

Ike and Ifeoma Okwuobi Win Access to English School Case

Montreal, Wednesday, December 19, 2001-Alliance Quebec President Brent Tyler will be holding a press conference tomorrow with his clients, Ike and Ifeoma Okwuobi to discuss the recent decision of the Tribunal Administratif du Quebec (TAQ) declaring their son, John, eligible for public instruction in English. The Tribunal held that Bill 101's requirement that the major part of the child's instruction be in English was satisfied by the fact that John attended a private English school for nine months, not only the major part but the totality of his schooling in Canada.

The Tribunal rejected the Government's contention that the fact that John's time in English school did not count as the "major part" of his schooling unless it was a minimum year. They held that "major part" meant the major part even if it is less than a year.

Mr. Tyler will answer questions on this important case and the PQ's plan to close so-called loopholes in Bill 101. Mr. Tyler will also discuss other education cases including the Superior Court decision by Judge Danielle Grenier in the Solski case that struck down the "major part" requirement as inconsistent with s.23 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

Date: Thursday, December 20, 2001

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Place: Alliance Quebec Office 1980 Sherbrooke St. W., Suite 830

Alliance Quebec strives for the promotion of human rights and minority language rights and is committed to the preservation and enhancement of the English-speaking communities within Quebec.