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Montreal, Thursday, September 23, 1999 - At a Board meeting held Saturday, September 18, 1999, the Provincial Board of Directors of Alliance Quebec examined proposed recommendations contained in the Proulx Report. While the issue of confessionality, as such, is outside the mandate of Alliance Quebec, Board members urged Federal Minister Stéphane Dion and Education Minister François Legault keep promises made as a condition for abolishing the constitutional guarantee for denominational boards.

In March, 1997, Pauline Marois, the then Minister of Education issued a Ministerial Statement explaining the orientation and structures the government was proposing: "the free choice between moral education and Catholic or Protestant religious education will be maintained, in accordance with section 41 of the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, which provides for the possibility of instruction in conformity with [the parents] convictions. Pastoral animation or Protestant guidance services will also be offered on the basis of free choice." (Source: Ministerial Statement by Minister of Education Pauline Marois, March 26, 1997)

The President of the Privy Council and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, the Honourable Stéphane Dion, in announcing the section 93 constitutional amendment resolution to the House of Commons proposed by Quebec's National Assembly on April 22, 1997 assured Quebecers: "Mr. Speaker: Although Quebecers approve of secularization of school organization, many are attached to religious instruction. Quebec's Minister of Education, Ms. Pauline Marois, has already indicated that schools that so wish may retain their denominational orientation. Furthermore, the right to religious instruction is still guaranteed by section 41 of the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms." (Source: News Release, Government of Canada, April 22, 1997, p.2)

"We urge the Minister of Education to ensure that whatever decisions are made following the public consultation on the Proulx Report, he remember, that above all, promises must be kept," stated Alliance Quebec president William Johnson.