

May 24, 2009  
ACTIVITY REPORT 2008-2009

PRESENTED TO THE GENERAL MEETING BY



**Grandparents' Association of Québec**

May 24, 2009

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## **Objectives of the project**

The Association des grands-parents du Québec (AGPQ) is a family rights organization. This community-based organization advocates on behalf of grandchildren so that they can maintain a quality relationship with their grandparents and extended family, and learn about their family origins. She is equally committed to defending the rights of seniors who are victims of abuse and exploitation of their loved ones.

## **Action Plan against Elder Abuse**

In the fall, with community partners, we will launch a pilot project to counter elder abuse. This project will cover the Beauport Borough. A project manager will be hired in the coming days. To achieve this, the Association received a grant of \$25,000 from Canadian Heritage and \$1500 from the Regroupement des organismes sociaux communautaires de Beauport. Over the past four years, the AGPQ has often found that grandchildren are used to abuse seniors. Words like these have been reported to us several times: "If you don't give me \$\$\$ x, you won't see the little ones anymore".



Me Luc Trudeau, AGPQ legal counsel and  
family and youth law lawyer

## **Adoption and grandparents**

In 2006, we said: "Our most important issue in the coming year will be the review of the Youth Protection Act. Many grandparents risk losing their right to see their grandchildren if the government responds to DYPs' requests for early adoptions of children whose parents are experiencing difficulties. In the event of adoption, biological grandparents no longer have any rights. Since Bill 125 is now in force, this issue is even more topical. That is why the AGPQ has intervened in several

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ways to advance our demands so that grandparents retain their rights, even in the event of adoption: press releases, participation in a conference, letter to the Minister of Justice, meeting with its political attaché, Me Christian Veillette, collaboration with partner organizations such as the COFAQ and the Mouvement retrouvailles.

According to some of our sources, a bill revising Quebec's adoption regime could be introduced this year. In any case, the AGPQ will continue its fight on this issue. A brief will be submitted if necessary.

## **Network of lawyers and psychologists**

The AGPQ has established a network of partners (lawyers, psychologists and mediators) in the various regions of Quebec. It is worth noting Luc Trudeau's extraordinary collaboration in the Greater Montreal Area, but also in the regions. His expertise and competence in defending grandparents are assets for them and for their Association. He comes to meet the grandparents at our monthly meetings in Montreal. He also travelled to Quebec City and Trois-Rivières for some meetings. He has represented us in several interviews on behalf of the AGPQ. Thank you, Mr. Trudeau.



From left to right, Me Luc Trudeau, lawyer in family and youth law, Mr. Henri LaFrance, President and Mr. Richard Langevin, Psychologist

## **Help line**

We are particularly proud of our toll-free 1-866-745-6110 line available to grandparents in difficulty throughout Quebec. It is open seven days a week, 72 hours of availability. We counted nearly 40,000 minutes of listening to grandparents in difficulty during the year.

For their dedication in listening to grandparents, I would like to thank Monic Avoine, Gisèle Bergeron, Micheline Drouin and Danielle Piquette.

## **Training of listeners**

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Last year, the AGPQ received a grant of \$23,343 to have professionals train listening volunteers. For example, a training plan for listeners was developed in the form of a PowerPoint presentation and a training document. Both tools have been translated into English, as well as our brochure and website. The AGPQ now has the necessary tools to train its volunteers. This allows us to properly recruit and train new volunteers.

Thanks to the collaboration of a psychologist, Mr. Richard Langevin, and a lawyer, Mr. Luc Trudeau, a training video (DVD) for listening to grandparents was produced. Thank you for the dedication of these two people and to Mr. Yves Lajoie, Director of the Regroupement pour une politique familiale, who took care of some technical aspects. The AGPQ will continue to improve its training program.

## **Presence throughout Quebec**

Two AGPQ leaders attended a conference on grandparents' rights at the "Québec Barreau" Congress. The AGPQ was also present at the INRS Symposium on the revision of the Quebec adoption regime.

Several conferences were given in the regions to inform seniors about AGPQ services: Rivière-du-Loup, Trois-Rivières, Montréal, Québec, Beauport, Loretteville, Vanier, Victoriaville, Saint-Hubert, Longueuil, Saint-Augustin, Saint-Félicien, Saint-Damase en Montérégie and Val d'Or.

## **Media presence**

The AGPQ's media presence was once again exceptional this year. Two broadcasts of interviews given by AGPQ leaders and grandmothers allowed him to make himself known. Me Luc Trudeau, lawyer and member of the Board of Directors gave an interview on the community television TVRM30 of the MRC Les Moulins et L'Assomption. Mrs. Monic Avoine, Mr. Henri Lafrance and two grandmothers, with custody of their grandchildren, gave interviews on TVA's J.E. show. These were released in January and May 2009. Ms. Ginette Paquette gave an interview to the daily Le Nouvelliste de Trois- Rivières.

## **Web presence**

We are talking about the Grandparents Association on 509 pages of the Web: according to google.ca. The search on google.com with the words "Association des grand-parents du Québec" generates 509 pages in French.

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Google   [Recherche avancée](#)  
[Préférences](#)

Rechercher dans : ☐ Web ☒ Pages francophones ☐ Pages : Canada

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**Web** Résultats 1 - 10 sur un total d'environ 509 pages en français

Notre Mission  
**L'Association des grands-parents du Québec** (AGPQ) est un organisme de défense des droits familiaux. Cet organisme communautaire milite en faveur des ...  
[www.grands-parents.qc.ca/](http://www.grands-parents.qc.ca/) - 45k - [En cache](#) - [Pages similaires](#)

Reunion information  
 Le samedi 20 octobre 2007, au Palais de justice de Québec, l'**Association des grands-parents du Québec**, en collaboration avec le Barreau de Québec, ...  
[grands-parents.qc.ca/index.php?id=reunionmtl](http://grands-parents.qc.ca/index.php?id=reunionmtl) - 23k - [En cache](#) - [Pages similaires](#)  
[Autres résultats domaine grands-parents.qc.ca »](#)

Espace-associatif.org - Association des grands-parents du Québec  
 L'**Association des grands-parents du Québec** est un organisme voué à la défense des droits des grands-parents, de leurs petits- enfants et des aînés en ...  
[espace-associatif.org/grands\\_parents/](http://espace-associatif.org/grands_parents/) - 8k - [En cache](#) - [Pages similaires](#)

Québec Hebdo > Nos organismes > Famille > Association des grands ...  
 L'**Association des grands-parents du Québec** est un organisme familial venant en aide aux grands-parents et aux aînés. Il sensibilise aussi les autorités et ...  
[www.quebechebdo.com/pages/org\\_organisme.php?orgid=658](http://www.quebechebdo.com/pages/org_organisme.php?orgid=658) - 19k - [En cache](#) - [Pages similaires](#)

Courrier Laval > Nos organismes > Famille > Association des grands ...  
**Association des grands-parents du Québec**. **Association des grands-parents du Québec**  
 2900 boul du Loiret # 101 Québec (Qc) G1C 3X3 Téléphone: 514-745-6110 ...  
[www.courrierlaval.com/pages/org\\_organisme.php?orgid=3696](http://www.courrierlaval.com/pages/org_organisme.php?orgid=3696) - 19k - [En cache](#) - [Pages similaires](#)

Le Plateau > Nos organismes > Famille > Association des grands ...  
**Association des grands-parents du Québec** (Île de Montréal). 220 des Bergères Ile Bizard  
 Montréal (Qc) H9C 2T3 Téléphone: 514-745-6110 ...  
[www.leplateau.com/pages/org\\_organisme.php?orgid=3782](http://www.leplateau.com/pages/org_organisme.php?orgid=3782) - 22k - [En cache](#) - [Pages similaires](#)

Association des grands-parents du Québec  
**Association des grands-parents du Québec**. [ Proposer une mise à jour | English | Version imprimable (formulaire, fautes) ]



Mrs. Monic Avoine speaking to the retired teachers of Saint-Félicien  
 The search on google.com with the words grandparents  
 places our organization at the top of 1,440,000 pages

Google   [Recherche avancée](#)  
[Préférences](#)

Rechercher dans : ☒ Web ☐ Pages francophones ☐ Pages : Canada



Web Résultats 1 - 10 sur un total d'environ 1 440 000 p


**Notre Mission**  
 L'Association des **grands-parents** du Québec (AGPQ) est un organisme de défense des droits familiaux. Cet organisme communautaire milite en faveur des ...  
[www.grands-parents.qc.ca/](http://www.grands-parents.qc.ca/) - 45k - [En cache](#) - [Pages similaires](#)

**L'art d'être grands-parents**  
 Paraît-il qu'être **grands-parents**, c'est tout simplement formidable! Si vous l'êtes déjà, vous avez l'expérience de ce bonheur. Si tout comme moi, ...  
[www.acsm-ca.qc.ca/mirage/personne-ages/etre-grands-parents.html](http://www.acsm-ca.qc.ca/mirage/personne-ages/etre-grands-parents.html) - [Pages similaires](#)

**Les grands-parents** : Dossiers : PetitMonde  
 Tout n'est pas idyllique entre **grands-parents** et **parents**. Lorsque la brouille s'en mêle et que les petits-enfants deviennent un enjeu, la loi intervient. ...  
[www.petitmonde.com/Dossiers/Dossier.asp?id=%7BDC4016FC-4F69-4932-890B-74D06214F39A%7D](http://www.petitmonde.com/Dossiers/Dossier.asp?id=%7BDC4016FC-4F69-4932-890B-74D06214F39A%7D) - 33k - [En cache](#) - [Pages similaires](#)

Résultats de la recherche **grands-parents** à proximité de Québec, QC - [Changer le lieu](#)

  **Maison Des Grands-Parents De Ste-Foy (La)** - [maps.google.ca](http://maps.google.ca)  
 3180 avenue d'Amours, Québec - (418) 658-8484  
[Itinéraire et bien d'autres encore »](#)

 **Association Des Grands-Parents Du Québec** - [www.grands-parents.qc.ca](http://www.grands-parents.qc.ca)  
 2900 boulevard du Loiret, Québec - (418) 529-2355  
[Itinéraire et bien d'autres encore »](#)

**GPV Grands-parents virtuels**  
 Cet article comprend de nombreuses informations utiles concernant le projet des **grands-parents** virtuels telles que le besoin, la stratégie, la clientèle ...  
[gvp.riq.ca/](http://gvp.riq.ca/) - 33k - [En cache](#) - [Pages similaires](#)

**Les grands-parents ont des droits!** - [LeBelAge.ca](http://LeBelAge.ca)  
 Lorsque le jeune couple a eu un fils, Éric, les **grands-parents** ont accordé beaucoup d'attention au petit, d'autant plus qu'ils n'avaient pas eu de garçon. ...  
[www.lebelage.ca/argent\\_et\\_droits/vos\\_droits/les\\_grands\\_parents\\_ont\\_des\\_droits.php](http://www.lebelage.ca/argent_et_droits/vos_droits/les_grands_parents_ont_des_droits.php) - 36k - [En cache](#) - [Pages similaires](#)

**Parents**  
 La nouvelle référence Internet pour les **parents**  
[www.naitreetgrandir.net](http://www.naitreetgrandir.net)  
 Québec

**Grands-parents de cœur**  
 Parents, enfants et seniors en rupture intergénérationnelle:  
[www.super-grandparents.com](http://www.super-grandparents.com)

## Our network of partners

The AGPQ is a member of several regional seniors' tables, including :

- The Table de concertation des personnes âgées de la Capitale-Nationale
- The Table régionale des aînés de la Montérégie
- The Table de concertation des aînés de l'Île de Montréal (via its regional section AGPM)
- The Regional Table of Seniors of the Richelieu Basin
- The Golden Valley Regional Seniors' Table
- The Confederation of Family Organizations of Quebec
- The Inter-Agency Group for Family Policy in Quebec

She is a member of the Volunteer Centres, including:

- Le Centre d'action bénévole de Québec
- The Volunteer Centre Helps 23
- The Centre d'aide et d'action bénévole de Charlesbourg
- The SERS Volunteer Centre
- The Centre d'information et de référence de la Capitale-Nationale et de la Chaudière-Appalaches, 211 service
- Seniors in Solidarity (AS)



## **2009 Tribute - FADOQ, Seniors' Movement**

In April, the AGPQ received the FADOQ Regional Tribute Award at the FADOQ General Assembly in Montreal. She will receive the FADOQ Award "Hommage Père-Marcel-de-la-Sablonnière" on June 10 at the Annual General Meeting of FADOQ, Mouvement des aînés.



Ms. Cécile Plourde, President of FADOQ-Montréal,  
Mr. Henri LaFrance and Mrs. Monic Avoine at the presentation  
of the AGPQ Tribute Award.

## **Thank you to the volunteers**

Many thanks to all our volunteers. I would like to highlight in particular the volunteer work of the volunteer speakers: Me Luc Trudeau, Mr. Richard Langevin and Ms. Sonia Gilbert, Director of Youth Protection for the Montérégie region. I would like to thank the volunteer dedication of Monic Avoine, Sylvie Vanasse, Lyne Larrivée, Yolande Loiselle, Gilberte Bergeron, Micheline Drouin, Suzanne Lafrance, Yolande Blackburn, Lisette Dion, Lucie Faucher, Louise Labelle, Ginette Paquette, Gilles Bernatchez, Bernard Côté, Richard Fontaine, Daniel Bolduc, Jean Archambault, Yves Lajoie. Many other volunteers have also contributed to the success of the AGPQ's activities, thank you to them.

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## **Thank you to the organizations and individuals who supported us financially**

- The Secretariat for Community Action and Social Initiatives
- Heritage Canada (New Horizons Program)
- Desjardins, general insurance
- All our contributing members

## **The priorities of our 2009-2010 action plan**

- Recruit new volunteers to free up some time for those who need a break.
- Continue to maintain our listening line.
- Continue to defend and help grandparents in difficulty.
- Complete the Seniors' Riverkeeper Project.
- Find the necessary funding for a better internal organization.



Mr. Daniel Bolduc and Ms. Lyne Larivée, volunteers  
having organized an information meeting in Trois-Rivières

## **List of AGPQ events**

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Date	Details	Location
2008-04-10	Meeting of the Table de concertation des aînés de La Vallée-de-l'Or	Val-d'Or
2008-04-13	Second Health & Wellness Exhibition - Being of the Old Fort Galleries - Conference by Henri LaFrance and Information Kiosk as part of the second Health & Wellness Exhibition of the Old Fort Galleries under the theme " Health in everyday life! »	Lévis
2008-04-17	Flyé Retired Conference	Montreal
2008-04-19	25th anniversary of the Mouvement Retrouvailles. Luc Trudeau, Monic Avoine, Myriam Leblanc and Henri LaFrance attended the 25th anniversary of this partner organization	Laval
2008-04-19	Brunch and information meeting on grandparents' rights. The AGPQ organized a sharing and information meeting in Montreal at the Centre communautaire des aînés Saint-Michel/Rosemont. There was a testimony from a grandmother who had been successful in defending her grandson's best interests and relationship with him. There was also an information session with Luc Trudeau, a lawyer in family law and youth law. About thirty grandparents attended this meeting, which was much appreciated.	Montreal
2008-04-20	Conference and information booth	Victoriaville
2008-04-29	Preparation of volunteer training	Beauport
2008-05-12	Annual General Meeting of the Table de concertation des aînés de la Capitale-Nationale	Quebec City
2008-05-12	Annual General Meeting of the Table régionale des aînés de la Montérégie	Montreal
2008-05-21	ROSCB Board of Directors	Beauport
2008-05-25	General Assembly	Quebec City
2008-06-06	A.G.A. CAAP	Quebec City
2008-06-08	Grandparents' information meeting	Montreal
2008-07-22	July 22, 2008, Henri LaFrance's intervention on the Lévis radio station (102.1) on the theme of the problems of paternal grandparents when the separated father is deprived of access to his children	Lévis
2008-08-09	Grandparents' meeting	Saguenay
2008-08-10	Grandparents' meeting	Saguenay
2008-08-10	Grandparents' meeting	Montreal
2008-08-11	Interview with Michel Jean of the J. E. Program (VAT)	Montreal
2008-08-12	Preparation of volunteer training	Beauport
2008-09-01	Preparation of volunteer training	Beauport

Date	Details	Location
2008-09-07	Grandparents' Conference and Day	Rivière-du-Loup
2008-09-14	Grandparents' information meeting	Montreal
2008-09-16	Meeting of the members of the Table de concertation des personnes âgées de la Capitale-Nationale (Conference and General Assembly)	Quebec City
2008-09-17	Preparation of volunteer training	Beauport
2008-09-20	Volunteer training	Beauport
2008-09-21	Volunteer training	Beauport
2008-09-27	C. A. COFAQ	Montreal
2008-10-05	Information booth at Université Laval (Québec) organized by the Table de concertation des personnes âgées de la Capitale-Nationale as part of Seniors' Day	Laval University, Quebec City
2008-10-19	Grandparents' information meeting	Montreal
2008-10-20	Table de concertation des aînés de la Montérégie	Longueuil
2008-10-20	An interview with Me Luc Trudeau on the AGPQ and the rights of grandparents in Quebec on the program Ressources. org, which is intended to showcase the community organizations of the MRC Les Moulins and the MRC L'Assomption. Ressources. org is an essential tool for the community.	Terrebonne
2008-10-23	Grandparents' meeting	Beauport
2008-10-25	Attendance at the funeral of a long-time activist and leader of the AGPQ, John Ryan	Montreal
2008-10-27	Workshop on the theme: "What can be done to prevent family conflicts between grandparents and parents? »	Quebec City
2008-10-28	Meeting of MPs responsible for family and seniors' issues from the Official Opposition	Quebec City
2008-11-07	Preparation of volunteer training	Beauport
2008-11-08	Volunteer training	Beauport
2008-11-09	Volunteer training	Beauport
2008-11-16	Grandparents' information meeting	Montreal
2008-11-18	Assembly of AM - PM members of the Table de concertation des personnes âgées de la Capitale-Nationale (Conference and General Assembly)	Quebec City
2008-11-18	Table de concertation des aînés de la Montérégie	Longueuil
2008-11-19	ROSCB Board of Directors	Beauport
2008-11-20	Table de concertation des aînés de la Montérégie	Longueuil
2008-11-23	Grandparents' meeting	Beauport
2008-11-30	Grandmothers' meeting	Beauport
2008-12-02	C. A. ROSCB	Beauport
2008-12-06	COFAQ Board of Directors	Montreal
2008-12-07	Grandparents' information meeting	Montreal

Date	Details	Location
2008-12-07	Preparation of a training DVD for telephone line listeners	Montreal
2008-12-15	ROSCB Board of Directors	Beauport
2008-12-15	Festive grandparents' meeting and tribute to Monic Avoine's exceptional volunteer work	Beauport
2008-12-16	Conference in front of a group of retirees at École Louis-Joliette	Quebec City
2009-01-09	Broadcasting of J. E.'s program on grandparents with custody of their grandchildren	Montreal
2009-01-16	Table de concertation des aînés de la Montérégie	Longueuil
2009-01-17	Grandparents' information meeting	Montreal
2009-01-21	ROSCB Board of Directors	Beauport
2009-02-03	Assembly of AM - PM members of the Table de concertation des personnes âgées de la Capitale-Nationale (Conference and General Assembly)	
2009-02-11	AFÉAS Saint-Damase (Montérégie) conference with Mrs. Ricard at 5:30 p.m.	Saint-Damase
2009-02-11	Seminar on the Quebec adoption regime	Montreal
2009-02-13	Conference with the group "Les retraités flyés"	Val d'Or
2009-02-14	COFAQ Board of Directors	Beauport
2009-02-15	Grandparents' information meeting	Montreal
2009-02-16	Table de concertation des aînés de la Montérégie	Longueuil
2009-03-08	Conference and information booth as part of Women's Day	Quebec City (Loretteville)
2009-03-15	Grandparents' information meeting	Montreal
2009-03-19	Table de concertation des aînés de la Montérégie	Longueuil
2009-03-28	COFAQ Board of Directors	Montreal
2009-03-29	Board of Directors of the AGPQ	Montreal
2009-04-01	General Assembly of ROSB	Beauport
2009-04-07	Interview with the hosts of RDI Program 109 and SRC	Beauport
2009-04-14	Assembly of AM - PM members of the Table de concertation des personnes âgées de la Capitale-Nationale (Conference and General Assembly)	Quebec City
2009-04-15	Board of Directors ROSCB	Beauport
2009-04-18	Grandparents' information meeting	Trois-Rivières
2009-04-20	AQRP- AGA	Quebec City
2009-04-22	Fletcher Peacock's lecture, "Water the flowers, not the weeds! »	Quebec City
2008-04-24	Receipt of the FADOQ Montreal Tribute Award	Montreal
2009-04-29	Abuse of the Elderly: Acting Together to Stop It Formation 4 Temps Pavillon Alphonse-Desjardins	Laval University
2009-04-30	Elder Abuse: Acting Together to Stop It	Laval University

Date	Details	Location
2009-05-07	Conference for retired teachers of Lac-Saint-Jean	Saint-Félicien
2009-05-10	AQDR - Quebec City Annual General Meeting	Quebec City
2009-05-11	Meeting with Me Christian Veillette, Political Attaché to the Minister of Justice	Quebec City
2009-05-15	Conference in Saint-Hubert Longueuil	Longueuil
2009-05-15	Broadcasting of J. E.'s program on grandparents with custody of their grandchildren	Montreal
2009-05-19	Annual General Meeting of the Table de concertation des aînés de la Capitale nationale	Sherbrooke
2009-05-19	Annual General Meeting of the Table de concertation des personnes âgées de la Capitale-Nationale	Quebec City
2009-05-24	AGPQ Annual General Meeting	Quebec City
2009-05-24	Sunday, May 24, 2009, AGPQ Annual General Meeting	Quebec City
2009-09-22	Table de concertation des aînés de la Montérégie	Longueuil
Monthly	Table de concertation des aînés de l'Île de-Montréal	Montreal
Monthly	Table de concertation des aînés du Bassin du Richelieu	Chambly