



# Development of the Grand Dictionnaire Canadien de l'Histoire de la Pharmacie

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## Background

Historical dictionaries define terms and contextualize them within the evolution of a profession. There is currently no historical dictionary for pharmacy in Canada.

This project aims to fill that gap by creating a comprehensive resource that highlights the development and contributions of pharmacy practice in Canada.

## Description

Our team developed the Grand dictionnaire canadien de l'histoire de la pharmacie. A documentary review and interviews with specialists were conducted to support the development of procedures. The dictionary aims to provide detailed definitions and historical context for terms related to pharmacy practice.

## Action

The Dictionary was developed according to this method:

- Collaborative approach:
  - Simultaneous contributions via Teams
  - 15 contributors to date
  - Includes pharmacy students and interns
- Standardized operating procedures for:
  - Selection of terms (Common and Proper nouns, Drug names)
  - Documentary research and referencing
  - Writing of historical entries (definition, historical elements)
  - Online publication
- Use of ChatGPT 4.0 (paid version) to speed up and standardize part of the process.
- Interviews are conducted to provide historical context and videos are edited using Clipchamp.
- A pilot website was developed, featuring an intuitive interface for easy navigation and access to information.

## Evaluation

The Dictionary was launched on November 25, 2024:

- 200 terms researched
- 50 historical entries published
- Six videos produced.

The development is based on a continuous improvement process.

Collaborators can contact our team to propose content to include.

## GDCHP.ca

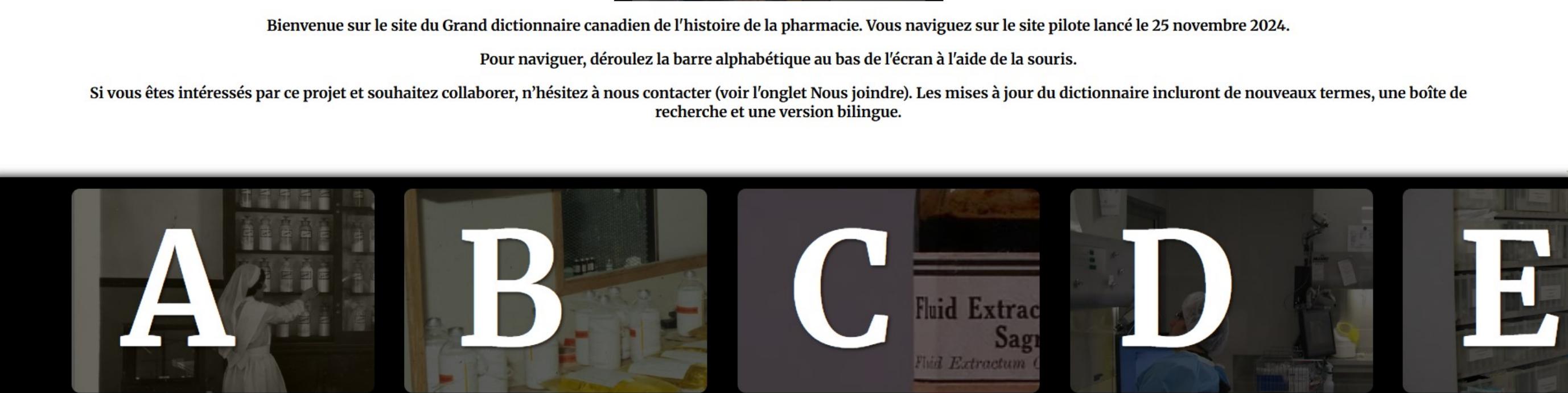


Fig 1 Homepage

The Dictionary homepage contains links to learn about the team, the method and other historical work done by our team.

An alphabetical index is available to search for terms.

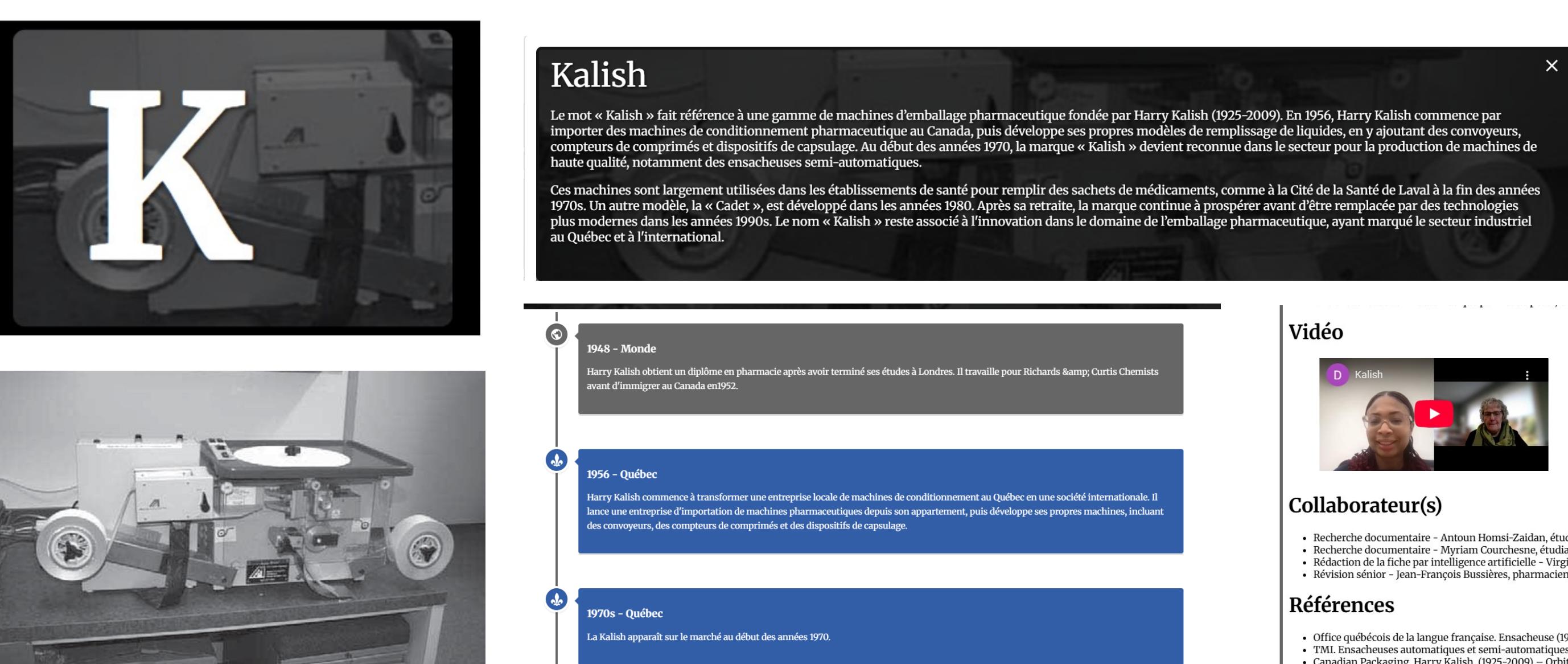


Fig 2 Sample historical entry: Kalish

Henri Kalish is a Montreal pharmacist who invented this manual bagging machine widely used in several Canadian hospitals. It contributed significantly to the growth of daily unit distribution, before more modern automatic bagging machines were available.

The Dictionary entry contains:

- A short definition
- Historical elements
- Video
- List of collaborators
- References



Fig 3 The pilot Dictionary was launched on November 25, 2024

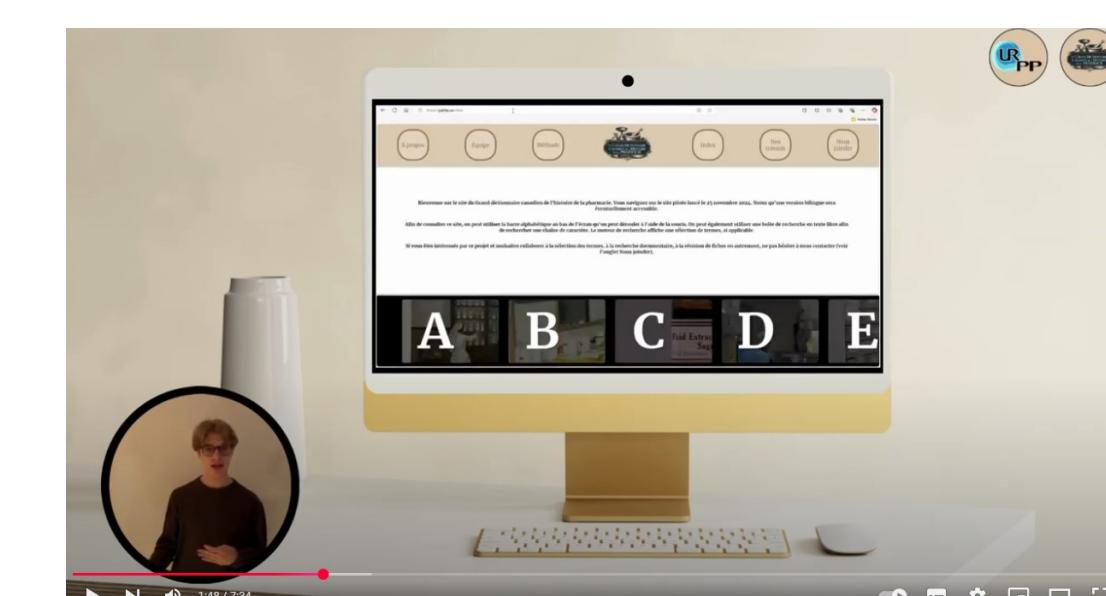


Fig 4 introductory video

An introductory video was produced by the students involved in the creation of the Pilot Dictionary



Kalish

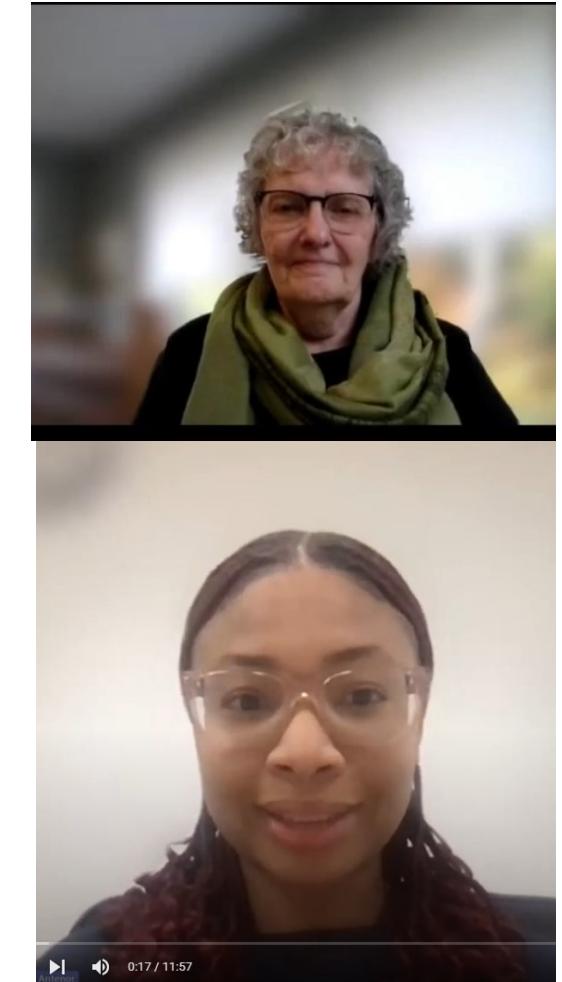


Fig 5 Interview about the use of Kalish in the 1970s

Francine Lussier-Labelle is the former director of the department of pharmacy at the Cité de la santé in Laval. She is one of the first pharmacists to use a Kalish. In this interview, she discusses with a student how it was used in hospitals in Quebec in the late 1970s to early 1980s.

## Implications

This first Dictionary offers a unique opportunity to highlight the Canadian context and the evolution of pharmacy practice.

It was designed to facilitate collaboration and frequent updates.

The procedures ensure consistency and efficiency in content creation.

A bilingual interface is planned for the next phase.

An advisory committee is being created to support its development and funding.

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