

CQN 2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Greetings to all!!

Another year has gone by, our 24th... CQN's board met six times in person. I was unable to go to Nepal earlier this year, but CQN will be represented by Uttam Shrestha when he goes to Nepal later on this year. Given that we now have a good representative on-site, we can space out our visits a little.

During 2023-2024, three projects were implemented - a training project, the purchase of community equipment and a potable water system. In addition, a school project is now beginning (April 15 is the start of the school year). Potable water systems have always topped the list of requests CQN receives. This type of project presents significant challenges, but the experience we've acquired over time allows us to ask the right questions and insist on the formation of WUGs (Water User Groups), responsible for maintaining and managing the water projects once construction has ended. These WUGs are essential if the water systems are to survive long term.

A group like CQN must continually adjust to changes happening both in Quebec and in Nepal. This past year, our board did an in-depth review of our Strategic plan. The situation in Nepal must be taken into account - for example the relatively new teams we are working with, their strengths and weaknesses and the information and skills that new members joining the local NGOs must acquire. We thus determined three main axes - the first regarding what projects will be done, the second concerning governance and the support we should provide our collaborators in Nepal with and the third dealing with communications between our NGOs

We could call this exercise "reflect to act more efficiently", in order to ensure that we don't carry out our activities based on the past without taking the present into consideration. In other words, we should work with experience gleaned in the past but with a vision of the future. Adjust, without turning everything topsy turvy. In this respect, I would like to specifically thank Uttam and Bishal, who bring new elements to all of CQN's board meetings

The next step in our Strategic plan is to discuss the Action plan separately with each of the Nepalese NGOs we work with. In other words, determine what concrete projects will

President's report

be implemented over the next three years. This step specifically concerns projects that we will do together, but nothings prevents them from doing projects on their own. Last year, GRACE Nepal organized a very big *Health Camp* with the help of other NGOs and the regional Health Board. When a local NGO is dynamic and well-organized, it can meet people's needs because their members see and hear the villagers' requests. It is a very good sign that they are willing to help. We should also keep in mind that all GRACE Nepal's board members are volunteers and that each member donates a monthly sum for projects.

Madhukar Bachunchhe, CQN's representative in Nepal, participated in a board meeting for the first time, online. It was evening in Quebec and early morning in Nepal. It was a good experience which we hope to renew. Madhukar speaks regularly with Anna and I when monitoring projects, with many questions and details. To his credit, he always wants to make sure that his work is well done.

To finish, I would like to sincerely thank all of our donors, without whom we could not do our work, as well as the board members - both those leaving and those staying. I would also like to thank all the volunteers that donate their time and talent, Lucie for school projects in Montreal, Diane for correcting texts, Patricia for communications, Jean-Louis for the web site.

We hope to see you for our 25th year!



Madhukar Bachunchhe



*Michèle Legault
President*

Project Committee 2023-2024 Report

Four projects were implemented in 2023-2024.

By far our biggest project last year was an **extension to a potable water project**. The initial project, begun in 2020, was planned for a single village (Masrangi) but was expanded to include 3 neighbouring villages, providing water to 132 houses (around 620 people) instead of the original 26.

The original project included the construction of 2 intake tanks, a reservoir tank for Masrangi and a reservoir tank with taps for the village school. Last year the construction committee added the village of Majuwa, so that its inhabitants could also benefit from the water system.

Unfortunately, the system, as it existed, was not sufficient to provide water to all of the houses in Majuwa. The reservoir tank was old and the pipelines inadequate to provide water to all of the new tapstands (one per house). The construction committee therefore decided to add a second water source, which was used by the village of Masrangi: the Mulkhola river. Masrangi agreed on the condition that we finance the construction of tapstands for the houses in the village.

The present project consisted in improving water intake at the intake site in the Mulkhola river, construction of tapstands for the houses in Masrangi, improving the pipeline and replacing the old Majuwa reservoir tank with a new one.



The project is now finished. The next step is the formation of three WUGs (Water User Groups), one per village. The WUGs will be responsible for the maintenance and repair of the water system. A fourth WUG will oversee the other three, given that it is a shared water system. The inhabitants of the three villages will be charged a water tax and a training on hygiene and basic system maintenance will be given to the inhabitants of the three villages.

A second project was the **purchase of community equipment** to be shared by schools and the community. This equipment will eventually be stored at the community centre once it is rebuilt (to replace the one torn down following the 2015 earthquakes). The equipment includes a big tent to be used during events (village meetings, weddings etc), as well as a projector, laptop, sound system and a kitchen table.



The two NGOs that we work with were given **training** on how to plan and write a project, from A to Z. Twelve people participated. This training should help the NGOs to better plan their projects before they present them (to CQN or another organization).



Finally, two young women continued to receive sponsorships to allow them to go to school.

Anna Van Ermergen



Treasurer's Report 2023-2024

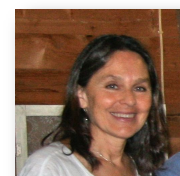
Collaboration Québec Népal finished its 2023-2024 fiscal year with 43,082.94\$ in revenues and 14,642.33\$, in expenses, resulting in a net income of 28,440.61\$.

The share of the budget dedicated to projects remains the largest expense, at 97.7% of all expenses.

We are left at the end of the year with a balance of 47,312.97\$.

Private donors were generous, as always, with 12,581,08 \$ donated in 2022-2023. In addition, this year we received a generous in-kind donation of shares, which provided us with an additional 29,055.25\$.

We would like to specially thank Claude Martel and Saint-Barthélemy school, who have supported us for many years by collecting funds to help schools in Nepal. Claude Martel will soon be retiring. We wish all the best to this bigger than life teacher! It takes a lot of perseverance (two decades), a big heart and constant energy to be able to help so many children in Nepal. THANK YOU !

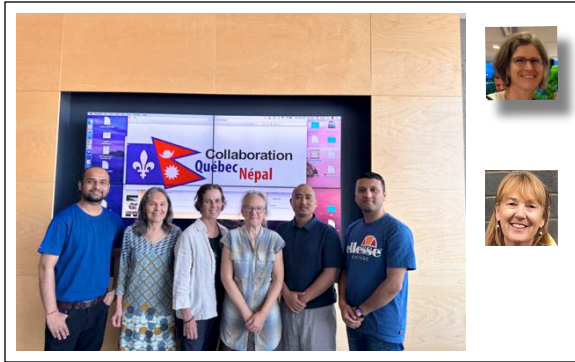


*Anna Van Ermenegen
Treasurer*



Governance Report

CQN 2023-2024 Board of Directors



Following CQN's AGM held on May 28 2023, the 2023-2024 Board of Directors was composed of (left to right):

Krishna Poudel (administrator), Anna Van Ermengen (treasurer), Caroline Boucher (secretary), Michèle Legault (president), Uttam Shrestha (administrator), Bishal Bandari (administrator)

Inserts: Renée Champagne (administrator), Lyse Ferland (vice-president) ✨

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

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.

1633, rue des Draveurs, Lévis, Québec, Canada G6Z 2L1

quebnep@gmail.com

www.collaboration-quebec-nepal.org