** THE QUEBEC PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATIONOF RETIRED SCHOOL EDUCATORS**

**ASSOCIATION PROVINCIALE DU PERSONNEL D’ENSEIGNEMENT**

**RETRAITÉ DU QUÉBEC**

**MEMBER REPORT**

1. **Major Concerns of the Association:**
2. **Federal level:**

QPARSE continues to follow with interest and concern the developments being pursued by ACER-CART in the areas of Pharmacare and other Seniors’ issues such as the need for a Ministry dedicated to Seniors. The sharing of information from ACER-CART has been achieved by posting it on our website and on our Facebook page.

1. **Provincial level:**

QPARSE has been active representing our members in various forums concerned with education and most recently, with the newly appointed Minister for the English Minority, Kathleen Weil. With an upcoming provincial election in the Fall, the Liberal government has taken a much more active interest in the well-being of the province’s anglophones. We also have representation on the Advisory Board for English Education which has existed for over 25 years as an advisory body to the Minister of Education. This Board spent the past school year revisiting a very thought-provoking report produced 25 years ago by Gretta Chambers in which such recommendations as realigning the school boards on a language base rather than confessional one were made. The purpose of the report by the Advisory Board was to see what had changed in 25 years and what had not; as well as what new issues have arisen for the anglophone community. It was a very interesting exercise and the report will be one to pay attention to once it is finally made public

1. **Main activities of QPARSE**
2. **Membership** –

We continue to struggle with declining membership and this has been made even more complicated by the fact that our school boards will no longer provide us with contact information for retiring educators due to confidentiality regulations. We are looking for solutions for getting our membership information to these retirees in another way. We are also bringing a bylaw amendment to this year’s Annual meeting that would allow for educators who are participating in gradual/progressive retirement plans, to join us as members before they officially are fully retired. We are hoping this will allow more members to benefit from what we can offer as an association.

1. **Programming**–

We have been more active in providing opportunities for our members to socialize with regular luncheons, outings and workshops on interesting topics. Attached is the program organized for 2018-19.

1. **Newsletter** –

The committee working on the QPARSE Newsletter has produced 3 excellent editions, each based on a particular theme. The input and feedback from members have been very positive and the work of the Editor and the Producer of these editions is much appreciated. We still mail out about 400 hard copies of the newsletter with the other 900 or so being sent digitally. We are working hard to reduce the mailings and this is gradually happening.

1. **Motions from our association:** None

Jan Langelier

President of QPARSE & ACER-CART Director

**QPARSE PROGRAM CALENDAR**

**2018**

**Thursday, September 6th                                   *“Welcome Back Lunch”***

**11:30am**                                                                      Barbies Restaurant & Grill

                                                                                      15 Bouchard Ave, Dorval

**Wednesday, October 3rd                                        *“Fall Bus Excursion – Montreal Casino***

**BUS 9am EMSB 50’s & 60’s live music show and buffet lunch @ Pavillion 67**

**9:30am Fairview                                                         MORE INFO TO FOLLOW**

**November TBA**“***Fall luncheon and Reception for New Retirees”***

**11:45am**                                                                   **Reservations Essential**

Le Saucier Dining Room - Pearson School of Culinary Arts

                                                                                      8310 Rue George, LaSalle, Qc, H8P 1E5

**Tuesday, December 4th                                           *“Holiday Lunch****”*

**11:30am**                                                                        Via Marcello Restaurant

                                                                                        1790 Blvd. Côte-Vertu (corner Côte-Vertu) St-Laurent, Qc, H4L 2A6

**DONATIONS TO NDG FOOD BANK**

**2019**

**Thursday, February 14th** ***“Understanding Generic Drugs & BioSimilars”***

**10:30am**Coffee and Cookies                                 Guest Speaker: TBA

**11am -12:30pm**                                                         EMSB 6000 Fielding Ave, NDG, QC H3X 1T4 (corner CSL Rd.)

Laurence Patterson Room

**LUNCH OPTIONAL in NDG**

**Tuesday, March 19th                                                “Discussion of the book- Montreal in 1909”**

**10:30am**Coffee and Cookies                                 Guest Speaker: Robert Wilkins, retired teacher, author and journalist

**11am -12:30pm**                                                        EMSB 6000 Fielding Ave, NDG, QC H3X 1T4 (corner CSL Rd.)

Laurence Patterson Room

**LUNCH OPTIONAL in NDG**

**Thursday, April 11th                                                “*Smart Shopping Montreal* ”**

**10:30am** Coffee and Cookies                       **Topics:** tips, frugal finds, savings in and around Montreal

**11am -12:30pm**                                                       Guest Speaker: Sandra Phillips author, “schlogger” and media guest

QPAT Building, 17035 Blvd. Brunswick, Kirkland, Qc, H9H 5G6           

**LUNCH OPTIONAL in the West Island**

**Tuesday, May 7th                                                         Annual General Meeting**

**10:30am** Coffee and Cookies                                     EMSB Laurence Patterson Room

**11am-12:30pm**       Guest speaker TBA