

# Gazette

February 27th, 2025  
Issue 12

The Western Quebec School Board is committed to developing lifelong learners who actively contribute to society and are well prepared for the future.



**Our Students, Our Community, Our Future!**

## A Message from George

### Dear Staff,

Traditionally, February is seen as a month of “the blahs”...a follow-up to January, which is rich with resolution, promise for change, new ideas, and sometimes well-meaning but lackluster hype! January, of course, follows December, which is filled with excitement, energy, celebration...and a two week break!



I will argue that poor old February has been anything but “blah” here at Western Québec, as it has been filled with activity, initiatives, and recognition. We have celebrated Black History Month, and Pink Shirt Day to promote awareness against bullying. Schools have held successful parent-teacher interviews...students are participating in international trips!

I have had the opportunity to spend time in almost every one of our schools and centres during the month of February and it has been nothing short of inspiring. The feeling in every single one of our centres and schools has been one that oozes with kindness, respect, welcoming, and happiness.

Students and staff are genuinely friendly and eager to share what they are working on, and/or activities they are part of. Principals and centre directors are simply proud of their places of work as they take opportunity to modestly brag about students and staff alike.

As we launch into March, and all that comes with it, it is my hope that we do so with continued zest. We work in a very special place at Western Québec; I remind myself regularly how fortunate I am to have the opportunity to work at such a place...whether it be with my closest colleagues at the director table, the staff I share the board office space with, or the staff and students who populate our centres and schools, or the commissioners who make up our elected Council, I feel fortunate to find myself where I do. My hope is that you, as WQSB staff members share the same feeling.

On behalf of the senior director team, I wish all of you a happy and relaxing March Break. I look forward to the return, at which time we collectively pool our knowledge and efforts to promote a successful year-end for all of our students!

Sincerely,

Laura D'Alessandro

## Hooked on School Days Across the WQSB



It takes a collaborative effort to keep students motivated about their education, one that must have support from family, community and the education system. Taking place from February 10th-14th this year, Hooked on School Days (also called Perseverance Week), is a time designated to fuel this effort across Québec as well as from within the Western Québec School Board's schools and centres.

Hooked on School Days (HSD) is an event that began on February 21st, 2005, thanks to Réussite Montérégie, a Regional Consulting Authority (RCA) on school perseverance. HSD began in the Montérégie region but has since spread to become a Québec-wide event.

Currently, it is organized by 18 RCAs, who mobilize hundreds of local organizations around the importance of actions that make a difference in the academic success of all students, from pre-schoolers to young adults. These organizations host a variety of regional activities to encourage perseverance at schools and throughout the broader community across Québec.

This year, several of the WQSB's elementary schools have organized activities for Hooked on School Days. At South Hull Elementary, the entire student body went for a walk through their neighborhood and down a local forested path.

Principal Erick Tremblay believes HSD helps prepare students for their future by building self-confidence and nurturing a growth mindset. “Young people learn that effort and perseverance are more important than talent alone. This encourages them to see mistakes as learning opportunities rather than failures.”

[Click to read the full article!](#)

## Spotlight

### Black History Month

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## Buckingham Elementary Celebrates Long-Standing Staff During Appreciation Week

Buckingham Elementary School recently held a special recognition ceremony during Staff Appreciation Week, honouring dedicated team members who have served the school for 5+ and 20+ years.

In front of the entire school community, recipients were awarded a B.E.S. spring jacket for five years of service or a vest for over 20 years of commitment.

Distinguished guests in attendance included Director General George Singfield Jr., Director of Education Jennifer Dubeau, and Ward Commissioner Andrew Cornforth, who joined in celebrating the honourees.

The recognized staff members were:

- 5+ years: Kelsey Quilty
- 20+ years: Bonnie Camus, Johanne Sarrazin, Nancy Stitt, Karen Teske, Andrea Scholar, Christina Howard, Lynn Logan, and Tim Mitchell



This event was a heartwarming reminder of the dedication and strong sense of community that defines Buckingham Elementary. Congratulations to all recipients and thank you for your continued service! Go Bisons!

Lindsay Woodman

## Savouring the Moment: Staff Appreciation Week at PHS

Teachers, custodians, administrators, special education technicians, supervisors, and support staff all contribute in meaningful ways to the success of the school community. Staff Appreciation Week shines a light on the efforts of all, reminding everyone of the value they bring.

PHS staff were celebrated this week by having healthy and yummy treats from local Pontiac businesses. Treats were provided to all staff thanks to the generosity of the PHS Governing Board, administration, and parents.

This year, advisory students also showed their gratitude in a fun and creative way. Armed with cute, pun-filled thank you cards, students wrote heartfelt messages to PHS staff members.

The students put extra effort into personalizing each note for their selected staff members, often writing about specific moments when someone made a difference in their lives.

Be it for teaching staff, support staff, professionals, or administration, every PHS staff member received a cute, personalized note thanking them for their efforts.

Staff Appreciation Week does more than just say “thank you” as it fosters a positive and supportive school culture. When students participate in these acts of kindness, they are learning the importance of gratitude, teamwork, and respect. .

Stephanie Frigon

## Golden Valley School Staff Appreciation Video



A very special thank you to all the amazing staff at Golden Valley. We see you, we appreciate you, and we have no idea how you do it!! Thank you for everything!

[Click to watch the video!](#)

Erick Tremblay

## Appreciation Week at South Hull!





Fatima Sow

## Celebrating the 2nd Annual Black Culture Festival at Hadley/Philemon Wright High School

Black History Month (BHM) is a time to reflect on the past, learn from it, and celebrate the ongoing contributions of Black communities. It also offers an opportunity to honour Black culture and excellence while supporting local Black businesses. In the Western Québec School Board, schools and centres have been actively participating in BHM activities that showcase the achievements and contributions of the Black community.



On February 21, 2025, Hadley / Philemon Wright High School hosted its *2nd Annual Black Culture Festival*. Built on the success of last year's event, this year's brought together students, faculty, and members of the local community to celebrate Black history, art, and culture, creating a space for reflection, learning, and joy.

From the Black Student Alliance co-leads, Kassandra Johnson and Yeti Mallavi, to School Life Animator Mario Cuglietta, Principal Dodie Payne, and the dedicated staff, everyone played a vital role in bringing the vision of the festival to life.

The energy, enthusiasm, and commitment of the team ensured that the event was not only fun but also educational, creating a lasting impact on all those who participated.



The festival was an all-day celebration with a packed schedule of events designed to engage and inspire. The day featured a variety of performances including music, dance, spoken word, all showcasing the diverse talents of



local students and artists. Through stations, visitors were also able to experience firsthand the richness of Black culture through creative expression, storytelling, and meaningful performances.

### Library Station:

Abena Beloved Green, a talented poet, captivated the audience with her heartfelt poetry. In addition to her performance, visitors were treated to a mini concert by her guitarist!



### Cafeteria Station:

The cafeteria was filled with an array of Black-owned businesses showcasing their unique offerings.

From delicious food and beverages to handmade beauty products, and custom accessories, the marketplace celebrated the richness of Black entrepreneurship!



### Gym Station:

Two prominent guest speakers, guest speakers, Soungui Koulamallah, and Tisha, the Hadley alumni honoured those



in attendance with a concert. They also shared their personal journeys and discussed how their backgrounds shaped their careers. Their talks inspired students to pursue their dreams, regardless of the obstacles they might face.



WQSB Commissioner Linton Garner was on hand to lend his support to the event. Members of the organizing team behind the Black Culture Festival are to be commended for its success and for the enriching experiences it has provided to the Hadley / Philemon Wright High School community.



While it took place during Black History Month, the school's dedicated members of staff, work throughout the school year (not just for one month) with students and others in the wider community to create learning opportunities that celebrate the numerous contributions of the Black community, its culture and history.

The Western Québec School Board remains committed to supporting initiatives that promote cultural awareness and celebrate equity, diversity and inclusion both inside and outside the classroom.



Frankie Vermette

## Black History Month at PETES

Educators, support personnel, and specialists have diligently worked to integrate Black History into the curriculum for our students at PETES during the month of February.



Teacher Lauren Barber coordinated a school-wide event facilitated by "Inspirational Republic," which emphasizes the principle that "Black History is Canadian History".

Throughout February, our students engaged in a variety of educational activities within the classroom, focusing on the significance of Black history and its relevance to our current generation. In addition to these learning experiences, we implemented a school-wide announcement schedule.

Each classroom was tasked with selecting a notable individual of colour to spotlight, discussing their historical impact and contributions to contemporary society. Two students were subsequently chosen to present on the individual their class had selected. To conclude our month of celebration, we are excited to welcome the talented Kaylee Evans, who will perform for our school.

Neo Yaxley and the BSA Team

## Symmes & D'Arcy McGee Black Student Alliances: A Year of Growth and Celebration

The Symmes & D'Arcy McGee Black Student Alliance (BSA) is having an incredible year filled with community-building, leadership development, and meaningful connections. Our focus is on fostering a space where our BIPOC student community can thrive—build friendships, strengthen leadership skills, and create a strong support network for academic and personal success.

Highlights from This Year

### ✦ Mindfulness & Celebration

BSA students are participating in an ongoing series of workshops with Mindfulness Meghan until the end of the school year. These sessions are designed to support students' overall well-being, providing a safe space to engage in deep conversations, create art, meditate, laugh, and celebrate ourselves and our community.

### ✦ Exploring Black History in Ottawa

Earlier this year, our BSA students joined Hadley and Philemon on the Black History in Ottawa Streets Tour. We visited historic landmarks shaped by Black Canadians, highlighting their incredible contributions. It was an inspiring experience, and we left feeling proud and empowered by our rich history in Canada.

### ✦ A Night with the Queen of Rock 'n' Roll

A group of 20 BSA students and our administration team had the amazing opportunity to see The Tina Turner Musical. It was a night to remember as we celebrated Tina's legendary journey and her impact on music and culture.

### ✦ Black Out Night at the NAC

Our school was invited to Black Out Night at the National Arts Centre, where we watched *Controlled Damage*, a powerful play honoring Viola Desmond. This unforgettable evening allowed our students to experience theater in a space dedicated to black viewers.



During February, our BSA students have been working hard to educate and inspire through educational morning announcements that honor Black trailblazers. We have more exciting activities planned for the rest of the school year, so stay tuned!

Thank you to everyone who supports and uplifts our BSA community at Symmes Junior & D'Arcy McGee High School!





# Pink Shirt Day across the WQSB

February 27th, 2025

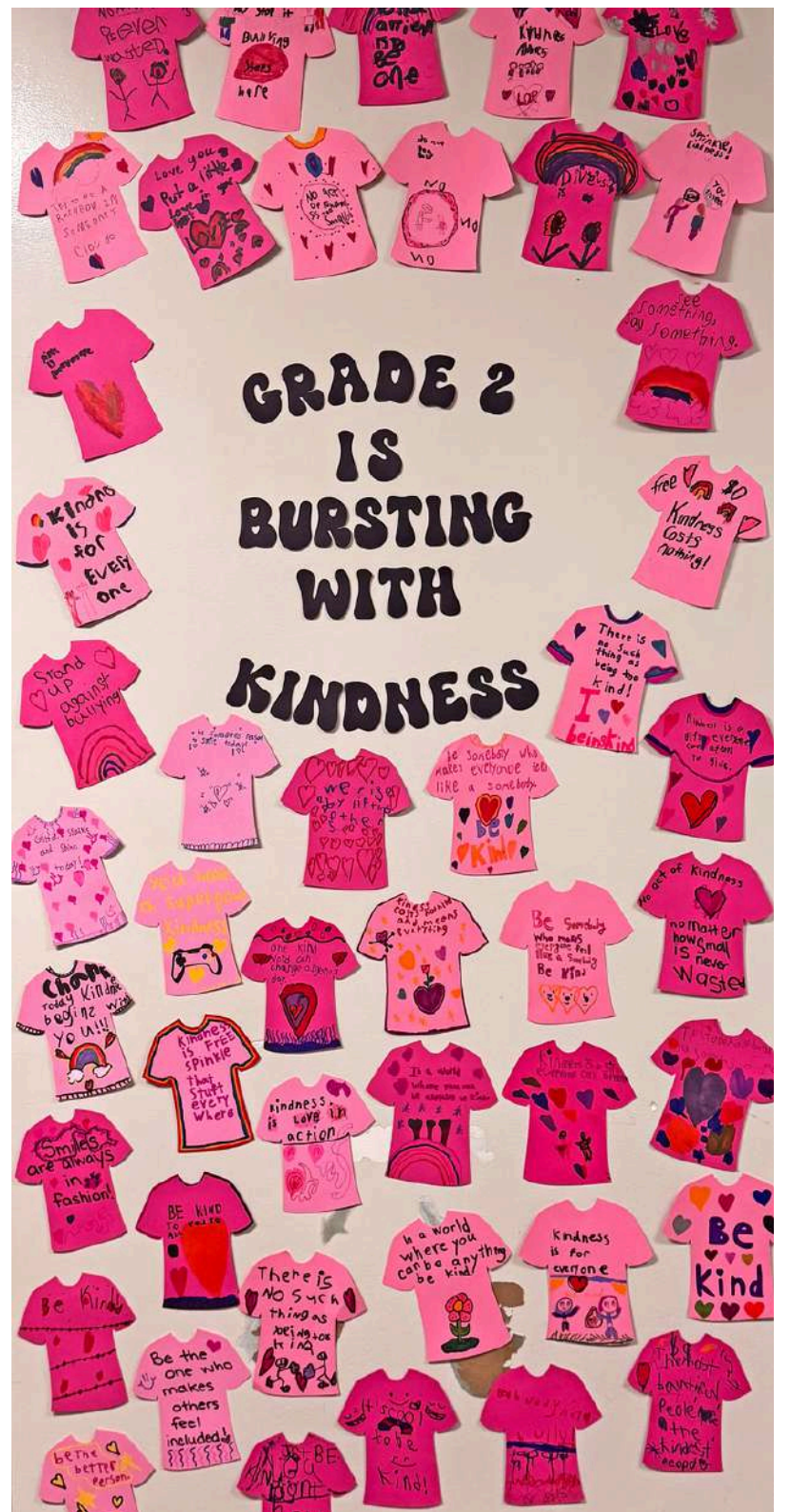
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St. John's Elementary (the left and right images)



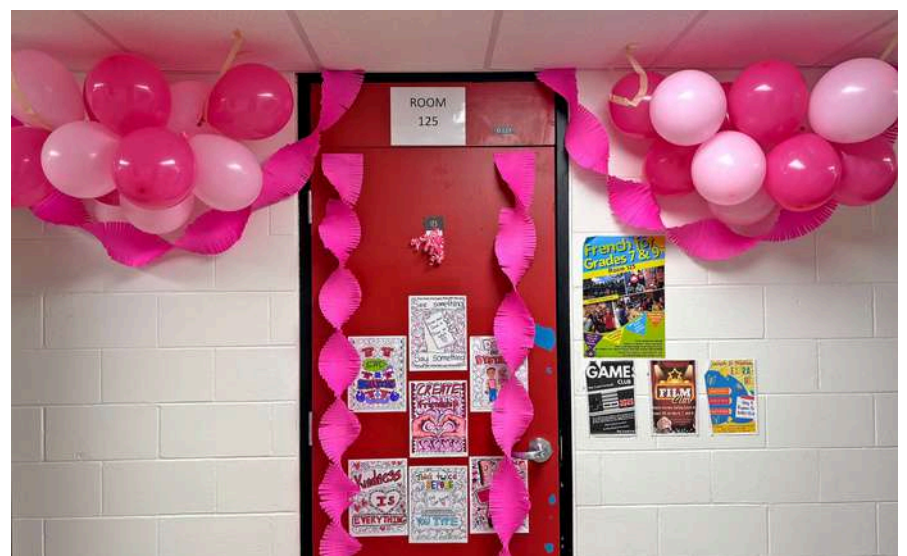
Pontiac Continuing Education Centre



Greater Gatineau Elementary School



Pontiac High School



Pontiac Continuing Education Centre



James Price

## Buckingham Elementary Celebrates Literacy Week with Exciting Activities and Award-Winning Author Visit!

From January 27th to 31st, Buckingham Elementary School hosted an engaging Literacy Week, inspiring students to embrace the joy of reading.

The school-wide challenge encouraged students to read as many books as possible throughout the week, and their enthusiasm was undeniable—they successfully read over 750 books!

A highlight of the week was the special visit from Canadian Choice Award-Winning Author Brian Nolet, who captivated students with a live reading of his Amazon best-selling book, *Jungle Buddyz: A Race to Remember*. His animated storytelling and engaging discussion on socio-emotional learning resonated with students, reinforcing essential life skills such as perseverance, teamwork, and kindness.

By integrating social-emotional learning with literacy initiatives, B.E.S. continues to foster a culture of positivity, inclusion, and lifelong learning. Congratulations to all students and staff for a successful Literacy Week! Go Bisons!



Amy Barker

## The Push-Up and Sit-Up Challenge at Noranda School

Most of us just feel like hibernating in February. Winter starts to feel long, and the days are short, especially in Abitibi. To help fight against the winter blues, a friend of mine and I challenged each other to a competition of 30 push-ups and 250 sit ups a day for 18 days.



To help keep me motivated and to promote physical fitness, I do some of them twice daily at school right after recesses.

In typical Noranda School style staff and students come out to cheer me on. Special thanks to special education technician Carol-Ann Lafortune and school secretary Francesca Bellerose who get on the floor with me twice a day to feel the burn.

GO NORANDA SCHOOL!

Leanne Loney

## Crochet at Noranda School



After learning how to crochet just over a year ago, I began making crocheted stuffies for grade 6 graduations and for birthdays. Several students expressed interest in learning how to crochet and it took off.

Students have started making turtles, squids, strawberries and cats. It's a great addition to the class to keep busy hands busy! A bonus is the math used in the creations: skip counting, number patterns, and learning symbols and codes.



Laura D'Alessandro

## Poltimore Elementary Visits the WQCC

Accompanied by teacher Amy Whiting and special education technician Shane Duncan, enthusiastic Poltimore students visited the Western Québec Career Centre this February.

Starting in the Health Assistance and Nursing program with teachers Kim Greene and Kelsey-Rose Corriveau, the students spent the day getting introduced to a variety of the centre's programs including Commerce, Welding and Automotive.



WQCC teachers design these workshops to be age appropriate, interactive and educational for the visiting students.

The WQCC workshops kept Poltimore students engaged and excited throughout the day. They returned to Poltimore Elementary School full of stories to share with fellow classmates from all the new experiences they had at the Centre.

Special thank you to WQCC staff member Alex Smith for organizing this visit!

Laura D'Alessandro

## Ski Trek La Grande Traversée



Photo of PWHS student by Laure Poirer

On February 26, 2025, Gatineau Park hosted the Ski Trek La Grande Traversée. Organized by Ski At School (SAS), this is an exceptional event for high schools in the Outaouais region. This event showcases cross-country skiing while offering the 150+ students a unique opportunity to experience a challenge in a majestic natural setting.

In attendance from the Western Québec School Board were D'Arcy McGee HS, Philemon Wright HS, Pontiac HS and St. Michael's HS.

Special thank you to outdoor education student life animator Graham Fong for leading the WQSB schools during this epic event.

Frankie Vermette

## G.Theberge Ski/Board Club travels to Blue Mountain Resort



G. Theberge's ski and snowboarding club had the good fortune to go all the way to Collingwood, Ontario for a three-day ski and snowboarding excursion. Every student's development during each ski trip was incredible to watch. We will always cherish this three-day excursion in one of Ontario's most picturesque mountains to round off the ski season, thanks to the Provincial and Federal Government for the grants to make this possible.

When students and staff reflect on the trip, it will undoubtedly be one that they remember for a long time. These excursions help students gain confidence both on and off the slopes by developing their ability to navigate, organize, travel and more!



Jeff Harvey

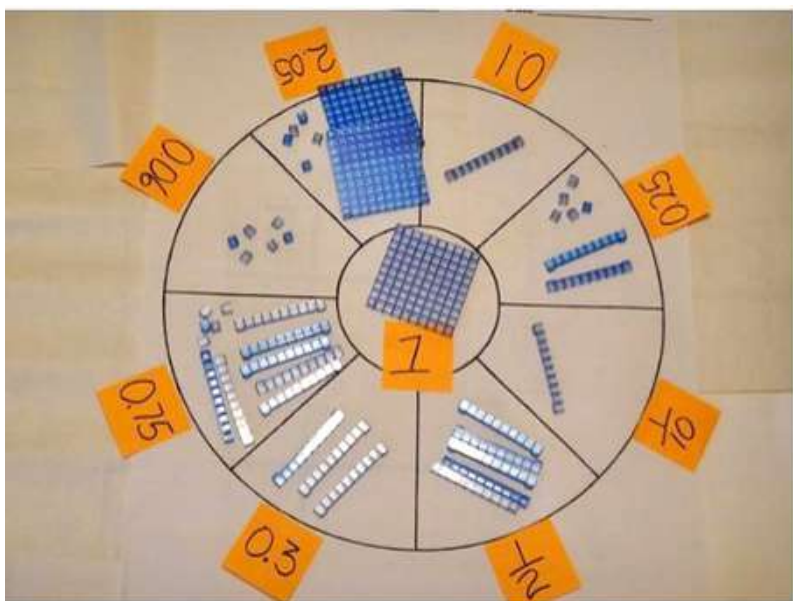
## Using Concept Circles for Deeper Understanding in Mathematics



A **Concept Circle** is a graphic organizer that is being explored in mathematics classrooms across the Western Quebec School Board with exciting results.

At **Queen Elizabeth Elementary School**, Tracy Hodgson-Drysdale's Grade 1 class used Concept Circles to study number flexibility by making 10s. The students matched coloured tokens in ten frames to build expressions of 10 (9+1, 5+5 etc.). They had a blast with lots of counting and combinations! Students later played Go-Fish for 10 to apply their knowledge in a meaningful context.

At **Poltimore Elementary School**, Petya Karakoleva's Cycle 3 students tackled decimals using base-10 blocks. Sticky notes were scattered across the Concept Circle. The purpose? To ask for the appropriate representation, given a flat is equal to one. This hands-on challenge helped students make sense of an abstract concept.



Concept Circles work in geometry lessons, too. Back at **Queen Elizabeth Elementary School**, Jennifer Robertson's Cycle 2 class used Concept Circles to build and deconstruct shapes with pattern blocks. Students made the shape repeatedly with a different number of blocks each time. Lightbulb moments, pride and brain cells were firing as students engaged and persisted in problem solving.

Even assessment is getting a fresh twist. At **Greater Gatineau Elementary School**, Cycle 3 teachers Stephanie Stone and Michael Birch co-created a Concept Circle assessment, allowing students to demonstrate their understanding as an alternative to traditional question and answer tests.

Concept Circles are versatile and suitable for K4-Sec 5. The strategy engages students socially and cognitively with endless instructional possibilities. To learn more or try them in your classroom contact Jeff Harvey, WQSB Mathematics Consultant ([jharvey@wqsb.qc.ca](mailto:jharvey@wqsb.qc.ca)).

Lisa Diner and Stuart Gray

## Did you know?



The WQSB Artificial Intelligence (AI) Committee is asking for your help to shape the future of AI at the WQSB by completing a short, anonymous survey. This survey will serve as a basis for the developments and orientations of our School Board regarding AI:

- [Link for the English Survey](#)
- [Lien pour le sondage français](#)

Canada's Centre for Digital Literacy Media, [Media Smarts](#), has also released two great new resources. First, a new self-guided parent workshop, "[Raising Digitally Resilient Kids](#)", outlines how parents and guardians can support children's well-being and help them balance the risks and benefits of digital media.

Second, a set of four new tip sheets to address kids' media safety needs at different stages of childhood:

- [Early childhood \(birth to 5 years old\)](#)
- [Middle Childhood \(6-9 years old\)](#)
- [Tweens \(10-13 years old\)](#)
- [Teens](#)

If you have any questions regarding the survey or the Media Smarts resources, reach out to your EdTech Consultants [Lisa Diner](#) and [Stuart Gray](#).



Quinn Keenan

## Suicide Prevention Week: Promoting Awareness and Support in WQSB High Schools

Suicide Prevention Week is a time for high schools in our board to raise awareness, provide resources, and create a supportive environment for students struggling with mental health challenges. By fostering open conversations and reducing stigma, schools can play a vital role in preventing suicide and promoting emotional well-being.

During the week, events such as awareness activities, peer support groups, and guest speaker presentations take place.



To help educate students about warning signs and provide coping strategies.

Schools may also set up resource booths with information on counseling services, crisis hotlines, and stress management techniques. Encouraging students to check in on their peers and seek help when needed can make a significant impact.

Some examples of activities that took place in our schools were A Wellness Wall, where students could express what brings them joy, a coping strategy tool kit as well as shining light on things that bring them hope.

Students were encouraged to add their experiences to the wall. Another school held a lunch where students were given strategies to help cope with mental health challenges. The school also provided announcements throughout the week that broke down myths about suicide, provided facts and helplines for students to access.

By prioritizing mental health education and fostering a safe, open environment, our schools can empower students to support one another and seek help when needed. Suicide Prevention Week is more than just a series of events—it's a commitment to ongoing mental health awareness and support.

## Complementary Services Resources for Children's Mental Health Week

In celebration of Children's Mental Health Week, the school board's Complementary Services department has comprised this extensive list of excellent Canadian resources for students and their families to utilize:

### [811 – CISSS de l'Outaouais](#)

Info-Santé 811 is a free and confidential telephone consultation service that covers psychological and physical health support.

### [CISSS – Outaouais Youth Mental Health](#)

The services offered by the youth mental health team are targeted at youths under 18 experiencing mild to moderate mental problems, affecting their functioning and development.

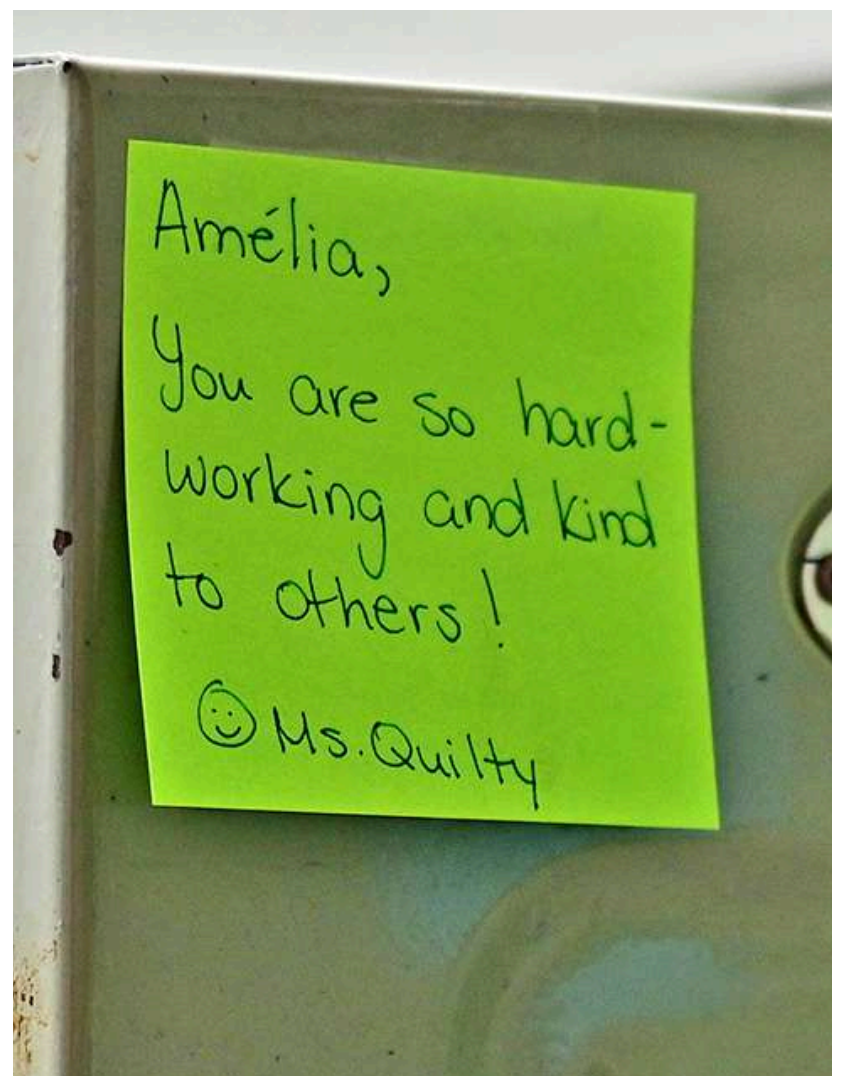
### [Centre of Excellence for Mental Health](#)

MEQ centre that supports the English school boards in Quebec with resources, training and information on the implementation of best practice approaches in prevention, intervention and research in field of mental health.

### [Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Outaouais \(BBBSO\)](#)

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Outaouais is a non-profit organization that offers mentoring programs to young people in the Outaouais. These allow them to rely on a positive model to improve their self-esteem, develop healthy lifestyle habits and persevere them from school dropout.

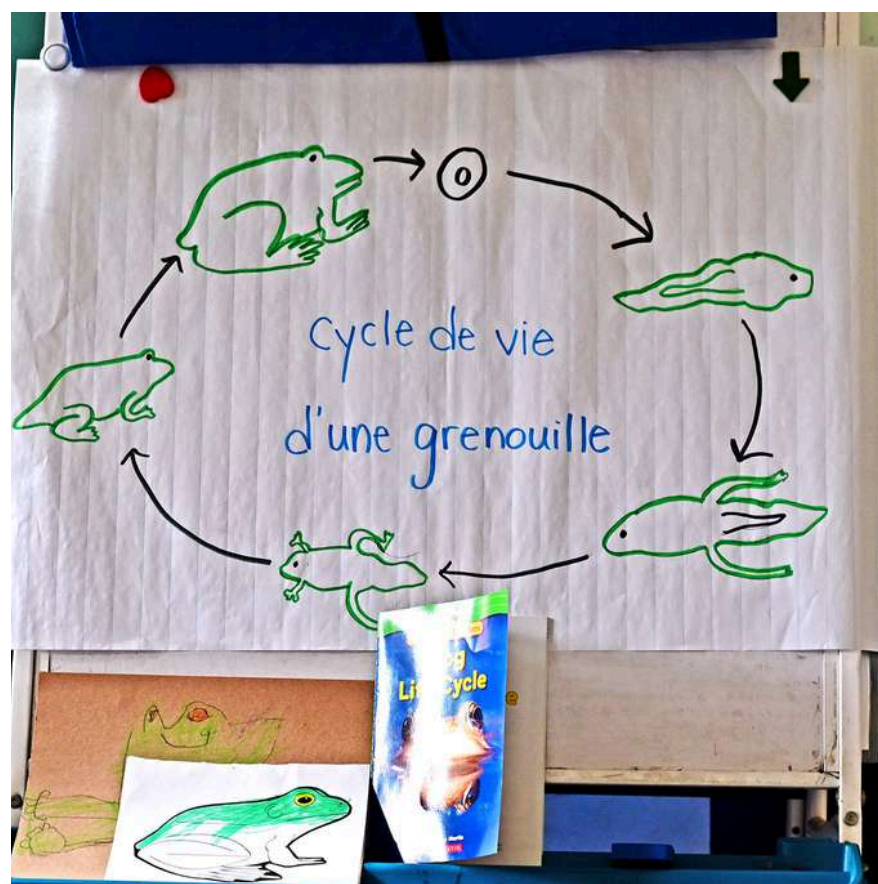
[Click to see full list of resources!](#)





HR Team

## Seniority List: Accuracy and Transparency



The HR department has recently distributed the teacher seniority list as of June 30, 2024, ensuring transparency and accuracy in rankings.

### What is the Seniority List?

It records each teacher's years of service with the school board, used to determine entitlements as per the Collective Agreement (Clause 5-2.00 SENIORITY).

### Where to Find the List:

- An email from HR with the list.
- A printed copy is posted in your school's staff room.

### Next Steps:

If you have concerns about your seniority, submit corrections to WQTA by April 11, 2025. The board will respond after reviewing all inquiries.

Feel free to contact HR or WQTA with any questions.

HR Team

## Teacher Information Sheets: What They Are and Why They Matter



The WQSB has mailed Teacher Information Sheets to all teachers. These annual documents outline key employment details as per the local agreement with the Western Québec Teachers' Association (WQTA).

### What's Included:

- Basis of employment (part-time, full-time, replacement)
- Teaching category
- Experience, scholarship, classification
- Salary, seniority, tenure, employment status
- Workload percentage
- Explanation of pay stub codes (in English and French)

### Why It Matters:

These details ensure transparency. If any discrepancies are found, teachers should promptly contact HR.

HR Team

## Recognizing Peer-to-Peer Excellence at the WQSB



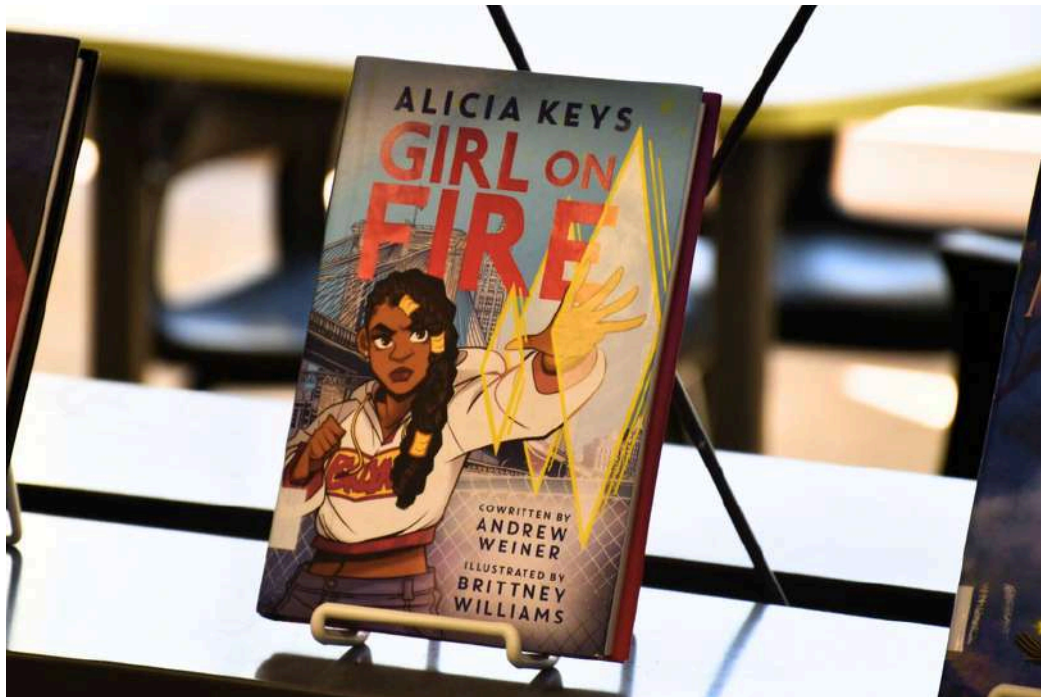
The Recognition Nomination Survey has closed, and we are excited by the strong response! The Recognition Committee is now reviewing submissions and finalizing the selection process for nominees to be honored in front of their peers. A big thank you to everyone who nominated a colleague. Your thoughtful appreciation truly highlights the dedication of our staff.





Erin Millar

## Books for International Women's Day: The Canadian Edition



March 8, 2025, is International Women's Day and I felt inspired to narrow it down to spotlight and celebrate books by and about some amazing Canadian women. I discovered that the Government of Canada's theme for this year's International Women's Day is Strength in Every Story and I knew it was meant to be.

You can still access last year's list; it was in Issue 3 of The Gazette which came out at the end of March and there's always a link to past issues at the end of each newsletter.

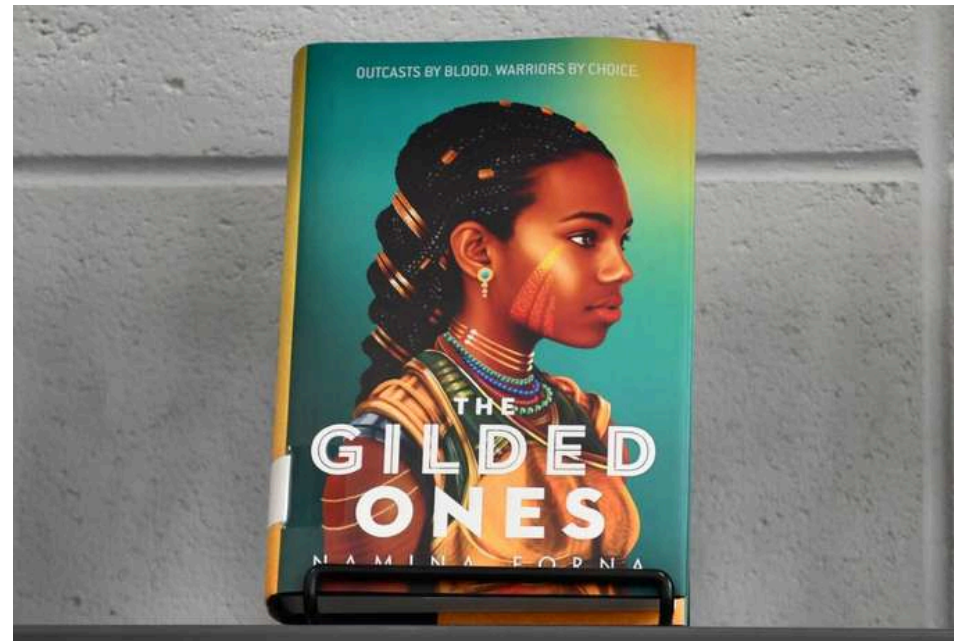
That list covers a wide variety of genres, stories, and women authors, over a variety of formats and age groups: picture books, middle grade and YA fiction, non-fiction, and more.

### International Women's Day Themed Book List

- If You See a Bluebird, by Bahram Rahman
- When the Stars Came Home, by Brittany Luby
- Sarah Ponakey, Storycatcher and Âhâsiw's Forest Powwow, by Sita MacMillan
- Meet Buffy Sainte-Marie,\* by Elizabeth MacLeod – with more in the [series!](#)
- The Halifax Explosion: 6 December 1917, at 9:05 in the Morning, by Dr. Afua Cooper
- The Trailblazing Life of Viola Desmond: A Civil Rights Icon, by Rachel Kehoe and Wanda Robson, who was Viola Desmond's sister
- Little Moons, by Jen Storm
- Semer des Soleils, par Andr e Poulin
- Raconte-moi: Janette Bertrand, par Johanne Mercier – et il y a encore plus dans [la s rie!](#)
- The Famous Five: Canada's Crusaders for Women's Rights, by Barbara Smith
- Nutshimit,\* by Melissa Mollen Dupuis
- Canadian Women Now and Then: More Than 100 Stories of Fearless Trailblazers, by Elizabeth MacLeod
- Kimiko Murakami: A Japanese Canadian Pioneer, by Haley Healey – with more in the [series!](#)
- Amazing Atlantic Canadian Women: Fascinating Stories of Excellence and Determination, by Stephanie Domet and Penelope Jackson
- Unvarnished: Autobiographical Sketches by Emily Carr, edited by Kathryn Bridge
- When Emily Was Small, by Lauren Soloy
- C'est Quoi un R fugi ?,\* par Elise Gravel
- Joni: The Lyrical Life of Joni Mitchell, by Selina Alko

The Government of Canada has also created a Teacher Toolkit for International Women's Day which you can find by clicking [here](#).

This year's list is more focused here at home, but also features books published quite recently – to avoid duplications across years and lists.



I hope you'll find these stories are a wonderful fit for your classrooms, and for discussions about women and women's rights and accomplishments, both here and internationally. Strength shows itself in many ways, in all the languages of the world; there is strength in stillness and in passion, in joy and in despair, in our accomplishments both big and small, global and local. So, allow me to introduce you to some Canadian women authors telling stories that embrace and showcase the stories and strength of women.

*Titles marked with \* are available in English and French*



Sunglee Randall

## Virtual Library Spotlight: NFB

[National Film Board](#) (NFB) is the producer, distributor and caretaker of over 14,000 audiovisual Canadian works, from documentaries to animated shorts. NFB offers content for all levels in both English and French, as well as a special Education section that contains Media School, Ocean school, mini-lessons, study guides and professional development.

Staff can access the Education section without having to log in, however, to access the full range of content, staff must create an account using their WQSB email credentials.



## Found in the WQSB Time Capsule

We found this photo in our time capsule. Can you guess who it might be from the hints below?



From a young age, this little girl knew she wanted to help people. It was in her nature and it was no surprise to anyone who knew her when she was drawn to the vocation of teaching. She began working in different schools

across the Western Québec School Board, first as an elementary school French teacher. In this role, she had a gift for connecting with and motivating reluctant learners to engage in a beautiful second language. She also worked as a resource teacher, helping struggling students acquire strategies for greater academic success.

Throughout her teaching career, she felt drawn to technology and had a knack for integrating ICT into lessons. She became the “go to person” in school when people were experiencing difficulty with technology. More importantly, she enjoyed helping colleagues develop their competency in this area and they began gravitating to her because of the excellent support she provided them.

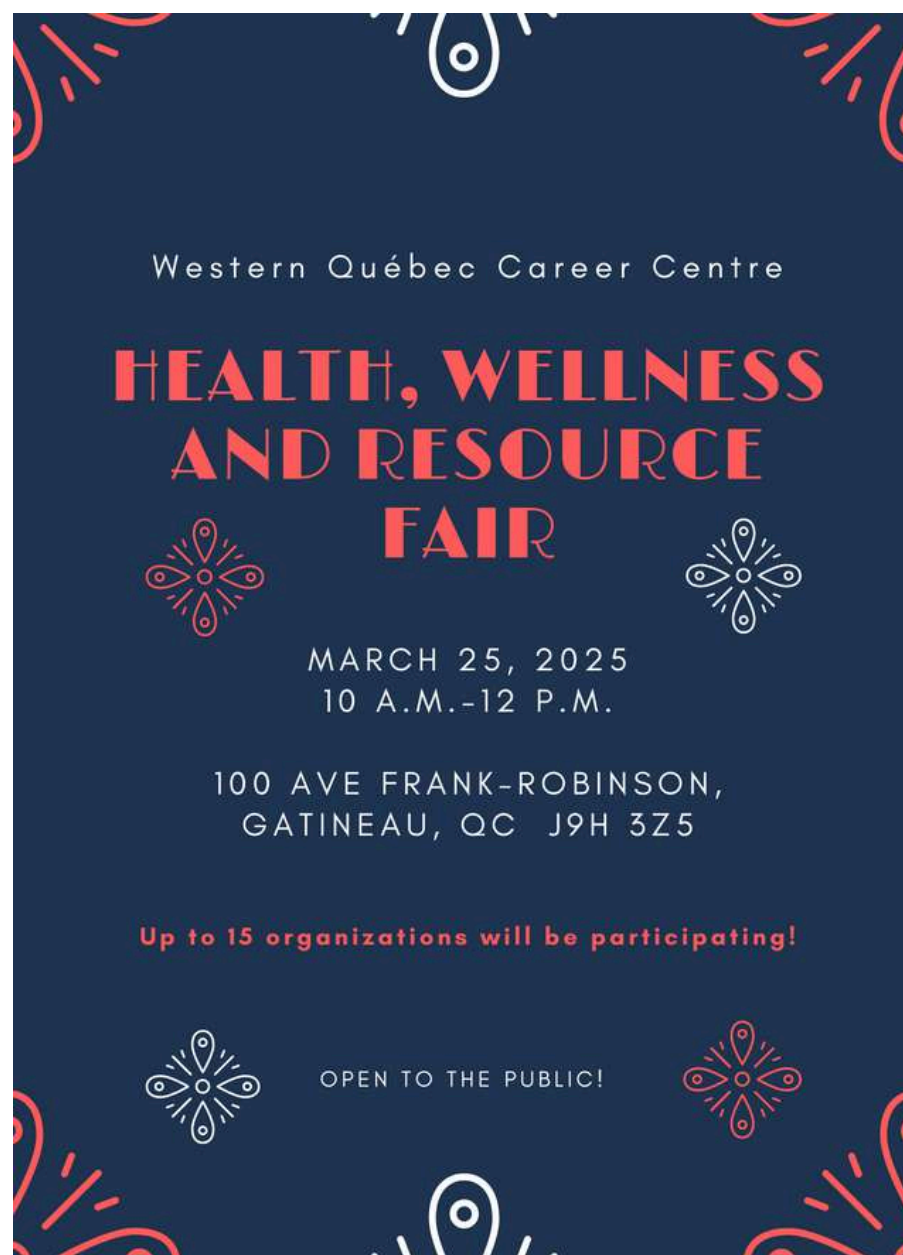
She eventually found her next calling as a RECIT consultant, assisting teachers and administrators across the WQSB at a crucial time when educational innovation was booming. She helped teachers navigate new tools and approaches like digital presentations, use of online resources, the introduction of Smartboards, one-to-one technology, coding and robotics to name a few.

Her enthusiasm for teaching and learning is contagious and was put to good use when she became one of the dedicated organizers and champions of Destination Imagination. Another thing that is contagious about her . . . the absolute best laugh! Who could this be?

## Coming Up...

Samantha Nicholls

### W.Q.C.C Health, Wellness & Resource Fair



We are excited to announce that W.Q.C.C. will be hosting our Health, Wellness & Resource Fair on Tuesday, March 25th, 2025, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

This event is designed to provide students and local community members with the opportunity to connect with services and partners in our region. We are expecting participation from 10 to 20 organizations.

In previous years, participants have included organizations such as our local police department, Connexions, and CISSO. We look forward to welcoming a diverse range of kiosks again this year!



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## THANK YOU

We extend our gratitude to our contributors this month

*George Singfield, Amy Barker, the Symmes/D'Arcy BSA team, Claudia Loschmann, Erin Millar, Fatima Sow, Frankie Vermette, Graham Fong, Jake Ahern-Davy, James Price, Jeff Harvey, Krystal Boutin, Laura D'Alessandro, Leanne Loney, Lindsay Woodman, Lisa Diner, Lisa Falasconi, Lisa Kelly, Neo Yaxley, Quinn Keenan, Samantha Nicholls, Stephanie Frigon, Stuart Gray and Sunglee Randall.*

[Have a WQSB story to share? Reach out to our team!](#)



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*Gazette created by Fatima Sow & Laura D'Alessandro*