QUESCREN FORUM:
MINORITY COMMUNITY VITALITY THROUGH EDUCATION

October 28-29-30, 2018
Concordia University, Montreal
forum.quescren.ca
MESSAGE from Secrétariat aux relations avec les Québécois d’expression anglaise

The Secrétariat aux relations avec les Québécois d’expression anglaise (SRQEA) is honoured to welcome you to the Minority Community Vitality through Education Forum. Research in Canada and abroad underscores the importance of education to minority group vitality.

The Secretariat is pleased to be able to sponsor the Forum which will encourage sharing of experiences in Québec and beyond and across sectors.

The Forum will be a space for fruitful dialogue by practitioners, policy-makers and researchers. Collectively, we will address challenges and opportunities within Québec’s English-language education sector for promoting community vitality.

Our thanks go to QUESCREN, its Inter-Level Educational Table, and their partners for leadership and engagement in creating the Forum. We are also grateful to you, the participants, for your help in ensuring that the Forum will make a lasting contribution to the vitality of English-speaking communities across Québec.

Please accept our best wishes for a successful forum.

Secrétariat aux relations avec les Québécois d’expression anglaise

SUNDAY OCTOBER 28

9 a.m.
Opening Remarks
Lorraine O’Donnell, QUESCREN
Christopher Skeete, Adjoint parlementaire du Premier Ministre pour les relations avec les Québécois d’expression anglaise
Steven Colpitts, Associate Deputy Minister, MEES

9:15 a.m.
KEYNOTE
Education and the Vitality of Official Language Minority Communities
Moderator: Michael Goldbloom, C.M.
Speaker: Raymond Théberge, Canada’s Commissioner of Official Languages

10:15 a.m.  Coffee and networking break

10:45 a.m.
PANELS
ROOM A
Connecting Education, Identity and Vitality
Moderator: Sylvia Martin-Laforge  Panelists: Ali Chaisson, Guy Matte

ROOM B
Innovative Practices: from Hackathons to Makerspaces
Moderator: Linton Garner
   A Model of Growth for Emerging Leaders
   Speaker: Sonia Di Maulo
   Project: Hackathon  Speaker: Sarah Boily
   Makerspaces to Strengthen Communities
   Speakers: Ann-Louise Davidson, Nathalie Duponsel, Bojana Krismanovic, Ivan Ruby
   Accent Quebec: French Immersion Programs in English-Language Schools
   Speakers: Julie Paré, Marc-Albert Paquette, Solange Gasana, Suzanne Nesbitt, Gabrielle Guillon
ROOM C
Black Education and the Dilemma of Culture and Language
Moderator: Uzma Jamil
- Searching for an Identity /home in Exile: Canadian duality and the Colour line
  Speaker: Clarence Bayne
- Arts as Education and Identity
  Speaker: Tyrone Benskin
- Diversifying the Reading Curriculum
  Speaker: Nigel Thomas

ROOM D
What Would Be Lost if There Were No More English-Language Schools?
Moderator: Kate Le Maistre
Panelists: Helena Burke, David McFall, Pelagia Nickoletopoulos

12 p.m.
Lunch

12:45 p.m.
Lunch Address: The View from Ontario
Moderator: Sylvia Martin-Laforge
Speaker: François Boileau, French Language Services Commissioner of Ontario

1:15 p.m.
WORKSHOPS
ROOM A
Voice and Empowerment of Quebec Anglophone Youth
Moderators: Marie-Josée Berger, Miles Turnbull
Speakers: Nicholas Backman, Christopher Bourne, Jocelyn Grubb, Denise Lauzière, Heather Lawford

ROOM B
ABCs of Canadian Black History
Moderators: Dorothy Williams, Linton Garner

ROOM D
The Future is Now: NEXTschool – a Community Learning Center for the NEXT Generation
Moderators: Noel Burke, Michael Canuel

3:30 p.m.
Coffee and networking break

4 p.m.
TOWN HALL
Do English-Language Schools Provide Adequate Cultural and Linguistic Integration Into French Quebec Society and Its Job Market?
Moderator: John McMahon
Introductory talk: Perceptions et motivation à l’égard du français langue seconde enseigné au Québec
Speakers: Philippe Gagné, Maria Popica

MONDAY OCTOBER 29

9 a.m.
Opening Remarks
André Roy, Dean of Arts and Science, Concordia University

9:15 a.m.
Keynote: Strategic Initiatives for Minority Language Education in the European Union
Moderator: Richard Bourhis
Speaker: Colin Williams, Cardiff University, University of Cambridge

10:15 a.m.
Coffee and networking break
10:45 a.m.

**PANELS**

**ROOM A**

**Language and Culture in Schools and Universities**

**Moderator:** Patrick Donovan  
- Official Minority Language Schools in Canada: A Comparative Analysis of Québec and Ontario  
  Speaker: Diane Gérin-Lajoie  
- The Rise and Fall of English Quebec Studies  
  Speaker: Brendan O’Donnell

**ROOM B**

**Youth Retention**

**Moderator:** Rita Legault  
- Decisions by Members of the English-Speaking Community on Whether to Stay or Leave Quebec  
  Speaker: Samuel Dupéré  
- Should I Stay or Go? Retention of English-Speaking Students Post-Graduation in Quebec  
  Speaker: Paul Holley  
- Language, Employment, and Regional Retention/Employment of John Abbott College Graduates  
  Speakers: Joanne Ross, Douglas Brown  
- Modernizing the Youth Employment Strategy  
  Speaker: Denise Gareau

**ROOM C**

**Early Childhood Education for English-Speaking and Indigenous Communities**

**Moderator:** Sharon Coyle  
- Early Childhood in English-Speaking Communities: A Critical Period for Education, Health and Community Vitality  
  Speakers: Cathy Brown, Russ Kueber  
- Fostering the Health and Well-Being of Children and Families through Innovative Community and Public Partnerships  
  Speakers: Danielle Lanyi, Roya Abouzia  
- The Place of Learning of Precious Families – Bridging a Proud Past with a Bright Future  
  Speakers: Natalie Beauvais, Melissa Lasante

**ROOM D**

**English Language Education in Quebec: Canadian and Welsh Perspectives**

**Moderator:** Lynn Travers  
- The Decline of the English School System in Quebec  
  Speaker: Richard Bourhis  
- Language Vitality in Action: Language Profiles of French and English Minority Schools in Canada  
  Speaker: Rodrigue Landry  
- From the Cradle to the Grave: Bilingual Education in Wales  
  Speaker: Colin Williams

12 p.m.  

**Lunch**
For detailed forum program, see http://forum.quescren.ca

TUESDAY OCTOBER 30

9 a.m.
Opening Remarks
Brian Lewis, Professor and QUESCREN co-director, Concordia University

9:15 a.m.
KEYNOTE
The English-Language School System in Québec: Who Cares?
Moderator: Brian Lewis
Speakers: Kate Le Maistre, Advisory Board on English Education

10:15 a.m.
Coffee and networking break

10:45 a.m.
PANELS

ROOM A
Research on Quebec English-language Education: Beyond the Numbers
Moderators: Martin Durand, Sarah Manolson
Speakers: Rodrigue Landry, Geneviève Légaré, Emma Legault, John Zhao

ROOM B
Integrated Skills Training for Indigenous and Minority Anglophones in Quebec
Moderator: Kelly Boutilier

ROOM C
Positive Communication to Increase Community Well-Being
Moderator: Sonia Di Maulo

ROOM D
Literacy and Plain Language: Practical Tools
Moderators: Margo Legault, Wendy Seys

3:30 p.m.
Coffee and networking break

4 p.m.
TOWN HALL

Changing Attitudes and Mindsets for Re-Imagining English-Speaking Quebec and Making Positive Change
Moderator: Paul Zanazanian
Speakers: John Commins, Marlene Jennings, Bronwen Low, Janine Metallic

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Speakers: John Commins, Marlene Jennings, Bronwen Low, Janine Metallic
The Community Learning Centre Initiative
Speakers: Debbie Horrocks, Emma Legault

Nunavik Sivunitsavut Project
Speaker: Evie Mark

Artists in English-speaking Schools and Communities: An Ecological Partnership Model
Speakers: Tiina Kukkonen, Christie Huff

ROOM C
Students Requiring Special Consideration
Moderator: Lorraine O’Donnell
  Putting Young Carers on the Map
  Speaker: Ella Amir
  Parent-School Interaction from the Perspective of Immigrant Women
  Parenting Alone School Children in Quebec
  Speaker: Aurelia Roman
  Early Literacy Resources for Vulnerable or At-Risk Populations
  Speaker: Elizabeth W. Warwick
  Le choix du cégep anglophone et les expériences d’études collégiales en anglais de jeunes francophones du Québec
  Speaker: Karine Vieux-Fort

ROOM D
Ensuring Community Vitality through Education
Moderator: Richard Schmid
  Panelists: Geoffrey Chambers, Russell Copeman

12 p.m.
Lunch

12:45 p.m.
Lunch Address
Reflections on Community Capacity and Educational Outcomes Based on Emerging Evidence
Speaker: William Floch

1:15 p.m.
WORKSHOPS
ROOM A
Teaching the History of English-Speaking Communities and Its Impact on Sense of Belonging
Moderators: Katherine Dimas, Ben Loomer

ROOM B
John Abbott College Career Programs and Community Vitality
Moderators: Douglas Brown, Sarah Manolson
  Speakers: Melanie Brais, Paul Chablo, François Chenier, Belinda Gare, Gloria Jaramillo, Nabil Khalid, Martin Poirier, Laura Ricotta, Francine Trudeau

ROOM C
Skills Training for English-Speaking Youth and Young Adults: Innovative Approaches and Lessons Learned
Moderator: Christine Boyle
  Speakers: Helena Burke, Annalise Iten, Jo-An Audrey Jette, Katie Lowry, Jayme Marrotte, Bonnie Zehavi

ROOM D *By-invitation only workshop*
QUESCREN Researcher-Members Collaborate for Community-Based Research
Moderator: Chedly Belkhodja
  Speakers: Jason Camlot, Richard Bourhis
3:30 p.m.  
Coffee and networking break

4 p.m.  
TOWN HALL  
Developing a Continuum of English-Language Educational Offer in Quebec  
Moderator: Marie-Josée Berger

Forum organizers  
This forum is organized by the Program Committee of the Inter-Level Educational Table (ILET). ILET is a committee of the Quebec English-speaking Communities Research Network (QUESCREN) at Concordia University.

Established in 2008, QUESCREN is a collaborative network of researchers, stakeholders, and educational and other institutions that improves understanding of Quebec’s English-speaking communities and promotes their vitality.

For more information: quescren.ca

Program Committee  
Chair: Lorraine O’Donnell, Affiliate Assistant Professor, School of Community and Public Affairs, and Coordinator-Researcher, QUESCREN, Concordia University  
Marie-Josee Berger, Full Professor, Faculty of Education, Bishop’s University  
Richard Bourhis, Professor Emeritus, Department of Psychology, Université du Québec à Montréal  
Patrick Donovan, Associate Coordinator, QUESCREN, Concordia University  
Kimberly Hamilton, Director of Communications and Special Projects, Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA)  
Rita Legault, Director of Communications and Public Relations, Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN)  
Brian Lewis, Professor, Department of Communications Studies, and Co-Director, QUESCREN, Concordia University  
Jennifer Maccarone, former President, Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA)  
Dominique Michaud, Director of Research Development, Office of Research, Concordia University  
Eric Schmedt, Executive Advisor, John Abbott College  
Richard Schmid, Professor, Department of Education, Concordia University  
Miles Turnbull, Full Professor and Vice-Principal Academic, Bishop’s University  
Paul Zanazanian, Associate Professor, Department of Integrated Studies in Education, McGill University
The “Minority Community Vitality through Education” forum explores ways in which minority language education can contribute to community vitality. Its focus will be Quebec’s English-speaking minority.

Objectives
The forum will assemble researchers, practitioners, community stakeholders and policy-makers. Its overall goal is to encourage mobilization around the development of a healthy and sustainable English-language educational offer in Quebec, from pre-K to university, that leads to student retention, access to good jobs in Quebec and a strong sense of identity and belonging.

Participants will obtain:
• Increased awareness of the education system’s role in building community identity
• New opportunities to network and collaborate
• Knowledge of community socio-economic realities including poverty, and networks and resources that can be mobilized to address them.

Outputs
• A collection of success stories and best practices.
• Strategic recommendations for decision-makers.

Financial Partners

For detailed forum program, see http://forum.quescren.ca