

For immediate release

QCGN Asks Minister Roberge to Fund LEARN to Tutor English-speaking Students

Montreal, February 1, 2021 – The Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN) shares the concerns of the English Parents' Committee Association (EPCA) and the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) about new tutoring services for Quebec students during the pandemic.

Last week, Education Minister Jean-François Roberge unveiled new investments in tutoring for Quebec students using online platforms. He announced funding for existing French-language services, where the providers do not have the necessary experience or expertise to meet the needs of English-speaking students. Meanwhile, LEARN, the province's only government-funded English-language tutoring resource, was not earmarked for funding to provide this service.

"We do not understand this omission and we ask Minister Roberge to correct this oversight and give equal consideration to LEARN for the benefit of our English students," QCGN President Marlene Jennings said. LEARN's Board of Directors, she noted, includes the Directors General of each of our nine English-language school boards: "LEARN certainly is equipped with the knowledge and expertise to provide the services our students require."

"Why is the government not turning to the organization with which the Education Ministry already works and which best understands the issue?" Jennings added. "There is no need to re-invent something that already exists and works very well."

The QCGN asks Quebec's Ministry of Education to provide equitable funding to LEARN to deliver these additional tutoring programs for English students.

The Quebec Community Groups Network is a not-for-profit organization bringing together English-language community organizations across Quebec. As a centre of evidence-based expertise and collective action it identifies, explores, and addresses strategic issues affecting the development and vitality of the English-speaking community of Quebec and encourages dialogue and collaboration among its member organizations, individuals, community groups, institutions, and leaders.

For further information:

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