

CLA Board of Directors: 2012 - 2015

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The CLA's primary objectives are:

To raise awareness of the value and benefits of language learning for all Canadians.

To recognize Canada's ethnocultural communities and their historical and ongoing contributions to language education.

To promote the development of programs in international/heritage languages and other related areas for the creation of positive educational outcomes for learners.

To strengthen communication and cooperation among providers and supporters of international/heritage languages organizations across Canada.

To coordinate and participate in the sharing of information and resources pertinent to language education.

To enable the teaching of international/heritage languages within educational systems.

To enhance teaching skills and resource development for language classrooms.

To support the efforts of educators in international/heritage languages programs.



Annual Report 2013 / 14



CLA Organization Profile

The Canadian Languages Association (CLA) / L'Association canadienne des langues (ACL), established in 1990, is a national umbrella organization committed to working in cooperation with language and cultural associations, educational institutions, government departments and ministries, business groups, and community stakeholders at the local, provincial, and federal levels to promote the value of international/heritage languages education for all Canadians.

L'Association canadienne des langues (ACL), établie en 1990, est un corps national consacré à la conservation et la promotion de langues internationales/patrimoniales au Canada.

L'ACL agit comme réseau entre les organisations de langues internationales/ patrimoniales à travers le Canada. L'Association canadienne des langues est engagée à travailler en collaboration avec toutes les associations de langues et les associations culturelles, les établissements d'enseignement, les départements gouvernementaux, les groupes en affaires, et les parties prenantes communautaires au niveau provincial ainsi que fédéral, afin de promouvoir la valeur de l'enseignement des langues internationales/ patrimoniales pour tous les Canadiens.

Financial statements
available upon request.



**Canadian Languages Association (CLA) /
L'Association canadienne des langues (ACL)**

www.canadianlanguages.ca



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Canadian Languages Strategy

The Canadian Languages Association believes in the economic, cultural, and social benefits of multilingualism. We need to recognize that our much-celebrated cultural diversity can indeed be a wellspring for the new ideas and knowledge that will generate innovation, grow and attract high-technology industries, and spur economic growth and prosperity.

A Canadian Languages Strategy is an imperative against a background of profound national and international change. We envision this Canadian Languages Strategy as vital in fostering public acceptance of language competence and intercultural understanding as essential components in the make up of an informed international citizen.

While we fully support Canada's Official Languages Act, it is also important to formally recognize and support linguistic plurality.

This Canadian Languages Strategy would clearly communicate the Federal Government's commitment to increasing Canada's languages capability, and a vision of languages as 'a life long skill – to be used in business and for pleasure, to open up avenues of communication and exploration, and to promote, encourage and instill a broader cultural understanding.'

The Strategy's primary objectives are:

To promote and improve the teaching and learning of languages.

To increase the number of people studying languages .

To work with the provinces to provide effective and equitable funding for language programming at the school board and community levels.

To raise an awareness of the importance of multilingualism to all Canadians for individual and collective well-being.

It is our hope that a **Canadian Languages Strategy** will be the key component in recognizing the value of maintaining one's own languages as well as developing others. We want to build world class leaders and a comprehensive commitment to second language education is an essential key to that goal.

CLA Activities...

Selected highlights from 2013 / 14...

Transition to the New Not-for-Profit Act

CLA began work on transitioning to the new Act. All organizations incorporated under the *Canada Corporations Act, part II*, must transition to the *Not-for-profit Corporations Act* by **October 17, 2014**.

SAHLA Symposium: Calgary

CLA representatives were invited to participate in SAHLA's 2013 Symposium in November. Presentations included sharing information, strategies, and success stories around promotion and awareness of language learning.

International Mother Language Day: Edmonton

Constantine Ioannou presented a workshop for participants in the International and Heritage Languages Association's International Mother Language Day event in February 2013 in Edmonton.

Metropolis 2013: Ottawa

CLA was chosen as a Workshop presenter at Metropolis 2013 in Ottawa. The presenters in this Workshop focused discussion on strategies and efforts that have been (and are being) used to audit an organization's (with a focus on educational institutions) inclusive practices, especially in regards to the recognition of language. Emphasis was placed on how school staff and communities can better recognize the cultures and languages of their community through authentic and natural methods. Presenters shared their views on how advocacy efforts and partnerships can bring a better awareness to the multilingual advantage that Canada's population offers. These issues were discussed at both the micro (best practices) and macro (national) levels.



CLA Organizing Members

 **Southern Alberta Heritage Language Association (SAHLA)**



International and Heritage Languages Association (IHLA)



Association Québécoise des Langues d'Origine (AQLO) / Québec Heritage Language Association (QHLA)



Society for the Advancement of International Languages—British Columbia (SAIL BC)

Canadian Languages Association (CLA) / L'Association canadienne des langues (ACL)

