



Survey of Arts Presenters and Facilities Serving the English Speaking Community in the Regions of Quebec

Touring Project Phase One Report

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Executive Summary

In 2009, the **Quebec Drama Federation (QDF)** embarked on a project to identify the needs of the regional areas of Quebec in relation to touring and access to arts and culture in English. Initially, our aim was to build a network of regional presenters and venues who wished to participate in a touring circuit for professional English Language theatre artists and productions throughout regional Quebec. However, once the research was commenced, it was found that there is a genuine desire and need for improved access to all English language arts and cultural events in all disciplines throughout the regions.

QDF committed to working in association with the English Language Arts Network (ELAN), the Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN), the Quebec Writers Federation (QWF), the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN), the CEDEC (Community Economic Development and Employability Corporation) and other like-minded organizations to begin the first phase of this project – the identification of presenters and rental facilities across the regions that are committed to the promotion of Quebec English-language artists.

In order to help identify these organizations **QDF** began with the QCGN's network. We contacted each regional association of the QCGN with information about the touring network project and asked if they would be willing to provide further contacts in their respective areas to which the touring project would be of interest. When contacting organizations, we presented them with a short summary of the project as well as a questionnaire. This report is an in-depth summary of the information gathered and a survey of arts presenters and facilities across the province of Quebec serving the English Speaking Community.

In total, **QDF** contacted 156 individual companies and organizations throughout the regions of Quebec not including the region of Montreal. We contacted organizations in thirteen of the seventeen official administrative regions as defined by the Government of Quebec. They included: Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Bas-Saint-Laurent, Capitale-Nationale, Chaudière-Appalaches, Côte-Nord, Estrie, Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine, Lanaudière, Laurentides, Laval, Maurice, Montérégie, and Outaouais

The response received from contacted organizations was very positive overall. The majority of organizations and associations had a genuine interest in the project whether or not it was applicable to their particular situation and mandate.

Of the organizations contacted, 62 have joined the proposed network and 51 are still pending (i.e. we have been in contact with a representative of the company or organization and have sent them information about the network as well as a questionnaire and we are waiting to hear back from them).

Of these 62 organizations, 38 are classified only as presenters, 16 are classified only as rental venues, and 8 are identified as both a presenter and as having a facility available for rental. Thus 40% of contacted organizations have joined the network.

The overall response received surrounding the creation of a Touring Network serving the English Speaking Community of Quebec was extremely positive. There exists a need not only for improved access to English-language artistic and cultural events in the regions of Quebec, but also a need for communication amongst the various organizations and associations servicing the artistic and cultural needs of the English Speaking Community of Quebec.

A total of 46 organizations (this number includes those who are both presenters and rental venues – 38+8) have joined the Touring Network as presenters; the majority have experience in presenting both local and non-local artistic events – 83% have presented locally before and 74% have presented artists or events from outside their community. However, only 50% have a budget dedicated to the presentation of artistic events and of these almost a quarter has a limited budget that is already allocated to a particular

annual event. The remaining organizations do not have a budget at all, rely solely on ticket sales, or submit grant applications on a per project basis. Almost all (89%) agreed that resources on presenting the arts and fundraising would be beneficial to their organization. Specifically requests were made for a guide or document that could help organizations in mounting projects, planning and implementing, how to evaluate artistic presentations, and also focusing on the rural perspective and the rural presenter.

A total of 24 organizations (this number includes those who are both presenters and rental venues – 16+8) have joined the Touring Network as rental venues which represents 30 spaces available for rent. However, only 33% of these venues have the electrical, lighting, and sound infrastructure and equipment necessary for most performing arts events. The remaining facilities have basic electrical and lighting infrastructure and no sound equipment. As well, only 30% are equipped with a stage. The infrastructure currently available will limit the types of artistic events a facility or community is able to host.

It is to be noted that during the interview and questionnaire process, efforts were made to identify spaces that were not necessarily what one would consider as a traditional performance space – i.e.: museums, some libraries, churches, etc. This was to encourage the participants to recognise the value that heritage sites can provide to a cultural event.

This report is presented as the beginning phase of a 2-year project in the development of a Touring Network for English Speaking Quebec. It is recommended that the project continue through a series of phases; Phase 2 would identify Montreal-area presenters and rental venues for all artistic genres that are committed to the promotion of Quebec English-language artists, Phase 3 would identify tour-ready high-calibre English-language artists across the province and phase 4 would see the development of an online database and catalogue.

Maintained momentum, continued funding, and ongoing partnership are key components in the successful realization and implementation of the Touring Network.

Goals of the project must include the promotion of active communication and interaction between the organizations that have joined the proposed network as presenters and venues; as well as a commitment to the professional development of these members via the creation and publication of a touring and presenting manual, interactive workshops, and province-wide conference.

Overall, this project has clearly identified the artistic and cultural needs of the communities with which we worked. It must be clearly understood; in the research undertaken, the results represent only a microcosm of what exists in the regions – further community organizations and links will be discovered as this project continues. At the same time, there is a clear need for professional guidance and training for many of these communities as they are not prepared for or knowledgeable about the requirements for bringing artists into their spaces, the costs involved, or the conditions required. Training and guidance is also needed in how to prepare applications for financial support, and how to attract sponsorships and local financial support resources. Through collaboration and partnership with other networks in Quebec and the rest of Canada, the continuation of this project will provide exposure for English Language artists from the Regions and Montreal outside the Province of Quebec, an element which is very important to the future recognition of our artists on the national and international scale.

PREAMBLE

This project has been developed with the support and financial contributions of the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, and the Conseil des arts de Montréal, all of whom provide operational funding to the Quebec Drama Federation. The original concept of the project has grown from interactions and discussions with Regional Associations and the Sectors themselves through Board meetings and network interactions of the Quebec Community Groups Network, prior to its restructuring in 2007. These regions have been looking for ways and means to provide cultural events and exchanges with their communities for a long time, and finally the ability to provide solid research and data has been achieved. We note that in the following report, there is a great amount of detail and facts, but it really only represents the tip of the iceberg as it has become very evident that there are many more areas and sources to be tapped to be able to provide the full picture of the situation. Therefore, this report represents Phase I of the work, and will be updated on a regular basis as more data and information become available. It is also to be noted that there have been contacts made far beyond the QCGN network, to include the CEDEC's, and other community partners and stakeholders encountered during the gathering of the research and data.

HISTORY

The Quebec Drama Federation (QDF) undertook the development of a project to identify the needs of the regional areas of Quebec in relation to touring and access to arts and culture in English. As identified in the Program Application of 2008/2009 Component 4, QDF aimed to:

Build a network of regional presenters and venues who wish to participate in a touring circuit for professional English Language (EL) theatre artists and productions throughout regional Quebec. These artists would stem not only from the Greater Montreal area, but also from the regions of Quebec, as an exchange of talent from region to region. This will be done with the intention of it eventually being a useful tool for all artistic disciplines.

QDF committed to working in association with the English Language Arts Network (ELAN), the Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN), the Quebec Writers Federation (QWF), the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN), the CEDEC and other like-minded organizations to ensure the input of all organizations interested in the resulting information were involved in its preparation.

For the first months of the project, the Regional Associations and colleagues from the Sectoral Groups were solicited for their general support of the initiative and expressed great enthusiasm to provide whatever information they could. At the same time, work was undertaken to develop a Strategic Plan for the Arts Culture and Heritage sector by the QCGN, in which the Executive Director of the QDF (Jane Needles), the then-President of ELAN (Guy Rodgers) and the President (Kevin O'Donnell) and the Executive Director (Dwayne Wilkin) of the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN) participated. This work resulted in the Arts Culture and Heritage Framework Policy (ACHFP) being developed and from that a request to the Cultural Development Fund (from the *Roadmap for Linguistic Duality in Canada 2008-2013: Acting for the Future*) was generated titled the Arts, Culture and Heritage Access Program (ACHAP). These two documents aided in further reconfirming the needs of the Regions and Sector groups outside the Greater Montreal Area. Equally, the Greater Montreal Community Development Initiative (GMCDI), another project undertaken by the QCGN, also developed an Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee which addressed many of the needs and desires of Greater Montreal Region, and also dovetailed with the ACHFP goals. Recently (July 2010) the QCGN circulated a report entitled *Assessing the English-speaking Community's Capacity to Access Arts Culture and Heritage in Nine Regions of Quebec – Part one of the "Enhancing Access to Cultural Expression" Project (EACE)* which further illustrates the needs and challenges of nine of the Regional Associations of Quebec.

METHODOLOGY

In March of 2009 QDF began to send out written initial questionnaires and documentation to find potential touring areas and venues across the province which could be used for the presentation of various artistic works including, but not limited to, both the performing and visual arts as well as workshops. A letter and accompanying questionnaire was sent out to QCGN members. (See Appendix 1 for the cover letter and questionnaire).

The questionnaire asked for the following information:

- Name of Venue
- Type of Venue (gymnasium, auditorium, church basement etc.)
- Address
- Seats How Many People?
- Is it a Heritage Property?
- Restrictions (if any)
- Technical Information – is it equipped with professional lighting capabilities
- Technical Information – is it equipped with a sound system
- Are Dressing Rooms Associated with the Facility?
- Is there Hot and Cold Running Water, Shower Facilities, and Washrooms?
- Are there Easy Access Loading Areas
- What type of artistic performances or discussions do you feel your community would wish to have most in terms of visiting artists or lecturers?
- In terms of demographics, can you give a general breakdown of the age-groups within your community?
- Any other information that you feel would be important for us to know?

The focus of the questionnaire was to collect information to aid in the creation of a manual and information package on potential touring areas and venues that would be available to artistic and cultural companies and organizations in Montreal as well as throughout the regions of Quebec. Information to be gathered would include where artistic events could be presented within a community and the types of artistic events and genres that were of greatest interest to a particular community.

The style of questions in this questionnaire put an emphasis on rental facilities. This information would then be compiled into a database that could be regularly updated and distributed to various artistic companies and artists. The artists would then contact the facilities to inquire about renting the venue for an artistic presentation.

We received replies from a few of our contacts. However, the general response was that more information was needed as well as our contacts were not willing to fill out the questionnaire themselves as it added work to their already full schedules. Many were interested in the project and readily supplied information on potential contacts in their surrounding areas as well as expressing a desire for more English-language arts in their communities.

By September of 2009, the ground was set for developing the database, questionnaires and basic framework of the research required to develop the Touring Circuit or its equivalent. To this end, extra staff was hired by the QDF to begin the process of establishing the framework of the project and further clarify the actual needs and wants of the communities with which we would be working. There was also a great amount of further research done into how other organizations with similar goals to the QDF project,

operated their networks and systems, and how perhaps these concepts could be adapted to the needs of the English Speaking Community of Quebec (ESCQ).

COMPARING OTHER TOURING SYSTEMS AND NETWORKS

During this time, research was also conducted on other provincial touring networks across the country. There are a variety of regional networks dedicated to the dissemination of artistic works across the country with at least one in each province or region. In Canada, these networks exist as regional presenter's networks. They include: Atlantic Presenter's Association (Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick), CCI - Ontario Presenter's Network, Manitoba Arts Network, Organization of Saskatchewan Arts Councils, Arts Touring Alliance of Alberta, BC Touring Council, and Réseau indépendant des diffuseurs d'événements artistiques unis (RIDEAU) in Quebec.

Based on the research of the regional presenter's networks' approach to the support and dissemination of the arts, QDF chose to focus the Touring Network Project on identifying presenters as well as rental venues. A database consisting of only rental facilities would not necessarily be beneficial in the dissemination of English-language arts as many artists and companies do not have the funds to embark on a tour without charging artist fees. As well, artists living in one region of Quebec would not necessarily be familiar with other communities and thus genuine logistical problems present themselves such as:

- what artistic works are of interest to a community,
- which local venues are traditionally used for the presentation of various arts events,
- and how best to approach audience development and outreach in a particular community to name a few.

As such, the survey was modified and resulted in two separate questionnaires being created – one focusing on presenters and a second focusing on rental facilities.

A presenter is defined as:

Arts presenters select the artistic programming for public presentation in their community based on an artistic vision. They purchase performances and other artistic activities created by professional artists, groups and companies; and they are responsible for paying a guaranteed fee to the producer for each presentation. They provide the venue and supply the technical and promotional support. Presenters may also organize audience development and/or outreach in support of their artistic programming. They have a thorough knowledge of the audiences in their communities, of the professional arts community and of the various networks that support both the artists and the presenters. (Canadian Heritage via Canadian Arts Presenters Association/Association canadienne des organismes artistiques [CAPACOA])

The first questionnaire to be created was for presenters. (See Appendix 2 for the questionnaire). It asked the following questions:

- Name of Organization
- Address
- Telephone
- Fax
- Website
- Primary Contact
- Primary Contact Telephone
- Primary Contact Email
- Secondary Contact
- Secondary Contact Telephone

- Secondary Contact Email
- Mandate of Organization
- Number of Events per Year
- Have you presented/hosted artistic events/performance before?
- Have you brought in artistic events/performance from outside your community before?
- Do you have a budget for artistic/cultural events (no need to tell us the actual budget)?
- Would access to resources on how to present or host events and find funding be useful to you?
- What types of artistic events and performances are you most interested in presenting?
 - Comedy
 - Improv
 - Sketch
 - Stand-up
 - Dance
 - Independent Film
 - Music
 - Musical Theatre
 - Summer Theatre (e.g. Shakespeare in the Park etc)
 - Spoken Word/Storytelling/Readings/Poetry
 - Theatre for Young Audiences
 - Theatre
 - Variety
 - Visual Arts
 - Workshops/Lecturers
 - Theatre – Acting, Improv, Movement, Voice, Playwriting
 - Dance
 - Music
 - Spoken word/Storytelling/Poetry
 - Other (please expand)
- How would you like to hear about artists and productions that are available to tour to your community:
 - Online Database Listing
 - Online Printable Catalogue/Listings
 - Annual Conference in one Central Quebec Location
 - You Accept Portfolios from Artists Year-Round
 - You Accept Portfolios from Artists at a Prescribed Time of Year
 - Other (please expand)
- How accessible is your community throughout the year in terms of travel?
- Can you give us an idea of the general demographics of your community?
- General Comments

The second questionnaire created was for rental facilities. (See Appendix 3 for this questionnaire). It asked the following questions and organizations were asked to answer only the questions which are applicable to their situation:

- Name of Venue
- Type of Venue
- Address
- Telephone
- Fax
- Website
- Rental/Administrative Contact

- Rental/Administrative Contact Telephone
- Rental/Administrative Contact Email
- Technical Contact
- Technical Contact Telephone
- Technical Contact Email
- House or Audience Area: Number of Seats
- House or Audience Area: Seating Style
- House or Audience Area: General Description
- House or Audience Area: Theatre Type
- House or Audience Area: Number of Events per Year
- House or Audience Area: Average Rental Fee
- House or Audience Area: Minimum Rental Fee
- House or Audience Area: Maximum Rental Fee
- House or Audience Area: Wheelchair Area
- House or Audience Area: Sales in Lobby Allowed?
- House or Audience Area: Availability
- House or Audience Area: How much advanced notice is necessary on average?
- House or Audience Area: Demographics
- House or Audience Area: What type of events do you prefer to rent to?
- Stage or Performance Area: Stage Type
- Stage or Performance Area: Stage Width
- Stage or Performance Area: Stage Depth
- Stage or Performance Area: Stage Height
- Stage or Performance Area: Thrust/Apron Width
- Stage or Performance Area: Thrust/Apron Depth
- Stage or Performance Area: Wing – Stage Left
- Stage or Performance Area: Wing – Stage Right
- Stage or Performance Area: Stage Comments
- Stage or Performance Area: Fly System
- Stage or Performance Area: Sprung Floor
- Stage or Performance Area: Choral Risers
- Stage or Performance Area: Acoustic Shell
- Stage or Performance Area: Orchestra Pit and Seating
- Stage or Performance Area: Cyclorama
- Stage or Performance Area: Piano (make and size)
- Backstage: Loading Access
- Backstage: Parking Details
- Backstage: Rehearsal Space
- Backstage: Dressing Room Details
- Backstage: Shower/Washroom Facilities
- Backstage: Greenroom
- Backstage: Backstage Comments
- Technical: Electrical System (Infrastructure and Availability)
- Technical: Lighting System (Instruments and Infrastructure)
- Technical: Sounds System (Instruments and Infrastructure)
- Technical: Technical Comments
- How accessible is your community throughout the year in terms of travel?
- Can you give us an idea of the general demographics of your community?
- General Comments

Both of these were sent in November of 2009. We found by March 2010 that some smaller organizations were reluctant to answer the rental venue questionnaire as it asked technical questions that they did not fully comprehend, either in terms of the questions posed or the need of getting this particular information. The questionnaire was redesigned to be clearer and more concise for non traditional venues. (See Appendix 4 for this redesigned questionnaire). This questionnaire asked fewer, less technical questions and as a result more organizations completed it. However, the questions were still general and as such we were required to follow up with a phone call to complete the required information.

When contacting organizations, the majority of our interactions were cold calls and emails. An information letter was drafted to send to organizations first that provided an overview of the project as well as listing the difference between a presenter and a rental venue. (See Appendix 5 for a copy of this letter). This information package also included examples of possible presenters as found on The Canada Council for the Arts *On the Road Presenter's Handbook*¹. It was found that many organizations were not clear on what a presenter was, or that what they did fell into this category. The information package was an important tool in demonstrating that arts presenters come in all different sizes with a variety of budgets from large, specialized arts centres to local community organizations run by volunteers.

In an effort to be as clear as possible and to try to account for the various situations in which many of the organizations found themselves, presenters and rental venues were defined as:

- A **presenter** is defined as a person or an organization that takes on the responsibility of engaging a performing or visual arts event for their community. Some responsibilities of a presenter include negotiating a contract with the artist, negotiating artist fees, finding a venue for the artist in which to perform/present, organizing marketing and promotion of the event, and raising funds to pay for the artist/event. Usually the presenter pays the artist a flat artist fee for the event (depending on the contract) and keeps the box-office revenue.

We often substituted the word *host* and *hosting* in lieu of *presenter* and *presenting* as was necessary. We found a large number of organizations such as local music festivals and schools who regularly present arts events were not familiar with the term *presenter*. Larger organizations were often familiar with the term, or the French term – *diffuseur*. Our approach had to be varied depending on the level of experience

- A **rental venue** is defined as a space within a community that is available for rent to interested parties. Venues can be located almost anywhere – community centres, theatres, churches, schools, even stages at bookstores and cafes can be available for rent. In a rental agreement the artist takes on the responsibility of finding and renting the venue and technical personnel as well as marketing and promoting the event to the community. The artist pays a rental fee to the venue for use of their space and usually keeps all the box-office revenue (depending on the contract).

We found that most organizations were quite familiar with how rental facilities operated and little explanation was necessary. However, we still needed to explain the scope of the project and why we were collecting the information. We were seeking not only traditional performance venues, but also unconventional venues such as libraries, museums, churches, and cafes.

WHO WAS CONTACTED

We contacted a total of 156 individual organizations throughout the regions of Quebec not including the region of Montreal. (See Appendix 6 for a complete listing of all contact organizations). We contacted

¹ www.canadacouncil.ca/development/ontheroad/

organizations in thirteen (13) of the seventeen (17) official administrative regions as defined by the Government of Quebec.

The regions we contacted included: Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Bas-Saint-Laurent, Capitale-Nationale, Chaudière-Appalaches, Côte-Nord, Estrie, Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine, Lanaudière, Laurentides, Laval, Maurice, Montérégie, and Outaouais

Unfortunately we were unable to find any English-language arts organizations through our contacts in the regions of: Centre du Québec, Nord du Québec, and Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean. Two organizations based in Montreal were contacted, but they are a part of the Quebec Community Groups Network and were asked for possible contacts in the regions.

In order to help identify arts and rental organizations throughout the regions of Quebec we began with the QCGN network. We contacted each association located in the regions with information about the touring network project. We subsequently asked them if they were interested in joining our network as a presenter as well we asked if they could direct us to further contacts within their regions.

Seven of the nineteen contacted associations provided lists of further contacts in their respective communities: Community Health & Social Services Network (CHSSN), Coasters' Association, Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN), Neighbours Regional Association of Rouyn-Noranda, Voice of English-Speaking Quebec (VEQ), English Speaking Catholic Council (ESCC), and Vision Gaspé-Perce Now (VGPN). It should be noted that the associations who have chosen to join the project are not included in this list – this is discussed below.

These lists provided a variety of contacts, some of whom could be possible presenters and rental venues, and others who could provide more contacts within a particular region or community.

As our goal was to identify as many English-language organizations involved or supportive of the arts, we also worked with the Community Learning Centre's Network (CLCs) and the Community Table's Community Economic Development and Employability Committees (CEDECs). We contacted nineteen CLCs and ten CEDECs. Both the CLCs and CEDECs were aware of our impending contact as we asked Linton Garner, Community Development Coordinator for the CLC Project Resource Team, and John Buck, Executive Director of the Community Economic Development and Employability Corporation, to inform their respective organizations that we would be contacting the individual centres regarding this project.

Of the 19 CLCs, fifteen replied to our request. They are: CLC – Netagamou, CLC - Laval Liberty, CLC - Laurentian Regional, CLC - St. Willibrord, CLC - Greater Huntington, CLC - St. Lambert, CLC – Mountainview, CLC - St. Michael's High School, CLC - Quebec High School, CLC - Eaton Valley, CLC - Gaspé Polyvalente, CLC – Métis, CLC - Baie Comeau, CLC – Mecatina, CLC - St. Paul's River, and CLC - Gaspé-Perce.

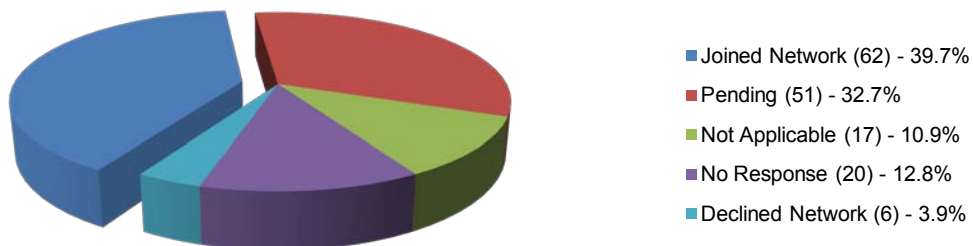
Of the 10 CEDECs we contacted seven replied to our request. They are: CEDEC – Eastern Townships, CEDEC – Gaspesian, CEDEC – Magdalen Islands, CEDEC – Outaouais, CEDEC - Quebec Chaudière-Appalaches, CEDEC - South Shore, and CEDEC - South West Quebec.

RESPONSE

In general the response we received from contacted organizations was positive. The majority of organizations and associations had a genuine interest in the project whether or not it was applicable to their particular situation and mandate.

Of the 156 individual organizations we contacted 62 have joined the network, 51 are still pending (i.e. we have been in contact with a representative of the company or organization and have sent them information about the network as well as a questionnaire [either presenter, rental venue, or both] and we are waiting to hear back from them), for 17 the project was not applicable to their mandate and operations, 20 have not replied to our emails or phone calls, and 6 organizations declined to join.

Total Contacted Organizations (156)

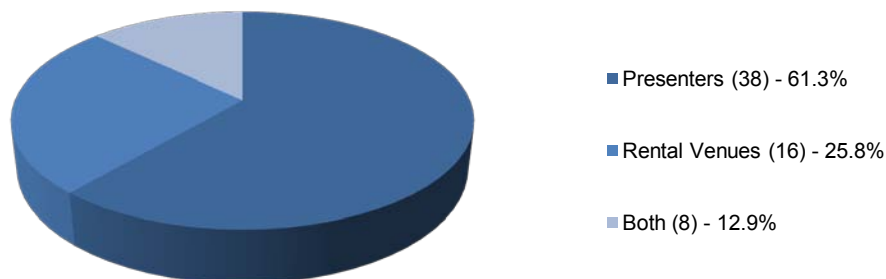


For those organizations that declined to join the network the responses were:

- that they feel they do not fit in with our project (Irish Heritage Quebec),
- they are currently too busy to join a network and have too many artists already contacting them (Pub Alexandre),
- like the system they currently have in place (Entry Island Hall),
- or no reason was given (Shannon Community Centre, Colby-Curtis Museum, Listuguj Mi'kmaw First Nation Council).

Of the 62 organizations that have joined the network 38 are classified only as presenters, 16 are classified only as rental venues, and 8 identify themselves both as a presenter and as having a facility available for rental. Thus 40% of contacted organizations have joined the network.

Breakdown of Organizations Who Have Joined the Network (62)



Appendix 7 contains a detailed breakdown of each contacted organization organized by: Presenters, Presenters & Venues, Rental Venues, Response Pending, No Response, Not Applicable, and Declined to Join Network. The detailed page listings are pulled directly from the Touring Database created for this project. Beyond collecting contact information, we also collected information regarding the level of

experience and funding the organizations had with regards to presenting and renting as well as what types of artistic events interest them.

Below is a listing of all the organizations that have currently joined the network. Please note that for the purposes of this report, the regional designations used are those as identified by the Government of Quebec and Statistics Canada; not those commonly used by the QCGN.

NAME	REGION	DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF ORGANIZATION
Aras du Pontiac - Association of Performers	Outaouais	Presenter	Arts Association
Avalon Singers, The	Montréal	Presenter	Concert Presenter
Avante Women's Centre	Montréal	Presenter	Community Centre
CAMI - Council For Anglophone Magdalen Islanders	Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine	Presenter	Community Association
CASA - Committee for Anglophone Social Action	Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine	Presenter	Community Association
CLC - Baie Comeau	Côte-Nord	Presenter	Community Learning Centre
CLC - Eaton Valley	Estrie	Presenter	Community Learning Centre
CLC - Mountainview	Montréal	Presenter	Community Learning Centre
CLC - Netagamiou	Côte-Nord	Presenter	Community Learning Centre
CLC - St. Lambert	Montréal	Presenter	Community Learning Centre
CLC - St. Paul's River	Côte-Nord	Presenter	Community Learning Centre
CLD du Pontiac	Outaouais	Presenter	Local Development Centre - Municipal
Coasters' Association	Côte-Nord	Presenter	Community Association
Compton County Historical Museum Society	Estrie	Presenter	Historical Society
Douglstown Irish Week	Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine	Presenter	Heritage Festival
Fairbairn House Heritage Centre	Outaouais	Presenter	Heritage Centre
Family Ties New Carlisle	Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine	Presenter	Community Association
Joliette Elementary School	Lanaudière	Presenter	School
Jules Verne Elementary School	Laval	Presenter	School
Laurentian Regional High School	Laurentides	Presenter	School
Les Productions Cibles	Capitale-Nationale	Presenter	For-Profit Presenter
Megantic English-Speaking Community Development Corp.	Chaudière-Appalaches	Presenter	Community Association
Metis Beach School	Bas-Saint-Laurent	Presenter	School
Missisquoi Historical Society and Museum	Montréal	Presenter	Historical Society and Museum
Municipality of Pottou, Cultural Committee	Estrie	Presenter	Municipality
Neighbours Regional Association of Rouyn-Noranda	Abitibi-Témiscamingue	Presenter	Community Association
Netagamiou School	Côte-Nord	Presenter	School
North Shore Community Association	Côte-Nord	Presenter	Community Association
Piggery Theatre	Estrie	Presenter	Performance Hall
Pinewood Elementary School	Lanaudière	Presenter	School
Regional Association of West Quebecers	Outaouais	Presenter	Community Association
Restigouche 1760 Inc (Festival du Patrimoine)	Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine	Presenter	Heritage Festival
Richmond County Historical Society	Estrie	Presenter	Historical Society
Shigawake Music Festival/ Bonaventure Agricultural Society Div. "A"	Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine	Presenter	Music Festival
Ulverton Coffeehouse	Estrie	Presenter	Cafe
Vergers McMillan Orchards	Montréal	Presenter	Music Festival

Voice of English-Speaking Quebec	Capitale-Nationale	Presenter	Community Association
Wolf Furey Productions	Montréal	Presenter	Non-Profit Presenter
CLC - St. Willibrord	Montréal	Presenter/ Rental Venue	Community Learning Centre
Expo Ormstown/Ormstown Fairgrounds	Montréal	Presenter/ Rental Venue	Expo and Fair
La Société du Palais Montcalm	Capitale-Nationale	Presenter/ Rental Venue	Non-Profit Presenter, Performance Hall
Morrin Cultural Centre & Heritage Site	Capitale-Nationale	Presenter/ Rental Venue	Cultural Centre
Salle de spectacles régionale Desjardins de New Richmond	Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine	Presenter/ Rental Venue	Performance Hall
Société du Musée du Grand Châteauguay Maison LePailleur	Montréal	Presenter/ Rental Venue	Historical Society and Museum
Theatre Wakefield	Outaouais	Presenter/ Rental Venue	Theatre and Performance Hall
Venturing Hills Farm - Festival Pontiac Enchanté	Outaouais	Presenter/ Rental Venue	Music Festival
Battle of Chateauguay Museum, The	Montréal	Rental Venue	Museum
Britville	Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine	Rental Venue	Heritage Village
Bury United Cultural Centre	Estrie	Rental Venue	Cultural Centre
Café Namasthé	Montréal	Rental Venue	Cafe
Centre Communautaire de Brookbury	Estrie	Rental Venue	Community Centre
Club Age-d'Or du Cuivre de Rouyn-Noranda	Abitibi-Témiscamingue	Rental Venue	Social Club
Complex Hotelier Alpin	Abitibi-Témiscamingue	Rental Venue	Hotel
Douglas Community Centre	Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine	Rental Venue	Community Centre
Grosse-Île Municipal Community Centre	Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine	Rental Venue	Community Centre
Haskell Opera House	Estrie	Rental Venue	Theatre and Performance Hall
Holy Trinity Family Centre	Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine	Rental Venue	Community Centre
Hotel Gouverneur Le Noranda	Abitibi-Témiscamingue	Rental Venue	Hotel
Rowsell House Interpretation Centre	Côte-Nord	Rental Venue	Heritage Centre
St. Paul's School	Côte-Nord	Rental Venue	School
Symmes Jr. High/ D'Arcy McGee High School	Outaouais	Rental Venue	School
Unitarian Universalist Church in North Hatley	Estrie	Rental Venue	Church

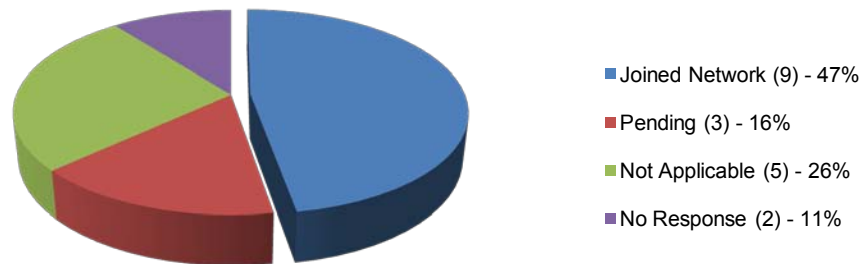
QUEBEC COMMUNITY GROUPS NETWORK RESPONSE

We contacted a total of nineteen QCGN member associations. They include: 4 Korner's Family Resource Centre, Council For Anglophone Magdalen Islanders (CAMI), Committee for Anglophone Social Action (CASA), Châteauguay English Community Network, Community Health & Social Services Network (CHSSN), Coasters' Association, English Speaking Catholic Council (ESCC), Family Ties New Carlisle, Heritage Lower Saint Lawrence, Megantic English-Speaking Community Development Corp. (MDCDC), Neighbours Regional Association of Rouyn-Noranda, North Shore Community Association, Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN), Quebec 4H Association, Quebec Farmers' Association, Regional Association of West Quebecers, Townshippers' Association, Voice of English-Speaking Quebec (VEQ), and Vision Gaspé - Percé Now (VGPN).

Of the 19 contacted associations, 9 have joined the network, all as presenters. These nine include: CAMI, CASA, Coasters', Family Ties New Carlisle, MDCDC, Neighbours, North Shore Community Association, West Quebecers, and VEQ. Three are still pending: 4 Korner's Family Resource Centre, Châteauguay

English Community Network, and Townshippers' Association. Two we have been unable to connect with: Heritage Lower Saint Lawrence and Quebec Farmers' Association, and the project is not applicable to five of the associations: Community Health & Social Services Network (CHSSN), English Speaking Catholic Council (ESCC), Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN) only because they do not have a specific venue (s) nor do they present artistic works, Quebec 4H Association, and Vision Gaspé - Percé Now (VGPN), however each of these five provided us with other contacts for whom the project would be relevant.

Total QCGN Member Associations Contacted (19)

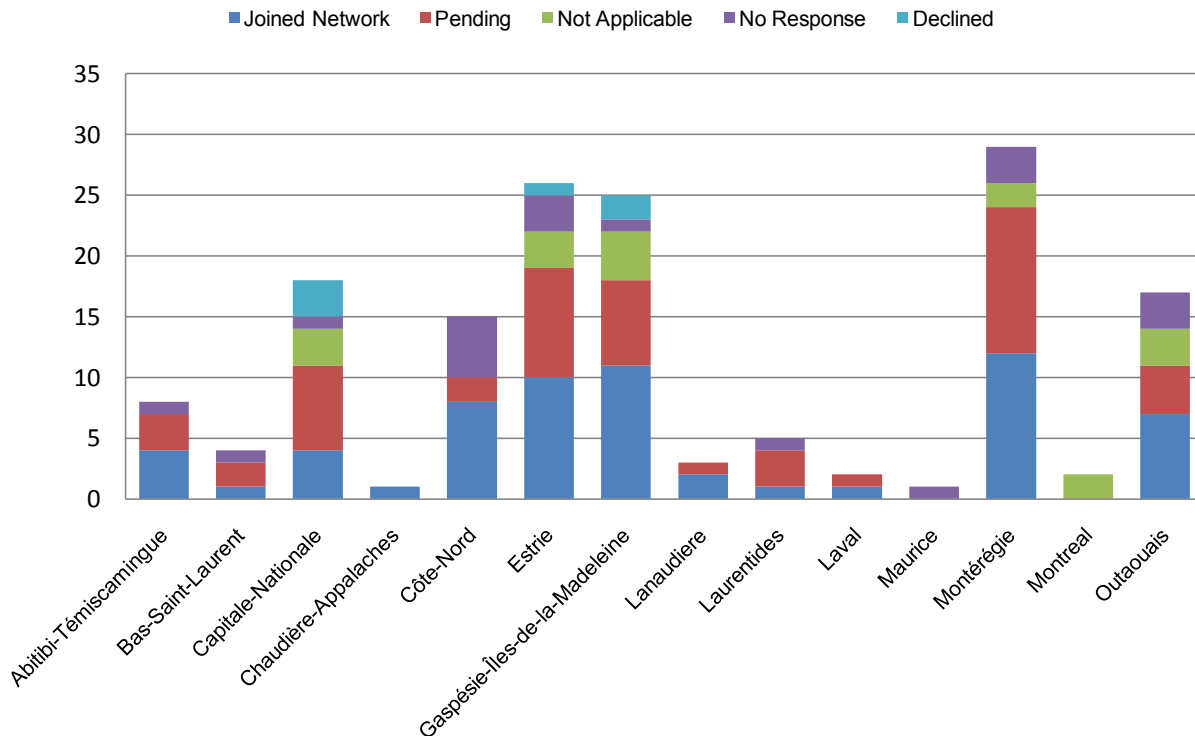


BREAKDOWN OF RESPONSE BY REGION

The focus of this phase of the development of the Touring Network was on the Regions and thus we did not actively contact organizations in Montreal. The two Montreal-based organizations seen in the chart below represent the Quebec 4H Association and the English Speaking Catholic Council; both of whom we contacted in an effort to further our contacts in the regions.

We also contacted seven of the English School Boards in Quebec (not including the two serving Montreal) and the bilingual School Board. They include: Central Quebec School Board, Eastern Shores School Board, Eastern Townships School Board, New Frontiers School Board, Riverside School Board, Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, Western Quebec School Board, and the Littoral School Board. At the School Boards' request we did not contact the schools individually, but rather through the board. We did not include individual schools in our total number of contacted organizations. However, once a school replied to our request we were free to discuss with them the particulars of their situation – whether they were interested in the network, and if so whether they were a presenter or a rental venue.

Breakdown of Responses by Region



ABITIBI-TÉMISCAMINGUE

In the region of Abitibi – Témiscamingue our primary contact was the Neighbours Regional Association of Rouyn-Noranda. We contacted a total of eight organizations which included Neighbours and the CEDEC - Abitibi-Témiscamingue. Our other six contacts were all referred to us by Neighbours.

Of the eight contacted, four have joined the touring network, three are still pending, and from one there has been no response. The four who have joined the network include one presenter:

NAME	DESCRIPTION
PRESENTERS	
Neighbours Regional Association of Rouyn-Noranda	Community Association
RENTAL VENUES	
Club Age-d'Or du Cuivre de Rouyn-Noranda	Social Club
Complex Hotelier Alpin	Hotel
Hotel Gouverneur Le Noranda	Hotel

The **Neighbours Regional Association of Rouyn-Noranda** is an active presenter with approximately 4-5 events per year. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They have a specific budget set aside for the presentation of artistic and cultural events; however more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary interests include: comedy (improv, sketch, stand-up), dance, music, musical theatre, summer theatre, theatre, theatre for young audiences, workshops (theatre, dance, music, spoken word), and variety shows.

The **Club Age-d'Or du Cuivre de Rouyn-Noranda** is a social club with one large banquet/meeting hall available for rent. They usually rent to 3-4 events per year. The room can seat up to 300 seats. It is not equipped with professional electrical, lighting, or sound equipment. They prefer to rent for dance, music, dinners, meetings, parties, or workshop events.

The **Complex Hotelier Alpin** is a hotel with a large banquet/meeting hall available for rent. They usually have approximately 400 events per year. The room can seat up to 200 seats. It is not equipped with professional lighting, but is equipped with a professional electrical and sound system. They prefer to rent for meetings, conferences, and special events.

The **Hotel Gouverneur Le Noranda** is a hotel with a variety of meeting rooms and ballrooms available for rent. Depending on the room, they can seat up to 650 seats. They have portable stages available for rent and limited professional lighting and sound equipment. They did not specify their preferred events.

DEMOGRAPHICS

There are approximately 5355² English speakers in the region which comprises 3.8% of the total population.

According to Neighbours, their local community comprises approximately 1200 Anglophones with about 300 active within the English Speaking Community.

BAS-SAINT-LAURENT

In the region of Bas-Saint-Laurent we contacted four organizations. There was no response from our QCGN contact, Heritage Lower Saint Lawrence. If we had been able to connect, there may have been more organizations we could have contacted.

Of the four organizations we contacted one has joined the network as a presenter, two others are still pending (although both have expressed interest in the network: Les Jardins de Métis / Reford Garden and the CLC – Métis) and one has not replied.

NAME	DESCRIPTION
PRESENTERS	
Metis Beach School	School

The **Metis Beach School** is a small school with approximately 50 students with little access to English-language events. The school is an active presenter hosting Geordie Productions annually (English-language theatre for young audiences). In addition they host a community holiday show at the local Town Hall and the occasional author visit, independent movie, science fair, community supper, and various multi-cultural events. They have experience in presenting both local events and artists as well as bringing in events from outside their community. They have a very limited budget for arts events that does not allow them to expand and resources on presenting and funding options are needed.

² Source: QUESCAN, 2006 Census of Canada

Their primary interests include: dance, musical theatre, summer theatre, and workshops (theatre, dance, and music).

DEMOGRAPHICS

There are approximately 1295³ English speakers in the region which comprises 0.7% of the total population.

According to the Metis Beach School, the local English Speaking Community triples in size during the summer due to summer residences.

CAPITALE-NATIONALE

In the Capitale-Nationale region we contacted eighteen organizations including the Voice of English Quebec who was our primary contact and referred many other local organizations.

Of the eighteen organizations we contacted four have joined the network – two presenters and two who are both presenters and rental venues, seven are still pending, and for three organizations, their operations were not applicable to the network, one has not yet replied, and three declined to participate.

NAME	DESCRIPTION
PRESENTERS	
Voice of English Quebec	Community Association
Les Productions Cibles	For-Profit Private Presenter
PRESENTER & RENTAL VENUES	
Morrin Cultural Centre & Heritage Site	Cultural Centre
La Société du Palais Montcalm	Non-Profit Presenter and Performance Hall

The **Voice of English Quebec** is a sometime active presenter with approximately 1-2 events per year. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They do not have a systemic budget in place for the presentation of arts events.

Their primary interests include: comedy (stand-up), dance, music, summer theatre, theatre, theatre for young audiences, variety shows, as well as lectures.

Les Production Cibles is an active for-profit, private presenter with 3 events per year. They were born out of the Celtic Festival. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They have a budget for the presentation of artistic events; however more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them. They rent well-known venues and churches in their local area for arts events. Their primary interests are dance and music with a focus on Celtic music.

The **Morrin Cultural Centre & Heritage Site** is an active presenter with approximately 40 events per year. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events; however more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them. The Morrin Centre is the main cultural portal for English Speakers in the Quebec City area.

³ Source: QUESCAN, 2006 Census of Canada

In addition they have a large hall and library available for rental. The large hall seats up to 100 and the library seats up to 50. Neither is equipped with professional electrical, lighting, or sound system; however they are currently in the process of upgrading to a professional sound system.

Their primary interests include: dance, music, and spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry) and workshops in dance, music, and spoken word.

La Société du Palais Montcalm is an active presenter with 65 events per year not including co-productions or rentals. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events; however more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them. Their primary interest is music.

In addition they have two performance halls available for rental. The large facility, Raoul-Jobin Hall, seats up to 979 and the smaller space, Cafe-Spectacles, seats up to 200. Both spaces are fully equipped with professional electrical, lighting, and sound systems.

DEMOGRAPHICS

There are approximately 11 840⁴ English speakers in the region which comprises 1.8% of the total population.

According to both the Voice of English Speaking Quebec and the Morrin Centre there are approximately 15 000 English Speakers in Quebec City and surrounding areas. The Morrin Centre also states that a number of Francophones in the area who are capable of communicating in English use their services.

CHAUDIÈRE-APPALACHES

We contacted one organization in the region - Megantic English-Speaking Community Development Corporation. They chose to join the network. There is room for expansion and further research in this particular region.

NAME	DESCRIPTION
PRESENTERS	
Megantic English-Speaking Community Development Corporation	Community Association

The **Megantic English-Speaking Community Development Corporation** is a sometime presenter with one event per year. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They have a specific budget set aside for the presentation of artistic and cultural events; however more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary area of interests include: comedy (improv, sketch, and stand-up), music, musical theatre, and theatre.

DEMOGRAPHICS

There are approximately 3705⁵ English speakers in the region which comprises 0.9% of the total population.

⁴ Source: QUESCAN, 2006 Census of Canada

According to Megantic English-Speaking Community Development Corporation 25% of the population is between the ages of 0-20, 40% is between the ages of 20-55, and 35% is 55 and over.

CÔTE-NORD

In the Côte-Nord region we contacted a total of fifteen organizations. We had a number of primary contacts in the region; notably the Coasters' Association, North Shore Community Association, and Ana Osborne at the CLC Netagamiou.

Of the fifteen organizations we contacted eight have joined the network (six presenters and two rental venues), two are still pending, and five have not yet replied.

NAME	DESCRIPTION
PRESENTERS	
Coasters' Association	Community Association
CLC Baie Comeau	Community Learning Centre
CLC Netagamiou	Community Learning Centre
CLC St. Paul's River	Community Learning Centre
Netagamiou School	School
North Shore Community Association	Community Association
RENTAL VENUES	
Rowsell House Interpretation Centre	Heritage Centre
St. Paul's School	School

The **Coasters' Association** is a great supporter of this initiative and has joined the network as a presenter. However, they have not yet completed the questionnaire regarding their experience and which events interest them. As such, the information is not yet available.

The **CLC Baie Comeau** is a sometime presenter focusing on school events. They present several events during the school year but no specific number was supplied. They have experience in presenting local arts events only as school events, but they do have experience in presenting events and artists from outside their community. Each project has its own specific budget; however more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary interests include: comedy (improv, sketch, and stand-up), musical theatre, theatre for young audiences and workshops in theatre, dance, music, and spoken word.

The **CLC Netagamiou** is an active presenter with multiple events per year. A specific number was not supplied. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. Their budgets are based on grants and local partnerships. More information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them. They suggested a guide or document covering everything from A to Z about how to plan, implement and evaluate hosted events.

They are very open and interested in all the artistic disciplines, specifically: comedy (improv, sketch, stand-up), dance, independent film, music, musical theatre, summer theatre, spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry), theatre, theatre for young audiences, variety, visual arts and workshops in all of the above. They are also interested in promoting/preserving heritage through the arts, culinary arts, traditional

⁵ Source: QUESCAN, 2006 Census of Canada

and intercultural crafts, customs, and arts, creative writing, film, photography, digital arts and arts based conferences & trade shows.

Ana Osborne, the Development Officer at CLC Netagamiou also organizes the *Chevery Festival of the Arts, Conference and Trade Show*, a biennial arts and trade festival. This festival could be a potential presenter in the near future.

The **CLC St. Paul's River** is an active presenter with 6 events per year. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events; however more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

They are also very open and interested in all the artistic disciplines, specifically: comedy (improv, sketch, stand-up), dance, independent film, music, musical theatre, summer theatre, spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry), theatre, theatre for young audiences, variety, visual arts and workshops in all of the above. Their main struggle is with finding instructors to teach arts based courses.

The **Netagamiou School** is a supporter of this initiative and has joined the network as a presenter. However, they did not complete the questionnaire regarding their experience and which events interest them. They stated they are open to interesting projects and presentations. As such detailed information is not available.

The **North Shore Community Association** is a sometime presenter with approximately 2 events per year. They have experience presenting local arts events but only with local schools and they have experience presenting events from outside their community in partnership with the local school board. They have a small budget for the presentation of artistic events and more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary interests include theatre for young audiences and variety shows.

The **Rowell House Interpretation Centre** is a heritage centre with a room available for rent. They usually rent to 2-3 events per year. The room can seat up to 25 seats. It is not equipped with professional electrical, lighting, or sound equipment. They prefer to rent for plays, musical presentations, dance performances, spoken word or storytelling, workshops or a lecture by an artist, author or guest speaker.

St. Paul's School is a local school with a gymnasium available for rent. They usually rent to 4-5 events per year. The room can seat up to 200 seats. It is not equipped with professional electrical lighting, but does have a small sound system. They prefer to rent for musical theatre, theatre, local heritage plays and lecturers.

DEMOGRAPHICS

There are approximately 5630⁶ English speakers in the region which comprises 5.9% of the total population.

According to the organizations we contacted, the Baie Comeau area has a population of approximately 26 000 with about 300-315 English speakers. Surrounding towns and communities are comprised of approximately 300-600 people each. According to the North Shore Community Association there are 315 English-speakers residing in the Baie Comeau area, 910 English-speakers residing in the Sept-Iles area, and 165 English-speakers residing in the Port-Cartier area.

⁶ Source: QUESCAN, 2006 Census of Canada

Affordable transportation is a key consideration for the touring of artistic events and artists to and from the Lower North Shore. Plane travel is the most efficient, yet most expensive form of travel to and from the area. Some communities also do not have roads and ATVs (or snowmobiles in the winter) or ferry travel is necessary. These are all important factors for consideration when touring of arts and cultural events to this region.

ESTRIE

In the Estrie region we contacted a total of twenty-six organizations. Our primary contact in the region was the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network who provided the majority of our contacts.

Of the 26 organizations we contacted, ten joined the network (six presenters and four rental venues), nine are still pending, for three the network is not applicable to them, one has not replied and one declined.

NAME	DESCRIPTION
PRESENTERS	
CLC Eaton Valley	Community Learning Centre
Compton County Historical Museum Society	Historical Society
Municipality of Potton, Cultural Committee	Municipality
Piggery Theatre	Performance Hall
Richmond County Historical Society	Historical Society
Ulverton Coffeehouse	Cafe
RENTAL VENUES	
Bury United Cultural Centre	Cultural Centre
Centre Communautaire de Brookbury	Community Centre
Haskell Opera House	Theatre and Performance Hall
Unitarian Universalist Church in North Hatley	Church

The **CLC Eaton Valley** is a sometime presenter with a varied annual schedule. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They do not have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events and so more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them. They often present courses and video conferences throughout the year with a break for July and August.

Their primary interests include: summer theatre, spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry), theatre for young audiences, and workshops in music and dance.

The **Compton County Historical Museum Society** is a fairly active presenter with approximately 8 events annually. They have experience in presenting local arts events; however do not have experience in bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They do not have a specific budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events and thus more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary interests include: music, musical theatre, spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry), theatre, theatre for young audiences and variety shows. They state they have a specific interest in staging a play as a fundraiser and in dramatic presentations focusing on local history.

The **Municipality of Potton, Cultural Committee** is an active presenter on the municipal level. They present 6-8 events per year and have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in

events and artists from outside their community. They have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events.

Their primary interests include: comedy (improv, stand-up), dance, independent film, music, musical theatre, summer theatre, spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry), theatre, theatre for young audiences, visual arts, and workshops in theatre, dance, music and spoken word.

The **Piggery Theatre** is primarily a summer venue and active presenter with 16-20 events per year. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. The venue is equipped with professional lighting and somewhat reasonable sound systems, as it was a professional summer theatre venue for many years. They have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events; however more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary areas of interest include: comedy (stand-up), music, musical theatre, theatre, theatre for young audiences, and variety shows. Their focus is on the promotion of local and professional talent.

The **Richmond County Historical Society** is a sometime active presenter with 4-6 events per year. They have experience in presenting local arts events and will be presenting a non-local artist for the first time in 2010 – an English language music event from Ontario. They do not have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events and thus more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary areas of interest include: comedy (sketch), music, theatre, visual arts, and workshops in spoken word.

The **Ulverton Coffeehouse** is a sometime active presenter with 4-6 events per year. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They do not have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events; and thus more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

The primary areas of interest include: comedy (improv, sketch, stand-up), music, summer theatre, theatre for young audiences, and workshops in theatre.

The **Bury United Cultural Centre** is a cultural centre with an old church and chapel available for rent. They rent to approximately 10 events per year. The old church can seat up to 140 and the chapel can seat up to 70. Neither space is equipped with professional electrical, lighting, or sound equipment. They prefer to rent for coffee houses, art displays, parties, and music.

The **Centre Communautaire de Brookbury** is a community centre with a large hall available for rent. The hall can seat up to 80 people. It is not equipped with professional electrical, lighting, or sound equipment. They prefer to rent for dance, music, comedy, and workshops.

The **Haskell Opera House** is an old opera house with a full proscenium theatre available for rent. They usually rent to approximately 60 events per year. The theatre can seat up to 400 people. They are currently upgrading their professional electrical and lighting systems. They are not equipped with professional sound equipment. They prefer to rent for lectures, musicals, operas, theatre, workshops, debates, master classes, comedy, music, symphonies and ballet. The Haskell Opera House straddles the Canadian and American border between Quebec and Vermont.

The **Unitarian Universalist Church in North Hatley** is a church with a sanctuary available for rent. They rent to 6-10 events per year. The sanctuary can seat up to 150 people. It is not equipped with

professional electrical, lighting, or sound equipment. They prefer to rent for musicals, theatre, dance, spoken word, workshops, and lectures.

DEMOGRAPHICS

There are approximately 23 580⁷ English speakers in the region which comprises 7.7% of the total population.

According to the organizations we contacted the population is an aging one with few resources and access to cultural events and opportunities for youth in the area. Populations are often rural and often bilingual.

GASPÉSIE-ÎLES-DE-LA-MADELEINE

In the region we contacted a total of twenty-five organizations. Our primary contacts in the region included CAMI (Council for Anglophone Magdalen Islanders), CASA (Committee for Anglophone Social Action), CEDEC Gaspesian and CEDEC Magdalen Islands who provided a large number of contacts. The project co-ordinator at QDF was also invited to attend and speak at the Gaspesian Regional Heritage Summit in March 2010 by CASA. This opportunity of being able to speak face-to-face with a large group actively involved in the arts and culture of the community contributed substantially to the number of responses and the contacts made in the region.

Of the 25 organizations we contacted eleven joined the network (six presenters and four rental venues), nine are still pending, for three the network is not applicable to them, one has not replied and one declined.

NAME	DESCRIPTION
PRESENTERS	
CAMI - Council For Anglophone Magdalen Islanders	Community Association
CASA - Committee for Anglophone Social Action	Community Association
Douglastown Irish Week	Heritage Festival
Family Ties New Carlisle	Community Association
Restigouche 1760 Inc (Festival du Patrimoine)	Heritage Festival
Shigawake Music Festival/ Bonaventure Agricultural Society Div. "A"	Music Festival and Agricultural Fair
PRESENTER & RENTAL VENUES	
Salle de spectacles régionale Desjardins de New Richmond	Presenter and Performance Hall
RENTAL VENUES	
Britville	Heritage Village
Douglas Community Centre	Community Centre
Grosse-Île Municipal Community Centre	Community Centre
Holy Trinity Family Centre	Community Centre

The **Council for Anglophone Magdalen Islanders** is an active presenter with 4 events per year (Canada Day, Remembrance Day, Community Day and Geordie Productions). They have experience in presenting local arts events; their only experience with presenting events and artists from outside their community is with Geordie Productions. They have a limited budget for the presentation of artistic and

⁷ Source: QUESCAN, 2006 Census of Canada

cultural events, but only for the annual presentation by Geordie Productions. More information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary interests include: comedy (improv, sketch, stand-up), dance, music, musical theatre, theatre for young audiences, and workshops (theatre, dance, music, spoken word).

The **Committee for Anglophone Social Action** is a sometime presenter with approximately 10 events per year. Their events comprise 3-4 conferences annually, 6+ workshops per year, and various artistic events (however, their last artistic event was in 2007). They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They do not have a specific budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events; and thus more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary interests include: musical theatre, summer theatre, theatre for young audiences, and workshops (theatre, dance, music, and spoken word).

The **Douglastown Irish Week** is a small presenter with one event per year with a focus on promoting Irish culture. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events; however more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary interests include: dance, music, spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry), and workshops in theatre, dance, and spoken word.

Family Ties New Carlisle is a sometime presenter with approximately 7 events per year. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They occasionally have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events and more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary interests include: comedy (improv, sketch, stand-up), dance, music, spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry), theatre for young audiences, variety, visual arts and workshops (theatre, dance, music, spoken word).

The **Restigouche 1760 Inc (Festival du Patrimoine)** is a small presenter with one event per year – an annual heritage festival in July celebrating the history of the 1760 The Battle of the Restigouche in the Chaleur Bay region. They do not have experience in presenting local arts events or with bringing in events and artists from outside their community. However, they do have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events. Artists are invited to perform under their 100 x 60 tents. Most of their budget is dedicated to local artists, however, a portion dedicated to non-local performers. More information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary interests include: dance, music, musical theatre, spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry), and theatre.

The **Shigawake Music Festival/ Bonaventure Agricultural Society Div. "A"** is a small presenter with one event per year – an annual agricultural fair and music festival in August. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events; however more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary interests include: comedy (improv, sketch, stand-up), dance, music, musical theatre, spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry), theatre, theatre for young audiences, variety and workshops (theatre, dance, music, spoken word).

The **Salle de spectacles régionale Desjardins de New Richmond** is an active and major presenter in the region with a mandate to present artistic works and approximately 40 events per year. They are members of the RIDEAU and ROSEQ presenter networks in Quebec. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events; however more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary interests include: comedy (improv, sketch, stand-up), dance, music, musical theatre, spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry), theatre, theatre for young audiences, and variety.

They also have a proscenium theatre available for rent which seats up to 660 people. The space is fully equipped with professional stage, electrical, lighting, and sound systems.

Britville is a Gaspesian British Heritage Village with three venues available for rent. The Barn is a large barn closed only on 3 sides which seats up to 200 with about 10 events per year; the Gazebo is a sitting room, closed on all four sides, and seating up to 75 and with about 8-10 events per year; the Glendron Salon is a small sitting room seating up to 50 with 15-20 events per year. The Barn and Gazebo are available for rent between June and October, but the Salon is available year-round. They do not have a preference and welcome all types of events; however the Salon is best for smaller events such as musical events and storytelling. All three spaces are equipped with electrical, sound, and lighting systems.

The **Douglas Community Centre** has a gymnasium, conference room, living room, and cafeteria available for rent. They usually rent to over 50 events per year. The gymnasium seats up to 200, the conference room seats up to 40, the living rooms seats up to 15, and the cafeteria seats up to 40. They are not equipped with professional electrical, lighting, or sound systems. They are open to any types of events.

The **Grosse-Île Municipal Community Centre** is a community centre with a large hall available for rental. The hall can seat up to 250 people. It is not equipped with professional electrical, lighting, or sound systems. They prefer to rent to musicians, theatre, and artisans, and have a strong interest in events at support tourism development (e.g. arts & craft sales) as well as lecture series on health, high school programs and career options.

The **Holy Trinity Family Centre** is community centre with a church hall available for rental. The hall can seat up to 125 people. It is not equipped with professional electrical, lighting, or sound systems. They do not have a preference and are open to a variety of events.

DEMOGRAPHICS

There are approximately 9505⁸ English speakers in the region which comprises 9.9% of the total population.

According to CASA and other contacted organizations the majority of the English speaking population live in small rural coastal communities (usually with populations less than 1000) and rarely takes advantage of French language cultural shows or theatrical events in the region. The most popular events attended by

⁸ Source: QUESCAN, 2006 Census of Canada

English speaking audiences include Christmas pageants, church concerts and holiday gatherings and events (e.g. St. Patrick's Day, Easter, autumn festivals, and Canada Day).

The population is an aging one and most often aged 35 or older, however a small resurgence of youth is being experienced.

The area also contains a Mi'gmaq community of 2500-4000. The First Nations communities are almost all English Speakers.

According to the organizations we contacted the English speaking population on the Magdalen Islands is approximately 830 with 2 English language schools and the population of the Grosse-Île island chain is approximately 5% English speaking.

LANAUDIERE

We contacted three organizations in the Lanaudiere region. Two joined the network as presenters and one is still pending.

NAME	DESCRIPTION
PRESENTERS	
Joliette Elementary School	School
Pinewood Elementary School	School

The **Joliette Elementary School** is a small sometime presenter with one event per year. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They do not have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events.

Their primary interests include: comedy (improv, sketch), dance, independent film, music, musical theatre, spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry), theatre for young audiences, variety, visual arts, and workshops (theatre, dance, music, spoken word).

The **Pinewood Elementary School** is a small sometime presenter with 1-2 events per year. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events; however more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary interests include: dance, music, musical theatre, spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry), theatre for young audiences, and visual arts.

DEMOGRAPHICS

There are approximately 10 115⁹ English speakers in the region which comprises 2.3% of the total population.

LAURENTIDES

We contacted a total of five organizations in the Laurentides region. One organization joined as a presenter, three others are still pending and one has not replied.

⁹ Source: QUESCAN, 2006 Census of Canada

NAME	DESCRIPTION
PRESENTERS	
Laurentian Regional High School	School

The **Laurentian Regional High School** is a sometime presenter with approximately 3 events per year. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They do not have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events and thus more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

They are particularly interested in more information on presenting due to the small size and distance from Montreal. They are often unable to travel to Montreal for performances and events due to travel time and cost and are currently unable afford the cost of artist fees due to the demographic makeup of their community.

Their primary areas of interest include: comedy (improv), dance, musical theatre, summer theatre, theatre and workshops (theatre, dance, music, spoken word).

DEMOGRAPHICS

There are approximately 33 175¹⁰ English speakers in the region which comprises 6.4% of the total population.

According to the organizations the local population tends to be in the low to medium income bracket and they have difficulty charging over \$10 per person per event which limits their ability to host artists or companies from outside the region since they do not have a budget for arts presentation.

LAVAL

We contacted two organizations in the Laval region. One has joined the network and one is still pending. There may be room for expansion and further research in this particular region, however due to its proximity to Montreal there may not be many presenters.

NAME	DESCRIPTION
PRESENTERS	
Jules Verne Elementary School	School

The **Jules Verne Elementary School** is a small sometime presenter with 2 events per year. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They do not have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events and thus more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary areas of interest include: music, musical theatre, theatre for young audiences, visual arts and workshops (theatre, dance, music, spoken word).

DEMOGRAPHICS

There are approximately 68 460¹¹ English speakers in the region which comprises 18.2% of the total population.

¹⁰ Source: QUESCAN, 2006 Census of Canada

¹¹ Source: QUESCAN, 2006 Census of Canada

The population Jules Verne Elementary School services tend to be in a lower income bracket.

MAURICE

We contacted one organization in Maurice, the CLC La Tuque. They have not yet replied.

MONTÉRÉGIE

We contacted a total of twenty-nine organizations in the Montérégie region. Our primary contact who provided the greatest number of other potential contacts was the CEDEC South-West Quebec.

Of the 29 organizations we contacted 12 have joined the network (seven as presenters, three as both presenters and rental venues, and two as only rental venues), 12 more are still pending, the project was not applicable to two, and three have not replied.

NAME	DESCRIPTION
PRESENTERS	
Avalon Singers	Concert Presenter
Avante Women's Centre	Community Centre
CLC - Mountainview	Community Learning Centre
CLC - St. Lambert	Community Learning Centre
Missisquoi Historical Society and Museum	Historical Society and Museum
Vergers McMillan Orchards	Music Festival
Wolf Furey Productions	Non-profit Presenter
PRESENTER & RENTAL VENUES	
CLC - St. Willibrord	Community Learning Centre
Expo Ormstown/Ormstown Fairgrounds	Expo and Fair
Société du Musée du Grand Châteauguay Maison LePailleur	Historical Society and Museum
RENTAL VENUES	
Battle of Chateauguay Museum, The	Museum
Café Namasthé	Cafe

The **Avalon Singers** is a small, active specialized presenter with two concerts annually. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events; however more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them. Their only interest is in music.

The **Avante Women's Centre** is community centre with a mandate to provide information and services to the English speaking women of Brome -Missisquoi and promote social interaction as a means to combat rural isolation. Their events vary year to year and do not have experience in presenting local arts events or in bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They do not have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events and thus more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them. They are, however, eager to host more events for their membership.

Their primary areas of interest include: comedy (improv, sketch, stand-up), independent film, musical theatre, and workshops in theatre. They have a particular interest in topics which increase awareness of issues, workshops that promote personal potential, entertainment in English geared towards women.

The **CLC Mountainview** is a community learning centre interested in presenting more artistic and cultural events for their community, however they have a number of challenges. The number of events at the CLC varies each year, though they do have one performance in English and one in French for the students each year. They do not have experience in presenting local arts events or in bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They do not have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural works and at the moment even if resources on presenting and funding were available they are not equipped to actively search it out and would need a community partner able to take on these duties. Currently the coordinator of this CLC is also the coordinator of CLC St. Lambert.

Their primary areas of interest include: dance, musical theatre, and theatre for young audiences.

The **CLC St. Lambert** is also a community learning centre interested in presenting artistic and cultural events for their community. The number of events varies each year and they have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community, specifically Geordie Productions (theatre for young audiences). They do not have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural works and at the moment even if resources on presenting and funding were available they are not equipped to actively search it out and would need a community partner able to take on these duties. Currently the coordinator of this CLC is also the coordinator of CLC Mountainview.

Their primary area of interest is in theatre for young audiences.

The **Missisquoi Historical Society and Museum** is a historical society and museum presenting one art exhibit per year. They have some experience in presenting local artists and have partnered in the past with the Stanbridge East Carrefour Culturel to present musical presentations as well as art exhibits in the community. They do not have experience presenting artists and events from outside their community. They do not have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events and thus more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary area of interest is in spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry) and workshops on spoken word.

The **Vergers McMillan Orchards** is an active non-profit presenter with approximately 7 events per year. They host the Apple Hollow Music Fest annually and Apple Hollow Music Nite Coffee House six times per year. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events through fundraising and sponsorship; however more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary areas of interest include: comedy (improv, sketch, stand-up), music, and musical theatre.

Wolf Furey Productions is an active presenter with approximately 10 events per year. They have been active for the past four years. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They do not have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events and thus more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary interest is in music and theatre. They present mostly music concerts in many different styles (e.g. Folk, Country, Gospel, Bluegrass Chamber, etc) and in the past have presented plays.

The **CLC St. Willibrord** is a community learning centre with a varying number of events per year. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their

community. They do not have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events and thus more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary interests (in order of interest) include: theatre for young audiences, summer theatre, dance, music, musical theatre, comedy (improv, stand-up), theatre, and variety.

The CLC also has a gymnasium available for rental which seats up to 200 people. It is not equipped with professional electrical, lighting, or sound systems and equipment, however they do have speakers. They prefer to rent for theatre, comedy, or workshops.

The **Expo Ormstown/Ormstown Fairgrounds** is an agricultural exhibition which presents a variety of entertainment events during the fair, thus they have one event per year, but the grounds are open from May to mid-October for rentals. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events; however more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary interests include: comedy (improv, sketch, stand-up), music, theatre for young audiences, and variety shows. In the past they have presented live bands, motor-sports, acrobats, magicians, and buskers. They place an emphasis on family-style entertainment.

The Ormstown Fairgrounds also have four spaces available for rent. The number of events in each location varies each year. None of the spaces are heated. The Industrial Building seats up to 400 and is equipped with a professional electrical system and spotlights only. There is no sound system currently in place. The Grandstand seats up to 500; it is not equipped with professional electrical, lighting, or sound equipment, but electrical and lighting can be arranged. The Arena seats up to 2000; it is not equipped with professional electrical, lighting, or sound equipment, but electrical and lighting can be arranged. The Dining Hall is set up in a coffee-house style and seats up to 100; it is not equipped with professional electrical, lighting, or sound equipment, but electrical and lighting can be arranged.

The **Société du Musée du Grand Châteauguay Maison LePailleur** is a historical society and museum specializing in 19th Century Quebecois History. They present 4 events per year. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They do not have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events and thus more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary interests include: comedy (improv, sketch, stand-up), independent film, summer theatre, spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry), visual arts, and workshops (music or spoken word). They regularly host exhibitions and music events.

They also have a small hall available for rental. They usually rent out to 4-5 events per year. The hall can seat up to 45 people and is not equipped with professional electrical, lighting, or sound systems. They prefer to rent for workshops, conferences, and small performances.

The **Battle of Chateauguay Museum** is a museum with an amphitheatre available for rental. The amphitheatre can seat up to 100. They usually rent to 5-10 events per year. The space is equipped with professional lighting and sound systems. They prefer to rent to concerts, conferences, and meetings.

Café Namasthé is a small cafe with a stage and seating for 40 available for rental. They usually have approximately 52 events per year. The stage can only hold up to 5 people at a time; they are not equipped with professional electrical or lighting system and have a basic sound system which fits their venue. They prefer to rent for music, interactive, stand-up, and improv events. Friday nights are designated music nights.

DEMOGRAPHICS

There are approximately 143 645¹² English speakers in the region which comprises 10.4% of the total population.

According to the organizations we contacted the population is often an aging one with Baby Boomers and retirees making up the majority in rural communities. In many of the communities English speakers comprise between 20-35% of the population.

The populations located in the South Shore and Châteauguay areas tend to be bilingual, though at times for the aging population travel is an issue and thus they are unable or unwilling to travel to Montreal for English language events.

OUTAOUAIS

In the Outaouais region we contacted a total of seventeen organizations. The majority of our contacts were supplied to us by the CEDEC Outaouais and by the Regional Association of West Quebecers.

Of the 17 organizations we contacted 7 have joined the networks (four as presenters, two as both presenters and rental venues, and one as only a rental venue), four are still pending, to three organizations our project is not applicable, and three have not yet replied.

NAME	DESCRIPTION
PRESENTERS	
Aras du Pontiac - Association of Performers	Arts Association
CLD du Pontiac	Local Development Centre - Municipal
Fairbairn House Heritage Centre	Heritage Centre
Regional Association of West Quebecers	Community Association
PRESENTER & RENTAL VENUES	
Theatre Wakefield	Theatre and Performance Hall
Venturing Hills Farm - Festival Pontiac Enchanté	Music Festival
RENTAL VENUES	
Symmes Jr. High/ D'Arcy McGee High School	School

The **Aras du Pontiac - Association of Performers** is a new, yet active presenter with approximately 4 events per year. The association was formed in 2009. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They have a small budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events; however more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them. Their mandate is to support and promote emerging artists in the Pontiac region by giving them the opportunity to work and perform with experienced artists.

Their primary areas of interest (in order) include: dance, music, musical theatre, spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry), theatre for young audiences, theatre, and comedy (improv, sketch, stand-up). They are also interested in circus arts, clown, and magic events. This year they will present a puppet show from Gatineau.

The **CLD du Pontiac** is a Local Municipal Development Centre and presenter. They present approximately 10 events per year. Last year they presented 2 performances (1 concert and 1 comedian, 6 outdoor cinema events, and 9 storytelling events). They have experience in presenting local arts

¹² Source: QUESCAN, 2006 Census of Canada

events but not in bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events; however more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary areas of interest include: comedy (sketch), dance, music, musical theatre, summer theatre, spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry), and variety shows.

The **Fairbairn House Heritage Centre** is a project currently under renovation and construction. The renovation work has just begun on a 1850s house to turn it into a Heritage Centre. They would like to be a presenter in the future once renovations are complete. They do not have experience in presenting local arts events or in bringing in events and artists from outside their community. At this time they do not have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events and thus more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them. Near the location there is a natural amphitheatre. They would be interested in outdoor events in the future.

The **Regional Association of West Quebecers** is a community association interested in becoming a presenter. They currently have one event per year – a community awards banquet. They are interested in further nurturing the arts and culture in the area. At this time they do not have experience in presenting local arts events or in bringing in events and artists from outside their community. Beyond operational funding they do not have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events and thus more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them in teaching how to mount projects of interest. It was mentioned there is a specific lack of dance in the area due to a lack of appropriate venues, or venues equipped for dance.

Theatre Wakefield is an umbrella organization that provides production services to initiate, promote, and support the development of community-based arts and culture. They present a number of events annually - 2 mainstage performances, 3-4 dramatic readings or cabarets, The Piggyback Fringe Festival, The Wakefield International Film Festival, Summer Film Camp, and Our Hidden Hills project (regional history animation). They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community specifically through the Piggyback Fringe Festival. They currently have a budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events on a per-project basis; however more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them. They can also contribute to such resources from a rural perspective.

Their primary areas of interest include: comedy (improv, sketch), dance, independent film, music, musical theatre, summer theatre, spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry), theatre, theatre for young audiences, variety shows, and workshops in theatre, dance, music, and spoken word. They are also very interested in animation projects focusing on local history.

Their focus is on the development of a community theatre organization and thus works actively with other networks such as the CLCs, ELAN, and QDF.

They also have a 200 seat auditorium which will be available for rental once construction is completed. The new performance venue will be housed in the soon-to-be-built Wakefield-La Pêche Community Centre. Construction of the Centre begins May 2010. Theatre Wakefield has just completed a strategic planning process to evaluate their work for the past six years and has prepared the ground for this next phase of development.

The **Venturing Hills Farm - Festival Pontiac Enchanté** is an active presenter and music festival focused on classical music. They have over 12 events per year – three weekends over the summer, Christmas, autumn and spring. They have experience in presenting local arts events as well as bringing in events and artists from outside their community. They have a budget for the presentation of artistic

and cultural events based solely around ticket sales; as such, more information on presenting and funding would be beneficial to them.

Their primary area of interest includes: music, summer theatre, spoken word (storytelling, readings, and poetry), and workshops in music or summer theatre.

They also have a loft barn available for rental. The loft is described as a very large living room. Space is ideally suited to small ensemble groups for classical music (which is what it was built for). It has also been used successfully for lecture/workshop events. It is located on an equestrian farm operation and often deals with many equestrian based events. The loft can seat up to 100. It is not equipped with professional electrical, lighting, or sound equipment, however a piano is available.

Symmes Jr. High/ D'Arcy McGee High School has an auditorium available for rental outside of school hours. The auditorium can seat up to 200 and is fully equipped with professional electrical, lighting, and sound equipment. They are open to all types of events and house approximately 8-10 events per year.

DEMOGRAPHICS

There are approximately 58 720¹³ English speakers in the region which comprises 16.9% of the total population.

According to the organizations we contacted the region of Pontiac in Outaouais is strongly Anglophone and there are a variety of communities that are predominantly English speaking such as the areas of Shawville and in the surrounding Wakefield area approximately 60% of the population is English speaking. There is also an influx of older, educated, and established English speakers in the Pontiac area as well as many artists. The area is very close in proximity to Ottawa and thus home to many government workers or retirees.

SUMMARY

The overall response received surrounding the creation of a Touring Network serving the English Speaking Community of Quebec was extremely positive. There exists a need not only for improved access to English-language artistic and cultural events in the regions of Quebec, but also for communication amongst the various organizations and associations servicing the artistic and cultural needs of the English Speaking Community of Quebec.

A total of 46 organizations have joined the Touring Network as presenters (this includes those who are both presenters and rental venues). Of these 46 the majority have experience in presenting both local and non-local artistic events – 38 or 83% have presented locally before and 34 or 74% have presented artists or events from outside their community. However, only 23 or 50% have a budget dedicated to the presentation of artistic events. Of those 23, almost a quarter (5) has a limited budget that is already allocated to a particular event (e.g. Geordie Productions). The remaining organizations do not have a budget at all, rely on ticket sales, or submit grant applications on a per project basis. Almost all, 89% agreed that resources on presenting and fundraising would be beneficial to their organization. Specifically requests were made for a guide or document that could help organizations in mounting projects, planning and implementing, how to evaluate artistic presentations, and also focusing on the rural perspective and the rural presenter.

A total of 24 organizations have joined the Network as rental venues (this includes those who are both presenters and rental venues) which represents 30 spaces. However, only 33% of the venues have the

¹³ Source: QUESCAN, 2006 Census of Canada

electrical, lighting, and sound infrastructure and equipment necessary for most performing arts events. The remaining facilities have basic electrical (110v outlets) and lighting (overhead lighting – fluorescents or incandescent) infrastructure and no sound equipment. As well, only 9 of the 30 (30%) are equipped with a stage. The infrastructure currently available will limit the types of artistic events a facility or community is able to host.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In preparing for the Touring Network Project, the regional presenter's associations in the rest of Canada were contacted. Each association has been remarkably helpful and generous with the information they have shared with us and are supportive of our efforts to create a Touring Network servicing English-speaking Quebec. In particular the *Alberta Arts Touring Alliance* put us in touch with Jerry Yoshitomi, an independent cultural facilitator/consultant who had recently led a workshop on network building with the Regional Presenting Networks. Mr. Yoshitomi graciously donated his time for a presentation on network building. The information received from this meeting and further communications has informed the recommendations being made in this report.

At this time it is recommended that the project continue through a series of phases. In the second phase, the recommendation is made to identify Montreal-area presenters and rental venues for all artistic genres that would be interested in joining the Network and are committed to the promotion of Quebec English-language artists. The third phase would be to identify tour-ready, high-calibre English-language artists across the province. Across the country, artists who are promoted through the regional presenter's networks have been selected by a jury of presenters from that particular network. This is a key step in ensuring we, both presenters and artists, are working together to meet the highest professional standards. The fourth phase recommended is the development of an online database and catalogue to which artists apply and presenters can access, to help match up artists with the needs of the presenters.

ORGANIZATION

The recommendation is made that the ideal organizational arrangement for this Touring Network is with a Multi-Hub Small World Network¹⁴ (see figure 1) which consists of a Leader and multiple hubs in the regions. At this time, QDF would take on the role of the Leader and the hope is that the regional associations who have expressed an interest and joined the network will take on the role of the hub in their respective regions.

Two key components to the successful creation of a fully operational Touring Network are first, that momentum is not lost. A recommended timeline is that the Network is in place and running in time for the 2012-2013 season. This leaves another year and a half for the completion of the beginning phases of the project. The second component is funding. Without continued funding this project may find itself at a standstill, as all the organizations are pressed for resources both human and financial.

Full use of all available resources is crucial to this project and as such QDF, QCGN, PCH, QWF, QAHN, and ELAN need to work in partnership to see the successful implementation of this project.

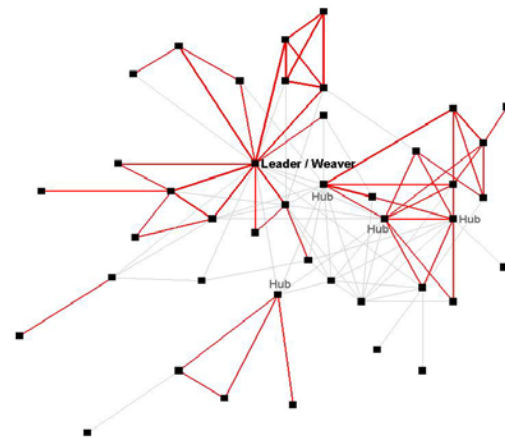


Figure 1: Multi-Hub Small World Network

¹⁴ Building Smart Communities through Network Weaving, 2006 - Valdis Krebs and June Holley

Involvement on a provincial scale is highly recommended as it provides the ability to learn from the other presenter's networks in the province such as *Réseau scènes* (serving multi-disciplinary presenters in Quebec), *ROSEQ* (serving Eastern Quebec), *Réseau Centre* (serving presenters in the Eastern Townships, Maurice, Centre-du-Québec, Chaudière-Appalaches and the Capitale-Nationale regions) and *RIDEAU* (servicing all of Quebec). It is commonplace for a presenter to be a member of more than one network and thus, because we are filling a niche for English-language arts, we would not be in competition with the other networks, and hence should strive to work with them.

Involvement on a national scale is also highly recommended. This requires communication and working in partnership with existing regional presenters networks. They were very supportive of our initiative and can serve as useful resources in the future.

MEMBERSHIP

The recommendation is not to actively seek out more members in the regions, but rather to develop the second and third phases of the project. A smaller, active membership would be more beneficial than a large non-active one. As the project continues forward, it is expected that we will lose some members who joined at the beginning as they see that the network is not what they envisaged. However, we will also gain new members who will see the benefit of the network once it is up and running.

Ideally our membership will be comprised of the following:

- Coordinator (Leader) & Core Group (Hubs)
- Active Group
- Occasional Group
- Peripheral Lurkers/Alumni/Beginners

The recommendation is also to resist the urge to separate large centres and smaller local and/or rural presenters. The goal should be communication and interaction between members so they may learn from each other, thus strengthening the network.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

There is a need for professional development amongst our members (presenters and rental facilities that have joined the network). Though many have experience in presenting both local and non-local artistic events, half of them do not have the budget for the presentation of artistic and cultural events. Access to resources on presenting, especially in rural locales, and funding to our members is crucial for the successful implementation of this project.

Recommendations include province-wide workshops (perhaps through the VCN Network) on presenting, including topics such as planning and implementation, budgeting, funding, artist fees, negotiation, and contracts. A province-wide conference would also be beneficial as it would allow our members to meet each other face-to-face and actively exchange ideas. A manual is also recommended, however it does not preclude workshops or a conference. The goal is to encourage active participation between members. Funding would be necessary for all three of these initiatives – manual, workshops, and a province-wide conference with members.

Information on access to funding options is key for our presenters. Due to the isolated geography of many of the English Speaking Communities in Quebec it is not financially feasible for artists to travel and tour to these areas, nor can presenters at this time afford to cover the costs of travel. Increased funding for regional and rural presenters is needed.

DATABASE & LISTINGS

It is recommended that the Touring Project works towards the publication of either an online database or listing of both artists and presenters. The artist listings would include summaries of companies/artists, summary of the show/performance/exhibit available, artist fees, technical requirements, availability, educational options (workshops etc.), and target audience. The presenter and rental listings would include contact information and technical information regarding rental facilities. These listings should be made available in the fall for the following season (e.g. listings available in October 2011 for the season beginning September 2012 [or June 2012 for summer events]. Artists would apply to the network at the beginning of the summer (e.g. May 2011 for inclusion in the October 2011 listings). An option to print the listings as a roster should be available and printed versions also available for those rural presenters with limited internet access.

CONCLUSION

For the Touring Network to endure, it needs to be an ongoing project and initiative where communication between members and artists is consistent and active.

Once the Touring Network is operational, the recommendation is that it works toward becoming its own association with its own Board of Directors, staff, and mandate to enhance and promote the dissemination of English-language artistic creation throughout the English communities of Quebec. At that time, opportunities may exist where the network can become a member of RIDEAU as a smaller network dedicated to the development, touring, and presentation of professional English-language arts within the province of Quebec.

The work on this project has clearly identified the needs and challenges faced by the regional areas of the Province and has also given the QDF the opportunity to interact with different members of the community who were not aware of what the QDF does or what it can do to help the communities achieve their goals in relation to Arts Culture and Heritage.

Overall, it is clear to us the direction that needs to be followed for the future, and therefore, Phase Two of this project will help us to increase the listings and participants, and will eventually include communities within the Francophone milieu who wish access to English Language Arts and Culture, as there are already strong indications that this is desirable in several areas. This second phase also responds directly to the ACHFP goals and strategies, It will also provide the QDF with the opportunity to further refine the methodologies and requirements of setting up a network itself, and how it will efficiently relate to the existing conditions, not only in Quebec, but in the rest of Canada, Such connections would allow artists within Quebec at all levels to be able to be more recognised outside this province resulting in more exposure across the country through touring and exchanges with artists and companies or organizations. This, on its own, is a major step forward in increasing the awareness of the talents and capacities of the English Speaking Artists in Quebec to the rest of Canada.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Continuation of Project through a Series of Phases

1. Phase 2: Identify Montreal-area presenters and rental venues for all artistic genres that are committed to the promotion of Quebec English-language artists.
2. Phase 3: Identify tour-ready high-calibre English-language artists across the province.
3. Phase 4: Development of an online database and catalogue/roster.

Organization

1. A multi-hub small world network organizational structure with a *leader* and various *hubs* in each region.
2. Maintained momentum of the project
3. Funding for the continuation of the project
4. Ongoing partnership between QDF, QCGN, PCH, QWF, QAHN, and ELAN.

Membership

1. Do not actively seek out more members from the regions at this time, but pursue phases 2 and 3 of the project.
2. Membership consisting of:
 - a. Coordinator (Leader) [QDF] & Core Group (Hubs)
 - b. Active Group
 - c. Occasional Group
 - d. Peripheral Lurkers/Alumni/Beginners
3. Promotion of active communication and interaction between member presenters and venues.

Professional Development

1. Creation and publication of a touring and presenting manual
2. Interactive workshops for presenters and venues
3. Province-wide conference for presenters and venues

Database & Listings

1. Creation and publication of an online database of presenters and venues
2. Creations and publication of an online and printable roster of artists and events available for touring

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

ACHFP – Arts, Culture, and Heritage Framework Policy

ACHAP - Arts, Culture, and Heritage Access Project

Atlantic Presenter's Association - the regional arts presenter's organization for the four Atlantic Provinces: Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. It is a leader in the presentation of the performing arts and promotes the development of performing arts touring in the Atlantic region.

Arts Touring Alliance of Alberta - a membership network comprised of artists, community presenters and agents

BC Touring Council - Established as a non-profit organization in 1976 to serve presenters and touring professional artists in British Columbia. Its goals are to expand touring opportunities, promote audience development and be an advocate for artists and presenters.

CAPACOA - Canadian Arts Presenting Association/l'Association canadienne des organismes artistiques - serves the performing arts touring and presenting community in providing leadership, knowledge, communications, skills development and advocacy on behalf of its members and within the arts presenting community.

CEDEC - Community Economic Development and Employability Corporation - Is one of two distinct and equal partners that make up the National Human Resources Development Committee for the English Linguistic Minority (National Committee. With 12 offices across the province they openly discuss current human resources development and economic challenges facing Quebec's English-speaking community (ESC).

CLC – Community Learning Centre - Are schools, vocational and adult training centres that provide a range of services and activities, often beyond the school day, to help meet the needs of learners, their families, and the wider community.

ELAN – English Language Arts Network - A Quebec-wide network of English-speaking artists from all disciplines that builds bridges across disciplines and with Francophone colleagues, provides support services, and promotes communication and the sharing of expertise, ideas and resources.

ESCQ - English Speaking Community of Quebec

Geordie Productions: A professional theatre company that has been presenting live English theatre for young audiences since 1982. Geordie's school tour makes its way across Quebec, Ontario and New Brunswick, visiting schools, libraries and community centres. Geordie annually visits such communities as the Eastern Townships, the Lower North Shore, the Gaspé, the Magdalen Islands, the Abitibi, the Outaouais and James Bay.

GMCDI - Greater Montreal Community Development Initiative represents a group of community volunteers that wishes to engage and consult English-speaking Montrealers, community leaders, and local professionals on key issues affecting the English-speaking communities of the Greater Montreal Area.

Manitoba Arts Network – Is in its 25th year of operation as a provincial network of community arts organizations. Its mission is to foster arts and culture in rural and northern Manitoba and the programming and services are both promotional and developmental.

CCI - Ontario Presenter's Network – Community Cultural Impresarios – Ontario Presenter's Network - is an arts service organization that is membership-based (presenters, artists, artist reps, venues, consultants) and serves the arts presenting industry in Ontario.

OSAC - Organization of Saskatchewan Arts Councils - Acts as an umbrella for community arts councils and schools across the province.

PCH – Patrimoine Canada / Canadian Heritage

QAHN – Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network - A non-profit, non-partisan umbrella organization whose mission is to help advance knowledge of the history and culture of English-speaking society in Quebec.

QCGN – Quebec Community Groups Network - A not-for-profit organization bringing together 36 English-language community organizations across Quebec for the purposes of supporting and assisting the development and enhancing the vitality of the English-speaking minority communities.

QDF – Quebec Drama Federation - an umbrella organization for English-language theatre in Quebec.

QUESCAN - Quebec English-speaking Community Action Network

QWF – Quebec Writer's Federation

Regional Associations – there are 11 regional associations that are members of the QCGN who represent the community interests and needs of the regions they are located in.

RIDEAU - Réseau indépendant des diffuseurs d'événements artistiques unis. A provincial association of performing arts presenters in Quebec.

VCN – Video-conferencing Network

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: March 2009 Cover Letter and Questionnaire

Appendix 2: Presenters Questionnaire

Appendix 3: Rental Questionnaire

Appendix 4: Clarified Rental Questionnaire

Appendix 5: Touring Information Package

Appendix 6: Listing of All Contacted Organizations

Appendix 7: Detailed Listings of All Contacted Organizations (available in electronic format only from QDF)