



Making Connections
Developing Community

WWW.MCDC.INFO

ANNUAL

REPORT



2025 & 2026

Growing Together

THIS YEAR AT MCDC

" This year, MCDC continued to grow as a bridge between people, services, and communities across our region. Through meaningful partnerships, inclusive activities, and compassionate support, we helped thousands of English-speaking residents feel more connected, informed, and empowered. Every workshop, referral, visit, and conversation became part of something bigger. building a stronger, more welcoming community where no one feels left behind."

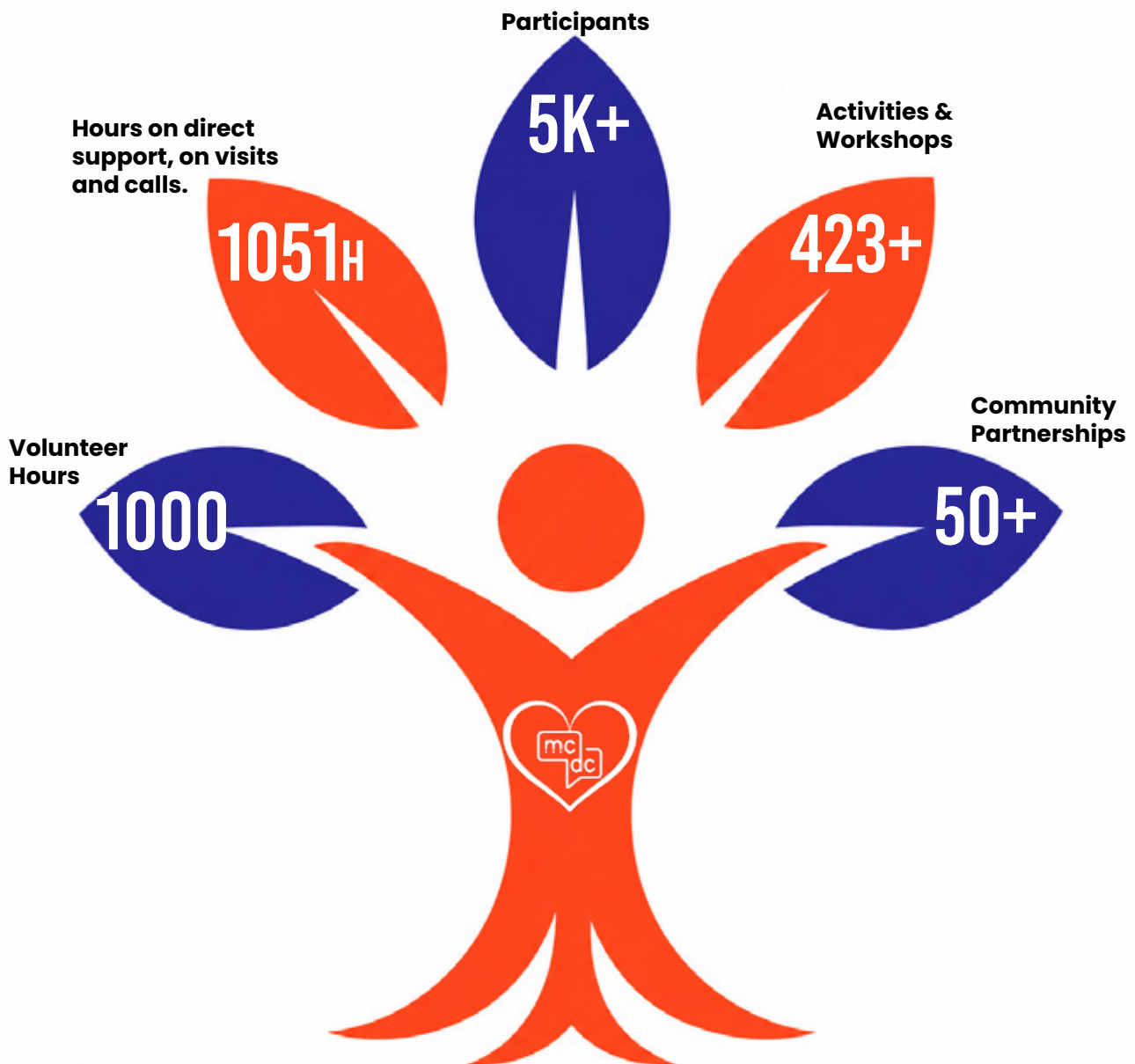


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WORD OF THE PRESIDENT

ANN MARIE POWELL

President

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present the annual report of Making Connections Developing Community (MCDC) for the past year.

As we reflect on the work accomplished over the last year, one thing is clear: MCDC continues to play an important role in strengthening the vitality of the English-speaking community across our region. Through its programs, partnerships, outreach efforts, and daily support to community members, the organization continues to create meaningful connections and respond to evolving community needs.

This past year was also especially significant as MCDC celebrated its 25th anniversary in December 2025. This milestone offered an opportunity not only to celebrate the organization's achievements, but also to recognize the many individuals who have contributed to its growth throughout the years – past and present staff members, volunteers, board members, partners, funders, and community supporters.

Community organizations play an essential role in building inclusive, connected, and resilient communities. In a context where needs continue to evolve, MCDC's ability to adapt, collaborate, and remain close to the people it serves is more important than ever. The organization's work would not be possible without the dedication and professionalism of the staff team, whose commitment to the community is evident every day.

I would also like to acknowledge the valuable contribution of my fellow Board members, who generously volunteer their time, expertise, and energy to support the organization's mission and ongoing development.

As President of the Board, I am proud of the work accomplished over the past year and confident in the organization's future. MCDC continues to evolve while remaining deeply rooted in the values of community, inclusion, collaboration, and support that have guided the organization since its beginnings.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you to everyone who contributes to the success and vitality of MCDC. Your continued support and engagement make a meaningful difference in our community.

WORD OF OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BRIAN GIGNAC

Executive Director

As we reflect on the past year, I am filled with a deep sense of pride and gratitude for everything we have accomplished together at Making Connections Developing Community (MCDC).

Over the past year, MCDC continued to strengthen connections, reduce isolation, and support access to services for English-speaking individuals and families across Chaudière-Appalaches and L'Érable. From Thetford Mines to Lévis, our team worked closely with community members, partners, and institutions to respond to evolving needs and help ensure that individuals feel supported, informed, and connected within their communities. We also began exploring opportunities to strengthen our outreach and presence in the Beauce.

Behind every activity, partnership, and initiative are the people we serve – seniors looking to stay connected, families seeking information and support, youth searching for spaces where they belong, and community members navigating services in a language in which they feel comfortable. Over the years, MCDC has become more than a community organization for many individuals and families. It is often a trusted resource and a welcoming place where people know they will be listened to and supported.

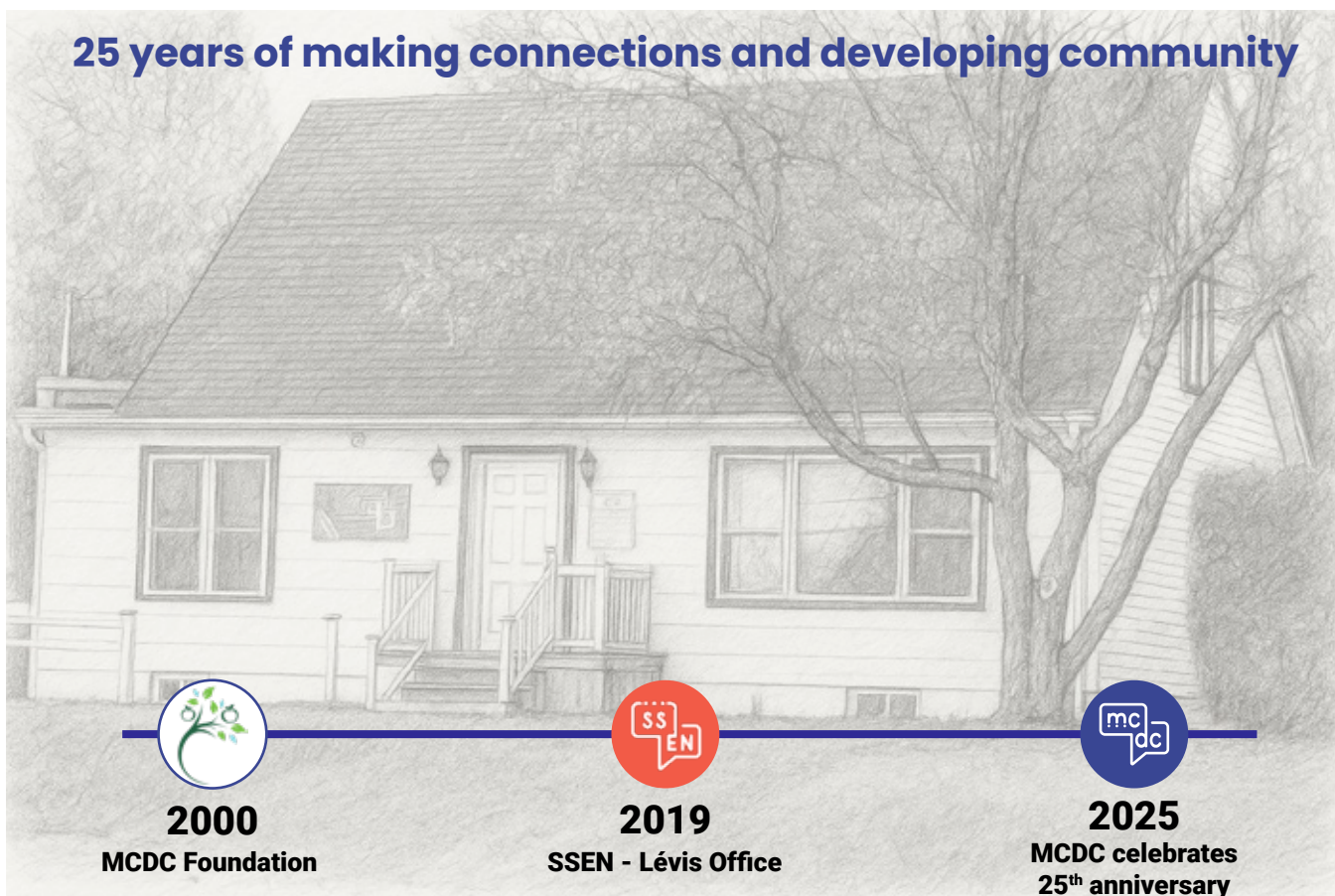
This year also marked an important milestone for our organization as MCDC proudly celebrated its 25th anniversary in December 2025. This anniversary was an opportunity to reflect on the organization's journey and recognize the many individuals, volunteers, partners, staff members, and community supporters who have contributed to its growth and success over the years.

As community realities continue to evolve, MCDC remains committed to adapting its work to better respond to the needs of the English-speaking community. Through collaboration, outreach, and strong partnerships, we continue to work toward building a more connected, inclusive, and supportive community across the region.

I would like to sincerely thank our staff team, Board of Directors, volunteers, partners, funders, and community members for their dedication, trust, and continued support. The work we accomplish would not be possible without your contribution and commitment.

On behalf of MCDC, thank you for being part of this journey.

WHO WE ARE



OUR VISION

Identity: Strengthening and promoting the unique characteristics of our English speaking population by supporting our members' needs, mobilizing and empowering them to bring change to our community.

Social inclusion: Recognize that the English-speaking community can contribute positively to the development of the broader community.

Equity: A proactive role in representation, awareness, and advocacy to support stakeholders to develop policies and programs that ensure the community's equitable access to resources and opportunities.

OUR MISSION

MCDC serves and promotes the interests and well-being of the English-speaking community of the administrative region of Chaudière-Appalaches and the sub-region of the MRC de l'Érable by facilitating access to services in English and fostering partnerships with the community at large.

OUR 5 PILLARS

Five pillars guide. Our mission to build stronger connections and a thriving community. The road-map to our services and activities.



CONNECTIONS



COMMUNITY



OUTREACH

Together, we create a stronger community for today and a brighter future for all.


 **PILLAR 1**


Access to Health & Social Services


Helping community members navigate systems with clarity, dignity, and support.

This year, MCDC strengthened pathways to care by helping English-speaking residents better access health and social services across the region. Through referrals, translations, healthcare partnerships, and community navigation support, we worked to reduce barriers and ensure more people felt informed, supported, and connected to the services they need.



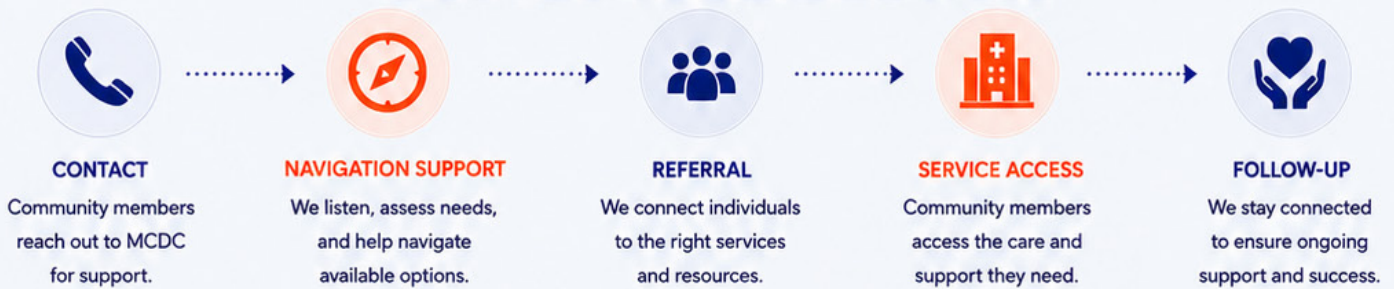
-  **230**
Referrals to Health & social services

-  **15**
newcomers supported

-  **18**
translations completed

-  **13**
health & social partnerships

GUIDING COMMUNITY MEMBERS EVERY STEP OF THE WAY



Building Future Access to Care

Through Dialogue McGill partnerships, MCDC helped students explore careers in healthcare and connected youth with educational opportunities that strengthen the future of English-language health services in Québec.

-  **190**
students reached
-  **2**
student bursaries supported
-  **6**
healthcare career exploration visits



“ Thanks to MCDC, I was able to get the care I needed and learn how to make healthier choices. They truly care about our community. ”

— Community Member



Healthy People. Strong Families.
Thriving Communities. 





PILLAR 2

Seniors & Healthy Aging

Supporting our seniors to live well, stay connected, and age with dignity.

MCDC offers programs and services that promote well-being, independence, and social connection for English-speaking seniors across the region. Through community programs, outreach, and partnerships we help seniors stay active, informed, and supported at every stage of aging.



1200+
seniors reached



485+
one-on-one supports provided



135
group activities & workshops



100+
health & wellness workshops

OUR KEY SUPPORTS



Social Connection
Activities and events that bring seniors together and build meaningful relationships.



Health & Wellness
Programs that support physical health, mental well-being, and overall quality of life.



Independent Living
Resources and guidance to help seniors live safely and independently at home.



Outreach & Navigation
Reaching out, checking in, and connecting seniors to the services and supports they need.



Information & Education
Workshops and sessions that empower seniors with knowledge and practical tools.



Access & Mobility
Helping seniors access transportation and services in their communities.

Highlights This Year

- ✓ Expanded outreach to isolated and homebound seniors
- ✓ New wellness workshops on nutrition, fall prevention, and mental health
- ✓ Intergenerational activities that connect youth and seniors
- ✓ Stronger partnerships with local organizations to enhance services

COMMUNITY IN ACTION



10+
seniors connected through intergenerational programs



STRONGER TOGETHER

We are grateful to our community partners and volunteers who help us create a supportive environment where seniors can thrive.



MCDC programs have given me more than activities. They've given me friends, confidence, and a real sense of belonging.

— MCDC Senior Participant



Support. Connection. Dignity.



Building a community where seniors can age well and live fully.



PILLAR 3

Youth, Families & Education Support

Investing in our youth and supporting families to build brighter futures.

MCDC provides programs and resources that empower youth, strengthen families, and support lifelong learning. Through engaging noon-hour and Ped Day activities, mentorship opportunities, educational initiatives, and family-centered programs, we foster safe and inclusive spaces where people can build connections, develop confidence, and thrive within their community.



 **500+**
youth engaged

 **95%**
of Youth reported
increase their
confidence

 **23**
Éducaloi
Workshops

 **50+**
families supported

OUR KEY SUPPORTS



Mental Health & Wellbeing for Youth

Raise awareness promoting Mental Health Wellbeing



Youth Empowerment

Leadership and life skills programs that empower youth to reach their potential.



Family Support

Resources and workshops that strengthen families and relationships.



Mentorship

Positive role models who guide and encourage youth on their journey.



Ped-Day Activities

Fun activities that keep youth active and connected.

Highlights This Year


- ✓ Hosted a successful Mental Health Fair at A.S. Johnson Memorial High School, connecting students, families, staff, and community organizations with valuable mental health resources and services.
- ✓ Organized Family Ped Day activities, including board game and movie afternoons, creating meaningful opportunities for families to connect, participate, and build community together.
- ✓ Welcomed a guest speaker from Kahnawake for Truth and Reconciliation Day, featuring meaningful discussions and a Pow Wow drumming demonstration celebrating Indigenous culture, awareness, and understanding.



“MCDC has been a place where my children feel supported, encouraged, and believed in. It has made a huge difference in our lives.”

– MCDC Parent



Empowering Youth. Strengthening Families.
Building Futures 



PILLAR 4

Community Vitality with Purpose

25 Years building a vibrant, inclusive community where everyone

MCDC brings people together through cultural, recreational, and volunteer opportunities that celebrate diversity, foster belonging, and create meaningful connections. Together, we build a stronger, healthier community.



- 512** community members engaged
- 1250+** students used our library & community space
- 230+** volunteers contributing
- 10** community initiatives

OUR KEY SUPPORTS



Arts & Culture
Celebrating diversity through arts, music, festivals, and cultural events.



Volunteerism
Meaningful volunteer opportunities that strengthen community connections.



Recreation & Well-being
Activities and programs that promote physical, mental, and social well-being.



Community Events
Bringing people together through events that inspire and unite.



Belonging & Inclusion
Creating welcoming spaces where everyone feels valued and included.

Highlights This Year

- ✓ Growth in volunteer engagement
- ✓ Expanded partnerships with local organizations

COMMUNITY IN ACTION



60+ community events



15+ local partners collaborating



66

MCDC events bring joy and connection. It's where we meet new people, celebrate our cultures, and feel at home.

— Community Member



Vibrant Communities. Meaningful Connections. Stronger Together.

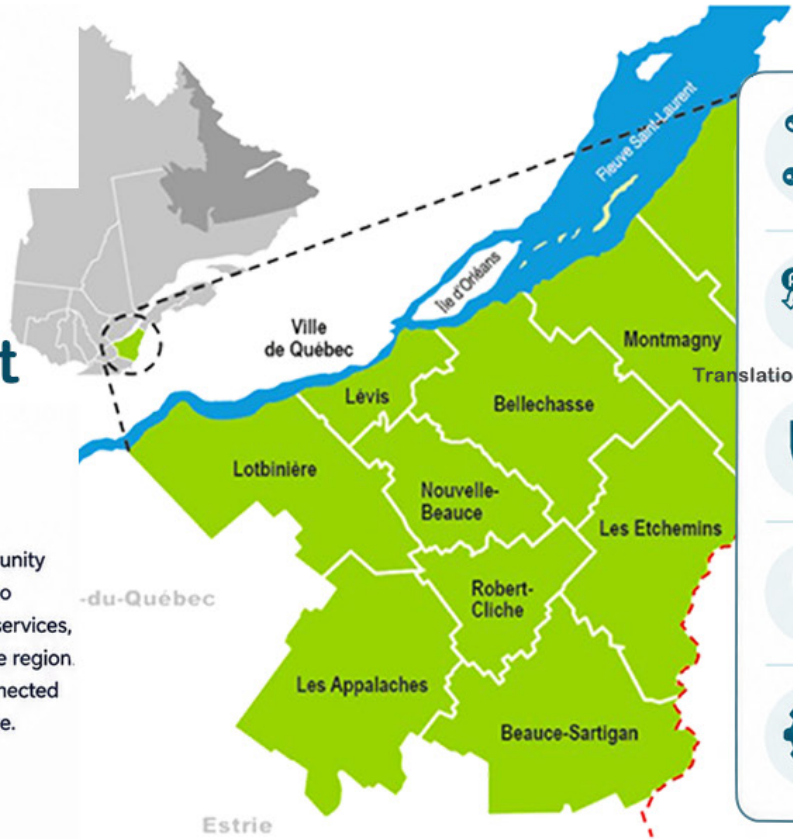


PILLAR 5

Regional & Partnership development

Building Communities

MCDC works collaboratively with community partners, institutions, and stakeholders to strengthen systems, improve access to services, and create sustainable impact across the region. Together, we build a stronger, more connected ecosystem where communities can thrive.



-  **35+** strategic partnerships
-  **15** Translations
-  **4** Consultations
-  **2** regional access projects
-  **100%** Partnership collaboration

OUR KEY FOCUS AREAS



Collaboration

Building strong partnerships to address community needs together.



Data & Research

Using data and insights to inform decisions and drive positive change.



Policy & Advocacy

Advocating for policies that improve access and equity for our community.



Regional Access

Expanding access to services and resources across the region.



Capacity Building

Strengthening organizations and communities to maximize impact.

Highlights This Year

- New regional partnerships established
- Successful advocacy for improved service access



“By working together across sectors, we can break down barriers and create lasting change for our communities.”

— MCDC Partner



*Building communities. Greater Access.
Better Future*



COMMUNITY VOICES



Our partnership with MCDC and their Bright Beginnings Program has been **exceptional**. They are actively involved and truly appreciated by our school community. This year, their **cooking workshop** brought excitement and learning to our students, and the **transition bags** they prepared for Kindergarten and Grade 6 added a thoughtful touch that families and students loved. MCDC will **continue to be a active and valued partner**.

C.O.



"I have been a member of MCDC since it existed! It has been a **lifeline** providing educational/health workshops and fun events. And more importantly, **making new lifelong friends!** I will be moving to an English speaking residence soon, but I have told my MCDC friends that, in good weather, I will come to "Drop-In" when it's in Thetford! Thank you"

Alice Jackman Renaud



"As members of the local anglophone community, we are very happy to participate in the activities of, and benefit from the services offered by **MCDC**. The activities are designed to involve as many people as possible who are interested in meeting with other like-minded folks. The services benefit all of us who have transportation needs, or like to volunteer in helping others, or are dealing with the sometimes complicated provincial social services system.

We are grateful to the government agencies who support the minority language groups in each province, and especially us here in Québec who enjoy a historic presence as an anglophone minority.

MCDC makes a significant contribution to our presence in this area.

Pauline and Ross Davidson



COMMUNICATIONS

DIGITAL OUTREACH & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

April 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026

Connecting. Informing. Engaging. Strengthening our community.

230K+
ORGANIC CONTENT VIEWS
Across Facebook & Instagram combined (no paid ads)

16K+
VISITS & INTERACTIONS
People actively visited and engaged with our content

2.3K+
CONTENT INTERACTIONS
Likes, comments, shares and meaningful engagement

1,100+
FOLLOWERS
Community members following MCDC & SSEN platforms

59%
NEWSLETTER OPEN RATE
Above industry average, building strong connections

ONE HUB. MANY CONNECTIONS.
More access. More impact.



BUILDING AN ACCESSIBLE DIGITAL ECOSYSTEM
Reaching people where they are, with what they need.

OUR STRATEGY FOCUSED ON COMMUNITY

We are not here to chase millions of views. Our goal is meaningful engagement with our community.

Through Facebook, Instagram, newsletters and the SSEN HUB, we improved discoverability, accessibility and access to programs, services and resources for English-speaking residents across the Chaudière-Appalaches region.

“Stronger connections. Better access. Greater community impact.”



OUR PLATFORMS

FACEBOOK
230K+ Views
2.3K+ Interactions
16K+ Visits
914 Link Clicks
1,137 Followers

INSTAGRAM
64.7K Views
1.4K+ Interactions
5.3K Visits
178 Link Clicks
1,146 Followers

WHO WE REACH

TOP LOCATION



Proudly serving the Chaudière-Appalaches region and beyond.

OUR AUDIENCE

65%
WOMEN
35%
MEN

TOP LOCATION FOR OUR VISITORS

Québec City 28.4%

Lévis 27.8%

Thetford Mines 23.6%

& more across Canada & the world



“Better communication. Stronger communities.”



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ann Marie Powell

President, St-Agathe de Lotbinière

Shirley Picknell

Vice-President, Lévis

Joan McCammon

Secretary, Thetford Mines

Ann Marie Campbell

Treasurer, St-Agathe de Lotbinière

Aline Visser

Director, Thetford Mines

Alice Renaud

Director, Thetford Mines

Emily Hsiung

Director, Thetford Mines

Cora-Lyne Ethier

Director, Lévis

Loch Baillie (*until 2025)

Director, Lévis

James Allan

Director, Kinnear's Mills



OUR STAFF

Brian Gignac

Executive Director

Michelle Donovan

Resource Manager & Administration

Maureen Small

Operations & Communications Manager

Laurie Lowry (*until Mar 2026)

Health Coordinator

Estelle Leboeuf

Youth & Family Services Coordinator

Jennifer Nutbrown

Senior Wellness Coordinator

Kaylea Curotte

Mental Health & Families Coordinator

Moumy Diop

Families & Community Coordinator

Melissa Duval-Demuy (*until Sep 2025)

Community Outreach & Liaison

Marcus Sager (*until Jun 2025)

Senior Wellness Coordinator

Léa Marcotte Richardson (*mat.leave Oct 2025)

Executive Assistant & Special Projects Coordinator

Olena Peleshok (*until Jan 2025)

Mental Health & Families Coordinator

Molka Balhoul

Communication Agent

Eugênia Soares (* started Sep 2025)

Communications & Community Outreach Coordinator

Michelle Mathieu (* started Feb 2026)

Community Outreach Coordinator

OUR PARTNERS



THANKS

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