

Committee for Anglophone Social Action

ANNUAL REPORT

2025-26



Photo: Barry Leblanc



ABOUT CASA

VISION

The English-speaking community of the Gaspé Coast is a vital linguistic minority that actively participates in and contributes to the social, economic, cultural, and political life of the Gaspé Coast.

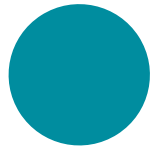
MISSION

CASA works to build and strengthen the vitality of the English-speaking population of the Gaspé Coast by representing the community's interests and designing and delivering programs that respond to its needs.

CASA supports community development across six key areas:
Health and Social Services, Youth, Culture and Heritage, Seniors, Early Childhood and Employability.



OUR ACTION STRATEGIES



How do we build and strengthen the vitality of the English-speaking community of the Gaspé Coast? Through four key components: representation, mobilization, responding to needs, and building capacity.

Represent the Community



Outcome:

The needs of the ESC are reflected in programming and policies

Mobilize the Community



Outcome:

A collaborative approach amongst English-speaking community organizations

Respond to Community Needs



Outcome:

Programs, services and activities in key sectors meet established community needs

Develop Potential



Outcome:

The ESC positively contributes to regional development

GOAL | ACTIONS

Effective Representation



REPRESENT

Build and share knowledge base.

Participate at relevant regional committees and initiatives.

Increase interactions with local, regional and provincial government entities and Francophone stakeholders.

Maintain relationships with key federal government entities.

Grassroots Engagement



MOBILIZE

Foster communication and concertation across the regional ESC network.

Facilitate resource-sharing and offer organizational support.

Support community-based infrastructure and activities.

Maintain and Develop Services



RESPOND

Deliver and support programming, activities and events that:

Increase access to health and social services in English.

Improve children's wellbeing and educational success.

Maintain seniors' health and autonomy.

Foster involvement in regional community and economic development.

Enhance sense of identity and promote culture.

Link individuals to regional employment and training opportunities.

Support Francophone institutions and community organizations in their efforts to reach the ESC.

Build Internal and Community Capacity



DEVELOP

Provide opportunities for employee well-being and professional growth.

Work with partners to recruit and retain English-speaking professionals in the region.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This past year has been a truly special one for the Committee for Anglophone Social Action (CASA) as we proudly marked our 50th anniversary. Reaching this milestone offered an opportunity not only to celebrate our history, but also to reflect on the important role our organization continues to play in supporting the anglophone population within the region.

For five decades, CASA has worked to ensure that English-speaking residents in our predominantly francophone environment have access to services, resources, and opportunities that strengthen their sense of belonging and well-being. This year, we honoured that legacy while continuing to look ahead with purpose and determination.

Our 50th anniversary celebrations brought together community members, partners, and supporters, highlighting the strength and resilience of the anglophone community in the Gaspésie. These moments of connection reinforced the importance of our work and the value of collaboration in achieving our mission.

Like many organizations, we have faced challenges over the past year, including increasing needs within our community and the ongoing realities of delivering services across our large region. However, these challenges have also underscored the importance of CASA's presence and have motivated us to continue strengthening our programs and partnerships.

The continued success of CASA is linked directly to the staff's commitment, passion, dedication and hard work that they put in every day. I also wish to acknowledge our partners and funders for their continued support and trust in our organization.

As we look to the future, CASA remains focused on building on our strong foundation. We will continue to develop programs that serve and empower the anglophone community, foster connections, and ensure that our organization remains responsive, relevant, and sustainable for years to come.

On behalf of the Board, thank you to everyone who has been part of CASA's journey over the past 50 years. We are proud of what has been accomplished and excited for what lies ahead.

Sincerely,

Carl Garrett
President of CASA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

What an amazing year we have had celebrating our 50th anniversary and getting ready for the next 50. Community events, music, meals games and celebrations were held across the coast to commemorate 50 years of service to the English-speaking community of the Gaspé. The celebration was a huge success thanks to local volunteers, musicians, and of course the amazing CASA staff.

Over the past year, CASA has experienced significant growth in cultural development, health and social services and employability while maintaining our pillars of seniors and early childhood. Local musicians have united to compose original works, thereby enriching the artistic fabric of our community. The Homegrown show has expanded to include a youth component, affording emerging bands and first-time musicians the opportunity to perform, and fostering a vibrant atmosphere for young talent to flourish.

The increasing engagement of youth in music, cultural activities, and broader community involvement is a cause for optimism. Their enthusiasm and innovation continue to strengthen the prospects of the Gaspé region, creating a sense of belonging and pride while mobilizing community members.

CASA remains steadfast in its commitment to supporting seniors, whose well-being is at the core of our mission. Through regular activities and improved access to health and social services, we strive to enhance their quality of life and ensure that they remain valued and connected members of our society.

Our initiatives to prepare young children and families for academic and lifelong success have continued, establishing a strong foundation for future generations. It is our belief that every child deserves the opportunity to thrive, and we are honored to assist families in laying these essential building blocks.

In the sphere of employability, CASA has undertaken an ambitious multi-year project to provide employment assistance services to individuals of all ages across the region. This endeavor will equip participants with knowledge, new skills and resources, contributing to heightened economic stability for our community.

Furthermore, CASA continues to cultivate partnerships aimed at addressing youth mental health and reducing barriers to essential services. These collaborations are integral to creating a more inclusive, healthy, and supportive community.

Such achievements would not have been possible without the unwavering dedication of our team and the support of the Board of Directors. Their leadership and commitment have been instrumental in advancing CASA's mission and amplifying our impact. We extend our sincere gratitude for their guidance and belief in our shared vision.

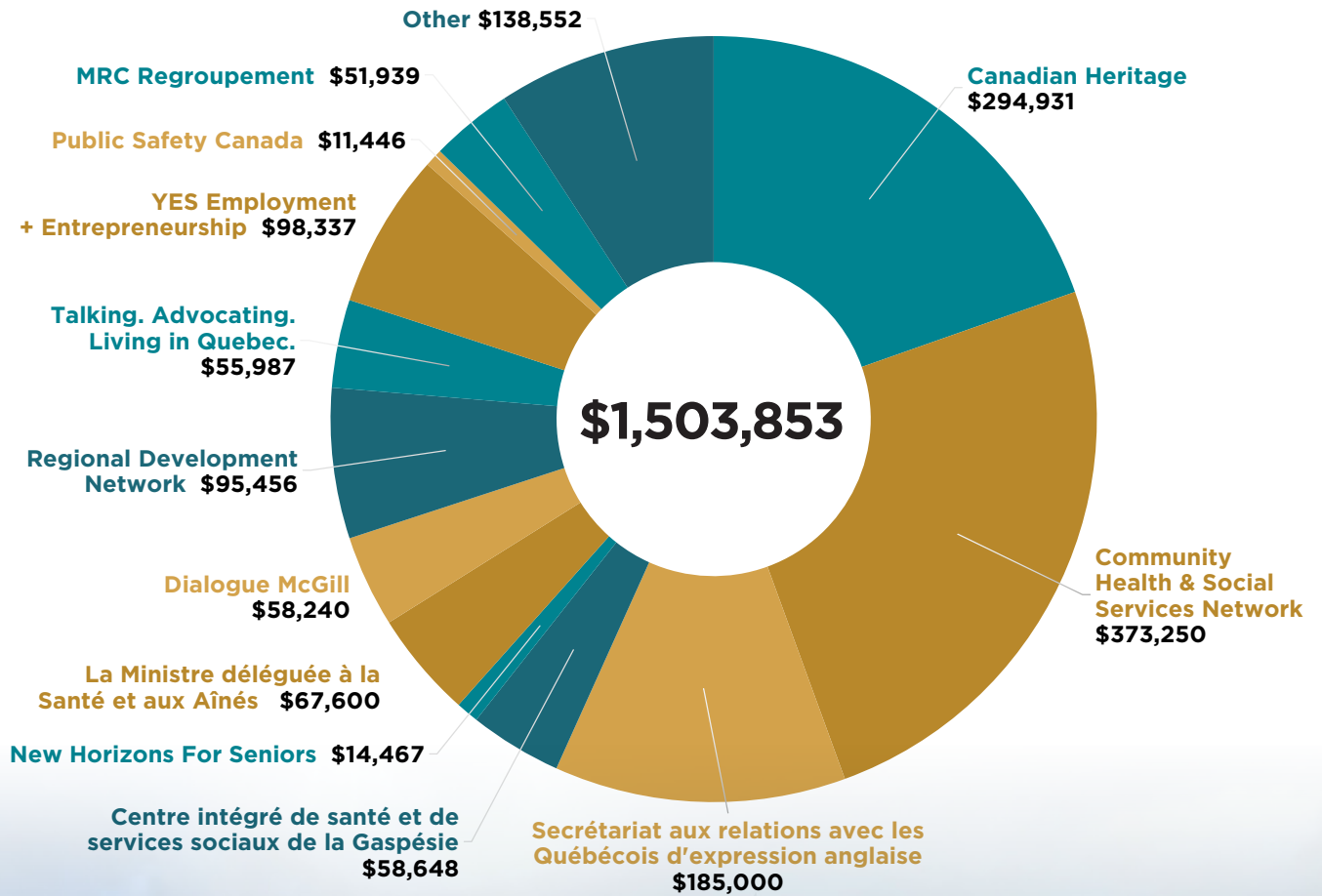
Looking ahead, CASA remains firmly committed to serving the Gaspé region, nurturing local talent, supporting families and seniors, and fostering a resilient, vibrant community. Together, we look to the next 50 years of CASA's work supporting and serving our community.

Allen Richards
Executive Director

YEAR IN REVIEW

2025-26 OPERATIONAL

REVENUES
2025-2026



EMPLOYABILITY

CASA Employability Assisted Services

CASA continues to support English-speaking individuals in the region by helping them build employability skills and access job opportunities through workshops and personalized one-on-one assistance. These efforts aim to promote the integration of English speakers into the regional labour market while contributing to the social and economic development of the region.

- 486** clients served (job searches, applications, résumé writing)
- 743** client interactions
- 257** participants reached through employment workshops

20
workshops delivered

17
partner meetings held, including 2 new partners



Community Empowerment Literacy Initiative (CELI)

Over the past two years, CELI has focused on building skills and supporting individuals in moving closer to, or entering, the workforce. The program served participants across the three MRCs Avignon, Bonaventure, and Rocher-Percé, reaching individuals between the ages of 16 and 55.

Throughout the program, many success stories emerged, with individuals gaining valuable skills through the Skills for Success framework and confidence, bringing them closer to the workforce, while others secured employment or chose to continue their education.



CELI is funded through the Community Empowerment Literacy Initiative (CELI). CELI is sponsored by TALQ in collaboration with Literacy Quebec and funded in part by the Government of Canada's Skills for Success Program.

- 26** workshops delivered
- 31** participants
- 18** program completions

11
participants secured employment or pursued further education



BRIGHT BEGINNINGS - EARLY CHILDHOOD

Bright Beginnings supports the healthy development of young children by fostering early learning, family engagement, and smooth transitions into school. Through a range of activities and partnerships, the program helps build strong foundations for lifelong success.

466
Number of children reached

763
Total participants reached



- 88** Number of educational kits distributed
- 15** Parent Volet Activities in **5** schools
- 7** Activities in schools
- 13** Community based activities held
- 8** Early Transitions Activities in **3** schools
- 14** Partners participating in regional meeting



YOUTH

YOUTH WELLNESS THROUGH NATURE: Outdoor Adventure Program

The well-being through Outdoor Adventure program promotes the physical and mental health of youth ages 11 to 16 through hands-on outdoor experiences. Students from New Richmond High School, New Carlisle High School and Shigawake Port-Daniel School participated in learning units focused on fitness, nutrition and social connection.

74
students participated

45
workshops

5
weekend adventures

Turning Points: Preventing Youth Crime through Collaboration and Support

This new project will support at-risk youth ages 12 to 30 in the English-speaking community of the Gaspé Coast by identifying service gaps and developing targeted solutions. CASA will begin with a needs assessment and youth engagement, followed by a collaborative wraparound approach with partners to provide ongoing support.



HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

CASA supports access to health information, services, and wellness initiatives for the English-speaking community through partnerships and programming.

Youth Mental Health Initiative (YMHI)

9 activities and events delivered

103 youth participants

7 resources shared

Youth Wellness: Roots of Resilience

5 workshops delivered

84 participants

Patient Navigator

CASA's Patient Navigator Program continues to play a key role in improving access to health and social services for members of the English-speaking community. The program supports individuals by providing guidance, advocacy, and connections to appropriate services across the region.

44

individuals supported

97

interventions provided

14

collaborations with medical professionals

Networking and Outreach

CASA's Networking and Partnership supports improved access to health and social services for English-speaking communities. Through partnerships with the CISSS de la Gaspésie and local organizations, CASA promotes available services and helps ensure they are inclusive and responsive to the ESC needs.

585

community members reached

91

committees, meetings and events were attended

37

local and regional committees maintained

Community Liaison - Family Support Program

The Family Support Program exists for moments when individuals and families face complex challenges such as poverty, housing insecurity, mental health struggles, addiction, or difficulty accessing services. The program helps connect people to the most appropriate resources for their needs.

23

families received support

126

appointments

22

individuals accessed short-term or one time assistance through **29** sessions.

7

regional partners

Prevention and Promotion

8

workshops

110

participants

International Women's Day

CASA proudly celebrated International Women's Day alongside **150** women from all communities. The event brought together women of all ages and backgrounds to recognize achievements, share experiences, and celebrate the strength and resilience of women in our community.



SUPPORT TO SENIORS

Wellness Centres

The mission of wellness centres is to support English-speaking seniors in maintaining their autonomy, independence, health and well-being; to help decrease isolation, among seniors and to increase knowledge; and to facilitate connections between seniors and health care services. Through purposeful and informed programming CASA works to: maintain seniors health and well-being, autonomy, and a sense of belonging. Ensure seniors have access to the information and services they need.



200

in-person sessions delivered

176

in-person participants

300

online participants

Senior Wellness LIVE

6

Facebook Live Talk Shows

2,869

total views

1,849

telephone support calls

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

1 local event

20 community members

Seniors Outreach Worker

Through thoughtful planning, outreach, and a strong commitment to listening, CASA's Community Outreach Program for adults 50+ continues to make a meaningful impact across the region. This initiative supports seniors in navigating health and social services, accessing resources, and staying connected to their communities.

2105

community members reached through outreach and engagement

54

individuals received personalized support with health, social, or well-being-related needs

22

individuals accessed short-term assistance



COMMUNITY FORUM

CASA, CAMI, and VGPN co hosted the **4th English Speaking Community Forum** in Caplan, bringing together **50 regional partners and stakeholders** for a day of collaboration and knowledge sharing.

The forum featured a keynote by **Jennifer Johnson (CHSSN)** on strengthening community supports and addressing service access challenges for Anglophone communities, along with presentations from **EQLC, CAMI, Walter Willett, and Derek Barnaby**, highlighting key initiatives and regional perspectives.

ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE

Homegrown

The Homegrown events continue to provide a platform for creative expression, connection, and long-term artistic collaboration. The event highlighted youth performers, local musicians and comedians from across the Gaspésie region.

30 musicians
121 attendees
13,706 online views

Youth Showcase

20
youth musicians
65
in-person attendees

Traditional Shows

19
community performances
(The Homegrown Trad Band)
18,400
viewers
5,825
attendees
(19 performances)

The Gaspesian Way Christmas Shows

The Gaspesian Way Christmas Shows continue to be a meaningful way to connect Gaspésians near and far celebrating local talent and community spirit during the festive season.

5 live streamed shows
Total **57,200** views
18 local musicians
5 comedians
12 community organizations
2,635 interactions



DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

CASA actively manages **6** Facebook pages, along with TikTok and Instagram accounts, to better connect with our diverse audiences across the region. These platforms have become essential tools for promoting programs. Celebrating community stories and building stronger relationships with the people we serve.

Increase in new followers

403

↑ **4.9%**

Increase in content interactions

17.7K

↑ **22%**

Total video views

20,032

across four reporting periods

Increase in link clicks

1.6K

↑ **30%**

366

TikTok Followers

BONFYRE MEDIA

Bonfyre Media continues to serve as a dynamic digital platform preserving and sharing the stories, voices and heritage of the English-speaking community in the Gaspé.

BONFYRE
OUR HOME. ONLINE.

72

videos produced

328

active users

1,793

total views

471

Facebook followers

OUR TEAM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Carl Garrett, President

Stella Kennedy, Vice President

David Douesnard, Treasurer

Gabrielle Labbé, Secretary

Douglas Hunt, Director

Tony Conoley, Director

Nancy Doddridge, Director

Alfred Cassidy, Director

TEAM

Allen Richards, Executive Director

Fay Gallon, Programs Manager

John LeGrand, Financial Controller

Juliana Beebe, Development Officer

Ashley Renouf, Office Manager

Meaghan Hottot, Administrative Assistant

Shannon Marsh, Community Liaison

Kathy Gallon, Seniors Program and Activity Coordinator

Sally Walker, Seniors Outreach Worker

Cindy Carney, Employability Coordinator

James Robson, Patient Navigator

Carissa Dempsey, Youth Mental Health / Interim
Development Officer

Dawn Assels, Seniors Wellness Agent

Kayla Gallan, Bright Beginnings Program and Activity
Coordinator

Vanessa Walker-Plusquellec, Project and Activity Agent

Tammy Chatterton, Project and Activity Agent

David Felker, Regional Employment Coordinator

Trudy Brown, Project and Activity Agent

Ann Kelly, Outdoor Adventure Coordinator

Guy Gallibois, Outdoor Adventure Coordinator

SUMMER STUDENTS

Abigail Felker

Shelby Flowers

Tamisha Bujold

William Aspirot

WITH SINCERE APPRECIATION

Shannon Day, Communications Coordinator



CASA gratefully acknowledges the financial support of
the following organizations in 2025-26.

Thank you.

YOU MAKE OUR WORK
POSSIBLE.

Canada 

Québec 

CHSSN

RDN
Regional Development Network
Réseau de Développement Régional

talq
Talking.
Advocating.
Living in
Quebec.

 McGill

Centre intégré
de santé
et de services sociaux
de la Gaspésie

Québec 

 MRC de
BONAVENTURE

Regroupement
des MRC de la 
Gaspésie

Yes
Employment
+ Entrepreneurship

CONTACT US • Monday to Friday from 8 am to 4 pm



Head office
168 boul. Gérard-D.-Levesque
New Carlisle, QC
G0C 1Z0
T. 418-752-5995

Avignon office
13 rue de l'Église
Pointe-à-la-Garde, QC
G0C 2M0
T. 418-865-4173

Pointe-à-la-Croix office
139, boul. Inter-Provincial
Pointe-à-la-Croix, QC
G0C 1L0
T. 418-865-4173

casa-gaspe.com