

Provincial Youth Commission Denounces Statements Made by FEUQ President

Montreal - Thursday, December 16, 1999 - The Provincial Youth Commission of Alliance Quebec denounces statements made by the president of the *Fédération Étudiante Universitaire du Québec* (FEUQ) regarding the Government of Canada's Clarity Act.

Daniel Baril said that "[t]he actions of the federal government are unacceptable and it is the right of all Quebecers to choose their future. It's time Prime Minister Chretien realized that and came back down to Earth." (*The Gazette*, Monday, December 13, 1999, A1)

"Mr. Baril's shocking disregard for the facts is worrisome," said Marni Fishko, Co Chair of the Provincial Youth Commission of Alliance Quebec. "The Clarity Act in no way prevents Quebecers from choosing their future."

The Act, which lays out the position of the Government of Canada in the event a province decides to hold a referendum on secession does not prevent any provincial legislature from holding a referendum, nor does it prevent any provincial legislature from choosing the question it desires.

"The Clarity Act simply outlines the position of the Government of Canada," continued Fishko. "It is irresponsible for the President of an organization which represents 140,000 Quebec students to claim to speak with authority to defend the interests of Quebec youth without taking the time to study the issue before making such blanket statements."