



QuéLUG

by Patrick Begin

We are QuéLUG, the Québec LEGO User Group. Québec (population 8.5M) is one of the ten provinces of Canada (population 37.6M), and QuéLUG is the only RLUG in Québec. Our LUG was founded in 2006 and the majority of our members are located in Montreal and Quebec City (cities separated by 300km).

Our community started in an attempt to find LEGO friends to play with at a time when in America, Brickfest in Washington DC and BrickWest on the West coast of the USA were the only gathering events besides lugnet.com.

Currently we have 135 French-speaking members across Quebec province and I think we have a nice critical mass of varied interests (collectors, MOCers, Technic, Robotics, Space and every other theme) to exchange ideas.

We fund our community with a 20CAD/yr LUG subscription fee. The LUG fee pays for location rental, brick printing, website related expenses and administration. When or if there is a surplus, we spend this on special brick printing projects (minifigs/flags, etc.) or we purchase

discounted sets for a megadraft held at one of our quarterly meetings.

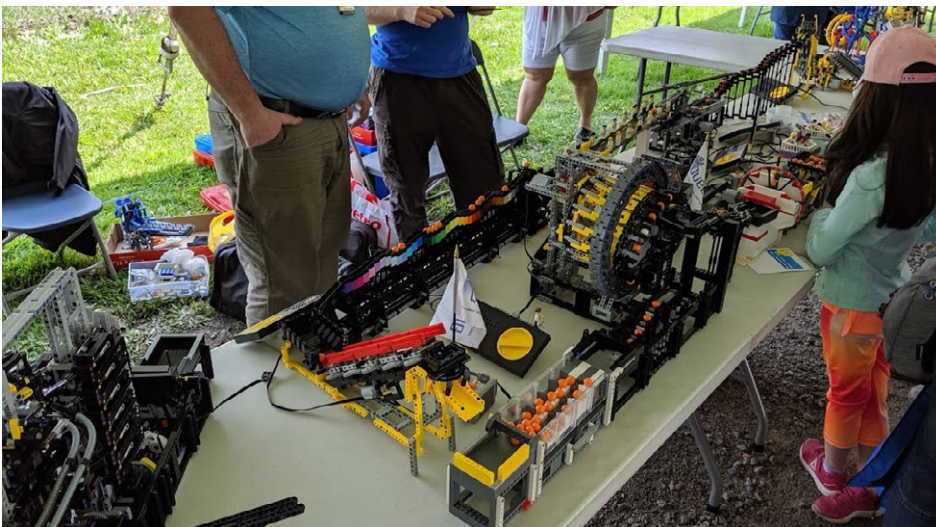
We also get community support from LEGO and use those sets to organise MOC contests, games, for thank yous, expo support, and drafts (if any are left).

We have always had an ambassador since the beginning of the program in the 2000s (Pierre Normandin at first, then myself since 2008). We

participated in the first LUGBulk in 2009. We got great special support from LEGO Enfield (USA) before the support program was modernized some years ago. Now we get regular Activity Support and we received Project Support in 2018. In summary, we have a great relationship with LEGO.

Before COVID We would meet every quarter (January, April, July, and October) for our regular LUG meetings. We hold these meetings in a rented space in hotels. Between 40 and 60 members would come to these meetings. Our January meeting is our big Dirty Brickster game. Our April meeting is the General Assembly. We try to hold games where our members can win LEGO sets at every meeting. Additionally, we





QuéLUG Web Site <https://quelug.org>

hold about ten expos every year between April and November.

Due to COVID we had to make some changes. All our 2020 expos have been cancelled but Our online activities were not affected, so we decided to also take our meetings online. So far, we have done about nine virtual sessions. During a videoconference we have done a Q&A for new members, we have talked about subjects like Bricklink, Managing our LEGO inventories, Stop Motion or Printing on bricks. We also did a game where one member would call out the name of a specific brick, and the fastest person to show it on their camera scored a point. . . The person with the most points got a prize.

Holding those virtual events makes it easy to present a subject. When you do it in a regular environment, you must bring a lot of stuff to make it happen: Internet connection, projector, computer, etc. . .

Back in April, I started using Cisco Webex as the platform of choice to hold those meetings, unfortunately, they are now back to their regular settings. It is not free for all any more and we are limited to 40-minute meetings. Too bad.