



Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Resolutions Adopted at the 2023 Annual General Meeting

Resolution 2023-08: Accommodate Immigrant and Refugee Children

WHEREAS Québec is facing several demographic challenges that have significant economic and social impacts:

1. Aging population: Québec has an aging population, which means there are more retirees than young people entering the workforce. This can lead to labour shortages, increased healthcare costs, and a smaller tax base to support social programs.
2. Low fertility rate: Québec's fertility rate is below the replacement level, meaning that the population is not growing naturally. This can lead to a smaller workforce and a shrinking tax base.
3. Outmigration: Many young people leave Québec for other provinces in search of better job opportunities or a different lifestyle. This can exacerbate labour shortages and leave the aging population more vulnerable; and

WHEREAS Québec's language laws and cultural isolation make it challenging to attract immigrants and integrate them into the province's workforce and society; and

WHEREAS Québec needs workers (immigrants and refugees) to keep its economy and social programs functioning; and

WHEREAS many immigrant and refugee children who arrive in Québec have knowledge of English but not of French; and

WHEREAS allowing children to attend school in a language with which they are already familiar will promote their success both socially and academically, allowing them to better contribute to Québec society.

THEREFORE be it resolved that the **Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc.** urges the government of Québec to allow immigrant and refugee children who arrive with the ability to speak English but not French to attend English schools.

