

ACTIVITY REPORT 2012-2013

PRESENTED TO THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Association des
Grands-Parents
du Québec

THE ASSOCIATION OF GRANDPARENTS OF QUEBEC

SEPTEMBER 8, 2013



Members of the Board of Directors 2012-2013
From left to right: Mrs. Monic Avoine, Mr. Henri Lafrance, Mrs. Micheline Drouin, Mrs. Monika Benrabah, Me Luc Trudeau

The Association des grand-parents du Québec (AGPQ) continued its various activities over the past year and continued to offer its services to the Quebec population. It is with the maintenance of the helpline and by organizing legal information sessions, coffee-meetings, conferences, and other local, regional and provincial representations that the organization has once again distinguished itself fervently to represent its members and people in need.

The activities of the AGPQ were in this way in response to the mission and objectives it has set for itself and listed as follows:

- Promote and defend the rights of grandchildren to maintain meaningful relationships with their grandparents (and extended family).
- Help grandparents and seniors experiencing difficulties in a family context.
- Sensitize the authorities to the problems encountered.
- Promote recognition of the importance of the role of grandparents and elders in society and with families and grandchildren.
- Defend the rights of older victims of abuse or exploitation.
- Encourage intergenerational encounters.
- Help grandchildren and families to better understand their origins (be the memory of families).

Crisis line

The helpline was very helpful once again this year and still represents the "gateway" to the Association for many grandparents who are experiencing difficulties. The crisis line has been maintained over 4000 hours of availability thanks to a few dedicated volunteers. On this subject, it would have been impossible to be so "attentive" without the contribution of our warmest second-line service workers, Ms. Monic Avoine and Ms. Micheline Drouin. It should be noted that grandparents' calls come from all regions of Quebec. The number of calls is estimated at nearly 1000 per year. People who join the AGPQ have multiple relational and communication needs and the volunteers who listen to them have developed a solid psychosocial experience over time.



Monic Oats Respondent
to a grandmother in trouble

Referencing grandparents and elders on family matters is at the heart of the organization's mission and the individual meeting service has also served many people over the past year.



Here is a grandfather who introduces his grandchildren to nature

Legal Information Sessions

The legal information sessions with Luc Trudeau were held in Laval, Montréal, Beauport, Charlesbourg, Lévis, Drummondville, Trois- Rivières and Longueuil respectively. These meetings resulted in a conference that is always intended to be a support for those who wish to learn more about their right as grandparents than those for their grandchildren.



Me Luc Trudeau informing the grandparents



Me Trudeau and Mr. Richard Langevin, psychologist informing grandparents

Number of	Location	Date
	Montreal (Les Appartements Square Angus)	September 9 at 1:00 PM
	Drummondville (Restaurant Le Charlemagne)	October 14 at 2pm
	Lévis (La Maison des aînés)	November 4 at 2:00 PM
	Montreal (Les Appartements Square A ngus)	November 18 at 1pm
	Quebec City (Le Pivot Community Centre)	December 9 at 2pm
	Montreal (Les Appartements Square Angus)	January 20 at 1:00 PM
	Trois-Rivières	February 3 at 2:00 PM
	Drummondville (Restaurant Le Charlemagne)	April 14 at 2:00 p. m.
	Montreal (Les Appartements Square Angus)	May 5 at 1:00 p. m.
10	Longueuil Maison le Réveil	June 4 or 5 at 2 p.m.
11	Quebec City (Charlesbourg - Polyvalente)	May 26 at 2:00 p. m.
12	Longueuil (Maison Le Réveil)	May 6 at 2:00 p. m.

Coffee meetings

Particular attention has been paid to creating and presenting themes that interest and touch the grandparents of Quebec. The coffee meetings are in place to provide a place for reflection and are supervised by speakers who encourage participants to express themselves and share their experiences as a group.

Several meetings were organized in the Capitale-Nationale in the presence of speakers from the social field (psychologist, psychoeducator, social work, and specialized training). André Dulac, Maryse Cyr, Armande Duval, Nathalie Faure, Annie Bergeron and Alexandre Lambert are part of the team of facilitators who enhanced the content of these meetings presented during a spring and fall session in Beauport. The participation of those present at the coffee meetings was encouraged and some people enjoyed these moments with regularity.

Calendar of Cafés-rencontres (April 2012 to December 2012)

Number of	Location	Date	Thematic Theme
	Quebec (Beauport)	April 5, 2012	Self-esteem. How can it be developed? <i>Maryse Cyr</i>
	Quebec (Beauport)	April 19, 2012	The importance of love and friendship <i>André Dulac</i>
	Quebec (Beauport)	May 3, 2012	Recovery. There is no age to be happy.
	Quebec (Beauport)	September 12, 2012	Relational Grief <i>Nathalie Faure and Annie Bergeron</i>
	Quebec (Beauport)	September 19, 2012	Relational Grief <i>Nathalie Faure and Annie Bergeron</i>
	Quebec (Beauport)	September 26, 2012	Relational Grief <i>Nathalie Faure and Annie Bergeron</i>
	Quebec (Beauport)	October 3, 2012	Relational Grief <i>Nathalie Faure and Annie Bergeron</i>
	Quebec (Beauport)	October 10, 2012	Relational Grief <i>Nathalie Faure and Annie Bergeron</i>
	Quebec (Beauport)	October 17, 2012	The Role of Grandparents in the Family <i>Maryse Cyr</i>

Number of	Location	Date	Thematic Theme
10	Quebec (Beauport)	October 24, 2012	The Role of Grandparents in the within the family <i>Maryse Cyr</i>
11	Quebec (Beauport)	October 31, 2012	The Role of Grandparents in the within the family <i>Maryse Cyr</i>
12.	Quebec (Beauport)	November 7, 2012	The Family is for us all of them! <i>Maryse Cyr</i>

Political Representations



Henri Lafrance in defence of
grandparents

In addition to offering services to the Quebec population, the AGPQ has continued to represent its members across the province on various political issues over the past year.

In particular, the AGPQ has made a representation to the Ministère des Services sociaux et des Aînés regarding certain discriminations and/or injustices suffered by grandparents who have custody of their grandchildren in relation to their parents. Following these claims pleaded by the organization and its members, the Minister asked his officials to provide him with a portrait of the grandparents who have custody of their grandchildren. In this sense, it is an issue that the AGPQ will closely monitor over the next year.

The AGPQ also continued to raise awareness among the stakeholders concerned about Bill 47, which was introduced in the Quebec National Assembly last July: An Act to amend the Civil Code and other legislative provisions relating to adoption, parental authority and the disclosure of information. With regard to this bill, the AGPQ claims the right of grandchildren to maintain a relationship with their biological grandparents in the event of intra-family adoption, as well as in the event of an adoption being placed under the Youth Protection Act.

The Association sat on the organizing committee of the Table de Concertation des Aînés de la Capitale Nationale during a thematic day entitled "Les grandparents : Role, point of view on the family and society, situation and problems". The Association also mobilized on the adoption bill during a question period in the National Assembly. This bill will be considered by the next elected government. Also on the subject of adoption, the AGPQ advised FADOQ on how to assert the rights of grandparents in relation to the time of adoption.

Finally, the AGPQ presented its services at the Salon des aînés de Saint-George de Beauce. During this day, more than 600 people showed up at the organization's booth.

The AGPQ: internship

Since last year, the AGPQ has welcomed university students in social work from Laval University as interns in intervention. At a rate of about three hours per week, students participate concretely and personally in the social action of telephone listening. Through this type of involvement, students contribute to the organization's activities and the pursuit of its mission. By welcoming students to its community environment, the Association des grandparents contributes to the training of Quebec social workers.



Hours of listening services and number of hours worked by volunteers

The AGPQ has a team of dedicated volunteers who, over the past year, have accumulated more than 7000 hours during its activities. The crisis line service is available 12 hours a day, 360 days a year. This service alone represents more than 4000 hours of listening and referencing.

Hours telephone line	More than 4000
Volunteer hours	More than 7000

The hours devoted by volunteers are divided among as many mobilization and representation activities to fulfill the organization's mission. AGPQ's partnerships are organized at the local, regional and provincial levels.

Meetings of the Board of Directors

Date	Event	Location
2012-07-11	AGPQ Board of Directors	Conference Call
2012-09-23	AGPQ Board of Directors	Montreal
2012-10-11	AGPQ Board of Directors	Conference Call
2013-02-07	AGPQ Board of Directors	Conference Call
2013-05-14	AGPQ Board of Directors	Quebec City

List of members of the Board of Directors 2012-2013

Chair: Mr. Henri LaFrance Vice-Chair: Ms. Monic

Oatsine Treasury/Secretariat: Mr. Luc Trudeau

Director: Ms. Micheline Drouin Director: Vacant
position

The networking of the Grandparents Association

Member of the following national organizations:

Inter-agency grouping for family policy in Quebec
Réseau québécois de l' Action communautaire autonome (RQ-ACA)

Member of the following regional organizations:

Table de concertation des aîné-e-s de l' Île de Montréal (via its regional chapter)
Table de concertation des personnes âgées de la Capitale-Nationale
Centre de développement communautaire de la Côte-de-Beaupré
Centre de développement communautaire de Beauport (CDC-Beauport)
Table des aînés de la MRC Vallée de l'Or
Table de concertation de La Vallée-du-Richelieu
The Information and Reference Centre of the Capitale-Nationale and the Chaudière-Appalaches is 211 service
Les Aînés Solidaires (AS) de Centraide Capitale-Nationale
Centre d' action bénévole de Québec
Centre d' aide et d' action bénévole de Charlesbourg (CAABC)
Centre d' action bénévole Aide 23
Centre d'action bénévole SERS de Lévis
Regroupement des organismes de base en santé mentale (ROBSM)

Partnership and collaborative relationships with the following

organizations: The Beauport Borough
The Town of Beaupré
FADOQ - Mouvement des Aînés du Québec L' Association de défense des droits des retraités (AQDR) L' AFÉAS (Association féminine d'éducation et d'action sociale)
Université Laval (École de service social).