



2010-2011 Activity Report

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Since the last general meeting, held on March 24, 2010, many activities have taken place. They can be grouped together in three basic categories:

- Organizational development;
- Special activities;
- Regular activities.

Organizational development

This year, the Foundation has taken a number of important steps in this area.

Secretarial services

As the job was becoming increasingly burdensome and difficult to perform by relying exclusively upon volunteers, the Foundation is now able to count upon the services of a secretary who has accepted to spend a few hours every month with us, and a little more time during certain busy periods, to provide us with the necessary logistical support for our activities.

The secretary's arrival has thus enabled us to file and organize various documents and other effects that belong to the Foundation, as well as to more promptly follow up on our correspondence, e-mails and phone messages. Likewise, we've been able to improve the organization of our annual fundraising campaign and issue tax receipts to our donors more expeditiously. Finally, the secretary has provided us with valuable assistance throughout the entire operation devoted to awarding our annual scholarships, the Number One activity of the Foundation.

A permanent storage area

Meanwhile, we now have a small storage space at the Maison Parent-Roback, in which we've been able to assemble all the items that belong to the Foundation: filing cabinets, posters, books, DVDs, archives, etc.

A redesigned and refreshed Web site

This year also marked a major redesign of our Web site, making it even more user friendly and refreshing its layout and style.

Special activities

Hélène Pedneault's bequest

Hélène Pedneault, a distinguished writer, designated the Foundation as her universal legatee. When she passed away, her estate had to be disposed of, which required an awful lot of work. Several items, and more specifically several works of art, were stored for a while which gave rise to certain costs, although not too onerous, but this could not be justified over a long period.

All these items, with the exception of the works of art, were thus given to charities such as *Renaissance* and *Le Chaînon*. Nearly 3,000 books were sent to the *Fondation des parlementaires*, "A culture to be shared". Meanwhile, some souvenirs were also distributed to a few friends of Hélène.

Finally, the works of art were auctioned off at a special event that was held on December 4, 2010 at the *Société Saint-Jean-Baptiste de Montréal* whose President, Mario Beaulieu, graciously made a hall available to the Foundation. The organization of this special activity was rather demanding, seeing as it was necessary to

have the works appraised and transported, to set them up in the hall, make certain purchases, rent equipment, send out invitations and reminders, etc. This all gave rise to a sustained effort. At the end of the auction, the unsold works were sold off through the offices of professional auctioneers or sold to a number of individuals; those pieces that were not acquired by anyone were given back to the artist in question, out of respect for their artistic creation. There still remains one work of art by Clémence Desrochers that could be used as a prize should we decide to organize a fundraising drawing/raffle in the future.

A protocol is signed with *Maman va à l'école*

Pursuant to a mandate given at the last general meeting, the Executive Committee has signed a protocol with the *Maman va à l'école* organization.

Under the terms of this protocol, the organization, whose mission is to encourage research in education with a view towards identifying the obstacles faced by single-parent mothers, to identify innovative solutions adapted to their needs and to ensure their implementation, will provide the Foundation access to their research findings. Meanwhile, the Foundation has accepted to issue tax receipts to the people who participate in the annual fundraising activity organized by *Maman va à l'école*.

The protocol will be in force until December 31, 2012.

Silent auction of objects belonging to Madeleine Parent

When Madeleine Parent abandoned her own apartment to move into a group home, she gave us some of her personal effects such as furniture, trinkets and souvenirs so that the Board of Directors could dispose of the latter for the

benefit of the Foundation.

The furniture and some of these other effects were auctioned off in the spring 2009.

A few remaining small objects were later sold by silent auction at the General Meeting, held at the Maison Parent-Roback, last April 21. This raised some \$386 and provided an opportunity for several feminists, who cherish the values and ideals espoused by Madeleine Parent, to acquire a small souvenir of the latter.

Regular activities

Our annual fundraising campaign

As usual, we held our annual fundraising campaign and continued our efforts to get our Partners to renew their support for the Foundation, but also to try to attract new ones. This enabled us to raise \$16,826.

Granting scholarships

In June 2010, the Foundation granted \$25,000 to 18 scholarship recipients, an exceptional amount made possible by Hélène Pedneault's bequest.

Meetings and various other activities

To keep all these regular and special activities running smoothly, we held three meetings of the Executive Committee and three meetings of the Board of Directors. The fundraising committee also met five times.

We have rigorously taken care of the Foundation's assets and published a third issue of our Newsletter, a vital tool for nurturing the link with the many *Friends of Lea*.

Board of Directors

June 2011