



## Call for Proposals for the 2015 OTTIAQ Conference

The Ordre des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes agréés du Québec (OTTIAQ) hereby invites you to submit a proposal for a presentation at its upcoming annual conference, to be held on Friday, November 20, 2015, at the Palais des congrès de Montréal.

The annual conference is OTTIAQ's marquee event and is attended by anywhere from 300 to 350 participants each year, most of whom are language professionals (certified translators, terminologists and interpreters) as well as university students registered in a translation, terminology or interpretation program. OTTIAQ is the largest body of language professionals in Canada and aims to become the province's reference in translation, terminology and interpretation.

For 2015, the Conference Program Committee is seeking proposals along the following lines:

### **Language Professionals and Technology: A Matter of Professional Practice and Protecting the Public**

Technology is now ubiquitous and the pace of progress, unbridled. Tools we thought impossible short years ago have become part of our daily lives. There is no doubt that technological advancements shape the work of today's language professionals. In fact, technology has been transforming our professions for years now. While some decry the pressure it exerts on our earning power, perhaps the real question is how technology affects the quality of our professional acts and our role in protecting the public. How can we become proficient with such technology and align with it, at a time when language professionals must prove the added value of their work to clients? Just what do these clients require in terms of the quality of work from language professionals and their own market positioning?

For 2015, the Conference Program Committee is proposing an examination of the technology available to language professionals and seeking views from a range of perspectives. What place is given to notional and human knowledge and competencies—the qualities language professionals are best placed to bring to the table—in this day and age? How can language professionals adapt their practice to stand out from the competition? What are the requirements of private- and public-sector clients with an eye to balancing an acceptable level of quality and the imperatives of cost-effectiveness? How do high-volume buyers of language services harmonize their strategic priorities and quality criteria while factoring in the new technological order? What changes are called for to ensure that educational and training models reach for a balance between use of contemporary technology, the learning of conventional language skills, and knowledge of areas involving expertise? In other words, what approach can we take to give students the tools they need to carve out a place for themselves in the job market? Further, how can we raise public awareness about the importance of quality and protect the public good in a world where technology is increasingly setting the pace of work and the conditions of our practice? Can technology be used as a tool to



educate the world at large about the societal, economic and cultural importance of our role and our professions? Should we draw inspiration from foreign markets as they expand their use of technology, or is their example a cautionary one that should spur us on to greater care?

These are a few of the questions we are posing as groundwork for the 2015 OTTIAQ conference. You are invited to share your experience and knowledge on the proposed theme by submitting a proposal.

### **Generalities**

Individual presentations are planned but the Conference Program Committee may decide to combine a certain number of them. A single proposal per person will be accepted.\*

On the day of the conference, the keynote address will begin around 9 a.m. and the plenary will end around 5 p.m. The duration of the presentations/addresses may vary between 30 and 90 minutes, including a question period.

Target audiences: Practicing translators, terminologists and interpreters, managers (private- and public-sector buyers of language services), researchers, academics, and students in translation, terminology or interpretation

Languages accepted: French, English

Selection criteria: Relevance with the theme, relevance to all three professions, interactivity with the attendees

Items to be provided with the proposal: registration form, five-line biographical note, five-line summary and detailed plan (table of contents) of the presentation, planned duration of your presentation (30, 60 or 90 minutes).

Deadline to submit a proposal: **by 4 p.m. on Friday, February 27, 2015.**

Please send your proposal to the attention of the "Conference Program Committee" via email at [ottiaq@ottiaq.org](mailto:ottiaq@ottiaq.org).

**\* The Conference Program Committee reserves the right to accept or refuse any presentation/address proposal without having to justify its decision.**