



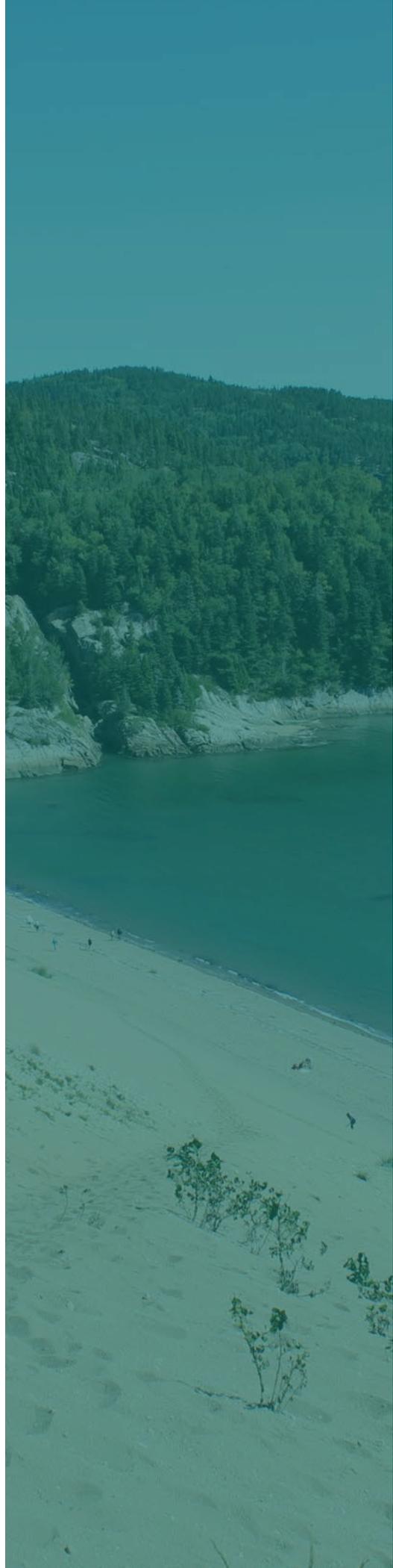
quebecnorthshore.org

Celebrating **25** years

ANNUAL REPORT

2024 - 2025

Bringing Communities Together



The North Shore Community Association (NSCA), established in 2000, is a non-profit regional organization dedicated to serving, representing, and instilling pride in the English-speaking community of Quebec's North Shore. The NSCA, a community group that is working towards representing the interests of the English-speaking people from Tadoussac to Havre-St.Pierre including Fermont and Schefferville.

North Shore Community Association

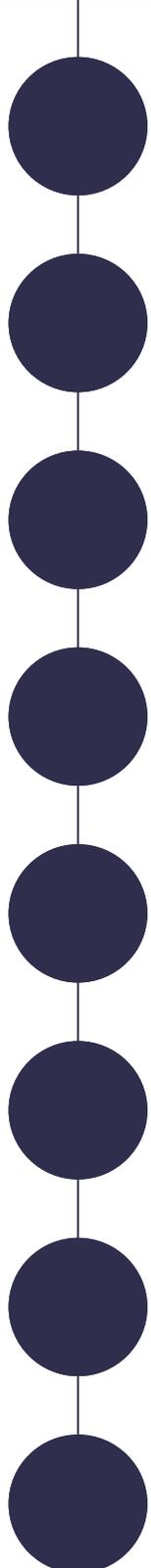
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Mission & Objectives

Mission

The North Shore Community Association is a non-profit regional organization dedicated to serving, representing, and instilling pride in the English-speaking community of Quebec's North Shore. Our aim is to empower residents and to strengthen the community across the region by working to make information and resources available, by facilitating community initiatives, by encouraging and improving communication, by promoting access to services, by developing partnerships and by increasing the visibility of the English-speaking community. Together, we are building a vital, informed and strong community.

Objectives

- Develop and maintain a knowledge base about the English-speaking community of the North Shore.
- Increase access and knowledge of services and resources for the English-speaking community within the region.
- Increase cohesion and participation in the English-speaking community.
- Support and showcase the English-speaking community and its heritage and culture.
- Strengthen communication and visibility within the community.

Message from the Executive Director

As we mark the 25th anniversary of the North Shore Community Association (NSCA), I am filled with pride and gratitude. Having had the privilege of serving with this organization for the past 23 years, I've witnessed firsthand the incredible growth and impact of the NSCA on the English-speaking community.

This journey has been shaped by the dedication of many. I extend my heartfelt thanks to our Board of Directors for their guidance, to our staff for their commitment and care, and to the many community volunteers who, over the years, have generously given their time and energy in support of our mission. Together, we've built a strong, welcoming, and resilient organization – one that continues to serve and empower our community. Thank you for being part of this ongoing story.

Jody Lessard
Executive Director, NSCA



Message from the Chair

It is a true honour to welcome you to this year's Annual General Meeting (AGM) as we proudly celebrate 25 years of the North Shore Community Association (NSCA). This milestone reflects the dedication, passion, and collective effort of so many over the years.

I want to sincerely thank our Board of Directors, our hardworking staff, and the many former Board members, staff and volunteers who have contributed to our mission. Their commitment has been essential in building a strong and vibrant English-speaking community.

As we look to the future, we remain focused on connection, inclusion, and continuing the legacy we've built together.

With gratitude,

Edith O'Brien
Chair, NSCA



Our Team

Jody Lessard
Executive
Director

Laury Boulianne
Community Development
& Outreach Manager

Charlene Lavalée
Coordinator-Senior
Wellness

Natalie Greene
Programs
Coordinator

Amber Dalby
Community
Outreach Agent

Alicia Buffitt
Youth Project
Coordinator

**Louise
Mansbridge**
Seniors
Outreach

Annie Lafrenière
Programs &
Communications
Coordinator

Hannah Letemplier
Community Outreach
Agent

Aitalina Stepanova
Communications &
Research Agent

Christine Charlemagne
Development Agent

Board of Directors

Edith O'Brien
Chair

Marcella Beaudoin
Vice-Chair

Donald Goodfellow
Treasurer

Marilyn Miller
Secretary

Heather Boyle
Director

Marie-Anne Bizeau
Director

Jackie Bizeau
Director

Aby Gaelle Jerome
Youth Director

Danielle Duguay
Director

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2024-2025

- 
- ◆ **April** – The first Senior Wellness activity at Résidence des Bâtitseur Sept-Îles
 - ◆ **May** – Opening of “Safe Space” initiative at BCHS
 - ◆ **June** – Seniors Community gathering event at Pointe des Monts
 - ◆ **August** – First Family Fun Day event – Sept-Îles
 - ◆ **September** – English Social Tea event in Baie-Comeau
 - ◆ **October** – National Seniors Day Celebration events (Sept-Îles & Baie-Comeau)
 - ◆ **November** – Christmas Tea event in Sept-Îles
 - ◆ **November** – Career Day event for youth
 - ◆ **December** – Annual Fruitcake baking
 - ◆ **January** – Paint Night workshop for Young Adults
 - ◆ **January** – Family Literacy Day – Port-Cartier
 - ◆ **February** – Healthy Alternatives to Addiction workshop at QEHS
 - ◆ **March** – St. Patrick’s Day celebration Sept-Îles
 - ◆ **March** – Women’s Day celebration Baie-Comeau

2024/2025 KEY RESULTS



3,343 participants



**259 sessions & activities
offered**



**29 committees /
table representations**



550+ new followers

on NSCA's Social Media

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & OUTREACH



➤ Newcomers Guide – Manicouagan

- In partnership with the Ville de Baie-Comeau and local organizations, we developed a **bilingual Newcomers Guide** to support integration in the Manicouagan region.



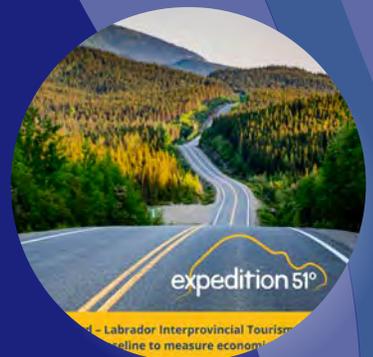
➤ Northern Collaboration

- NSCA worked alongside Coasters Association, Neighbours, ECO-02, and Northern Impact 829 to improve services for English-speaking communities across Northern Quebec.
- A strategic plan was developed to guide future collaboration.



➤ Regional Networking & Planning

- 6 committee meetings with the Coasters Association for the RAN regional initiative
- A two-day exchange event with Vision Gaspé-Percé Now to share tools and network
- 2 meetings with the Expedition 51 tourism project to explore future collaboration



NETWORKING & PARTNERSHIP

Network

- Networking meetings with **12** community partners in joint efforts to improve access to health and social services for the ESC. **5** new partnerships established.
- NPI Northern communities of practice committee established with partners from region 02 and 08 (Neighbours Regional Association & English Community Organization of Saguenay-Lac Saint-Jean) and Coasters Association.

Representation

- **19** committees/tables at local and regional level
- **79** meetings attended
- **5** regional events/forums attended; participation has increased the visibility of the NSCA and NPI initiative with partners
- Representation at the Regional Access Committee and continue to provide support in promoting and disseminating Access Program information.

Knowledge Development

- Socio-Demographic profile of the English-speaking community in the Côte-Nord Region presentation to **11** community partners and the SRQEA;
- Focus groups held with seniors – needs assessment and evaluation report produced;
- Presentation of socio-demographic information of English-speakers in the MRC Sept-Rivières to **45** partners;
- Network shadowing events & NPI Retreats – **4** events attended;
- Participation in a consultation on poverty and social exclusion - Table de partenaires en développement social de Sept-Rivières (TPDS_7R).

Partnership

- Support and collaboration for the CISSS de la Côte-Nord Access Program initiatives – including promotion and information distribution of ALLO Program, Regional Interpreter Services, Pictogram Project and Adaptation project – Geolocators;
- Promotion and support given for CHSSN Patient Navigator program;
- Partnering and collaborating with Manicouagan on s'attache 2.0 and CISSS de la Côte-Nord in holding a community networking event- Mamu-Connectons ensemble;
- Partnership with Autisme Côte-Nord to increase tools and resources for English-speaking families and children.

Outreach

- Database of community organizations offering services in English updated and **20** Community Spotlight infographics produced.
- **21** English-speaking community members received referrals.
- **3** knowledge products produced and shared with ESC.
- **15** health and well-being activities delivered

ARTS, CULTURE & COMMUNITY EVENTS

▶ Young Adults Programming

- 20 activities held
- 138 total participants
- Highlights included two Murder Mystery nights for ages 18–35 and ongoing engagement through youth-focused events.



▶ Community Events

- 12 events hosted, 486 participants
- Key moments:
- Sponsored 3 English films at the Winter 2025 CINOCHÉ Film Festival
 - Hosted a St. Patrick's Social, annual Christmas cake baking, and 2 English Social Teas in Baie-Comeau and Sept-Îles
 - Organized a Fall Gathering & Cultural Outing in Port-Cartier, bringing together 29 participants from four communities



▶ Cultural Programming for Seniors

- 12 cultural-themed activities delivered
- Cultural cohesion events held across communities



▶ Ongoing Community Engagement

- 2 active book clubs in 2 communities
- International Women's Day celebrated in Baie-Comeau



SENIOR PROGRAMMING

2024-2025 Overview

The senior programming aims to maintain and improve the health and well-being of English-speaking seniors, reduce social isolation, promote health and wellness, and increase access to knowledge of community services.



1,791 

Participants

212 

Sessions held

Senior Wellness	Number of activities offer 92 Number of participants – 1348 New wellness site in Sept-Îles – Résidence des Bâtisseurs First Aid and CPR training for 4 staff members who are working with seniors
Walking Groups	40 outings and 194 participants
Stitch and Yarn	33 sessions and 173 participants
Digital Literacy	Sessions held: 6 Participants: 84 Workshops on fraud prevention and identifying misinformation online.
National Seniors Day	Recognition and promotion for 61 participants (Baie-Comeau and Sept-Îles)
Respite Care and Friendly Visits to Seniors	821 hours 437 visits 20 seniors receiving services



YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVES

In Partnership with BCHS, **the Safe Space initiative** was created and officially launched.

Two full-day workshops on alternative well-being approaches successfully engaged youth through motivational talks and creative activities like painting, writing, and music.

15 activities/workshops offered

414 participants

Active on 6 mobilization tables

EMPLOYABILITY

Networking meetings with **9 employability partners** in joint efforts to increase access to employability services for the ESC.

- **30 individuals were referred for personalized support**
- **9 documents translated**
- **2 info sessions delivered with partners to share resources**
- **6 #RIESSTip videos created to spotlight local employability services**



We also took part in the Salon de l'emploi (Feb 2025), where over 40 participants visited the NSCA kiosk.

YOUTH

Career Exploration

- Hosted a **Career Day event** with **140 students** from high school and adult education programs, featuring **26 career professionals** from various fields.
- **3 bursaries** were awarded to students from Sept-Îles and Baie-Comeau pursuing careers in social work and occupational therapy.
- NSCA also updated and reprinted its **Health & Social Services Career Booklet**, available both in print and online, to raise awareness of future opportunities in the field.



Recognition & Leadership

- Presented **4 Youth Community Awards** to graduating students at QEHS.
- Honoured a local teen from Sept-Îles with the **NSCA Community Involvement Award**.
- One youth now represents the region on the **Y4Y Quebec Board of Directors**, contributing a local voice to a provincial youth network.



Events & Inclusion

- Organized a **Wear It Purple** event with **80 youth** and a **Pride Walk** drawing **120 participants**, in partnership with six community groups.
- Delivered **2 bilingual youth cooking events** in Baie-Comeau (16 participants), in collaboration with Maison de Familles Manicouagan.



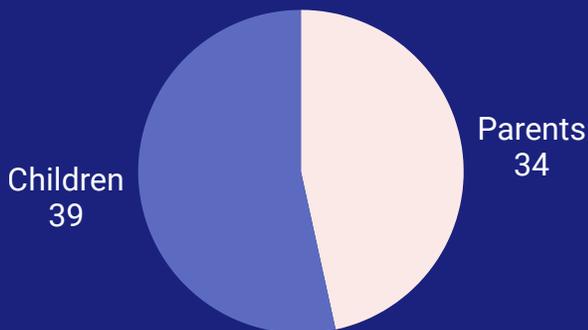
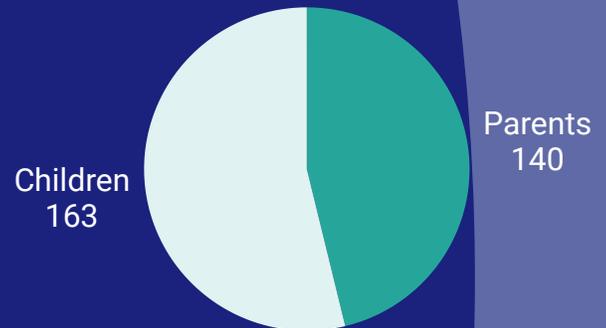
Skills Development

- Facilitated **4 digital literacy** workshops in partnership with local high schools in Baie-Comeau and Sept-Îles.
- Held **2 information sessions** with English-sector students at CEGEP de Sept-Îles to promote community involvement and career development.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

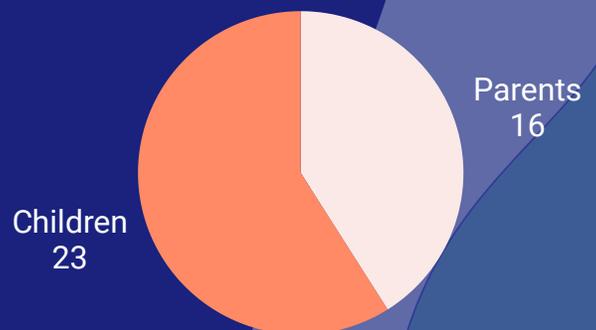
Storytime

- 303 participants
- 25 sessions offered
- 3 communities (Baie-Comeau, Port-Cartier, Sept-Îles)
- Partnership with 3 local libraries



Toddler Time

- 73 participants
- 8 sessions offered

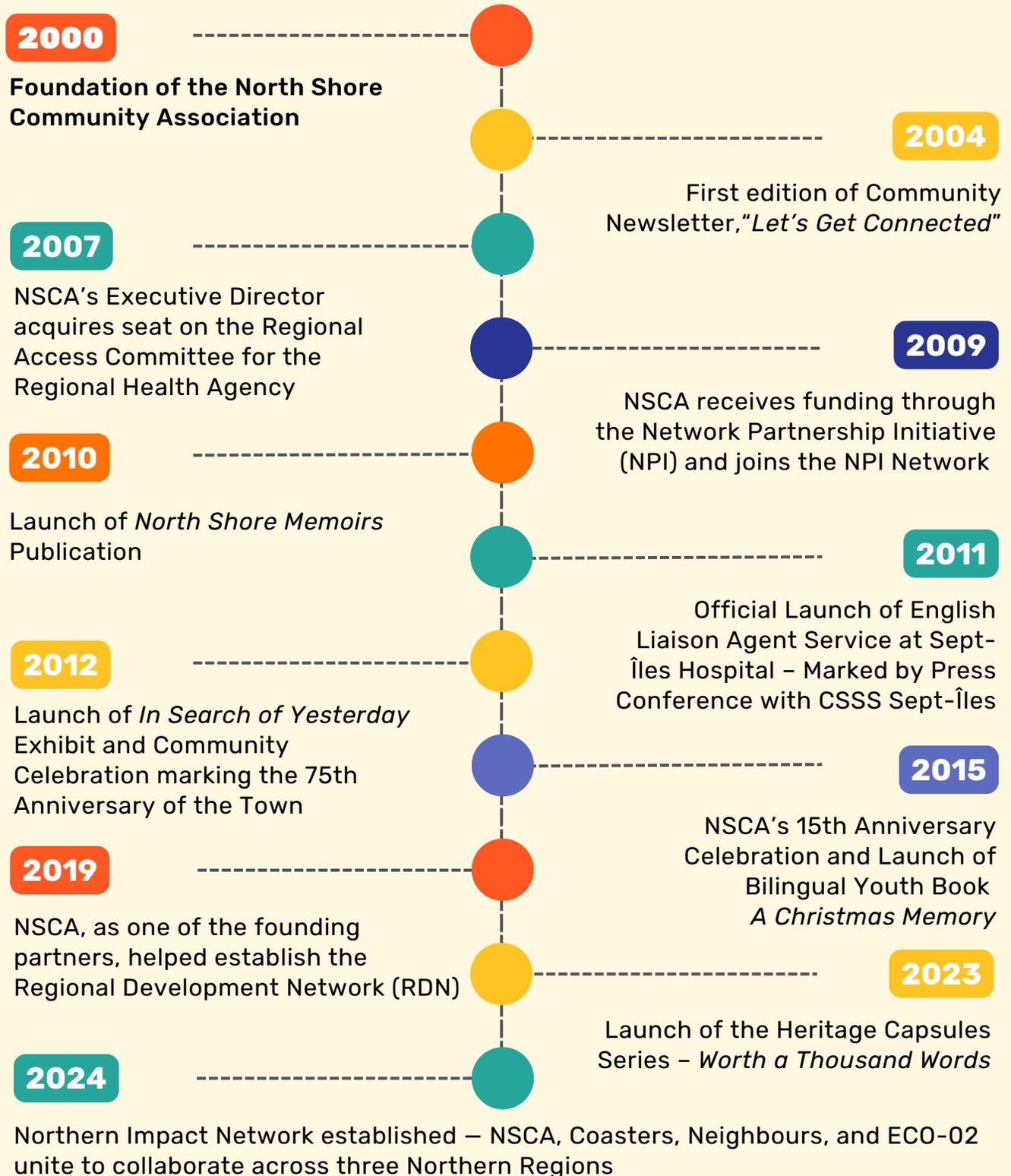


Parent Volet

- 39 participants
- 6 sessions offered
- Partnership with 2 schools – Riverview & BCHS

Representation and participation on 8 regional and local tables/committees working on early childhood and youth initiatives ; Family Day event held in Sept-Îles – 32 participants.

A LOOK BACK ON 25 YEARS



LOOKING BACK...





Our Funders

NSCA gratefully acknowledges the financial support of:





**North Shore
Community
Association**