

**Editors' Association of Canada/Association canadienne des réviseurs  
Report on National Executive Council Meeting  
February 29–March 1, 2009, Toronto**

The national executive council met in Vancouver on February 28 and March 1, 2009. Reports from council members, national office and committee chairs were heard. Major items of discussion were association finances, the conference and 30th anniversary, certification and the organization review.

*Finances and marketing*

We now have accurate and timely financial reports; the financial picture they paint continues serious. However, while association finances are still tight, we will be able to meet our obligations. Transfer payments to the branches should be up to date by the end of the year.

Under the guidance of Michelle Ou as Communications Manager, the office is managing several new marketing and communications initiatives.

Because of increased search engine optimization, ODE is now getting many more hits, helping individual members with their own marketing efforts and enhancing the association profile.

*Conference and 30th anniversary*

Plans for the Toronto conference continue to unfold. Nora Young has been confirmed as the keynote speaker. More sessions are being confirmed; please check the website for details. Most branches have planned 30th anniversary celebrations, and the conference will include many as well.

Owing to the current state of the economy, sponsorships are hard to promote this year. Small donations from applicants to the conference are welcome and have been coming in already.

Future conference locations, for those who like to *really* plan ahead, are: 2010—Montreal; 2011—British Columbia; 2012—Ottawa.

*Certification, standards and publications*

This year, EAC will be able to showcase its first Certified Professional Editors. The new *Professional Editing Standards* (PES) will be up for ratification by members in early April. A digital process is being planned for the voting.

In a related development, NEC has voted to opt in to an industry-wide Google settlement. Google has digitized millions of books and seeks copyright protection for its actions. “Opting in” means that:

1. EAC will receive a one-time payment of \$60–\$300 per digitized EAC title;
2. the titles will be freely available online;
3. EAC will receive an annual payment from Google, of an unknown amount, for their display of our books; and
4. EAC will not be able to sue Google for displaying our books.

If we opted out, Google would still have likely displayed our books, we would have received no payment and we would not have had the opportunity to sue.

*Member issues: Volunteering*

A new draft volunteering policy was discussed. Volunteering is excellent professional development for individual members. Other ideas highlighted in the policy are the need for accountability amongst volunteers, a preliminary outline of the concept of supervising of volunteers, and the nature of the real risks involved in taking on certain complex tasks.

*Member issues: Nominations*

Several candidates had stepped forward as of February 28. Candidates for the following positions were still being sought: Membership Committee chair; Training and Development chair; and Marketing chair. For NEC positions, candidates must be voting members. Committee chairs do not need to be voting members. People can put themselves forward as candidates for any and all positions at the AGM.

*Member issues: Francophone affairs*

Francophone affairs cut across all EAC organizational lines—branch, committee, national, office. Currently, issues centre around translations and the francophone presence on the NEC.

Not all EAC communications can be translated; NCR members and others are acutely aware of this. However, what is translated needs good “concordance”—that is, the translated document needs to fairly represent what was said in the original language. This is a guiding principle for translators of EAC documents.

The FA committee noted in November that excellence was lacking in the translations we were obtaining. At that time, the FA committee were tasked with offering EAC members the first opportunity to do the work. The new system is now in place, but there are glitches. A major glitch was that two very active members of the committee, Gaëlle Chevalier and Anna Olivier, were nearing burnout as a result of doing many of these translations themselves, and Gaëlle Chevalier has decided not to run as MAL next year. These developments are sobering. Further discussion and consultation with francophone members is needed.

At the same time, francophone members can look forward to increased French content in AV, starting with the next issue.

*Organizational review*

Under the guidance of Moira White, the council has been discussing revisions to the 2002–03 structural planning. Major areas of concern are streamlining the elected and appointed positions, branches-and-twigs, francophone affairs, and remote members. The review process is likely to take two to three years.

Minutes of council meetings are posted in the Members Only area of the website once they have been approved (at the subsequent council meeting). The next council meeting will take place in Toronto on June 7 and 8, 2009. As usual, the meeting is open to any voting member in good standing who wishes to attend.