CASA – Committee for Anglophone Social Action

Annual Report

2012 - 2013
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11. Board Elections – Slate of Officers
12. Varia
CASA held their 37th AGM in Gaspe at the Royal Canadian Legion on June 11th, 2012 from 6-8 pm.

Present:  
Dee Anne McNally  Barry McNally  Diane Sawyer  
Ronald Mundle  Tanya Dorion  Cheryl Henry  
Jessica Synnot  Theresa Joseph  David Douesnard  
Valetta Patterson  Daniel Sams  Ola Tapp  
Milford Lemieux  Patricia Cotton  Cynthia McDonald  
Maggie Reeder  Weston White  Jean Paul Shannon  
Sylvie Ritchie  Dale Fitzpatrick  Jennifer Roy  
Ellen Conoly  Tony Conoly  Sarah Couillard  
Benoit Cayouette  Douglas Hunt  Don Barclay  
Stella Kennedy  Dave Felker  Allen Richards  
Tracey Leotta  Maria Chatterton  Roberta Billingsley  
Fay Gallon  Judy Buttle  Tammy Lapointe  
John Legrand  Cathy Brown  Kathy Gallon  

AGENDA

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6. Executive Director’s Message  
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10. Project Updates  
11. Question & Answer Period  
12. Board Elections – Slate of Officers  
13. Varia

1. WELCOME

On behalf of CASA Ronald Mundle President of CASA welcomed and thanked everyone for coming.

2. NOMINATION OF CHAIR

AGM 01-06-12  It was moved by Diane Sawyer that Allen Richards be the chairperson for CASA’s 37th AGM and seconded by Valetta Patterson. It was also moved that Fay Gallon be the secretary. CARRIED
3. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

   Allen Richards read the Agenda.

   **AGM 02-06-12** It was moved by Dave Douesnard and seconded by Valetta Patterson to accept the agenda. CARRIED

4. **MINUTES OF AGM - JUNE 12, 2011**

   Allen Richards gave the assembly a few moments to read the minutes of the 37th AGM meeting.

   **AGM 03-06-12** It was moved by Valetta Patterson and seconded by Stella Kennedy to accept the minutes of June 12, 2011. CARRIED

5. **PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

   Ron Mundle welcomed all our guests. He thanked the dedicated staff, the board of directors, our partners and the countless community volunteers for their committed contributions. After 11 years of volunteering on the CASA Board of Directors Valetta Patterson resigned on May 22, 2012. Ron presented Valetta with a gift and flowers. Ron wished everyone a great evening.

6. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE**

   Cathy Brown thanked everyone for attending and proudly stated that throughout the fiscal year 4 staff members of CASA were employed in Gaspe. She also explained how CASA has grown and has made many strong partnerships throughout the region. Examples have been with Vision Gaspe-Perce Now (where CASA had 2 employees work from the Vision office) as well as Commission Jeunesse, Emploi Quebec, CEDEC, ESSB, SADC and the CJE.

7. **AUDITOR’S REPORT**

   The auditor Julie Lucier from Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton joined via telephone. Using charts Cathy Brown and Julie Lucier explained the report.
CASA’s revenues for 2012 were $764,227 and expenses are $762,944 leaving CASA with a surplus of $1,283.

Cathy Brown also explained why Honoraria was high; 2 Skills Link projects were running and all participants were paid from this account. With more projects throughout the fiscal year, and many coordinators working in the field this increased the Telecommunications amount (cell phones, internet). A question from the floor was asked why Office Expenses and Printing was so high last year $48,423 compared to this year $17,982. Cathy informed that last year a book was printed, G is for the Gaspe, and printing costs etc associated with the book were placed in this account.

Cathy also explained the breakdown of each project

AGM 04-06-12 Everyone moved the auditor’s report be accepted as presented. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

AGM 05-06-12 Dave Douesnard moved that Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton be appointed as CASA’s auditors for the year 2012-2013, seconded by Dee Anne McNally. CARRIED.

9. BY-LAW AMENDMENT

5.3 Annual General Meeting
The Annual General Meeting of the Corporation will be held within 90 days from the end of the fiscal year, at a time and place to be determined by the Board and at a location chosen by said Board. All members in good standing are eligible to vote during the Annual General Meeting.

Amendment

5.3 Annual General Meeting
The Annual General Meeting of the Corporation will be held on or before September 30 following the end of the fiscal year, at a time and place to be determined by the Board and at a location chosen by said Board. All members in good standing are eligible to vote during the Annual General Meeting.

Concerns were raised from the floor with the wording “all members in good standing”. Therefore, the by-law will not be amended at this time until the wording is defined. The annual general meeting will be held as per the original by-law 90 days from the end of the fiscal year.
10. **PROJECT UPDATES**
   
   Cathy Brown presented a powerpoint with financial graphs that explained project funders and each amounts. Cathy then passed the floor over to CASA staff to explain the many projects.

11. **QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD**
   
   No questions from the floor.

12. **BOARD ELECTIONS – SLATE OF OFFICERS**
   
   Slate of officers was read:
   
   **Zone 1 - Matapedia - Nouvelle:** Dee Anne McNally
   
   **Zone 2 - Gesgapegiag – St. Simeon:**
   
   **Zone 3 - Bonaventure - Shigawake:** Dave Douesnard, Diane Sawyer
   
   **Zone 4 - Port Daniel - Barachois:**
   
   **Zone 5 - Belle Anse - Gaspe:** Ronald Mundle
   
   **Health and Social Services:** Stella Kennedy
   
   **Economic Development Representative:** Allen Richards
   
   All Directors are of a one year term, renewable without limitations. All directors agreed to remain for another term.

   **AGM 06-06-12** The slate of officers were approved by Valetta Patterson and seconded by Douglas Hunt. Carried.

   Allen Richards opened the floor to other nominations.

   Nominations from the floor were taken as follows:

   **AGM 07-06-12** Zone 2: Gesgepegiag – St. Simeon, it was proposed by Valetta Patterson to nominate Jennifer Roy and seconded by Dave Douesnard.

   No other nominations were made from the floor.

   Jennifer Roy accepted the position.

   **AGM 08-06-12** Zone 4: Port Daniel – Barachois, it was proposed by Ronald Mundle to nominate Douglas Hunt and seconded by Valetta Patterson.

   No other nominations were made from the floor.

   Douglas Hunt accepted the position.

   **AGM 09-06-12** Zone 5: Belle Anse – Gaspe, it was proposed by Diane Sawyer to nominate Brad McDonald and seconded by Ronald Mundle.

   No other nominations were made from the floor.

   Brad McDonald accepted the position.
AGM 10-06-12  It was moved by Ronald Mundle that nominations cease, seconded by Dave Douesnard. CARRIED

13. VARIA

No Varia.

AGM 11-06-12  Stella Kennedy moved to have the meeting adjourned at 7:50pm seconded by Diane Sawyer. CARRIED.

__________________________________________  _________________________________
Ronald Mundle, President                      Fay Gallon, Secretary
President’s Message

I would first like to extend a warm welcome to everyone and thank you for attending our 38th Annual General Meeting. CASA is an organization that is strongly devoted to supporting and enhancing the lives of the English-speaking community of the Gaspé Coast and we welcome opportunities, such as our AGM, to come together to share our success and promote our mission. I hope this evening’s presentations and displays provide you with a sense of how much we have accomplished and how much we have to celebrate.

CASA’s continued positive community impact is driven by the unwavering commitment of its volunteers, staff, Board of Directors and the active involvement of its many community partners. Together, this dynamic and forward-thinking group of individuals constantly challenge themselves to find innovative ways to implement the most effective method of service delivery and influence approaches that support the English-speaking population of this region. Our commitment is demonstrated in the quality of our programs and partnerships, which are detailed in the results of this Annual Report.

This has been an exciting year for this organization, and as we move forward we are committed to maintain a proactive role to ensuring that we are informed of the current needs, barriers and challenges; innovative in our approach and united in our efforts to create a strong and vibrant English-speaking community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the dedicated staff of CASA, our Board of Directors, our partners, our communities and the countless volunteers for their continuous support. As we move towards our 39th year of operation, we are eager and proud to carry on as an organization that is essential to the vitality of the Anglophone community of the Gaspe Coast.
Auditor’s Report
By-law Amendment

See Annex A
CASA Board and Staff

Board of Directors

Ronald Mundle  President  Gaspe
Diane Sawyer  Vice President  New Carlisle
Dave Douenard  Treasurer  New Carlisle
Stella Kennedy  Director  Douglastown
DeeAnne McNally  Director  Escuminac
Allen Richards  Director  Paspébiac
Jennifer Roy  Director  St. Siméon
Brad McDonald  Director  Gaspe

Staff

Cathy Brown  Executive Director
Fay Gallon  Administrative Assistant
John Legrand  Bookkeeper
Roberta Billingsley  Youth Program Manager
Maria Chatterton  Health Program Manager

♦ Judy Buttle
♦ Barbara Flowers
♦ Danny Sams
♦ Douglas Hunt
♦ Gordon Duthie
♦ Jennifer Bujold
♦ Jennifer Hayes
♦ Kathy Gallon
♦ Laura Flowers
♦ Linsey Smith
♦ Lucy Jane Casey-Campbell
♦ Madelyn Powers
♦ Maxime Huot
♦ Nora Walker-Main
♦ Shannon Marsh
♦ Tammy Lapointe
♦ Trudy Brown
♦ Dave Felker
♦ Kim McInnis
♦ Tiffany Woods-Annett
Sense of belonging

A special tour called, “Notre Home” featuring hip-hop artist David Hodges, of Montreal, was able to foster a positive, inclusive and unifying message that communicated a healthy sense of belonging for English-speaking youth between 12-17! Mobilizing communities across the province through music, his presence in our region was definitely unforgettable! Come back soon David!  www.notrehome.ca
The table consists of 10 youth who absolutely love the Gaspésie region and are excellent at promoting the quality of life that they enjoy here! Our Youth Ambassadors are in Secondary II, IV and V from: Escuminac Intermediate School, New Richmond High School, Bonaventure Polyvalent, New Carlisle High School, Evergreen High School, and Gaspe Polyvalent.

Together we promote community ownership, leadership and empower a youth-driven network for our region. During this year’s efforts, the youth-led team decided to host a poster contest along the coast for students in Grades 1-6 called, “See My Gaspésie!” Winners in each school were announced on June 6, Journée de la Gaspésie et des Îles, where great prizes were given out to these budding artists and their posters were professionally laminated for display in their school!

Youth Ambassadors have also been responsible for managing a local bursary promotion kiosk in their respective high school. Look for our Ambassadors in their spiffy red attire, sporting the infamous COMPASS logo! They are our future leaders!

Youth Ambassadors Lindsay Collin-Rooney and Natalie Chicoine, Gaspe
Future Preparedness

This past year, COMPASS was responsible for bringing CEGEP students to visit with secondary students to have an in-class discussion about what post-secondary life is really like as a student attending the CEGEP de la Gaspésie-des-Îles, or Champlain College, Lennoxville. This awareness blitz is intriguing to students in our rural area to begin thinking about post-secondary decisions earlier than their graduating year of high school. Vocational education and University ambassadors will also be joining the tour this fall!

Plans are now underway to ensure the development of a Grad Toolkit in an attempt to package and promote information for students and parents for the significant post-secondary development stages. Our new Youth Get Connected project will assist with the production.

Recognition events for our ambitious youth!

COMPASS was excited to present Gaspesie’s own Vanessa McGie a recognition award in collaboration with the Table consultative jeunesse Rocher-Percé, at the Implication jeunesse ceremony recently held in Chandler. This event was held to recognize youth who are leaders and achievers in their communities.

Roberta Billingsley—CASA Youth Manager, Vanessa McGie and Shannon Marsh—CASA Youth Coordinator
**Skills Link New Carlisle**

This project marked CASA’s 5th Skills Link program in the region for English-speaking youth. Participants developed life and employability skills that assisted them on their journey toward reinsertion into the labour market. It also provided participants with the opportunity to be sensitized to the benefits of obtaining their high school diploma.

During the 26 week program, many workshops were given on various topics thanks to guest speakers from the region. All participants completed job shadowing activities, participated in various community events and donated their time as volunteers throughout the project.

The first major construction project was a greenhouse at the New Carlisle Optimist Chalet and once the project was complete, CASA donated it to Family Ties. The second, was to create signage for the Municipality of New Carlisle for multiple attractions. The third major project included the group working on the site of Fair Haven Bible Camp, which gave each of them a great sense of pride.

Through the Skills Link New Carlisle project, the statement “Second Chances” reigned true to the impressionable participants. Not only did one community pull together to support and appreciate the meaning behind such a project, but they also came to influence each participant to become contributing members of society.
This is CASA’s 6th Skills Link project in the region! This project is designed to help English-speaking youth between the ages of 16 and 30 in the Eastern Avignon MRC to overcome employment and isolative barriers.

Back row: Alexandre Martin, Tony Smith, Eric Fitzgerald, Jamal Coull, Front: Kelly Caplin, Nicole Condo-Jerome, Orenda Mallette, Robyn Major and Coordinator, Trudy Brown

DJ Coull
**Employability**

A total of 50 English-speaking youth participate in Employability Skills workshops each year through COMPASS, improving their employability level and are actively engaged in developing their career paths. Over 200 English-speaking clients have been served through job search and resume building since COMPASS was created and over 80 jobs found to date! We continue to serve our clientele on a daily basis and the job success rate is through the roof. Our coordinators are located in Gaspe and New Carlisle to ensure that this specialized service can meet the needs of English-speakers, region-wide, looking to participate in the labour market, and need down-to-earth help along the way! Need direction? Use COMPASS!

Resume building

Cover letter

Job promotion

Job search

Online placement

Employability workshops

Business coaching and Entrepreneurial workshops (YES)

As a not-for-profit organization, YES Montreal (Youth Employment Services) enriches the community by providing English-language support services to help Quebecers find employment and start businesses through personal coaching.

Throughout the year, several workshops and personal coaching sessions were hosted in Gaspe, New Carlisle and New Richmond. What a success! There were over 45 English-speaking clients served with Yes Montreal in our region!

*Left to right: Shannon Marsh-CASA Youth Coordinator, Cathy Brown-CASA Executive Director, Mario Clarke-YES Montreal, Roberta Billingsley-CASA Youth Program Manager and Douglas Leahy-YES Montreal*
School Perseverance Initiative

CASA is proud to introduce our first School Perseverance Initiative in partnership with Complice Gaspésie-des-Iles and Eastern Shores School Board! We are working in the youth sector promoting work-oriented and entrepreneurial programming in 6 schools from Gaspe to Escuminac. CASA’s goal is to introduce young people to the opportunities that are available to them within their community and that match their personal interests; alternative hands-on education!

The Promotion and Attraction project introduced Grade 7 & 8 students to what Youth Cooperative Entrepreneurship looks like. Each school came up with their own idea to create their own co-op project! We saw a Spring Formal organized by NRHS, a Theatre production tour from NCHS, and Escuminac students have recently created a Hot-Dog stand called “Doggin’ it!”

On hand to support the youth were Bilbo Cyr, Agent de sensibilisation à l’entrepreneuriat jeunesse Carrefour jeunesse emploi and Yan Tremblay, Agent de Promotion à l’entrepreneuriat collectif jeunesse Coopérative de développement régional Gaspésie – les-Îles.
Under the *Promotion and Attraction* project, secondary students were also offered an Employability and Work Ethic workshop where local employers are invited to come into the classroom and talk about how important it is to stay in school in order to maximize their experience as potential stagières, or eventual employees.

The *Partners for Success* project ensures that the business sector is aware of the region’s Anglophone youth as their future workforce and trainees. This process influences youth to discover their local business network and congratulates all participating entrepreneurs for providing a stage placement opportunity, presenting in a classroom, or accepting a job shadowing placement. The “Count Me In!” process has been extraordinary as the coordinator, Maxime Huot has been on the road visiting business owners to strengthen the link between the school and business community.
YES! I’M JOB SHADOWING!

Work-oriented exploration continued with students signing up to see what it is like during a work day for professions that the student had expressed an interest in!

Evergreen High School student Tiffany Wall, spent time with Yves Whittom, dentist in Chandler

New Carlisle High School student Logan Hottot enjoyed his day with the Municipality of New Carlisle

A local Trapping expert, Gransil Hottot was invited into the classroom to talk to the students of the Work Oriented Training Pathway. He came complete with furs and different types of traps. He brought samples such as Coyote, Beaver, Otter, Weasel and even a Fisher! The students were bright-eyed with interest and had an abundance of questions about the traditional aspects of trapping.
Students from New Richmond High School and New Carlisle High School in the Work Oriented Pathway were able to participate in two fantastic workshops with the School Perseverance team. A personal mapping exercise created a space for the youth to talk about why it is a good idea to stay in school and obtain a diploma. This exercise provoked an interesting discussion outside the traditional classroom setting, where teachers were sensitized to the activity and took on a listening role, and it worked! The students actively participated and felt very comfortable with the set up. The students became familiar with pre-requisites for Vocational Programs that interest them.

Students from Gaspe Polyvalent and New Carlisle High School have expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to participate in the Small Motor Repair program. A total of 39 students experienced a heightened sense of ambition to stay in school and pursue their interests and abilities through the Work Oriented Pathway, while considering the exploration of vocational education with confidence. The program was a major hit with the students and some have even requested to come to school on professional days to work on their motors! The youth have definitely enjoyed the mentorship from the coordinators and felt supported by their teachers, and parents throughout. A definite win for school perseverance!
Health and social services

Wellness Centres What an amazing year for the Senior’s Wellness Centres on the Gaspé Coast. This year, the Wellness Centres expanded to include the communities of Escuminac and Matapedia, bringing the total to six in the region.

Thanks to these sessions, participants in Gaspé, Port Daniel, New Carlisle, Cascapedia-St. Jules, Escuminac and Matapedia have access to cognitive and physical stimulation, health presentations in English, and a support system for their independence and autonomy.

Wellness Centres are funded by the Community Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN) and the Conférence régionale des Élu(e)s Gaspesiennes-Iles-de-la-Madeleine (CREGIM). Valued partners and contributors include the CSSS Côte-de-Gaspé, CSSS Rocher-Percé, CSSS Baie-des-Chaleurs, the Municipalities of Matapedia, Cascapedia-St. Jules and New Carlisle and the Fleurant Point Community Centre. Our gratitude equally extends to community organizations and volunteers who, generously give their time and expertise to each session.
Community Health Promotion  CASA is able to offer complimentary support to secluded seniors who are unable to attend a Wellness Centre near them. Regular visits take place at two senior’s residences in the region, Richmond Manor and the Gilker Residence.

During the visits, our coordinator facilitates cognitive exercises to help their memory stay sharp, as well as stimulating hand-eye coordination games. The seniors also enjoy participating in the intergenerational activities organized for them that involve bringing school-aged children to spend time with them. Local musicians have been involved with this programming as well, and offer a memorable performance that is very much appreciated by the seniors.

Individual phone calls and home visits are also welcomed regularly by elderly citizens who are in more isolated situations in their own homes.

Frozen Foods  A Frozen Foods Program is successfully underway. Seniors in the Chandler area have access to nutritious, affordable meals that include a soup, main meal and dessert on a regular basis. The meals are prepared at the Chandler Hospital and are offered to all seniors discharged from their stay, as well as seniors in the community. The meals are picked up and delivered once a week by dedicated volunteers.

To date, the program has prepared and delivered nearly 300 meals since 2011! The Frozen Foods project is funded by Soutien aux Initiatives Visant le Respect des Aînés and is in partnership with the CSSS Rocher-Percé.
Video conferencing With funding from CHEP - Community Health Education Program, CASA continues to offer video conferencing on various health topics to educate the English-speaking community. During 2012-13, sessions held included Fatigue, Managing a Health Crisis, Shingles, Life Altering Diagnosis and Memory Loss. CHEP has been very successful due to the ever growing need for health information in English. These sessions took place in Shigawake, New Carlisle, New Richmond and Listuguj with over 75 participants.

CSSSBC Translations CASA continues to provide translation support which will improve services for the Anglophone population using the CLSC’s and Maria Hospital.

Program d’aide à l’éveil à la lecture et à l’écriture In February 2013 Eastern Shores School Board in partnership with CASA launched the Program d’aide à l’éveil à la lecture et à l’écriture, also known as PAÉLÉ, in the MRC of Bonaventure. PAÉLÉ is a program which aims to develop the emergent literacy skills of children aged 0-5 by offering community-based literacy activities that are fun, free and family oriented. Thanks to PAÉLÉ Programming, children will experience improved school preparedness and long-term educational success.

The PAÉLÉ coordinators have been active in the community establishing links and partnerships with citizens and organizations, highlighting existing services, community strengths, and identifying gaps and needs. A comprehensive and territory-specific action plan will be created and implementation is scheduled for fall 2013. The PAÉLÉ activity tent was a hit at the Salon de l’enfance in Bonaventure, and will be on site at the Shigawake Agricultural Fair and New Carlisle July 1st festivities.
T-Spoons is an after school cooking group with students at New Carlisle High School who are mentored by seniors within the community. Senior volunteers met twice a week with the students to share their knowledge and skills to help them develop healthy eating habits and teach them how to cook nutritious and cost effective meals from scratch.

Additionally, students in the Work Oriented Training Pathway, have also been involved in cooking classes and have worked with the coordinator to create a permanent station in the school that offers healthy snacks to the students at recess known as the Healthy Hut.

To demonstrate their new culinary talent, the students prepared a sample of all the meals that they prepared and hosted a taste-testing activity for their families, teachers and seniors from the New Carlisle Wellness Centre. During this special activity, the group was treated to a workshop on healthy eating delivered by the CSSS Baie-des-Chaleurs nutritionist Suzette Poirier, followed by a feast of amazing meal samples. The participants will be compiling all their recipes in a cookbook which will be available soon.

“Avid volunteer, Bessy Craig, with the T-SPOONS group.”
**Culture and Heritage**

**Arts & Community Culture On-the-Road (ACCORD)**

In year 2, thanks to ELAN, (English Language Arts Network) ACCORD worked with regional partners to kick-start pilot events in communities around the province, while continuing efforts to develop the online Tool Kit and to recruit new artists and presenters to join the network. Thanks to the program, David Hodges was able to bring the “Notre Home” tour to the coast!

The ACCORD project is made possible through funding by the Canadian Heritage - Development of Official-Language Communities Program and our partnerships with the Quebec Drama Federation and Quebec Communities Group Network.

**GASPESIAN MEMORIES COLLECTION**

The preservation of the culture and heritage of the Gaspe Coast has been a priority for CASA for the past 38 years. Half a century ago, Anglophones accounted for 40% of the population of the region. The population now tallies just fewer than 10%, largely due to the exodus resulting from the high unemployment rate during the last decade. CASA and its partners are proud to present the launch of a "Gaspesian Memories Collection", to preserve and commemorate the English-speaking communities' contribution to the four primary industry sectors on the Gaspé Coast: mining, milling, fishing and agriculture.

These sector resources are believed wholeheartedly to have played significant roles in the socio-economic status of the entire region but for English-speaking Gaspesian families, the connection to the mines, mills, land and sea are woven into a cultural snapshot of a time of identity, exuberance and pride.

All of which will remain an unknown era for generations to come as this part of history becomes an endangered chapter in the region renown for being the “Birthplace of Canada.” Several community members were involved with the project in the way of research, offering personal photos, and even being filmed for the videos. The final product will be unveiled through two larger-scale viewings in the region in the near future.
Community

Subvention Salariale program

The New Carlisle based Community Organizer, Jennifer Bujold, has successfully assisted with the planning, organizing and supervising the delivery of a day camp for children of English and French families. The program continued throughout the summer as planned, and her work has been positively validated in the community. The successful experience of the candidate led her to become employed immediately following the 30 weeks, and she is now working for the Community Learning Centre in New Carlisle High School.

A second opportunity emerged following the successful completion of the first contract, to deliver another Subvention Salariale program to help another individual to integrate in the labour market and become more employable. Norah Walker-Main has been engaged through this program to develop new skills and competencies through her position with extra-curricular organization at the Centre.

Summer Student  CASA continues to support local students through Service Canada’s Summer Jobs Program. During the summer of 2012 CASA formed a partnership with the Community Learning Centre Summer Day Camp.

Community Involvement Award  Each year CASA awards a $250 bursary to a high school graduate from each of the four English high schools in the region.

This award recognizes students who are making a difference in their community and validates the actions of youth who believe in the advantages of volunteerism.
Mobilization and Development

A series of public consultation events and various targeted meetings were carried out to gather information concerning the needs, challenges and priorities pertaining to economic development issues throughout the English-speaking communities spanning two eastern MRCs; Rocher-Percé, and Côte-de-Gaspé.

The concerns and expectations will be considered in community mobilization efforts, to implement a similar project to the successful mobilization project that occurred between New Carlisle and Port-Daniel West.

A total of four group sessions took place with 76 citizens, with an age range of 33-86. Approximately 270 individuals were targeted through this project, in group sessions, individual consultation and online surveys.

Revitalization Initiative  The Revitalization Agent continued the original mandate to work closely with the six municipalities of Cascapedia St. Jules, New Carlisle, Hope, Hopetown, St. Godefroi, and Shigawake to elaborate and take action on their respective development plans.

The mandate of the Revitalization Project came to an end on March 31, 2013. The MRC and CLD Bonaventure undertook a consultation process with the six concerned municipalities to evaluate their needs with respect to the project’s mandate to mobilize and develop within their communities. All six of the municipalities agreed to financially contribute to the continued presence of a dedicated agent to work to this end.

The Revitalization Agent project, over the preceding years, has laid important groundwork between municipalities, citizens, businesses including CASA and a variety of other partners, most notably the CLD of the MRC of Bonaventure & CEDEC. As communication channels continue to develop, there will be increasing opportunities to collaborate to the benefit of our entire region, irrespective of municipality, age group or linguistic community.
Seniors Spring Fever  CASA hosted a Seniors Spring Fever event at the Galgosiet Centre in Gesgapegiag. Close to 100 seniors from the town of Gaspé to Matapedia gathered to participate in a day filled with activities, game challenges, entertainment, food and lots of laughter.

Participants enjoyed a fun introduction which was followed by an ice-breaker activity and group yoga session to get everyone up and moving. The remainder of the morning was filled with a variety of musical entertainment and unforgettable skits! Lunch was prepared and served by the Women’s Institute of Grand Cascapedia. In the afternoon, seniors participated in minute to-win-it games, dancing, photo booth and even fortune telling. The event was a huge success as seniors spoke of their enjoyment in reconnecting with old friends they have not seen for many years, as well as making new friends.

“What a nice crowd, the meal was delicious, the ‘Skits’, ‘Singing’ and ‘The Band’ were just great. Nice to meet so many friends I hadn’t seen in a long time, enjoyed every minute – hope it happens again, and we are all able to attend!! Thank you girls – you are so SPECIAL!!”

Left to right: Christiane Nadeau-CHSSN, Gaëtanne Mauger-CRE, Cathy Brown-CASA, Charles Guerette-CSSSBC
**Together for Healthy Communities** This initiative promotes an inclusive process where service providers and community members are working together to identify and address the needs of the English-speaking communities in the eastern portion of the MRC of Bonaventure.

A *Together for Healthy Communities* Partnership Table was created with representatives from local and regional entities. A series of community consultations were held in Port Daniel, Shigawake, Hopetown, Hope, New Carlisle and Cascapedia-St. Jules. Through this process, the strengths of the communities were highlighted, health determinants and gaps in existing services were identified, and a knowledge base for the foundation of an action plan was generated.

The *Together for Healthy Communities* initiative was organized by the CSSSBC, funded and supported by the *Institut National de la Santé Publique du Québec* under the *Initiative sur le partage des connaissances et le développement des compétences*.

**« Avoir et être : Faut en jaser » Senior’s Conference :**

Over 300 seniors participated in an extraordinary event held on November 15, 2012 in the town of Maria. Due to CASA’s implication as a member of the CSSSBC Seniors Abuse Table (*Table multisectorielle pour contrer l’abus, la maltraitance et la négligence chez les aînés*), an English component to a senior’s conference in the Baie-des-Chaleurs facilitated the attendance of Anglophone seniors. The day featured 14 information kiosks representing various community organizations and service providers and interesting information sessions were delivered by guest speakers on topics such as the different types of abuse and neglect and how to avoid becoming a victim.
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Canadian Heritage

Community Health and Social Services Network

Ministère de la Famille et des Aînés

Conférence Régionale des Élu(e)s

Société d'aide au développement de la collectivité (Baie-des-Chaleurs/Rocher-Percé/Côte-de-Gaspé

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

McGill University

Economic Development Canada

Service Canada

Quebec Community Groups Network

Eastern Shores School Board

Centre Local Développement (CLD) de la MRC de Bonaventure

Centre de santé et de service sociaux (Baie-des-Chaleurs, Rocher-Percé, Côte-de-Gaspé

YES (Youth Employment Services) Montreal

CEDEC

Vision Gaspé-Perce Now

Emploi Quebec

Complice Gaspésie-les-Îles

Commission jeunesse Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine