

informATIOn

July 2006

Number 2

Nuestra Reunión Anual

Por Maurice Behaine, Traductor Certificado (Canadá)
Martha Alejos, Traductor Certificado (Canadá)

El 29 de abril se realizó la Asamblea General Anual de la ATIO en el Sheraton Hotel de Toronto. Esta nos dio la oportunidad de compartir gratos momentos con nuestros colegas además de informarnos sobre temas importantes para nuestra profesión.



A las 9 a.m. se empezó con el registro de los participantes por parte de Catherine, Paule y Kristel de la oficina de la Secretaría en Ottawa. También estuvieron presentes Ken Larose, Presidente, Nancy McInnis, Vicepresidente y los miembros de comités Sra. Charbonneau, Sra. Takla, Sr. Geifman, Sra. Marquis y Sr. Lowe. Se nos informó de la muerte del Sr. Creighton, quien fue nuestro tesorero por muchos años. Se ha

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Our Annual Meeting

By Maurice Behaine, C. Tran. (Canada)
Martha Alejos, C. Tran. (Canada)
Translation Joan Shnier, C. Tran (Canada)

On April 29, ATIO held its Annual General Meeting at the Sheraton Hotel in Toronto. This gave us the opportunity to network with our colleagues and learn about subjects important to our profession.

Catherine, Paule and Kristel of the ATIO Secretariat in Ottawa were in charge of registration which began at 9 a.m. ATIO President Ken Larose, Vice-President Nancy McInnis, and committee members Dorothy Charbonneau, Maha Takla, Yuri Geifman, Julien Marquis and David Lowe were also present. We were informed of the death of Creighton Douglas who was our treasurer for many years. A special scholarship has been established in his honour, and Ilse Wong accepted the position of Secretary-Treasurer for this year.

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Last Issue's Survey Results

By Nancy McInnis
Vice-President, Director, Independent Translator

We received 311 responses (roughly 23% of members) to our last survey asking about your pets and hobbies. Thanks!

Of those 311 responses, 171 were from people with pets: 87 had one pet, 30 had two, and 44 had more. And we are overwhelmingly traditional in our choices of beasts: 79 people said that they had a cat and 34 reported owning a dog, compared to 7 people with a bird and 6 with fish. But there isn't a reptile lover in the bunch of us, and only 1 person confessed to a rodent.

Perhaps the answers to the hobbies questions explain why ATIO members prefer cats. We are so busy with our hobbies we don't have time to walk a dog! 292 people indicated that they have a hobby, although only 120 belong to an organization or club related to their hobby. As for the actual hobbies themselves, 42 people said they were into sports, while 100 chose the undefined "other."

Next time you're out at an ATIO function, ask the people sitting around you what "other" hobbies they prefer!

Note from the Editor

Please take two minutes to visit our Website at http://www.atio.on.ca/Membership/Survey/survey_form.asp and complete the on-line survey about your summer vacation. Results next issue.

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CONGRATULATIONS!



Certified Through CTIC Translation Examination

French-English

Joanne Daigle
Jean-François Delannoy

English-French

Marie-Joelle Auclair
Daniel Bonin
Marjelaine Caya
Melissa Ehgoetz
François Houle
Jean-Michel Johnson
Nadia Palumbo
Marie-Luc Simoneau
Josée Vilandré

French-Spanish

Barbara Duffus

Arabic-French

Mireille Sabbagh

Catalan-English

Barbara Duffus

German-English

Beatrix Read
Valerie Trotter

Korean-English

Yongjoo Kim

Punjabi-English

Rajinder Baasi
Balkar Singh Bajwa
Paramjit Suri

Romanian-English

Dan Popa

Spanish-English

Patricia Beiger
Judith Kenigson Kristy

Urdu-English

Inder Mohan Singh

English-Chinese

Jianhua Yang

English-Romanian

Carmen Isopescu
Dan Popa

English-Russian

Olga Apollonova

English-Serbian

Draga Vukčević-Andjelković

English-Spanish

Carmenza Angel
Esteban De Los Santos Lezama
Judith Kenigson Kristy
Aixa Perez Aguilar
Diana Petan
Juan Carlos Pozzo
Soraya Riera
Hazel Sanabria

Certified On Dossier in Translation

English-French

Anne-Marie Souan

Certified On Dossier in Conference Interpretation

French = A

English = B

Renée Gosselin

Give Us Your Worst!

By Alana Hardy, C. Tran. (Canada)

You know you've seen them—those so-called translations that appear on labels, packaging and signs, and in airports and hotels around the world. They sometimes leave you scratching your head, wondering exactly what was meant or how the instructions, slogan, warning, etc. could have been so mangled. *InformATIO* is sponsoring a contest and wants you to send us a photo or description of the worst translations you've seen in English or French. There will be two prizes—one ticket to each of the ATIO Christmas dinners (one in Ottawa and one in Toronto). All entries should be sent by e-mail to InformATIO@atio.on.ca, or by regular mail to ATIO – InformATIO/Translation Contest, 1 Nicholas Street, Suite 1202, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 7B7. The *InformATIO* editorial team will select a winner from the entries received.

If you need an example of a bad translation, visit ATIO member Oleg Kuzin's April 26, 2006 blog entry (<http://translatorsmusings.blogspot.com/>), which tells of a bottle of water that a colleague of his was given on a flight from China. "Natural Canadian Spring Water" was rendered in French as "Eau de printemps canadienne nautrelle." Clearly the meaning was lost in translation! Need more? Bad translations abound on the Internet. Some classics can be found at <http://www.dribbleglass.com/Jokes/translations.htm>. So please, send us photos or descriptions of the worst translations you've seen into French or English. The deadline for entries is November 15, and the winner will be announced at the Christmas dinners. Good luck!

ATIO Admission Exam

(We have got to do something!!!)

By Nancy McInnis

Vice-President, Director, Independent Translator

There has been considerable discussion recently about the CTTIC certification exam because the pass rates are abysmal. I don't have the numbers for the 2006 exam yet, but I can tell you about the 2005 exam. First of all, the results stink. 105 people wrote from English into a foreign language. Of those 105, 33 passed. That's about what we would expect: 31% of candidates passed the test. That's pretty good.

That's also the end of the good news. 97 people wrote from a foreign language into English. 14 of them passed. That's 14%. And that's pretty nasty. It means that 83 people met the criteria to become a candidate, but they did not do well enough on the exam to pass it.

I have to admit that these statistics are for all the provincial associations, but since we are the largest association involved in the exam process (OTTIAQ admits members on dossier only), a major percentage of those candidates belong to our association.

And in case you think, oh well, that's foreign languages, that's their problem. Let me tell you what happened on the official languages side of things. Brace yourself! 78 people wrote from English into French. Five passed. That means that only 6% of official language candidates did well enough on the exam to pass. And from French to English, 26 people wrote the exam and only one passed. That's 4%.

Again, these statistics are for all of Canada, but ATIO provided 80% of the people writing the exam in official languages.

So why should you care? Three reasons. First of all, we have a whole lot of people writing the exam without the skills they need to become certified. We do them a disservice by accepting the exam fee from them when we know that, statistically, the very great majority of them are paying to write an exam they cannot pass.

Secondly, we also need to save wear and tear on our exam coordinators and markers. Every year it's a huge endeavour to find people willing and able to set exams, and mark them, in all the different language combinations. And then we dishearten these poor souls by giving them poorly written exams. It may sound silly, but it makes the whole process that much more laborious when you have to fail every single exam you mark. You wonder why you bothered, and then next time, you say no. And then who is going to help out with the next set of exams. It's a downward spiral.

And thirdly, the reason that affects you directly, ATIO's reputation suffers every time a candidate with less than stellar

skills flashes his or her business card, proudly proclaiming he or she belongs to ATIO. This association works unstintingly to convince the public that certified translators are worthy of their trust and they have the talents needed to provide excellent work. You know this is true because you only have to look at your own business card where you have emblazoned your certification directly below your name. Being a certified translator gets you jobs and it earns you money. We need to be sure that the people we admit as candidates do not detract from our reputation as skilled professionals. Your next job may depend on the client's last experience.

So, what to do. The way the by-laws stand now, you only need a degree in translation or a related field, or two years of full-time experience as a translator or the equivalent. We have looked at the exams and at the markers, and the problem doesn't seem to lie there. So the problem is with the candidates we admit to write the exam. We have to change our admission criteria.

After careful consideration the Board is adopting an admission exam for people who want to become candidates. STIBC and ATIA have already implemented admission exams and they say they have had a positive effect on the quality of their candidates. ATIO would like to adopt an admission exam that has three sections: one on ethics, one on reading comprehension (texts in French and English only), and one on grammar (in the target language).

The ethics section would outline a problem and the applicant would have to answer questions about the problem. The reading comprehension section would involve a text and questions about the text. The grammar section would be a number of sentences with common grammar mistakes in that language. For example, in English, the sentences might involve dangling participles, "which" versus "that," or deciding amongst "there," "they're" and "their."

Applicants would have to receive a mark of at least 70% in each section. In other words, they would have to pass each part individually before they could be considered to have passed the exam. Then they would have to write and pass the CTTIC exam within five years of passing the admission exam. Should an applicant fail the exam, they would have to wait one year before writing it again.

As for cost, the admission exam would be included in the \$75 people pay when they submit their application to become a candidate.

So, let's hope the admission exam screens out applicants who do not have the basic language skills needed to work as a translator. Let's hope it saves them money and frustration by highlighting areas that need improvement. Let's hope it saves wear and tear on exam markers. And especially, let's hope it helps to point out the difference between being bilingual and being a translator.

establecido una beca especial en su honor y la Sra. Wong acordó desempeñar las funciones de Secretaria-Tesorera durante este año.

Hacia las 9:30 a.m. un representante de la Translation Bureau nos ilustró sobre “Traducción y Localización en Canadá”. En claro francés hizo la distinción entre localización, internacionalización y globalización y explicó las nuevas tecnologías que se están implementando en nuestro país.

A continuación se dio inicio formal a la asamblea seguida del almuerzo. Entre las 2:30 y las 3:30 p.m. se ofrecieron dos conferencias: “Herramientas de Internet Disponibles para Traductores”(I) y “Traducción y Derechos de Autor”(II). Entre las 3:45 y las 4:45 p.m. hubo dos conferencias simultáneas adicionales: “Traducción Médica”(III) y “Traducción Financiera”(IV). Todas ellas fueron muy interesantes aun cuando, de acuerdo al conocimiento que los presentes tenían de los distintos temas, para algunos fueron sofisticadas y para otros fueron muy básicas.

La conferencia (I) trató sobre las bases de datos de terminologías, sitios especializados en la red y servicios en línea. Por ejemplo, la variedad de respuestas al colocar ciertas letras o símbolos cuando se efectúa una búsqueda de términos en Google.

La conferencia (II) trató sobre la relación entre los derechos de traducción y los derechos de autor. Se habló de ética, estado legal, autores y los derechos que los protegen.

La conferencia (III) se centró en los requisitos para laborar en esta área. Se habló de la variedad y complejidad de los textos a traducir, los riesgos inherentes y la variedad de las audiencias, herramientas y ayudas (monografías, publicidad, información para profesionales o pacientes, estudios clínicos).

La conferencia (IV) se refirió a los niveles de lenguaje financiero, como lo constituyen la terminología y fórmulas estándar exigidas de acuerdo a los reglamentos, documentos para profesionales con terminología técnica y documentos para el público en general. Se insistió en la importancia de practicar y estar al día con el vocabulario financiero

Al final del día se galardonaron los miembros con 25 años de antigüedad en la asociación y se sirvió una deliciosa cena. Se contó también con una grafóloga que cautivó a los asistentes con sus análisis de escritura ya que éstos apuntaban consistentemente a personas inteligentes, cuidadosas, ordenadas, atentas, enfocadas y con iniciativa.

La siguiente reunión anual de todos los miembros certificados, candidatos y estudiantes será en Ottawa.



Luc Bouchard, one of the interpreters at our 2006 AGM

Around 9:30 a.m., a representative of the Translation Bureau gave a presentation in French about “Translation and Localization in Canada.” He made a clear distinction between localization, internationalization and globalization, and explained the new technologies that are being implemented in our country.

The Annual General Meeting was convened immediately afterwards, followed by lunch. Between 2:30 and 3:30 p.m., participants had

the choice of two workshops: “Internet Tools for Translators” (I) and “Translation and Copyright” (II). There were two additional workshops held simultaneously between 3:45 and 4:45 p.m.: “Medical Translation” (III) and “Financial Translation (IV). They were all very interesting, although depending on the attendees' knowledge of the different topics, they proved to be sophisticated for some and very basic for others.

Workshop I dealt with terminology databases, specialized Internet sites and on-line services. For example, the variety of responses obtained by using certain letters or symbols when carrying out a search for terms on Google.

Workshop II dealt with the relationship between the rights of translators and copyright. Ethics, legal status, authors and the rights protecting them were discussed.

Workshop III concentrated on the requirements for working in the area of medical translation. The presenter discussed the variety and complexity of the texts to be translated, inherent risks, the range of audiences, and tools and aids (monographs, advertising, information for professionals or patients, clinical studies).

Workshop IV discussed the different levels of financial language as reflected in terminology and the standard formulas required in accordance with rules and regulations, documents containing technical terminology aimed at professionals, and documents for the general public. The importance of practising and staying up to date on financial vocabulary was stressed.

The day ended with the presentation of awards to members who had fulfilled 25 years of service in the Association, and a delicious dinner was served. The guest of honour was a graphologist, who captivated those present with her handwriting analyses, since her analyses consistently found people to be intelligent, careful, orderly, attentive, focused and possessing initiative.

The next annual meeting of all certified members, candidates and students will be held in Ottawa.

Summary - Financial Translation

Presentation by Alain Kradolfer, C. Tran. (Canada)

Translation Caroline Bissonnette, C. Tran. (Canada)

Alain Kradolfer, the Director of French-language Communications at AIC Limited, a mutual fund company, discusses his experiences.

Financial texts can be divided into two categories:

- Regulatory information (prospectus, circulars, notices, annual reports, financial statements, etc.)
- Marketing documents (information and sales publications, audiovisual documents, Websites)

Marketing documents target primarily financial advisors and secondarily, their clients (investors).

Consequently, financial translators must operate on two levels—they must be very precise to satisfy regulatory requirements, and yet in a marketing setting, they must brainstorm to generate not only words, but also ideas that communicate effectively. Remember that effective marketing campaigns are designed to serve the company's primary goal, which is to sell its products. This is where a translator's skills really come into play.

Financial translations use three levels of language, depending on the reader:

1. Legal texts often use standard clauses containing incomprehensible jargon—shares are known as “equity interests” and terms such as “related entities” roam free;
2. Texts written for professionals are littered with technical terms that would probably sound like Greek to the average investor. All professions tend to cloak themselves in such language to lend them a certain mystique;
3. Texts written specifically for investors must, at all costs, avoid any misunderstandings and be free of any technical jargon. Remember—the text may be completely faithful to the original, but if it's too technical and no one can be bothered to read it, it hasn't served its purpose. Marketing documents are written to sell product.

In addition to the education common to any translator, financial translators must meet another essential criterion—they must know what they are talking about. They must understand every facet of their domain. How can you sell something you can't even describe?

True financial translators are professionals in the field of financial services who can communicate effectively with both industry professionals and investors.

Once they have acquired a solid background in translation, those who wish to specialize would be well advised to take professional courses such as the Canadian Securities Course. Afterwards, they will be considered true professionals and enjoy rock-solid credibility.

Ideally, their continuing education should include a regular review of specialized publications to stay informed about the world of finance, and to absorb the jargon so they can wield it like a pro. In addition to a myriad of Internet resources, financial translators also use the remarkable Ménard dictionary and Termium (which, unfortunately, is not very fluent in the language of the Canada Revenue Agency).

Translators' Happy Hour

By Heather Howey, C. Tran. (Canada)

We are a group of Toronto-based translators and interpreters who get together once a month to meet and socialize with colleagues over a drink. Fellow language professionals are welcome to join us at any time!

Place: Duke of York restaurant/pub, 39 Prince Arthur Ave. (Southeast corner of Bedford and Prince Arthur, near the St. George subway station.)

Time: 5:00 p.m., last Friday of each month.

Next gathering: July 28/06

If you would like to be on an e-mail list to receive regular reminders about the Translators' Happy Hour, send a message to Heather Howey, C. Tran. SV-EN, at heather.howey@sympatico.ca



Medical Translation is Alive and Well

An interview with myself

By Alain Côté, C. Tran. (Canada)

Translation Mark Villeneuve, C. Tran. (Canada)

The following interview briefly summarizes the proceedings at the workshop on medical translation, held as part of ATIO's AGM on April 29, 2006.

Alain who?

Côté. Director, Linguistic Services, at Janssen-Ortho, a Canadian pharmaceutical subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson; president of Translation Group – Rx&D, a group of translators in the pharmaceutical industry; certified member of ATIO and associate member of ATA; author of *Tool Box for the Medical Translator*. acote@joica.jnj.com

Is there a market for medical translation?

Yes, and it is growing in step with public interest in everything related to health and with accelerated development in the medical sciences. All this information must be communicated in many languages, to a range of audiences, in various settings, in a growing diversity of forms.

Is there a need for medical translators?

Canada currently has very few medical translators. Universities are not producing enough translation graduates, and university courses in medical translation are still too few and far between. And today's translators are not getting any younger. The result? A shortage of good medical translators in Canada.

What can be done to remedy this situation?

Other translators, students and professors must be made aware of this field. Some employers accept interns, training workshops are available, and articles appear in specialized publications. The conference on medical-pharmaceutical translation held on May 8, 2006, at *Université de Montréal* specifically focused on providing an overview of this field (the papers presented are posted at www.groupetraduction.ca).

Who provides medical translation work?

Federal and provincial departments and agencies; associations for healthcare professionals (general practitioners, specialists, pharmacists, and nurses); national, provincial and local associations for specific diseases (cancer, heart and stroke, kidney, arthritis,

osteoporosis); hospitals; medical journals; pharmaceutical companies; research centres; Websites; publishers; translation companies and many others.

How can I get work?

Network tirelessly. Play up your strengths, even outside the medical field; you could enter this field indirectly (as I did). Many paths lead to medical translation. Knock on many doors and be persistent, but polite. Do not bite the hand that feeds you, which means: always be nice to potential clients.

What are the requirements for medical translators?

The same as for other translators: a thorough knowledge of both languages, an interest in research, an eye for detail, continuing education and reading, familiarity with documentary sources, translation aids and software. Education, knowledge and experience in related fields are very useful.

What are the major challenges in this field?

There are many: the complexity of medical and scientific specializations, difficulty of some texts, variety of audiences and media, inherent risks (one small mistake could cost a life), regulations (Health Canada, provincial governments, Pharmaceutical Advertising Advisory Board, Rx&D, in-house codes, etc.), exponential growth in medical knowledge, and so on. Enough to make many people think twice.

Where are the necessary resources?

There is a cornucopia of documentation in Canada and abroad: unilingual and bilingual dictionaries, handbooks and reference works, specialized journals, Websites of pharmaceutical companies, the federal and provincial governments, national and international organizations, etc., including an endless list of links. A good starting point—the Links, Resources and Conference sections of the www.groupetraduction.ca site.

Conclusion

This field is fascinating, promising, enriching, risky, and constantly changing. Texts are often interesting and useful, sometimes quite challenging. It's up to you whether to get into the game.

Technolinguists: Interpreting the Technological World

By Sarah Bérubé and Annabelle Larouche Saint-Sauveur
Translation Siobhan Ua'Siaghail

Certain words are buzzwords: convergence, re-engineering, governance, horizontal management. Many of them are used at every opportunity for a few months or a few years, only to be later forgotten. In translation, *localization* and *technolinguistics* are, without question, the two most popular buzzwords of the last few years. But what do they mean, and why is it that what is referred to as localization elsewhere is called technolinguistics at the Translation Bureau? Though localization and technolinguistics have a number of traits in common, several others point to the need to distinguish between the two fields.

What is a localizer? What is a technolinguist? Basically, localizers and technolinguists play a sort of interpretive role between the world of language professionals and that of technologists. Language professionals include editors, writers, translators and other text content producers, whereas technologists include programmers, software engineers and other technology product designers. In the past, these two very different worlds lived independently: the language professionals, equipped with paper, pens and books, gave free rein to their prose, and the technologists, using algorithms, boldly reinvented the world from their keyboards. With the arrival of the Web and multimedia, language professionals and technologists must learn to work together, because the quality and effectiveness of the messages to be conveyed depend on both groups. Collaboration is not a simple matter: these two groups do not speak the same language and have a difficult time understanding each other. Localizers and technolinguists are hybrid beings capable of understanding and speaking both languages: that of language professionals and that of technologists. They bridge the two fields of activity, which is why they are so important.

The current trend in large localization companies is to make programmers and managers more aware of the problems associated with linguistic and cultural adaptation. Translation and adaptation are often at the very end of the production line, however, and language professionals must abide by the rules the technologists define at the beginning of projects. In Canada, and particularly at the Translation Bureau, a new approach called “technolinguistics” has been implemented. This approach does not merely lay the groundwork for translation but places the language professional at the heart of the multimedia product design process. Like brochures, advertisements or instruction manuals, Web sites and software are communication media. Consequently, a language professional who can deal with computer-related technical problems can effectively coordinate the various steps in a multimedia project and help create a product that is better suited to its target audience. The term

technolinguistics reflects the language professional’s active participation throughout the project and is therefore more appropriate than the term localization. Moreover, a language professional with specialized computer knowledge will be able to look at language-related technical problems from a fresh perspective and find innovative solutions.

To implement this “Canadian model,” the Translation Bureau created Technolinguistic Services (TLS), a multidisciplinary team of language professionals, project managers, computer graphics designers and technicians. When necessary, the team calls on the Bureau’s translators as well as outside programmers. The objective is to face, together, challenges that would be impossible to face alone. Through skill sharing, collaboration and discussion—and, sometimes, thanks to the clash of ideas from partners with very different training and perspectives—the team can take on a wide variety of projects, and the members learn a great deal from each other.

One of the goals of TLS is to assess the localization, internationalization and technolinguistic needs of the departments. The team designs, among other things, internationalized Web sites, in which text content is completely separate from the program code. It also provides linguistic and technical quality assurance services and expert advice on translation automation and translation assistance tools and manages projects involving language and technology. As well, TLS helps strategically position the Bureau in relation to new technologies. To that end, the technolinguists are often asked to participate in conferences and fairs.

Moreover, TLS is an integral part of the Bureau’s major project, the Language Technologies Research Centre, which is the ultimate incarnation of the Canadian model. The Centre brings together in one location researchers from the Institute for Information Technology of the National Research Council of Canada, translators from the Bureau and professors from the computer science and language departments of the Université du Québec en Outaouais to create a work environment that fosters innovative ideas and projects that will help develop the language industry and, above all, facilitate the work of language professionals.

So is *technolinguistics* yet another soon-to-be-forgotten buzzword? Don’t bet on it.

Language Update, Volume 1/2, December 2004
Translation Bureau
Public Works and Government Services Canada

25-Year Members

Member for 25 years:

Jacqueline Bouthéon, Translator
Hendrik Burgers, Translator
Richard Fidler, Translator
Christine Gagnon, Translator
Fabienne Hanna, Translator
Danielle Harwood, Translator
Myriam Jarsky, Translator
Jocelyne Kilian, Translator
Louise Marchand, Translator
Julien Marquis, Translator
Clermont Martineau, Translator
Marianne Symoens, Translator
Julie Wise, Translator
Marguerite Provencher, Translator
Diane Tardif, Translator
Benoit Thouin, Translator



Marianne Symoens



Julien Marquis



Jacqueline Bouthéon



Julie Wise



Myriam Jarsky



Christine Gagnon



Jocelyne Kilian

Congratulations!

Your New Board for 2006-2007

*By Catherine Bertholet
Translation Lise Cloutier; C. Tran. (Canada)*

On April 29, 2006, ATIO held its Annual General Meeting and elected a new Board of Directors.

The newly elected Board members are:

Kenneth Larose	President	Yuri Geifman	Director, Court Interpreters
Nancy McInnis	Vice-President	David Lowe	Director, Salaried Translators
	Director, Independent Translators	Maha Takla	Director, Foreign Languages
Ilse Wong	Secretary-Treasurer	Vacant	<i>Director, Terminologists</i>
Dorothy Charbonneau	Director, Conference Interpreters		

Congratulations to all!

Creighton Douglas Scholarship Established

By Pascal Sabourin, C. Tran. (Canada)

President of the ATIO Foundation (FondATIO)

Translation Ken Larose, C. Tran. (Canada)

At the last meeting, held in Ottawa on May 26, 2006, the Board of the ATIO Foundation (FondATIO) established the **Creighton Douglas Scholarship** in tribute to the memory of Creighton Douglas. Creighton was a member of the ATIO Board of Directors for many years as the Association's treasurer.

By creating this memorial scholarship, the Foundation wanted to underscore the steady and tireless dedication of a colleague and friend who devoted so much of his time in his retirement years to the language professions in Ontario and to support for the next generation. Creighton also contributed at the national level as Chair of the Board of Examiners of the Canadian Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters Council (CTTIC).

The **Creighton Douglas Scholarship**, which will be a minimum of \$1,000, will be awarded each year to a full-time or part-time student in translation, interpretation or terminology at the University of Ottawa. The recipient must be in the third or fourth year of a B.A. program, or in a master's or doctoral program. Canadian citizens, landed immigrants and foreign students are eligible for the scholarship. The recipient will be chosen on the basis of three criteria: academic record, supporting documentation and need.

At the same Board meeting, the Foundation also established the **Creighton Douglas Scholarship Fund**. Following Creighton's death, several people expressed the desire for the establishment of such a fund to enable colleagues, translation and interpretation companies and friends of the language professions to enable Creighton's work to benefit future generations by supporting a scholarship program. Trust income from the fund will be used to finance the **Creighton Douglas Scholarship**. FondATIO will launch an annual appeal for donations to the **Creighton Douglas Scholarship**. This will be separate from its annual fund gathering to finance the other scholarships and awards awarded each year by FondATIO. The Foundation currently distributes approximately \$4,000 in scholarships and awards each year to students at the University of Ottawa and Glendon College in Toronto.

People interested in making a donation to the **Creighton Douglas Scholarship Fund** should contact the treasurer of FondATIO, Paule Landry, at the ATIO offices at 1 Nicholas Street, Suite 1202, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 7B7, or by telephone at 613-241-2846, or toll-free at 1 800 234-5030. FondATIO is a registered charitable organization; it issues income tax receipts for every donation made to its scholarships and awards programs.



Portable Office

By Ilse Wong, C. Tran. (Canada)

Translation work is challenging and interesting, but occasionally, you do get tired of the same old grind. Sometimes the solution to this is a radical change of scene. This means getting out of the office—way *way* out, as in out of the country.

Luckily, freelance translators can work from literally anywhere in the world—as long as they have a way to keep in touch with their clients. In this day and age, of course, this means Internet access.

All that is nice in theory, but can it actually be done? The answer is yes, as we found out last summer, when we spent a four-week working vacation in the Netherlands.

Before the trip, my husband and I contacted the folks running the apartment we would be staying in in Amsterdam, as we would be going with our teenaged children. Fortunately, our hosts had been planning to wire up their rooms for wireless Internet access (Wi-Fi). The best part was, there was no extra charge for the access.

Armed with the confidence that we would have Internet access, we brought along two laptops (our lightweight Fujitsu Lifebooks were perfect)—one for the actual translation work, and the other as a backup, as well as something for the kids to use for checking e-mail. As it turned out, our main laptop actually *did* mysteriously die toward the end of our stay, so bringing the extra laptop was well worth it!

We also brought along a portable inkjet printer for the trip, as well as various office supplies such as extra printer cartridges, 8 x 11.5 paper (keeping in mind that practically all of Europe uses DIN A4), highlighters, Post-its, stapler, etc. The only thing we couldn't bring was our heavy-duty shredder, so we bought a portable Fellowes shredder at an Amsterdam store. At EUR13, it did a fantastic job.

My trusty Blackberry had roaming access for both voice and data in the Netherlands, so we were sure of keeping the communication lines open. (Note: several companies offer Blackberry service in Canada, but only the Rogers Blackberry can be used outside of North America.) However, at C\$2 per minute for voice calls and \$0.05 per KB for data, roaming is expensive, so obviously our Canadian phone would only be a last recourse.

To keep communication costs down, we also brought along two unlocked cellphones. (Unlocked phones can use SIM chips from any GSM service provider.) In Amsterdam, we bought local SIMs and pay-as-you-go plans. This way, all our communications within the Netherlands were much cheaper than they would have been using our Canadian cellphone.

For those times when it was an absolute must to speak to the client in order to bargain for a better deadline (bearing in mind the 7-hour time difference between Amsterdam and Toronto), we attached a microphone headset to a laptop and used Skype, a free PC phone program. Skype lets you dial other Skype users free of charge, but even Skype-to-standard phone connections were feasible, since calls to North America cost only about \$0.02/minute.

The technology portion was the easy part of our experiment. The hard part was balancing work and play. We were in Amsterdam to do some biking, after all! As it turned out, the weather played a role in determining when to work and when to play. The Netherlands is notorious for having unpredictable weather, so we learned to live day to day. Whenever we had nice, sunny weather, we went out biking or took in the sights. When it poured, we stayed in and booted up the laptop and worked. Ultimately, the sunny days and rainy days evened out, so we had a fair bit of both work and play, making our working vacation successful on both counts!

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Calendar of Events

✓ JULY 2006

July 10-12, 2006: 3rd summer seminar for financial translators co-organized by SFT, RTF and Financial Translators Forum
Paris, France
Information: www.sft.fr

July 12-14, 2006: 2nd Conference of the International Association for Translation and Intercultural Studies Intervention in Translation, Interpreting and Intercultural Encounters
University of Western Cap, South Africa
Information: www.iatis.org/content/iatis2006

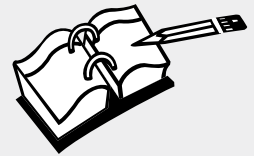
July 27-29: 1st International Conference on Specialized Translation
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Information: www.traductores.org.ar/congreso2006

✓ AUGUST 2006

August 23-25, 2006: The Warsaw International Forum “Court Interpreting and Legal Translation in the Enlarged Europe”
Warsaw, Poland
Information: www.tepis.org.pl

✓ SEPTEMBER 2006

September 28, 2006: International Translation Day
Glendon College, Toronto
Sheraton Four Points Hotel, Gatineau
Program: TBA



✓ NOVEMBER 2006

November 3-5, 2006: FIT Committee for Court Interpreting and Legal Translation 8th International Forum
Zurich, Switzerland
Information: www.forum-zuerich.ais-oeg.com

✓ AUGUST 2008

August 1-7, 2008: XVIII FIT World Congress
Shanghai, China
Information: www.fit2008.org

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

Cécile Françoise Raffaël

ATIO Candidate for Certification in
Translation since 2004

ATIO Secretariat Summer Hours

From June 26 to September 5, 2006, the office
will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.