

## **ATEQ AWARD 2007**

Each year ATEQ honors a member of the ELA and ATEQ community. The ATEQ award is presented at the Springboards annual conference.

This year, educator ANNE LEMAY received the ATEQ 2007 award for excellence.

### **Presented to Anne Lemay**

The Association of Teachers of English in Quebec offers educators many opportunities to excel and share teaching practices. ATEQ recognizes the endeavors of educators who contribute to the English Language Arts community in Quebec through awards. One such award is the prestigious ATEQ Award given to a remarkable educator in the field.

The recipient of this year's ATEQ Award has spent the majority of her teaching years in the elementary classroom. Throughout the years, she has always been at the forefront of best teaching strategies in regards to literacy. Central Québec School Board realized this expertise and in the early 1990s hired her to be a consultant, giving her the English Language Arts dossier. As the Québec Education Program was implemented, it was her classroom, at Ste-Foy Elementary School, that was open to teachers, province-wide, to model literacy learning from the QEP.

She has been instrumental in implementing a Balanced Literacy approach in the Central Québec School Board's elementary schools since 2001 and is now sharing her knowledge and understanding of English Language Arts instruction with the Secondary, Cycle one educators. She also ensured that the board put in place key literacy teachers in the schools to model and support effective teaching of English Language Arts. As well, she has been responsible for providing teachers with numerous opportunities to come together for professional development to talk about and to share their practice of literacy instruction.

Her passion for books is why each of the elementary schools in her board can boast to having a common bookroom. These bookrooms are full of big books, leveled books as well as a balance of fiction and non-fiction to support teachers, and in turn students, with literacy learning.

In addition to being a major literacy leader in her school board, she has also sat on a number of provincial, English Language Arts committees and organizations. It is through this consultative committee that I first meet her, her passion for reading and writing inspired me to make changes not only in my classroom, but to make connections with teachers in my board in order to make literacy a valuable and memorable journey for all students. I would sit in awe listening to the stories of the teaching-team with which she was involved and marveling over the ideas and student work that she would share. It is her willingness to share and continue learning that makes her an invaluable group contributor.

She has been a mentor for numerous people who have taught with her, worked on a committee or project with her, or attended one or more of her workshops. She is forward thinking, creative and ever-generous with her ideas. She is highly respected within her school board and within the greater English Language Arts community.

I am honored to present the 2007 ATEQ Award to Anne Lemay, for her outstanding love of, devotion and contribution, to English Language Arts.

Donna Lahache, President of ATEQ