



QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS INC.
LA FÉDÉRATION QUÉBÉCOISE DES ASSOCIATIONS FOYERS-ÉCOLES INC.

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RESOLUTION 2018-02

WIDER ACCESS TO ENGLISH EDUCATION

Submitted by St Thomas High School Home & School Association

WHEREAS the protection of the majority official language and culture in Quebec should not diminish the historic language rights and cultural heritage of the minority official language population of Quebec; and

WHEREAS the UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS assures parents a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

WHEREAS the Charter of the French Language has contributed to be a steady decline of the student population in the English public schools of Quebec; and

WHEREAS the following factors taken together account for the lack of opportunity for the growth and prosperity of a viable English language system of education now and in the future:

- 1977 “Bill 101” (Statutes of Quebec 1977, c. 5), the Charter of the French Language, section 73, which limits choice by specifying four categories of students deemed eligible for entry into English schools;
- 1982 Constitution Act, 1982, section 59, which excludes the application of section 23 (1) (a) of that Act in the province of Quebec only, by preventing it from coming into force in Quebec without the consent either of the Quebec Executive Government or of the National Assembly;
- 2002 “Bill 104” (Statutes of Quebec 2002, c. 38), amending the Charter of the French Language, sealed an opening whereby parents could establish public school eligibility by sending a child to a private English school [not abiding by “Bill 101”] in grade 1 for one year, thus establishing eligibility for that child and his/her siblings;
- 2010 “Bill 115” (Statutes of Quebec, 2010, c.23), An Act following upon the court decisions on the language of instruction, was the Government of Quebec’s response to the Supreme Court of Canada’s decision in 2009 that sections of “Bill 104” were unconstitutional; and

WHEREAS the loss of an English-language school system would result in the loss of a cultural identity which pre-dates Confederation (1867); and

WHEREAS one should always seek to expand on rights, never to diminish them,





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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations Inc. once again urge the Premier of Quebec to protect the perennity of its official language. **minority school network** and take steps to widen access to English education in Quebec.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations Inc. request the Premier of Quebec **to permit any child attending high school who comes to Quebec, from outside Canada who has begun his/her education in English, to continue his/her education in English.**

Destinations to be determined by the Committee

May 1, 2018

