



**Canadian Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters Council
Conseil des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes du Canada**

- COMMUNIQUÉ -

***BELONGING TO A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION:
A MEASURE OF PROTECTION FOR TRANSLATORS AND FOR
THE PUBLIC***

OTTAWA 2007.04.23 — Last week, on April 17, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation aired on its French network, as part of a program called «*La facture*», a report entitled «*Pigistes et sans recours*» (the defenseless freelancer). During this report, we saw and heard two freelance translators who spoke of the difficulties they encountered when they accepted and performed some work from one entrepreneur, and then had to go through multiple steps in order to obtain compensation for their services.

The French text of this CBC report can be found at http://www.radio-canada.ca/actualite/v2/lafacture/niveau2_14922.shtml .

It is clear from the report that by virtue of the fact that they work alone and in isolation, freelance translators face far greater risks than their colleagues who work within a company, or as part of a firm or a partnership of translators. For a freelancer, being a member of a professional association affords some protection against those risks by placing him/her in contact with colleagues who are in a like situation. Although professional certification is not mandatory, it does increase a translator's credibility with his/her clients, as well as providing ready access to a network that can be called upon for help or information if necessary.

And for purchasers of translation services as well as for sub-contractors, doing business with a professionally certified supplier opens the door to otherwise unavailable recourses in case of professional fault or commercial misunderstanding. As the television report makes clear, there is no recourse against someone who is not a member of an order or a professional association.

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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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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