CiviCRM at La Patente a case study



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La Patente : makerspace coop in Quebec City

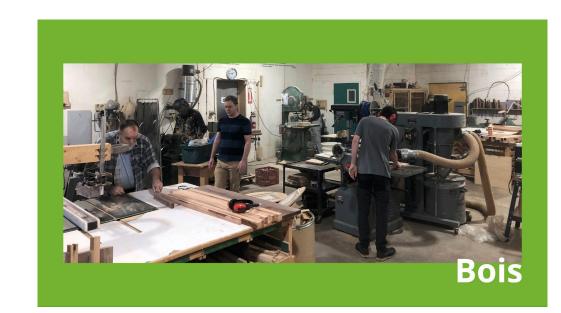
Founded in 2014 **2014 2019** 350 active members + 1500 passive

Shared spaces and workshops:

- Wood- and metalworking
- Fablab & computer lab
- Textile lab
- Community garden
- Second-hand hardware store
- Tool library...

Activities:

- Classes
- Social gatherings
- Microbrewery...





Volunteer-run, cooperative and sociocratic

- Small team of employees help with operations, accounting, scheduling classes & second-hand store
- Funding through membership fees, workshop rentals, grants, contracts, classes
- Heavy reliance on a core group of volunteers ("membres engagés")





Ad-hoc IT infrastructure

- Tools chosen based on immediate needs
- Mix of hosted and cloud services
- Support for open source vs convenience
- Sysadmins are volunteers, high-turnover
- Cloud accounts often linked to individuals
- Little integration between systems
 - CiviCRM member file
 - Square customers file
 - MyTurn users file
 - GSuite users and mailing lists...











Custom scripts



















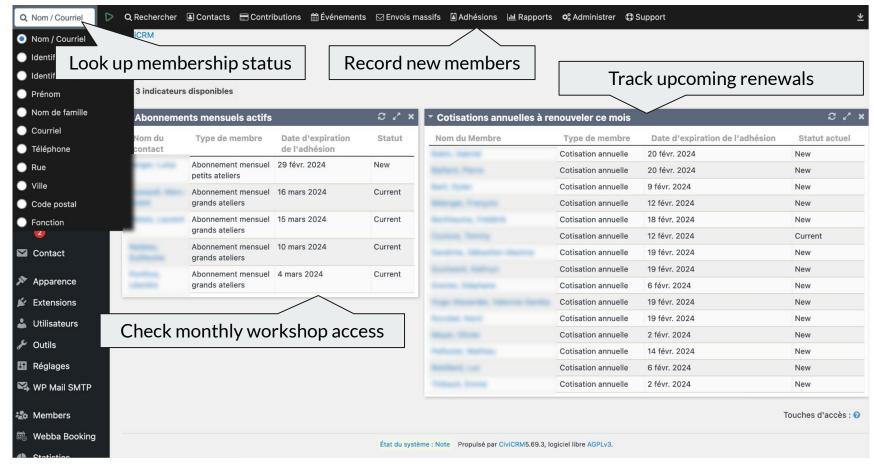
CiviCRM usage

- Wordpress install on Ubuntu linux
- Maintained by volunteers

- Main members file
- Relies on manual updating
- Separate payment processing









Challenges

- Volunteer time is limited
- Turnover, lack of documentation
- Little integration
 - Duplicate effort
 - Human errors
 - User frustration





Opportunities

- Leverage CiviCRM as source of truth
- Develop integrations
 - Payments integration (Square)
 - Sync members file (Square + MyTurn)
 - Workshop usage tracking (Google sheets + civi API?)
- Custom Civi modules (?)
 - Tool/item lending
 - Time clock / usage log
- Fix email integration
 - Membership reminders
 - Newsletters





Thank you!

Come say hi if you're in Quebec City!



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