



Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers  
Association canadienne des professeurs de langues secondes

# EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING LANGUAGES



## 2016–2017 ANNUAL REPORT

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Version française disponible

**Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers**

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We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Jim Murphy, CASLT's President

It has been a tremendous year for CASLT, and one of which we are particularly proud. From the transition to a new Executive Director, to the planning of the hugely successful Languages Without Borders (LWB) Conference and Aboriginal Languages Gathering (ALG), to the tremendous success of a number of our new publications, we are truly pleased with our many accomplishments this year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Board Members, who showed me unwavering support and worked as a true team, and for their continued presence and work on the various committees: Research, Membership, Advocacy, and Professional Development. Their leadership enabled us to put much of our strategic plan into action throughout the year. The same can be said of our National Council reps who have given freely of their time and expertise to work on many of these committees and provide invaluable support in the promotion of our programs, services, and resources.

As outgoing president, I am grateful for the opportunity to have led such a highly respected organization on behalf of you, the members. I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to all who have supported me, including our team at the office and our many partner organizations.

## Vision

Excellence in teaching languages.

## Mission

CASLT fosters and advances professional excellence in the teaching of languages in Canada.

CASLT supports its members by promoting the advancement of language learning and teaching throughout Canada, by creating opportunities for professional development, by initiating and disseminating research, and by facilitating the exchange of information and ideas among language educators.

# ABOUT CASLT

## Patron

Governor General of Canada, David Johnston



His Excellency  
the Right  
Honourable  
David  
Johnston, C.C.,  
C.M.M., C.O.M.,  
C.D., Governor  
General and  
Commander-  
in-Chief of  
Canada

*Photo by: Sgt Serge Gouin, Rideau Hall*  
© Her Majesty The Queen in Right of Canada represented by  
the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General (2010)

## Board of Directors

- Jim Murphy, President
- Janice Aubry, Vice-President
- Gillian Blackmore, Treasurer
- Stéphane Lacroix, Secretary
- Carole Bonin, Director at Large
- Enrica Piccardo, Director at Large
- Maureen Smith, Director at Large

## National Council

- Stacey Sveistrup, British Columbia
- Marnie Beaudoin, Alberta
- Linda Osbourne, Saskatchewan
- Walter Nikkel, Manitoba
- France Dupuis, Ontario
- Terry Price, Quebec
- Chantal Lafargue, New Brunswick
- Deneen Gallant-Norring, Prince Edward Island
- Éline Melanson, Nova Scotia
- Lisa Browne Peters, Newfoundland and Labrador
- Pascal St-Laurent, Yukon
- Elizabeth Monroe, Northwest Territories
- Josianne Beaumont, Nunavut

## Staff

- Francis Potié, Executive Director (since August 2016)
- Guy Leclair, Executive Director (from June 2010 to July 2016)
- Elise Catudal, Publications Coordinator
- Diane Paquette, Finance Manager, part-time position
- Saousan Maadarani, Administrative and Membership Assistant (since May 2016)
- Sarah Howard, Administrative and Membership Assistant (from November 2015 to May 2016)
- Catherine Bisson, Communications and Professional Development Coordinator (from January 2016 to January 2017)
- Émilie Lavallée-Funston, Communications and Event Assistant (from February to April 2017)

# ABOUT CASLT

## Acknowledgements

CASLT wishes to thank the following organizations for their work and support:

### Provincial Partners

- Association québécoise des enseignants de français langue seconde (AQEFLS)
- British Columbia Association of Teachers of Modern Languages (BCATML)
- Éducatrices et éducateurs francophones du Manitoba (ÉFM)
- International and Heritage Languages Association (IHLA)
- Manitoba Association of Teachers of French (MATF)
- New Brunswick Teachers' Association (NBTA)
- Nova Scotia Language Teachers Association (NSLTA)
- Ontario Modern Language Teachers' Association (OMLTA)
- PEI Association of Core French Teachers
- Saskatchewan Association of Teachers of French (SATF)
- Second Languages and Intercultural Council (SLIC)
- Society for the Promotion of the Teaching of English as a Second Language in Quebec (SPEAQ)
- Southern Alberta Heritage Languages Association (SAHLA)
- Teachers of English as a Second Language of New Brunswick (TESL NB)

### National Partners

- Association canadienne des professionnels de l'immersion (ACPI)
- Canadian Association for Japanese Language Education (CAJLE)
- Canadian Association of Applied Linguistics (CAAL)

- Canadian Modern Language Review (CMLR)
- Canadian Parents for French (CPF)
- Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF)
- Encounters with Canada
- Experiences Canada
- Goethe-Institut

### International Partners

- American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)
- European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML)
- Fédération internationale des professeurs de français (FIPF)
- International Federation of Language Teacher Associations (FIPLV)

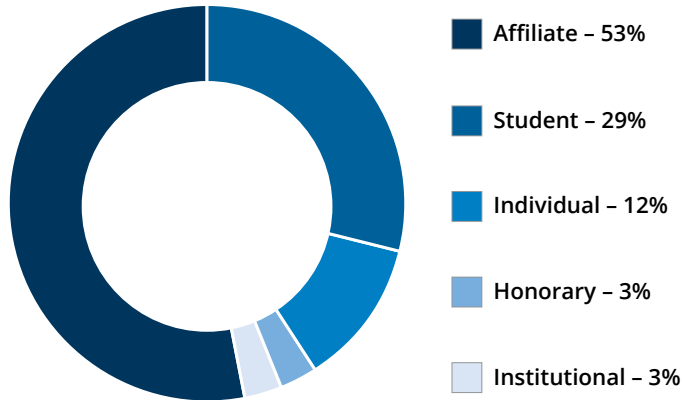
### Other Partners

- Centre for Educational Research on Languages and Literacies (CERLL)
- Embassy of France
- Institute for Innovation in Second Language Education (IISLE), Edmonton Public Schools
- Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute (OLBI), University of Ottawa
- Second Language Research Institute of Canada (L2RIC)

### Funding Partners

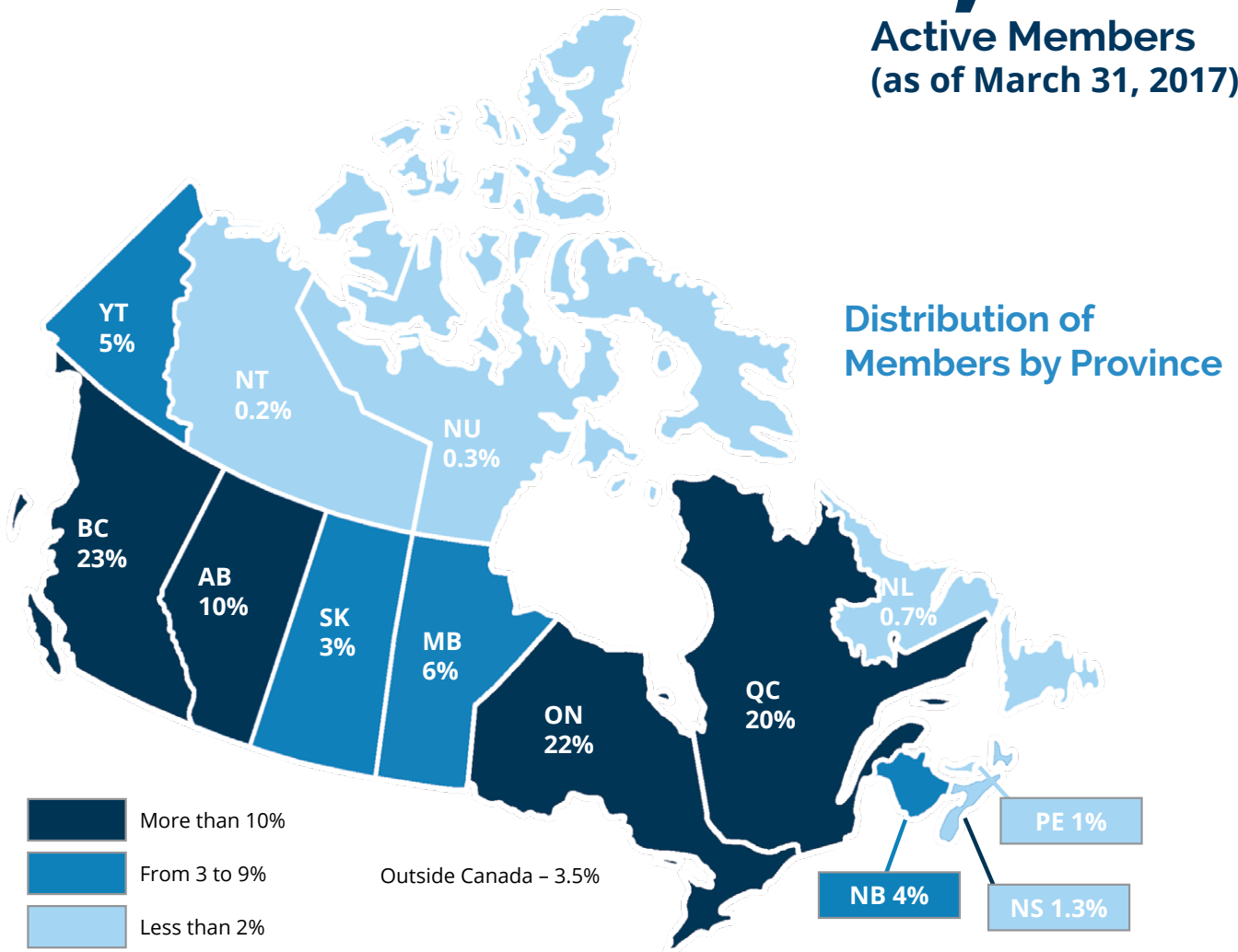
- Department of Canadian Heritage, for its financial support for our annual programs
- Alberta Education, for its support for the Aboriginal Languages Gathering
- The Personal, group auto and home insurance
- Ontario Ministry of Education, for the funding of the *Ontario's New Teacher's Handbook*

# MEMBERSHIP

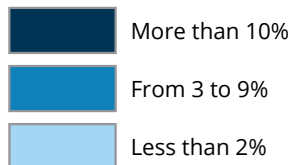


Distribution of Members by Membership Type

**1,771**  
Active Members  
(as of March 31, 2017)



Distribution of Members by Province



# 2016 CASLT AWARDS

## Robert Roy Award

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. This year, the recipient was Joseph Dicks, Director of the Second Language Research Institute of Canada, professor in the Faculty of Education at the University of New Brunswick and co-editor-in-chief of the *Canadian Journal of Applied Linguistics* (CJAL). His scholarly work involves teaching and research in the following areas: literacy; learning assessment; program policy, planning and evaluation; and curriculum development.



Jim Murphy and Joseph Dicks

## Honorary Lifetime Member Award

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, Fred Genesee, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Psychology at McGill University in Montréal, received this prestigious award. In addition to being the recipient of numerous awards, he has conducted extensive research on different forms of bilingual education and on language acquisition in pre-school bilingual children, internationally adopted children, and at-risk students in bilingual programs.



Jim Murphy and Fred Genesee

## H.H. Stern Award

The H.H. Stern Award, which supports innovative classroom practices in second language instruction, was presented this year to Manon Jetté, an English as a second language teacher in Val-d'Or and a staff officer at the Commission scolaire de l'Or-et-des-Bois for over 25 years. She enjoys integrating children's literature into her projects with students from grades 1 to 6. Manon participated in the pilot project undertaken by the Quebec Ministry of Education, Recreation and Sports for the Elementary Cycle 1 English program.



Manon Jetté

# INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

## Réflexions

*Réflexions*, our magazine, is sent in electronic format to 87%, and in print to 56%, of our members.



87%



56%



## Newsletter

Among the **4,600** subscribers to our newsletter, 42.3% open it—an excellent rate in email marketing. The average click-through rate is 13.4%.



43.3%



13.4%

## Social Media in Numbers

CASLT now has a stronger presence than ever on social media.

### Twitter



**1,320 followers**, which represents a 40% increase in 2016–2017

### CASLT/ACPLS Facebook Group



Managed by friends of CASLT, this Facebook group has **382 members**, which represents a 36% increase in 2016–2017.

### Languages Without Borders/Langues sans frontières Facebook Page



This Facebook page was set up in July 2016. It had **150 subscribers** as of April 9, 2017, after the event.

### YouTube



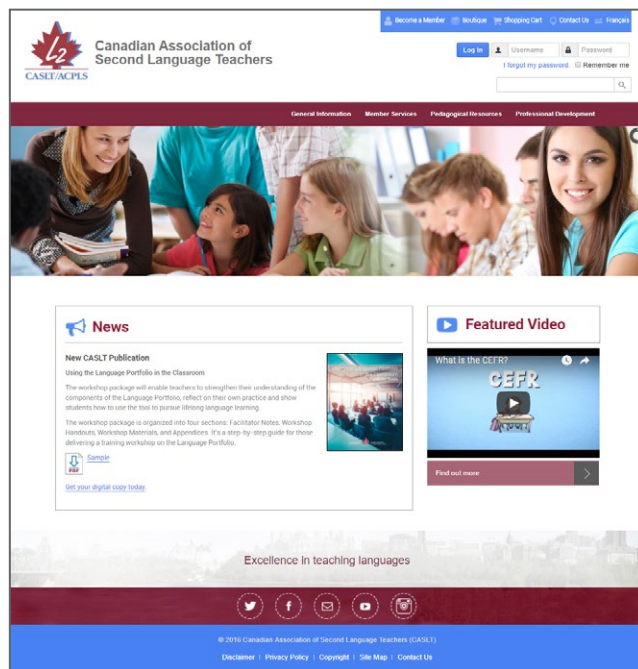
CASLT also has a YouTube channel that includes videos on the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) and strategies for inclusion, as well as testimonials from teachers on the use of the Language Portfolio.



# INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

## New Website

CASLT launched its new website in March 2017. The content has been considerably pared down to facilitate the navigation and speed up the retrieval time for requested information. Now divided among 4 tabs (instead of 10), the content has also been designed so as to lower costs of updating the information and programs. The new online store in itself is undoubtedly a success; being simpler, it provides a better experience for members and nonmembers alike.



## Where was CASLT?

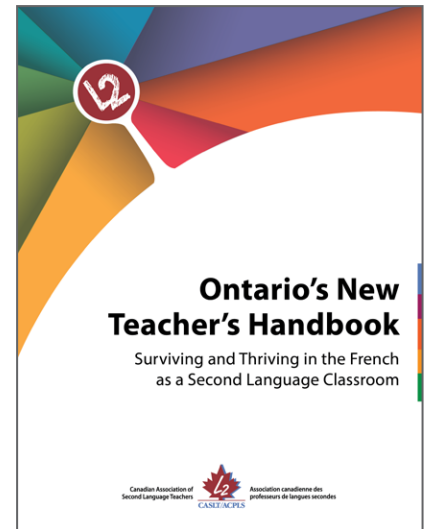
We believe that the exchange of information and ideas among second language teachers and stakeholders is an essential service. Here are the venues we attended from April 2016 to March 2017 in order to share information with the education community.

- Canadian Centre for Studies and Research on Bilingualism and Language Planning (CCERBAL) 2016 Symposium (Ottawa, April 2016)
- OMLTA 2016 Spring Conference (Toronto, April 2016)
- TESL NB Spring Conference (Fredericton, May 2016)
- Regroupement au service des cégeps, anglais langue seconde, SPEAQ (Lévis, June 2016)
- Summer University, University of Ottawa (Ottawa, July 2016)
- CAJLE 2016 Annual Conference (Niagara Falls, August 2016)
- ACPI 2016 Congress (Niagara Falls, October 2016)
- MATF Professional Development Day (Winnipeg, October 2016)
- ÉFM Annual Pedagogical Conference (St. Boniface, October 2016)
- Eastern Ontario Staff Development Network (EOSDN) “Le français à cœur” Conference (Kingston, October 2016)
- NSLTA Conference (Halifax, October 2016)
- BCATML “Celebrating Languages” Conference (Burnaby, October 2016)
- ACTFL Annual Convention and World Languages Expo (Boston, November 2016)
- Immersion Teacher Program, University of Ottawa (Ottawa, November 2016)
- SPEAQ 44th Annual Convention (Lévis, December 2016)
- Ottawa-Carleton Elementary Teachers’ Federation (OCETF) Professional Development Day (Ottawa, February 2017)
- Vancouver School Board Language Conference (Vancouver, February 2017)

# PEDAGOGICAL RESOURCES

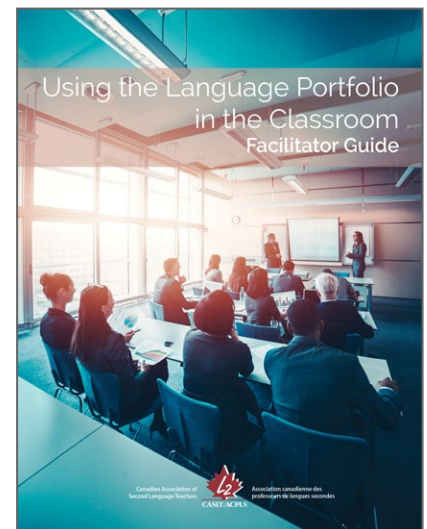
## Ontario's New Teacher's Handbook

Through an agreement with the Ontario Ministry of Education, CASLT produced an Ontario version of the *New Teacher's Handbook* published in 2015–2016. CASLT called upon Lorraine Richard to coordinate this project. A working group composed of Michael Green and Nicole Czaja, both from the Ontario Modern Language Teachers' Association (OMLTA), and Maureen Smith, from CASLT, joined forces with Mrs. Richard to adapt the publication. Funded by the Ontario Ministry of Education, the *Ontario's New Teacher's Handbook* is available to all new French as a second language teachers in Ontario. Experienced teachers share their tips and solutions to common problems that new teachers face when beginning their careers. The handbook lists various resources worth exploring and includes a next-step planner to provide new second language teachers with the stepping stone they need to thrive.



## Using the Language Portfolio in the Classroom

*Using the Language Portfolio in the Classroom*, a workshop package, was added to CASLT's online store. It is organized into four sections, namely Facilitator Notes, Workshop Handouts, Workshop Materials, and Appendices, providing a step-by-step guide for those delivering a training workshop on the Language Portfolio. Available in English only for now, this resource will be translated in 2017–2018.



# PEDAGOGICAL RESOURCES

## 2017 Language Teacher Calendar

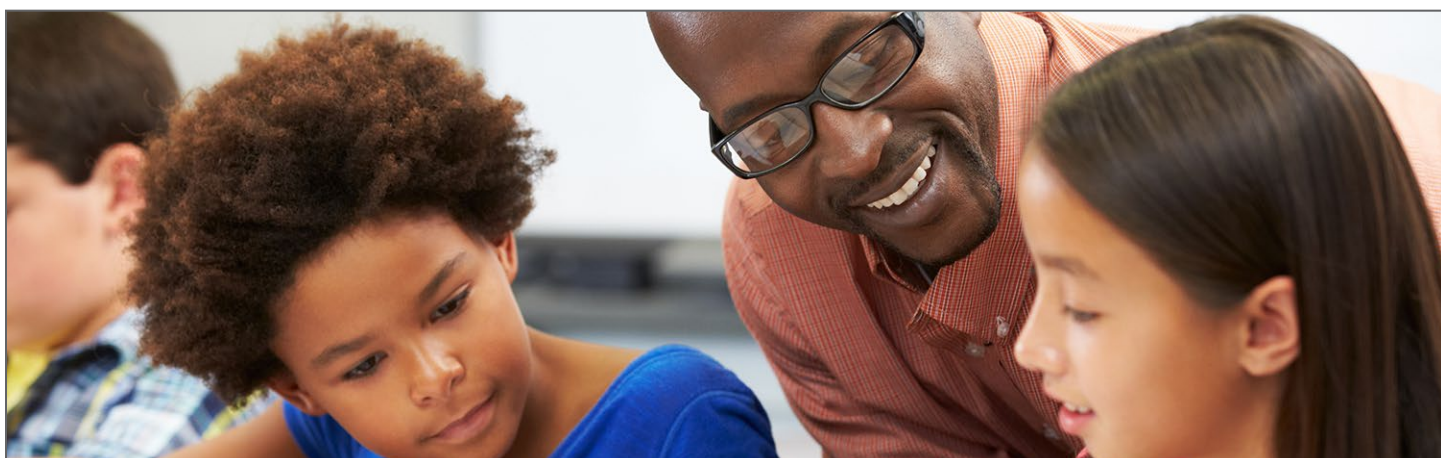


The *Language Teacher Calendar*, designed for the second language classroom, contains fun trivia, useful expressions, educational links, and handy tips. On the occasion of Canada's 150th anniversary, CASLT members received free of charge a calendar on the theme "Celebrating Diversity." Featured monthly vocabulary relates to writing systems, refugees, cultural exchange, rural and urban life in Canada, etc. Besides both official languages, the information is given in eight additional languages.

## Célébrons la francophonie!



Published annually in digital format, this resource suggests activities that FSL teachers can plan in connection with French Language Week. On the theme "L'aventure de ma francophonie," the 2016–2017 edition invites students to explore, through activities and games, the historical, linguistic, cultural, and personal adventures of Francophones over the past 150 years. All CASLT members receive an electronic copy in early March, prior to International Francophonie Day.



# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CASLT organizes and holds workshops, conferences, and meetings (Networking Day, stakeholders' meetings, round tables, panels, presentations, online forums, etc.), and produces resources and publications to support teachers in their professional development (PD). Here are a few of our PD activities.

## Languages Without Borders 2017

CASLT and the Institute for Innovation in Second Language Education (IISLE) of the Edmonton Public School Board saw the results of countless hours of collaborative efforts at the Languages Without Borders 2017 conference held from April 6 to 8, 2017. CASLT and IISLE worked together to organize, promote, and present an extraordinary conference that brought together 762 participants.

More details concerning LWB 2017 will be available in the next annual report. However, certain individuals deserve immediate acknowledgement. We wish to thank Michelle de Abreu, co-chair of the organizing committee, for her leadership and the incredible IISLE team for its contribution to the success of this event. We also wish to express our gratitude to Alberta Education for funding the Aboriginal Languages Gathering and to Mary Cardinal-Collins who agreed to act as elder-adviser and thus provide guidance to the LWB organizing committee.

## Languages Without Borders 2019

Languages Without Borders 2019 will take place in Fredericton, New Brunswick, from May 2 to 4, 2019. CASLT and the Second Language Research Institute of Canada (L2RIC)



have formed a partnership to plan and organize the next edition of this important networking and professional development event.

## Online Professional Learning

In 2016–2017, three online professional learning sessions were presented to some forty teachers.

- Tech in the Classroom Series:
  - Goin' Goin' Google, Glenn Cake (November 2016)
  - Best Apps for Language Teaching and Learning, Glenn Cake (January 2017)
- CEFR Series:
  - Including Grammar, Functions, and Vocabulary in Your CEFR-Based Classroom Activities: Which Ones, When, and How? Laura Hermans (December 2016)

## CASLT Chez-Vous (CCV) and Workshops

Through live (face-to-face) CCVs and workshops, CASLT was able to offer training and professional development to approximately 100 teachers in 2016–2017.

- Structuring Success for Our Language Learners, Caroline Turnbull, NSLTA, Halifax (April 2016)
- The 21st Century Second Language Classroom: Technology, Critical Thinking, Problem Solvers, etc., Sylvia Duckworth, SATF, Regina (December 2016)
- Differentiation in the Second Language Classroom, Laura Hermans-Nymark, MATF, Winnipeg (March 2017)
- Favoriser l'autonomie des élèves en FLS, Laura Hermans-Nymark, ÉFM, Winnipeg (March 2017)

# RESEARCH

## Literature Review on the Impact of Second-Language Learning

In 2016, the Second Languages and Intercultural Council (SLIC) of the Alberta Teachers' Association, in partnership with CASLT, agreed to carry out a literature review in order to identify the impacts of second language learning. SLIC and CASLT collaborated with the University of Calgary's Language Research Centre and called upon Dr. Mary Grantham O'Brien to oversee this project, which summarizes the scholarly research published since 2006 on the impact of language learning on individuals. The literature review findings were released at the 2017 Languages Without Borders conference. Available in English only for now, this resource will be translated in 2017–2018.

CASLT's Advocacy and Promotion Committee continues to collaborate with SLIC to develop awareness-raising strategies and tools on the advantages of learning additional languages. The plan will be implemented sequentially during the 2017–2018 school year.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Literature Review on the Impact of Second-Language Learning**

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR**  
Mary G O'Brien

**RESEARCH ASSOCIATES**  
Allison Bajt  
JeongJun Lee  
Martin Lisank  
Anna Pietryova  
Stephanie Reyes

**BACKGROUND**

Imagine if someone told you that you could take one step that would enable you to travel more freely, get paid more, read some of the world's best literature, perform better in school, increase your focus, and enhance your understanding of other cultures. Such claims seem almost too good to be true. The fortunate news is that second-language learning is the one step that learners can take that will lead to these and other benefits.

The purpose of the current literature review is to investigate whether and how learning a second language affects language learners. It focuses on research in the following areas: cognition, academics, personal life, society at large, economics and intercultural understanding. In addition, special attention is paid to the extent to which students with exceptionalities and additional language learners are able to acquire additional languages. Learning languages takes time and effort, and the amount of time it takes depends on a number of factors. Some of these include the learning context, learning goals and the age of the learner, to name just a few. Most often learning a second language has a positive impact on the language learner. At times, however, learning languages may pose challenges. The research presented here focuses both on the benefits and the challenges associated with learning a second language.

The current review builds on *A Review of the Literature on Second Language Learning* carried out by a team of researchers from the Language Research Centre at the University of Calgary in 2004 and revised in 2006.<sup>1</sup> As such, the research summarized in this review was published after 2006. In addition, the current review focuses less on how languages are taught and more on the impact of second language learning.

<sup>1</sup> [www.aqa.ca/documents/ltrreview.pdf](http://www.aqa.ca/documents/ltrreview.pdf)

**LITERATURE REVIEW**  
**on the Impact of Second-Language Learning**

The illustration shows a diverse group of people of various ethnicities and ages. Each person has a speech bubble above them containing a greeting in a different language. The greetings include: Oki, Guten Tag, Bonjour, 你好 (Chinese), Hola, Hi, こんにちは (Japanese), Привіт (Ukrainian), مرحبا (Arabic), and ਸਤਿ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਅਕਾਲ (Sikhism).

**The Alberta Teachers' Association**  
**Second Languages and Intercultural Council**  
**Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers**  
**Association canadienne des professeurs de langues secondes**

# TEACHER SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY

## Consultations and Representations

### Consultations with Canadian Heritage (Roadmap for Canada's Official Languages)

Consultations began in 2015–2016 and continued in 2016–2017. CASLT's president, Jim Murphy, participated in the third consultation designed to assess the extent to which the Roadmap was successful.

CASLT also took part in consultations on the Official Languages Support Programs.

### Committee of Assistant Deputy Ministers on Official Languages

CASLT was invited again this year to the annual consultation of the Committee of Assistant Deputy Ministers on Official Languages (CADMOL), which involved representatives of Anglophone communities in Quebec, Francophone communities in minority situations, and organizations promoting linguistic duality and second language education. CASLT used this forum to reiterate the importance of a common framework of reference for languages to assess language skills in a uniform manner across Canada. CASLT also stressed that investments and training for second language teachers are necessary to help them meet immigrants' needs.

## Strategic Plan 2015–2019

In 2015, CASLT reviewed its strategic plan, looking to develop a new plan that would carry us forward to 2019 and beyond. This is where we currently stand with respect to our 2016–2017 objectives:

### Advocacy and Promotion

CASLT's Advocacy and Promotion Committee looked into developing a campaign to raise awareness and promote the advantages of language learning. Drawing on the findings of the *Literature Review on the Impact of Second-Language Learning*, this campaign will provide teachers with a range of tools highlighting the numerous benefits of language learning. Namely, a catchy slogan and a tab entitled "Why learn languages?" on our website will be unveiled during CASLT's Networking Day.

The Committee also sent a letter to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to ask him to officially support second language instruction in Canada and to designate a National Language Day, but as yet we have received no response.

### Professional Development

The results of the member satisfaction survey were analyzed, and the Professional Development Committee holds regular meetings to examine professional development opportunities, session types, and the price structure in light of the results.

# TEACHER SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY

## Research

In addition to the *Literature Review on the Impact of Second-Language Learning*, CASLT continues to keep its members and partners abreast of the latest research in second language teaching through its newsletter, its magazine *Réflexions*, Twitter, etc.

## Exchange of Information and Ideas

CASLT strives continuously to maintain and strengthen its relationship with key organizations in the field of second language instruction, thus creating wonderful information-sharing opportunities.

To foster the exchange of information, CASLT organized, as it does every year, a Networking Day that attracts more than sixty participants.

## Organizational Capacity and Sustainability

In 2016–2017, CASLT operated with four full-time employees and a part-time contract employee as finance manager. This staffing level means that CASLT must increase its revenue.

CASLT has had some success in its efforts to increase and diversify its revenue. As previously mentioned, CASLT developed *Ontario's New Teacher's Handbook* for the Ontario Ministry of Education. Furthermore, an agreement was reached with Alberta Education for hosting the Aboriginal Languages Gathering within the Languages Without Borders 2017 conference. Both these agreements enabled CASLT to expand its activities and to serve new audiences while helping to increase our organization's financial capacity. CASLT will need to pursue its efforts to diversify and increase revenue.



# FINANCES

## Schedule of Project Summary for the Year Ended March 31, 2017

The revenue and expenses incurred for each of the projects are as follows:

	Teacher and Program Support	Aboriginal Languages Gathering	New Teacher's Guide	2017 Total	2016 Total
<b>REVENUE</b>					
Contributions from Canadian Heritage	\$ 305,000	-	-	\$ 305,000	\$ 385,000
Other	55,865	29,200	24,730	109,795	79,161
	<b>360,865</b>	<b>29,200</b>	<b>24,730</b>	<b>414,795</b>	<b>464,161</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Salaries and benefits	191,538	21,884	-	213,422	187,984
Honoraria, professional, and consulting fees	48,620	1,700	4,250	54,570	92,972
Travel and accommodation	77,695	-	1,981	79,676	71,682
Printing and publicity	32,624	2,054	-	34,678	66,487
Operating costs	35,642	3,500	-	39,142	46,485
Other	10,357	-	-	10,357	3,202
	<b>396,476</b>	<b>29,138</b>	<b>46,517</b>	<b>431,845</b>	<b>468,812</b>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ (35,611)</b>	<b>\$ (62)</b>	<b>\$ (1,517)</b>	<b>\$ (17,050)</b>	<b>\$ (4,651)</b>





Canadian Association of  
Second Language Teachers



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