

## QCGN Board of Directors

Resolution regarding Bill 14, *An Act to amend the Charter of the French language, the Charter of human rights and freedoms and other legislative provisions*, tabled in the National Assembly of Quebec on December 5, 2012.

*Recalling* the preamble of the Charter of the French Language;

*Noting* that successive Governments of Quebec and all present major political parties have pledged to achieve the objective of the Charter of the French language in a spirit of fairness and open-mindedness, respectful of the institutions of the English-speaking community of Québec, and respectful of the ethnic minorities, whose valuable contribution to the development of Québec the Charter readily acknowledges;

*Noting* the resolutions of more than thirty-five bilingual municipalities in Quebec opposing provisions of Bill 14 that would threaten their status and remove the ability of local government to determine the nature of how they communicate and provide services to their citizens;<sup>1</sup>

*Noting* the concerns of jurists over fundamental changes to Quebec's Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms that would seriously affect the individual rights of all Quebecers;

*Noting* also the exemplary role played by the English-speaking community of Quebec to ensure its bilingual character, and especially the effort of parents and youth to achieving French and English bi-literacy;

*Acknowledging* the leadership of all levels of our community's educational institutions to prepare their students to participate fully in French in Quebec society;

*Recognizing* the sacrifice and special challenges faced by the children of Canadian Forces military personnel;

*Recognizing* the economic contribution of small business, and the strain placed on these enterprises by superfluous non-business related activity;

*Reaffirming* the QCGN's support of reasonable measures to protect and promote the French language in Quebec,

1. *Decides* that Bill 14 is totally unnecessary, and that if enacted would be detrimental to the interests of all Quebecers;
2. *Urges* its Members to pass resolutions opposing Bill 14 and communicating these resolutions to their respective Members of the National Assembly;
3. *Supports* the City of Côte Saint-Luc and the efforts of all bilingual municipalities (and three boroughs) in their opposition to Bill 14;
4. *Requests* the Director General prepare and submit a brief in opposition to Bill 14 to the public consultation process and take other matters deemed appropriate to support the Members and community partners prepare and participate in this public debate;
5. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

Passed this 30<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2013

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<sup>1</sup> On the day the resolution was considered, thirty-seven municipalities had passed resolutions, and the number was expected to climb.