



Canadian Translators,
Terminologists and
Interpreters Council

Conseil des traducteurs,
terminologues et
interprètes du Canada

- NEWS RELEASE -

«Don't Shoot the Messenger!»

2007.09.30 – This somewhat surprising title is the theme selected this year by the International Federation of Translators (**IFT**) for this day, September 30, when the profession as a whole joins in an annual celebration of **International Translation Day (ITD)**.

Each year, language professionals from across Canada gather on this day to hold special events, to recognize and encourage the next generation of professionals, and to take stock of the state of the profession throughout the nation. And once again this year, such will be the focus of activity for CTTIC and its member organizations.

But while September 30 is a day of celebration for translators here in Canada, we must not, however, lose sight of the fact that many of our colleagues elsewhere in the world are forced to work under very difficult conditions.

In some countries, being a translator or an interpreter is becoming increasingly dangerous. How often has it been reported in the media that a civilian has faced threats or intimidation, or has been wounded or killed, as he or she acted as an interpreter with a humanitarian organization or a team of journalists? How many of our colleagues have faced prison or death threats for having translated texts which are banned by the authorities? And how many have had to go into exile with their families for fear of reprisals?

On this International Translation Day, let us honor all translators who stake their reputation, and indeed their safety and their life, in order to foster reconciliation, communication and understanding between peoples and cultures.

The Canadian Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters Council (CTTIC) is a national organization which brings together the provincial and territorial associations of translators, terminologists and interpreters. CTTIC's mission is to coordinate the actions of its member organizations and promote cooperation among them, to ensure uniformity in professional standards, and to conduct relations with national and international bodies representing language specialists. In this context, CTTIC, through its member organizations, seeks to promote professional certification as a guarantee of quality and competence, thereby contributing to the advancement of the profession and the protection of the public.

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