

TALQ UPDATE



TALQ will appear as an intervener before the Supreme Court of Canada this week in the appeal concerning Quebec's Bill 21, *An Act respecting the laicity of the State*. The hearings are scheduled to take place from Monday to Thursday, March 23-26, 2026.

TALQ's arguments will be presented by Me Julius Grey. **We invite you to watch live on Wednesday, March 25. Hearings begin at 9:30 AM and TALQ is scheduled to plead at approximately 11:00 AM.** [Please use this link if you would like to watch the hearings.](#)

TALQ's intervention will focus specifically on section 23 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, which guarantees minority-language education rights and is the cornerstone right of official-language minority communities across Canada. TALQ will argue that Bill 21 infringes these rights by interfering with the cultural, institutional, and community framework that section 23 is designed to protect.

TALQ president Eva Ludvig is adamant: "Section 23 is central to the survival and flourishing of minority-language communities, and it safeguards their autonomy. Any measure that limits the ability of these communities to manage their educational institutions, reflect their diversity, and transmit their culture must be subject to the highest level of constitutional scrutiny."

TALQ will submit that minority-language education rights are uniquely protected within the constitutional framework. Underscoring their fundamental importance, this is why minority-language education rights are explicitly shielded from the application of the notwithstanding clause.

TALQ will emphasize that minority-language education rights are both individual and collective in nature, encompassing the right to management and control of educational institutions. We will argue that Bill 21's restrictions on the hiring of teachers and school personnel directly undermine the ability of English-language school boards to maintain environments that reflect the diversity and identity of their communities.

TALQ will ask the Court to rule that the relevant provisions of Bill 21 are unconstitutional and cannot be justified in a free and democratic society, at minimum as they apply to English-language school boards. Please [click here](#) to read the Factum (Intervener's Argument) that was presented by then-QCGN to the Supreme Court in September 2025.

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