Would you like to publish an article in Réflexions?

Our readers are looking for:

• Articles that are interesting, thought provoking, timely, practical, informative, concise, complete, and current
• Texts written by leading educators
• Reports on effective programs and practices
• Reports summarizing action research projects in the field of language teaching and learning or on current language-related events

We are looking for articles of about 1,150 words written for:

• Practicing K–12 educators, practicing second-language classroom teachers — French, English, and other languages
• Researchers in second-language teaching and learning in various university settings
• Student teachers enrolled in faculties of education
• People interested in second-language learning development

For more information, consult our Guidelines for Writers.
**President’s Message**

Welcome to a special edition of Réflexions in which we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT).

Building on the foundation of the visionaries who formed CASLT in 1970, our Board of Directors, National Council, and dedicated staff continue to engage our members to advance second language education throughout Canada. From a personal standpoint, I deeply appreciate the opportunity to serve as president during our 50th anniversary year.

My own involvement with CASLT began in the late 1980s when I was an undergraduate education student at Memorial University in St. John’s. One of my professors, and eventual mentor, suggested that I become a member. The professional ties and personal friendships that I have forged through CASLT over the years have helped guide my post-secondary education and my professional career as a second language educator.

With the milestone of our 50th anniversary, I have been reflecting on the invaluable benefits I have enjoyed from my involvement in this organization and thinking about our values — teaching and learning languages, linguistic and cultural diversity, professional learning, research, etc.

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**CASLT Timeline**

- **1970**: CASLT founded by Dr. Robert Roy, Dr. Borislaw Bilash, Arthur Corriveau, Marcel Bonneau, and Louis Maurice.
- **1971**: Dr. Robert Roy (1927–1990) of Winnipeg served as the first CASLT president from 1971 to 1972.
- **1972**: CASLT individual annual membership costs $2; about 25 members sign up. Second National Conference held in Toronto, attended by 50 members. “What Language Shall We Teach?” is the title of the keynote address by Philippe-André Renaud.
- **1973**: National Conference held in Regina, attended by 125 members.
- **1974**: CASLT offers associate membership at $20 per year; there are seven associate members.
and dialogue and collaboration. I am proud to be part of a dynamic organization that works to champion these values for the benefit of second language education.

In turn, these values help shape our strategic directions — promotion and advocacy; professional development; research; exchange of information and ideas; organizational capacity, sustainability, and accountability; and membership. While our strategic directions and priorities have evolved over the past 50 years, we remain committed to the vision of excellence in teaching languages.

In a spirit of collaboration and encouragement, I look forward to the future, where the work of CASLT will play a critical role in enhancing the connections between like-minded professionals across the country who have an unstoppable passion for second language education.

As part of CASLT’s 50th anniversary celebrations, we launched a new logo. The blue and red colours continue to signify our past, while the bright bold colours represent our commitment to diversity and plurilingualism.

While the events of this past year have presented challenges for everyone around the globe, they have also provided us with an opportunity to strengthen our virtual networks and expand our reach in innovative, progressive, and sustainable ways.

I wish to thank our members, staff, volunteers, and supporters, including those who have served or currently serve on our committees and working groups, for their steadfast commitment to furthering second language education in Canada. Happy 50th anniversary!

CASLT Timeline

1975
First woman president of CASLT: Sister Eileen Sesk of Newfoundland.

1976
CASLT receives its first grant from the Office of the Secretary of State. A major portion of these funds is allocated to the national newsletter.

1977
National Conference in Toronto, attended by over 500 participants.

1978
CASLT enjoys a membership of 300 individuals.

1979
National Conference in Moncton celebrates International Year of the Child and offers 23 workshops to 500 delegates.