

DRAFT RESOLUTION

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Motion: The English Montreal School Board corrects its stance on Bill 96

**WHEREAS** Bill 96, An Act respecting French, the official and common language of Québec, was introduced in the National Assembly on May 13, 2021;

**WHEREAS** on September 1, 2021, the English Montreal School Board adopted a resolution calling on the Quebec Government to withdraw Bill 96 in its present form and calling on the federal government to refer Bill 96 to the Supreme Court of Canada for a ruling on the legality of Bill 96;

**WHEREAS** in the preamble to its resolution of September 1, 2021, the English Montreal School Board put forward several criticisms of Bill 96;

**WHEREAS** the English Montreal School Board recognizes that some of these criticisms of Bill 96 were unfounded or mistaken and wishes to correct its stance on Bill 96;

**WHEREAS**, in particular, the English Montreal School Board does not question the fact that Quebec forms a nation;

**WHEREAS**, in particular, the English Montreal School Board agrees with the importance of protecting and promoting the French language, notably on the island of Montreal, and solemnly affirms its commitment to work with all Quebecers, including the Quebec Government to pursue this objective;

**WHEREAS** the English Montreal School Board remains deeply concerned with how Bill 96 will impact Quebec's English-language community;

**WHEREAS** the English Montreal School Board remains very critical of the attempt to shield judicial scrutiny by introducing the notwithstanding clause in Bill 96;

**WHEREAS** the earliest the present resolution can be voted on is Saturday, September 11, 2021 pursuant to the English Montreal School Board's by-laws;

IT WAS MOVED BY JOE ORTONA AND RESOLVED THAT the present resolution replaces Resolution #21-09-01-11 in terms of representing the English Montreal School Board's stance on Bill 96;

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the English Montreal School Board calls on the Quebec government to withdraw Bill 96 in its present form;

IT WAS STILL FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be forwarded to the following:

- Premier François Legault, Simon Jolin-Barrette, Minister Responsible for the French Language, and MNA Christopher Skeete, parliamentary assistant to Premier François Legault for relations with English-speaking Quebecers;
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Melanie Joly, Federal Minister of Official Languages;
- Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA).

IT WAS STILL FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Resolution #21-09-01-11, adopted on September 1, 2021 be rescinded.