



Parlons-en!

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Let's talk about it!

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Association des traducteurs et interprètes de la Nouvelle-Écosse

Association of Translators and Interpreters of Nova Scotia

ATINS 2003 Annual General Meeting Highlights

Editor's Note – Again this year, we are presenting you with the highlights of our last AGM, which was held at the Carrefour du Grand-Havre in Dartmouth on May 24. Nineteen members attended the meeting and six members voted by proxy. **Please note that the following texts are published for informative purposes and do not constitute the official minutes of the AGM.**

President's Report

BY HÉLÈNE LEMAY

Here I am, at half term, after a year of learning and discoveries. I might not have known what I was getting into, but I knew that I was going to work with wonderful people, and it has truly been the case. I also knew that my own small professional world was about to become much larger and busier. There is a big difference between being simply a member of an association and being actively involved. When you sit on the board, you start seeing the BIG PICTURE. You not only get to know your association inside and out but you also get to discover CTIC and all the other associations, including those that are the main players. And all this is extremely interesting. You suddenly find yourself part of a whole world of language professionals; you look into every aspect of this world; you deal with almost every issue; you learn about topics you knew nothing about, and get a better understanding of some others. Not only does your association count on you to grow but the whole translation community needs you to take part in its national growth. It is a responsibility and a challenge. And I am glad to have been given the opportunity to do my share.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to my fellow board members who have all been helpful and supportive, and very understanding and coop-

erative. Throughout the year, the board held 6 meetings and one special meeting. Two meetings were cancelled. The board met in New Minas, Windsor, Halifax, Bedford and Lower Sackville. I am very thankful to whoever decided that Atlantic Superstores should have a community room. This is where the board held most of its meetings. I would also like to thank Maritime Life for the use of its meetings rooms on two occasions this past year. Speaking of Maritime Life, it was sad to say farewell to our colleague Robert Cormier. He always was a strong supporter of ATINS and contributed to the association in many ways, especially as certification exam coordinator. He has sent us his report which will be presented by Colleen Heenan. Thank you Robert.

Apart from sitting on the certification exam committee, Colleen took over the organization of our participation to Word on the Street to celebrate Translation Day and looked over several issues at my request. Wietske was appointed interim treasurer. She paid the bills, kept the books in order and kept us up-to-date on the state of our finances. Claudia faithfully kept me informed of incoming mail and issues. In the first few months, she guided me through the maze of documents and administrative operations that are part

of running an association. It was wonderful to work with Katie and to benefit from her knowledge of everything that had to do with the directory, the website and mass e-mailings. Although she had to deal with seeing her work unit transferred to

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Montréal, she never faltered in her commitment to the board and the association. I want to thank Martha and Diane who organized our April workshop and today's presentation. Diane also made sure that we would have a light lunch following our meeting. Thank you also to Karima, who is the major promoter of our directory and such a strong supporter of the association and to George and Isabel for their sound ideas and continuous support. I want to say a special thank you to Nathalie for always being there to lend a listening ear, to help organize meetings, and last but not least, to let me drive with her part of the way. It has made my attending board meetings much easier.

To all those who helped and advised me during this first year and help the board fulfill its role, thank you. Thank you to Annie Williams, Sylvain and Sibylle. And thank you Jacqueline for compiling a record of decisions and revising the French version of our brochure.

This year, the key word to describe ATINS' activities was EXPOSURE, especially during the first half of the year. In July, ATINS joined the ACWTC to give exposure to its members, especially those who work in combinations



Left to Right – Christiane Haag, Colleen Heenan, Diane Fournier, Wietske Gradstein

other than French-English and English-French. At the time of the AGM of the World Trade Centres Association held in September, directories were available at the registration

desk and a link to our website was created. We have yet to determine whether it proved beneficial to some members, but at this point I can inform you that the Board has decided not to renew its membership. The only rea-



Sylvain Filion, Annie Williams

son we joined was because of the World Conference being held in Halifax.

During the summer, Wietske answered AVLIC's invitation and attended some workshops during their annual conference. AVLIC has now become a member of CTIC.

Exposure was also the objective of ATINS' participation to Word on the Street and the Business to Business Expo, which were both very successful activities thanks to the organizers and all the members who volunteered their time to man the tables.

Then snow started to fall. In December, I had to cancel one board meeting at the last minute but the board used emails to convey information. After Christmas, the board kept working on some issues, namely the workshops, the preparation of an information package for school guidance counselors on translation and interpretation as a career choice for students, and a more aggressive publicity campaign stressing the importance of dealing with professionals. However, because the first few months of the year were extremely busy for all board members, progress has been slow. These issues will be pursued in the fall with some concrete action taking place. Moreover,

at last year AGM, it was suggested that the new board give some thought to an Atlantic region association. It was brought up at the very first meeting as something to start thinking about. It has not been dealt with except for comments here and there about advantages and disadvantages. There should be something to report on this at the next AGM.

I believe that for each president there is an issue that comes to the forefront and triggers his or her reflection. What triggered my reflection was the news of the transfer of Maritime Life's translation service to Montreal. In a way, I saw this as a blow to our Association. Apart from the federal government, Maritime Life was the only corporate employer who had a translation service, providing both full-time and freelance work to translators. I was of course very happy to hear that the federal government was creating two new positions, and I was thrilled when, a few days ago, I heard that Louise Delisle, a certified member of OTTIAQ working for the Translation Bureau in Hull (Québec) would be moving to Nova Scotia in June, and joining our association. Louise will be living in Inverness and continue working for her current employer.

Presently, ATINS counts 49 certified members and 6 associate members. Because our association now adheres to strict admission criteria in order to allow for transferability of status, and because it has voted to become a certified-member-only association, I am concerned that our growth will slow down dramatically. Furthermore, potential members who do not yet meet the requirements to write the CTIC exam will be out there on their own and we will not know about them. They will be working as translators or interpreters without the benefit of the professional environment provided by our association and they might not even be admissible to the preparatory course offered by ATIO. If someone works

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CONTINUED FROM PG. 2 as a translator for five years and is doing well, why would he or she want to join ATINS at a later date?

On a positive note, I believe that the Translation Bureau plans to make it mandatory for its translators to be certified and belong to a CTIC affiliated association. Plus, more clients now ask for certified translators. But a new phenomenon has already appeared in several provinces: that of agencies who have ties with certified translators and use their name to bid on big translation jobs even if the certified translator is not doing the work. This I find troubling.

So what will the future look like for our association? A stable membership, maybe slowly decreasing unless people already certified move to Nova Scotia? Because there is no translation programs offered in Nova Scotia, we will not see students eventually becoming members. And unless the provincial government starts providing services in French to the Acadian population, we are not likely to see any job creation in translation. Therefore, ATINS will also face a loss in revenues in the long run

Last November an email was sent by a member to the membership about the situation of unqualified people calling themselves translators, a situation that creates difficulties for certified members of ATINS. This member suggested that ATINS strike a committee which would concern itself with the legal status of the profession. However, as it was pointed out by some members, working towards obtaining reserved status requires steadfast commitment from a team of members because such a dossier cannot be allowed to fade in the background. I sincerely don't know who could commit to this. If CTIC comes up with a promotion proposal that could benefit ATINS, the board has already said that it would contribute financially. But we also have to be realistic: unless our association grows,

it will be hard to find the resources to push this issue and it will be hard to convince anyone that there is a need to give title protection to certified members of ATINS.

I am concerned that one day could appear in Nova Scotia a non-CTIC-affiliated association made up of agencies and people who translate and interpret without being certified by a recognized body.

Just as CTIC and other associations are doing I believe that ATINS has to look at the bigger picture and look at opening the door to other language specialists. For example, ATIS has a category for visual interpreters. SITY had native interpreters. STIBC has court interpreters.

I would like us to know who is out there in Nova Scotia doing translation and interpretation, and I would like us to meet them and bring those who are serious about their work under the umbrella of ATINS. This would become our strength.

These are my thoughts about the future. I know that they go against the idea of a certified-member-only association, for which I probably voted a few years ago without having considered what could be the long term consequences of such a move. I wanted to share my thoughts with you and trigger your reflection. And in time, I would like to hear from you. ■

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership dues will remain the same for 2003-2004:

- **\$120⁰⁰**
For Certified members
- **\$90⁰⁰**
For the remaining Associate members

Treasurer's Report

SUMMARY OF TREASURER WIETSKÉ GRADSTEIN'S REPORT
(FOR A COPY OF THE INTEGRAL TREASURER'S REPORT, PLEASE CONTACT US AT INFO@ATINS.ORG)

Treasurer Wietske Gradstein gave ATINS members a detailed account of the Association's revenues and expenses.

Our revenues came from membership dues, advertisements in the directory, non-member participation in last year's workshops, exam dues and interest. It also included the repayment of the money we loaned to CTIC for the FIT conference, plus interest.

Items listed as expenditures included: administration of the exams, directory, brochure, training,, CTIC membership, travel expenses for CTIC meetings, Circuit, promotional activities (such as business to business expo, membership of World Trade Centres and ATINS exposure on their conference, mailing of directories, International Translation at Word on the Street), administration of the ATIO course, photocopying and mailing of information to members.

The creation of a reserve fund and a contingency fund were also discussed. [*see Motions*]

Wietske added: "[...] it looks as if we will have to have a deficit budget. The budget was based on the expenses proposed by the different committees. The removal of the translation section of Maritime Life took away not only an important source of certified translators in our region, but also the free use of their facilities. We also don't anticipate an increase in membership in view of our certified members only policy.

Voting on the budget will have to wait until after the creation of separate funds has been discussed. One word, however, about the deficit nature of the budget. We are not for profit organization and it is my belief that as long as we have money in the bank, we should, within reason, not restrict our activities for financial reasons." ■

Professionnal Development Committee Report

BY DIANE FOURNIER AND MARTHA ORELLANA CARRERA

The Professional Development (PD) committee has the mandate to coordinate lectures and workshops that would be of particular interest to translators and those pursuing the translating profession.

We were fortunate to be able to organize a workshop on April 24, 2003 at the Dartmouth Sportsplex presented by **Jean-François Richard**, President and founder of BridgeTerm, a translation software company based in Montreal. The presentation was very informative and Jean-François was able to keep us all on our feet, with lively exchanges of questions, comments and suggestions. ATINS presented



Jean-François Richard demonstrates various software-related applications.

to Jean-François a mug made in Halifax as an appreciation gift.

A poster was designed to advertise the event, and was distributed to the board members to be posted at relevant sites. It was also posted electronically for the information of ATINS members and a targeted audience, and on our website for the public.

During the coffee-break fruit and cake were made available, as well as hot and cold drinks.

Following our AGM we will have the opportunity to have **Mark Villeneuve** once again conducting a discussion on our profession. Mark, as before, is donating his time and expertise to our organization to share his insights and wealth of experience, and many of us look forward to what is to come after this meeting. ATINS will be giving a gift to Mark



Mark Villeneuve, Martha Carrera, Claudia Kingston and Karima Bushra

in appreciation.

This Committee was also responsible for organizing all the food served at the AGM, including the coffee, tea and muffins served prior to the meeting, as well as arranging for catering for the luncheon through the Deli Green Market in Halifax.

The Professional Development committee looks forward to organize workshops that are of interest and would benefit ATINS members, but also to make a presence in the community as to be able to attract the attention of potential members. Any suggestions are always welcome. ■

Upcoming Conferences

THE TRANSLATION INDUSTRY TODAY
STARHOTEL EXCELSIOR
BOLOGNA, ITALY
10-11 OCTOBER 2003

The Conference is the perfect opportunity to keep up-to-date with market trends and technology for the translation industry.

INFORMATION
<http://www.federcentri.org>

AMERICAN TRANSLATORS' ASSOCIATION
44TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
POINTE HILTON SOUTH MOUNTAIN RESORT
PHOENIX, ARIZONA
NOVEMBER 5-8, 2003

The conference will feature:
Entertainment Industry
Financial Translation
Interpreting
Legal Translation & Interpreting
and more...

INFORMATION
<http://www.atanet.org>

TRANSLATING AND THE COMPUTER 25
COMMONWEALTH INSTITUTE
KENSINGTON, LONDON
20-21 NOVEMBER 2003

This conference is one of the few international events which focuses on the user aspects of translation software and as such has been particularly beneficial to a very wide audience including translators, business managers, researchers and language experts.

INFORMATION
<http://www.aslib.com/conferences>

Promotion Committee Report

BY KARIMA BUSHRA

The committee (Claudia Kingston and myself) is still working towards raising awareness about our association, mainly through sending the 2002/2003 directory. Until now one directory or two has been sent by mail or hand delivered to 135 addresses - this is of course added to the Institutions we sent to last year. The covering letter enclosed with the directory was approved by the board and signed by the president. It emphasizes that ATINS' members are highly qualified, certified and bound by a stringent code of ethics.

The ATINS directory was sent to 22 business corporations selected from the Metropolitan Halifax Chamber of Commerce's business directory. To name a few:

Corridor Resources Inc. (oil and gas)
Parachute Enterprises Ltd. (Marketing, Research Sales)
AT&T Canada
ATV/ASN

The ATINS Directory was sent out to selected libraries & related Institutions. Some of the 96 are as follows:

Educational

Acadia University, Vaughan Memorial Library
Dalhousie University, Killam Memorial Library
NS Agricultural College
NS College of Art and Design
NS Community College
NS Department of Education Library

Religious

Anglican Diocese of NS Archives

Research

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Atlantic Food & Horticulture Research Center Library
National Research Council of Canada, NCR Info Centre, Halifax.

Human Rights

NS Human Rights Commission

African NS

Black Cultural Centre for NS Library

Equal Opportunities

NS League for Equal Opportunities Library
Saint Mary's University Ferguson Library for the Print Handicapped

Women

NS Advisory Council on the Status of Women

Certification Exam Committee Report

BY ROBERT CORMIER

This year, the CTIC Accreditation Exam took place on February 8h. The format consists of one compulsory text and one of two optional texts. There was no Ethics portion, since we have implemented a new process last year, which consists of reading and signing the Code of Ethics.

We had:

Three candidates from English to French
One candidate from French to English
One candidate from English to Arabic
One candidate from English to German
One candidate from English to Italian
One candidate from English to Russian
One candidate from English to Korean
One candidate from French to Ukrainian

Federal

Canada Customs & Revenue Agency, Research & Library Services

Newspapers

Daily News, Library

Business

Canada/NS Business Service Centre Reference Library
Conseil Communautaire du Grand-Havre, Bibliothèque du Carrefour.

Media

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
Broadcast Material Library – Television

Health

District Health Authorities, Info Resources & Library Services
NS Dept of Health
Cape Breton Health Care Complex
Regional Hospital Health Science Library
Health Services Atlantic

Environmental

Environment Canada, Library – Atlantic Region

Legal & Justice

Legal Info Society of NS Library
Atlantic Regional Office Library of Justice Canada
NS Barristers' Society
NS Department of Justice (27 directories were sent to 15 centers)

Multicultural

Multicultural Association of NS, Multicultural Library

Defense

National Defense

Museums

Yarmouth County Museum
Historical Research Library, Yarmouth

Results have been received - except for the English to Korean combination - and I have the regret to announce that we have no successful results so far. I wish to encourage the unsuccessful candidates to try again next year.

The certification exam committee met several times over the year to review and implement the new certification criteria, and we had two additional meetings to review the registration "dossier" of four external candidates.

Finally, I want to thank Annie Williams for her counseling, and Colleen Heenan for her contribution to the committee. My thanks go to Sylvain Fillion as well, who gave me a hand with the coordination of the exam on February 8th. Since my mandate in the committee ends with this report, I also want to thank every one for their support, and to wish you all the best in the future.

Musical

NS Choral Federation, Music Library

PROVINCIAL

Tourism

NS Department of Tourism & Culture, Fisheries Museum of Atlantic Libr.

Legislative

NS House of Assembly, Legislative Assembly (by mail)
Ms. Maureen MacDonald (by hand on Jan 7, 03)

Archives & Records

NS Archives & Records Management Library

Unions

NS Teachers Union

Outside Halifax

Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library, New Glasgow
Service NS & Municipal Relations, NS Geomet Center, Amherst
Université Sainte-Anne, Bibliothèque Louis R. Comeau Library

A decision will be made by the ATINS Board to place an ad in one of the following, as we found out the ad cost for advertising in Business Voice magazine and the Touch Base newspaper in the year to come. We suggest also promoting ATINS through the "Maritime Noon" CBC radio show.

Our next strategy is to promote the translation/interpretation profession among junior high, high school students and school

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CONTINUED FROM PG. 5 staff. A letter will be faxed this year to all junior high and high schools. We chose fax for less cost and time.

Our committee's achievement was the result of the spirit of cooperation and dedication. Our board members, treasurer and president have supported our plans and ideas. We hope to have more time and allocated funds to help us proceed with finding complete addresses and preparing mail-outs.

As we always said, the floor is open and we welcome any suggestions from

members. We would appreciate it if you would provide us with lists of addresses (with the postal code) to help target more recipients. Our past president Mrs. Sybille Bechtold suggested sending to the Justice Centres in Nova Scotia. We requested an up-to-date list of complete addresses for the 15 justice centres in Nova Scotia and 27 directories were sent out to these centres.

This is just an example what you can do to help us in our campaign to promote our association. As you know, the more we give to our association the more it grows and flourishes. ●

Website/Newsletter/Directory Committee Report

BY KATIE DUPONT

As you may know, my life has been very busy over the past few months. I changed jobs from Maritime Life to the Translation Bureau. And during that time, instead of focusing on further development of the website, I dedicated most of my ATINS time to maintenance, which included updating the front page and the newsletter section, updating the members directories in both English and French, sending mass e-mails to the members and also sending e-mails to webmasters of other websites that still had a link to the old ATINS URL. During that time two newsletters were also published. You can find them in the News section of the website.

I have also continued monitoring website usage during that time. The statistics gathered for the period of June 2002 to May 2003, show that visits to the site have been stable, with an average of 12 to 15 unique visitors per day and 5,000 pages viewed per month – which is comparable to the previous years. Visitors come mostly from Canada, the U.S. and France, but the site also receives hits from all over the world.

The most popular section of the site is still the on-line Directory, which accounts for almost 50% of the hits.

This actually shows you how important it is to keep the website up to date.

Earlier this year, I received comments from people who had been reading outdated news on our website. After looking into that matter, I discovered that, in fact, the old version of our site at Chebucto Community Net had never been removed. I contacted the supplier who finally took the old site down. So now, the URL www.atins.org is the one and only way to access our site!

I start now the last year of my second mandate as Board member, Webmaster Editor and Directory Coordinator. It's been a lot of fun and it gave me a rare opportunity to know you all a little bit better. But over the next year – or sooner if anybody is interested in the challenge – I will be passing the torch (or rather the torches) to some more capable hands. I realize that the resources used to maintain the website and produce the newsletter are not available to everyone. That's why I'm willing to take care of the back end, which means updating the website and laying out the newsletter, while others take care of the coordination, information gathering and editing. So let me know if you are interested! ●

Motions

The following motion was proposed to confirm the timeframe that associate members have to become certified members. Proposed by Wietske Gradstein at the March 23, 2003, board meeting; seconded by Nathalie Blais. Adopted unanimously.

That all present associate members of ATINS have until ATINS' 2006 AGM to become certified members.

MOTION CARRIED

A motion to have the name Association of Translators and Interpreters of Nova Scotia (ATINS) registered with the Registry of Joint Stock was made by Claudia Kingston. Presently, only the name Association des traducteurs et interprètes de la Nouvelle-Écosse (ATINE) is registered. Any search to find or Association of Translators and Interpreters of Nova Scotia (ATINS) comes up negative.

That the name Association of Translators and Interpreters of Nova Scotia (ATINS) be also registered with the Registry of Joint Stock of Nova Scotia.

MOTION CARRIED

The following motion is presented by Hélène Lemay-Hardy for the creation of a separate contingency fund for ATINS.

That a contingency fund be created with an initial deposit of \$3,000, with subsequent deposits to be determined by the Board, as a reserve for operations in case of changing circumstances, such as reduced membership. To use monies from this fund, the Board would pass a resolution. A financial statement of the activity of the fund should be presented to the membership at each annual general meeting. **MOTION CARRIED**

Note: Recommendations as well as follow up on previous recommendations and motions will be discussed in the next issue.

Certification and Agreement on Internal Trade (Mutual Recognition Agreement)

BY HÉLÈNE LEMAY

I would like to bring you up to date on new developments with the certification process and with the Agreement on Internal Trade that is also called Mutual Recognition Agreement.

Background

1 At the 1997 ATINS AGM, held on May 10, Denise Nevo mentioned in her president's report that the previous year, members had been made aware that certification was about to undergo a number of changes at OTIAQ's initiative due to new professional regulations in Québec from the Ordre des professions.

The proposal was for the introduction of 3 options to obtain certification:

- On dossier (specialized university degree + experience)
- Specialized university degree and mentorship
- Standardized examination (similar to what was already in place but not identical)

At the spring CTIC meeting that year, the first option was unanimously approved by all member associations. At the time, ATINS council had not had enough time to examine the implications of this new option. Discussion and vote on this would take place at the next AGM (1998).

The second option was to be discussed by CTIC in the fall of 97. That option was also deemed of little interest to ATINS members.

2 Sometime during that period, OTTIAQ was informed by the Ordre des professions that no exam could be used as a condition of certification in Québec. Therefore OTTIAQ stopped having its prospective mem-

bers write CTIC exams, and developed its own new certification standards based on education (degree in translation) and experience.

3 On another level, the Bureau of Translation and CTIC had signed in 1991-1992 a protocol whereby certified members could join the Translation Bureau without writing the entrance exam and whereas TR2s and TR3s of the BT could become certified without sitting the CTIC exam. The Bureau of Translation of the federal government wanted to negotiate a new protocol with CTIC but could not because of different certification requirements across Canada.

4 To allow for mutual recognition of title and transferability, new criteria were established using the highest criteria in place : those of OTTIAQ. At the November 2000 CTIC meeting in Montreal, all the associations agreed "in principle to work towards implementing some minimum certification standards in translation with a view to achieving full portability (transferability) of certification across Canada."

Following are excerpt from the Agreement:

3 Common certification standard. Each candidate shall provide evidence of meeting one of the following requirements in order to be eligible for certified member status in a signatory body under this Agreement:

3.1 In all provinces and territories of Canada excluding Quebec, a degree in translation or terminology conferred by one of the academic institutions listed in Appendix 1 or a degree in translation or terminology deemed equivalent by a body, and evidence of one year of professional experience prior to passing the Standardized certification examination in translation, terminology,

conference interpretation and court interpretation of the Canadian Translators and Interpreters Council;

3.2 In all provinces and territories of Canada excluding Quebec, evidence of four years of professional experience in translation or terminology prior to passing the Standardized certification examination in translation, terminology, conference interpretation and court interpretation of the Canadian Translators and Interpreters Council.

3.3 A degree in translation or terminology conferred by one of the academic institutions listed in Appendix 1 or a degree in translation or terminology deemed equivalent by a regulatory body and successful completion of the Programme d'initiation encadrée à la pratique professionnelle of the Ordre des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes agréés du Québec;

3.4 A degree in translation or terminology conferred by one of the academic institutions listed in Appendix 1 or a degree in translation or terminology deemed equivalent by a regulatory body, evidence of two years of professional experience in translation or terminology prior to application for certification on dossier and obtaining certified member status on dossier after February 1998;

3.5 Evidence of five years of professional experience in translation or terminology prior to application for certification on dossier and obtaining certified member status on dossier after February 1998;

3.6 Certified member status with a body pursuant to certification requirements not consistent with the requirements set out earlier but based on requirements in force prior to this Agreement within each body. ...CONTINUED ON PG. 8

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5 In her report presented at the May 12, 2001 AGM, Sibylle informed the membership that CTIC had worked out uniform certification requirements which would come into effect in February 2002, and she invited members to keep reading the website and the newsletter where the final draft of the requirements would be posted. I have no recollection of seeing these requirements and wonder if CTIC did send them.

In July 2001, OTTIAQ, ATIO and CTINB signed Chapter 1 of the Mutual Recognition Agreement. STIBC, who obtained reserved title in November 2002, is scheduled to sign Chapter 1 in the near future.

At the CTIC conference call of April 27, 2002, it was said that the translation of Chapter 2 into English would be done before the end of June and sent to provincial associations. I do not remember when the document was sent, but because of computer difficulty, I did not see the document before the meeting.

At the 2002 CTIC November meeting, which Annie and I attended, a draft of Chapter 2 to the Mutual Recognition Agreement was submitted. The remaining associations were supposed to sign chapter 2 of that agreement. (Because several minor changes were made, the signing of the document was postponed to April 2003.) However, in order to be able to sign each association had to have put in place the minimum certification standards that had been agreed to earlier. When we went around the table, all the associations said that the new requirements were in place, except ATIS which had not realized that those standards had to have been in place this year (apparently in February 2002). I was not aware of the content of Chapter 2 before the meeting but knowing that ATINS was applying new standards, I assumed they were those of Chapter 2. So did Annie.

However, upon our return, Annie and I had several discussions regarding the text of Chapter 2 to the Agreement. After obtaining clarification on certain aspects, Annie realized that ATINS had not applied those criteria to the candidates who would be writing the CTIC exam in February 2003 (e.g. the committee accepted as proof of education foreign degrees which may not qualify under Chapter 2; also, some associate members were allowed to register although they do not meet the new requirements).

6 Now, on another level, ATINS had voted to become a certified-members-only association and it was somehow agreed that all current associate members would have until 2006 to obtain certification. Therefore, we cannot change the criteria for these associate members at this point.

7 Chapter 2 of the Mutual Recognition Agreement is now being signed by all the other provincial associations. But at the CTIC conference call on May 3, 2003, I informed everyone that ATINS might not be in a position to sign this agreement before 2006.

8 What does it mean? And is it important? It means that anyone who was recently certified and who moves to another province will not be automatically given certified status. This member would have to present a dossier. Approval would be on a case by case basis. And this not only where provincial associations have reserved title. Any association that signed Chapter 2 would be bound by the terms of the Agreement.

9 The application of the criteria defined in this Agreement is the reason why there was a drop in candidates to the CTIC exam this year (and a drop in revenues). This is also why CTIC would like associations to promote certification on dossier.

10 Because ATINS opted to become a certified-members-only association, the number of new candidates will also decrease here when we apply the new criteria to any potential candidates. ATINS does intend to recognize certified members from other provincial associations who would move to Nova Scotia and seek membership with ATINS

11 We will actually welcome Louise Delisle in June. Louise is a certified member of OTTIAQ working for the Translation Bureau in Hull. She is moving to Inverness and will continue working for the same unit of the Translation Bureau thanks to modern technology. ■

Elections Results

Your Board for 2003-2004:

President
Hélène Lemay

Vice-President
Colleen Heenan

Treasurer
Wietske Gradstein

Secretary
Vacant

Board Member
Nathalie Blais

Board Member
Karima Bushra

Board Member
Martha Carrera

Board Member
Katie Dupont

Board Member
Diane Fournier

Board Member
Georges Merinfeld

Note: The role of Secretary still needs to be filled. If you are interested in this position, please let us know a info@atins.org.

News from CTIC

BY HÉLÈNE LEMAY

AS ATINS' president, I attended CTIC's AGM in Montreal on November 23 and 24, 2002, and I also attended the spring conference call on May 3, 2003.

This was my first experience ever with CTIC and I was nervous because I knew very little about the issues previously discussed and hardly anything about those on the agenda:

- Agreement on Internal Trade
- Relations with the Translation Bureau
- Relations with CAST
- FIT Congress
- Canadian Translation Industry Sectoral Committee
- Human Resources Sectoral Council
- Canadian Network of Language Industries
- Regional Network for North America

I listened a lot, thought before speaking and did my best to present the views of ATINS from the little experience I had. I was very thankful for the presence and help of Annie Williams on some issues.

Here are some highlights from CTIC's action plan for 2002-2003

- Establish a marker's accreditation system
- Create an electronic bulletin
- Establish standards for mentorship programs across all member associations. OTTIAQ has a system in place that leads to the creation of a professional file and the presentation of this file for certification. ATIO has approved the principle of a mentorship program. Other provinces are looking into this idea.
- Participation in related organizations
- Identify new revenues generating opportunities (new services for members, sponsorships, advertising, multiple occasion of collaboration with provincial and territorial associations) to face together the challenges of language profession recognition
- Promote professional recognition in provinces where titles are not protected by law and help those associations with the process of title recognition. (This might prove difficult because this is a provincial jurisdiction.)

CTIC financing: CTIC revenues come mostly from exam fees and from fees collected from associations (based on \$22.00 per member). Due to a loss in revenues from the exams, an increase of \$5.00 per member was suggested.

One association suggested an increase of \$8.00. I mentioned that ATINS might be able to afford a \$5.00 increase but that an \$8.00 increase might be steep. ATIO suggested that more avenues should be explored before thinking of an increase in member fees.

FIT Congress: The congress held in Vancouver last summer was a success and thanks to the work of the consultant agency, Portfolio, there was a \$50,000.00 surplus, even after seed money was reimbursed to provincial associations. Some of that money went to CTIC, some to STIBC whose members volunteered many hours to prepare the event. The money left was then split between associations who had contributed seed money, in proportion to the amount loaned. ATINS received \$1155.55 in April 2003. CTIC asked if associations would consider leaving that money with CTIC for special projects benefiting all associations. At a meeting held in January, the board decided to keep the money (at the time we did not know the exact amount) but indicated that if CTIC did work on a project that would benefit all associations, ATINS would make a financial contribution. ●

INTERNATIONAL TRANSLATION DAY AT WORD ON THE STREET

Again this year ATINS will celebrate International Translation Day at Word on the Street (WOTS), on Sunday, Sept. 28 at Pier 20.

Our presence at WOTS is an excellent opportunity to promote ourselves and our Association. To volunteer for a shift at the ATINS booth contact :

Colleen Heenan at 425-8242.

Let's all join in this community celebration of reading and writing on Translation Day.

FOR MORE DETAILS ABOUT WORD ON THE STREET, PLEASE VISIT:
<http://www.thewordonthestreet.ca>

JOURNÉE MONDIALE DE LA TRADUCTION À WORD ON THE STREET

L'ATINE célébrera la Journée mondiale de la traduction à l'exposition Word on the Street, le dimanche 28 septembre, au Pier 20.

Notre présence à Word on the Street est une excellente occasion de promouvoir nos membres et notre association. Si vous désirez consacrer une heure ou deux au stand de l'ATINE, communiquez avec **Colleen Heenan au 425-8242.**

Participons ensemble à cette célébration de la lecture et de la rédaction durant la Journée mondiale de la traduction!

POUR PLUS DE RENSEIGNEMENTS SUR WORD ON THE STREET, VISITEZ :
<http://www.thewordonthestreet.ca>

International Translation Day 30 September 2003

Press Release from the
International Federation of Translators (FIT)

Translators' Rights

In choosing Translators' Rights as the theme for International Translation Day 2003, the International Federation of Translators (FIT) wanted to revisit one of the reasons it was established 50 years ago.

Translators' rights have been one of the main concerns of FIT since its beginning. The Translator's Charter, published in 1963 and amended in 1994, and the Recommendation on the legal protection of Translators and Translations and the practical means to improve the Status of Translators, adopted by UNESCO in Nairobi in 1976 (Nairobi Recommendation) are evidence of this. (These documents can be found on the FIT website at www.fit-ift.org.)

Unfortunately, despite the best efforts of FIT and its member associations over the years, the translator's professional status is still far from being accepted universally. Although globalization has heightened awareness of the need for translation, it has not led to the recognition of the professional nature of the activity and the rights of its practitioners.

Western countries are no exception to this state of affairs, and translators there are still fighting for one of their most fundamental rights, that of copyright. Even though the Berne Convention, which considers a translation to be an original work, recognizes copyright for translators, publishers and distributors regularly evade or ignore it. The advent of the Internet and electronic publications have only exacerbated the problem.

In addition to copyright, which is of special concern to translators of publications, there are other rights that require attention: the right to proper working conditions that allow the translator to produce quality work, the right to reasonable remuneration, and above all the right to the recognition of translation a professional activity that requires specialised training and not simply a result of learning two languages. The lack of understanding on the part of the public and those who use translation often means that professional translators have to justify their education, their work, their rates and even their very existence. Again, the availability of machine translation systems on the Internet has not improved the situation, even though it is widely accepted that such systems provide very poor translations indeed.

To these professional concerns are added even more serious concerns, namely the violation of human rights. The International Federation of Translators has been called on many times to react to tragic circumstances. For example, the murder of two of Salman Rushdie's translators after the fatwa was issued against him. Or the case of the Turkish translator brought to court for by translating a novel that contained passages deemed to be sexually explicit.

By making Translators' Rights the theme of International Translation Day, the International Federation of Translators wants to heighten awareness among its member associations and the public about the importance of translation in human exchanges, be they cultural, economic, political or social, and of the need to recognise translation as a profession.

Translator's Rights will also be the theme of a three-day seminar which will be held in conjunction with FIT's 50th anniversary festivities in Paris, on November 20, 21 and 22.

The International Federation of Translators is a world federation of professional associations of translators, interpreters, and terminologists. It has 115 members in some 50 countries and represents more than 60,000 professionals. As an ONG, FIT maintains formal consultative relations with UNESCO.

Journée mondiale de la traduction 30 septembre 2003

Communiqué de presse de la
Fédération internationale des traducteurs (FIT)

Les Droits des traducteurs

Les Droits du traducteur, tel sera le thème de la journée mondiale de la traduction 2003. La Fédération internationale des traducteurs (FIT) a voulu ainsi, à l'occasion de son 50e anniversaire, rappeler l'un de ses thèmes fondateurs.

Les droits du traducteur sont en effet au centre des préoccupations de la FIT depuis sa création. La Charte du traducteur, publiée en 1963 et révisée en 1994, et la Recommandation sur la protection juridique des traducteurs et des traductions et sur les moyens pratiques d'améliorer la condition des traducteurs, adoptée par l'Unesco à Nairobi en 1976 (Recommandation de Nairobi) en témoignent (Ces documents peuvent être consultés sur le site Web de la FIT à l'adresse www.fit-ift.org).

Malheureusement, et malgré tous les efforts déployés par la FIT et par ses associations membres depuis de nom-

breuses années, la reconnaissance du statut professionnel du traducteur est loin d'être universellement acquise. Et si la mondialisation a suscité une prise de conscience de la nécessité de traduire, elle n'a pas – loin s'en faut – engendré une reconnaissance de la qualité professionnelle de cette activité et des droits qui en découlent.

Les pays occidentaux ne font pas exception puisque les traducteurs luttent encore pour faire reconnaître l'un de leurs droits les plus fondamentaux : le droit d'auteur. Bien que celui-ci soit reconnu pour les traducteurs par la Convention de Berne, qui considère qu'une traduction est une recreation, il est régulièrement éludé et ignoré par les éditeurs et diffuseurs. L'avènement d'Internet n'a fait qu'accentuer le problème avec les publications sous forme électronique.

Au droit d'auteur, qui concerne plus particulièrement les traducteurs de publications, il faut ajouter d'autres droits comme le droit à des conditions de travail favorables à une prestation de qualité, le droit à une rémunération raisonnable et surtout, le droit à une reconnaissance de l'activité de traduction comme une activité profes-

sionnelle nécessitant une formation spécialisée qui ne se limite pas à la connaissance des deux langues. La méconnaissance du public et des utilisateurs de traduction force souvent le traducteur professionnel à justifier sa formation, son travail, ses tarifs et, à la limite, son existence. Encore là, l'avènement des systèmes de traduction automatique sur Internet n'a pas amélioré la situation, même si tout le monde s'accorde pour en reconnaître la piètre qualité.

À ces préoccupations d'ordre professionnel, s'ajoutent – et cette réalité est bien plus grave – les violations de droits humains. La Fédération Internationale des Traducteurs a maintes fois été appelée à réagir dans des circonstances tragiques. Mentionnons, pour exemple, le meurtre pur et simple de deux traducteurs de Salman Rushdie après la fatwa prononcée contre lui. Si l'illustrateur a bénéficié d'une protection rapprochée, ses traducteurs n'ont malheureusement pas eu cet honneur. Mentionnons également le cas de cette traductrice turque, condamnée pour avoir traduit un roman contenant des passages érotiques considérés comme trop explicites.

En plaçant la Journée mondiale de la traduction sous le thème des droits du traducteurs, la Fédération Internationale des Traducteurs souhaite susciter une prise de conscience, chez ses associations membres et dans le grand public, de l'importance de la traduction dans les échanges humains, que ceux-ci soient d'ordre culturel, économique, politiques ou sociaux, et de la nécessité de reconnaître celle-ci comme la profession qu'elle est et qu'elle a toujours été.

Les droits du traducteur seront également à l'ordre du jour d'un séminaire de trois jours organisé à l'occasion des festivités du 50^e anniversaire de la FIT, à Paris, les 20, 21 et 22 novembre 2003.

La Fédération Internationale des Traducteurs est une fédération mondiale d'associations professionnelles réunissant des traducteurs, des interprètes et des terminologues. Elle compte 115 membres répartis sur une cinquantaine de pays et représente ainsi plus de 60 000 professionnels. À titre d'ONG, elle est en relations formelles de consultation avec l'UNESCO. ●

WORD PLAY AT IT'S BEST!

- Shotgun wedding: a case of wife or death.
- A man needs a mistress just to break the monogamy.
- A hangover is the wrath of grapes.
- When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.
- What's the definition of a will? It's a dead giveaway.
- A backward poet writes inverse.
- In democracy your vote counts. In feudalism your count votes.
- A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
- If you don't pay your exorcist, you get repossessed.
- Show me a piano falling down a mine shaft, and I'll show you A flat minor.
- A lot of money is tainted. It taint yours and it taint mine.
- The short fortune teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.
- Those who jump off a Paris bridge are in Seine.
- Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead-to-know basis.
- Acupuncture is a jab well done.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Thank you to all our contributors as well as Graphic Designer **Troy Cole** who generously helped design and produce this issue of *ATINS Let's talk about it!*.

If you would like to submit articles, announcements, tips, pictures, or anything else you deem worth sharing with your fellow Translators and Interpreters please send them along. The submission deadline for the next issue is **October 1st, 2003**.

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