



Coasters 20th General Meeting & 26th Anniversary Saturday, March 21, 2015

**CLC, St. Paul's School, St. Paul's River
CLC, Mecatina School, La Tabatiere
CLC, Netagamiou School, Chevery
CLC, Harrington Harbour School, Harrington Harbour
QCGN Office, Montreal**

"Meeting the Challenge of Change"





Coasters 20th General Meeting & 26th Anniversary

Saturday, March 21 2015

Meeting the Challenge of Change

Hugh Maynard introduced himself and welcomed all to the 20th Annual General Meeting and 26th Anniversary of the Coasters Association and to the Municipality of Bonne Esperance and the other Video-Conferencing Sites of Netagamiou, Harrington Harbour, Gros Mecatina, and the QCGN in Montreal.

Opening Prayer – Rev. Francie Keats

God our Creator, we give thanks for all who have travelled from outside to be present here today.

Our condolences go out to the Joncas Family at the passing of Dominique Joncas, the brother of Vincent. Let us take a moment of silence to be with them in spirit.

We give thanks and appreciation for the many who have contributed to the organization and functioning of the Coasters Association, over the years.

The work of this organization continues to enhance the quality of life of the people of the Lower North Shore and beyond.

We ask you to bless all those participating in this AGM with the presence of the Holy Spirit when making decisions. Grant them guidance to perceive what is right, courage to pursue it and grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Welcome speech – Anthony Dumas, President, Coasters Association Inc.

I would like to welcome everyone, on behalf of the Coasters Association, to our 20th General Meeting and our 26th Anniversary. It is a pleasure to see so many people present here today, from across the Lower North Shore and various regions of the Province, as well as a connection to the QCGN office in Montreal.

It's a packed program, complete with outstanding presenters and special keynote speakers. It is an opportunity to share your programs, insights, and best practices with

us. We are so grateful that you took the time to be present – thank you!
Our theme this year “Meeting the Challenge of Change”, speaks of a strategy for long term development. But, we can only shape and sustain the communities of the LNS by working together. Your contribution is very important in launching a workable action plan for the future development of the Lower North Shore.

I look forward to speaking with you and sharing in the events planned for our 20th General Meeting. I wish you a very productive meeting!

Welcome Speech –Lionel Roberts, Mayor of Bonne Esperance

On behalf of the Municipality of Bonne Esperance, I welcome everyone to the 2015 Annual General Meeting of the Coasters Association.

I like to take this opportunity to thank the Executive Director of the Coasters Association, Ms. Cornella Maurice, all Board Members, past and present and Staff for all the hard work and dedication you did and are still doing for this remote region of Quebec.

The Municipality of Bonne Esperance has worked with the Coasters Association on many initiatives over the years and you can be assured of our continued support in the future, especially now with all the changes taking place in Health and Social Services on our territory.

Thank you for inviting me to say a few words of welcome on behalf of our Municipality. I wish everyone a very enjoyable and successful weekend.

Introduction of Guests (See Annex I) - Roderick Fequet & Cornella Maurice

Message from Premier Philippe Couillard – Lenora Keats

I wish to respond to the invitation you sent to the Prime Minister, Philippe Couillard, in your correspondence dated 2 March, to attend the 20th Annual General Meeting as well as the 26th anniversary of the Coasters Association Inc., to be held on 21 March.

The Prime Minister would like to thank you sincerely for having invited to take part in these events. Believe me, it is with regret that we must decline your invitation due to previous commitment and to which he can escape.

Wishing you all the success in your day discount, please receive, Madam, Yours Kind regards.

Louise Fournier
Responsible agenda

Business Meeting

Panel: Anthony Dumas, President, Coasters Association
Garland Nadeau, Vice-President, Coasters Association
Tony Roberts, Treasurer, Coasters Association
Betty Alice Strickland, Secretary, Coasters Association
Ghislaine Nadeau Monger, (Senior representative), Coasters Association
Dale Keats, (Employment representative), Coasters Association
Lois Jones, Board Member, Coasters Association
Lucy de Mendonça, (Education representative), Board Member

Absent: Nicole Fortin, (Francophone representative), Coasters Association
Ashley Babin-Duguay, (Youth representative), Coasters Association
Greta Gallibois, Executive Member, Coasters Association
Janice Robertson, Executive Member, Coasters Association
Claire Ann Labadie, Board Member, Coasters Association
Scott Buckle, Board Member, Coasters Association
Chandra Nadeau, Board Member, Coasters Association
Jean François Mark, (Native representative), Coasters Association
Barbara Ann Driscoll, (Physically and Intellectually Challenged representative), Coasters Association

Members Present: (See Annex I)

Chair of Meeting: Hugh Maynard

Secretary of Meeting: Lenora Keats

1. Call to order

Hugh read the agenda and welcomed all the participants to the Business Meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOTION 1:

It was proposed by Kimberly Buffitt and seconded by Priscilla Griffin;
THAT the Business Meeting Agenda be approved with varia left open.

Motion Carried

3. Approval of Annual General Meeting minutes (March 21 &22, 2014)

Cornella Maurice informed that parts of the minutes were out of format, ue to printing, but the minutes will be fixed appropriately.

MOTION 2:

It was proposed by Tony Roberts and seconded by Kimberly Buffitt;

THAT the 19th Annual General Meeting minutes be approved with changes to be made to formatting.

Motion Carried

3.1 Business Arising

Cornella Maurice read the business arising to the minutes and asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

3.2 Follow-up to minutes

Cornella Maurice read the follow-up to the minutes.

3.3 Questions and Answer period

There were no questions or comments.

4. Approval of Annual Report

Cornella Maurice informed that she would not read all of the Annual Report like she did previous year, due to it being a large document and the President not do so.

MOTION 3:

It was proposed by Garland Nadeau and seconded by Shelley Martin Fequet;

THAT the Annual Report be approved.

Motion Carried

4.1 Follow-up to report

Cornella Maurice, Kimberly Buffitt, Priscilla Griffin and Shelly Martin Fequet read the Follow-up to the Annual Report.

4.4 Questions and Answer period

There were no questions or comments.

5. Approval of the Auditor's report (2013-2014)

It was stated that the Auditor's report was not included in the packages that were received by the video-conferencing site. Lenora Keats will forward a copy of the Financial Statement to the participants at the Video Conferencing Sites (QCGN, Netagamiou, Harrington Harbour, and Gros Mecatina).

As the Auditor (PCA Services Coopératifs Inc.) was unable to participate in the meeting, James Buckle, Director of Finance, read the Auditor's report for the year ending March 31st, 2014.

MOTION 4:

It was proposed by Tony Roberts and seconded by Garland Nadeau;

THAT the Auditor's report of 2013 -2014 be approved.

Motion Carried

5.1 Questions and answer period

Why was Commission Scolaire du Littoral not listed under Note 5, Other Revenues, on page 11 of the Auditor's Report?

James Buckle informed that he did not know why the Commission Scolaire du Littoral was not on the list, but will have them added, and they will be included in the Auditor's Report for next year.

5.2 Approval of Auditor

James Buckle informed that the current Auditor (PCA Services Coopératifs Inc.) has two years left on their contract; therefore, there was no need to nominate an Auditor at this AGM.

6. Varia

There were no items placed under varia.

7. Adjournment

Hugh Maynard adjourned the Business meeting of the Coasters Association's Annual General Meeting.

Message from Commissioner Graham Fraser – James Buckle

On behalf of Mr. Graham Fraser, Commissioner of Official Languages, I would like to thank you for your invitation for Mr. Fraser to attend the Coasters Association's 20th Annual General meeting and 26th Anniversary to be held on March 21, 2015 in St. Paul's River, Quebec.

Unfortunately, it will not be possible for Mr. Fraser to join you on this occasion due to previous engagements.

In sending his regrets, Mr. Fraser has asked me to thank you for your kind invitation and to convey his warmest greetings and very best wishes for the success of the event.

Keynote Speaker – David Johnston, Quebec Representative of the Commissioner of Official Languages, Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages

Good morning. Bon matin. I see the theme of this year's annual AGM is: *Meeting the challenge of change*. In my own case, I say to you humbly and apologetically, this includes meeting (or not meeting) the challenge of changes in the weather on the Lower North Shore.

As you know, Charles Taker and I were to be with you today. Our Wednesday afternoon flight was cancelled because of a storm. We rebooked for the evening - and that flight was cancelled too. Friday connecting flights through Newfoundland, meanwhile, had already already booked. We had an option to fly the milk run out of Montreal through Labrador on Thursday, but wind-warning advisories that made me think we would get stuck in Labrador overnight and wouldn't get in until Friday, and that we would have just one day with you, today. Plus I saw on Wednesday night that there were warnings of another storm for this weekend, and I have a commitment early next week in Vancouver with the Commissioner at a conference on immigration. I felt it was prudent to cancel, and use the money we had spent to rebook for four days later this spring.

So we hope to see you in May, probably the second week of May. And I will make sure I have no events booked in the days before or after that visit. Clearly, I need more practice in meeting the challenge of change in weather.

Of course, dealing with suddenly changing weather is something you do on a daily basis on the Lower North Shore. Fishermen assess the weather before going out onto the seas; and so on. But it isn't just the weather. You are also faced with the existential and practical challenge of Quote Unquote "The Road", or the road that doesn't exist yet, the uncompleted leg of Highway 138. Put being Anglophone in Quebec on top of all that and it all adds up to defining your regional identity.

Before coming into my current position as Quebec Representative of the Commissioner of Official Languages, replacing Eva Ludvig, whom many of you know very well, I worked for 33 years at The Gazette, most recently as editorial page editor. It was in my capacity as supervisor of the editorial and oped pages that I asked the Coasters Association in the summer of 2012 to write an oped on the Highway 138 conundrum. Anthony Dumas did a very good job. He started off by noting the student demonstrations in Montreal that spring over having to pay \$300 more in university tuition. And then he said, and I quote: "Imagine having to also pay \$1,600 to \$1,800 in return airfare just to get to school and come home again."

It was in my early at The Gazette that I first discovered the different Anglophone communities outside of southwestern Quebec. From 1988 to 1995, I spent my summers out in the regions looking for stories with an Anglophone angle to them. Louise Penney was the morning host of Quebec AM in those early years; she was such a wonderful car-radio companion. I loved her conversations with her different correspondents in the different regions. With time, I came to see something that surprised me: regional identity is at least as strong, or stronger, than provincial identity for Anglophone Quebecers. People in Gaspé see themselves more as Gaspésians than Quebecers, partly because as Anglophones they do not feel fully Québécois, in the national sense of what that means.

This notion of a Quote Unquote Anglophone Quebecer, of a collective Anglo Quebec identity, is relatively new. It dates from the late 1970s. And because it is relatively new, it also isn't very solid, and so from time to time, regional interests can sometimes override the presumed provincial interest. Alliance Quebec died, and the Quebec Community Groups Network was born, partly because of that dynamic.

More recently, faced with the proposed merger with two school boards south of Montreal, the Eastern Townships School Board passed a resolution last fall authorizing officials to consider merging with the local French board instead. Now it looks as if the government is going to leave the Eastern Townships board alone. So that's a Rubicon that probably won't be crossed.

Despite this distinctive strength of regional identity, I would say that, on the whole, regional priorities these days are aligning up pretty closely with provincial priorities. And what are these priorities? Well, I think the three anglo MNAs in National Assembly got it right last year when they boiled them down to essentially three: Seniors. Community engagement, and youth retention.

To be sure, one could always add economic development, and CEDEC has a role to play in this area, to the extent that economic development is influenced by linguistic considerations. But let's take these three one by one:

First, seniors: In 2013, the Office of Commissioner of Official Languages produced a study on Quebec Anglophone seniors. These people grew up at a time when you didn't need to speak French to work in Quebec. And so their French skills are not strong. And now all these years later, the issue of services to them in their own language, notably health and social services, is a pressing one. Last September, the QCGN released its own study, a provincially funded one, and one that lays the groundwork for more research that will help guide more focused interventions in the future.

The second issue is community engagement. Community engagement was exceptionally strong in those early years after the election of the PQ in 1976. The political changes

were traumatic, but by and large, people who stayed were energized the challenge of change. You had Peter Blaikie, Eric Maldoff, Michael Goldbloom, Robert Libman. And regional leadership was equally engaged and inspiring.

But something happened after the 1995 referendum and ensuing partition debate. A great collective exhaustion set in – there was a disengagement. Robert Libman told me a few years ago: “The anglos have given up.” There was no stomach for more fighting. Suddenly, it became very hard for leadership to motivate people. There was a sort of painful-memory syndrome. Engagement with an issue in the present provoked painful memories of conflict from the past.

But suddenly, things are different. I credit Bill 10. Bill 10 as originally written may have been a bad bill, but it had the effect of re-energizing community engagement. It strengthened regional links. And yes, it helped put some cement into this still-emerging Anglophone Quebec provincial identity.

The amendments brought to the bill represent a tremendous accomplishment for Sylvia Martin-Laforge and her QCGN staff, for the Bill 10 reference group, and all of those people in the different regions, including the Lower North Shore - and you know who you are - who helped fight the bill and helped nominate people to sit on the new regional boards.

However, let’s be frank. There was a conspicuous absence of people under the age of 50, let alone 30, in the Bill 10 mobilization.

Which brings me to Issue No. 3: youth retention.

So many young people have left, and are continuing to leave. In 1998, I did a story on the high-school reunion of the 1968 graduating class of Wagar High School in Montreal. Wagar was a majority-Jewish public school. Organizers were able to track down 324 of the 401 graduating students.

Of the 324:

- 164 had left Quebec, and 160 were still here. Almost a 50/50 split. I remember interviewing Jason Moscovitch, a CBC reporter and Wagar Class of 68 grad, and he said: “I am surprised as many have stayed as that.” In fact, many of those who had stayed had done so only because they were tied down to family businesses rooted in Quebec, especially in the clothing industry. And by the time Bill 101 was passed in 1977, let’s not forget, these grads were already approaching 30 years of age and were established in the workforce. On the other hand, the non-Jewish anglo population was more tied to corporate employers, like SunLife Insurance or the Royal Bank of Canada, which left Quebec. I would say that in my Monklands High School graduating class of 1974 in Notre Dame de Grâce, 75 per cent have left and only 25 are still here in Quebec.

So where did Wagar hold its 30th reunion in 1998?
Toronto!

True, the exodus hasn't been quite as bad in recent years. The 2006 census found growth in the Anglophone community for the first time in 40 years. But there are indications now that economic opportunities are shrinking in Quebec, and that departures may be poised to rise again.

So to me, meeting the challenge of change probably means focusing on youth retention today, as the building block for building the leadership capacity and community engagement for tomorrow.

In fact, the QCGN is trying to put together a proposal for a new federally funded leadership-development institute in the Anglophone community. It is a proposal that deserves our support. And I know that youth retention among Quebec Anglophones is on the short list for research projects at the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages for 2016.

At a local and regional level, all of us in our own way can help with the succession plan. We face many challenges as Anglophone Quebecers, both regionally and provincially, but I would suggest to you that the challenge of change right now is above all generational.

Thank you very much. And I hope to see you in May.

Questions and Comments:

Hugh Maynard thanked Mr. Johnston for his short presentation and commented on how a government keep bringing in immigrants to the country, but do not see them making an effort to encourage Anglophones to stay.

Something to do with identity, it is a big reason why we lack confidence. It is not so much the language issue. As Coasters we have more in common with Newfoundland in regards to language, culture and heritage. Our identity is to be proud Coasters, but God bless those people who know how to speak two languages.

It's not just the Anglophone population but Francophone as well. With regards to economics, there are not many jobs available on the Lower North Shore. Many of our Youth both French and English go away to work. Why? There are no jobs available on the Lower North Shore. When they leave families take their children with them; therefore, we are seeing a decline in students in schools.

Economic Development is really an important aspect, if we don't have it; there is a decline not only in the schools, but communities as well. We have a program with the McGill University called Youth Retention, where we are training the Youth to come back to the Coast to work in the career choice of their studies.

I grew up in a family of eleven kids; I don't want to do that again. The decline in the schools is basically due to Birth Control. People are not having as many children as they used to, before there was a no choice, there was no Birth Control in place.

I grew up French and married an English woman. My children are bilingual. A large part of the Lower North's Shore problem is there is no road and the cost of travel is too high. The Government needs to help complete the Route 138 to join us with the rest of Canada. Tourism is very important for the economic development of the Coast but again the cost of travel is too expensive. We need to use Newfoundland as an example and learn from them or else the Lower North Shore will just become a summer place. The percentage of seniors compared to the youth is very sad. Will we succeed? I don't know, but the Federal Government has to help. The Lower North Shore is being penalized for the language we speak. We also need to have high speed internet installed.

Where are the Montagnais?

They are recognized as a minority. They speak three languages, French, English and Montagnais. Unfortunately, the cost of travel was too high to get the Native representative, Jean Francois Mark, in to participate in this meeting.

Message from Russ Kuebar, Program Manager, CHSSN - Shelley Martin Fequet

It's with pleasure that I can take a few minutes of your time to recognize and thank the Coasters Association, Members of the North Shore Coalition for Health, other local and regional partners and community members (residents of the coast) who have given their time and energy to once again commit to working together (in sometimes not so easy conditions) in creating a better and healthier future for all on the coast!

This past year was exceptional – as there were many strides forward to create needed programs and supports particularly for your aging senior population.

Also, there is a big word called **ECOSYSTEMIC APPROACH!** I will say it again **ECOSYSTEMIC APPROACH.** ... Sometimes these words make me even wonder what they are all about.

Really, what this means is many of you have agreed to learn more about what it means to work together in a more comprehensive way ... a more sustainable way... a way that will leave a more lasting and long term impact and positive change for your future generations. You are leaders in this area and I encourage you to continue to learn and explore together the benefits of this approach...

Next year, there will be a quiz. What is the ECOSYSTEMIC APPROACH? And how is it helping you better plan and work together? LOL! Just kidding.

I would like to wish the Coasters Association a very successful AGM and hope that everyone in attendance leaves the event even more committed and inspired to want to serve your community..

I will be making a trip your way in a couple weeks and hope to see some of you then.....

PS. Shelley, stock up the fridge and leave the front door open!

All the best,

Presentation: Health & Social Services

Sylvia Martin-Laforge - Executive Director, Quebec Community Groups Network

Mrs. Martin Laforge stated that this was the first time using the Video Conferencing equipment in this type of capacity; we got to help PCH and thanked Canadian Heritage for the Video Conferencing equipment.

Mrs. Martin Laforge *presented for the Quebec Community Groups Network and following are the points of her presentation:*

Context

- Bill 10 the most sweeping change to Quebec's public Health & Social Service system since its inception in 1971

Change focused on:

- Institutional structures
- Governance
- Strategic issues for the ES community
- What happens to Access Programs?
- What happens to institutions?
- What happens to ES community participation in governance?
- Quick analysis by experts: First version of Bill 10 significantly and negatively affected interests of the ES community

ES community context

- QCGN-no active program regarding H&SS
- CHSSN-focused on community development (NPI networks), and the targeting of federal investments in partnership with the MSSS, not open advocacy
- Jewish Community-traditionally an independent and discrete political lobbying approach
- Question: Where to house a Reference Group (RG) capable of analyzing Bill 10, rallying and communicating with stakeholders, and lobbying for change at the political level?

- **Answer:**
- In QCGN: widest ES community mandate; credibility; communications capacity
- Reference Group active since late September 2014

RG membership:

- Dan Lamoureux, Sylvia Martin-Laforge & Rita Legault: QCGN
- Richard Walling & Didier Culat: Jeffery Hale – Saint Brigids (Quebec City)
- Sara Saber-Freedman: CIJA and former AQ H&SS staffer
- Bram Freedman: Staff to JPEC
- Eric Maldoff: Lawyer; first AQ chair
- Jim Carter: CHSSN; former secretary to, later member of the Provincial committee
- Clifford Lincoln: former MNA, MP; ES community activist
- Michael Udy: consultant; former Batshaw DG and former member of the Provincial committee

What was accomplished?

Highlights:

- Bilingual institutions maintained and enhanced
- Increased protection against revocation of 29.1 recognition
- Strengthened English Access Programs
- Continued existence of Owner Corporations; members with enhanced rights
- Representation on CISSS/CIUSSS boards of directors
- Must pass screening by an expert committee
- Increased university participation on boards
- Community Participation
- Boards (at least 1 seat)
- Owning Corporations
- Installation Advisory committees
- Regional Access committees
- Provincial Advisory committee
- Foundations
- Future PDGs to be selected by board, but still requires Minister's approval
- Special arrangements for Jeffery Hale – Saint Brigids (beefed up advisory committee, and a director)
- Information technology (stays in CIUSSS hands in Montreal)

Are we done?

- No!
- Implementation of Bill 10 requires monitoring from ES community perspective for 1-2 years

- On a permanent basis action is needed to maintain the ES community's vigilance about :
 - Evolution of the public network
 - Preparing & supporting the participation of community members

How do we do this?

- CHSSN has close ties with local networks that facilitate many of the activities, short and long term
- Only QCGN can take on open political lobbying, public mobilization and communications, and QCGN can maintain links with influential citizens (eg: select members of the Reference Group)

What's next?

- Protocols regarding roles and responsibilities
- Reorientation of role of the Reference Group
- Securing funding for QCGN activities in the dossier

Ghislaine Nadeau Monger - President, Local Table for Seniors

Mrs. Nadeau Monger presented for the Local Table for Seniors and following are the points of her presentation:

- Touring with MADA;
- Developing age friendly in the Municipalities;
- Objectives of Local Table for Seniors: to be a voice of the seniors of the Lower North Shore and to work closely on what the challenges are, to defend the rights of seniors and to promote activity and involvement of seniors;
- Representatives from each municipality and representation from the CSSSBCN, Coasters Association, CLD, MRC Côte Nord are very important to have sitting at the Table;
- Member of the Regional Table;
- Has a strong passion for Seniors;
- Developed an Action Plan, its not always easy;
- Small amount of funding only 5,000.00 from CSSSBCN (2,500.) and Regional Table (2,500);
- Presenting projects; concerning development of a Volunteer Structure on the Lower North Shore, should know within two weeks if funding will be approved;
- Due to lack of funding meetings are held through teleconference and we thank Coasters Association for their help with that;
- Local Table works with the communications on Lower North Shore (local radios stations and the Local Wave);
- There are more and more seniors and less family members;
- Stop the exodus of Seniors as they tend to follow their families when they move

away;

- Lodging for seniors is a real issue;
- Big issue for Seniors is transportation for health, social and the mobility to get to places (ie: grocery store, medical appointments, etc.);
- Lack of knowledge of services, Seniors do not always have the extra push to knock on doors and the Local Table can assist with this.

Kimberly Buffitt - Director of Programs, Coasters Association

Mrs. Buffitt presented for the Coasters Association on Health and Social Services and following are the points of her presentation:

- Worked eleven years with Coasters Association;
- Entered into a new agreement with Health Canada for Anglophone Minority;
- Network working together for Health and Social Services;
- Blessed to have access to great partnerships;
- Lower North Shore Coalition formed, there is a lot of passion, but not always in agreement;
- Formed an Exchange Network and it meets every month for brain storming to find solutions to Health initiatives;
- Problem with Lower North Shore was competitiveness, once all the stakeholders came together, it changed the way things worked;
- All partners worked together as a team;
- How we work together changed the outlook of the Lower North Shore;
- Eco Systemic Approach keeps and shows us how we can work together;
- Challenges of Bill 10 will affect the coast;
- Bilingual status, we take for granted our English Language Service, it can be gone in a blink of an eye;
- Bill 20 needs amendments to respect the Lower North Shore, specialist no longer can come into the Coast to take care of patients requiring special medical attention;
- We have representatives sitting on several board (Access Committee, Provincial Health Committee, Regional Senior's Table), who are working together for better Health Care on the Lower North Shore;
- The Coasters Association, CLD and CEDEC are working on Vision 20/20 to address the services in regards to Economic Development;
- Due to the location of the Lower North Shore we had to find a different way to work;
- Leadership in all communities, Local Action Groups, in 13 communities and all are different. It is a challenge.
- The big thing is sustainability;
- Two local foundations (Uni-Aide and Dr. Camil Marcoux) are researching ways to find funding.

Wanda Beaudoin - Administration services for persons with a loss of autonomy and family programs, Centre de la Santé et des Services Sociaux

Mrs. Beaudoin presented for the Centre de la Santé et des Services Sociaux and following are the points of her presentation:

- Changes to the health system;
- Modification of the organigramme;
- Objective of the Director of the establishment was to put into place local personnel;
- Innu Community;
- Could not hire anymore upper managers;
- Two years for hiring of nurses, put into place a good integration plan;
- Please to announce the hiring of two local girls as of Friday, Jennifer Lynn Roberts will be the new RSI and Candice Buckle will work on Chronic Illness;
- Big turn over of Nurses so trying to encourage Nurses to stay on the Coast;
- Stabilization of Nursing positions in local clinics;
- Modifications in the Nursing Clinic Schedule;
- Working well with all of our partners;
- User's Committee is very active;
- Difficulty in finding Social Workers to work in communities along the Lower North Shore;
- Hired a Physiotherapist in February;
- Occupational therapists, would like to maintain the Youth on the Lower North Shore;
- Coasters Association has been working with McGill on Youth Retention and they have provided Bursaries to several Students of the Lower North Shore to further training in the medical field with the hope of their returning to work on the Lower North Shore.

Mrs. Beaudoin informed that she was pleased to announce that the Centre de la Santé et des Services Sociaux has just signed an Agreement with the Coasters Association to be the new promoter of the Intermediate Resource (Residence aux beaux-Sejours) for a term of two and half (2.5) years.

Charlotte Audet - Assistant Chief Executive Officer, Centre de la Santé et des Services Sociaux

Ms. Audet spoke in French about the reorganization of the Centre de la Santé et des Services Sociaux.

Questions and Comments:

Is the CSSSBCN comfortable with the changes being implemented through Bill 10?
We are trying to be a visionary.

Are there any cuts projected for local clinics?

Not sure. We will have to look at the budget. We are in a deficit of 2.3 million so there will be an impact but our aim is to keep the services open. The population will be advised of any changes.

Are there any stats on Mental Health?

There is an agreement with the Hospital de Sept-Iles, but this is an area that needs to be worked on more.

Ms. Keala Goudie commented on being a young person who left the Coast and came back and found employment in her field of studies she appreciates the efforts being made to encourage other Youths to come back and work on the Lower North Shore.

As Ms. Lucy de Mendonça had to leave, she presented at this time in the meeting for Education/Youth and she asked that Deborah Foltin continue with the presentation of the Commission Scolaire du Littoral on her behalf.

Presentation: Education/Youth

Lucy de Mendonça – Administrator, Commission Scolaire du Littoral

Ms. de Mendonça presented for the Commission Scolaire du Littoral and following are the points of her presentation:

- Knowledge is power, education is power;
- Partnership, if only people would work together to achieve the goal;
- 10 years ago we had 795 students and financing for 99 teachers, 492 and financing 77, and now 470 and financing for 69;

Questions and Comments:

Will the School be relocated or situated on the Lower North Shore in the future?

We do not think so. It is not feasible with the structure as it is now.

Through Adult Education and with the new structure will it be possible to obtain a College Education on the Lower North Shore?

There is a different structure between University/College and school board levels. It is a possibility to partner with a college and university off coast to make this type of instruction on the Lower North Shore a possibility.

Mr. Anthony Dumas had to leave the meeting. He stated that he was very happy to be apart of this assembly and wished everyone a good and eventful meeting for the remainder of the day.

Ms. de Mendonça informed that the Commission Scolaire will be celebrating its 25th year of Secondary V schooling on the Lower North Shore on June 6th and all were invited to attend.

Message from Denis Murray, Founding President – Priscilla Griffin

Greetings Everyone! Where has the year gone! Can't believe the Coasters" Association is already heading for another 25, Bravo! I quite recently was listening to a radio program on Youth, Education and the World's future, and was both pleased and surprised how the advent of modern social technology I-phone/ Internet etc. may help our Youth save our planet. True!

Once our National broadcasters say good evening everyone, they go on to tell you news which is far from making your evening good! LOL! Having said that, a well educated youth is indispensable in making the Lower North Shore a haven in which to live in peace, comfort and prosperity! Yes, our youth world wide are not prepared to repeat some of the major errors of past generations. Fossil fuels/ oil will not be part of their future. In China, for example the electric car will very quickly take- over the gas machine, and wind power will replace both hydro and diesel power in many parts of the world.. In fisheries 40% of all aquaculture fish will be grown worldwide on LAND rather than at sea by the year 2030, simply because somebody in West Virginia invented a brilliant way of recycling and reusing water (So why not grow fish on land, on the Lower North Shore?

These are just 3 examples of what our youth can do to improve our lot and not repeat our mistakes! Our youth, our leaders of tomorrow will achieve this only by being well-educated, and thinking outside the box!

Have a great AGM, and take care of each other!

Dennis

Presentation: Education/Youth

Kimberly Buffitt – Director of Programs, Coasters Association

Mrs. Buffitt presented for the Coasters Association on Education/Youth and following are the points of her presentation:

- Retention of youth, how do we bring them back to the Coast;
- Journey with McGill;
- Career development (Video-conference with several career professionals);
- Summer Jobs placement;
- Lower North Shore facility Bio-Produits;
- Meet with Universities to partner with the Lower North Shore;
- What was one of the advantages on the Lower North Shore; Bio-Products: Wildberry, Peat Moss, Algae, etc);
- Fishing facilities not being used;
- Infrastructures waiting to be developed;
- Organization of Quebec/Labrador workshop;

- Students come back to develop Economic Development;
- Goal: Students come back to do research on Bio-Produits;
- Offers potential for all kinds of professional positions;
- US Pharmaceutical Company interested in Bio-Produits and are willing to commit a three year partnership;
- The power of Youth, “Can’t say kids don’t want to come back if we haven’t asked them”. They want to be involved, they have never been asked;
- Students have been very helpful with research and development.

Deborah Foltin - Director of Educational services and Responsible for Computer Technology Resources, Commission Scolaire du Littoral

Ms .Foltin continued the presentation for the Commission Scolaire du Littoral and following are the points of her presentation:

Ms. Foltin thanked the Coasters Association for organizing this event and inviting her to participate once again.

Deborah Foltin carried out a PowerPoint presentation regarding Commission Scolaire du Littoral, with Mrs. Ana Osborne. Ms. Foltin and Mrs. Osborne talked about meeting the Challenges of Change and Learning from the past, moving to the future. **A copy of the PowerPoint is available at the Coasters office, upon request.**

- Anglophone across the province has the same difficulties. “You may seem alone, but your not. Anglos are everywhere”;
- Forces of change and receptors of change – Population and demographics, Economics, Politics, Globalization, Popular culture and Modernization);
- Staying the course;
- Listing the Challenges of maintaining Services, Transportation and transport costs, Technology and connectivity, Family and community involvement, and Supporting the development of French-language learning;
- School success and perseverance;
- Teacher training;
- Partnerships;
- New approaches;
- Action verses School population;
- Change language around from French 2nd Language to Speaking French and becoming bilingual;
- “Yes, we have to work together; Yes, we want to work together, we have the tools to work together”;
- Developing local capacity.

Bruno Jean – University of Rimouski

Mr. Jean presented for the University of Rimouski on Education/Youth and following are

the points of his presentation:

Mr. Jean thanked the Coasters Association for inviting him to present at this Annual General meeting.

- Started a project with the Commission Scolaire du Littoral, concerning professional training locally;
- Need training, in the future people will require work in the profession studied;
- Working on Regional Economic Development;
- Attended the Quebec/ Labrador workshop;
- Lower North Shore high level of unemployment;
- Aging population, taking care of seniors;
- New opportunities;
- Commission Scolaire new structures, arrange for a candidate for training for one year.

Mr. Jean asked if the attending guests would like to have more information to please provide their names and email addresses on the paper provided.

Questions, Comments:

What professional training will the Commission Scolaire put into place regarding on-territory training?

It could be a multifunctional structure, different courses on different days.

- Vocational Studies for Tourism is the base of Economic Development. Winter is the best time for training. As work is seasonal and with the implementation of the internet, trainees can link up to each other and it would save on funding. Quebec needs to accept internet training. In the past, eight participants had to be present in order to take the courses. If you want to interest the population, you need to give them the tools;
- Need to work on Capacity Building;
- So many aspects to the fishery, management, basic training to reflect the Lower North Shore would be the Fishery and Construction. Fishermen want to know how to “hail out”, obtain their fishing licenses on line, and complete EI applications and reporting. They do not want to take apart the computer; they want to know HOW to do things;
- What about transforming the products? Specializing in marketing promotion?
- Science and technology, geology day to day operations. Expertise is not available on the territory due to isolation;
- Retain services and help the potential of the people of the region. There are services within the Commission Scolaire and Adult Education and they might be able to fit the need through the means of Distant Education.

Bruno Jean stated he will send information regarding the project and can continue the

discussion if anyone is interested.

Keynote Speaker, John Buck – Executive Director, Community Economic Development and Employability Committee (CEDEC)

Mr. Buck, invited Allen Richards, David Felker, Grant Meyers, and Ivan Hale to assist in carrying out a PowerPoint presentation regarding the three priorities; Community Economic Development (Tourism) , Entrepreneurial Development and Labour Force Development (Seasonal Workers, Learning). **A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation is available at the office, upon request.**

Mr. Buck informed that the last time he was in St. Paul’s School, the school had just opened and it was a pleasure to be here once again.

The following points were presented:

- Social Development Plan and the initiatives undertaken;
- Entrepreneurial Approach initiative and the Revitalizations Initiatives;
- Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation;
- Quebec’s Lower North Shore – Labrador Straits Regional Collaboration Workshop;
- Upcoming tourism developments;
- Seasonal Workers Model.

Questions and Comments:

Ms. Serena Etheridge of Quebec Labrador Foundation informed that the Tourism Plan is now being updated and that the QLF is still interested in a partnership with the CEDEC.

Cornella Maurice informed that the QLF celebrated its fifty year anniversary in 2014, they have always been involved in the Tourism, Heritage and Culture Files. She felt that the QLF should be apart of the Direction Voyages Coste Project’s Steering Committee, as they have always been a partner of the Coasters Association.

Message from Sam Hamad, Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity – Kimberly Buffitt

The Honourable Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity, Sam Hamad, wishes to thank the Coasters Association for their invitation to the Annual General Meeting of March 21, 2015. Unfortunately, the Minister cannot be present, and wishes you all a grand success with the event and all your future developments.

Sylvia Gaumond
Ajointe Deputy Minister

Follow-up by the Executive Director

The Executive Director, Cornella Maurice, contacted Ms. Gaumont, Ajointe Deputy Minister, and thanked her for the message and she was very pleased that we would relay this message at the AGM, and wished everyone good luck.

Mr. Maynard at this time acknowledged the presence of Ms. Jacqueline Ritchi of Canadian Heritage at the QCGN site in Montreal and thanked her for her participation in today's meeting.

Presentation: Economic Development

Karine Monger – General Director, Municipal Regional Council le Golfe-du-Saint-Laurent

What's an RCM?

Regional county municipalities were created in 1979 by the Government of Quebec in accordance with the Act respecting land use and development. The objective was to assure a harmonious and coherent development, by an organized land use plan of the territory.

The basic mandate of the RCM is to elaborate a land use and development plan for their territory in order to precise the authorized usages. This is how perimeters were defined; urban zones, agriculture zones, recreational zones, etc. The local municipalities had to prepare their urban plan following the content of the land use and development plan.

We are currently working on the 1st draft of our land use and development plan. We will, before the end of July, adopt the 1st project of our land use and development plan.

To this basic mandate of land management we can also add other responsibilities for the RCM such as, property tax rolls, economic development, public security, residual materials management and risk management plan.

When it comes to economic development we are responsible for files such as MADA and family policies. We work in partnership with the CLD on numerous files; we also collaborate with the Coasters Association. We are an active member of Coste.

We are also in charge of the Programme de développement régional et forestier. This program has, in the past, been receiving funding requests. Under this fund we can receive regional development projects that promote the development of timber and non-timber forest products, the realization of recreational structuring projects in forest areas and the implementation of integrated resource management projects. The funds for this program were coming from the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs. We are unsure, at this point, for the future whether or not this fund will be continued.

That brings me to speak to you about bill 28 which is bringing changes to the economic development portrait.

On 5 November 2014, the Quebec government and the municipal sector representatives concluded a transitional fiscal pact. This will assign responsibilities of regional development to the MRC. To support the implementation of these new functions for 2015-2016 a development fund for territories of \$ 100M will be established. This fund will consist of the balance of the Regional Development Fund (CRÉ), the balance of the aid to local economic development (CLD), the envelope for the program of aid to the MRC and the envelope of pacte rural and rural development agents currently in place.

As of December 31st, the regional conferences of elected officials (CRE) will be abolished and the MRC, will become the only expertise in local economic development and support for entrepreneurs. Section 199 of the bill intends to entrust to MRC the power to conclude agreement directly with the government.

For the CLD's the new agreement gives the choice to the MRC to take on the power and budget of the CLD or to let them continue their mandate with a budget cut of 55%. For our region, the CLD is still in place and the willingness of the MRC is to maintain the CLD. Of course 2015 is a transition year.

Jarvin Joncas - Director, Centre Local de Développement de la Basse-Côte-Nord

Mr. Joncas gave an update on the status of the Centre Local de Développement de la Basse-Côte-Nord and a few points expressed are as follows:

- Budget cuts 55%
- Fiscal budget of 92,000.00 and will try to maintain funds for this year.

Will the MRC go along with the Development Plan?

No. We do not have a Development Plan, but Tourism is a priority and we will continue to support Direction Voyages Coste.

James Buckle – Member of Bio-Products Solidarity Co-op, Coasters Association

Mr. Buckle presented on the Bio-Products Solidarity Co-op and following are the points of his presentation:

Mr. Buckle provided a background on the Bio-Products Solidarity Co-op and how with the closure of the Fishery another sustainable industry was needed and as the Lower North Shore had an abundance of Wild fruits and Mushrooms, locally growing, it was felt that this would be a solution to the Fishery closure, and help to stimulate and diversify the economy of the region.

How much funding has been invested in the Bio-Produits Co-op?

There has been 1.2 million over five years this includes studies, training and equipment and facilities. We have invested to date 300,000.00 on studies, training, equipment and facilities.

How many products have been produced?

We did a production in Old Fort Bay, where a building was rented from the Commission Scolaire du Littoral. The candies, made out of Wildberries were dipped in chocolate, but due to the humidity of the facility, they did not turn out as expected. In order to do this type of product, there must be specific working conditions.

We did not want to put a product on the market that did not look presentable, the color was off, the taste was perfect, but the appearance was off.

Alberte Marcoux - Directrice Générale, Direction Voyages CoSte

Ms. Marcoux provided a brief background on the CoSte.

- 182 members, with membership being available to the Lower North Shore;
- 3 Full time employees;
- 4 Seasonal employees;
- 9 Board Members;
- 12 Financial Partners.

Ms. Marcoux presented on behalf of the Direction Voyages CoSte and following are the points of her presentation:

- Dreamt of providing a market for her community of Tête à Baleine and to promote the local businesses;
- Struggles but functioning;
- Provide decent rates for transportation for clients;
- Requires a lot of training;
- Working with the Commission Scolaire du Littoral to bring training on tourism to the Lower North Shore;
- Need to have professional expertise in tourism;
- CEDEC, MRC Côte-Nord, Regional Tourism Association, CRE Côte Nord, and the Coasters Association can improve the quality of tourism development;
- She has travelled the coast for years and transportation is an access;
- The Snowmobile trail is not just a trail, but a road that links the Lower North Shore together;
- We are always trying to find solutions outside the territory, when the answer is on the inside and we can find it by working together;
- Conditions of Route Blanche needs to be of good quality;
- Fishing is the main industry, but Tourism is important as well.

Mélissa Rochefort - Development and welcoming services Coordinator Tourisme Côte-Nord Duplessis

Ms. Rochefort stated that the ideas on tourism were very interesting and she was very happy to be in attendance at the Annual General meeting of the Coasters Association and very happy to be given the opportunity to speak about the Regional Tourism Association, which is a representative of the Ministry of Tourism.

She was happy to hear the partners talking about tourism and doing something about it. They are the first organization in the region of Quebec to have a partnership that strong and hope that others will know of the Regional Tourism Association over the upcoming year, months, weeks and days.

She informed that the Regional Tourism Association has supported projects on the Lower North Shore, ie: Whiteley Museum, Hotel in La Tabatiere and CEDEC initiatives and hopefully can be of support to more.

Allen Richards - Provincial Development Officer, Community Economic Development & Employability Committee

Mr. Richards stated that the first meeting he attended on the Lower North Shore was at the Arena in Blanc Sablon, back when... and back then no one was communicating and no one was working together, but that appears to have changed.

He expressed a few comments and they are as follows:

- Community Capacity exists on the Lower North Shore;
- Timing for Tourism is right now;
- Bio-Products has turned into a Co-op;
- Home care service is now a Co-op;
- Change is continuing to happen in a positive way;
- Capacity to plan;
- Partnerships.

Jarvin Joncas - Member, Vision 20/20 Committee

As Mr. Vincent Joncas was unable to participate in the Annual General Meeting, Jarvin Joncas presented a power point on behalf of Vision 20/20. Following are points expressed in the power point. **A copy of the Power Point Presentation is available at the office, upon request.**

- What is Vision 20/20;
- Objectives of Vision 20/20;
- History of Vision 20/20 how it came to be;
- The Vision 20/20 forum;
- Fundamental priority of the Lower North Shore;
- The Regional priorities;

- Communication and technology;
- Transportation;
- Industry and business development;
- Community and social development;
- Next steps to be taken of Vision 20/20.

Questions and Comments:

- Appalling state of the cabins located along Route Blanche;
- The trail needs to be groomed well if tourists are expected to travel on it;
- Not enough involvement in the Snowmobile trail and route 138;
- We have the money, where are the results;
- Why isn't there someone in attendance from the Minister of Transportation;
- No representation from Department of Fisheries in attendance;
- The solution is local.

Wrap-up

Synopsis of General Meeting – Hugh Maynard

Mr. Maynard thanked Mr. Richards for pretty much summing up his wrap up of the meeting during his presentation. Mr. Maynard provided a brief summary of the meeting. They are as follows:

Meeting the challenge of change:

- Weather;
- Road;
- Identity;
- Seniors (Senior Center);
- Community engagement;
- Youth Retention;
- Education;
- Economics;
- H&SS (meeting the challenge despite the change);
- Eco-systemic is another necessity of innovation;
- Networking and partnerships;
- Don't lament on what you don't have, but concentrate on where you want to be;
- Facilitating local hiring, 100%;
- Finding a way (Senior's home and Coasters Association);
- Transport Co-op;
- Not French but Bilingual;
- Ideas on courses (Just asking stimulates responses);
- Tourism;
- Attention to detail (Humidity of Wildberry facility, Ski-doo trail);
- Overnight stays;

- Where are the government representatives at meetings;
- “Capitalizing the opportunity of change”.

Mr. Maynard read quotes that caught his attention throughout the day. They are as follows:

- “We’re all minorities on the Lower North Shore.”
- “Make lemonade with lemons.” (Bill 10)
- “Advocacy costs (but it also pays)!”
- “Passion for seniors.”
- “We are very blessed in some ways.”
- “Can you move the needle? (of change)”
- “I’m pleased to announce we’re hiring a local girl.”
- “100% find local work.” (McGill Scholarships)
- “Good sense of results from partnerships.”
- “Can’t say kids don’t want to come back, if we haven’t asked them.”
- “You may seem alone, but you’re not.”
- “Wow! You can move when that stuff takes place.” (Partnerships)
- “Computers are the new literacy.”
- “Capitalizing on the opportunity of change.”

Closing Ceremonies

Acknowledgements – Cornella Maurice, Executive Director and Kimberly Buffitt, Director of Programs

Our General meetings are always productive, your planning and efforts always help the Coasters to focus on better results –thank you for taking the time to be here today. We must all continue working together for the betterment of the LNS communities.

Presentations

Each year we make presentations to give recognition to a few outstanding organizations and we are honored to do so again this year.

Commission Scolaire du Littoral

The Commission Scolaire du Littoral is celebrating a milestone this year, 25th year for the implementation of Secondary V on the LNS – Congratulations! The CSL is a major contributor to the social, cultural, economic and educational development of the Lower North Shore. They have helped us build an organization that will assist the people Lower North Shore to come, and for this we are very grateful. We call upon Deborah Folton to accept this certificate, on behalf of the CSL.

LNS Local Wave – Basse Cote Nord Vague Locale

The LNS Local Wave, the regional community newspaper, is celebrating its fifth anniversary this year – Congratulations! Communication is the key to success, and the

Local Wave is doing a great job in ensuring, through the newspaper and Facebook, that we are kept abreast of the developments and events relating to the LNS. They have accomplished more than anyone could have imagined. We wish them much luck with their future publications – a job well done! The Board of Directors of the LNS Communications are: Ana Osborne, Micheline LaPointe Monger, Garland Nadeau, Josee Smith, Andre Rowsell, Lorette Gallibois, and infography is Christell Fortin Vallaincourt. We call upon Garland Nadeau, to accept this certificate on behalf of the LNS Local Wave.

Longtime Supporter and friend

This lady has contributed greatly to the development of her municipality and the LNS communities. She has given of her time and talents on many occasions, lobbying for services on behalf of the LNS population, participating on committees, and the list goes on. We are very proud of her undertakings and we are so grateful for her friendship and continued support. We are delighted to have the opportunity to thank Doreen Labadie unfortunately she could not be here today, but we would like to thank her with a certificate as a token of our appreciation. Everyone please join in giving this remarkable lady a standing ovation.

Words of Appreciation

Last year we presented to everyone, and we wish we could do it again this year, but our budget does not permit. Nonetheless we are honored to have the opportunity to express words of appreciation.

Canadian Heritage

Since our inception – 26 years ago, the Coasters Association has relied heavily on the Department of Canadian Heritage, not only for funding, but for guidance, support and encouragement. We sincerely thank Jacqueline Ritchie for taking the time to be with us today, and we look forward to her visit to the LNS in the near future. Let's give CH a big round of applause.

True Friends

We are so proud to have Charles Taker and John Buck present again this year at our General Meeting. Words cannot express the tremendous contribution they have made to our organization, and we continue to look to them to help us move forward - thank you for always being there for us. Let's hear it for ALL of them – the OCOL and CEDEC team – please stand!

QCGN & CHSSN

The QCGN & CHSSN have done so much for us over the years, but this year they went above and behind their duties to help out on a number of initiatives. We always benefit from their expertise and talents, and we thank them for all they have done and look forward to continue working with them. (Let's extend the team at the QCGN & CHSSN a heartfelt thanks)

Board of Directors

We must extend a warm thank you to our board of directors, for all they have accomplished in the past year and for all that they will achieve in the coming year. (Let's give them a round of applause)

LNSCH (partner organizations)

The support of the LNSCH (partnering organizations) has made a substantial difference in the overall development of the LNS communities. We sincerely thank them for all they have accomplished. Wanda (CSSS), Jarvin (CLD), CA, Lionel (MRC), Serena (QLF), Ghislaine (LTS), and Anthony (CA) are with us today; Vicki (CEDEC), Rene (SQ) and Vincent (CSL) are also members of the Coalition, but were unable to join us – let's show them our appreciation!

Caisse Populaire de Blanc Sablon

Congratulations to Kaela Goudie – the new Manager of the CPdeBS. The CPdeBS have played a major role in all of our achievements – they are a role model for community development. Hats off to them!. Also, it fills us with pride to extend thanks to all the Caisse Populaires across the Lower North for their on-going support.

Staff

I am very grateful for the dedication, commitment of our staff. They are the backbone of all our achievements and for that we are very thankful. I would like to see the staff receive the praise that they so well deserve.

Master of Ceremonies

Mr. Hugh Maynard, once again, did a great job as Master of Ceremonies, chairperson of the business meeting and facilitator of the workshops. Let's give a big hand to Hugh Maynard.

Closing

It was a pleasure to host this year's AGM through video-conferencing, in partnership with the CSL/CLC's, LEARN & QCGN – a special thank you is extended to them.

A special thank you to all those who forwarded messages (Premier, Minister of labour, employment and social solidarity, CHSSN, Founding President) and to all those people who could not be here for whatever reason. As well, our membership, on and off the coast, whose continued support, deserves our sincere gratitude.

A sincere thanks to all the organizations, institutions, foundations, municipalities, co-op's/businesses, volunteers, government departments, consultants, and the media, on and off the territory who have helped us over the last year (too many to name).

Recognition for those who are present:

- Organizations: QCGN, CEDEC, ATR, LTS, CLC, QLF, BCNeF, Historical Society of

Old Fort, St. Paul's Whitely museum, Eastern Harbour Authority, St. Clement's east, St. Paul's 50+club, La Tabatiere senior club, User's Committee, Vision 20/20 committee

- Institutions: University of Rimouski, CSSS & CSL
- Foundation: Uni-Aide Foundation, Dr. Camille Foundation
- Municipality: MBE
- Co-ops/Businesses: Co-op Voyages CoSte, Bioproducts Solidarity Co-op, Co-op Caisse Populaire de Blanc Sablon, Aqua labadie
- Government departments: CH, OCOL, MRC, CLD
- Consultants: Quanglo Communications, Co-op Voyages CoSte
- Media: LNS Local Wave, CJAS radio, CFTH radio

We are definitely doing something right to have so many groups present - this was a very successful General Meeting, thank you ALL so much for helping us pave a road that will lead us to continued success. God Bless!

Word of thanks – Lenora Keats, Office Secretary

- We would like to thank the Commission Scolaire du Littoral for the use of their institutions to hold our AGM.
- Huge thanks to the Community Learning Centers of Netagamiou, Harrington Harbor, Mecatina and St. Paul's and the Quebec Community Groups Network for the use of their Video Conferencing equipment.
- Special thanks to Vida Keats for her catering services. The food was delicious.
- Thank you to Lois Jones, Betty Alice Strickland, and Marco Wellman for assisting in the organization of the catering. Your help with this is very much appreciated. I owe you BIG time. Please pass on our gratitude to the caterers.
- Thank you to Coastal Printing for the printing of the beautiful colored documents everyone received in their package, and the banners that you see on the wall
- Thank you to Rev. Francie Keats for providing spiritual support in the form of a prayer.
- Thank you to all guests, presenters and participants in today's meetings, your input and support is very much appreciated.
- To all those who sent messages a big thank you.
- Many thanks to the Coasters Board of Directors, we would not be where we are today without your support and guidance
- A special thanks to Mr. Hugh Maynard for doing a great job as our Master of Ceremonies, for always being there for us no matter what the circumstance
- An extra SPECIAL thanks to the young gentleman (Colton, Tristan, Jackson, Wyatt, Ethan, Joey, and Christen) who showed off their muscles by helping us carry and set-up the table and chairs.
- HUGE thanks to the volunteers who gave willingly of their time and energy throughout this past year.

- If we have forgotten anyone, please accept our sincerest apologies, because we do appreciate all you do for us.
- A special thanks to all the staff of the Coasters Association for their hard work and dedication to their jobs and for all their help in this year’s AGM preparations.

Closing Remarks – Garland Nadeau, Vice-President

I would like to thank everyone again for their contribution to the Coasters Association and for your attendance at this year’s General Meeting. I am very proud of the outcome, the involvement of the participants and the work accomplished here today was exceptional.

The dossiers at the Coasters over the last few years demand a great deal of time and effort on the part of many people. I would like to thank the Board of Directors for their dedication and commitment to the organization, the staff, volunteers, resource people, and partner organizations on and off the territory.

It is important for all the organizations, institutions and population to work in partnership for a collective purpose. It will only be by working together that we will be able to succeed in our efforts to develop the Lower North Shore for a vibrant and sustainable future.

Thank you for another successful Meeting. I invite you all back again next year to celebrate our 27th Anniversary. Have a safe journey back home, and enjoy the remainder of the weekend.

Vice- President

Date

Treasurer

Date

Coasters 20th General Meeting & 26th Anniversary

ATTENDING GUESTS

NAME	TITLE/ORGANIZATION	CITY/PROVINCE
	Quebec Community Group Network Montreal, Qc	
Jacqueline Ritchi	Manager Official Language Support Programs and Aboriginal Peoples' Program Canadian Heritage	Montreal, Qc
David Johnston	Quebec Representative, Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages	Montreal, Qc
Charles Taker	Liaison Officer, Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages	Montreal, Qc
Sylvia Martin-Laforge	Executive Director Quebec Community Groups Network	Montreal, Qc
	Community Learning Center Chevery, Qc	
Ghislaine Nadeau-Monger	President Local Table for Seniors Board Member Coasters Association Inc.	Chevery, Qc
Betty Alice Strickland	Secretary Coasters Association Inc.	Chevery, Qc
Ana Osborne	Development Officer Netagamiou Community Learning Center/Commission Scolaire du Littoral	Chevery, Qc
Karine Monger	General Director Municipal Regional Council le Golfe-du- Saint-Laurent	Chevery, Qc
	Community Learning Center Harrington Harbour, Qc	
Lois Jones	Board Member Coasters Association Inc. Secretary/DJ CFTH Radio	Harrington Harbour, Qc

Helen Morency	Development Agent Harrington Harbour Community Learning Center	Harrington Harbour, Qc
Amy Griffin	Animator Basse Côte Nord EnForme Coasters Association Inc.	Harrington Harbour, Qc
Community Learning Center La Tabatiere, Qc		
Faye Collier	Development Agent Mecatina Community Learning Center	La Tabatiere, Qc
Marco Wellman	DSYIP Intern Coasters Association Inc.	La Tabatiere, Qc
Jaida Bruce Wellman	Animator Senior Day Center Coasters Association Inc.	La Tabatiere, Qc
Judy Wellman	President Senior's Club	La Tabatiere, Qc
Community Learning Center St. Paul's River, Qc		
Hugh Maynard	President Qu'anglo Communication & Consulting	Ormstown, Qc
John Buck	Executive Director Community Economic Development & Employability Committee	Huntingdon, Qc
Allen Richards	Provincial Development Officer Community Economic Development & Employability Committee	New Carlisle, Qc
Dave Felker	Director Community Economic Development & Employability Committee	New Carlisle, Qc
Ivan Hale	Board Member Community Economic Development & Employability Committee	Wakefield, Qc
Grant Meyers	Provincial Development Officer Community Economic Development & Employability Committee	Sherbrooke, Qc
Alberte Marcoux	Directrice générale Direction Voyages CoSte	Rivière au Tonnerre, Qc
Jean Michel Perron	Consultant Direction Voyages CoSte	Rawdon, Qc
Bruno Jean	Professor Université de Québec à Rimouski	Rimouski, Qc

Mélissa Rochefort	Development and welcoming services Coordinator Tourisme Côte-Nord Duplessis	Sept-Iles, Qc
Charlotte Audet	Assistant Chief Executive Officer Centre de Santé et des Services Sociaux Member Camil Marcoux Foundation	Sept-Iles, Qc
Lucy de Mendonça	Administrator Commission Scolaire du Littoral/ Board Member Coasters Association Inc.	Sept-Iles, Qc
Deborah Foltin	Director of Educational services and Responsible for Computer Technology Resources Commission Scolaire du Littoral	Sept-Iles, Qc
Garland Nadeau	Vice-President Coasters Association Inc.	St. Paul's River, Qc
Tony Roberts	Past-President Treasurer Coasters Association Inc. Member Eastern Harbour Authority	St. Paul's River, Qc
Dale Keats	Board Member Coasters Association Inc.	St. Paul's River, Qc
Lionel Roberts	Mayor Municipality of Bonne Esperance	St. Paul's River, Qc
Rev. Francie Keats	Priest The Parish of St. Clement's East	St. Paul's River, Qc
Eileen Schofield	Principal Commission Scolaire du Littoral	St. Paul's River, Qc
Carol Simms	President 50+ Club	St. Paul's River, Qc
Leonard Burns	Member 50+ Club	St. Paul's River, Qc
Cornella Maurice	Executive Director Coasters Association Inc.	St. Paul's River, Qc
Lenora Keats	Office Secretary Coasters Association Inc.	St. Paul's River, Qc
Kimberly Buffitt	Director of Programs Coasters Association Inc. President Bio-products Solidarity Coop	St. Paul's River, Qc

James Buckle	Director of Finance Coasters Association Inc. Member Bio-products Solidarity Co-op	St. Paul's River, Qc
Priscilla Griffin	Program Manager Health Promotion Program Senior Day Centers Coasters Association Inc. President Whiteley Museum Community Member Groupe Accessibilité	St. Paul's River, Qc
Shelley Martin-Fequet	BCNeF Development Agent Coasters Association Inc.	St. Paul's River, Qc
Jessica Jones	DSYIP Intern Coasters Association Inc.	St. Paul's River, Qc
Chevonne Thomas	Animator Basse Côte Nord EnForme Coasters Association Inc.	St. Paul's River, Qc
Roderick Fequet	Research & Development Coordinator Coasters Association Inc.	St. Paul's River, Qc
Leona Griffin	Animator Senior Day Center Coasters Association Inc.	St. Paul's River, Qc
Anthony Dumas	President Coasters Association Inc. Member Uni-Aide Foundation	Lourdes de Blanc Sablon, Qc
Wanda Beaudoin	Administration services for persons with a loss of autonomy and family <i>programs</i> Centre de Santé et des Services Sociaux	Lourdes de Blanc Sablon, Qc
Jarvin Joncas	Director Centre Local de Développement de la Basse- Côte-Nord Member Vison 20/20	Lourdes de Blanc Sablon, Qc
Samantha Lavallee	Organisatrice Communautaires Centre de Santé et des Services Sociaux	Lourdes de Blanc Sablon, Qc
Serena Etheridge	Director, Culture and Heritage Quebec Labrador Foundation	Lourdes de Blanc Sablon, Qc
Tracey Mansbridge	Administrative Assistant Community Economic Development & Employability Committee	Lourdes de Blanc Sablon, Qc

Keala Goudie	Manager Caisse Populaire Desjardins	Lourdes de Blanc Sablon, Qc
Stacy Hobbs Lavallee	Animator Basse Côte Nord EnForme Coasters Association Inc.	Lourdes de Blanc Sablon, Qc

TOTAL: 54

Note: Due to no Video-Conference set-up in St. Augustine, the Board Members were absent; due to bad weather the Board Members of St. Augustine were unable to travel to La Tabatiere.

The Board Members of Kegaska and La Romaine were not present at the meeting due to high cost of transportation.

Four Board Members (i.e.: Scott Buckle, Claire Ann Labadie, Nicole Fortin, Ashely Babin Duguay) were absent due to other commitments.