

CQN 2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT



President's Report

Greetings!

Here are some news for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

This year, the board was able to meet in person for those living in the Quebec City area and by Zoom for the two members that live in New Brunswick and Gatineau. Three board meetings were held, as well as an informal meeting to analyse a number of projects applications. The rest of the work was carried out in small groups.

Bishal Bandari joined our team halfway through the year. He will become an official member of the board at the AGM. He has already given us several good ideas.

During my one-month trip to Nepal, I worked with Madhukar Bakhunchhe who is now part of our CQN team. He represents CQN in Nepal when we are not there - going on-site, doing evaluations and any other job that needs to be done, according to CQN's needs.

The pandemic made us rethink the way we work from Canada, and we are very satisfied with the results. We now work with two NGOs and our target area is larger than before. Madhukar works for a telephone company, which allows him to occasionally take leave to represent CQN and be our eyes and ears in Nepal. For the time being, this formula is perfect for us.

Field visits act as accelerators. Several meetings are scheduled and people make themselves available. I take advantage of these moments to see how projects are advancing, maintain a connection with people we know and, of course, create new contacts.

This year, in addition to group meetings, I gave a training to members of the two NGOs on how to prepare and write proposals for new projects.

In February 2023, I visited several new regions that CQN had never visited before. The Roshi Rural Municipality is made up of twelve wards or subdivisions. I visited Mangalhar or Ward #9. The vast majority of the population is from the Magar ethnic group. Mangalhar is located at an altitude of 1700 meters. The views are magnificent, but so are the challenges that farmers face.

Among new developments that the Nepalese government has put in place, I would like to underline the lunches

provided in public schools for students from nursery level to grade 6. 15 rupees are provided per day per student (around 14 cents). This is not a big amount but it makes all the difference. It is a great incentive for students to regularly attend school.

I would like to thank all of CQN's board members and all the other volunteers that make it possible for us to carry our projects. Specifically, I would like to thank Claude Martel and Lucie Legault in Montreal, as well as Patricia Stewart and Diane Robertson for their help with communications.

Thank you to all the private donors and organizations for their support. Rest assured that we always work with the objective of choosing the right project that make a difference and improves the lives of people in need.

From the Nepalese people, THANK YOU for your indefectible support!



Field visit with SPSWO

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*Michèle Legault
President*

Project Committee 2022-2023 Report

During the past year, in Nepal as elsewhere in the world, the consequences of the pandemic and the way it affected everyday life much improved and we were able to resume our projects.

However, the Nepalese government has tightened its controls of projects and the way it monitors them (which is a good thing!), especially those financed by a foreign country. The amount of documentation Nepalese NGOs must present to the SWC (Social Welfare Council) has increased and is required for budgets to be unfrozen by the bank. Moreover, the follow-up is tighter once a project is finished. NGOs must present all bills, photos etc. to justify their expenses. All of this was already required by CQN, but now they are also held accountable by the SWC and the Nepalese government. We will therefore try and standardise the way things are done on all three levels to make things easier.

During the 2022 fiscal year, we were again able to do a **Pencil-paper project**, which helps children from poorer families attend school. Sixty (60) students from four primary schools participated in this program, which also had hygiene education (brushing teeth) and physical education components.



Physical activity component of the pencil-paper project



Tangling school students

Two young women continued to receive **sponsorships** to allow them to go to school.

2022-2023 also saw the end of a water project for the

villages of **Masrangi and Majuwa**. The initial project was planned only for the village of Masrangi but was enlarged to include a neighbouring village, which allowed for the supply of water to about a hundred homes instead of 26. The original project included building two intake tanks, a ferro-cement reservoir tank for Masrangi and a reservoir tank with a faucet bar for Masrangi school. In the last 12 months the school reservoir was finished, the water systems of the two villages were connected and the water taps built. In past years, water taps were shared by around six families. However, the Nepalese government now recommends one water tap per house to diminish the amount of water being wasted.



Water reservoir at Masrangi school



Personal water tap

A **Livelihood project** was carried out between 2021 and 2023. The objective of this project was to improve the livelihood of marginalized rural families by means of a livestock development program, mostly buffalos. 63 people participated in the training. The original project only provided for 30 chaff-cutters. Last year's project extension provided funds to buy 33 additional chaff-cutters so that all the training participants could have one. (A chaff-cutter is used to chop straw and other vegetation into small pieces so that the bovines absorb more food and the quality of the manure used for fertilizer is improved).



Chaff-cutting machine for the Livelihood project

Anna Van Ermengen



Treasurer's Report 2022-2023

Collaboration Quebec-Nepal finished its 2022-2023 fiscal year with \$22,376.66 in revenues and \$29,733.80 in expenses, resulting in a net loss of \$7,357.14.

The share of the budget dedicated to projects remains the largest expense, at 98.2% of all expenses.

We are left at the end of the year with a balance of 18,872.36\$.

Private donors were generous, as always, with \$12,082.45 donated in 2022-2023. We also thank Secours Tiers Monde who donated 10,000\$ for the extension to the Livelihood project. Also, a very big Thank you to Claude Martel and St-Saint-Barthélemy who have supported us for so many years by collecting funds to help schools in Nepal.



*Anna Van Ermengen
Trésorière*



Governance Report

CQN 2022-2023 Board of Directors



Following CQN's AGM held on June 11 2022, the 2022-2023 CQN Board of Directors was composed of (left to right):

Madan Khanal (Vice-president), Caroline Boucher (Secretary), Lyse Ferland (Administrator) Anna Van Ermengen (Treasurer), Michèle Legault (President)

Inserts: Renée Champagne (Administrator), Sameer Mani Pokhrel (Administrator).

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Members of CQN Committees

Finance-administration Committee

Lyse Ferland, Michèle Legault, Anna Van Ermengen

Fundraising Committee

Lyse Ferland, Renée Champagne, Michèle Legault, Caroline Boucher

Education Committee

Michèle Legault, Lucie Legault

Project Committee

Michèle Legault, Anna Van Ermengen, Madan Khanal

Communications-Promotion Committee

Patricia Stewart, Anna Van Ermengen, Jean- Louis Pâquet, Caroline Boucher ✧

Collaboration Québec Népal wishes to thank all its members, individuals, foundations, sponsors and organisations who, through their generosity, help us carry out our mission.

THE MISSION OF COLLABORATION QUÉBEC-NÉPAL

To work in collaboration with Nepalese communities to improve the quality of their lives via various projects and initiatives in areas of infrastructure, education, health, agriculture and the environment.

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