



# ANNUAL REPORT

April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023

# OUR MISSION

Housed at Concordia University in Montreal, Canada, the Quebec English-Speaking Communities Research Network (QUESCREN) provides opportunities to promote the understanding and vitality of Quebec's English-language minority communities through research, training, knowledge mobilization, networking, and outreach.

QUESCREN's offices are at the Loyola Campus, Concordia University.



# OUR TEAM

## Co-directors



**Chedly Belkhodja, PhD**  
Professor,  
School of Community and Public Affairs



**Brian Lewis, PhD**  
Professor,  
Department of Communications Studies

## Staff



**Lorraine O'Donnell, PhD**  
Senior Research Associate and Advisor,  
and Affiliate Assistant Professor,  
School of Community and Public Affairs



**Patrick Donovan, PhD**  
Research Associate and Advisor



**Lina Shoumarova, MA**  
Research Associate  
(currently on leave)



**Anita Aloisio, MA**  
Research Associate



**Anna Hunt, MA**  
Knowledge Mobilization Officer



**Ana Gomez, MPPA**  
Office Coordinator and Community  
Knowledge Open Library (CKOL)  
Project Officer



**John Dickson**  
Financial Officer



**Daniel Slapcoff**  
Research Assistant



**Anna Sigrithur Houston**  
Communications Coordinator,  
COM-Unity project, QUESCREN

# OUR MEMBERS

## Researcher-members

QUESCREN's **69 researcher-members** specialize in many fields related to English-speaking Quebec. They work in different institutions in Quebec, Canada, and abroad. Consult our [researcher-member directory](#) and see their latest publications below.

## Open members

QUESCREN's **845 open members** subscribe to our [newsletter](#) and follow our activities. [Become an open member today.](#)

 **2.4%**  
increase since  
last year

# OUR WORKING GROUPS

## Advisory Board

The Advisory Board provides advice to support QUESCREN's strategic directions and securing of resources. [Consult our advisory board member list.](#)

## Inter-Level Educational Table (ILET)

ILET brings together representatives from the continuum of Quebec's English-language educational institutions and associations, along with community groups and the public sector. QUESCREN supports the Table through research, knowledge mobilization, and promoting collaboration. [Consult our list of ILET members.](#)

## COM-Unity Project Community of Practice

The working group brings together seven partner organizations from the arts, culture, heritage, and education sectors; representatives from the Secrétariat aux relations avec les Québécois d'expression anglaise, the project funder; and staff from QUESCREN/Concordia University to set directions and share practices of the COM-Unity project.

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

## Research Requests

This fiscal year, QUESCREN responded to **21 research requests** from stakeholders on a range of topics related to English-speaking Quebec, including evaluating projects and services related to the English-speaking community; youth mental health and literacy; and decision-making in schools.

## Community Development Plan

QUESCREN has also been working with QCGN and other community organizations in developing a **2022-2027 Community Development Plan**. In 2022-2023, Patrick Donovan co-chaired the Data Roundtable in the first part of the year, and was replaced by Lorraine O'Donnell in the second half.



# PUBLICATIONS PRODUCED BY QUESCREN

## Working Papers

QUESCREN released four new working papers during this fiscal year.



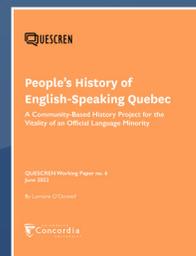
Pattison-Meek, J., & A. Langevin. *Rural schools, linguistic identities, and official language minority rights: Insights from rights holder parents in Quebec.* [Link](#)



Canton, L. *Queer(ing) Italo-Québécois literature.* [Link](#)



Lamarre, P. *The evolution of the Community Learning Centre Network in Quebec's official language minority school system.* [Link](#)



O'Donnell, L. *People's history of English-speaking Quebec. A community-based history project for the vitality of an official language minority.* [Link](#)

## Briefs

We also prepared briefs representing the research sector at government consultations.



O'Donnell, L. *Mémoire de QUESCREN à M. Éric Girard, Ministre responsable des Relations avec les Québécois d'expression anglaise, Ministre des Finances.* Janvier 2023. [Link](#)



O'Donnell, L. *QUESCREN brief. The importance of the university research ecosystem for Quebec's English-speaking official language minority community.* August 2022. [Link](#)



O'Donnell, L. *Brief to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Official Languages on the topic of Bill C-13, An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act, to Enact the Use of French in Federally Regulated Private Businesses Act and to Make Related Amendments to Other Acts.* October 2022. [Link](#)



Donovan, P., & L. O'Donnell. *The tourist offer of the Whiteley Museum and its surrounding area on the Lower North Shore. A quality improvement report.* March 2022. [Link](#)

## Report

Our quarterly bilingual e-newsletter provides information on projects under way, new publications and grants, and events related to research on Quebec's English-speaking communities. [Read past newsletters here and subscribe today.](#)



### External Publications by QUESCREN Researcher-Members

In addition to the documents listed on the previous page, QUESCREN researcher-members published the following research relating to English-speaking Quebec over the past fiscal year. Please note that **the name of the researcher-member is in bold.**

- Auger N.**, M. Bilodeau-Bertrand, & N. Lafleur (2023). Access to perinatal healthcare in minority Anglophones: Hospital type and birth outcomes. *PLoS One*, 18(4). [Link](#)
- Donovan, P.**, A. Robineau, É. Forgues, & **L. O'Donnell** (Guest Editors). (2023). Patrimoine, mémoire et vitalité des minorités linguistiques / Heritage, memory and vitality of linguistic minorities. *Minorités linguistiques et société / Linguistic Minorities and Society*, 21. [Link](#)
- Frasca, P., & **L. Canton** (2023). Making connections, bridging communities: New directions in Italian-Canadian studies." *Italian Studies in Southern Africa* 35(1): 226–251. [Link](#)
- Gagné, P.**, J. Gagné, & L. Dumont. (2022). Jumelage interculturel et intergénérationnel dans l'apprentissage du français langue seconde au collégial : Jasons avec des francophones. In F. Lafleur & G. Samson (eds.), *Formation au collégial : Pratiques innovantes en formation à distance* (p. 231–244). PUQ. [Repository](#)
- Kircher, R.**, E. Quirk, M. Brouillard, A. Ahooja, S. Ballinger, L. Polka, & **K. Byers-Heinlein**. (2022). Quebec-based parents' attitudes towards childhood multilingualism: Evaluative dimensions and potential predictors. *Journal of Language and Social Psychology* 51(5): 527–552.
- O'Donnell, L.** (2022). Histoire populaire du Québec d'expression anglaise : Un projet pour la vitalité de la communauté anglophone du Québec. *Histoire Québec* 27(3): 27–28. [Link](#)
- Popica, M.** (2022). Pour mieux interagir : Activités de développement de la compétence de communication interculturelle au collégial. Éditeur John Abbott College. Online publication. [Link](#)
- Quirk, E., M. Brouillard, A. Ahooja, S. Ballinger, L. Polka, **K. Byers-Heinlein**, & **R. Kircher**. (2023). Quebec-based parents' concerns regarding their children's multilingual development. *International Journal of Multilingualism*. Online ahead of print. [Link](#)
- Williams, D. W.** (2022). Dr. Dorothy W. Williams & Blacbiblio.com. *FontMag* 13, November Teachers Issue. [Link](#)
- Williams, D. W.** (2022). Montreal's Black porters: A legacy to celebrate. *GeoScope*, 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition, vol. 53, p. 17–20.

# ONLINE RESEARCH EVENTS AND VIDEOS

QUESCREN hosted **9 events in the past year.**

## Multi-day Conference (Peer-Reviewed)

May 11-12, 2022

**Digital Culture and Linguistic Minority Communities / Le numérique et les communautés linguistiques en milieu minoritaire**

This two-day conference took place as part of the 89<sup>th</sup> Acfas congress.

[Link](#) / [Conference Program](#) / [Videos of all sessions](#)

## Lunch & Learns and Other Special Events

March 9, 2023

**Rural schools, linguistic identities, and official language minority rights. Insights from Anglophone rights holder parents in Quebec.**

Featuring Joanne Pattison-Meek and Andréanne Langevin.

[Link](#) / [Video](#)

March 2, 2023

**They “could care for our elderly in our homes”: The historical impact of Black caregivers.**

Featuring Dorothy Williams.

[Link](#) / [Video](#)

January 26, 2023

**Queer(ing) Italo-Québécois literature.**

Featuring Licia Canton.

[Link](#) / [Video](#)

October 13, 2022

**What a community school approach brings to Quebec’s English school sector: Connections, connections, connections.**

Featuring Patricia Lamarre, Debbie Horrocks, and Ben Loomer.

[Link](#) / [Video](#)

October 6, 2022

**Wellbeing and heritage.**

Featuring Linda Monckton.

[Link](#) / [Video](#)

September 8, 2022

**Les plus récentes statistiques sur la langue tirées du recensement de 2021. Un tour d’horizon de la situation québécoise et montréalaise.**

Featuring Jean-Pierre Corbeil.

[Link](#) / [Video](#)



May 30, 2022

**We belong together: Celebrating Quebec's English-speaking communities. A showcase of the exciting projects from Year 2 of the COM-Unity initiative.**

With multiple participants.

[Link / Video](#)

April 19, 2022

**Launch of the Special Issue of the *Linguistic Minorities and Society* journal.**

**50 years of implementing the Official Languages Act: Review and prospects.**

[Link / Video](#)

## KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION AND ONLINE RESOURCES

Our online and social media presence continues to grow, which allows us to reach out to the English-speaking communities in Quebec as well as those interested in minority language and related issues. In addition, QUESCREN initiatives were featured in **11 mainstream media articles or broadcasts**. (See [here](#))

### Social media



#### Facebook

This year our bilingual **Facebook page** featured an average of two posts per week. We invite you to become a friend if you have not done so.



#### YouTube

Our **YouTube channel** preserves all recorded QUESCREN events. This year we added 6 videos. We invite you to **subscribe** to our channel.

#### Website

Our **bilingual website** is an important tool for knowledge mobilization and networking support.

#### Notices

**QUESCREN Notices** bring attention to our key activities. We produce at least one per month.

## Online databases

QUESCREN's state-of-the-art online research resources support production of research and evidence-based policy development.

### *Bibliography on English-speaking Quebec*

This **bibliography**, which Brendan O'Donnell has been compiling since the 1970s, contains secondary sources related to the study of English-speaking Quebec. Resources include everything from scholarly studies to magazine articles, by way of films and websites. This year Brendan added 326 titles to the bibliography, bringing the total number of entries up to 14,284. This invaluable resource was searched 25,712 times by 21,974 unique visitors. Thanks to Brendan for his decades of volunteer work on this!

↑ **30%** increase  
in unique visitors

### *Community Knowledge Open Library (CKOL)*

The **Community Knowledge Open Library (CKOL)** is a growing online full-text database listing of grey literature sourced from the province's English-speaking community groups. Grey literature is unpublished but non-archival material made available to the public, such as annual reports, research reports, lectures, PowerPoints, newsletters, and pamphlets. So far, 42 community partner organizations and individuals from across Quebec have joined the project. We had three cataloguers working on this in 2022-2023, and we catalogued a total of 3,663 resources, up from 1,530 the year before. Knowledge of this relatively new resource is growing, with 1,595 unique visitors in the past year, up from 471 the previous year. In addition to our core funding, a grant from **Health Canada**, supported by **Dialogue McGill at McGill University**, allowed us to add hundreds of new resources related to health and social services.

↑ **140%** more  
online content than  
last year

↑ **240%** increase  
in unique visitors

# PROJECTS

## COM-Unity

The [COM-Unity initiative](#) brings together seven partner organizations from the arts, culture, heritage, and education sectors, whose individual projects aim to explore, celebrate, and **share the stories that reflect English-speaking communities and build a strong sense of identification with Quebec.**

QUESCREN manages the project and its Community of Practice. The partners are: the [Black Community Resource Centre](#), [Blue Metropolis](#), the [English Language Arts Network](#), the [Leading English Education and Resource Network \(LEARN\)](#), the [Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network](#), [Seniors Action Quebec](#), and [Y4Y Quebec](#). The [Secrétariat aux relations avec les Québécois d'expression anglaise](#) funds this project.



## ILET Research Hub

The ILET Impact pilot project involves collaborating with the Inter-Level Educational Table (ILET) to **create a website** addressing knowledge gaps on English-language education in Quebec. The website will include **films, podcasts, infographics, and other resources** related to research priorities identified by the Table. In 2022-2023, three short films were recorded along with a podcast. The website will be launched later in 2023. The [Department of Canadian Heritage](#) finances this project.



Anita Aloisio  
interviewing Diane  
Gérin-Lajoie for new  
podcast series

# PRESENTATIONS, REPRESENTATIONS, NETWORKING

In addition to their committee work and presentations for QUESCEN events, staff members participate in meetings and events to present and mobilize research and build networks related to Canadian official language minority communities.

## Presentations and representations

Date	Nature of participation	Participant(s)
March 2023	Keynote. The best treated minority in the world. At the 23 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Robin Burns Lecture, Bishop's University, Sherbrooke, Quebec.	Patrick Donovan
March 2023	Presentation/Moderation. <i>Strategies for a More Vital Community Forum</i> organized by the Quebec Community Groups Network.	Lorraine O'Donnell
February 2023	Presentation. Bill 101 and English-speaking Quebec. University Women's Club of Montreal.	Lorraine O'Donnell
February 2023	Presentation. Diversity and Otherness in Quebec Culture. Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Montreal (CIRM), McGill University.	Anita Aloisio
January 2023	Presentation. Study on Francophone immigration to minority communities. Standing Senate Committee on Official Languages. Government of Canada.	Chedly Belkhdja
December 2022	Presentation. People's history of English-speaking Quebec: A linguistic minority community vitality project. At the <i>Association for Critical Heritage Studies Biennial Conference</i> , Santiago, Chile.	Lorraine O'Donnell Patrick Donovan
November 2022	Presentation. QUESCEN's Community Knowledge Open Library. At the <i>Digitization Projects in Official Language Minority Community Institutions</i> event organized by Library and Archives Canada, Government of Canada.	Ana Gomez
November 2022	Moderation. Panel on Education to employment in Québec's English-speaking communities. At the <i>Education to Employment in Québec's English-speaking Communities</i> conference organized by the Provincial Employment Roundtable.	Lorraine O'Donnell
October 2022	Presentation. Are English-speaking Quebecers "the best treated minority in the world"? At the <i>American Council for Quebec Studies Biennial Conference</i> , Baltimore, Maryland.	Patrick Donovan
June 2022	Moderation. Panel on English-speaking Quebec in the face of change. At the <i>QCGN Policy Forum</i> organized by the Quebec Community Groups Network.	Lorraine O'Donnell
May 2022	Presentation. La Bibliothèque ouverte du savoir communautaire et la vitalité mémorielle des communautés d'expression anglaise du Québec. At the <i>Le numérique et les communautés linguistiques en milieu minoritaire : Rôles, impacts et enjeux</i> conference, 89 <sup>e</sup> Congrès de l'Acfas.	Lorraine O'Donnell Patrick Donovan
May 2022	Presentation. Aller au-delà des solitudes : Contributions, pratiques linguistiques et identités des Québécois anglophones. At the <i>Colloque de l'Observatoire démographique et statistique de l'espace francophone</i> , Université Laval, Quebec City.	Lorraine O'Donnell Patrick Donovan
April 2022	Closing remarks. Launch: Special Issue of <i>Minorités linguistiques et société / Linguistic Minorities and Society</i> on the Official Languages Act.	Lorraine O'Donnell

## Consultations and Advisory Panels

Date	Nature of participation	Participant(s)
January 2023	Invited participant, consultation with Éric Girard, Minister of Finance and Minister Responsible for Relations with English-Speaking Quebecers, Quebec City.	Lorraine O'Donnell
July 2022	Invited participant, 2022 Cross-Canada Official Languages Consultations – Meeting with Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Official Languages, Montreal.	Lorraine O'Donnell
May 2022	Invited participant, Séance d'échange et de discussion avec le SRQEA, Quebec City.	Lorraine O'Donnell

## Committee Work

Committee/Network	Participant(s)
Co-chair, Data Roundtable of the 2022-2027 <a href="#">Community Development Plan for English-Speaking Quebec</a> , organized by the Quebec Community Groups Network	Lorraine O'Donnell
Founding Member of Organizing Committee (O'Donnell) and Founding Member of Board of Directors (Donovan). <a href="#">Organization for the Memory, Heritage, and History of Official Language Minorities of Canada (MPH/MHH)</a> .	Patrick Donovan Lorraine O'Donnell
Member, Board of Directors, <a href="#">Canadian Institute for Research on Linguistic Minorities</a>	Chedly Belkhodja
Member, Editorial Board, <i>Minorités linguistiques et société / Linguistic Minorities and Society</i>	Lorraine O'Donnell
Member, Official Language Minority Communities (OLMCs) Archival Network, Library and Archives Canada	Lorraine O'Donnell
Member, Organizing Committee, Third Colloquium on the Health of Official Language Minority Communities, Health Canada	Patrick Donovan
Member, PhD committee of Aurelia Roman, Concordia University. Title of dissertation: Parent-school interaction in a post-migration context: An analysis from the perspectives of English-speaking single mothers with children enrolled in the French-language public school system in Montreal, Quebec, Canada	Lorraine O'Donnell
Member, PhD dissertation defence jury for Chantal Lacasse, Université Laval. Title of dissertation: Le Québec anglophone : Une communauté distincte du reste du Canada? Étude comparative des positions éditoriales de deux journaux anglophones – <i>The Gazette</i> et <i>The Globe and Mail</i> – en rapport avec certains débats publics au Québec et au Canada de 1976 à 1982	Lorraine O'Donnell
Member, Working Group on Data and Research on Official Language Minority Communities and Health, Health Canada	Patrick Donovan

## Research Team Membership

Research Team	Participant(s)
Member, <a href="#">engAGE</a> : Concordia's Centre for Research on Aging	Lorraine O'Donnell
Collaborator, <a href="#">Équipe de recherche en partenariat sur la diversité culturelle et l'immigration dans la région de Québec (EDIQ)</a>	Patrick Donovan

# OUR FUNDERS

Funding Source	Project/Program name	Date of agreement
Secrétariat aux relations avec les Québécois d'expression anglaise, Government of Quebec	Université Concordia – QUESCREN – Centre permanent de recherche consacré aux communautés d'expression anglaise (Phase 2)	March 2021
Department of Canadian Heritage, Government of Canada	Support for regular activities: Quebec English-Speaking Communities Research Network	April 2021
Secrétariat aux relations avec les Québécois d'expression anglaise, Government of Quebec	Renforcer le sentiment d'appartenance des Québécois d'expression anglaise par la culture, les arts, le patrimoine et l'éducation (COM-Unity Project 3.0)	March 2022
Department of Canadian Heritage, Government of Canada	ILET Impact Project	April 2022
Department of Canadian Heritage, Government of Canada	Support for QUESCREN work towards improving understanding of Quebec's English-speaking communities and promoting their vitality	January 2020
Concordia University	Annual in-kind support for QUESCREN activities	2008 (ongoing)
Canadian Institute for Research on Linguistic Minorities	CIRLM and Concordia University Partnership Agreement	2008 (ongoing)
Health Canada, supported by Dialogue McGill at McGill University	Community Knowledge Open Library (CKOL): Documentation on health and social services in English-speaking Quebec	April 2022

QUESCREN recognizes support from the following funders:

**Secrétariat aux relations avec les Québécois d'expression anglaise**







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