



Association des commissions scolaires anglophones du Québec
Quebec English School Boards Association

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QESBA files legal action on Bill 40

MONTREAL, THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2020 – The Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) has filed legal action on Bill 40: An Act to amend mainly the Education Act with regard to school organization and governance following our announcement in February.

QESBA along with co-applicants Adam Gordon, Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Parent Committee Chairman and the Lester B. Pearson School Board filed for an interlocutory injunction and judicial review in Quebec Superior Court on May 15, 2020.

“We recognize that the filing of this legal action is not ideal under the current circumstances. This should not come as a surprise as we publicly announced our intention to file this action accompanied by all of our education and community partners last February. It has, however, become a pressing matter due to the looming November school elections and the deadlines surrounding the legal requirements and logistics of these elections,” said QESBA President Dan Lamoureux.

“Furthermore, we are collectively facing an on-going pandemic which is making the planning for and potentially the holding of these elections complicated for School Boards.”

“QESBA along with our education partners requested in writing to the Minister of Education and the Minister of Justice a postponement of these elections in light of

the current situation in Québec and we were told that they would move ahead and hold the November elections regardless. We, therefore, felt that we had no choice but to move forward at this time based on our minority community's rights to manage and control our institutions as prescribed in Section 23 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms," concluded the President.

QESBA is the voice of English public education in Québec and represents 100,000 students in 340 elementary, high schools, and adult and vocational centres across Québec.

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