

A Source of Strength and Pride

By: Fabrice Cadieux, President

Along with the last issue of InformATIO, you received a survey on professional development. Thanks to all those who answered! (We're still receiving responses.) As promised we've drawn the name of one survey respondent and we have a lucky winner who will be exempted from payment of his membership dues for 2002 (see on page 6.)

Salaried translators in the Association (as well as many nonmember counterparts) also received a survey dealing specifically with their situation and needs. Thanks to Patricia Adjizian, Director, Salaried Translators, and the ATIO staff for successfully completing this initiative.

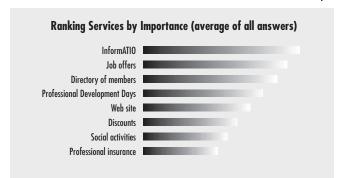
This latter project is driven by the key role our salaried colleagues play in the Association and our professions, to which this special issue—replete with revealing statistics and feature articles (including a selection of salaried translator "slice-of-life" accounts)—bears witness.

The first of these two consultation exercises—our **survey on professional development** has now yielded preliminary results that I am pleased to share with you. Your responses to the survey couldn't have been clearer.

You have overwhelmingly endorsed the on-line professional development project proposed by the Board of Directors. We will now prepare a concrete program and we hope that the first courses can be offered this fall.

Of course, this program will require a major investment. In this connection, the Association's financial situation remains extremely positive. Although audited financial statements are not yet available, we can already tell you that ATIO ended 2001 with a surplus significantly larger that the record 2000 result.

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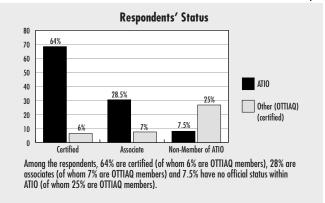
Something Old, Something New

By: Patricia Adjizian, C. Tran.

Towards the end of last year, the Salaried Translators Committee circulated a survey designed to establish the profile of salaried translators in Ontario. (*I apologize for the quality of the English version of the questionnaire. A draft version was mistakenly sent to print rather than the final one. I have slapped myself very hard on the hand since.*) As completed forms are still being returned to the ATIO office, way past the deadline, we have decided to postpone the tabulation of the complete results in order to gather as much data as possible. The current issue presents some partial results of the survey. The complete results will be sent to you on the first day of spring. In the meantime, this article will tackle two issues many of you have focused on in your responses: the Professional Development (PD) day and the Terminology Exchange Network (TEN).

ATIO's mandate includes the organization of professional development activities during the year, as needs or opportunities arise. It has become increasingly difficult, however, to hold these events—lack of funds, lack of common interests among our growing and diversified members, etc. It was therefore decided to focus on specific activities, such as a successful occasional series of workshops, and to hold a PD day once a year, in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting. This meant that, each year, the members in the Ontario city where the Annual Meeting is held would benefit from a PD day (as long as they showed up). It was funny to read on one survey "I live in Ottawa and can't travel to Toronto for the PD days," and on another "It seems all the development days are held in Ottawa, I'll attend when you start organizing some in Toronto."

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A Source of Strength and Pride Continued from p.1

As I told you in the last issue, the Board has decided to create a reserve fund equivalent to six months' operating expenses. This decision must be endorsed by the annual meeting and you will be receiving a formal proposal to that effect.

Even once this sizeable sum is set aside, we will still have a considerable surplus available to carry out our professional development plans. You will have an opportunity to comment on this major financial decision along with the rest of the annual budget.

Turning to the **survey of salaried translators**, the responses we received were just as eloquent. You can read much more about the survey in this issue; I wish to focus on two results in particular that are relevant to the Board's priorities this year: **professional development** and **promotion**.

In fact, the two main reasons for joining (or wanting to join) ATIO cited by salaried translators (both current members or associates and the many non-member respondents) are professional recognition and professional development.

In the area of development, most respondents are interested in a proposed ATIO-sponsored **terminology exchange network**. Our IT Committee will start work on this project. We also hope that the on-line professional development program will help convince employers to fund their employees' membership!

The Board also approved the implementation of the **mentorship program**, conceived and led by Pascal Sabourin. As distinct from a similar program in Quebec, in which mentorship leads directly to certification, this program will rather become a fast-track to on-dossier certification.

The innovative Mélanie-Tessier Memorial Fellowship, created this year by FoundATIO (which exists thanks to your many donations) and the Tessier Translations firm, is a highly attractive model, combining financial assistance for the final years of study, a summer internship and permanent employment.

But beyond professional development, **professional recognition** remains ATIO's main attraction for salaried translators, with 75 per cent citing this as the leading reason to join. This clear result strengthens our determination to expand our promotional efforts, especially by leveraging our IT resources.

Meeting in Ottawa the day after the 80th anniversary dinner held on January 25 (whose success rivalled that of the Toronto event in the fall—read the account in this issue!), the Board reviewed ATIO's IT accomplishments and plans.

Over the past year, we have created a new on-line directory with improved search capabilities, implemented a membership-only area in which we will be offering a growing array of services, and initiated our ecommunications system that will over time replace most of our mailings.

The frequency of the five reasons most cited by salaried translators as to why they joined ATIO Getting information and job offers - 5% Employer's requirement 8% Networking 9% Professional development 16%

We are now ready to use our IT assets for outside contacts. In this area, after a pilot project we'll be reporting on soon, the Board has decided to focus (as a start) on a long-term, sustained **media promotion campaign**.

Indeed, building the profile of our professions is an incremental process that we must begin and—most important—keep up with perseverance. In a few months, we plan to devote an issue of InformATIO to the first results of our promotion efforts.

Your Board is encouraged by your support as it continues to strive to advance our professions and all their component groups, among whom salaried translators hold a leading place. We know that our initiatives meet your expectations.

We are committed to listening to you and acting on your requests. The projects we are expanding or planning—professional development, mentorship, promotion campaigns—are broadly supported by the Association and we will work to make them a source of strength and pride for us all.

Inform**ATIO**

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FOCUS ON SALARIED TRANSLATORS ... FOCUS ON SALARIED TRANSLATORS ...

Translation in Foreign Languages Languages other than English or French



Something Old, Something New Continued from p.1

Back in December 2001, ATIO distributed a questionnaire regarding Internet courses as a professional development tool, a possibility the Board of Directors decided to investigate at its September meeting. We hope this project will add value to our services, and the people living in Kitchener, London, Hamilton, North Bay, Sudbury, Kingston, Belleville, and other fine Ontario communities will not feel left out.

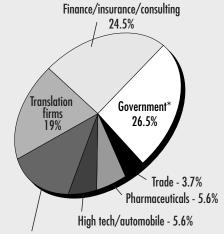
As for the TEN, this project remains at the conception stage. The main purpose of such a network would be to organize the on-line exchange of information between ATIO members (certified and associate) working in various fields, and to facilitate access to the kind of obscure terminology that confronts each one of us at some point in our career. Of course, this project will never replace traditional tools like dictionaries, TERMIUM®, and arduous personal research. TEN nonetheless has the potential to save time and hassle. Instead of surfing unreliable sources on the Net, looking for the equivalent of that technical term you and I have never seen and will never see again, or looking in our Rolodex for someone who would know, the TEN would almost instantly connect us with another colleague who can help. To make this concept a reality, resources are required—technical, financial and, yes, human. The good news is that almost all respondents have shown interest.

If you have any ideas you would like to suggest, regarding any topic, please e-mail the Salaried Translators Committee at st_atio_ts@hotmail.com

Terminology Exchange Network	Yes	No	Needs more information
Would you take part in a TEN sponsored by ATIO?*	64%	23%	13%
Would you help initiate such a network ?	30.5%	56.5%	13%

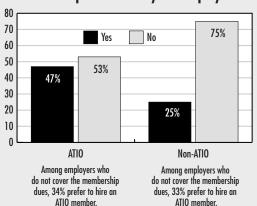
The survey did not provide any indication regarding the nature of the network.

Area of Work (company)

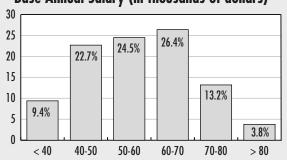


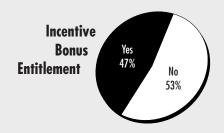
Semi-public/charitable organizations - 15.1%

Membership Dues Paid by the Employers



Base Annual Salary (in thousands of dollars)





^{* 50%} of the respondents who do not belong to ATIO answered YES.

^{*} Includes both federal and provincial governments.

PERSONAL

UP CLOSE AND InformATIO exists to reflect the professional lives and concerns of our membership. What better way to round out this special issue on salaried translators than a palette of testimonials from colleagues in diverse work settings? Here are their real-life experiences.

The Interpretation and Translation Market in Korea

By: Christine Peck, Associate (translation)

Most of the translators and interpreters providing communication services for government institutions and the private sector are hired on contract for a term of anywhere from 1 or 2 months to as long as 1 year. In most cases, these contracts are automatically renewed as long as there is demand for the service provider. When the time comes for contract renewal, there is generally negotiation to adjust compensation, usually for a raise.

In Korean society, interpreters (and translators) are generally considered to be professionals who do challenging but enjoyable work and are well paid. Many interpreters I met agreed to such comments. But to reach the stage of having a relatively stable income, there are time, effort, and networking investments to be made by the aspiring interpreter, as with other professions.

The most common interpretations that take place in Korea are obviously Korean to English and English to Korean. There is little demand for any other language. But the market for English interpretation in the country is quite large. Trading firms, financial institutions, government agencies, the service sector, and virtually all industries in Korea require English communication service providers, as there is quite a large expat community in Korea and overseas trading is extremely vibrant.

The majority of these interpretation service providers are trained and tested at various graduate schools and universities that provide courses in interpretation and translation in a number of languages. Degrees from these schools help graduates find good jobs with ease. There are, however, interpreters in the market who come from a purely working background, which is my case. I obtained English speaking skills from living abroad and the discipline of serving as an interpreter for several years in an international church, a local trading company, a government agency, and a financial institution.

My Experience in the **Pharmaceutical Industry**

By: Jocelyne Kilian, C. Tran. Translation: Joan Harrison, C. Tran.

I shall soon have been working for 20 years as a medical translator for the same pharmaceutical company, still at it after such a long time because this field continues to pique my interest. Medical science is progressing at an accelerated rate, discoveries abound, new medications are emerging, cutting-edge medical techniques are being designed; in short, the learning possibilities are infinite. Our Linguistic Service department translates everything: scientific texts, training manuals, benefits plans, professional development and sales technique guides, internal policies, advertising material, press releases, international presentations, medical information letters, labels, etc. There is no room for boredom on the schedule!

But because our industry is highly competitive, often criticized by governments and the general public in the context of escalating health costs, and positioned on the leading edge of research and development, the workload is very onerous and must be executed at breathtaking speed. Market access is crucial, and the future of pharmaceutical corporations depends on it. Medical translators must frequently grapple with medical terminology that has been newly developed in English and has no current equivalent in French. Accordingly, terminological research is lengthy and intense, slowing the process without deferring the deadline.

As regards benefits and working environment, I would say that in general, pharmaceutical industry employees are well treated by their employers, in whose interest it is to retain the services of highly qualified individuals, without whom their success might not be as considerable.

In conclusion, putting aside long working hours and the constant pressure of virtually impossible deadlines, this job gives me great personal satisfaction and the opportunity to improve myself and add to my store of knowledge.

Statement from Mark Jessop, Associate in Translation Head of Translation, RadioShack, Canada

Translation: Gladys Quirk, C. Tran.

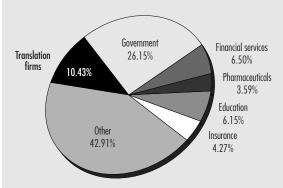
My work at a major electronics retailer consists of creating publicity for high-tech products aimed at garnering the largest possible share of the new technology market. In the electronics field and, in particular, that of the computer products for the general public, terminological development often is well ahead of French terminology. This situation is exacerbated by the frequent lack of information in French from the manufacturer. Given the pressure to get a product out on the market before one's competitors and the short profitability cycle for such products, often a product is put on the market before any translation of the manual or packing material can be completed.

At its launching, the high-tech product is first advertised in the business journals and newspapers to enhance the value of the manufacturer's shares. The advertisement geared to the investor is then followed by a short summary of the main characteristics or utility of the device in a specialty magazine, here again, in English. When presenting the new product to their readers, the French media, whenever possible, use the existing terms but, sometimes, they copy the English to facilitate recognition of a product seen elsewhere. Through the media and the initiated users, English names or French approximations are quickly introduced into the vocabulary where they become solidly entrenched. For example, the frequent use of the term "PDA," even in French, is often noted for "pocket computers."

Therefore, just as with the Internet, this is a sector where the job of terminology is to provide the consumer with simple, descriptive and catchy names or terms which will be accepted as replacements for the dominant English terms. Constancy of effort in using the adopted term will eventually be established. Initially, people used to saying "courrier électronique" were not too happy with the term "courriel." Similarly today, many translators are reluctant to use "clavardage" instead of "chat." In short, the proper usage of a catchy term will do wonders for the translation of new technologies.

Socio-Professional Categories Within ATIO

By: Catherine Bertholet Translation: Creighton Douglas, C. Tran.



Two substantial categories are apparent in ATIO membership: those translators who are employees of some level of government (26.15%), as well as many working for translation companies (10.43%).

Next come those in the financial sectors (6.50%), education (6.15%), insurance (4.27%) and the pharmaceutical industry (3.59%).

The remainder of the membership is distributed, but in smaller proportions, through business, health care, the automobile industry, high technology, the press (or the media) and parapublic or charitable organizations.

My Experience in Financial Institutions

By: Peter Birrell, C. Tran.

Most of my translating experience has been with financial institutions.

With a B.A. in French from the University of Waterloo, I taught French Second Language for fourteen years. In 1982, I was given credit for my existing B.A. and experience by Glendon College at York University, and graduated with an Honours B.A. in Translation in 1984. The French-English translation market was not exactly ablaze then, so it was a year and a half before I found a translation position.

On my birthday in January 1986, I began as a translator at Confederation Life Insurance Company Head Office in Toronto. We translated correspondence and medical, legal and insurance-related documents. I enjoyed the atmosphere and my co-workers, but we all know what happened to Confederation Life in 1994: overextension in real estate led to its going into receivership. It was a long drawn-out affair and, at one point, I was the Confederation Life translation department.

In August 1994, I saw the writing on the wall and responded to the second ATIO job posting for Scotiabank that I had seen in recent years (Yes, there *is* a God!). A fellow *Confederado* and myself had responded to the first one. We were both offered positions; she accepted and I decided I would stay where I was. Scotiabank did not take offense that I had turned them down previously, and I started the day after Labour Day 1994. Again, I was fortunate to land an interesting job with congenial people. The work has covered most of the same territory as my first job, but with more emphasis on banking than insurance.

I have found that financial institutions are reasonably generous in compensating their employees but are very careful with their money (I guess that's their job) in such areas as resource materials.

Where Have all the Revisors Gone?

(second of three articles

By: Maguy Robert, C. Tran. Translation: Luisa Maika, C. Tran.

In the mid-to late 1980's, the classifieds were chock full of ads for revisors. Today, if we come across this title, it's almost always found in tandem with that of translator, as in "Seeking experienced translator-revisor" (making us wonder what an inexperienced translator-revisor might be, but let's not dwell on that). Have all revisor positions been eliminated?

In order to find out, I conducted my own mini survey. The results are certainly not what one might expect, even allowing for the fact that my survey was not entirely objective. I was pleasantly surprised to discover that in the private sector, over half the translation services I know of still employ revisors. Is this just a fluke? The ATIO survey of salaried members will provide more objective statistics that I hope will support my findings.

But who is this revisor, sometimes (often?) loathed by translator colleagues. In private companies, outside the translation department, there is too great a tendency to confuse revisors with editors. Revisors are continually explaining that, unlike their unilingual colleagues, they never have the luxury of re-reading a text in just one language. A revisor must work with both languages simultaneously, as one of the main objectives is to ensure that the translated text is faithful to the original. In addition, revisors must also be mindful of the style, not to mention spelling or simple typing

mistakes, which may occur because their fellow translators do not have time to revise their own texts. It is at this point that conflict arises and that some revisors, because they are perhaps too critical or maladroit in their work relations, come under fire. It is unfortunate because the revisor, who is generally an excellent translator, has a very specific role in relation to the translator, and that is to serve as a mentor. In addition to being a source of great personal satisfaction, this role provides revisors with the opportunity to train new recruits, a concern of our professions at this point in time.

We must not forget that a revised text gives value added to our linguistic "products" and thus leads to greater customer satisfaction. The legal translation community is very aware of the significance of this work, to the point that is given a special title (in French) to its revisors, that of *juri-linguistes*.

Revision is certainly not going to disappear any time soon. Many companies recognize that it is important, particularly for the corporate culture. New tools will help the revisor work more quickly. Let's hope that revisors will be able to retain the confidence of their "revised" colleagues in a context where teamwork is becoming increasingly important.

Next and last article: improving visibility and understanding of our services within a business.

Cozy Elegance

By the Ottawa Public Relations Committee

Ottawa-area members and associates and friends of ATIO gathered in the stunning Fountain Room at the National Arts Centre on January 25th to mark the Association's 80th birthday. As we had for the very successful Toronto event held last fall, we asked the Pelee Island winery to supply choice Ontario wines (and expert commentary) to accompany the Canadian dinner created by NAC chef Kurt Waldele (which included, as the pièce de résistance, a superb dish of caribou with Alberta cranberries).

Amidst tributes to the past, dinner guests also looked to the future. ATIO student Renée Allard, the first recipient of the Mélanie-Tessier Memorial Fellowship, made a brief and appealing presentation about her plans and hopes for the profession. What better way to spend a winter evening than in cozy elegance among friends and colleagues, reminiscing and celebrating?



Top picture, Janet Rodriguez (Vice-President), Émilienne Goffart (Certified Translator), Nancy McInnis (Director, Independent Translators), and, right picture,

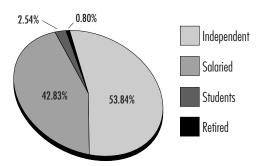
(Certified Translator), Neil Collishaw and Jean-Luc Malherbe (Certified Translator) at the Ottawa 80th anniversary event.





By: Catherine Bertholet Translation: Creighton Douglas, C. Tran.

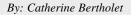
ATIO Membership as of December 31, 2001



Out of a total membership of 1,380 (as of December 31, 2001), ATIO included 737 independent translators 585 salaried employees.

Note, however, that of the 585 shown as "salaried," not all actually work as translators.

Congratulations to Newly Certified Members!



CERTIFIED ON DOSSIER IN TRANSLATION **English-Albanian English-Spanish** Arjan Prifti Nedelka Marin-Martinez

English-German German-English Ursula Vielkind Ursula Vielkind

CERTIFIED THROUGH CTIC TRANSLATION EXAMINATION

English-Spanish

Federico Perez Hernandez

Your dues for 2002 are \$0

We are pleased to announce that the winner of the draw is:

Mr. Laszlo Prising

A member of ATIO since March, 2000, Laszlo Prising is a Certified Translator (English-Hungarian) and an Associate in court interpretation (Hungarian/English).

Mister Prising is also a member of ATA.



RESOURCES/INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

TERMIUM® 2001 on CD-ROM

By: Michel Trahan, C. Tran. Translation: Victor Loewen, C. Tran.

I should clarify at the outset that I have been a subscriber to TERMIUM Plus® for two years. When I received the most recent CD-ROM version of TERMIUM®, I was complaining of how long it took to consult the terminology bank over the Internet. In fact, if many subscribers are using it at the same time or are browsing the World Wide Web, it can be annoyingly slow, even with a high-speed connection. Even so, TERMIUM Plus® is updated monthly, which is a significant advantage. In comparison, the CD-ROM version is updated only annually. But from now on I am using only the CD-ROM version.

Let's leave TERMIUM Plus® for the moment and take a closer look at TERMIUM® on CD-ROM. It's interface is very attractive and simple, making it enjoyable and easy to use. You can store records and consult your history of search terms. As with TERMIUM Plus®, the CD-ROM version lets you consult writing assistance tools. It is worth noting too that with the next publication it will contain an additional 100,000 Spanish entries. At present it already contains over three million terms, which makes it a formidable, if not indispensable tool for all of us who work with languages.

I also want to point out that in 1996, ATIO showcased the significant role that TERMIUM® on CD-ROM has in the professional practice of its members by honouring it with the ATIO Award, which it highly deserved. A few issues ago, we published an interview with Jean-Marc Larivière in which he described how he and his conference interpreter colleagues used TERMIUM® in their split-second work.

For information on TERMIUM® and related products, you can contact the Translation Bureau at:

Place du Portage, Phase II 5th Floor, Suite 500 East 165 Hôtel-de-Ville Street Hull, Quebec K1A 0S5

Telephone: (819) 997-9727

1-800-TERMIUM (Canada and United States)

Fax: (819) 997-1993
E-mail: **bureau@pwgsc.gc.ca**Web: **http://www.termium.com**

New Realities at the Translation Bureau

(We are reproducing, with the publisher's permission, an interview with Mr. Michel Cardinal, CEO of the Translation Bureau. This interview appeared in the Canadian Government Executive, Issue No. 5, in September 2001.)

Meanwhile, the translator's craft increasingly requires fluency not just in two or more languages, but also in programming and scripting languages. On-line communication and multimedia products are creating a whole new approach to translation, one that demands an exceptionally high level of technological competency in addition to linguistic and conceptual agility. Translation is no longer merely about content; it's also about form. For example, the Translation Bureau unit that services Public Works and Government Services Canada works in 24 software applications. And we anticipate that technological literacy will soon become a prerequisite for employment in the translation industry.

You said that federal government departments will increasingly opt to communicate in languages other than English and French. Why would they venture into multilingual territory when they already have their hands full servicing Canadians in two official languages?

Canada's changing linguistic profile and our constitutionally protected policy of multiculturalism have raised citizens' expectations that the government will service them in languages other than English and French. It is not uncommon for people to write to their MP in Chinese or Italian. And members of Parliament routinely use translators and multilingual staff to respond to their constituents. One Toronto MP recently mailed out his householder in 17 languages. The last federal census was translated into 60 languages because Statistics Canada wanted the most complete data set possible. Canadian demographics are not what they used to be. The Canadian Firearms Centre used 12 languages, including Russian, Punjabi and Urdu, in its campaign to notify Canadians of their obligation to obtain licences for their firearms. West of Ontario, Chinese is the most spoken language after English. I think that our clients will increasingly be responding to Canada's changing demographics by making information and services available in many languages.

To read the complete article, please follow the link on ATIO's Home Page at www.atio.on.ca

The Board of Directors of the Association of Translators and Interpreters of Ontario regretfully announces the deaths of

Dagmar Breede Laurent Fillion Alexis Troicki

Certified Translator, ATIO Member Since 1977 Certified Translator, ATIO Member Since 1993 Certified Translator, ATIO Member Since 1978

Calendar of Events



✓ FEBRUARY 2002

February 28–March 2, 2002: **2nd International Conference on Specialized Translation: Translating Science**, Barcelona (Spain). Information: www.upf.es/dtf/activitats/2icst/2ctradsp.htm

✓ MARCH 2002

March 1–4, 2002: **Meetings of FIT Council and Executive Committee**, Frankfurt (Germany). Contact: secretariat@fit-ift.org

March 13–17, 2002: **TMI 2002 - 9th International Conference on Theoretical and Methodological Issues in Machine Translation**, Keihanna (Japan). Information: www.kecl.ntt.co.jp/events/tmi

✓ APRIL 2002

Toronto-ATIO 2002 Annual General Meeting and Professional Development Day (details TBA).

✓ MAY 2002

May 6–11, 2002: Brave New Words: Translation and the New Economy, Dublin (Ireland).

May 25–27, 2002: 15th Seminar of the Canadian Association for Translation Studies/Association canadienne de traductologie, Toronto and Ryerson Universities, Ontario, Canada. Theme: "Translation and (im)migration." Information: Dr. Anne Malena, Modern Languages & Cultural Studies, 200 Arts Building, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2E6. E-mail: amalena@ualberta.ca; telephone: (780) 492-1187; fax: (780) 492-2106. Additional information on the CATS Web site: http://www.uottawa.ca/associations/act-cats/indexhtm

✓ JUNE 2002

June 13–15, 2002: **Terminology Summit organized by the European Association for Terminology and** *l'Union latine, Palais des Congrès*, Brussels (Belgium). Information: *EAFT c/o Union*

Latine, 131, rue du Bac, 75340 Paris cedex 07 (France). E-mail: eaft-aet@unilat.org; telephone: 33 1 45 49 60 60; fax: 33 1 45 44 45 97 Web site: http://www.eaft-aet.net/sommet/index_en.htm

✓ JULY 2002

July 24–28, 2002: 14th Association of Visual Language Interpreters of Canada Conference, "The Message and the Medium,"
The Lord Nelson Hotel, Halifax (Nova Scotia)

✓ AUGUST 2002

August 6–10, 2002: 16th World Congress of the International Federation of Translators: Translation: New ideas for a New Century,

Vancouver (British Columbia) Information: www.fit2002.org

✓ SEPTEMBER 2002

September 16–20, 2002: International Symposium on Contrastive and Translation Studies between Chinese and English.

Theme: New Century, New Trends, Shanghai (China).

Information: www.ecnu.edu.cn/yantahoui.htm

✓ DECEMBER 2002

4th Canada-Cuba Seminar (details TBA).



André Moreau C. Conf. Int. (ATIO), AIC

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meloche english