

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
Thursday, November 20, 2014
FROM 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Crowne Plaze – Venise Room

ATTENDANCE	
Adams, Andrew	QPAT
Beaulieu, Chantal	ADM, MELS (Arr. 11:15)
Bordonaro, Tino	FPPE
Brown, Christie	MELS, DSCA
Finn, Cindy	ACES Chair
Foltin, Deborah	LITTORAL Vice-Chair
Fossey, Jean-Paul	QPAT
Furfaro, Sandra	EMSB
Korb, Tina	SWLSB
Langlois, Lise	MELS-DSCA
Levy-Sommer, Corinne (A.M. only)	ISAT
Lothian, Marian	WQSB
Martini, Domenic	Concordia University
Medwid, Roma	ADGESBQ
Pompa, Paul	QPAT
Rae-Nutter, Lisa	RSB
Ryan, John	Coordinator
Scott, Arlene	FPPE
Somerville, Gail	ACES
Sutherland, Mark	CQSB
Truesdale, Christine	LEARN
REGRETS	
Beliveau, Serge	CREE
Benson, Fiona	McGill University

Bernier, Normand	Colleges
Bruzzese, Sam	AAESQ
Chechile, Michael	LBPSB
Della Rocca, Cosmo	PROCEDE
Hampson, Holly	ISAT
Helm, Mike	NFSB
Joly, Sebastien	QPAT
Lau, Sunny Man Chu	Bishops University
Mason, Ralph	AAESQ
Mitchell, Bonnie	PROCEDE
Mosher, Lisa	ESSB
Rosa, Angela	Secretary
Zahra, Catherine	ETSB
GUESTS	
Sam Boskey	DSCA
Marsha Gouett	DSCA
Kate Le Maistre	ABEE
Gregory Jean-Louis	DSCA
Terry Wan Jung Lin	DSCA
Louise Marzinotto	DSCA
Lynn Travers	ABEE
Laurent Trudel	DSCA

Agenda	Summary of Proceedings
1. WORDS OF WELCOME	Cindy Finn welcomed everyone to the meeting. She reminded the Table that the afternoon session would include some of our partners in the English Educational Community, namely ABEE and members of DCSA.
2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND MINUTES	The Minutes of September 18, 2014 were approved with a correction of a typo (4.2 “FORM” should be “FROM”).
3. MEMBERSHIP FOR 2015-2017	<p>Cindy Finn reviewed the two-year membership cycle of the LCEEQ Committee as per our Internal Rules. This June sees the end of the current cycle so that we will need to initiate the process for nominations of the new Committee.</p> <p>She reminded those in attendance that this was a good time to start thinking about members that might be nominated for Executive positions (Chair, and Vice-Chair), as well as, the Steering Committee for 2015-2017.</p> <p>It is hoped that the process can be completed before our Annual Seminar in April so that new appointees can participate in this special planning event.</p>
4. PROCESS OF INCORPORATION	<p>Cindy Finn informed the Table that procedures at the MELS Finance Department have changed related to the funding of Entente Canada Quebec projects. In particular, MELS will no longer make transfers to fiduciary school Boards. This has been LCEEQ’s mode of operations with the New Frontiers School Board since the Committee began six years ago. MELS has recommended that the best way for LCEEQ to have access to its funds is to become a corporation. In this way the MELS would sign a protocol with the corporation instead of the fiduciary School Board.</p> <p>She further reported that initial meetings had taken place with both legal and accounting advisors familiar with the operations of non-profit organizations. The recommendation at present is that the proposed corporation would have three levels: the Board of Directors which would be made up of the current member representatives, the Directors who would be the present Steering Committee, and employees (those who currently manage LCEEQ projects) who would be engaged through annual service contracts.</p>

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	<p>The topic was then opened for discussion.</p> <p>The first intervention highlighted that what is being presented is a different style of operation than what we have become accustomed to since the creation of the Committee. The question was whether or not incorporation was necessary and other similar groups were cited as examples (e.g. QESBA, LEARN). It was agreed that incorporation would mean a different style of operation. QESBA and LEARN are already incorporated and so will continue to receive their funding as per signed protocols.</p> <p>Members are mandated by the groups they represent (Boards, Associations). As part of a non-profit corporation is there a change in the expectations of the individual member? As a member you are delegated by an organization but the individual is the member of the corporation. There would be an annual review of the membership. Any changes, keeping with established By-laws, would be updated annually.</p> <p>Were we not established as a MELS Committee and if so why then would we need to incorporate? Although the LCEEQ was initiated by Leo La France, Deputy Minister, as a think tank and a means for him to receive feedback from the English Educational Community, MELS does not decide on the operation of the LCEEQ and so we are not a MELS committee. That is the primary reason MELS is advocating incorporation so that LCEEQ can maintain its independence and control its budget.</p> <p>For the most part, under incorporation, we could continue to function in much the same way. The legal advisors have reviewed our Rules of Procedure and have recommended two specific changes. We would need to identify someone, generally a Secretary, to take responsibility for the Minutes. This would not replace the “recording secretary” as is our present practice but a Director would assume responsibility for Minutes. This responsibility could be given to our Vice-Chair as part of our By-laws. Also, although we have functioned with “consensus” this would have to be revisited within the context of incorporation. We would have to include a presenting of motions and a voting procedure in order to respect the non-profit organization Act.</p>

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	<p>A question was raised as to the responsibilities of the Steering Committee. Would this body take on “Executive” powers? The legal opinion is that there would be no need to alter the present operation. The extent of the power of the Steering Committee would be stipulated in the By-laws of the corporation.</p> <p>A suggestion was made that instead of applying for incorporation that LCEEQ could partner with an existing incorporated entity (e.g. QESBA, LEARN). This question was addressed in two ways. Firstly, there may be some difficulties in QESBA dealing with claims from other than the public School Boards. LCEEQ is made up of other groups (CEGEPs, Universities...) so this may become an issue. Secondly, if LCEEQ were to partner in such a manner there is a possibility that it would lose control of its own budget over time.</p> <p>The question of liability was raised. In the initial discussions legal counsel recommended the need for a liability insurance policy. This is standard practice for non-profit organizations.</p> <p>What are the commitments to regular employees? At present, the Coordinator and Project Managers are on annual service contracts. This practice would be continued as part of a corporation.</p> <p>A recommendation was made that a “fact sheet” should be distributed to members. This would help clarify the issues for those in attendance and would provide valuable information to those unable to attend this meeting but who will be part of a potential incorporation. Cindy Finn agreed that this would be an excellent idea and said that the Steering Committee would oversee the preparation of such a document for circulation.</p> <p>A show of hands indicated that the majority supported the continued investigation of pursuing steps towards incorporation. The issue will be on the Agenda for the meeting of January, 15, 2014.</p>

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<p>5. HISTORY PROGRAM UPDATE</p>	<p>Tino Bordonaro provided the latest information concerning changes to the Secondary Cycle II History program entitled, History of Quebec and Canada. He reviewed the position paper that the Committee had prepared in December 2013 indicating those areas of concern that had been addressed and those that were still outstanding. In discussion it was clear that members felt that the important area of “Evaluation” was not receiving enough consideration at this time. It was agreed that a follow-up to the original position paper would be forwarded to MELS emphasizing those concerns not yet addressed.</p>
<p>6. SYNERGY COMMITTEE INFORMATION</p>	<p>Marian Lothian informed the Committee of the creation of a new ADGESBQ Subcommittee entitled, the Synergy Committee. The Committee is made up of those responsible for Pedagogical and Information Technology in the public school boards. The mandate is to examine the use of technology in the classroom. It was noted that the recently released ABEE Report, <i>The Integration of the New Information and Communication Technologies in the English Schools of Québec</i> may provide a good starting point for discussion. Synergy Committee members present at the LCEEQ table expressed a desire to invite Kate Le Maistre, ABEE Chair, to their next meeting.</p>
<p>7. LCEEQ BUSINESS ITEMS</p>	<p>7.1 ANNUAL CONFERENCE UPDATE</p> <p>John Ryan reported that 744 participants had been authorized to date and the actual registration was 667. He reminded members that “protected” registration closes as of December 1, 2014. After that date original allocations will no longer apply and any remaining spaces will be available on a first come first served basis.</p> <p>The “Student Voice” feature of the Conference will be repeated. Students of all ages will be asked to submit a video explaining how feedback has supported their learning.</p> <p>LCEEQ is presently working with AAESQ to offer a special event for new administrators the first evening of the Conference. More information to follow.</p>

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	<p><u>7.2. National Visible Learning Symposium</u> John Ryan reported that negotiations with Corwin to sponsor a two-day National Symposium in mid-February have been completed. Given that Corwin has contracted with the Ontario Principals' Council (OPC) to hold a session the same month meant that we would be drawing on the same audience and so there was little point in pursuing the matter.</p> <p><u>7.3 Annual Conference 2016</u> John Ryan reported that the theme of the Annual Conference 2016 will be “Divergent Learners”. The dates of the Conference will be February 8-9, 2016 at the Sheraton Laval Hotel. We are presently negotiating with keynote speakers. Members were invited to forward any suggestion for speakers or specific topics.</p> <p><u>7.4 Communications/Marketing Subcommittee</u> John Ryan informed the table that in accordance with the Strategic Plan 2013-2016 a subcommittee had begun to prepare a Communications Plan. An initial copy of the plan will be presented at the January 15, 2015 meeting.</p> <p><u>7.5 DSCA Report</u> Christie Brown stated that the most recent SSAACC report had been presented to the Directors General the previous week. She informed the table that the report would be featured in the DCSA presentation scheduled for the afternoon.</p> <p><u>7.6 Agenda Items for January</u> Cindy Finn reported that the theme for the January session would be the Vitality of the English Educational Community. Dr. Richard Bourhis, Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), coauthor of the report, <i>The Decline of the English School System in Quebec</i> published by the Canadian Institute for Research on Linguistic Minorities (CIRLM) has agreed to make a presentation.</p>

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<p>8. REPORT BY THE ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINSITER</p>	<p>Chantal Beaulieu identified four topics for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>School Board Mergers</u> She regretted that the information was leaked to the press before a public announcement. This caused additional stress for those Boards that were identified as potential mergers. At present QESBA and the FCSQ (Fédération des commissions scolaires du Québec - referred to by our network as the Fédé) are the only bodies being consulted. Chantal expressed that it would be nice to include other groups (parents, DGs....). The timeline is unclear, there may be a decision taken before the holidays but it will likely be in January. • <u>Transfer of Powers from Boards to Schools</u> Chantal expressed that this may be miscommunicated as she believes the intent was to examine more pedagogical discretion given to schools. At present the curriculum is “jammed packed” with little place for local input. There is a need for pedagogical leadership. The English Educational Community needs to get ideas together and have its voice heard. • <u>Including the English perspective</u> The MELS uses a systems of “pochettes” in which developing policies and procedures from various groups are circulated among key players. These pochettes get passed along once she is satisfied that the English perspective is being considered. • <u>Vitality of the English Educational Community</u> This is an important consideration and one that LCEEQ will need to focus on in the months ahead.
<p>9. EXCHANGE OF PARTNER GROUPS</p>	<p>The afternoon was devoted to providing an opportunity to some of our partner groups to provide information about priorities and projects for the coming year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABEE shared its recently published report, <i>The Integration of the New Information and Communication Technologies in the English Schools of Québec</i>. Kate Le Maistre, took the opportunity to invite recommendations from the LCEEQ table as to potential areas of investigation for the current year.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QPAT reported that the priority at present is teacher negotiations • The DSCA team provided information about the newsletter format, projects within the CLSC network, an electronic listing of funding mechanisms called Access Point, and an explanation of new regulations related to the disbursement of Entente funds.
10. ADJOURNMENT	The meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM All members were invited to network over a cocktail.

Respectfully submitted by John Ryan