



The Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers
L'Association canadienne des professeurs de langues secondes
300-950 avenue Gladstone Avenue
Ottawa, ON K1Y 3E6

MEDIA ADVISORY

National Language Teachers' Association to Honour the Commissioner of Official Languages, and President of French for the Future at Annual General Meeting

OTTAWA, September 20, 2010 – Commissioner of Official Languages, Graham Fraser, and Helen Coltrinari, President of French for the Future and Past President of The Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT) will be honoured at CASLT's Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Winnipeg, MB, on Thursday, 23 September and Friday, 24 September, 2010.

Graham Fraser will be given the CASLT Honourary Lifetime Member Award on 23 September. Mr. Fraser has close to 40 years of journalistic experience and has reported for several newspapers on issues affecting Canadians. He has spoken on official languages issues to the minority-language organizations of Quebec, New Brunswick and Ontario, as well as to minority-language organizations working at the national level, and has given lectures on language policy at Carleton and other universities.

Mr. Fraser has written five books. His latest book, *Sorry, I Don't Speak French*, helped stimulate renewed public discussion of language policy in Canada. Mr. Fraser is also the author of *PQ: René Lévesque and the Parti Québécois in Power*, which dealt with Quebec language policy.

Helen Coltrinari will receive CASLT's prestigious Robert Roy Award on 24 September, which is granted to individuals for their sustained contributions and long-term dedication towards the advancement of second language teaching and learning.

Ms. Coltrinari helped build the first CASLT website, launched in 1996, while working at TVO. In 1996, she also co-chaired the CASLT conference in Toronto with Valerie Dean, and under very difficult educational and political conditions, she and the team launched the CASLT multicultural research document. Ms. Coltrinari was President of CASLT from 1999 to 2001, and she helped transfer the national office from Winnipeg to Ottawa and select an Executive Director so that the Association might grow.

Ms. Coltrinari is currently an independent consultant in Toronto, where she resides. She continues to be active in education, lecturing at Brock University, writing for several publishing houses, and presenting workshops for CASLT on assessment and *The European Language Portfolio*. She is also currently President of French for the Future.

The CASLT AGM will also launch and demonstrate *Speakarama*, the new educational board game for students of Core French, English as a second language, and other languages. *Speakarama* will increase awareness of languages spoken by Canadians while practising their target language.

www.caslt.org

☎ 1-877-727-0994

☎ 613-727-3831

✉ admin@caslt.org

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Favorise l'essor de l'enseignement et de l'apprentissage des langues secondes.



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40th Anniversary Reception

Date: Thursday, 23 September, 2010.

Time: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Place: Storm Room, Winnipeg Art Gallery

300 Memorial Boulevard, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 0N3

Spokespersons:

John Erskine, Chair of the event, Past President of The Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers

Valerie Pike, President, The Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers

Guy Leclair, Executive Director, The Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers

AGM Awards Luncheon

Date: Friday, 24 September, 2010.

Time: 12:15pm-2:00pm

Place: Victoria Albert Room, Delta Winnipeg Hotel

350 St. Mary Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 3J2

Spokespersons:

Valerie Pike, President, The Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers

Guy Leclair, Executive Director, The Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers

Established in 1970, the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT) increases awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the importance of second language learning and teaching throughout Canada and promotes the advancement of professional excellence among language educators. See www.caslt.org for more information.

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For more information, please contact:

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