



Press Release

For Immediate Distribution

Townshippers' Association reacts to Bill C-32

SHERBROOKE, June 16th, 2021 – Following the tabling of *Bill C-32, An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act and to make related and consequential amendments to other Acts* in Parliament, Townshippers' Association recognizes that while this legislation goes a long way in terms of increasing the recognition and support of Canada's French-speaking communities inside and outside of Quebec, our community has cause to remain deeply concerned at this time.

Association President Gerald Cutting expressed his profound disappointment that despite Bill C-32's reiteration that specific constitutional commitments must be respected and maintained for English-speaking Quebecers, "Canada's Official Language Minority Community in Quebec essentially gained nothing during the modernization process in terms of protection for our already vulnerable communities," explained Mr. Cutting. "How will this piece of legislation be effective in the face of provincial legislation like Bill 96 that relegates our community to second class citizenship without recourse before the courts?" Cutting went on to ask, adding, "The constitutional guarantee that even governments must abide by the rule of law is about to be legislated out of existence in Quebec and much of what is proposed in C-32 would not be applicable here."

Townshippers' Association is wary of the harsh reality that the federal Opposition parties may well introduce a number of amendments that could further undermine linguistic duality in Canada and the concept of the equality its two official languages for the purpose of political gain in Quebec; it calls on the community to be aware that Bill C-32 is not yet a done deal.

About Townshippers' Association

Townshippers' Association is a non-profit, non-partisan community organization working on behalf of the Eastern Township's English-speaking community, since 1979. Connect online at Townshippers.org or contact Townshippers' in Sherbrooke at 3355 College St. 819-566-5717, toll free: 1-866-566-5717 or in Lac-Brome at 3-584 Knowlton Rd. 450-242-4421, toll free: 1-877-242-4421. Please note that our offices are closed to the public until further notice.

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Source:

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