

# Quebec Student Debating Association

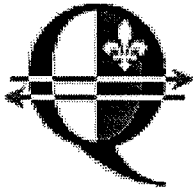
## Annual General Meeting

Thursday, June 3, 2010

Lower Canada College

### Table of Contents:

1. Agenda
2. Minutes from June 2, 2009
3. Financial Reports
4. Oxford Cup Championships Report
5. National Championships Report
6. CSDF Report
7. Junior Nationals Report
8. Hosting Schedule
9. Current By-Laws



Quebec Student Debating Association  
<http://www.qsda.net>

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**Quebec Student Debating Association – Annual General Meeting**  
**Lower Canada College - Thursday, June 3, 2010**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call, Introduce QSDA Executive and all Coaches, Identify Voting members ( 1 per member school )
3. Adopt minutes from June 2, 2009
4. Business Arising from Minutes of June 2, 2009
5. Membership Update
6. Financial Update
  - financial statements for 2008-09 and 2009-10
  - Budget for 2010-11
  - set registration fee for 2010-11
  - appoint auditor
7. Report from CSDF and National Seminar
8. Report from Oxford Cup Championships
9. Report on Senior National Championships
10. Report from Junior High National Championships
11. Review calendar of events for next year / list of previous tournament hosts
13. Election of Executive / Board of Directors
14. Other Business
  - coaching during tournaments
  - Code of Conduct for students representing the QSDA
15. Adjournment

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**President:** Gregory Loudon, Vincent Massey Collegiate, [greglouden@videotron.ca](mailto:greglouden@videotron.ca)  
**Vice-President:** Isabelle Fahmy, Lower Canada College, [ifahmy@lcc.ca](mailto:ifahmy@lcc.ca)  
**Treasurer:** Edward Bechard-Torres, McGill Univ., [edwardbechardtorres@hotmail.com](mailto:edwardbechardtorres@hotmail.com)  
**Secretary:** Mary Kate Jackson, Queen of Angels Academy, [jackson.mk@qaa.qc.ca](mailto:jackson.mk@qaa.qc.ca)  
**Director:** Lauren Shadly, McGill University, [laurenshadley@hotmail.com](mailto:laurenshadley@hotmail.com)

**Quebec Student Debating Association**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**Lower Canada College – Tuesday, June 2, 2009**

**1. Welcome / Call to order/ Introductions (4:05pm)**

**Present:**

Chris George	Lower Canada College (President)
Sandy Cross	Pierrefonds Comprehensive (Vice President)
<b>Isabelle Fahmy</b>	<b>Lower Canada College (Director)</b>
<b>Mary Kate Jackson</b>	<b>Queen of Angels (Secretary)</b>
<b>Erika Kuch</b>	<b>Royal West</b>
<b>Denis Brault</b>	<b>Loyola</b>
<b>Erin Russett</b>	<b>Selwyn House</b>
Lauren Shadley	Dawson
Edward Bechard-Torres	Dawson
Michael Stepner	Marianopolis
<b>Donna Gold</b>	<b>St. George's</b>
Dani Jansen	St. George's
<b>Greg Loudon</b>	<b>Vincent Massey Collegiate</b>
<b>Laurence Harris</b>	<b>The Study</b>
<b>Chaim Steinberg</b>	<b>Bialik (arrived late)</b>

**Regrets:**

Louise Chalmers	John Rennie
James Roy	Westwood
Ryan Abrams	Treasurer
James Rioux	Stanstead
Graeme Phillips	Trafalgar
Beatrice Bousser	ECS
Liana Palko	Selwyn House
Tina Grivas	West Island College

<b>Chair:</b>	Chris George
<b>Minutes:</b>	Mary Kate Jackson

**2. Roll Call, Introduce QSDA Executive and all Coaches, Identify Voting Members**

Voting members are indicated in bold above. The chair determined that quorum was established.

**Motion by Chris to adopt Agenda, with the addition of item #6 – Chaperoning issues.**

**Moved by Donna, seconded by Denis. Carried unanimously.**

### **3. Adopt minutes from June 5, 2008.**

**Motion to adopt minutes from June 5, 2008**

**Moved by Denis, seconded by Erin . CARRIED unanimously.**

### **4. Business Arising from Minutes of June 5, 2008**

- Chaperoning – see below.
- No business arising.

### **5. Membership update**

- Lost St. Thomas, gained Lake of Two Mountains
- PCHS not a member this year, but will have free membership for a year when they join

### **6. Chaperoning issues**

- Last year, QSDA decided not to accept responsibility for chaperoning; every school became responsible for making their own arrangements
- We then allocated money to people to offset chaperoning costs
- Was meant for “schools in need”, but most schools thought they were “in need”, and one school expected money even though no chaperone was sent
- **No changes proposed in the idea that the chaperoning is a school responsibility**

Chris proposes that no money is offered to any schools for chaperones, but membership fees will be lowered.

- Donna Gold mentioned that St. George’s didn’t go to events because they didn’t have the money
- Laurence Harris brought up the point that “merged” or hybrid teams should be supported by QSDA; he wasn’t aware of the problems, and mentioned that the parameters for getting the money should have been more clearly laid out
- If schools are representing not just themselves, but the QSDA, then the QSDA should offer some money
- How much money would be saved? From \$250, fees could drop to \$150, or even \$100 (if we continue to get \$1000 from CSDF)
- The money helps the coach, who might have to pay out of pocket (Greg).
- If teachers get per diems, they shouldn’t be eligible, but other schools should (Mary Kate)
- Can parents provide the necessary money?
- Chris suggested that we have a set amount of \$100 for each student who makes it to these events, and that money can be used at the discretion of the school
- Are these fees prohibitive for some schools? Short answer → yes.

**Motion that the QSDA no longer provide travel subsidies to chaperones for national events, which will in turn lower the membership fees, with the caveat that we look into long term solutions.**

**Moved by Donna, seconded by Erin. Carried unanimously with 2 abstentions.**

## **7. Financial Update**

- See expense charts at the back of the agenda.
- CSDF gives us money (\$1000) but we never know if we're getting it. Asked in July, heard nothing, got cheque in March.
- Based on estimates, we're up about \$300, leaving us with \$4000(approx.) in the bank.

**Motion to accept the financial report.**

**Moved by Laurence, seconded by Greg. CARRIED unanimously.**

- possible budget for 2009-10 presented and issues discussed.

**Motion to set the 09-10 QSDA registration fee at \$125.**

**Moved by Chaim, seconded by Laurence, CARRIED unanimously.**

- auditor – last year the board was given the authority to appoint an auditor
- does not have to be a registered CA
- theoretically the AGM should appoint an auditor

**Motion to authorize the board of directors to appoint someone at later date.**

**Moved by Denis, seconded by Isabelle. CARRIED unanimously.**

## **8. Report from CSDF and National Seminar**

Report attached.

Chris proposed that we send out an invitation, and schools can put names forward.

Process is good; we'll stick with status quo.

## **9. Report from North American Championships (now called the Oxford Cup)**

Report attached.

For 2009-2010, this will be combined with the Asper Cup – the winner will win both titles.

Will take place in Winnipeg.

## **10. Report on Senior National Championships**

Report attached.

We didn't fill our spots.

Will take place in Victoria.

## **11. Reports from Junior High Nationals**

Report attached.

Quebec did well; tabs, judging, and head adjudicator were good.

Will be held in Calgary next year.

## **12. Review calendar of events for next year**

Donna Gold can host the North Americans qualifier.  
Loyola will be getting a break from Public Speaking, and Selwyn will do it.  
University tournaments will be added soon.

## **13. Proposed Amendments to By-Laws (with proper notice)**

**Motion to change by-law #73 to read "School teams qualify for the Junior High Nationals, not individuals. No substitutions of team members are allowed after the selection has been made. There is a maximum of one team per school".**

**Moved by Mary Kate, seconded by Laurence. Carried unanimously, with one abstention.**

## **14. Other Business**

None

## **15. Election of Executive / Board of Directors**

By law, we have to have them. There are 5. Names and roles are public knowledge.  
Directors are equally responsible and liable for decisions and problems.  
Board can fill a vacancy at any time; no need to wait for an AGM.

Chaim Steinberg nominated Greg Loudon for President. Greg accepted.  
Greg was acclaimed.

Greg Loudon nominated Isabelle Fahmy for Vice President. Isabelle accepted, and was acclaimed.

Mary Kate Jackson nominated Edward Bechard-Torres for Treasurer. Edward accepted, and Edward was acclaimed.

Isabelle Fahmy nominated Mary Kate Jackson for Secretary. Mary Kate accepted, and was acclaimed.

Denis Brault nominated Lauren Shadley to be a director. Lauren accepted, and was acclaimed.

Chris will help with the transition.

Sandy expressed an interest in exploring fundraising, now that we are a charitable organization.

## **16. Adjournment**

Unanimous motion to adjourn at 5:40 p.m.

Donna thanked Chris and Sandy for their contributions to the QSDA over the past 5 years.

**QSDA Expenses for 2008-09**

<b>Revenue:</b>					<b>Membership fees:</b>	
QSDA Memberships: ( at \$250 each )	\$4,250.00				Lower Canada College	\$250.00
McLeese Grant from Canadian Student Debating Federation	\$1,000.00				Queen of Angels Academy	\$250.00
Bus for Westwood Debate Tournament	\$385.00				Selwyn House	\$250.00
Membership Fees from previous year not deposited	\$250.00				John Rennie High School	\$250.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$5,885.00</b>				Loyola	\$250.00
					The Study	\$250.00
					Westwood	\$250.00
<b>Expenses:</b>					Bialik	\$250.00
CSDF Annual Membership Fee	\$100.00				ECS	\$250.00
National Seminar Adult Registration Fee	\$250.00				St. George's	\$250.00
Junior National Debate Championships - Halifax - Chaperon Fees	\$1,000.00				Centennial	\$250.00
Senior National Debate Championships - Regina - Chaperon Fees	\$800.00				Trafalgar	\$250.00
North American Debate Championships - Winnipeg - Chaperon Fees	\$600.00				WIC	\$250.00
Webserve - annual hosting fee	\$163.67				Royal West	\$250.00
Bus to Westwood Debate Tournament	\$434.57				Lake of Two Mountains	\$250.00
Webmaster Fees	\$400.00				Stanstead	\$250.00
Bank Fees	\$95.38				Vincent Massey	\$250.00
Awards ( McLeese Award )	\$33.87				<b>Total: ( 17 Schools )</b>	<b>\$4,250.00</b>
Coaches Meetings	\$0.00					
Volunteer Canada Fee ( due March/09 )	\$100.00					
Directors and Officers Insurance ( from Apr. 1 / 09 )	\$512.30				<b>Bus Fees: ( Westwood Debate Tournament )</b>	
General Liability Insurance ( from Apr. 1 / 09 )	\$681.25				LCC	\$105.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,171.04</b>				Royal West	\$70.00
					Loyola	\$70.00
<b>Excess of Income over Expenses</b>	<b>\$713.96</b>				Trafalgar	\$70.00
					Selwyn	\$70.00
					<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$385.00</b>
<b>Opening Bank Balance for Year ( Aug. 1, 2008 )</b>	<b>\$2,934.03</b>					
<b>Closing Bank Balance for Year ( July 31, 2009 )</b>	<b>\$3,647.99</b>				<b>National Debate Championships Chaperon Payments Made:</b>	
	<b>\$713.96</b>				Vincent Massey	\$400.00
					The Study	\$400.00
					<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$800.00</b>
<b>Breakdown of Expenses:</b>						
Management and Administration	\$1,852.60					
Charitable Programs	\$3,318.44				<b>North American Debate Championships Chaperon Payments Made:</b>	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$5,171.04</b>				Royal West	\$200.00
					Vincent Massey	\$200.00
					Loyola	\$200.00
					<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$600.00</b>
					<b>Junior National Debate Championships Chaperon Payments Made:</b>	
					LCC	\$250.00
					Vincent Massey	\$400.00
					The Study	\$350.00
					<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>

**QSDA Proposed Budget for 2009-10**

<b>Revenue:</b>	14	\$1,750.00	expected	Membership Fees	\$125.00
QSDA Memberships: ( at \$125 each )				Selwyn House	
CSDF McLeese Grant		\$0.00		Kuper Academy	N/A
Juniors Nationals - Flights		\$0.00		Royal West Academy	\$125.00
National Championships - Flights		\$0.00		John Rennie	\$125.00
North Americans - Flights		\$0.00		Vincent Massey Collegiate	\$125.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>\$1,750.00</b>		Loyola High School	\$125.00
				Trafalgar	\$125.00
				Lower Canada College	\$125.00
<b>Expenses:</b>				The Study	\$125.00
CSDF Annual Membership Fee		\$100.00		Queen of Angels	\$125.00
CSDF Travel ( large % reimbursed )		\$0.00		Bialik High School	\$125.00
National Seminar Adult Registration Fee		\$0.00		St-Georges	\$125.00
Junior Nationals - Adults - Halifax		\$0.00		Miss Edgars and Miss Cramps	\$125.00
Junior Nationals Flights - Students		\$0.00		West Island College	\$125.00
National Championships -Adults- SASK.		\$0.00		Westwood	\$125.00
National Championships Flights - Students		\$0.00		<b>Total: (14 Paying Schools)</b>	<b>\$1,750.00</b>
North Americans - Adults - Manitoba		\$0.00			
North Americans Flights - Students		\$0.00			
Webserve - annual hosting fee		\$13.64			
Webmaster		\$500.00			
Bank Fees		\$59.40	estimate	<b>Breakdown of Expenses</b>	
Awards ( McLeese )		\$40.00	estimate	Management and Administration	\$1,742.61
Coaches Meetings		\$0.00		Charitable Programs	\$240.00
Volunteer Canada Fee ( due March/ 10 )		\$100.00		<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,982.61</b>
Directors and Officers Ins. ( from Apr. 1 / 10 )		\$488.32			
General Liability Ins. ( from Apr. 1 / 10 )		\$681.25		<b>Charitable Programs</b>	
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,982.61</b>		CSDF Annual Membership Fee	\$100.00
				McLeese Awards	\$40.00
<b>Projected Income</b>				Coaches Meetings	\$0.00
				Volunteer Canada Fee	\$100.00
				<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$240.00</b>
<b>Opening Bank Balance For Year</b>		\$3,647.99			
<b>Closing Bank Balance For Year</b>		\$3,415.38	estimate	<b>Management and Admin.</b>	
				Webserve--annual hosting fee	\$13.64
				Webmaster Fee	\$500.00
				Bank Fees	\$59.40
				Directors and Officers Ins.	\$488.32
				General Liability Ins.	\$681.25
				<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,742.61</b>



## Oxford Cup Report

The Oxford Cup ( formerly the North American Championships ) and Asper Cup tournaments were combined into one prestigious event held at Gray Academy in Winnipeg last November. Quebec was represented by five teams. The teams were Sam Gurman and Sammy Rappaport from LCC, Cynthia Siino and Megan Gagliano from Vincent Massey, Daniel Knight and Harry Cape from Selwyn, Sarah Battat and Sophie Berube from The Study and Katie Rochford and Jessica Michelin from Trafalgar. This tournament was held in British Parliamentary format and consisted of six rounds followed semi-finals and finals. A total of 28 teams attended. The tournament was won by West Point Grey Academy.

Next year's Oxford Cup will be held at Upper Canada College in Toronto on the November 27-29 weekend. Selection for QSDA schools will take place in late September or early October. The Asper Cup will again be its own tournament, likely to be held in February in Winnipeg at Gray Academy.

## **Senior Nationals Report**

The 2010 Senior Nationals were held in Victoria, BC. in April. Quebec was represented by 5 teams: from Lower Canada College Sammy Rappaport and Michael Zimmerman, from Vincent Massey Collegiate, Megan Gagliano and Alex Izak-Levesque, from West Island College Mathew Slimovitch and Olivier Elmoznino, from Trafalgar Katie Kochford and Jessica Michelin, and from The Study Sophie Berube and Sarah Battat.

The format was Canadian Senior debate style with strong emphasis from world's debate format. Over all it was a well run tournament but they had big tabs problems that were not really resolved so it left us guessing who placed where. It was hard to tell which Quebec team did the best but all the teams worked hard and gave it their all.

## **CSDF Report**

There were four main points discussed.

### Point 1

Cost was brought forward and it was unanimous that we need to find ways to make these events more accessible and we need to keep the expense to the debate teams reasonable.

### Point 2

A question of judging and it was decided that it was preferable to have one good judge rather than 3/5 inexperienced judges. Plus, judging rules were to be left to hosting province. Also, some discussion about telling the debaters win/loss after the first two prepared rounds. It was agreed that would be determined by the host province.

### Point 3

World squabbles was next with no resolve. The concerns that were brought forward and discussed in a Skype call were never addressed so I assume that there is no change, to be continued. It is still in the control of the west. The next world tryouts are to be held in Toronto at the same time as the Oxford Cup.

### Point 4

The National Seminar will be held in Hay River during the winter months (March 9 – 14). It will be very difficult to get there, housing has not been determined and the cold is a huge factor because special clothing will be needed and not everyone has this type of clothing. More on this as information becomes available.

## Junior Nationals Report

The 2010 Junior National Championships were held in Calgary, Alberta in May. Quebec was represented by six teams: from Lower Canada College the team of David Marcovitch and Matthew Azrieli, as well as the team of Lilani Pretorius and Melissa Cape, the Selwyn team of Josh Cape and Josh Dannenbaum, as well as Jeremy Obrand and Euirim Choi, the Vincent Massey team of Liana Cusmano and Nicholas Lenart, and also the team from The Study consisting of Sabrina Roy and Sarah Battat. The format of the tournament had us debate two prepared rounds in cross-ex format, followed by the familiar national debate format. The top Quebec team was the team from The Study, who made it all the way to the semi-finals. The tournament was won by Halifax Grammar School. It was an exceptionally well run event which also included a trip to Banff National Park as well as glow-in-the-dark bowling.

There was some discussion about the tournament rules. The issue was raised allowing about allowing ( or banning depending on your point of view ) grade nines who have previously attended Senior Nationals to not be allowed to attend Junior Nationals. However, but the consensus was that no rule change was desired.

Quebec has committed to host the Junior High National Championships as well as the Senior National Championships in 2012. It will be run as one major event which should make a lot of things logistically easier for the organizers, and also for provincial organizations and coaches who need to travel. There are a lot of things that need to be worked out but we are confident it can be done. More details to follow at a later date.

Next year's Junior Nationals will be held in Estevan, Saskatchewan, likely on May 12 - 15, 2011.

QSDA - Tournaments Hosted

School	2011-12	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08	2006-07	2005-06	2004-05	2003-04	2002-03	2001-02	2000-01	1999-2000
Bialik		??		Junior			Junior			Junior			
Bishop's						Junior Provs	Senior Qualifier						
Centennial													
Chambly						Junior Nats		Junior					
ECS			Junior							Junior		Junior Prov.	Senior Prov.
Grenville								Junior Prov		Prov. Champ.			
Herzliyah Snowdon													
Herzliyah St. Laurent													
John Rennie		??		Senior		Junior Nats	Junior						
Lake of Two Mountains													
LCC	Nats	Senior	ESU / Jr. Prov	ESU	Prov. Cham.	Jr. Nats / Senior	Senior / Nationals	Prov. Champs	Prov. Champs	Junior Prov.	World Qualifier	Senior Prov.	
Loyola		??		Pub. Speak	Pub. Speak	Pub. Speak	Pub. Speak	Pub. Speak	Pub. Speak	??	??		
MacDonald													
OAA		??			Junior	Junior							
Royal West		??		Prov. Champs		Prov. Champs	Senior	Senior	Junior	Junior	Junior		
Sacred Heart									Junior		Senior Prov.		
Selwyn House	Nats	Jr. Prov.	Pub. Speak		Jr. Prov.	Junior Nats		Junior					
St. George's			Senior		NA Qual.		Prov. Champs		Pro-AM		Prov. Champs	Tournament	
St. Thomas										Senior Prov.			
Stanstead					Junior		Junior						
The Study			Junior			Junior		Workshop					
Trafalgar		??		Jr. Prov.		North Arms	North Arms /Nats	Workshop	Junior Prov.	Gr. 7/8		Junior	
Vincent Massey	Nats		Prov. Champs										
Villa Maria													
Weston													
Westwood		??		Senior		Senior Qualifier	Junior Prov.	Senior Prov.	Senior Prov.	Senior Bilingual	Junior		
WIC			Junior			Junior	Senior		Junior				

**By-Laws of the “Quebec Student Debating Association”  
Amended: June 2 , 2009**

***Definitions***

1. In these by-laws:
  - (a) “Act” means the Quebec Companies Act, R.S.Q. C-38;
  - (b) “General Meeting” means any meeting of members of the QSDA including the Annual General Meeting and any Special General Meeting that may be called;
  - (c) "QSDA" means the Quebec Student Debating Association;
  - (d) “by-laws” means the by-laws of the QSDA from time to time in force and effect;
  - (e) “letters patent" means the letters patent and any supplementary letters patent of QSDA;
  - (f) “regulations" means the regulations under the Act from time to time in force and effect.
  
2. The by-laws of QSDA shall be, unless the context otherwise specifies or requires, construed and interpreted in accordance with the following principles:
  - (a) all terms contained in the by-laws which are defined in the Act or the regulations shall have the meanings given to such terms in the Act or the regulations; and
  - (b) words importing the singular number only shall include the plural and vice versa.

**Head Office**

3. The head office of QSDA shall be maintained in the City of Montreal in the Province of Quebec, at such place therein as the directors may from time to time establish.

**Fiscal Year**

4. The fiscal year of QSDA shall begin on August 1 and end on the next following July 31.

***Membership***

5. Any school in Quebec may become a member of the QSDA by completing the prescribed registration form and paying the annual registration fee. The registration form shall be signed by the school’s Principal or Head of School.

6. Membership continues until October 31st of the year following registration. The deadline for membership is January 31.
7. Schools who are unable to complete the membership procedure due to a labour action shall retain membership until 30 days after the end of the labour action. In addition, the membership deadline for those schools shall also be 30 thirty days after the end of the labour action. There shall be no reduction in fees, unless a labour dispute ends after January 1, in which case schools will have their fee reduced to half, or if a dispute extends past March 1 schools will have their fee waived for the year.
8. Schools who have not joined the QSDA in the past five years shall have their fee waived for one year.
9. CEGEPS may become members, provided that they debate exclusively as high schools and are not members of the Canadian University Society for Intercollegiate Debate.
10. Schools outside Quebec may become members at the discretion of the board of directors.
11. A Member may resign from membership in writing.

### *Meetings of Members*

12. Meetings of members may be held at any place in Quebec. The quorum for a meeting is one quarter of the members, present in person or by proxy.
13. There shall be an Annual General Meeting and at least one other meeting of members every school year. The Annual General Meeting must take place no more than 15 months after the previous Annual General Meeting.
14. Each member is entitled to one vote at any meeting of the members.
15. The President shall chair all meetings, or in his/her absence the Vice-President. If neither are present, a chair shall be appointed.
16. "Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised" shall be used at all meetings.
17. Except for amendments to the by-laws, questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes cast. In case of a tie, the Chair shall cast a second and deciding vote.
18. At the Annual General Meeting, amendments to the by-laws shall be decided by a majority of votes cast. However, at any other meeting, amendments to the by-laws shall require a two-thirds majority of votes cast. In case of a tie, the Chair shall cast a second and deciding vote.
19. At any meeting, the Secretary, or if absent someone else appointed by the Chair, shall keep minutes of the meeting, and circulate those minutes after the meeting.

20. A member may be represented at a meeting by a person from the school, or by someone from outside the school. To be represented by a person not from the school, a person from the member school must sign a proxy in writing which:
- (a) appoints a specific individual as the member's proxy;
  - (b) specifies the date and place of the meeting at which the proxy is to be exercised; and
  - (c) is dated and signed on behalf of the member.
21. A member who has executed a proxy may revoke the proxy by notice in writing or by having a representative from the school attend the meeting in person.

### ***Notice of Meetings of Members***

22. The President, or any two members of the board of directors, or any five members may call a meeting. The board of directors shall determine the date, time and place for meetings.
23. To be valid, 14 days notice of the meeting must be given by mail, fax or electronic mail. Notice may be waived if all eligible members consent.
24. Amendments to the by-laws require seven days' notice to the President, who shall inform the members of any proposed amendments no less than five days before the meeting.

### ***Board of Directors***

25. The QSDA shall be managed by a board of directors consisting of five people. At the Annual General Meeting, there shall be elected a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Those elected will be members of the board of directors, and additional directors shall be elected to attain the total number of directors. The President, Vice-President and Treasurer shall be different people.
26. To be eligible to be elected as a members of the board of directors, candidates must be at least eighteen years of age, of sound mind and neither an undischarged bankrupt nor insolvent.
27. The board of directors retires every year at the Annual General Meeting, but subject to eligibility, may stand for re-election.
28. Any member of the board of directors may resign in writing.
29. A vacancy in the board of directors may be filled by appointment of the board of directors.
30. No member of the board of directors shall receive any remuneration for carrying out his or her duties. Members of the board of directors may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses.

31. The responsibilities of the board of directors include:

- a) to operate the QSDA between Annual General Meetings;
- b) to consult with tournament hosts to ensure that all details are properly attended to;
- c) to interpret and enforce rules and procedures outlined in these by-laws;
- d) to maintain the QSDA website;
- e) to promote debating across Quebec;
- f) to provide training for students and coaches of members where possible;
- g) to act on behalf of the organization where necessary.

### **Meetings of Directors**

32. Meetings of the board of directors may be held at any place in Quebec. Quorum for a meeting of the board of directors is a majority of the directors.

33. The President or any two directors may convene a meeting of the board of directors.

34. At least five days notice of a meeting of the board of directors shall be given specifying the date, time and place of the meeting. Directors may, in any manner and at any time, waive such notice. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a meeting of the board of directors may be held without notice if all directors present for such a meeting and any absent directors so agree.

35. The board of directors shall appoint one of the directors as a chair for each meeting. Questions arising at a meeting of directors shall be decided by a majority of directors voting. In the case of a tie, an additional and deciding vote shall be cast by the President, if present, or otherwise by the director chairing the meeting.

36. A resolution passed by email by all directors entitled to vote on that resolution, which takes place outside a meeting of the directors, is as valid as if it had been passed at a meeting of directors. A copy of a resolution passed by email shall be kept with the minutes of the meetings of directors.

37. The board of directors may appoint officers to perform additional tasks, but officers are not entitled to vote at meetings of members, nor are they members of the board of directors.

### **Removal**

38. Members of the board of the board of directors may be removed from office for cause by a two-thirds majority vote, by resolution passed at a Special General Meeting of which the impugned director is given proper notice and at which the member is given a reasonable opportunity to explain and defend his/her conduct.



39. Membership is conditional upon schools abiding by the by-laws.
40. Members which do not abide by the by-laws are subject to having their membership reviewed at a Special General Meeting, of which the impugned member is given proper notice and at which the member is given a reasonable opportunity to explain and defend their conduct. Any disciplinary action, such as suspension or expulsion, must be passed by a two-thirds majority vote.

### ***Financial Responsibility***

41. The board of directors shall be responsible for good fiscal management of QSDA's finances.
42. The Treasurer and President shall by default have signing authority. Additional signing officers may be appointed, or removed, at any director's meeting.
43. The Treasurer shall provide a detailed accounting to the members at the Annual General Meeting.
44. The registration fee shall be set each year at the Annual General Meeting.

### **Expenditures**

45. The board of directors shall have the power to authorize expenditures and to delegate the authorization of expenditures on behalf of QSDA and may exercise all powers and perform all acts as QSDA is authorized to do by the Act, the regulations and the letters patent.

### **Indemnification**

46. Every director, officer or other person who has undertaken or is about to undertake any liability on behalf of QSDA shall be indemnified and saved harmless out of the funds of QSDA from and against:
  - (a) all costs, charges and expenses whatsoever which such director, officer or other person sustains or incurs in or about any action, suit or proceeding that is brought, commenced or prosecuted against the director, officer or other person for or in respect of any act, deed, matter or thing whatever made, done or permitted by them in or about the execution of the duties of such office or in respect of any such liability; and
  - (b) all other costs, charges and expenses which the director, governor, officer or other person sustains or incurs in or about or in relation to the affairs thereof, except such costs, charges or expenses as are occasioned by their own wilful neglect or default.

QSDA shall also indemnify any such person in such other circumstances as the Act or any other law allow or require.

## **Auditor**

47. At the annual general meeting the members shall appoint an auditor to audit the accounts of QSDA and report to the members.
48. The board of directors shall fix the remuneration of the auditor and shall forthwith fill any vacancy which may arise in the office of auditor.
49. The members may, by resolution passed by at least two-thirds of the members voting, remove the auditor from office. If the members pass such a resolution, they shall then appoint a replacement auditor.

## ***Tournaments***

50. All tournaments sanctioned by QSDA shall operate according to the by-laws.

## ***Scheduling***

51. The board of directors is responsible for constructing the calendar of events.

## ***Tournament Hosts***

52. Members are required to host a QSDA sanctioned debating event at least every two years. Schools may not run tournaments with the intention of generating a profit.

## ***Eligibility and Debater Representation***

53. All grade seven, eight and nine students are eligible for all junior level events. However, a host may choose to designate a non-qualifying event for grade seven and eight students only.
54. Any student, including those enrolled in a grade 12 programme, are eligible for senior events.
55. If a host school enters a swing team to even out the draw, such a team is eligible to win awards only if the team is not above the maximum number of teams that other schools were allowed to send.
56. Hybrid teams may compete at the discretion of the tournament host, although justification must be provided. Such teams are not eligible for any team award but may win individual distinctions as long as the maximum number of students or teams allowed per school is not exceeded.

### A. Qualifying events

57. Every member school must be guaranteed at least one team at all qualifying events. Additional spots may be filled on a first come first serve basis.
58. CEGEP students are not allowed to attend any qualifying events as they are not eligible for any of the national events.

### B. Events which do not qualify students for another tournament

59. Non-member schools may attend only non-qualifying events (and only with the approval of the board of directors, if space is available, and after members have all had a chance to field teams).
60. At non-qualifying events, space is allocated on a first come first serve basis.

### ***Team Identification***

61. Teams may not identify the school they represent, or wear a school uniform, in preliminary rounds of tournaments.
62. Teams may wear a school uniform for any final round. School names shall also be announced.
63. Results and the awards ceremony will identify schools.

### ***The Canadian National Debating Championships (“CNDC”)***

64. The board of directors shall appoint a voting delegate.
65. School teams qualify for the CNDC, not individuals. No substitutions of team members are allowed after the selection has been made.
66. No member school may send more than two teams to the CNDC, unless the QSDA is invited to send additional teams beyond what we would normally be invited to send.
67. There is no limit to how many times a team or individuals may attend the CNDC.

### ***The Canadian National Debating Seminar (“the Seminar”)***

68. The board of directors shall appoint a voting delegate.
69. All English delegates to the Seminar shall represent different schools.

70. All Bilingual delegates to the Seminar shall represent different schools, however, Bilingual and English delegates need not be from different schools.

71. Students may only attend the Seminar once.

### ***The Junior High National Debating Championships***

72. The board of directors shall appoint a voting delegate.

73. School teams qualify for the Junior High Nationals, not individuals. No substitutions of team members are allowed after the selection has been made. There is a maximum of one team per school.

### ***Worlds Qualifying Tournament***

74. The board of directors shall appoint an independent committee of at least two people to select students for the world qualifier. Any student from a member school may apply, without restriction.

### ***The National Public Speaking Championships***

75. The top students shall be eligible to attend the National Public Speaking Championships, such that at least one student has not previously attended.

### ***The North American Debating Championships***

76. The board of directors shall appoint a voting delegate.

77. The top teams, such that no more than two are from the same school, without other restrictions, are eligible to advance.

78. School teams qualify for the North American Debating Championships, not individuals. No substitutions of team members are allowed after the selection has been made.

### ***Debating Resolutions***

79. The Resolutions Committee, consisting of the board of directors and tournament chair, is responsible for setting the prepared motions at all tournaments, as well as any impromptu motions at qualifying events.

80. The prepared motion, along with the tournament invitation, must be sent out to all eligible member schools no later than three weeks before the tournament. Any changes to the

wording of the prepared resolution of the debate after invitations have been issued must be confirmed with the coaches of member schools prior to the tournament.

81. All impromptu rounds shall use the same impromptu motions.
82. The motions may not be similar to those to be used for the Seminar or the CNDC.
83. Teams shall be given a minimum of 15 minutes, but no more than 30 minutes, to prepare for any impromptu resolution. Preparation for impromptu resolutions may not involve assistance from coaches or electronic devices.

### ***The Draw***

84. Schools shall be identified by a code.
85. In tournaments where there are two prepared rounds, teams shall debate against other schools, and shall debate both sides of the prepared motion.
86. The draw shall be produced randomly, and may be determined by computer software.
87. Tournament hosts or the board of directors may complete the draw. A draw should be verified by a member of the board of directors at least one day before a tournament.
88. Bracketing may be used for tournaments. When used, teams shall be paired using a standard bracketing system, and may debate teams from their own school. When necessary, a system of middle pull-up, with or without re-seed, shall be used. Sides shall be determined randomly, but shall attempt to even out the number of Government and Opposition sides for a team. The decision and discretion of the Tabs Director is final.
89. Bracketing must be used for any qualifying event.
90. For any final round, the side will be determined by a coin toss, with the higher seeded team given the call.

### ***Briefings***

91. The tournament host, in consultation with the board of directors, shall appoint a qualified individual to do the judges' and/or debaters' briefing.

### ***Judging***

92. No one may judge a student that he/she coaches or who is a member of his/her immediate family.
93. Every effort shall be made to ensure that no judge sees the same team more than once.
94. No current high school student may judge a QSDA senior event.

95. Conferral judging shall be used at all QSDA events.

### ***Scoring and Results***

96. Except for any qualifying event, which uses win-loss, scoring may be done by either speaker points or by win-loss. Where win-loss is used, there shall always be an odd number of judges in each room, as well as for all break rounds. The win is determined by the decision of the majority of judges. Speaker points shall be the secondary criteria for ranking teams. Should there be still be a tie after speaker points are considered, then the tie shall be broken, only if necessary, by considering the following criteria in order:

- a) win-loss record and then speaker points in any prepared rounds only;
- b) if still tied, wins and then scores in any round(s) in which the teams debated each other; and
- c) if still tied, a coin toss.

97. Individual speaker awards will also be given, and debaters will be ranked such that each round carries equal weight. Open rounds have no effect on speaker's standings.

98. Results shall be made available at the conclusion of tournament, and all ballots shall be made available as soon as possible.

99. Final rounds are always decided on a win-loss, based on the majority of decisions. The decision and vote shall be announced.

100. Any tie in individual standings shall, only if necessary, be broken by considering the following criteria in order:

- a) scores in any prepared rounds;
- b) if still tied, the best score from a single judge, and if still tied, the second-best score from a single judge, and if still tied, so on through the scores; and
- c) if still tied, a coin toss.

101. In a tournament where speaker points are used for team standings, should be there be any ties, then the tie shall be broken, only if necessary, by considering the following criteria in order:

- a) scores in any prepared rounds;
- b) if still tied, scores in any round(s) in which the teams debated each other;
- c) if still tied, the team with the highest ranked speaker; and
- d) if still tied, a coin toss.

### ***Awards***

102. Awards at tournaments should be presented to at least the top two teams, and at least the top five speakers. Tournament organizers are allowed to give out more.

103. Debaters who compete in any final round remain eligible for all team and individual awards.

104. Every year, the QSDA shall present the 'Willis S. Mcleese Award' for 'outstanding service

to student debating in Quebec'. The board of directors shall call for nominations and shall determine the winner and an appropriate venue for presentation of the award.

### *Appeals*

105. The deadline for any appeals of tournament results is 48 hours after the conclusion of the tournament.
106. Tournament results are not final until all appeals have been ruled upon.
107. For non-qualifying events, the appeal is to the tournament host, who shall consult with the board of directors.
108. Appeals for all qualifying events are to the board of directors.

### *Style of Debate*

109. The style of debate for the Provincial Championships and the Junior Provincial Championships shall be the "Canadian National Debate Format".
110. The format for non-qualifying events is at the discretion of the tournament director, who shall outline in advance the style(s) to be used, how many rounds of each style, which are prepared or impromptu, and whether or not points of information shall be allowed. Any changes to the style of the debate after invitations have been issued must be confirmed with the coaches of member schools prior to the tournament.
111. The style of debate for other qualifying events requires the approval of the board of directors.
112. Only approved QSDA ballots and rules shall be used.