



Ordre des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes agréés du Québec

NEWS RELEASE
For immediate release

A sign language interpreter at the Ordre des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes agréés du Québec

MONTRÉAL – Monday, March 17, 2008. The president of the Ordre des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes agréés du Québec (OTTIAQ), Anne-Marie De Vos, is pleased to announce a first for the Order—the admission into its ranks of a sign language interpreter!

Suzanne Villeneuve is the first French-LSQ (langue des signes québécoise) interpreter to join OTTIAQ. For the langue des signes québécoise, this is a major act of recognition. Indeed, although LSQ is used by over 5.5% of persons who are deaf or hard of hearing in Québec,¹ other bodies have been slow to recognize it as a language. OTTIAQ's position is that LSQ is indeed a language and a linguistic transfer is involved in interpretation between French and LSQ.

The minister responsible for seniors, Marguerite Blais, who wrote her doctoral thesis on the identity and culture of the Deaf community, said that "OTTIAQ's recognition of a French-LSQ interpreter represents a major step for the status of the langue des signes québécoise (LSQ), which is the sign language of Deaf Francophones in Québec."

OTTIAQ hopes that this first admission will encourage other sign language interpreters to submit their candidacy for admission to the Order.

¹ According to Statistics Canada's 2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey, requested by the Office des personnes handicapées du Québec.

OTTIAQ is a professional order with a membership of over 1,800 certified translators, terminologists and interpreters. Its mission is to foster and ensure the distinctive quality of its members' services and promote the titles that stand for this quality. The aim of the Order is to serve as the reference and forum for issues related to translation, terminology and interpretation in Québec. This is how OTTIAQ fulfills its mandate to protect the public. OTTIAQ is a member of the Canadian Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters Council (CTIC), which is affiliated with the International Federation of Translators (IFT). OTTIAQ's headquarters are located at 2021 Union Avenue in Montréal.

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Information:

Catherine Guillemette-Bédard
Communications Coordinator
OTTIAQ
Phone: 514 845-4411, extension 225
E-mail cgbedard@ottiaq.org
www.ottiaq.org