfessionalisation of the school boards, which may sound trivial but was in fact quite a major legal operation. She was instrumental in restoring our membership in the national association, the Canadian Association of Retired Teachers, and we have received several very gracious messages of condolence from its members.

As her successor, I found her guidance and advice invaluable – and, what's more, she was fun, with a fine sense of humour and a very down to earth attitude to life. As President of QPARSE, she was also President of the Protestant Retired Teachers Homes and Benefits Corporation in Cowansville and I know that that group also were grateful for her knowledge, fairness, wit and caring over the years. She did not like conflict, was extremely loyal to the organizations she belonged to, always gave 110% of herself and came to meetings in spite of weather conditions and driving cross-country on less than perfect country roads. We were all saddened when we had to close the retired teachers home, the Robinson Residence, two years ago, Ann most of all. But she had seen the inevitable end to our financial problems and, with her usual practical common sense, was one of the prime movers of the solution. She remained very interested in the welfare of the residents until the end and was determined, with the rest of us, to ensure that they were taken care of.

Ann was a very fine colleague, example and friend to all her colleagues in education. She will be greatly missed.

by Pat Steele

Memories shared by Don Taylor.(excerpts)

I first met Ann MacLeish in 1979 when I was a Vice Principal at Northmount High School and she was named our Regional Director. My first impressions of Ann were that she was quiet & friendly and very interested in everything that happened at our school. She came to all our evening functions and always stayed afterwards to chat with students parents and staff.

At Christmas I discovered that she was also kind, caring and generous, when she invited every administrator in her region to a luncheon at the Royal St Lawrence Yacht Club. During the meal she also revealed her wonderful sense of humour as she bantered with us throughout. When the meal ended she gave us a heartfelt message and a warm thankyou for all the work we did in our schools. We left that day feeling supported, appreciated and hopeful that she would continue as our Regional Director for many years to come.

As a nervous new Principal in 1982 Ann became my friend and mentor. I often sought her advice and very much appreciated her patience and wisdom and her marvelous ability to analyse a problem and find a workable solution. She could not have been more supportive. When Royal West Academy was created by the merger of Montreal West and Royal Vale High Schools, Ann participated in all the planning meetings and guided us through all the hurdles at the Board level.

Ann was a true pedagogical leader, she encouraged the teachers of English to embrace “the Whole Language Approach”. She found funds to send the Math team to visit other schools to aid their quest for success.

Ann was considered a renowned educator and an innovator within the PSBGM. She had all the schools in her region connected and using an early form of electronic mail long before the internet was created and with the coming of the FAX, she equipped each of her schools with a machine. I also remember Ann engaging a trainer to ensure all her administrators were qualified to perform CPR. She even joined us in the classes as we rolled on the floor & breathed into each other !

During my 10 years as an administrator in Region 4 I never heard one negative word said about Ann. In fact it would not be an exaggeration to say that most of her Region’s administrators worshipped her and would have done anything she asked.

At her personal expense, she also began taking out all the head secretaries and caretakers in her Region for a luncheon both at Christmas and at years end. Leaving another group of employees feeling supported and appreciated.

Whenever Ann dropped by the school she often took the time to chat with students, teachers and support staff.

When I worked with Ann at the PSBGM head office I also observed the respect she commanded from the senior staff and the commissioners. Sitting in the office next to hers I was able to see firsthand that she was a tireless, dedicated worker who always made decisions that were in the best interest of her schools and kids in general. I discovered that she was fearless under pressure and understand why one school board director still refers to her as “the iron lady”.

When preparing this eulogy I did a little research into her career as an employee of the PSBGM and discovered that in addition to being an exemplary school and board level administrator, Ann Macleish was an excellent teacher of Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics at Lachine High School as well as Head of the Science Dept. at John Grant High School.

Her considerable contribution to the profession was also recognized at the provincial level. She received the Quebec Association of School Administrators Award of Merit, their Distinguished Service Award and an Honorary Life Membership.

If I remember correctly, Ann was the President of the Women Teachers Association that fought and gained wage parity with the Men Teachers Association.

I am forever grateful to have had the opportunity to learn how to be a school administrator under the guidance and leadership of a master. Ann MacLeish.

by Don Taylor

QPARSE website has received messages from Ontario, Saskatchewan and Quebec, remembering Ann....

“I know she will be missed and appreciate all her efforts on our behalf.”

“I express my condolences to her family, friends & QPARSE-APPERQ on behalf of the Superannuated teachers of Saskatchewan. In prayerful thanks & memory.”

“This is sad news. Ann has been a dedicated worker for retired teachers as she was for active teachers during the many years I was teaching.”



**Submission to the Standing Committee on Finance Pre-Budget Consultations
2013**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This brief has been developed in response to the requirements of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance. In keeping with these requirements, the brief focuses on

- a) the support by ACER-CART for the five basic principles of the *Canada Health Act* (1984) and support for the preservation of these principles (universality, access, comprehensiveness, portability and public administration), with sustainable funding;
- b) the position that it is essential the government institute a national pharmacare program where people of Canada have equal access to essential medications, purchased under a national formulary resulting in safe, cost-effective drugs; and
- c) the belief that to meet the growing demands for home care, particularly for seniors, ACER-CART supports the establishment of a long-term national plan for home care as an integral part of health care services for those who would benefit from such care.

To support our first two proposals, a letter from the Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of Health states: “The Prime Minister and I support the *Canada Health Act* and its five principles” and “our government remains open to meaningful collaboration on pharmaceutical issues to realize efficiencies in the health care system and across jurisdictions.”¹ The last proposal will deal with the issue of home care being included in the *Health Care Act* and integrated with the services provided by long-term care.

¹ The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of Health, Letter, 2011/08/11.

Our first proposal is a minimum cost item due to the lack of any substantive changes within the *Canada Health Act*. Our second proposal would involve the cost of establishing a national drug plan that would be publicly funded and administrated, estimated at a cost of \$100 million per year, less savings. Our third proposal would see home care integrated into the health care package at a cost of \$250 million per year, less savings.

OVERVIEW

“Through thirteen (13) provincial and territorial associations of retired teachers, *the Association canadienne des enseignantes et des enseignants retraités/Canadian Association of Retired Teachers (ACER-CART)* represents over 117,000 retirees across Canada.

Every year, Directors representing the member associations of ACER-CART meet in Ottawa to discuss issues related to aging and seniors: government policies and programs, health care, elder abuse, retirement income, downloading of responsibilities between the different levels of government, affordable housing, home and long-term care, pharmacare, as well as other major issues involving seniors.”²

THE CANADA HEALTH ACT

In the first section, topics to be discussed include the *Canada Health Act*, responsibilities between the federal government and provincial/territorial governments, and ACER-CART policy.

The *Canada Health Act* is Canada's federal health insurance legislation and defines the national principles that govern the Canadian health insurance system; namely, public administration, comprehensiveness, universality, portability and accessibility. These principles are symbols of the underlying Canadian values of equity and solidarity.

² Brief presented to The Standing Committee on Finance, December 2008.

The roles and responsibilities for Canada's health care system are shared between the federal and provincial/territorial governments. The provincial and territorial governments have primary jurisdiction in the administration and delivery of health care services. This includes setting their own priorities, administering their health care budgets and managing their own resources. The federal government, under the *Canada Health Act*, sets out the criteria and conditions that must be satisfied by the provincial and territorial health insurance plans for provinces or territories to qualify for their full share of the cash contribution available under the federal Canada Health Transfer.

In the 2009-2010 *Canada Health Act* Annual Report, the most prominent concerns with respect to compliance under the *Canada Health Act* remained patient charges and queue jumping for medically necessary health services at private clinics. Health Canada has made these concerns known to the provinces that allow these charges.³ “The Canadian Medical Association’s two key issues confronting the Canadian health care system are (a) the lack of accountability for system quality of care and performance, and (b) the lack of stewardship for the integrity of the public health insurance program and its long-term financial sustainability.”⁴

“ACER-CART urges all levels of government to determine, in concert, their share of the costs of health care and make a commitment to paying such shares each year for several years, and that information concerning such agreements is made public.”⁵

In summary, the principles of the CHA were outlined, roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders were delineated, concerns from both the *Canada Health Act* Annual Report 2009 - 2010 and the Canadian Medical Association were noted, and ACER-CART Policy was stated.

³ *Canada Health Act* Annual Report, 2009 – 2010.

⁴ *Health Care Transformation in Canada*, Canadian Medical Association, p. 24.

⁵ ACER-CART Health Services and Insurance Policy, B 01 (11).

NATIONAL PHARMACARE PROGRAM

In the second section, topics to be discussed include reference to Medicare as a right, an excerpt from ACER-CART to the Standing Committee on Finance, report of the ACER-CART Health Services Committee Chair, and a brief history of pharmacare.

In his final report on the future of health care in Canada, Romanow stated: “Canadians view Medicare as a moral enterprise not a business venture. We see it as a right of citizenship, not a privilege of status or wealth.”⁶

An ACER-CART 2005 Brief presented to the Standing Committee on Finance stated: “In consultation with the provincial and territorial governments, the federal government should seek to establish a National Prescription Drug Agency under the *Canada Health Act* to control costs, evaluate new and existing drugs, ensure quality, safety and cost-effectiveness of all prescription drugs.

The mandate of such a national agency would be to simplify the present process, whereby each province has its own set of rules, to reduce duplication and to guarantee a more uniform coverage across the country. Under a National Prescription Drug Agency, new and existing drugs would be evaluated through a completely different system, whereby the process would be entirely in the hands of the agency, not the drug companies, allowing for a more open and transparent approach.

As a corollary, Canada should have a single prescription drug formulary. A national prescription formulary would reduce cost but, more importantly, guarantee equality of health services, at least for prescription drugs across Canada.”⁷

In response to the continuing concern about the availability and cost of prescription drugs, a report was presented to the 2008 ACER-CART Annual General Meeting by the Chair of the Health Committee. In his report, Dr. T. J. Gaskell stated:

⁶ *Securing the Future of Medicare: A Call to Care*, Hon. Roy J. Romanow, Canadian Health Coalition, 2011/ 11/ 30.

⁷ Brief presented by ACER-CART to the Standing Committee on Finance, Dealing with Pre Budget Consultation, October 2005.

“In the fall of 2007, the National Pharmacare Hearings organized by the Canadian Health Coalition met with people across Canada. The message received was that Canada needs a national pharmacare program to provide universal access to essential medications; a national bulk buying program; and a safe, cost-effective national formulary. Arthur Schafer, Director of the University of Manitoba Centre for Professional and Applied Ethics, states that as long as Health Canada ‘refers to the drug company as their clients, not us, the people,’ we cannot expect a new direction. A national pharmacare program where people of Canada have equal access to essential medications, purchased under a national formulary resulting in safe, cost-effective drugs must remain our objective.”

“The Canadian Health Coalition states that a national drug plan that would be publicly funded and administered, control costs, provide universal access and ensure the safe and appropriate use of drugs. Our current patchwork of public and private drug plans is inequitable. The present system is also incapable of resisting the negative influence of pharmaceutical companies on cost and safety, and has not ensured that our use of drugs is safe and appropriate. The current rate of increase in drug costs is unsustainable. We urgently need a new system that would be cost-effective, accessible, promote the safe and appropriate use of drugs, and be public and affordable.”⁸

To summarize this section, reference was made to the Romanow report, a submission outlining the establishment of a National Drug Agency and prescription drug formulary, and the advantages of a pharmacare program.

LONG-TERM NATIONAL PLAN FOR HOME CARE

In the final section, topics include ACER-CART policies on homecare, benefits of homecare as one way of relieving pressure on our hospitals.

“ACER-CART believes that homecare should constitute an essential element of the national health care system. It is the position of ACER-CART that seniors constitute an

⁸ Dr. T. J. Gaskell, “Availability and Cost of Prescription Drugs,” 2008 ACER-CART AGM.

increasing proportion of Canadian society. Seniors have special needs and ACER-CART, on their behalf, urges health care policy makers to take an integrated approach to health care, one that will ensure seniors a measure of independence commensurate with their history, will ensure a quality of life and death with dignity through care at home, in long-term care facilities and in hospital settings. ACER-CART supports the establishment of a long-term national plan for homecare as an integral part of health care services for those who would benefit from such care”⁹

“Home care enables seniors to stay in their homes longer with family members and friends close by. A familiar environment provides comfort, stability, companionship and quality of life while reducing the use of acute care facilities. A stay-at-home senior with the help of a caregiver translates into a major reduction in the overall costs of health care.”¹⁰

In his speech, “Securing the Future of Medicare: A Call to Care,” The Hon. Roy Romanow said, “We need to break down traditional barriers among health care providers and reform the local delivery of health care through more efficient and effective integration. Implementing a national homecare strategy is one way that will relieve pressure on our hospitals and allow more Canadians to be treated at home, rather than in expensive hospital beds.”¹¹

To summarize this last section, making home care an essential element of the health care system has many benefits for the clientele, their families, the integration of health care services in the community and the utilization of health care financial resources.

CONCLUSION

“Let us dare to have that vision. And let us dare to make it come true – for ourselves and for future generations that are depending on us.” *The Honourable Roy J. Romanow*

⁹ ACER-CART Policies B01, Health Care in Canada, Numbers 12, 5 and B02 1. d).

¹⁰ ACER-CART Brief presented to The Standing Committee on Finance, October 2005.

¹¹ The Hon. Roy J. Romanow, “Securing the Future of Medicare: A Call to Care,” November 30, 2011, Canadian Health Coalition.

News from the PRTH&B Corporation Board

After the Robinson Residence was sold in September 2011, there were financial obligations to be met until January 2012.

At a meeting held June 19th, 2012 a sub-committee comprised of Shirley Wescott (chair), Ann MacLeish, Art Hobbs, Sandra Aird, Pat Steele, Teresa Maguire and Graeme Sutherland was set up to investigate the future of the PRTH&B Corp. constitutionally. This committee met twice in July and Robin Narsted replaced Sandra on the committee as she was going to be away on an extended holiday.

After consulting an accounting firm August 8th about the charitable status of the Corporation after the residence had been sold, it was clear from the Letters Patent that the PRTH&B Corp. is a separate entity with its own Letters Patent and by Laws.

The main concern for the Board now is that the charitable status be maintained. A lawyer specialized in working with charitable organizations is rewording the objects of the present Letters Patent to reflect the main objective--that is to continue to aid retired educators who are experiencing financial difficulty supporting themselves.

The Board of the PRTH&B Corp will meet as soon as we receive these new objectives from the lawyer. Once it is known if we can keep our charitable status, the Board will move forward in setting up the guidelines to be followed to meet the objectives.

Please note that the Board does welcome new members and if you would care to join us, the annual membership fee is \$10 and this should be sent to Graeme Sutherland, Asst. Treasurer/Trustee, 28 Lansdowne Gardens, Pointe Claire, QC, H9S 5B9

Shirley Wescott, chairman of sub-committee
Gary Crandall, vice-president PRTH & B Corporation

NOTES FROM THE GOODWILL COMMITTEE

My apologies for the way in which the notes and Super Senior list appeared in the last Newsletter. Paragraphs disappeared, as did a more readable list of 90+ birthdays. I hope that the situation is rectified for this issue. QPARSE directors greatly appreciate the donations for postage received from B. Koltay, Gladys Gummer, Elizabeth Speyer, J. Carrier, Gloria Bellam and Anne Leach. The Goodwill Committee is touched by the notes of appreciation, for birthday cards and poem/puzzle booklets, received from the following members : Gloria Bellam, Carol Lodge, Eileen Wales, Yvonne Wilson, Anne Leach and our most faithful correspondent, Ellen Stevenson. We would like to know the year of birth of Rose Sourkes, whose birthday is August 12th, in order to make birthday greetings to her more personal. Jan Barr has turned 90, but we have no way of acknowledging her special day as we haven't a date of birth. We would appreciate that information.

Alanna Dow: Goodwill/Correspondence: alannadow@yahoo.ca

SUPER SENIORS

Our very best wishes go out to the following members whose birthdays fall between January 1st and May 31st (2013 ages):

January 2 - Hélène Cooper - 92
January 4 - Dorothy MacLean - 96
January 4 - Frank Owen - 93
February 3 - Evelyn Crozier - 97
February 16 - Geraldine Taylor - 97
March 31 - Marjorie Topham - 96
April 1 - E. Amelda Bennett - 98
April 1 - Joan Skinner Hanna - 99
April 1 - W. Gordon Bowes - 95
April 12 - Stella Johannson - 93
April 21 - Thelma Leney - 92
May 9 - Richard Jones - 92
May 31 - Ella Hoy - 106

New Members



Some of our New members at the Nov 16th Luncheon in the foyer of the EMSB cafeteria

Membership News Fall 2012

NEW MEMBERS

Abudarham	Sara	Outremont, QC
Adams	Lynda	St Hippolyte, QC
Angeles-Gladysz	Procesa	Dorval, QC
Arseneau	Louise	Laval, QC
Aveline	Allison	Montreal, QC
Bartley	John	Lery, QC
Brennan	Michael	Cote St Luc, QC
Caldwell	John	St.Lambert, QC
Caxaj-Rowe	Brisna	St.Laurent, QC
Coleman	Edith	Montreal, QC
Dukaczewski	Marie-Therese	Montreal, QC
Elson	Judith	Montreal, QC
Fitzgerald	Michele	Lachine, QC
Ghanoudi	Carol	Montreal, QC
Gomes-Ferna	Maria Arcanja	Nuns Island
Green-Adler	Ellen	VSL, QC
Guttman	Hinda	Cote St.Luc, QC
Kinsella	Tania	Kirkland, QC
Leclair	Diane	Ormstown, QC
Llewellyn	Leon	Cote st Luc, QC Deux
Martin	Anne	Montagnes, QC
Mastrocola	Maria-Teresa	Gatineau, QC
Michielli	Marzia	DDO, QC
Montague	Mary Ellen	Pincourt, QC
Oram	Beatrix	Roxboro, QC
Pelonis	Litsa	St. Laurent, QC
Procska-Boivin	Hildegard	Pointe-Claire, QC Deux-Montagues, Qc.
Richie	Jim	Gatineau, QC
Rock	Brian	St.Leonard, QC
Silvestri	Antoinette	Montreal, QC
Skrutkowska	Marie-Claire	Mont-Royal, QC
Sladowski	Peter	Beaconsfield, QC
Wozniak	Lidia	

Deaths

Blakely	Doris	Calgary,AL	28-Jul-07
Blakely	Marven L.	Calgary,AL	20-Mar-12
Brown	Jane	Philipsburg, QC	20-May-12
Carrier	Marcel	St. Agathe, QC	29-Mar-05
Cavanagh	Jean	Ormstown, QC	07-Sep-11
Clark	Leslie J.	Hawksbury, ON	21-Dec-11
Field	PHILIP	Baie d"urfe,QC	02-Jul-12
Gill	Lester D.	Guelph, ON	31-Jan-12
Higginson	Eileen	Hawkesbury, Ontario	03-Aug-12
Hipson-Lalonde	Janet Marie	St.Bruno,QC	15-Aug-12
Kaufman	Benjamin	Montreal, QC	Jan.2012
Kena-Cohen	Joseph	St. Laurent, Qc	??
Macleish	Ann	Ormstown, Qc	11-Oct-12
Saadalla	ISIS (Hanna)	Chomedey,QC	??
Shea	Edna	Westmount,QC	??
Stabler	Barbara J.	Toronto, Ont	01-Jan-11
Stracina	Julius	Montreal,QC	03-Jun-12
Sherman	Ruth	Pointe Claire,QC	2012
Rothney	George	Abbotsford	29-Oct-2012
Strays			
Baker	Genevieve	Quebec, QC	
Beattie	Ross & Betty	Sherbrooke,QC	
Breck	Kathy	Sherbrooke, QC	
Brown	Julia I.	St.Lambert,QC	
Burton	Sylvia L.	Campbellcroft,ON	
Caldwell	Roberta Jean	Val D'or, QC	
Clazie	D. Jean	Hudson Heights,QC	
Herman	Reginald	Cote St Luc,QC	
Okolowsky	Joseph G	St.Sixe, QC	
Quintal	Lise	Pincourt,QC	
Simon	Florence	Montreal,QC	
Swift	Faye	Montreal,QC	
Westman	Thelma G.	Sherbrookie, QC	
Winiarski	P. Margaret	TMR,QC	

Missing 2 years

Bane	Edith	Cote St. Luc, Qc
Borkowski	Henryk	Ville d'Esterel, Qc
Burke	Edna L.	Sainte Anne de Bellevue, QC
Dosanjh	Bhupinder	Raipur Rani India
Hamilton	(BILL)	Oakville, Ont.
Kilpatrick	Noel	Lachine, Qc
Mconnachie *	Heather R.	South Surrey, BC
Mcintosh	Bessie	Thurso, QC
Mcrae	Lily E. A.	Montreal, QC
Roberts	Eileen Avril	Nepean, ON
Smirle	Margaret	Scarborough, ON
Tarasofsky	Berenice	Ottawa, ON
Templeton	Esther G.	Ormstown Qc
	Joyce Rexford	





New Members Application Form

Lifetime membership \$85.00

Membership Application Form

Return together with your cheque for \$85 made out to QPARSE,
to:

Membership Chairperson

c/o QPAT
17035 Brunswick Blvd
Kirkland QC H9H 5G6

Name: _____
Last First

Address: _____
Street Apt #

City/Town Province

Postal Code

Contact Phone No. _____

**e-mail address : _____

Date of Birth (Optional): _____ Year of Retirement-_____

School Board at Retirement-_____

Name of a QPARSE member residing at the same address,(if any):

We are a volunteer organization and do not have an office. For further information
contact QPARSE at **info@qparse-apperq.org**
or on the web at <http://www.qparse-apperq.org/e/feedback.shtml>

Contact QPARSE

If you would like to submit an article, story, poem, anecdote etc.
Or make a correction to the newsletter.

Please contact:

Richard Meades, Editor

26 Broadview Ave.

Pointe Claire, Que.

H9R 3Z2

514-695-2164

Email: rjmeades@hotmail.com

You are also invited to contact our website at:

www.qparse-apperq.org/e/feedback.shtml

When e-mailing us please start your e-mail by putting QPARSE in the subject space. This should avoid messages being shuffled off into the "Junk Mail" folder. Many Thanks.

(Also please remember to inform us of a change of address etc. whether you receive the Newsletter by mail or electronically.)

This Newsletter is published twice a year by QPARSE-
The Quebec Provincial Association of Retired School Educators.

The deadline for submission of items for the Spring Newsletter is May 7th 2013

Legal Advice

Please be reminded that QPARSE retains the services of a notary who is willing to answer general questions dealing with real estate or Taxes. Should he act for you, there will be a charge.

Andrea F. Durso, Notary
4635 Sherbrooke St. West
Westmount, QC H3Z 1G2

Tel: 514 931 2531
Fax: 514 931 2534

Une nouvelle perspective

L'octogénaire tout éberlué, dès
Que les premiers rais
Pénètrent la fenêtre,

Tend la tête plus haut
Vers ce rayonnement céleste
Et s'abreuve de leur chaleur
Qui câline tout son être

Comme un baume.

Aujourd'hui dans
Ce firmament dénudé de nuées
Sa flamme regagne son allure
Radiieuse!

Et éclaire encore sa fenêtre, sauf
Cette fois désertée:
Plus tôt la voûte céleste s'était ouverte
Pour l'offrir un accueil féerique.

Dès lors rétabli au nord des nuées
C'est l'éclat d'un autre soleil
Qui l'émerveille.

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During the tension of this past summer's election did you come across French words such as *urne*, *scrutin*, & *suffrage*? Here is a good opportunity to find out what they mean.

During an electoral campaign one encounters terms such as "*aller aux urnes*," and "*aller voter*," which both mean *to go to the polls* with "*urne*" meaning also *ballot box*.

Each *polling station* or "*bureau de scrutin*" is located in an *electoral district* or "*circonscription*" such as for example, Mont-Royal. *To vote*, "*voter*," *the voter*, "*le/la votant(e)*" casts his/her *ballot*, "*bulletin de vote*" in the *polling-booth*, "*isoloir*". The chosen candidate receives his/her *vote* which translates as "*voix*" or "*suffrage*"

"*Voteur*" the French word for *voter* was in vogue in France during the Revolution but is not used in modern French

QPARSE Call for Nominations

Get involved in the life of your Association by becoming a member of the Board of Directors. The Board consists of 18 members including a President, Past President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary and 13 other Directors who are allocated specific responsibilities. It meets once a month from September to June.

The Nominating Committee is starting its search for Board members for 2013-14 so please contact the Chair if you wish to VOLUNTEER or NOMINATE someone. We have a number of vacancies, including : Goodwill Chairperson, Membership Secretary, Newsletter Editor, Webmaster and a number of members at large. I hope that you will give serious consideration to supporting your fellow retired educators.

Pat Steele
Chair, Nominating Committee

patricia.steele@bell.net
514-369-3473

The English Plural and other Weirdness !

We'll begin with a box, and the plural is boxes,
But the plural of ox becomes oxen, not oxes.
One fowl is a goose, but two are called geese,
Yet the plural of moose should never be meese.
You may find a lone mouse or a nest full of mice,
Yet the plural of house is houses not hice.

If the plural of man is always called men,
Why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen?
If I speak of my foot and show you my feet,
And I give you a boot, would a pair be called beet?
If one is a tooth and a whole set are teeth,
Why shouldn't the plural of booth be called beeth?

Then one may be that, and ther would be those,
Yet hat in the plural would never be hose,
And the plural of cat is cats , not cose.
We speak of brother & also of brethren,
But though we say mother, we never say methren.
Then masculine pronouns are he, his and him,
But imagine :she shis and shim!

The English Plural, contd.

Let's face it English is a crazy language.
There is no egg in eggplant or ham in hamburger,
Neither apple nor pine in pineapple.
English muffins weren't invented in England.

We take English for granted, but we explore its paradoxes,
We find quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square,
And a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.
And why is it that writers write, but fingers don't fing,
Grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham?

Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend?
If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them,
What do you call it?

If we teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught?
If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?
Sometimes I think all the folks who grew up speaking English,
Should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane.
In what other language do people recite at a play and play at a recital?

We ship by truck but send cargo by ship....
We have noses that run & feet that smell.
We park in a driveway and drive on a parkway.
And how can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same,
While a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language
In which your house can burn up as it burns down.
In which you fill in a form by filling it out,
And in which an alarm goes off by going on !

Anon.

Some less than "Deep Thoughts"

Even if you are on the right track - You'll get run over if you just sit there !

Conscience is what hurts - When everything else feels good !

Talk is cheap because supply exceeds demand !

In just two days, tomorrow will be yesterday !

Members with Special Expertise

We are continuing to include in the Newsletter a list of names & phone numbers of members who have skills and interests that they are prepared to share with others.

Any fees to be charged for these services are to be set with the agreement of the parties involved.

If you are interested in adding your name to this list , please contact us by:

e-mail – info@qparse-apperq.org or by phone –

Sandra Aird – President 514-738-6169, Richard Meades- Editor 514-695-2164

Name	Contact point	Service
Bill Bernhaut	450-246-3796 rbernhaut@bellnet.ca	Antique furniture refinishing.
Sonia Browman	514-748-5788 home 514-747-0568 machine	Sign language. Speech therapy. Lip reading

Some creativity exercised by “Small Business Owners” on their signage:

A Podiatrist – “Time wounds all heels.”

A Proctologist – “ To expedite your visit, please back in.”

A Plumber – “ We repair what your husband fixed.”

Another Plumber “ Don’t sleep with a drip, call your plumber.”

A Church – “7 days without God makes one weak.”

An Electrician – “ Let us remove your shorts.”

On a Maternity Clinic door – “ Push, push, push.”

An Optometrists office – “ If you don’t see what you are looking for ---- you have come to the right place !”

A Taxidermist – “We really know our stuff.”

A Vet’s office – “Be back in 5 minutes, Sit, Stay !”

A Funeral Home Driveway – “Drive carefully, we will wait.”

A Radiator Shop – “ Best place in town to take a leak.”

A Propane Filling Station – “Thank heaven for little grills.”

On the back of a Septic Tank truck – “ This truck is full of political promises.”

At the Electric Company office – “We would be delighted if you send in your payment -----
However if you don’t ----- you will be !”

Sign Language by C.E.E.

Keeping one's mind active need not involve great expenditures of energy, time or treasure: even the most trivial activity can contribute to that end. One such ----- taking note of the errors of spelling and syntax that bedevil so many signs and notices ---- is a simple but effective way to get some valuable exercise.

Errors of spelling and vocabulary are especially common on signs, the errant apostrophe a particularly persistent offender. Is the "Doctor's Entrance" in a hospital really reserved for one especially eminent physician ? And should restaurant patrons expect to be greeted by a scholar when they see "Student's Welcome " advertised in the window of an establishment ? Why does a store feature "Stationery, Books, CD's" and another "Chocolate And Candy's"? And how does a newspaper story announcing "Road Closure's Galore " escape the editor's wrathful eye ?

Slips of other kinds are as obvious and as irritating. One shop posts a sign that offers "Every Items \$10.00", while a competitor promises "Up To 70% Off Selective Items". A slimming salon urges passers by to "Loose Weight!" ; a seniors' residence extols its "Dinning Room Service". "All deliveries Threw Rear Door" confronts deliverymen at the entrance to an office building; "Personal Only" keeps supermarket customers from wandering into forbidden territory; "Beware The Dog" deters potential trespassers.

Unscrambling the stricken syntax with which all too many signs are afflicted is a demanding, although ultimately rewarding exercise. " Please refrain From Smoking Within One Metre To The Extension Of This Door" is one particularly tortured example, as is the evn more verbose "Please Turn Off All Phones As They affect Our Medical Equipment From Working Properly". 'Registration For Adult Services Are In the Basement" and "Any Illegal Parking Will Be Towed Away" demand revision; "Please Allow Passengers To Disembark Before Boarding" and "Unfortunately Children Cannot Board The Shuttle Bus" are ambiguous.

And "The Water Being Shut Off So That A Major Refurbishment Of The Hot Water Storage Tanks For This Wing And Be Done" is an attempt at explaining why some hotel guests have been deprived of hot water.

Translations ---- in our case, from French ---- make up a sub-group often yielding amusing, puzzling, occasionally bizarre renditions of their intended messages. One such, in a store equipped with security cameras, warns that "You Are Under Superintendance". A bank machine that is out of order wears a notice inviting a potential user to "Present Yourself At The Information Desk", while the rate sheet of another bank points out that "This Table of Services And Applicable Fees Is Not Exhausting". The passenger in a railway station who consults the Arrivals and Departures board is advised that "If Your Destination Does Not Appear In This List Help Yourself To An Agent". Metro riders are cautioned that "Anyone Activating The Emergency Brake Uselessly Or Without Good Reason Is Subject To A Fine Of Up To \$500.00 Plus Fees". And anyone waiting for a bus is discouraged from taking shelter in the entrance to a fast food outlet by an apologetic sign that reads "Sorry. The Door Of This Restaurant Is Not A House-Bus".

We are daily exposed to signs intended to inform us, direct us, persuade us and dissuade us; but all too many of these signs cry out for correction. When next you spot such a blemished sign, why not jot down the offending text ? Later , in the comfort and safety of your favourite arm-chair, ---- armed with that left over red pencil you once wielded with such definitive authority ---- re-write the message. It's yet another simple ,cost free and satisfying way to keep your mind sharp.

A Visit to Hudson

Hudson has long been a favoured destination for Quebecers; if you haven't yet visited Greenwood, located at 254 Main Road, you are in for a treat. Greenwood is a historic home and garden situated on the Lake of Two Mountains, part of which dates back to 1732, making it the oldest home in the area.

Completely furnished with original artifacts that belonged to five generations of the same family, this house has something to interest everyone. The collections include the dining table and chairs from the officer's mess, once presided over by Lord Dorchester, an Imari dinner set from the 1850's, a selection of vintage clothing hats and many many more items.

This gem of a home welcomes visitors from June through Labour Day. Guided tours and tea on the front porch are a wonderful way to see the property, and enjoy the pleasures Greenwood has to offer. Each fall, a magnificent literary festival called StoryFest takes place, and in December, there are Old Fashioned Christmas events and a concert, "Carols for a Mid-Winter Night": For more information about the activities this non profit, volunteer based organization offers throughout the year, please visit www.greenwood-centre-hudson.org



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Kathy Malcius & Renate Sutherland greeting members.

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