



QPARSE News

The newsletter of the Québec Provincial Association of Retired School Educators
 Les nouvelles de l'Association du personnel d'enseignement retraité du Québec

www.qparse-apperq.org

SPRING : 2015

QPARSE volunteerism survey

All political organizations need statistics and the Retired Teachers' Association of Manitoba (RTAM) conducted a survey of its members' volunteerism habits. Of the 8500 members in the association 1476 members responded and gave evidence of their contributions to Manitoba society.

Volunteerism was defined as: "Providing a service without pay to anyone (not living in the same household) or to the community or environment. This service is provided either directly, on one's own, or indirectly, through a group or organization."



Survey results:

Demographic profile:

female	61%	male	39%
volunteered in last 12 months:	84%		80%
average monthly hours of volunteer work:	43.4		40.0

Age of volunteers (percentage of total respondents):

50-59	13%
60-64 years old	29%
65-69	31%
70-74	16%
Over 75	11%

With whom volunteers have worked in the past 12 months:

Adults	54%
Other retirees	53%
Young children	31%
Adolescents/youth	29%
Community work	7%

(Continued on Page 04)

Complete the QPARSE Survey by clicking here:



Upcoming Events:

- Lunch in Pointe-Claire**
September 2nd
- Mont-Tremblant trip**
September 24th
- Retirees' luncheon**
October 28th
- Social media workshop**
November 12th



Mark your agenda NOW!

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Editorial

*Our good works are like stones cast into the pool of time;
though the stones themselves may disappear, their ripples extend to eternity.*
Anonymous

Volunteerism, the theme of this newsletter, can represent some of the ripples that, by our actions, we extend to eternity. Volunteering is also an aspect of retirement that can contribute to our idea of "aging well". According to Tom McKee's article Volunteer Power, people have "one of three levels of motivation for volunteering: self serving, relational, or belief-driven" reasons. Although there is no financial gain for volunteers, we often get as much, or more, out of "helping, assisting or serving another person or organization".



It would be enlightening to hear about our membership's volunteer practices. Therefore, we ask you to answer the questionnaire entitled: Telling the Stories of Retired Teachers' Volunteer Activity. Whether you volunteer in small measure, are an active volunteer or cannot devote time to volunteer efforts; please take a few minutes to tell us about it. Go to the questionnaire at the back of this Newsletter and answer the ten(10) short questions. The goal is to use the results in working on behalf of the members' interests and benefits, and to inspire the volunteer work of others. In the next edition of QPARSE News, we will give you a snapshot of the results and information on our membership's efforts.

In this edition of QPARSE, you will also find the summary of results from a survey on volunteerism that was carried out by the Retired Teachers' Association of Manitoba. The Manitoba survey points to the high participation rate in volunteerism among seniors, a range of activities that educators participate in, and the number of hours volunteers devote to helping others. QPARSE has been given authorization to replicate the Manitoban survey in Quebec.

Chacun de nous peut se porter volontaire et donner de son temps, de sa compétence et de son savoir, Chaque jour, plusieurs de nos membres s'engagent dans des initiatives de volontariat - sois à grande ou petite échelle . S.V.P. Prenez quelques minutes pour répondre au questionnaire au sujet du volontariat .

SURVEY

There are also two articles that spotlight the government's offer to teachers and public sector employees, as well as an update on negotiations. As retired educators we must follow this dossier very closely.

In the electronic version of this and future newsletters, a *travel moment* and a *musical interlude* will be included. So, if you come across an amazing performance or fascinating travel pictures that you would like to share please send them along and we will include them in the next QPARSE Newsletter.

With summer almost in full bloom, may you enjoy numerous good weather activities, gardening nirvana or just bask in the sun's warming rays on your balcony or patio. Whatever your pleasure, on behalf of the Newsletter Workgroup we extend our best wishes for an enjoyable summer. See you in September.

Marzia Michielli



Editor of all

**Newsletter
Working Group Members:**

**Nest issue deadline
August 15.**

Theme : Reflections

**Renate Sutherland
Dave Chandler
Patrick Clarke
Jean Le Guillou
Jan Langelier
Sandra Aird
Marzia Michielli**

President's Message - Message de la présidente

The best way to find yourself, is to lose yourself in the service of others.

Mahatma Gandhi

Welcome to warm sunshine and spring!

QPARSE vibrates with energy and engagement!

With "Volunteerism" as our theme, it is time to celebrate ourselves - our volunteer organization of retired educators. We are very grateful to all our members, who, through their interest and increased participation in our many program events, continue to support and encourage us to sustain our vibrancy as QPARSE moves forward and finds creative ways in serving you better.



Watch for details as we launch the QPARSE Facebook page!

I would like to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU to the talented members of the Board of Directors and the Editorial Board, the unsung volunteer workers in our association, who manage the many duties and responsibilities with efficiency, thoughtfulness, caring and commitment that go beyond the call of duty. I think you will enjoy reading this edition of QPARSE NEWS. It reflects not only the collective creativity of all the contributors, but also provides insight into who we are and what went on this year. The more we're involved, the more we benefit.

According to the Retired Teachers' Association of Manitoba, "Studies on volunteerism show that volunteers FEEL BETTER: LIVE LONGER - report greater life satisfaction and exhibit positive health outcomes because of the thanks they receive from those they help or from seeing the actual benefits they give to those they help and inspire." There is no doubt, that, especially as educators, we have experienced successful volunteering and can identify with these findings.

On behalf of QPARSE, I wish to express our special thanks to Dana Star, the outgoing Recording Secretary for the past ten years, who provided remarkable expertise and commitment and, to Mary Ellen Montague, Member at Large, for her dedicated service this past year.

We are thrilled that our initiative to invite other volunteers to join us on the Board of Directors has resulted in Patrick Clarke, Terrie Kozaczynski and Katherine Snow accepting this challenge with enthusiasm. Welcome aboard!

I wish you all a safe and restful summer and look forward to seeing you on September 2nd when we meet for "Lunch in Pointe Claire Village."

Renate Sutherland
President

A Great Success!

The **Benefits/Insurance Workshop** was a great success! Seventy-one people were in attendance for the session and a subset of the group continued their discussion at *Le Manoir* restaurant for lunch.

Paul Barnes' PowerPoint presentation was informative and it gave a comprehensive overview and update of QPAT's Industrial Alliance Health/Medical plan. Michael Stirrup's comments on the government's SSQ Health Plan were also greatly appreciated. Those in attendance were pleased to have had their questions answered and the feedback was positive.

Our thanks go to QPAT for their kind hospitality.

Do not miss this workshop next year!.



Results of retired Manitoba teachers volunteerism survey (continued from Page 01)

Volunteer activities engaged in the last 12 months:

Sitting as a board or committee member	52%
Organizing or supervising events	49%
Educating	36%
Canvassing, campaigning, fundraising	33%
Personal support/companionship	30%
Collecting, serving, delivering food	24%
Driving people or goods	23%
Advocating for others	19%
Office, administrative work	19%

Future volunteering intentions:

Plan on volunteering in the future	51%
Do not plan on volunteering in the future	49%

Main reason for not volunteering in the last 12 months

Pursuing other interests	39%
Health problem	19%
Unwilling to make time commitment	7%
Donate money instead of time	6%
Working	6%
Caring for family members	6%

Please complete the QPARSE survey on volunteerism by clicking on the link to the right. The results will be shared with you once compiled.



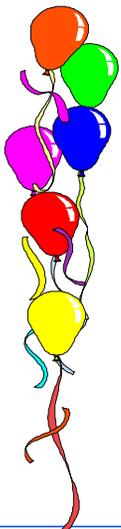
May I never get too busy in my own affairs that I fail to respond to the needs of others with kindness and compassion.

Thomas Jefferson

We welcome the following new members into the wonderful world of retirement

Helen Kluger
Diane Fry

Robert Lipscombe
Karl Balzersen-Quraeshi



Negotiations: An update

Here is a summary of what the government is demanding in its negotiations with public sector employees and teachers. As of May 5, 2015, there has been no movement in positions at any of the bargaining tables.

Inter-sectorial negotiations (affecting all public sector employees)

Salaries:

0% increase in first year
 0% increase in second year
 1% increase in third year
 1% increase in fourth year
 1% increase in fifth year

Since the inflation rate is close to 2% this demand is effectively a salary cut.

Pensions will be based on the best 8 years instead of the current best 5 years of work. There will be an increase in retirement age with full pension, from 60 to 62 years. There will be a higher penalty in the pension amount for those retiring early. The government wants to bring about these changes starting with those who retire in 2017 and beyond. Nothing has changed for those already receiving their pension.

Sectorial negotiations (i.e. the teachers' collective agreement):

There is a proposal to increase the maximum class sizes for grades 3 to 8. This would increase the student-teacher ratio and mean fewer teaching posts in schools. These provisions will make it easier for maximum class sizes to be exceeded. Provisions for average class size will be removed.

Services to special needs students will be removed, including appendices that ensure coded students count as more than one student. This keeps the number of coded students in a class at a manageable level. The government's demands would result in a special needs student "counting" the same as a "regular" student when classes are formed.

There is a proposal to increase the number of weekly hours worked from the current 32 hours to 35 hours. There is a request to make all of the work hours outside of teaching, supervision and remediation (tutorials) noted as assigned presence. A school administrator would be able to assign tasks to teachers during this time (administrative work, group meetings). Currently, 5 hours out of the 32 hours are scheduled by the teacher as personal work time (e.g. marking and planning time).

There are provisions to have teachers who are sick return to work more quickly. There would be a qualifying period before teachers could benefit from salary insurance when on sick leave. This change would be introduced for new hires.

These are just the major changes being demanded by the government. Nothing has been settled in the ongoing negotiations, but the government has been quite clear with its intention to push forward its austerity agenda on the backs of teachers and other workers in the public sector.

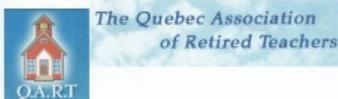
It should be noted that while all of this happening, the government continues to impose budget cuts on school boards not specifically related to the teachers' collective agreement. These cuts will certainly continue to directly affect services to students. To deal with these cuts, school boards are already reducing the number of teachers for next year to the minimum required under the current collective agreement (which still applies while we negotiate the new one).

The demands the government is making on teachers have been described as the worst ever seen by my experienced union leader colleagues who have gone through many rounds of negotiations.

Thank you to QPARSE members for your ongoing support.

Peter Sutherland

MTA President and Member-at-large on the QPAT Executive Committee



Extraits d'un communiqué émis par le groupe des syndicats de la table de négociations

Douze associations représentant plus de 115 000 retraités dénoncent les offres gouvernementales touchant les régimes de retraite du secteur public

Québec, le 9 février 2015 – Douze associations représentant plus de 115 000 retraités du secteur public, réunies au sein du Groupe de travail des associations de retraités (GTAR), se joignent à la mobilisation actuelle en dénonçant à leur tour les offres gouvernementales touchant la retraite déposées par le gouvernement Couillard. Les membres du GTAR craignent un appauvrissement des personnes retraitées qui aurait des conséquences néfastes pour l'ensemble de la société québécoise. C'est pourquoi elles exigent d'être entendues par le président du Conseil du trésor afin de sensibiliser à ce risque.

Rappelons que dans l'offre déposée le 15 décembre, le gouvernement demande une série de concessions aux retraités et futurs retraités du secteur public en matière de retraite, notamment le report de l'âge d'admissibilité à la retraite, une augmentation importante des pénalités pour prise de retraite anticipée, une modification de la méthode de calcul de la rente et une indexation conditionnelle des rentes.

Il n'y a aucune raison de s'attaquer au RREGOP!

Pour justifier ses propositions, le gouvernement évoque la nécessité « d'assurer la pérennité du régime de retraite des employés du gouvernement et des organismes publics (RREGOP) en réduisant les risques financiers ». Or, comme l'illustrent clairement les résultats de la dernière mise à jour de l'évaluation actuarielle du RREGOP au 31 décembre 2013, le principal régime du secteur public est en bonne santé financière. En effet, la caisse des participants au RREGOP est capitalisée à 96 %. Ce taux pourrait atteindre 100 % lors de la prochaine mise à jour actuarielle au

31 décembre 2014.

« Les données le prouvent, il n'y a absolument aucune raison de s'attaquer au RREGOP. La seule raison qui pousse le gouvernement à agir, c'est sa volonté d'économiser de l'argent sur le dos de ses employés, retraités et futurs retraités. Ce faisant, il diminuerait encore davantage le pouvoir d'achat de dizaines de milliers de personnes âgées. C'est inadmissible et nous voulons lui exprimer haut et fort notre opposition », a souligné le porte-parole du GTAR et président de l'Association des retraitées et retraités de l'éducation et des autres services publics du Québec, Pierre Paul Côté.

Appauvrir les retraités, c'est nous appauvrir collectivement!

Les retraités mettent également en garde le gouvernement face à la tentation de prendre des décisions financières à courte vue qui pourraient avoir des conséquences importantes sur l'économie québécoise, car en appauvrissant les retraités, il appauvrit l'ensemble de la société. À l'heure actuelle, rappelons que les sommes déposées à la Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (CDPQ) et qui appartiennent aux régimes du secteur public comptent pour plus de 53 % du portefeuille du principal bas de laine des Québécois.

(Suite page 07)



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« Les régimes de retraite à prestations déterminées constituent un levier économique important qui bénéficient à toute la collectivité. Pourtant, ils sont présentés à tort comme étant une dépense alors qu'ils représentent un investissement. En plus de contribuer au développement du Québec par l'entremise de la Caisse de dépôt et placement, les personnes retraitées contribuent activement à l'économie par les impôts et les taxes qu'ils paient; ce ne sont pas des citoyens dans leur tour d'ivoire! Elles méritent d'être entendues, écoutées et consultées, comme toutes personnes qui ont à cœur de protéger leur avenir et celui de leurs enfants », ajoute le co-porte-parole du GTAR et président de l'Association québécoise des retraité(e)s des secteurs public et parapublic (AQRP), Donald Tremblay.

Une indexation conditionnelle? Non merci!

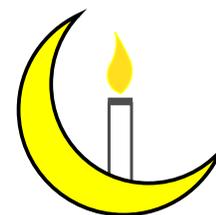
Enfin, les retraités dénoncent l'intention du gouvernement de rendre conditionnelle l'indexation des rentes (RREGOP, RRE, RRF, RRCE), telle que libellée dans l'offre déposée le 15 décembre. Or, la rente du RREGOP est déjà partiellement désindexée, selon les années de service cotisées.

« Nos rentes sont partiellement indexées depuis que le gouvernement en a décidé ainsi, de manière unilatérale, en 1982, une situation qui s'est prolongée pendant près de 20 ans et qui a augmenté la vulnérabilité des retraités sur le plan financier! S'il devait ajouter l'insulte à l'injure en rendant l'indexation conditionnelle, comme c'est le cas dans le secteur municipal avec la Loi 3, il reviendrait encore une fois sur des ententes prises dans le passé! C'est complètement inacceptable dans une société libre et démocratique », conclut la co-porte-parole du GTAR et présidente de l'Alliance des associations de retraités (AAR), Mariette Gélinas.

For another take on negotiations click [here](#).

Light A Dream

Seeing the Abilities in Disabilities



The students of **Light A Dream**(LAD) stuffed, stamped and labeled our January 2015 newsletter. They were so productive and efficient we have asked them to take on the job permanently.

LAD is a non-profit organization that supports adults with disabilities. Current students and graduates of Lester B. Pearson School Board schools learn life and work skills in a safe and welcoming store setting. The students produce and sell candles, soaps and gift items.

Light a Dream / Illuminez un Rêve

475 Avenue Dumont, Suite 102

Dorval, QC

514.636.9966

www.lightadream.com

Store hours

Monday thru Friday

10:00 - 4:30

also by appointment

Mary Ellen Montague

QPARSE Annual Financial Report 2014

Two main actions produced added income: deductions from our investments are less than those in 2013 and Senior Tours has given QPARSE a 4% rebate for members who travel with them. Expenses are lower due to postal costs decreasing following an effort to switch more members to email communications. Liability insurance has been cancelled because coverage no longer applies to our needs. Tax preparation costs for 2013/ 2014 will apply next year. The new website has also increased costs. Following the recommendation of our financial consultant, investments have been moved to CI Investments with Assante Capital Management. QPARSE thanks Diane Fry for her review of the 2014 financials.

Kathleen Malcius
Treasurer

QUEBEC PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED SCHOOL EDUCATORS

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

January 1, 2014 - December 31, 2014

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Income		
Membership Fees	\$ 2,380.00	\$ 1,870.00
from Capital	\$ 8,600.00	\$ 10,000.00
Program	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 600.00
Donations	\$ 320.00	\$ 30.00
Bank Interest	\$ 7.75	\$ 0.30
Misc.,incl.Sen.Tours	\$ 1,436.07	
Total Income	<u>\$ 14,343.82</u>	<u>\$ 12,500.30</u>
Expenses		
Newsletter	\$ 3,454.96	\$ 3,525.52
Communications/Membership	\$ 568.16	\$ 1,117.80
Annual General Meeting	\$ 545.02	\$ 763.00
Program	\$ 2,022.05	\$ 1,216.23
Goodwill	\$ 353.07	\$ 763.72
Liability Insurance	\$ -	\$ 788.26
ACER-CART Fees	\$ 420.00	\$ 443.45
Tax Preparation	\$ -	\$ 1,927.66
Website	\$ 1,173.81	\$ 101.64
Executive Expenses	\$ 813.87	\$ 595.08
Miscellaneous	\$ 263.25	\$ 226.72
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 9,614.19</u>	<u>\$ 11,469.08</u>
Net Income / Net loss	\$ 4,729.63	\$ 1,031.22

YEAR-END BANK RECONCILIATION

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Bank balance Forward, January 1	\$ 4,624.58	\$ 4,178.99
plus Total Income	\$ 14,343.82	\$ 12,500.30
less Total Expenses	-\$ 9,614.19	-\$ 11,469.08
less Outstanding cheques from previous year	-\$ 643.45	-\$ 1,229.08
plus Outstanding cheques	\$ 200.00	\$ 643.45
Balance, December 31	<u>\$ 8,910.76</u>	<u>\$ 4,624.58</u>

ASSETS AT DECEMBER 31

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
CI Investments	\$ 98,481.34	\$ 2,559.48
Bank Balance, December 31	\$ 8,910.76	\$ 4,624.58
Total assets, December 31	<u>\$ 107,392.10</u>	<u>\$ 106,462.23</u>

PROGRAM CALENDAR

2015

Wednesday, September 2nd 12 Noon

Lunch in Pointe Claire Village
Le Pionnier, 286 Chemin Bord du Lac/Lakeshore

Thursday, September 24th

Departure: 9:15 a.m. at EMSB and
9.45 a.m at Fairview

Mount Tremblant Excursion (Casino optional)
Cost (Bus only): \$30.00 Non-members \$35.00

Wednesday, October 28th 1:30 p.m.

Fall Luncheon for Retirees
EMSB/Cafeteria
Reception 1:00 p.m. in Atrium
Members \$10.00 - Non members \$15.00

Thursday, November 12th 11:00 a.m.

Social Media Presentation (Facebook, email, etc.)
EMSB Laurence Patterson Room
Bring your own Ipad or tablet
Lunch (optional)

Tuesday, December 8th 10:30 a.m.

Holiday Celebration Program
St Thomas Anglican Church Hall
4810 Rosedale NDG (Corner- Somerled)
Dix Mille Villages (arts, crafts, jewelry & gift items)
Donation for NDG Food Bank
Lunch (optional)

2016

Tuesday, February 9th 11:00 a.m.

Seniors' Issues
EMSB Patterson Room
Lunch (optional)

Thursday, March 17th 10:00 a.m.

Cabane à sucre excursion

Wednesday, April 13th 11:00 a.m.

Investment & Financial Strategies in 2016
Courtesy – Strathcona Credit Union
Coffee- 10:30 a.m.
QPAT, 17035 Brunswick Blvd, Kirkland
Lunch: on the West Island

Tuesday, May 3rd 11:00 a.m.

Annual General Meeting
EMSB, Laurence Patterson Room
Coffee: 10:30 a.m.

EMSB Building is located at 6000 Fielding Avenue, NDG (corner of Cote St. Luc Road).
Monkland Grille Restaurant is at 6447 Somerled Ave. (corner / Bessborough).

Please inform Events Coordinator Ken Cooke (514-485-9118) if you will attend the luncheons.
Program information, contact Erene Anthony (514-626-8002) program@qparse-apperq.org

Visit our website: www.qparse-apperq.org

Le bon usage

JE LA REVOIS

Je la revois
Dès la tombée de la nuit
Tapie derrière les draperies
Délaissée dans son coin de vie;
Désertée,

Je la revois encore
Saisie d'une soif brûlante
De connaître une destinée
Des plus exaltantes.

Les yeux écarquillés comme un hibou
Elle est aux aguets du premier
Passant
Qui l'emporterait de ce lieu
Étouffant
Pour réaliser des moments
D'égayements ensemble.

Pourtant elle se claquemure
Dans cette demeure
Où elle languit dans la rancœur,
Malgré son cœur
Qui aspire à se livrer
Aux délices d'un amour
Alléchant
Où un baiser embraserait
Une passion

Qui éclairait la fusion
De leurs synergies.

© Brian Ostrovsky

L'AUSTÉRITÉ

Le terme austerité est dérivé de austère, qui à son l'origine voulait dire sévère avec un sens punitif; [référence: <http://www.littre.org/definition/aust%C3%A8re>]. Une politique d'austérité ou une politique de rigueur peut avoir pour objectif la compression des budgets fiscaux; [référence: <http://www.toupie.org/Dictionnaire/Austerite.htm>].

Dans Le Huffington Post du 8/10/2014, Jérôme Boucher, demande si l'austérité budgétaire est une bonne ou une mauvaise idée. Dans l'article on apprend que quelques économistes considèrent que les coupures des bénéfiques sociaux nuisent au bien être des concitoyens et concitoyennes qui connaissent déjà une santé fragile.

Il semble que pour pallier les coupures du personnel dans les hôpitaux et les écoles, le bénévolat prendra un plus important statut dans les institutions de santé, scolaires, etc. On emploie le terme bénévole pour désigner quelqu'un qui travaille volontairement, sans rémunération. Une personne qui est volontaire travaille sans salaire.

As jobs in the public service (la fonction publique) are reduced in these days of austerity (austerité) volunteer work (le bénévolat) will play an increasingly significant role to provide services for the sick (les malades) and for pupils with special needs (élèves ayant des difficultés d'apprentissage). As volunteers (bénévoles) retirees (les retraités) will be able use their skills (compétences) to continue to contribute to the well-being (bien-être) of society.

© Brian Ostrovsky

Références:

<http://www.cnrtl.fr/etymologie/aust%C3%A8re>

http://quebec.huffingtonpost.ca/jerome-boucher/austerite-budgetaire-bon-ou-mauvais_b_4045257.html

OUR WEB BONUSES: JUST CLICK BELOW

EYES



EARS:



Good news! QPARSE now has a Facebook Page!

As you all know, we have a Facebook page. Please check it out. What I have done is create an icon, and all you have to do is to click on the Facebook icon. This will take you directly to our page. If you are not a member of Facebook you will have to join. If you are a member or you have just become a member, then all you have to do is click the **Like** icon on the web page and you will receive notifications on your Facebook page.

Now go ahead and try it...



Terrie Kozaczynski
Facebook Liason

Then & Now

Adapted from a text developed by a retired teacher.
To be shared only by those who can relate.

1965: long hair
2015: longing for hair

1965: KEG
2015: EKG

1965: acid rock
2015: acid reflux

1965: Rolling Stones
2015: kidney stones

1965: going to a hip, new joint
2015: receiving a new hip joint

Send us comments if you can add to the list.

Source: PIERTA News, 2013

TRAVEL WITH SENIOR TOURS CANADA AND MAKE \$\$\$\$ FOR QPARSE

FOR EVERY QPARSE MEMBER WHO TRAVELS WITH US, WE REBATE 4 % BACK TO YOUR ORGANIZATION. THIS MONEY CAN BE USED FOR FUND RAISING, CHARITIES....YOU DECIDE. SPREAD THE WORD AND SIGN UP FOR ANY OF OUR WONDERFUL TOURS.

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Montreal H3H 1E4



Board of Directors / Conseil d'administration 2015-2016

The following nominations of the Board of Directors were approved by the Annual General Meeting, May 5th, 2015 :

Les nominations suivantes au Conseil d'administration ont été approuvées lors de l'Assemblée général annuelle 5 mai 2015 :

President/Présidente	Renate Sutherland
Past President/ Présidente sortante	Sandra Aird
Vice-President, Events	
Vice-président, événements	Ken Cooke
Treasurer/Trésorière	Kathleen Malcius
Recording Secretary / Secrétaire de séance	Katherine Snow

Directors/Administratrices-Administrateurs

Membership/Adhésions	Jan Langelier
ACER-CART	Ed Zegray
Program/Programme	Erene Anthony
Newsletter Committee / Bulletin comité	Marzia Michielli
Liaison Site Web / Facebook	Terrie Kozaczynski
	Joan Ebbett
	Carol Klein
	Patrick Clarke

Sandra Aird
Chair, Nominating Committee
Présidente, Comité des nominations

Services d'une notaire

QPARSE est heureux de vous annoncer que les services d'une notaire sont disponibles pour répondre à vos questions générales concernant l'immobilier, les testaments, les mandats en prévision de l'inaptitude, le règlement de successions, l'homologation de testaments et de mandats d'inaptitude ainsi que les régimes de protection (curatelle). Toutefois, si Me Dubé agit pour vous, des frais seront applicables.

Mélanie Dubé, Notary/Notaire
5765, Av.de Monkland
Montreal, (Qc) H4E 1E8

Services of a Notary

QPARSE is pleased to announce the services of a notary who is willing to answer general questions dealing with real estate, wills, mandates, estate planning and settlement, homologation of wills and mandates, as well as curatorship. Should Ms Dubé act for you, there will be a charge.

Tel: 514-481-7500
Fax: 514-487-0667
email: melanie.dube@notarius.net

QPARSE Volunteerism Survey

Telling the Stories of Retired Teachers' Volunteer Activities

(Adapted with permission from the Retired Teachers' Association of Manitoba Volunteerism Survey)

We are conducting this survey on the Quebec Provincial Association of Retired Educators members' volunteerism, in order to collect evidence of our individual and group contribution to Quebec society. We hope that the results of the survey will benefit our members in the following ways:

- . for use in working on behalf of member interests and benefits;
- . to recognize and celebrate our contribution to our communities, and
- . to inspire the volunteer work of others

The goal is to share the survey instrument and to compare results with those of kindred organizations. Even if you **do not** volunteer, it is important to get feedback from as many members as possible.

You can access the survey online by visiting the QPARSE website: www.qparse-apperq.org

Or by completing this paper copy and forwarding to:

c/o QPAT 17035 Brunswick Boulevard, Kirkland QC H9H 5G6

Note: By volunteering we mean providing a service, without pay, to anyone not living in the same household, or the community or environment; and providing this service either directly, on one's own, or indirectly, through a group or organization.

1. **Gender:** _____ Female _____ Male

2. **Age**

- ___ 55 to 59
- ___ 60 to 64
- ___ 70 to 74
- ___ 75 to 79
- ___ 80 to 84
- ___ 85 or older

3. **How long have you been retired?**

- ___ Less than 5 years
- ___ 6 to 9 years
- ___ 10 to 19 years
- ___ 20 years or more

4. **Have you volunteered in the past 12 months?**

- ___ Yes
- ___ No

5. **With whom have you volunteered in the past 12 months (Choose all that apply)**

- ___ Young children
- ___ Adolescents
- ___ Adults (pre-retirement)
- ___ Retirees
- ___ When I am volunteering, I'm not working with other people
- ___ Other (please specify)

6. **The following is a list of types of activity. In what types of volunteer activities have you been engaged in the past 12 months (Choose all that apply)**
- Organizing or supervising events
 - Sitting as a board or committee member
 - Canvassing, campaigning, fundraising
 - Reading/literacy support
 - Consulting
 - Office, administrative work
 - Collecting, serving, delivering food
 - Influencing public opinion, lobbying
 - Educating
 - Advocating for others
 - Coaching
 - Advising
 - Personal support/companionship to other individuals or families
 - Driving people or goods
 - Caring for animals
 - Gardening
 - Building maintenance/repair
 - Housework
 - Physical work other than gardening, building maintenance/repair or housework
 - Other (please specify) _____
7. **Have you volunteered for any activities since you retired?**
- Yes
 - No
8. **Which of the following statements apply to you?**
- I do not plan on volunteering in the future
 - I plan on volunteering in the future.
9. **What is the main reason you are not currently volunteering (Please select only one response)**
- No one has asked me to volunteer
 - There are few opportunities where I live.
 - I am unwilling to make the time commitment.
 - Health or mobility problems prevent me from doing so.
 - The costs involved are prohibitive.
 - I am pursuing other interests.
 - I give money instead of time.
 - I am not interested.
 - I do not know what volunteer opportunities are available in my community.
 - Other (please specify) _____
10. **What have we missed? What more would you like to say on this subject. Kindly use this space to make any additional comments about your views and/or volunteering experiences. If your comments relate to a specific survey question, please include the question number with your comments. Feel free to add additional paper.**

Please return your completed questionnaire by June 30, 2015 to:
c/o QPAT 17035 Brunswick Boulevard, Kirkland QC H9H 5G6

Another take on austerity ...

The Quebec Government has introduced a comprehensive series of austerity measures affecting all areas of our society. It started with an attempt to establish some commonality in the rates of contribution in municipal workers pension plans. Now our whole health care sector is up in arms, doctors, pharmacists, and health agencies to name a few. University pension plans are also about to go under the scalpel.

You may recall that I have previously reported that our public sector unions wanted to stay low profile on pensions in the 2015 round of negotiations for collective agreements. Well, the government decided otherwise. To lead off negotiations, it has proposed a series of concessions regarding pensions: retirement age goes from 60 to 62; penalty for early retirement goes from 4% to 7.2% per year; pension calculation goes from best 5 years to best 8 years; institute a mechanism to automatically adjust retirement age; hold discussions on conditional indexation of pensions.

Although retirees are not affected by these (well, if conditional indexation is imposed on future retirees, can present-day retirees be very far behind?), GTAR, a coalition of associations of retirees representing 12 associations, including QPARSE, with a membership of 115 000, decided to react to the pension demands. A press conference was organized that resulted in a meeting with the President of the Treasury Board. For years, GTAR has asked for a place to be heard, a standing committee, to voice our concerns, and that a greater number of retirees be included on the pension board. This is a work in progress.

Also of interest, Revenu Québec now allows a reimbursable tax credit for activities for seniors: must be at least 70 years old, revenue less than 40 000 \$, 20% credit, maximum credit of 40 \$.

In this negotiating year, QPARSE participated in a petition request in support of Quality of Public Education, which originated from the Fédération des syndicats de l'enseignement, QPAT and other unions in the education sector.

Ed Zegray,