

## URGENT APPEAL

### Help Us Protect Public English Education in Québec

Dear Riverside School Board Parents, Guardians and Community Members,

Québec's English school board community is at a pivotal moment in the fight to protect our education system and constitutional rights. Bill 40, passed in February 2020, threatens our ability to govern our own schools, putting local democracy, and English educational values at risk.

The Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA), representing its nine English school board members, has challenged Bill 40 in the courts since its was adopted at the National Assembly. Despite a major legal victory for English school boards in August 2023, when Bill 40 was ruled unconstitutional and a violation of English minority rights and the Québec Court of Appeal's decisive judgment in April 2025 upholding the ruling, the Québec government announced in May 2025 its intention to seek leave to appeal before the Supreme Court of Canada.

#### **Why does this matter to you?**

English school boards are at the heart of the English community across Québec. Our schools and centres offer opportunities for excellent education, student success and engagement. They are locally governed and rooted in community leadership. Our school boards promote inclusion and defend minority rights that play a vital role in Québec society.

Defending those rights in court is costly. The QESBA relies on our own resources and private donations to provide this defense on behalf of the English school board network. To continue our efforts to protect the minority English education rights in Québec, the QESBA has established a dedicated **School Board Legal Fund** in partnership with the Notre Home Foundation to support ongoing and future court challenges.

#### ***Please donate to the QESBA- School Board Legal Fund today.***

Our goal is to raise \$500,000 to support our upcoming Supreme Court defense and future legal costs. We are 100,000 students strong across Quebec in our English network.

#### ***Every contribution counts!***

#### ***Please select one of the following 2 options:***

- ✓ Donating **with** a tax receipt: (\$25 and over):

<https://www.notrehome-qc.ca/donationsandgrants/>

- ✓ Donating **without** a tax receipt:

[https://www.paypal.com/donate?campaign\\_id=JNS95YRLBPTPG](https://www.paypal.com/donate?campaign_id=JNS95YRLBPTPG)



Thank you for your generosity and for being part of this campaign, ensuring that English public schools in Québec thrive and that our rights and institutions are protected for generations to come.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Christopher Craig'.

Christopher Craig  
Riverside School Board Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Joe Ortona'.

Joe Ortona  
QESBA President