

informATIO

Message from the President

Denis Couillard,
President, ATIO Board of Directors

ATIO's Annual General Meeting will take place on April 27, 2019 – save the date. It is almost time to take stock of the past year, but for now I will limit myself to a few observations.

Many things have changed since the election of the current Board of Directors

In fact, on the one hand, the complexity of the socio-political context and of the challenges unique to each language profession under ATIO's umbrella has continued to evolve. On the other hand, ATIO, along with many similar organizations nationally, must tackle structural challenges inherent to its aging members, more restrictive family and personal obligations and employment uncertainty, to name a few.

ATIO must adapt to these realities

On their own, a Board of Directors (made up of volunteer members) and administrative staff (reduced to a minimum given our financial situation) are insufficient.

Throughout the year, we have opened a dialogue with other professional associations and language organizations.

I hope that ATIO will be able to build on this momentum.

LAST AGM BEFORE ATIO'S CENTENNIAL CALL TO ACTION – ATIO NEEDS YOU

To do so, ATIO will, however, need to call on its members and count on active engagement within its discussion groups.

ATIO must evolve and adapt. Time is of the essence

I therefore call upon each of you to:

- 1) participate in the AGM;
- 2) seriously consider joining the Board of Directors or a committee, namely one of the following:
 - a. Discipline (certified members only);
 - b. Recruitment (candidates for certification and certified members);
 - c. Communication (candidates for certification and certified members).

Other committees include:

- d. Student action (candidates for certification);

- e. Candidates (candidates for certification);
- f. Professional development (candidates for certification and certified members);
- g. Reflection on ATIO's future (candidates for certification and certified members);
- h. Technology (candidates for certification and certified members).

ATIO's future depends on everyone's engagement. I am counting on you.

From now until the AGM, please do not hesitate to contact me. ■

REMARK: The morning of the AGM, I would like to organize a round table with members and candidates. If such an activity interests you, please contact me.

ATIO Professional Development Workshops and Annual General Meeting

Saturday, April 27, 2019

SCHEDULE

Workshop Sessions	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Networking Buffet Lunch	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Annual General Meeting	1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The day will begin with a three-hour workshop segment offering training on topics of business operations, language-profession related material, or personal development. A networking lunch will follow the morning session. After lunch, join your fellow professionals at the AGM and have your say.

Professional Development

Session 1: The Language Professional's Toolkit – Embracing Technology to Reach your True Potential, presented by MCIS (Management Team.)

Session 2: Protecting Your Business, Your Clients and Your Profession: Using, Creating and Navigating Contracts, presented by Amy Grubb, Business Lawyer at Grubb Law.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will follow the luncheon from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. During the AGM, attendees will hear reports from the Board of Directors on the state of the association, participate in the election of out-going board members, as well as hear about ATIO's business.

Special Message to Students and Candidates: Have your voice heard

Students and candidates for certification have a right to speak their thoughts, in brief, at the meeting. The input of candidates is just as valued as that of our certified members. The board listens to all comments, issues, concerns, and complaints. While some items cannot be addressed during the AGM, your words are important and may have an impact on the association. The staff will have comment forms at the registration table. Please take the time to introduce yourself and fill out one of the forms.

Special Message to Certified Members: Have your say

Certified members have a right to speak on all topics, reports, and feedback at the AGM. You have the power to impact your association by participating in events like these. Additionally, this is your opportunity to vote on proposed changes to the by-laws, new board members, and any subject that has a direct impact on ATIO. We need to help each other. Help us help you – your thoughts are important and may have an impact on the association. The

staff will have comment forms at the registration table. Please take the time to introduce yourself and fill out one of the forms. Take this opportunity to have your say.

Communication

In the coming weeks, emails will be sent containing important reference documents that should be reviewed prior to the AGM. Please read everything carefully and bring your thoughts to Toronto. Proposed amendments to the by-laws, the nominations for the elections of the board of directors, the various reports, as well as the minutes from 2018 and the agenda for 2019 will make up the various content going out. Remember, these files are available on the ATIO Website until the AGM.

Location

The ATIO 2019 Workshop and AGM will take place at The DoubleTree by Hilton in downtown Toronto. We will occupy the Toronto Ballroom for the duration of the event.

The DoubleTree by Hilton

108 Chestnut Street, Toronto, Ontario

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To find our Facebook page, search for ATIO or go to: <https://www.facebook.com/ATIO.Association/>

Message from the Executive Director

Philippe Ramsay,
ATIO Executive Director

We, at the Secretariat, have been quite active since the beginning of the year, from membership renewal, to registering applicants for the entrance exam and candidates for the certification exam, organizing professional development workshops and preparing for the upcoming annual general meeting (AGM). For instance, an information day for the certification exam is currently being offered, both in Ottawa and Toronto, to help inform candidates about what to expect and prepare accordingly. And new this year, we're introducing computer-based exams. Starting in July, candidates will have the opportunity to register for

and write their exams on a personal laptop should they wish to.

On the topic of workshops, we will be offering two workshops in the morning of April's AGM, and they will be geared to the betterment of business practices. Additional workshops on a variety of topics will also be offered throughout the year. We will be providing more information on this topic in the coming weeks.

ATIO's membership remains stable in comparison to the last few years and currently stands at 1,193, which is good news. That said, we are not letting up on our efforts to increase membership and, to that end, we have been reaching out to potential candidates and past members to come

back to ATIO. In addition, resources are being utilized to increase member benefits, and we will be circulating a survey to determine which benefits would be of greater interest.

Finally, communicating with our members, stakeholders, association partners, and government agencies on relevant industry topics and issues is a top priority for us. The same can be said when responding to queries from our candidates and members, and from the general public. We strive to deliver the best service.

I wish you all a wonderful spring, and I hope I will have the pleasure of seeing you at the upcoming workshops and AGM in April. ■

CTTIC Exams 2019

Rebecca Kinos-Varo,
ATIO Exam and Program Coordinator

The new year has brought some exciting changes for candidates for certification!

Multiple Exam Sitzings Per Year

For the first time ever, this year, we will be holding six sittings for the translation and written interpretation exams. We hope this will allow more candidates to take the exam per year, as you are now able to choose the date that is most convenient for you. However, candidates will only be allowed to attempt one exam per language combination in 2019, so please choose your exam date wisely. Space is limited, and registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, so please register early to avoid disappointment.

Computerized Exams

Starting in June 2019, candidates for certification in translation will have the choice to complete their certification exam by hand (using pen and paper) or using their own personal laptop. All translation exams will be held in-person at the designated exam location. Candidates will continue to only be allowed to use hardcopy reference materials (i.e. paper dictionaries, thesauruses, style guides, etc.). The use of electronic resources, including but not limited to the Internet, email, electronic dictionaries, CAT Tools, corpora, etc. is strictly prohibited.

Start Preparing

While there are some exciting changes with the exam, what hasn't changed is the need to prepare for the exam. Practising under exam conditions, with appropriate texts is essential. We

suggest that candidates familiarize themselves with the 2019 Candidate's and Marker's Guides and view the online marker's training video.

Candidates may also consider taking a practice exam. This exam can be written from home or in a classroom setting. After writing the practice exam, candidates receive a marker's comment sheet and a marked copy of their exam to help them determine whether they are ready for the actual certification exam.

Information Sessions

ATIO has held two CTTIC Exam Information Days in 2019: March 2 in Toronto and March 23 in Ottawa. This full-day event was bursting with helpful information to help candidates best prepare for exam day. Attendees walked away with a tip or two they can use on exam day. ■

Everything you ever wanted to know about on-dossier certification!



Fabrice Cadieux,
President, Recognition and Certification
Recognition Committee

The on-dossier procedure is becoming an increasingly interesting certification option. We asked the Recognition and Certification Committee, which administers this process, to answer a few questions frequently asked by candidates.

InformATIO:

Hello! Thank you for agreeing to answer our questions. First of all, could you please briefly explain the on-dossier certification process?

Committee:

The pleasure is ours! It's simple – candidates can submit a professional dossier rather than take a certification exam. The procedure is for professionals who can prove they have at least five years of full-time experience (or two years if they have specialized training).

InformATIO:

Is on-dossier certification easier than certification by examination?

Committee:

Not at all. The criteria for the on-dossier method, although different, are just as stringent as those for the examination.

InformATIO:

We are often asked the purpose of the sponsor. What can candidates do if they don't know any ATIO members?

Committee:

Sponsors play a key role in on-dossier certification, since they ensure candidates' ethical standards. Sponsors not only attest to the quality of work (translation or conference interpretation, for example), but also testify that candidates are honourably known in their field.

In theory, this attestation is valid because the sponsor is certified, which is why it is required that the sponsor be a member of the Association or an equivalent. The Committee gladly welcomes sponsorships from members of other associations of the Canadian Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters Council, the Ordre des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes agréés du Québec, the International Association of Conference Interpreters, the American Translators Association and other foreign professional associations, provided the value of their certification titles is appreciated. We also examine sponsorship proposals from other people whose guarantee may meet process requirements. If applicable, the Committee contacts sponsors directly or verifies their titles, even if they live as far as the Middle East or South America.

Sometimes candidates isolated in their workplace (like those who are the sole salaried translator of a company or those who practice a rare language combination) cannot find anyone to sponsor them. In some cases, this issue makes the on-dossier process impossible; it is therefore recommended to take the certification exam. The lack of sponsors can exceptionally be compensated by other elements of the dossier that can convince the Committee that the candidate has a high level of professionalism, for example, shining records of service within an administration or company, particularly advanced university studies, or remarkable community or association engagement, specifically in regard to language services.

Lastly, it is useful to distinguish between a sponsor and a reference. References, who are often clients, attest to the quality of candidates' work and their various professional qualities

(punctuality, speed, even courtesy!). However, references are often unable to appreciate professional delivery per se, namely because they may not understand one of the languages of the combination. The Committee pays greater attention to references, but they cannot entirely replace the professional advocacy of sponsors.

InformATIO:

Thank you for these clarifications. Here is another question that comes up a lot: some translation candidates, especially in language combinations for which certified translators are very few in number, ask us if their dossier is assessed by their competitors.

Committee:

That's an excellent question.

InformATIO:

Thank you.

Committee:

You're welcome. The Committee is fully aware that in some language combinations, only a small number of translators are certified by the Association (in some cases, there is only one), and that the arrival of a new member on the market can directly affect their revenue. Asking a member to assess the work samples of a potential future competitor would therefore put them in an uncomfortable situation: they might, in fact, hesitate to give a negative opinion for fear of being accused of acting in their own interests. The Committee therefore requests the expertise, especially with rare language combinations, of translators living outside the province or even outside of Canada. We have occasionally asked for assistance from

professionals in the country where the language in question is mainly spoken, for example Southeast Asia or Eastern Europe. Candidates can therefore rest assured that their dossier is examined independently by colleagues who would not be affected by the candidate obtaining a reserved title.

InformATIO:

One last question, if you don't mind. Many candidates wonder how their "varied and substantial" work samples are evaluated. Can you explain the procedure?

Committee:

Of course. Like sponsorships, references, and academic and other credentials, samples represent a key element of any translation certification dossier. Committee members have decades of experience as certified translators and systematically request expertise. This expertise is obtained according to a specific scale established by experienced professionals that the Committee, drawing on its network of associates, seeks out all over the world, if necessary. It's not unusual that we call upon the expertise of more than one person in order to be certain to fully understand the candidate's quality of work. Please note that samples are not marked like exams; they are submitted for an overall evaluation to meet the standards expected of a certified translator. This comprehensive review explains the sometimes-extended delay in responding to candidates; the rigour of Committee procedures reduces the speed of response.

InformATIO:

Thank you to the Recognition and Certification Committee for answering many candidates' questions.

Committee:

We wish to thank candidates for the time and care they put into preparing their dossiers, and to guarantee to those whose dossiers we have not yet examined that we gladly look forward to studying them with interest. ■

Congratulations to Newly Certified Members!

The Secretariat wishes to congratulate ATIO candidates for certification who have been certified through the CTTIC certification translation examination in 2018

Sameh Shafik Abdou, C. Tran. AR-EN

Beau Brock, C. Tran. ES-EN

Roger Burrows, C. Tran. ES-EN

Minji Cha, C. Tran. EN-KO

Alexandre Charles Cuvelier, C. Tran. EN-FR

Julie da Silva, C. Tran. FR-EN

Bonnie Ferguson, C. Tran. FR-EN

Ingrid Fryzek, C. Tran. ES-EN

Sandy Hamilton, C. Tran. FR-EN

Lucia Hernandez, C. Tran. ES-EN

Rania Ibrahim, C. Tran. AR-EN

Sherin Ibrahim, C. Tran. AR-EN

Suraj Joshi, C. Tran. EN-HI

Shahram Karimzadeh, C. Tran. EN-FA

John Kassab, C. Tran. AR-EN

Ban Kattan, C. Tran. AR-EN

Xin Li, C. Tran. ZH-EN

Ekaterina Li, C. Tran. EN-RU

Lindsay McGregor, C. Tran. FR-EN

Youssef Mohammad, C. Tran. AR-EN

Rahi Moosavi, C. Tran. EN-FA

Michelle Morris, C. Tran. FR-EN

Siu Kuen Ng, C. Med. Int. ZH/EN

Amélie Picard, C. Tran. FR-EN

Soheir Salama, C. Tran. AR-EN

Anthony Santin, C. Tran. FR-EN

Larysa Smirnova, C. Tran. EN-RU

Vitaliy Sokolov, C. Tran. UK-EN

Yan Yan Su, C. Tran. ZH-EN

Joani Tannenbaum, C. Tran. FR-EN

Siyi Tonella, C. Tran. ZH-EN

Hsiao-Ping Tsai, C. Comm. Int. ZH/EN

Maya Worth, C. Tran. ES-EN

Aurie Zeran, C. Tran. FR-EN

INFORMATIO MEMBER PROFILE

SANDY HAMILTON

C. Tran. FR-EN



1) Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I'm a freelance translator, working from French to English. I've been working for over twenty years, graduating from the University of Ottawa with an M.A. in Translation in 1997.

French was my favourite subject at school, and I knew from a young age that I wanted to have a career involving languages. I also had the opportunity to live and study in Switzerland and France in my younger days, which helped further my interest in languages and translation.

2) How did you prepare for the certification exam? Did you write any practice exams? Did you attend the exam prep info sessions? If so, how did these help you prepare? Even if you didn't, what was the most useful tip/advice you received while you were preparing?

I signed up for a practice exam, but came down with the flu the day before, so unfortunately had to miss it. I was worried about going into the exam without having done the practice exam, but I had gone to an info session the year before I did the exam, and remembered being told that the best thing to do was to practise... lots and under exam conditions. So that's what I did.

3) What piece of advice would you give candidates who are preparing to write the exam in the future? Is there something you would do differently?

My advice would be exactly as I say above: practise lots, under exam conditions. Most of us aren't used to writing out our translations by hand and using physical dictionaries anymore, so it's important to practise in that way to get a sense of how this changes things – how much longer does it take? Does it change your

thought process? Does your hand cramp? Is your handwriting legible?

4) Why did you decide to join ATIO and write the certification exam? What did the journey to certification mean to you?

It may seem unusual to start this journey after being in the business for 20 years, but it was always something I wanted to do. Most of my translator friends are members, and I would hear about the benefits of membership through them. Although I have a degree in translation and have been translating for years, there's something about becoming certified by a professional body that really makes you feel like you've got that professional stamp of approval.

5) What do you intend to do now that you are certified? What does certification mean to you? Has your career already started to change for you now that you are certified?

I intend to continue working as I do now, but I look forward to participating more in ATIO, attending events, taking classes, etc. I also view my certification as another tool in my toolbox, another accomplishment I can share with prospective clients to reinforce that I'm a professional and take what I do seriously.

6) Your "acceptance" speech! I am sure that there are many people who have contributed to your success from many channels (encouragement to apply, time and perhaps financial contributions, family and social support during the certification examination). Please write a few words of "thank you" to those who have helped make this happen.

I am fortunate to have family and friends who support me and my career – successful completion of the ATIO exam would have been far more challenging without their support and encouragement. ■

INFORMATIO

MEMBER PROFILE

LUCIA HERNANDEZ

C. Tran. ES-EN



1) Tell us a little bit about yourself.

My name is Lucia, and I'm a Spanish to English translator and interpreter. I translate creative and marketing texts for clients in the art, film and media industries. I also provide translation and interpreting services to the settlement sector in Toronto. Before this, I worked as a settlement worker with refugee claimants and completed MAs in Translation Studies and Spanish Literature.

2) How did you prepare for the certification exam? Did you write any practice exams? Did you attend the exam prep info sessions? If so, how did these help you prepare? Even if you didn't, what was the most useful tip/advice you received while you were preparing?

I attended the exam prep info session, and it helped me tremendously. I focused my preparation on what I learned about the exam conditions and marking criteria. To study, I read the Canadian Style Guide and annotated it for easy reference during the exam. I also practised translating texts from university textbooks and newspapers, aiming to capture language from both Latin America and Spain and cover a range of topics. I translated under the exam conditions and had a colleague give me feedback. The most useful advice I received was to recreate the exam conditions. It proved very beneficial for me.

3) What piece of advice would you give candidates who are preparing to write the exam in the future? Is there something you would do differently?

Make sure to leave time for review. You catch so many errors and hear awkwardness while reading your text aloud (silently).

If I could do it again, I would prepare more for the specialized texts. Reflect on your experience and focus on your strengths by supplying yourself with sample texts in the specialization you're most accustomed to.

4) Why did you decide to join ATIO and write the certification exam? What did the journey to certification mean to you?

When clients are unable to evaluate your service on their own, trust is involved. I joined ATIO and wrote the certification exam because I wanted to distinguish myself as a skilled and trustworthy professional. Considering the journey from contemplation to certification took me about 10 years, I think it also represents dedication to my craft.

5) What do you intend to do now that you are certified? What does certification mean to you? Has your career already started to change for you now that you are certified?

Since I began translating professionally about 5 years ago, almost every prospective client has asked me if I am certified. That's why it didn't surprise me that after I became certified, I noticed an immediate increase in contact from prospective clients who found me in the ATIO directory.

To me, certification means being recognized by my peers. I hope to be able to connect with more of those peers now and to collaborate for our mutual benefit and that of our clients. Certification is but a beginning. There is always so much to learn to continue delivering what clients need.

6) Your "acceptance" speech! I am sure that there are many people who have contributed to your success from many channels (encouragement to apply, time and perhaps financial contributions, family and social support during the certification examination). Please write a few words of "thank you" to those who have helped make this happen.

It's been a team effort. It all started when, while pouring over my essays, my father taught me that if it can be said in fewer words it should be. When translation was still a dream, siblings and in-laws alike gave me gifts and loans for courses and when it became a real thing, they gave me my first bookkeeping template. My husband has been so supportive, both financially and emotionally, while I took night courses, travelled for immersion, and learned hard business lessons. A fellow Glendon alum reviewed my exam prep translations. And, even though I'm in my thirties, my mom still offered to drive me to the exam. I couldn't have done it without them. ■

HOW I BECAME AN ATIO COURT INTERPRETER

Yasmeen Tyebi, C. Tran. UR-EN; C. Crt. Int. UR/EN
Director, Court Interpreters / Director,
Independent Translators

When I migrated to Canada in 1977, I had big dreams as I had completed my BA (Hons.) degree in English Literature. I had been interested in learning other languages since childhood. Back in the 1960s, my father used to encourage me to learn 10 new English words each day with their meaning and would say to me: “learn English, it will be an international language one day.”

In 1995, I was hired as a receptionist at a downtown immigration law firm. The office had a steady clientele from India and Pakistan who spoke my native language, Urdu. The clients felt comfortable with me at reception and my employer realized that my language skills could be an added value to his practice. He started asking me, on a regular basis, to serve as an interpreter for his clients in Urdu. Following the 9/11 incident, there was an influx of claimants coming from the United States which increased my work tenfold. There were many documents that needed translation for the clients’ Immigration Refugee Board hearings. I felt content that I was doing an important job and that I was not merely a receptionist answering phone calls, greeting clients and performing other front desk duties.

With the encouragement of my employer at the law firm, I decided to join ATIO in 2001. Since I was able to prove hundreds of hours of interpretation as well as show proof of hundreds of documents I had translated; I passed the exams and became a court interpreter, then later on, a certified translator.

Being listed on the ATIO website as an interpreter opened more doors for me. I was picked by the Ministry of Attorney General’s office for a high-profile insurance fraud case at the Brampton Court in 2009. Justice Casey Hill interviewed me by a voir dire, deeming me a fully accredited Ministry of the Attorney General court interpreter. I later formally took the Ministry’s exam to become a full-fledged court interpreter. I love this occupation as I feel the joy of serving the public by becoming their voice to interpret to and from English/Urdu and to convey their message in a clear voice.

Today, as ATIO’s Board of Director of Court Interpreters, I feel a sense of belonging with the language community. With almost 100 years of being in this industry, ATIO has set an example in excellence and become a beacon of light in serving the language industry and public. ■



ATIO Christmas Celebrations 2018

Ottawa

The Ottawa dinner moved to a new location this year. On December 14, ATIO members and guests struggled through slush and snow to make their way to the Courtyard Restaurant in Ottawa's Byward Market.

After a cocktail hour chatting and mingling, members and guests moved on to the dining room. ATIO Vice-President Marielle Godbout, the hostess for the evening, welcomed our two special guests, Donald Barabé, President of OTTIAQ, and Professor Ryan Fraser, Co-Director of the School of Translation and Interpretation at the University of Ottawa. Dinner started with butternut squash soup or salad (field lettuce with cranberries, blue cheese, walnuts and a honey and cider vinaigrette) or roasted beets with riesling apple sauce and maple vinegar. The main course consisted of chicken supreme or grilled salmon with roasted garlic mashed Yukon potatoes and buttered vegetables, or potato gnocchi with assorted vegetables, along with red or white wine.

Marielle Godbout,
ATIO Vice-President

Once again, ATIO members and friends got together to celebrate the holidays and enjoy an opportunity to catch up with each other and meet new friends.

Toronto

On December 8, ATIO returned for another year to the beautiful Music Room at the University of Toronto's Hart House for its celebrations. During the cocktail hour, guests busied themselves greeting old friends and meeting new ones while sipping wine and nibbling on cheese and crackers. After a welcome address by President Denis Couillard, dinner was served. Starting with a tossed green salad topped with navel oranges and dried cranberries with an aged sherry vinaigrette, guests went on to enjoy their choice of roasted Alberta striploin or maple-glazed salmon, both with seasonal vegetables, or a vegetarian entrée, along with red or white wine.

Then it was time for the door prize draw. Barbara Duffus was the lucky winner of an auto-emergency tool donated by an ATIO staff member. Lionel Tona won the Honey and Sweets box, courtesy of TD Insurance Meloche Monnex. And Joanne Laplante was the recipient of the Google Home Mini donated by Business Cloud.

The door prize draw was followed by dessert, warm apple pie with French vanilla ice cream and Hart House's own farmed maple syrup, and coffee.

Next came the draw for the door prizes. Gilles Dignard won the air freshener/diffuser donated by Yasmeen Tytebi of Can-Imm Solutions. The second prize, a Synonyms dictionary courtesy of Louise Voyer Financial Services, was initially won by Donald Barabé, who graciously returned it to be redrawn, only to have it won by Dr. Ryan Fraser, who accepted it for the Translation and Interpretation School's library. The Honey and Sweets box from TD Insurance Meloche Monnex went to Claudia Arana, while the Google Mini from Business Cloud was won by Jacques Sylvain. Adel Zaidan took home the seasonal candle holder from Denis Office Supplies and Furniture. And Camron Heshmati's dinner guest was the lucky winner of the \$75 Courtyard Restaurant gift certificate.

For dessert, ATIO members and their guests had their choice of chocolate and cassis cake with raspberry coulis and marshmallow or local honey and cardamom cheesecake served with crushed pistachios, pumpkin and Grand Marnier marmalade.

ATIO's dinners provide an excellent opportunity for you to meet with fellow members in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere. ATIO's next event will be the annual general meeting to be held on April 27 in Toronto. ■

Impressions of 2018 CTTIC exam

Bekircan Tahberer,
CTTIC Exam Coordinator

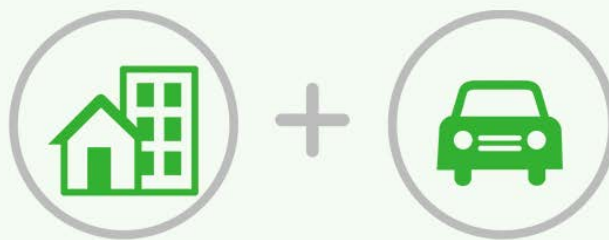
The 2018 CTTIC certification translation exams, and court, community and medical interpreter written exams took place on May 12, 2018, and they were followed by the court community and medical interpreter oral exams on June 9, 2018. A record number of candidates attended the 2018 CTTIC certification exams in seven categories, including the community and medical oral interpreter exams offered for the first time.

The statistics show a steady increase in exam participation since 2015, when 262 exams were given. A whopping 400+ exams were processed this year, an increase of about 65%. The largest category, as usual, was translation with 341 exams in 33 language combinations. It was encouraging to see seven successful candidates in the Arabic-to-English combination, and 11 successful candidates in both the Chinese-to-English and French-to-English combinations. Spanish-to-English candidates also did well with seven

passes out of 15 candidates. English-to-Korean was the most successful language combination, in which all five candidates achieved a pass mark. The low success rates in certain language combinations such as English-to-French came as surprise: As is done in any credible testing system, the CTTIC certification exam committee investigated the matter reviewing the results and the feedback from the markers and third-party experts. It was concluded that it was mainly attributed to candidates not having prepared for the exam properly. The overall success rate in 2018 was 17%, which is consistent with the success rates of previous years.

There is a steady increase in community and medical interpreter exam participation. The first certified community and medical interpreters must be boasting about their success by now. It is strongly anticipated that more and more government agencies and private institutions will choose to work with certified interpreters as more language professionals achieve certification in community and medical interpreter designations. ■

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ATIO members, get **ready** to
save on home and car insurance.

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