The year 2002 was a year of “firsts” for the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers that are a direct result of the hard work and planning by the previous Board during the presidency of Helen Coltrinari.

In 2002 the association completed phase one of a three year Strategic Planning project. Canadian Heritage funding for this project has enabled the Board of Directors to review the association’s mission and belief statement, clarify the roles and responsibilities of National Council and the Board of Directors, and gather information that has helped us prioritize the activities and initiatives of the association. As it should be, these priorities are a combination of new goals that will enable the association to better serve its members as well as activities that are very much a continuation of CASLT’s key projects. The National Core French Study, for example, still provides the content of the professional development resources that we bring to teachers.

After two years of experimenting on our own with the concept of a CASLT Chez Vous professional development day, the association was able to long term plan and provide several CASLT Chez Vous throughout the year with the financial support of Canadian Heritage. This project continues into 2003.

Our partnerships throughout 2002 are also a reflection of the established and the new. Projects such as Carrefour des Langues with ACPI provided a meeting place for all of our valued partners: CPF, SEVEC and the provincial languages associations. New partnerships for CASLT also emerged from this conference. The Board of Directors was honored to meet with the Commissioner of Official Languages Dyane Adam and Canada’s National Librarian Roch Carrier.

Early in 2002 CASLT hosted a Spring Celebration of Languages with His Excellency John Ralston Saul as guest speaker. His Excellency’s genuine interest in the mandate of our association and his well known support for language learning lends a very high profile to the work of CASLT.

The year 2002 ended with expectations of renewed support for Canada’s official languages. I am pleased to report that the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers is in a position to play a key role in that renewal.
The CASLT Office Staff and Beyond

Office Manager: Brigitte Roy / Nicole Stanfield
Education and Communications Officer: Nicole Thibault

Website Officer: Gilles Côté
Project Manager: Helen Coltrinari / Alina McFarlane

CASLT Ongoing Initiatives

Educator Recognition Awards

Red
-

Prix H.H. (David) Stern Award 2002 - Innovation in Second Languages
The award program was to encourage school-based educators to focus on innovations in the classroom, the school and the community. Three winners from across the country were announced.

Helen Coburn, Calgary, AB - Adopt a Family Project
The project involved a high school Spanish class adopting an immigrant/refugee family who are natives of a Spanish speaking country. The student groups planned menus, organized a clothing drive and prepared a welcome event for the family.

Normand Gaudreault, Ottawa, ON - Un compte-rendu de lecture
Le projet s'agit d'un compte-rendu à la suite de la lecture d'un livre ou d'un roman. Plusieurs catégories se rapportant au livre s'y trouvent comme les aspects techniques, les personnages principaux ainsi qu'une évaluation.

Kezia Stever, Bathurst, NB - Running Club Project
Students from a French immersion elementary school and a francophone elementary school collaborate to plan, organize, and participate in a one km fun run. All activities are designed to promote bilingualism and friendship between the two schools.

Yellow
-

Prix Robert Roy Award 2002
Lilly Borges Oldham, Yellowknife, NWT
The 2002 award was presented posthumously to Lilly Borges Oldham, NWT. Lilly was a dedicated teacher who went on to become a vice-principal, principal and second language consultant at the government and school district levels. Under her guidance, the immersion program took flight in the NorthWest Territories. She served as CASLT National Council Representative and as President of the Association in 1990-91. She was a passionate ambassador for excellence in teaching, excellence in learning, especially second, third languages and beyond.

Réflexions, the CASLT Journal

Réflexions continues to be well received by our membership as a means of sharing current pedagogical trends, classroom ready activities, and new resources and materials of interest to second language educators. There were three issues published this year.

Feb 2002, vol. 21, no. 1 - Quantum Learning
May 2002, vol. 21, no. 2 - Technology and L2 Classrooms
October 2002, vol. 21, no. 3 - Balanced Literacy in L2

www.caslt.org
Joint CASLT/ACPI Conference - Year 2
Carrefour des langues : célèbres nos liens /A Meeting Place for Languages: Celebrating our Ties!

A very successful conference was held November 7-9, 2002, in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. Over 400 second language educators from across the country, representing Core French, Immersion and ESL programs attended. The Distinguished Keynote Speakers included Dyane Adam, Commissioner of Official Languages, Edmond Levasseur, a leader in international education, and Roch Carrier, Canada’s National Librarian and noted author. Positive feedback was received from attendees in regards to workshop sessions, cultural activities, publisher’s displays, and facilities and services.

CASLT High School FSL Proficiency Test - Year 2

This phase two of the project focuses on consulting second language assessment and evaluation experts to discuss the development of drafts/prototypes of the assessment tool and certificate to be readied for piloting in all Canadian provinces and territories. We will also compile and disseminate information pertaining to assessment in teaching of English and French second language. The project hopes to increase awareness of current proficiency testing levels, tools and testing methods in second language education amongst teachers and researchers and to increase communication between assessment experts across the country. The future directions of the project will include increasing understanding and support of Industry, University, and other potential project partners in the areas of usage and funding. Project Manager, Helen Coltrinari, completed phase 1 and Dr. Alina MacFarlane is undertaking Phase 2 of the project.

New Product Development - Year 2

CASLT continues to focus on developing appropriate and accessible classroom resources for second language teachers. Some existing resources have been reprinted, reformatted and made available on the website. New series continue to expand.

The French version of the Teacher Guide that accompanies the Formative Assessment Video was printed this year. A sampler and workshop were created to increase awareness of the CASLT/SEVEC web-based teaching unit Les Voyages d’échanges. The CASLT Language Teacher Calendar 2002 was very well received by the membership and a second edition was developed for the new year. The Projets éducatifs series continues in development and though workshop presentations. New titles include la Francophonie canadienne, la Francophonie mondiale and l'Héritage culturel. The expanded Plan on it! event planner will be released in the coming year as well as the posting of the CASLT web-based Speakers Bureau.

Strategic Planning Initiative - Year 1

The focus of this project is long-term strategic planning to help prioritize Association activities, plan follow-up contacts, develop a clear distribution plan to market the resources developed, and to evaluate Association products and services. The project follows a three-year cycle of planning, implementation and evaluation for three targeted results (strategic plan, training sessions, and membership and marketing).

In August, the Board of Directors completed the first of two meeting dates geared exclusively to developing a strategic plan for the Association. Consultation with the membership is underway to help provide directions and suggestions for the prioritization of Association activities. The Board met for a third meeting in late September revising the association mission and value statements and developing a draft results-based action plan.
CASLT Projects and Initiatives continued

CASLT Chez Vous - Year 1

The CASLT Chez Vous initiative involves one day professional development opportunities in partnership with provincial groups, an excellent vehicle for CASLT to carry out its mandate of providing PD to second language teachers across Canada. This year with the financial support of the Department of Canadian Heritage, the delivery of the CCVs has expanded to six events for this first year (2002-03), and expanding again to ten events in the second year (2003-2004).

In 2002, the CCVs were presented in the following cities:
- May - Ottawa, ON - with the Ottawa Carleton District School Board
- May - White Point, NS - with the Tri-County and South Shore School Boards
- June - Sudbury, ON - with the Sudbury Catholic School Board
- September - Timmins, ON - with the Timmins Near North School Board

Conferences 2002

In addition to the CCV initiative, CASLT presents workshop sessions at provincial language association conferences, and in the international arena. This year CASLT was represented at the following conferences:

- February - OCETF, Ottawa - FSL Assessment Toolkit Workshop and Info Kiosk
- April - OMLTA, Toronto - FSL Assessment Toolkit Workshop and Info Kiosk
- April - NECTFL, Manhattan - Display and Info Kiosk
- July - AATF, Boston, Mass - FSL Assessment Toolkit Workshop and Info Kiosk
- October - SATF, Saskatoon - FSL Assessment Toolkit Workshop and Info Kiosk
- October - MATF, Winnipeg - Resources Workshop
- October - BCATML, Richmond - Francophone/Website Workshop and Info Kiosk
- October - SPEAQ, Quebec City - ESL Assessment Toolkit Workshop and Info Kiosk
- October - OMLTA, Ste Catherines - FSL Assessment Toolkit Workshop and Info Kiosk
- November - ACTFL, Salt Lake City, Utah - Canadian French Experience Panel, Francophonie Workshop

Our Award Winning Website - www.caslt.org

Our website just keeps on growing and is reaching more and more people interested in second language teaching and learning. We have seen a more than 8 fold increase in traffic on the home page alone since 1999 and the number of pages on the web site has almost doubled since September of that year.

- There were 33,261 unique visitors to our home page in 2002, close to 10,000 more visitors than in 2001. There were 42,755 hits on the home page.
- There were 8 issues of the CASLT electronic newsletter in French and in English this year. There are 295 subscribers for the English edition and 83 for the French edition. We had approximately 200 subscribers a year ago.
- Our Awards page now has a list of 19 organizations that have in one way or another given recognition to the CASLT web site (awards or kudos).
- Total number of pages on the site is 450 pages not including the technology activities section that contains over 550 pages.
- The directory of links to other web sites now has 155 pages. In these there are over 5300 external links and over 1200 links with annotations. We now have extensive directories of links for ESL, FSL, and Spanish.
In the year 2002, membership continued to increase. At year end, the Association counted 1500 active members and 500 inactive members. The membership renewal process is now computerized. The large-scale activity of rebuilding the membership database was completed and allows for better access to membership information regarding language interests, teaching levels and provincial/territorial distribution. This information can better support our National Council representatives' activities in their local areas.

The half-day training session was held in November to increase awareness of the role of each representative and the support provided by the National Office in membership recruitment and maintenance. A CASLT Teacher Advisory Panel is being created to support sharing of expertise and to increase membership involvement in product development.

In 2002, we saw renewals among our builder member organizations as well as expansion to new companies. We thank these organizations for their continued support: Les Editions de l’Envolée, Publications LanguageWise, Authentik, Université McGill- Francophonie sans frontières.

In 2002, the Friends of CASLT Honour Roll was greatly expanded. We sincerely thank these prominent Canadian individuals for their continued support of our initiatives.

The CASLT was pleased to host a Spring Celebration of Language Teaching and Learning. This year, His Excellency, John Ralston Saul, C.C., was the keynote speaker at the event held May 2nd, in Ottawa. The address was followed by a wine and cheese reception.

The CASLT Board of Directors was gratified to have private meetings with both Dyane Adams, Commissioner of Official Languages, and with Roch Carrier, National Librarian, in PEI in November. Both meetings led to an exchange on key issues involving second language educators and enabled the continued mutual support of our individual initiatives.

CASLT continues to work with partner associations to provide a clear cohesive voice on second language issues on behalf of its members. In October, CASLT was represented on a panel of experts during the release of the Canadian Parents for French (CPF) report on Teacher Shortage in Canada. The PEI National Conference in November was held in partnership with l’Association canadienne des professeurs de l’immersion (ACPI). The workshop presentations on the Exchange Network web-based resource continues with la Société des échanges et visite éducatives du Canada (SEVEC). As well, SEVEC staff provides invaluable administrative advice and support to our association. Our ties with provincial language associations such as the Ontario Modern Language Teachers Association (OMLTA) and the British Columbia Association of Teachers of Modern Languages (BCATML) continue to strengthen. On the international level, the CASLT is also affiliated with the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). The request for three presentations at their fall conference underlines the importance of this partnership. The American Association of Teachers of French (AATF) continues to exchange expertise and supports the Canadian contributions in French language education.

The Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers continues its educational initiatives thanks to the on-going financial support of the Department of Canadian Heritage.
A pilot project established with the Université de Québec à Montréal (UQAM) will involve the coordination of a francophone teacher candidate completing a practice teaching session in a rural anglophone region outside Québec. The experience will be documented to increase awareness of job opportunities and to increase mobility of candidates across the country.

Through the expansion of the CASLT Chez Vous initiative, the association will begin to focus its attention on issues pertaining to the status of Core French teachers and their programs. This will address certain concerns identified in the studies related to FSL teacher shortage in Canada.

A concerted effort will strengthen our partnership with the Canadian Modern Language Teacher Review (CMLR) in the coming year. As well, new partnerships with the Council of Ministers of Education Canada (CMEC) and the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages (OCOL) will be pursued.

CASLT Highlights 2002

Diane Tijman, Helen Coltrimari, CASLT Past President, and His Excellency John Ralston Saul, C.C.

CASLT Board of Directors with Roch Carrier, National Librarian

Dyane Adam, Commissioner of Official Languages and Susan Forward, CASLT President

Liberal MP, David Pratt and Nicole Thibault, CASLT Education Officer

Carolyn King and Lydia Fraser at the SATF Conference

Linda Lowther, ACPI, and Helen Lockerby, CASLT co-chairs of PEI conference

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