



Canadian Translators,  
Terminologists and  
Interpreters Council

Conseil des traducteurs,  
terminologues et  
interprètes du Canada

## **- NEWS RELEASE -**

### **What to do about Babel**

**2007.12.11** – In response to Lynda Hurst's article "*Lost in translation in the City of Babel*", published Saturday, December 8, 2007, the Canadian Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters Council (CTTIC) wishes the public to know it is already involved with members of the court and community interpretation professions who are working hard to provide Canadians with enhanced protection through a true professionalization of their services.

Already, court interpreters can obtain professional certification from their provincial associations, such as the Association of Translators and Interpreters of Ontario (ATIO), through an exam administered by CTTIC. Although this is not yet the case for them, community interpreters are working to establish their own profession's structure, credentials and code of ethics. These interpreters want to be recognized as "professionals".

CTTIC is eager to assist them by letting them draw on the expertise already built in other segments of the profession. With the proper tools in place, they will be in a position to achieve professional certification, which in turn should allow for due recognition of the real value of their work in the community and in the judicial, health and other sectors of public service.

Professional certification being a clear area of provincial jurisdiction, provincial authorities are the ones who should rightfully be made aware that certification is a must for court interpreters, and that the same will eventually have to apply in hospitals and other places where community interpretation is practiced. In this, CTTIC is also available to help.

And as a national body, CTTIC will ensure that competency standards are harmonized from province to province, so that protection of the public is consistent across the nation.

The Canadian Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters Council brings together the organizations responsible for certifying professional translators, terminologists and interpreters in the provinces and territories. It coordinates the actions of its member organizations and promotes cooperation among them, to ensure uniformity in professional standards, and it conducts relations with national and international bodies representing language specialists. Through its member organizations, CTTIC 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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