



COMMUNIQUÉ

OUTSTANDING SECOND LANGUAGE EDUCATORS

Ottawa, October 11, 2017. – During CASLT's Annual General Meeting on September 29, three outstanding language educators were recognized; Niki Robichaud received the H.H. Stern Award, Roy Lyster received the Robert Roy Award and Michael Salvatori received the Honorary Lifetime Member Award.

H.H. Stern Award – Niki Robichaud

The award, named in memory of Dr. H. H. Stern, recognizes contributions to second language instruction in Canada and is granted each year to support innovative classroom projects. Niki Robichaud, this year's recipient, developed *Cuisine francophone*, an action-oriented course that convinces grade 9 students to stay in core French.

The FSL teacher at Bulkley Valley School District in Smithers, British Columbia, invites the students to explore different francophone countries and cook a traditional recipe from these countries. The students alternate between the cooking room and the classroom. Food blogs are also used to favour authentic language exploration.

Robert Roy Award – Roy Lyster

The Robert Roy Award, offered in memory of the founding president of CASLT, is granted each year to highlight the outstanding contributions of educators and researchers to second language teaching. Roy Lyster, Professor of Second Language Education in the Department of Integrated Studies Education at McGill University, is without any doubt a well-deserving recipient. His research examines content-based second language instruction and the effects of instructional interventions designed to counterbalance form-focused and content-based approaches. He is also the author of a module called *Content-Based Language Teaching*, and of two books: *Learning and Teaching Languages Through Content* (2007) and *Vers une approche intégrée en immersion* (2016).

“As I will be retiring at the end of this year, after 25 years as a second language educator, receiving the Robert Roy Award is a good way to close this chapter of my career,” said Mr. Lyster in his acceptance speech.

Honorary Lifetime Member Award – Michael Salvatori

CASLT acknowledges individuals who have demonstrated leadership and contributed significantly to the advancement of second language teaching and learning by granting them the Honorary Lifetime Member Award. This year, Michael Salvatori, Chief Executive Officer and Registrar of the Ontario College of Teachers, one of Canada's largest self-regulatory bodies, received the prestigious award.

He has served as a core French and French immersion teacher, vice-principal, principal, assistant professor, and director of the College's membership services department during his 25-year education career.

In his acceptance letter, he speaks about the importance of encouragement: “As language educators, we have an important role to play in encouraging our new colleagues and our current colleagues whose self-doubt in their proficiency may discourage them, diminish their confidence.”

CASLT wishes to congratulate, once more, the three awarded recipients: Niki Robichaud, Roy Lyster and Michael Salvatori. They are proof that the second language community is full of innovative educators who are always willing to go above and beyond for the language learners’ success as well as for the advancement of language learning and teaching in Canada and abroad.

– 30 –

For more information:

Valérie Bourdages
Communications and Marketing Coordinator
613-727-0994, ext. 201
communications@caslt.org