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Message from the President

Denis Couillard President, ATIO Board of Directors

The following is the transcript of the speech given by Denis Couillard at the International Translation Day event in Toronto.

I would first like to thank Ms. Hébert, Chair of the Glendon College School of Translation, and Glendon College for organizing this celebration.

At the end of my bachelor's degree, one of the last things I did before leaving the university was to go to the campus bookstore to buy 12 copies of the book cited above. My intention was to reread it every three years, to mark it up, highlight it, cut it up, and make reminders and flash cards. I have kept this commitment.

Today, I only have one copy left. In an ever-evolving world, this exercise has been one of the few constants throughout my career as a language professional.

TRANSLATION: A CHANGING WORLD

Indeed, my career has been through changing times. At university, the typewriter was ubiquitous. In the mid-1980s, the personal computer was still in its initial iterations. Who remembers floppy disks? DOS? The Apple Macintosh revolution? Multimate? The electronic dialup access melody? The arrival of interactive terminals (Datapac)? Compuserve?

Today, the Internet, terminology banks, concordancers and translation memories

TRANSLATION: CULTURAL HERITAGE PROMOTER IN A CHANGING WORLD Presentation at Glendon College in Toronto for International Translation Day.

"The signs become more numerous, and at the same time we realise something: it is not the countryside we are passing through that tells us that we are in the United States, an Englishspeaking country, but stylistics. For, while all these signs are very clear in meaning, they would be written quite differently in French."

Excerpt from the preface, J.-P. Vinay and J. Darbelnet, <u>Comparative Stylistics of French and English</u>.

are a common part of the language professional's toolbox. Every day, I simultaneously use three translation memory software applications that communicate with each other using an interface. In a pinch, I can count on two other applications to consult experimental artificial translation memory sites in a closed system.

Throughout my career, changes have taken place at an alarming rate that continues to accelerate. Chances are that these changes will increase at an even more staggering pace throughout your careers.

TRANSLATION: CULTURAL HERITAGE PROMOTER

If the role of language professionals could be reduced to a simple exercise consisting of programming a series of successive codes (or coding), our future would look bleak.

As language professionals, we must, however, accept part of the blame, as there are many of us who have translated documents almost mechanically,

abandoning our role as cultural heritage promoters. Yet this cultural guardian role is essential.

For example, the exogamous nature of my family constantly reminds me that from one culture to another, we have a distinct relationship regarding the perception of time. In my work, however, almost every day I consult product monographs in which tenses are merely patterned on English, thus distorting their temporal scope. This negligence is not due to artificial intelligence, but rather to quasimechanical human translation.

Furthermore, while at the beginning of my career we could count on French reference documents from across the Atlantic, globalization has changed the game. Translated documents are now widespread around the world.

In this respect, the Translation Bureau's announcement last June that it would adopt DeepL, a very useful tool that is, however, limited to an administrative

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International Translation Day Celebrations in Ottawa

Marielle Godbout Vice-President, ATIO Board of Directors

On September 28, the beautifully restored Alex Trebek Alumni Hall on the University of Ottawa campus was the location of the 2019 International Translation Day celebrations in Ottawa. Co-hosted by the School of Translation and Interpretation and the Association of Translators and Interpreters of Ontario, some 75 guests were treated to an interesting program of presentations.

The Dean of the Arts Faculty, Dr. Kevin Kee, set the tone by stating how happy he was that both former and current students could get together at an event that mirrors the future of translation. He opened the event with a speech highlighting the important contributions of translators in our bilingual environment. Dr. Ryan Fraser, Co-Director of the School, welcomed participants and highlighted the relevance of the FIT theme for International Translation Day 2018, Translation: promoting cultural heritage in changing times. They also both spoke about adapting to changes in translation technology.

Marielle Godbout, Vice-President of ATIO, gave a presentation on the role of professional associations. (See separate article in this issue.)

Gillian Misener, from the Translation Bureau, spoke about the interpretation sector and the important contribution of interpreters. Finally, Dr. Elizabeth Marshman, Co-Director of the School,

introduced the School of Translation Interpretation's new certificate, highlighting the flexible hours it offers to anyone wishing to further develop their translation skills. This new online certificate program in English-French translation, which allows students to learn about and explore the field by taking courses included in the minor in translation offered at the University of Ottawa, but in entirely online versions.

The presentations were followed by the announcement of the winners of the 2017 Creighton Douglas Scholarship (Stéphanie Brouillard), the 2018 Pierre Daviault Scholarship (Joyce Himbazwa), the 2018 ATIO Achievement Award (Katherine Polle), and the 2018 Network of Translators in Education Scholarship (Dara O'Connor). The formalities over, it was time for the guests to continue mingling and enjoying the buffet offerings.

Continued from page 1

notion of language activities, is concerning. The arrival and adoption of these technologies are unavoidable. Nevertheless, to preserve our cultural heritage, users must be trained in this regard. Unfortunately, such training is marginal, even nonexistent.

QUALITY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

If clarity and the lack of grammatical errors are the only quality assessment parameters, it is likely that factors such as globalization, new technologies and the adoption of machine translation constitute real and imminent threats. However, if we fully exercise our role as cultural promoters, these phenomena will instead help elevate this active role.

ATIO'S ROLE IN A CHANGING WORLD?

ATIO is the oldest organization of language professionals in Canada. It was founded in 1920 as the Association technologique de langue française d'Ottawa, and incorporated the following year under Ontario Letters Patent. In 1962, the Association adopted its current name.

Two of ATIO's objectives are to provide a collective voice for its members and to ensure that members exercise high standards of ethical conduct.

Factors such as the pervasiveness of international language service providers and new technologies contribute self-employment to casualization and the precariousness of the language profession, which is why it is so important to value the reserved title.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, when I applied to be on the ATIO Board of Directors, one of my commitments was to build relationships with the university community and translation students.

Over the next few months, I intend to propose a project to the Board of Directors to create an advisory committee made up of students and representatives from the university community. This committee would endeavour to present concrete recommendations aimed at preparing ourselves for new professional and technological realities.

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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

As we approach the end of the year, I look back with satisfaction at what has already been accomplished and look to the future with eagerness.

ATIO's On-dossier Certification process for translators resumed in late July, and we have started receiving new application packages from our Candidates for Certification. We have also begun sending out regular emails to our members containing important information regarding ATIO events and deadlines.

On-dossier Certification

Detailed information on how to put together an application package is available upon request and will soon be added to the website. The process of reviewing and evaluating ondossier application packages is the responsibility of the ATIO Recognition and Certification Committee. The committee is comprised of volunteers who have many years of experience in their respective language fields. They work together to review and evaluate all applications, in the order in which they are received and considered complete by the Secretariat. For any questions related to the on-dossier

Entrance and Certification Exams

So far this year, 112 individuals have sat for an ATIO Entrance exam in 28 language combinations; and 33 individuals have sat for a CTTIC Certification Practice exam in 11 language combinations.

In response to individuals applying to become part of the Association as a translator in a language combination for which we did not have an entrance exam, ATIO has begun offering an alternative in the form of an English comprehension exam. This allows applicants the chance to become a Candidate for Certification in Translation with any language combination for which the target language is English.

We continue to receive applications for rare language combinations and invite the assistance of membership to locate markers for Gujarati, Bengali, Georgian, Nepalese, Amharic, Azerbaijani, Tigrinya, Tamil, Urdu, Romanian, Albanian, and Greek.

"We would love to hear from you."

Looking ahead, we have started planning for the 2019 AGM. I am happy to announce the AGM will be held in the context of a full-day of activities. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, April 27, 2019. We will be providing more information in the weeks to come.

As we look to the future, while ensuring that the Association's foundation is on solid ground, we have shifted our attention to doing more outreach (membership, partner organizations and third-party stakeholders) and increasing services and benefits to our members. We'll have more information on this soon.

Membership Renewal

ATIO's membership renewal is under way and dues, which are valid from January 1 to December 31, must be paid before December 31; otherwise you will be marked as lapsed, and your profile will be removed from the ATIO registry (on-line directory). Following a one-month grace period ending January 31, a late fee will be added to your dues.

certification process, please send an email to dossier@atio.on.ca.

Communication/Outreach

Our regular electronic messages that we send to our membership include tips and advice based on feedback we receive when interacting with members and the public who use our members' services. We would love to hear from you about your impressions on the content of these emails and if there is any other kind of information you would like to see included.

Professional Development/ Conference

Planning for more workshops and a Conference Day in 2019 is under way. We delivered one workshop this year, and we are looking at increasing the number and variety of workshops for the coming year.

Ministry of the Attorney General

We continue to coordinate the scoring of the Ministry of the Attorney General of Ontario's Court Interpretation Test.

Upcoming Events

The ticket price for the 2018 holiday parties have been announced. For your convenience, you can purchase your ticket(s) at the same time as you renew your membership. We hope you will attend in Toronto on Saturday, December 8, or in Ottawa on Friday, December 14.

As we continue to focus on improvements to our procedures and processes, our small team of ATIO staff members endeavour to deliver the best service to our members and to the general public. We also strive to respond to a variety of enquiries, including processing applications and registrations, in a timely manner.

Get Ready for Your CTTIC Exam Now!

Rebecca Kinos-Varo ATIO Exam and Program Coordinator

Registration will soon begin for the 2019 CTTIC Certification Exam in translation. The next exam will be held on May 11, 2019 and while this date may seem far away, your preparation should begin today.

Here are 10 tips to help you start preparing now:

- 1 Keep track of important dates. While the exam isn't for another six months, registration will begin very soon and will be due no later than February 6, 2019. No late registrations will be accepted, so please make sure you register and pay in time to avoid having to wait until 2020.
- Make sure your membership dues are paid and your account is in order. Only candidates for certification in good standing with ATIO are eligible to register for the exam in their language combination, so please make sure you pay your dues on time. This is also the time to make sure your contact details are up to date, so you don't miss any important emails regarding the exam.
- Write a practice exam. The practice exam provides translators with the opportunity to practice writing an exam in conditions similar to the actual certification exam. Members can choose to write the exam at home or during an in-person sitting. While the Association offers practice exams throughout the year, the exam being held on November 24, 2018 will be your last chance to write the exam and receive the marker's feedback early enough to help you prepare. Cost: \$150.00, plus tax for one text to translate (added charge of \$50.00, plus tax

for a second text). Registration deadline: November 2, 2018.

- Memorize both the candidate's and the marker's guides. While the 2019 guides aren't available yet, you can still review the 2018 versions which are available on the ATIO website. These guides outline the complete process and expectations for the exam. You should know the marking scale by heart and know the exact areas where candidates can lose marks and how many points these mistakes are worth. You should also watch the marker's training video and read the other exam prep resources that can also be found on the ATIO website.
- **Review** The Canadian Style guide. When translating into English, candidates must follow the Canadian Style during the exam. This style guide will tell you how to format everything from abbreviations, capitalization, spelling, hyphenation, punctuation, etc. An electronic version of The Canadian Style is available for free online but paperback copies are also available from Amazon.
- 6 Get your resources in order. During the exam, candidates are only allowed to use print copies of reference works such as dictionaries, glossaries, grammar books, etc. No electronic resources will be permitted. With back-to-school wrapping up and the holiday season fast approaching, now would be a great time to look for a good deal on any materials you need to purchase.
- 7 Practise like you play. In the sports world, this means you must treat your practices like an actual game day. The CTTIC certification exam is your game day. Until that date, you must practice at home every week under exam conditions. Sample

texts are available online in English and French. Use these samples to find other source texts to practise with. Practise translating only using pen and paper, under a strict time limit, and only using your paper resources.

- Don't just translate, revise too! During your practice sessions, you should also be practising your revision techniques determining how much time you will need on exam day to proofread. Candidates lose many heartbreaking marks over mistakes that could have been corrected if they had just given themselves enough time to review their translations. However, it's not just spelling and grammar mistakes that you need to look out for; you should also be revising to make sure you haven't made any additions, omissions, or embellishments in your text and that you are following the Canadian Style.
- **9 Read, write, repeat.** Read the news, read books, read essays, read blogs, read everything you see and analyze how these texts were written. Translators are communication professionals. You need to be able to adapt to different topics and write well in a variety of different styles. Look into taking a creative writing or business writing class in your target language to help you improve your writing techniques.
- 10 Write the exam. It goes without saying, but you can't pass the exam unless you write the exam. If you haven't written the exam yet, make 2019 your first time. Best case scenario? You pass! Worst case scenario? You will know how to come back better prepared for 2020 and make that the year you become a certified translator. ■

Update from the Secretariat

Membership Renewal Begins Earlier than Previous Year

Membership renewal for 2019 began on October 9th, 2018, almost two months earlier than in 2018. Because of improvements at the Secretariat, members and candidates can pay their dues online and expect to receive their renewal stickers earlier. Paper notices follow the launch. The Secretariat plans to open renewal in early October as a standard practice in the future.

Ontario Jobs helps the Secretariat

Through the job program at the University of Ottawa and the Ontario Jobs program, the Secretariat had the services of a university student through the summer. The student was put to the immense task of sorting the files and boxes in the storage units and put things in order, making past records easy to locate. In addition, he indexed past issues of InformATIO. We now have a reference document that allows us to easily reference past content. Camron Heshmati Calderón was such a great help through the summer that he was invited to continue part time on several projects as he finishes his degree program.



INTRODUCING **OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBER**

The Association of Translators and Interpreters of Ontario Board of Directors welcomes Mark Jessop as the Director, Independent Translators.

Mark Jessop, C. Tran.



A Quebec native with an honours BA in English Literature and a Teaching Certificate, Mark Jessop moved to Ontario in 1989 to start a career in translation after several years working in various industries and in education. He spent the first half of his career in the corporate world, mostly with retail organizations, notably as head of the RadioShack translation department for 10 years, before becoming an independent translator. His expertise technical translation from health and safety to defence manufacturing, from retail operations to the automotive industry. He received his ATIO certification (EN-FR) in 2015.

As an independent business owner since 2004, Mark understands the issues freelance translators face in running their own business, whether as sole proprietor or as a private corporation, and as part of a worldwide industry. Mark's aim as Director, Independent Translators is to help small linguistic business owners by leveraging membership in ATIO through networking and other means.

THE ROLE OF A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Presentation by Marielle Godbout, MA, C. Tran., Vice-President, ATIO Board of Directors at the International Translation Day Celebration Alex Trebek Alumni Hall, University of Ottawa, on September 28, 2018

It is a pleasure to be here once again to celebrate International Translation Day. I would like to especially thank Dr. Fraser and Dr. Marshman for welcoming us to the University of Ottawa campus, in the beautiful Alex Trebek Alumni Hall.

the current Vice-President of the Association of Translators and Interpreters of Ontario, the theme of my presentation today is the role of a professional association.

Introduction

Potential, and sometimes current, members of ATIO, when asked about joining or remaining in the association, often ask, "What's in it for me?" I find that question very troubling. Obviously, these translators simply do not understand the role of a professional association. Perhaps they came to translation without any professional training and never had an opportunity to be exposed to the concept of professionalism. Perhaps they did attend a university program in translation, but that program did not include one or more lectures on professionalism. Or perhaps they simply missed that class. Whatever the reason, it is clear that the concept of professionalism is not always associated with translation and translators. On the eve of International Translation Day, I would like to take this opportunity to set forth a few thoughts on the origins and the role of professional associations.

Medieval guilds

The origin of today's professional associations can be traced back to the feudal system and the medieval guilds. There were two kinds of guilds merchant guilds and craft guilds.

Merchant guilds came about as a response to taxes imposed on traders and townspeople by the lords who owned the land. By banding together, merchants were able to negotiate with the lords the amount they would have to pay. They also controlled how trade was carried out in the towns, under rules contained in guild charters. Eventually, members of the merchant guilds also became involved in governing the towns.

In turn, the craft guilds came about as a response to the tight control that merchants exercised on trade. Crafts became a monopoly, with price and supplies being tightly regulated. Members who did not follow the rules of their guild charter would be fined. Over time, the craft guilds became increasingly specialized by field. While most guild members were men, interestingly, some guilds were dominated by women, for example, the weavers' guild.

Under the guild system, there were three levels of workers: apprentices, journeymen and masters. Training for an occupation was highly structured. Parents would send their young boys to live with a master who would take them in as unpaid apprentices and teach them the craft for some five to nine years. Once they had learned the craft, the apprentices joined the guilds as journeymen. They were then able to work for pay, either on their own or as associates of other journeymen or of a master. In order to become a master, they would have to spend a number of years improving their skills until they could produce a masterpiece, which was evaluated by the masters of their guild. If the work was judged good enough, a journeyman became a master and could then set up his own workshop and train apprentices.

Both kinds of guilds also played a social role, in that they cared for sick members, arranged funerals for members who died and looked after orphans.

Types of professional organizations

Let us now fast forward to the twentyfirst century.

Today, there are a variety of professional organizations that bring together and represent the interests of or regulate various practitioners.

Dr. Claude Balthazard, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, and Registrar Resources Canada's <u>Human</u> Professionals Association, offers an interesting typology of professional associations. He divides them into four categories as follows:

 Member-benefit professional sociations exist primarily to create value for their members, by providing products and services, organizing events and advocating on behalf of its membership.

- Designation-granting organizations go one step further by offering optional designations to those of their members who meet certain education and experience criteria. This is often a step toward attempting to "professionalize" the occupation.
- Certifying bodies also offer designations based on standardized criteria. However, they differ from designation-granting organizations in that their membership is restricted to persons holding the designation.
- Professional regulatory bodies exercise control over a profession based on a statutory mandate, which provides them with authority to control the profession in order to protect the public.

As we can see, these four categories are aligned on a continuum whereby professional organizations start off as relatively informal organizations primarily focused on achieving benefits for their members and become increasingly formalized through the implementation of designation or certification schemes. At the other end of the continuum, the focus of regulatory bodies is no longer on their members but rather on protection of the public through the regulation of their members.

Service versus privilege

It is true that established professions hold a privileged position in society, in that they have been granted the right by the state to control their own affairs, rather than being subjected to control by the state, as are other occupations, for example, electricians who must be licensed by the state.

However, being a professional is not just about privilege or even mainly about privilege. There is an implicit contract between society and a body of professionals whereby, in return for the privilege of controlling their affairs, professionals are held to the strictest moral standard and are expected to behave in exemplary fashion. These expectations are embodied in the code of ethics, which is a hallmark of every profession. In addition, professionals are also expected to serve the good of the greater community, an expectation that is realized in the pro bono work that every professional is under a moral, if not actual, obligation to provide. The well-known organization, Doctors Without Borders, is one such example. As translators, we have a similar organization, Translators Without Borders.

ATIO as a professional organization

Now, where does that leave ATIO? Based on Claude Balthazard's typology, ATIO would appear to be located halfway between a certifying body and a professional regulatory body.

We are most certainly a certifying body, in that we do issue certifications and we would appear to meet the criteria of a certifying body for persons, as it is defined by the International Organization for Standardization in **ISO/IEC** 17024:2012 standard, Conformity assessment - General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons, renewed in 2018, which "contains principles and requirements for a body certifying persons against specific requirements, and includes the development and maintenance of a certification scheme for persons".

As for being a professional regulatory body, while we do have a statute, the Association of Translators and Interpreters of Ontario Act, 1989, and while this statute does provide us with the authority to grant certain reserved titles, it does not empower us with authority to control the profession in order to protect the public. In fact, if we look at the objectives of ATIO as spelled out in section 3 of the Act, one could argue that they are closer to that of an organization that is either a designation-granting organization

or even that of a member-benefit professional association.

Conclusion

To go back to my original concern, is it little wonder then that so many members and would-be members often ask, "What's in it for me?" and that services to members are one of the main concerns even at the Board of Directors level? I would argue not.

There is obviously a lot of confusion about what the role of ATIO is or should be, and that confusion is at once driven by the contents of our statute and by the general lack of understanding that surrounds the very nature of professionalism, even among professionals. This is not an issue that can be resolved in one day. It is one that will require a lot of reflection by our members and some hard choices about the direction we want to take and how we plan to get there.

On this day when we celebrate International Translation Day, a day on which we want to pause and reflect on how far we have come and, perhaps more importantly, on how far we still have to go, I would like to paraphrase an expression made famous by John F. Kennedy and invite you to ask, not what your association can do for you, but rather what you can do for your association, so that, one day, ATIO may finally become the professional association that it should be.

Thank you very much for your attention and please enjoy the celebrations! ■

References

Balthazard, Claude (2017). The four types of professional organizations. https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/four-types-professional-organizations-claude/

International Organization for Standardization. ISO/IEC 17024:2012 standard, Conformity assessment - General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons (https://www.iso.org/home.html)

What is **E&O** Insurance and Why Do I Want It?

Philippe Ramsay, ATIO Executive Director

Errors and Omissions (E&O) is an insurance policy that covers you as a professional in the event that a client holds you responsible for a service you provided—or failed to provide—that did not have the expected or promised results. This insurance will cover you for errors (or omissions) that you have made or that the client perceives you have made. To summarize, E&O coverage provides protection if an error or omission on your part has caused a financial loss for your client.

If you are in the business of providing a service to your client for a fee, you have an E&O exposure. You may want to consider what will happen if the service is not done correctly or on time, and it costs your client money or harms their reputation.

Consider making E&O insurance a part of your insurance portfolio. Many contracts with clients will require insurance to be in place. In some cases, it is a selling point with your clients. It gives them the peace of mind of knowing they will be compensated if there is an error or omission.

Finally, here are some steps you can take to mitigate claims:

- Always have a written contract that spells out what will be done, what will not be done, and what the fees will be;
- Communicate throughout the job, and keep the expectations realistic; and,
- Have quality control procedures in place. ■

Save the Date

- December 2018: CTTIC
 Certification Exam registration
 begins (visit the How to Prepare page and get ready)
- February 6, 2019: Deadline for CTTIC Certification Exam registration
- March 2019: CTTIC Exam information sessions and Professional Development Days in Toronto and Ottawa
- April 27, 2019: Annual General Meeting and Professional Development Day
- May 11, 2019: CTTIC
 Certification Exam in
 Ottawa and Toronto (written component)
- June 8, 2019: CTTIC
 Certification Exam (oral component for interpretation only)



ATIO Bursary and Achievement Award Program Support

Pascal Sabourin Chair, ATIO Bursary and Achievement Award Program Committee

Through the Peace Interpreters' Foundation created in 1995 and the ATIO Foundation established in 2001, ATIO members have always supported their successors by generously donating to the Bursary and Achievement Award Program for students at the three Ontario universities that offer training in translation and/or interpretation: Glendon College, Université de Hearst and the University of Ottawa. To date, the Program has given nearly \$100,000 in bursaries and awards. Again this year, students from these three institutions are counting on your support of the Bursary and Achievement Award Program to pursue their studies and ensure the future of our respective language professions. Contribute to their success! Log in to your ATIO account and visit the "Renew and Purchase" page to make your donation. Any amount you wish to contribute is greatly appreciated. Donations can also be made by credit card over the phone by contacting us at 613-241-2846. ■