



*"A healthy English-speaking community in a secure French-speaking Quebec.
A strong Quebec in a united Canada."*

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JANUARY 12, 2010

Gatineau --- The Regional Association of West Quebecers notes that the Outaouais branch of the Office de la langue française is appointing an additional counsellor on the *francisation* of businesses, in response, as it appears, to complaints the Office has received alleging non-compliance with the Charter of the French Language. While the Association notes that the French language is the official language and the language of the majority in Québec and that the Charter has to be respected as a document having the force of law, it asks the Office to fulfill its mandate in a manner that takes full account of the difficulties which businesses are facing in a time of economic uncertainty, and of the contribution which these businesses make to the prosperity and growth of our regional community. Furthermore, the Association hopes that the government of Québec will devote continuing attention to the serious problems afflicting the Outaouais in the areas of health, social services and education.

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RAWQ is a community-based not-for-profit organization which serves and supports the English-speaking population of West Quebec by fostering an environment in which it can thrive. Its key activities are in education, culture and youth. RAWQ also plays a significant role in advocacy on behalf of the English-speaking community.

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