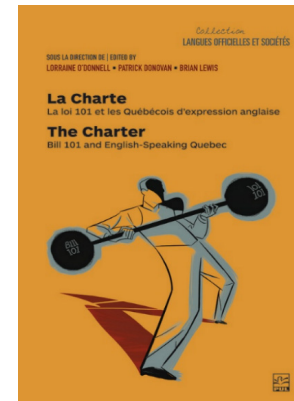
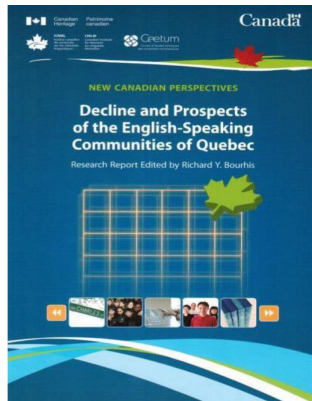


Some notes on Quebec Government laws restricting access to English CEGEPS and proposed Fee Hikes for English Universities in Quebec.



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Talk presented to the QFHSA & COFFEE-QC & ComECH
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Plan of the Talk

I will mention some key points about each of the following 4 government regulations undermining English language education in Quebec.

1: In **1977**, the Parti Québécois government adopted Bill 101 *restricting* access to **English primary & secondary schools**, thus contributing to its **decline**.

2. In **2020** CAQ Nationalist Government adopted **Bill 40** seeking to abolish French & **English School boards**. QESBA contested Bill 40 in court & was successful in **saving** English School Boards thanks to a Superior court ruling in 2023! But this september the CAQ Govn. appealed the ruling! So the QESBA will be back in court to prevent **Bill 40** from abolishing English School Boards in 2024.

Plan of the Talk

3. On May 22, **2022**, the CAQ Government adopted Bill 96 which limited **access & size of 5 English CEGEPs**, while boosting size of the 43 French CEGEPS

4. In October **2023**, the CAQ government announced an increase in undergraduate fees from \$9,000 to \$17,000 for **English Canadians from ROC** who will attend **McGill, Concordia & Bishop universitie in 2024**. French undergraduates from ROC, France & Belgium stay at \$9,000 fees to Quebec French universities

We can observe that in the last 45 years, Québécois majority governments have undermined the Educational Vitality of the English-speaking Communities of Quebec.

Bill 101: A Language laws eroding access to English schools in Quebec

Up to 1960s, Francophones, Anglophones, Allophones & Immigrants had **freedom of choice** to attend **English** or **French** public schools.

In 1977, the **Parti Québécois Government** adopted **Bill 101 banning Francophone majority and immigrants from attending English schools** at **primary & secondary level**. Reducing access to English schools shifted immigrants to French school system for francisation

Bill 101 stipulated that **Anglophone pupils** could attend English schools **only** if **one sibling or parent had spent most of its primary schooling in English within Canada**: what is know as **‘English eligible students’** (Rights holders, ‘Canada clause’ court challenges).

How did Bill 101 affect the size of the English & French school systems in Quebec ?

1. In 1971 there were **1.3 million students in French** primary & secondary schools, our 100% baseline. By **2018**, there were only **943,000 students** left in the **French school system**, representing **only 68%** of its original size in 1971. This school decline was due mostly to the **drop** in the birth rate of Francophone majority.

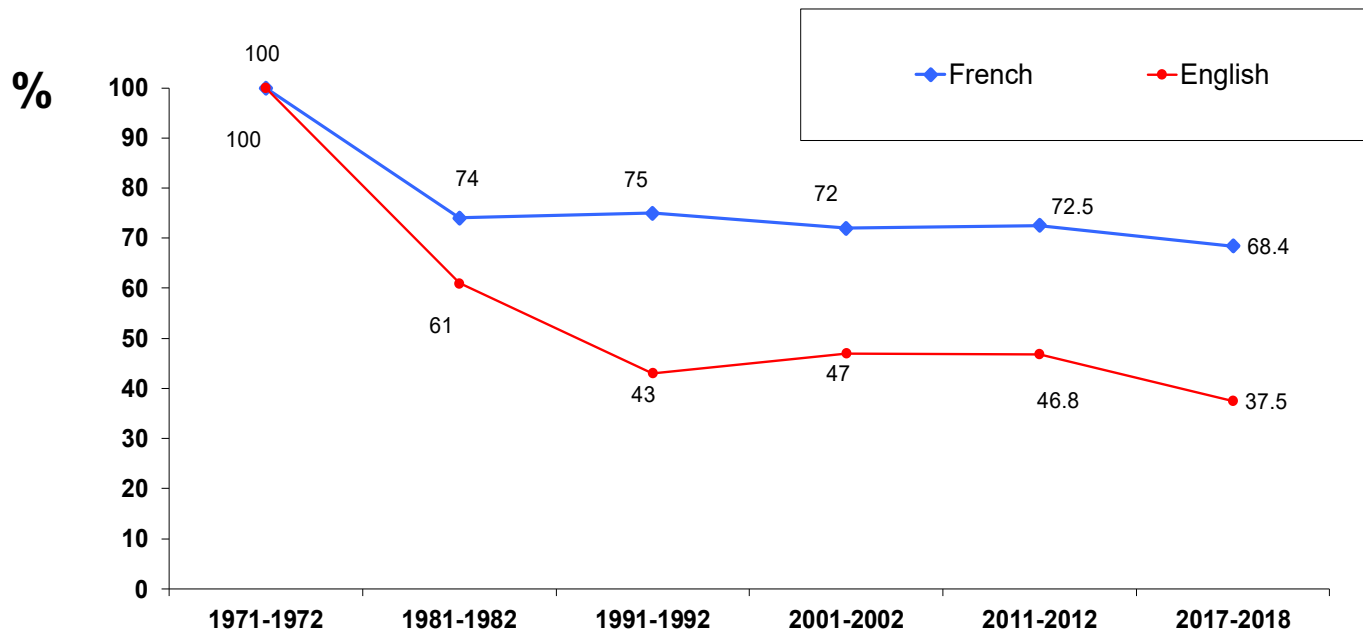
2. In 1971 there were **256,000** students in **English** primary & secondary schools, our 100% baseline. By **2018**, there were only **96,235** students left in the **English school system**, representing **only 37.5%** of its original size in 1971. **Bill 101 was successful in reducing access to English schools thus undermining its size. This is largest drop in an English language school system in Canada.**

3. By **2018**, **87% of Allophone** students **shifted from English to French schools**. **Bill 101 succeeded** in **banning Allophone & Francophone access to the English school system**. This shift to French schools was not enough to offset **drop** in Francophone birth rate. (Bourhis, 2019).

Number & percentage (1971=100%) of pupils in primary & secondary *French and English* school systems in Quebec (public & private): 1971-2018. Future CEGEP students !

School enrollment in 1971 before Bill 101, is used as benchmark for index for subsequent years up to 2018.

Ministère de l'Éducation: MELS, 2013; Direction services à la Communauté anglophone, MEES, 2018. 2022 data pending.



◆ French Schools	1,378,788	1,026,951	1,035,358	997,358	999,976	943,381
● English Schools	256,251	155,585	111,391	121,225	119,974	96,235

- Recall that post secondary education is **NOT** protected by **Article 23** of 1982 *Canadian Charter*. Post secondary education such as *CEGEPS* & *Universities* have **no federal Charter protection**.
- In 2021, CAQ Education Minister McCann freezes the size of the 5 English CEGEPS and increases size of 43 French CEGEPS**

VENDREDI 18 JUIN 2021* LE JOURNAL DE MONTRÉAL ACTUALITÉS 3

À LA UNE Éducation

Pas de nouvelles places en anglais

Québec privilégiera les inscriptions dans les cégeps francophones de Montréal lors des 10 prochaines années

« NOTRE GOUVERNEMENT VEUT RENFORCER LA PLACE DU FRANÇAIS AU QUÉBEC, ET SPÉCIALEMENT À MONTRÉAL. »
- Danielle McCann, ministre de l'Enseignement supérieur

La ministre Danielle McCann dans son bureau de Montréal, hier. PHOTO AGENCE QMI, JOËL LEMAY

Le gouvernement Legault va augmenter le poids des cégeps francophones en créant près de 22 000 places supplémentaires sur l'île de Montréal, en plus de geler le réseau anglophone pour les 10 prochaines années, a appris *Le Journal*.

PATRICK BELLEROSE
Bureau parlementaire

À terme, le nombre d'élèves dans les cégeps de langue anglaise passera donc de 17,1 % de l'ensemble des effectifs à 13,4 %, sur tout le territoire québécois. La diminution est similaire dans la métropole (voir le tableau).

Québec va ainsi plus loin que l'exige le projet de loi 96 sur la réforme de la Charte de la langue française, qui prévoit la « possibilité » d'ajouter 8,7 % de nouvelles places au réseau anglophone.

Le Parti québécois avait d'ailleurs critiqué le gouvernement caquiste à ce sujet et réclamaient carrément l'imposition de la loi 101 aux cégeps.

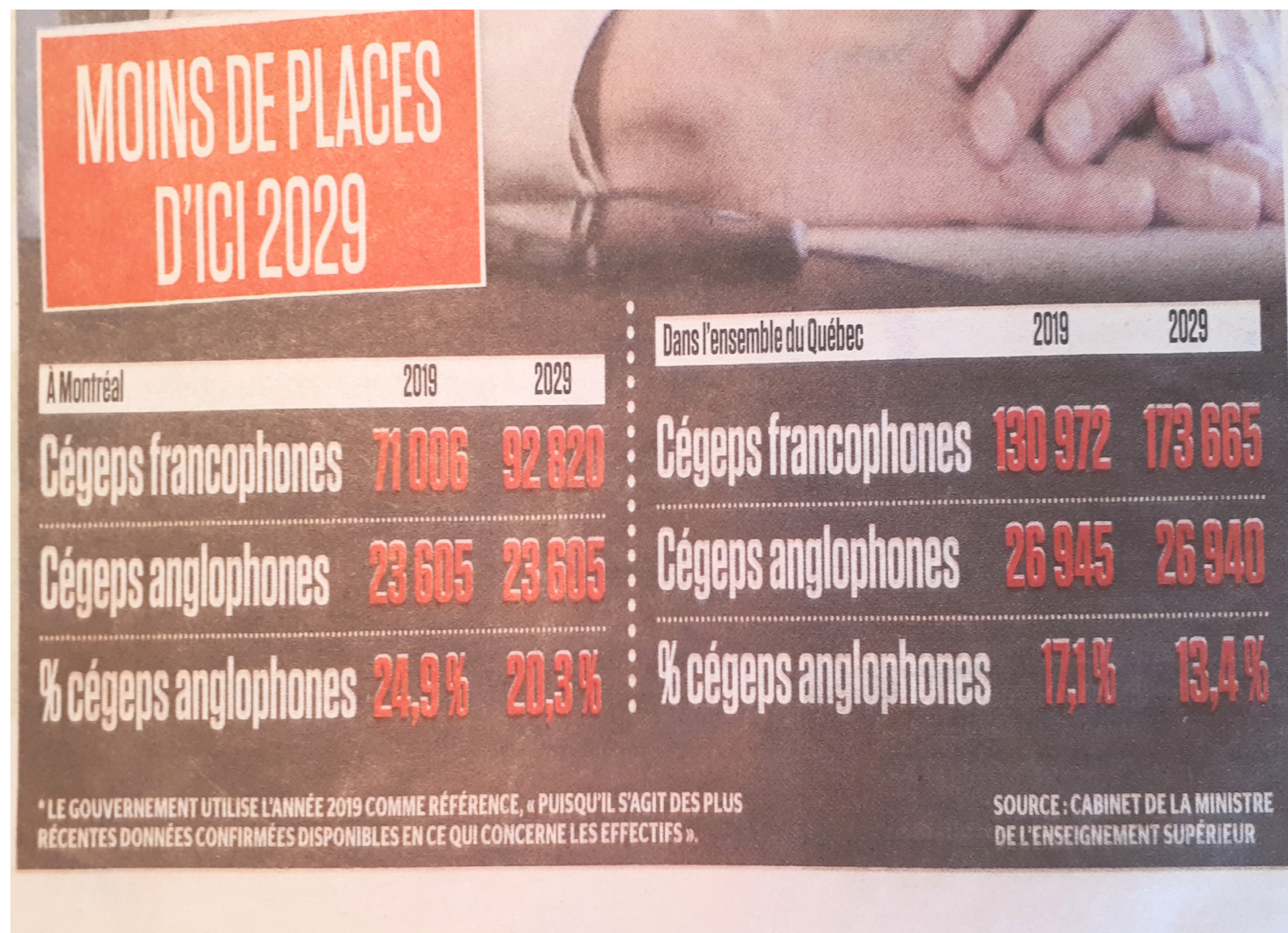
En entrevue avec notre Bureau parlementaire, la ministre de l'Enseignement supérieur explique que les prochaines années verront une hausse importante du nombre d'élèves arrivant du secondaire.

EN FRANÇAIS S.V.P.!

June 18, 2021: CAQ Minister McCann *freezes size* of English CEGEPS for 10 years !

- 2021. CAQ Minister McCann **freezes enrollment** in the **5 public English CEGEPS** to **2019** level of **26,945 places across Quebec** until **2029. No growth is allowed in next 10 years** (Montreal Gazette & Journal de Montreal, TVA, 18 juin 2021).
- McCann declares this **freeze** was designed to **reduce** the size of **5 English CEGEPS** from **17.1%** in 2019 to **13.4%** in 2029.
- McCann provides 43 Francophone CEGEPS with **extra 21,814 places**, growing the **French** network from **130,972** places in 2019 to **173,665** in 2029.
- **Prime Minister Legault confirmed this freeze : « Bill 96 is clear - anglophones represent 8% of Quebec and they will get 8% of new spots in the future »** (*Mother tongue, not FOLS*) (Montreal Gazette, June 18, 2021).
- **Prime Minister Legault is applying a ‘*numerus clausus*’ rule to reduce size of English CEGEPS to favour his Québécois Francophone base. This is similar to Polish Government law which capped Jewish students to 10% of University places given that Jews constituted 10% of Polish population in 1930s.**

June 18, 2021: CAQ Higher Education Minister McCann adopted a decree *freezing size* of 5 English CEGEPS in 2019 for 10 years



Justification by CAQ Minister McCann to adopts decree reducing English CEGEP places from 17.1% in 2019 to 13.4% in 2029 (2021/6/18)

Minister McCann: « Il y a une augmentation importante dans les cégeps anglophones dans les dernières années (**17.1%**). Alors on voit que ça *dépasse* la proportion de la population anglophone au Québec. Nous (CAQ) on souhaite rééquilibrer tout ça . Parce que la proportion de la population anglophone, au Québec, c'est a peu près **13.4%...**» "(FOL) **(1) McCann also uses 'numerus clausus' retoric to cap size of English CEGEPS !**

« ...En vertu du projet de **loi 96**, les membres de la '**minorité historique anglophone**' auront priorité au moment de l'admission dans un cégep ou l'on enseigne dans la langue de Shakespeare.' » (1) Journal de Montreal, TVA, 18 juin 2021).

What does Minister McCann mean by 'Anglophone Historical community'? On October 20, 2021, P.M. Legault said they are:

« People who are eligible for English schooling in Quebec. It's defined in Bill 101...It's people who learned English & went to English schools in Canada » « He agreed that a person born in another country whose mother tongue is English would not be eligible for CEGEP education in English »

Authier, Montreal Gazette, October 20, 2021 **(1).Danielle McCann, ministre de l'Enseignement supérieur. Le Journal de Montréal, 18 juin, 2021 p.3. et TVA Nouvelles: Gel des places dans les cégeps anglos. 18 juin, 2021.**

June 18, 2021: CAQ gouvernement *Minister McCann* adopts decree reducing English CEGEP places from **17.1% in 2019** to **13.4% in 2029**

« La ministre McCann ne s'en cache pas, l'enjeu est surtout **d'éviter le transfert linguistique** des **immigrants** vers l'univers (des Cégeps) **anglophone**, surtout à Montréal.(1)» Journal de Montréal, 18 juin. 2021

Minister McCann: « C'est sûr qu'en augmentant les places dans les cégeps francophones **(+21,814)**, on veut attirer davantage d'étudiants **allophones**. C'est notre objectif » (1)

« ...Les étudiants **francophones** auront toujours le droit d'aller dans les cégeps anglophones, mais c'est sûr qu'il y en aura moins » (1)

(1)Danielle McCann, ministre de l'Enseignement supérieur. *Le Journal de Montréal*, 18 juin, 2021 p.3. et TVA Nouvelles: Gel des places dans les cégeps anglos. 18 juin, 2021.

May 24, 2022: CAQ Government adopted Bill 96

- CAQ adopted **Bill 96** to boost Bill 101 to better address **'critical' decline of French** use at home & in work place.
- **Bill 96 reduces access to 5 English** CEGEPS for Francophone & Allophone students, relative to **43 French** CEGEPS.
- Bill 96 **gives priority access** to English CEGEPS for « **English eligible students** ». Those having one parent who attended mostly English schooling anywhere in Canada. (s.62)(**Bill 101**) (rights holders/ayant droit)
- This **'English eligible' criteria** reduces access to English CEGEP for candidates who are : English mother tongue; English FOLS; graduates of English secondary schools; or self identified Anglophones.
- Such **English speaking students** will compete with Francophone & Allophones students for **even fewer spaces** in **downsized 5 English CEGEPS**

During Bill 96 debate there was Québécois support to apply Bill 101 restrictions on access to English CEGEPS

- The 3 major Trade Unions of Quebec, many Professional corporations, **French CEGEPS teachers** , supporters of CAQ, Quebec Solidaire & PQ parties, scholars and intellectuals favoured **using Bill 101 clause to ban ALL Francophones, Allophones & immigrants from attending English CEGEPS.**
- **Only English eligible students ('rights holders') should have access to 5 English CEGEPS in Quebec.**
- Also: « La *Fédération des cégeps* et *Le regroupement pour les cégeps français* déplorent que les **collèges privés anglophones** non subventionnés soient exemptés de ce gel des places et accueillent trop d'étudiants étrangers ». *Journal de Québec*, 14 mai, 2021. 2019 Higher
- **2020 education data showed that 10% of English L1 students** attended some of the 43 **French** CEGEPS. **6% of Francophone L1 students** attended some of the 5 **English** CEGEPS.

Bill 96 adopted on May 24, 2022: French Language requirements in 5 English CEGEPS

- April 2022: Liberal MNAs *David Birnbaum* and *Hélène David* proposed to **amend Bill 96 to oblige ALL Anglophone students to pass 3 French medium courses within their ENGLISH CEGEP education** (ex. courses in Politics, History & Science). Minister *Simon Jolin Barrette of the CAQ* adopted this amendment within Bill 96 !
- Directors of the five Anglophone CEGEPS and Marianopolis decried this amendment taken without their input or psycholinguistic considerations for anglophone students to learn French as L2.
- **May 2022: Liberal Party with CAQ, agreed that ‘English eligible students’ could choose to take 5 French L2 language courses or 3 French medium courses and 2 French L2 courses to fulfill new Bill 96 amendment by CAQ**
- On **May 14, 2022** , Anglophone, Allophone & Indigenous people march in Montreal to protest Bill 96 (QCGN; Liberal Party)
- Majority CAQ Government with QS support adopted **Bill 96** on **May 24, 2022** as pro- French victory trophy for October 2nd 2022 election.

Quebec Anglophones & Allophones demonstrate against Bill 96 in Montreal
(Montreal Gazette, May 14, 2022).



Bill 96, May 24, 2022: *French Competency Test* requirements in 5 English CEGEPS

- Bill 96 stipulates that **Allophone, Francophone & other non 'English-eligible'** students in English CEGEPS including **First nation students** will have to pass the **standard French competency test** used in **French CEGEPS**.
- English CEGEP directors expect this level of French competency test is difficult to achieve for **Allophone** and other **non 'English-eligible'** students after taking 5 French L2 courses as stipulated in Bill 96. **These students fear that low grades in L2French will undermine the grade average they need to be accepted at Quebec Universities.**
- « English eligible » students (**historical anglophones**) will take 5 French L2 courses, but will have **choice** to take the English standard competency courses to graduate from CEGEP
- **First nation students in English CEGEP are denied exemption from Bill 96.** Indigenous students had no choice to learn English as colonial language, which at least is the *lingua franca* of ALL indigenous peoples of North America. Now Bill 96 imposes 5 **French courses** as a **second colonial language** that indigenous people **must learn**, to obtain **CEGEP professional degree** or as part of mandatory courses needed to graduate from CEGEP. This makes admission to a University in Quebec more difficult for indigenous students.

**In October 2023: CAQ proposed addition to Bill 96/Bill 14.
CAQ Government will Increase fees of the 3 English Universities only for
English-speaking undergraduates from ROC!**

- Undergraduate fees for Quebec based Francophone & Anglophone University undergraduates stay same at average **\$2,880/y**
- Fee Increase from **\$9,000/y to \$17,000/y** for **English Canadian undergraduates** from **ROC** to McGill, Concordia and Bishop Universities. NO fee increase if go to French Universities?
- For French Canadians from ROC & francophones from France & Belgium, fees stay at **\$9,000/y for Anglo/French Universities**
- CAQ government will take **\$3,000** from each English Canadian ROC undergraduate who paid extra fees to 3 English universities, and will give the \$3K to French Universities : UQ network, UdeMontreal, U.Laval, U Sherbrooke
- All other **foreign undergraduate** fees start at **\$20.0000/y. or more** to French or English Universities in Quebec (average is \$27,000).
- Bill 96: No fee increase for research M.A. & Ph.D. post-grads

CAQ Government justification for increasing fees targeted at English-Canadians from ROC enrolled in 3 English Universities

- The CAQ Minister of French Language, Jean-François Roberge says in La Presse, Oct.13, 2023:
- « Plus de 80% des étudiants québécois francophones fréquentent une université francophone. Mais, que ce soit des Canadiens ou des internationaux , ils sont à peu près 50% dans le réseau francophone et 50% dans le réseau anglophone. »
- « Quelque 32,000 étudiants provenant de l'étranger et des autres provinces canadiennes fréquentent les universités McGill, Concordia ou Bishop's. C'est beaucoup de personnes qui viennent au Québec, qui fréquentent une université anglophone et qui bien souvent s'expriment en anglais au quotidien»
- « Si on veut arrêter le déclin du Français à Montréal, il faut s'intéresser à la question du rééquilibrage des réseaux universitaires... »
- **« Est-ce qu'on souhaite avoir 10,000, 20,000, 30,000 personne qui viennent de l'extérieur, que ce soit des étudiants étrangers ou des étudiants hors Québec, qui ne parlent pas français, qui viennent s'installer au centre-ville de Montréal? »...**
- Does this implies Minister Roberges hopes fee hike on Anglo universities will reduce non-French undergraduates in Quebec ?

CAQ Government justification for increasing fees only for English-Canadians from ROC enrolled at McGill, Concordia & Bishop Universities

- On November 6, 2023 in La Presse, PM Legault asserts :
- « Il y a **9%** d'Anglophone au Québec, mais **25%** des places dans les universités au Québec sont dans les trois universités anglophones. »
- « **Actuellement, il y a un déclin du français au Québec.**
- Il y a beaucoup d'étudiants anglophones. Donc, l'idée des mesures annoncées, c'est **d'arrêter la progression du nombre d'étudiants anglophones au Québec** »
- **PM Legault again invokes a *numerus clausus* premise to justify the CAQ doubling of University fees for English Canadians from the ROC ! Will higher fees imposed on Anglo Universities reduce undergraduate enrollment & force them to downsize to survive?**
- **We can conclude that in the last 45 years, Québécois nationalist governments have been steadfast in undermining the Educational Vitality of the English-speaking Communities of Quebec.**

Economic decline of the institutional vitality of the English-speaking communities of Quebec (ESCQ) (1977 -2023)

1. PERT Report (2023) of Quebec population in 2021 census, showed that *median employment income* of **English speakers (FOLS)** was **\$32,000 /year**, compared to the higher income of **French speakers (FOLS)** at **\$37,200/year**.
2. PERT Report (2023) showed that Province-wide, the 2021 *unemployment rate* of **English speakers** was **10.9%** compared to the lower unemployment rate of **French speakers** at **6.9%** .
3. As regards population of Quebec living *under the poverty line*, PERT (2023) report showed that more **English speakers** lived under the poverty line at **10%**, compared to **French speakers** at **5.8%**.
4. Yet English speakers had a slightly higher educational achievement than French speaking majority. Among **English speakers**, **85.5%** had a secondary education compared to **81,6%** of **French speakers** (Pert, 2023)
5. These vitality trends require Anglophone and Allophone communities to consider their **vitality PROSPECTS** as linguistic and cultural **minorities** under **majority Québécois francophone** governments: 5 Vitality Clarification themes based on Fishman (2001) Reversing Language shift (RLS) Model .

Vitality clarification themes (Fishman, 2001)

!: Linguistic realities of Francophone & Anglophone communities in Quebec

1.1. **Anglophone** and **Allophone** minorities who **stayed in Quebec** have proven they **accept** the imperative of maintaining the status and use of **French**. **70% of Anglophones are French/English bilinguals**. In 2021 census, out of a population of 8 millions speakers in Quebec, **94% report knowledge of French** sufficient to hold a conversation .

1.2. The **English speaking communities of Quebec (ESCQ)** are **not responsible** for the substantial status and spread of the **English language** in the **world** including within **Canada & Quebec**. The drawing power of **English** would prevail even if **100%** of Quebec population was French speaking.

1.3. In **North America**, **French** will always be a **minority language** relative to the majority **English** speaking population.

1.4. Eroding the **institutional vitality** of the **English speaking minority** will **never be sufficient** to **neutralise** the **international drawing power** of the **English language** for **Francophone, Allophone and Anglophone communities in Quebec** .

Vitality clarification themes

2. Québécois Francophone Rhetorical Strategies

2.1. Québécois Francophone **national discourse** invoke a **threat** to the **French language** from the presence of the **English language in North America**

2.2. Much Québécois Francophone **discourse** invoke this **threat** to the **French language** as **justification** to **erode** the **institutional vitality** of the *English speaking minorities of Quebec* (ESCQ).

2.3. Quebec Government laws **reducing access to English schools and CEGEPS & hiking University fees of 3 English Universities but not French universities** illustrates how the **Francophone majority** can use its **minority status** at the **Canadian & USA** level, to **justify eroding** the minority **English educational system** at the Quebec **Provincial level**.

2.4. **Rhetorical shift** from Bill 101 increasing status/use of French as **shared public language**, to Bill 96 focus on **French use at home**. In democratic states, **language policies have no business regulating language use of speakers in their private home setting or as goal of Language policies**.

Vitality clarification themes

3. Québécois Francophones: *Paradigm Shift from « Fragile majority » to « Dominant majority »*

3.1 The majority of Québécois francophones, anglophones and allophones value **additive French/English bilingualism/multilingualism** , despite anti-bilingualism rhetoric within nationalist political discourses

3.2. Quebec laws **restricting the vitality of the English Speaking communities of Quebec** are *legitimized rhetorically* by invoking that **Québécois francophones** are a « **fragile majority** » in the Province .

3.2. Can a *formerly subordinated majority* such as **Québécois francophones** **admit** that it has **gained** linguistic, political, institutional and economic **dominance** within its own territory of Quebec ?

3.3. Can **Québécois francophones** accept a *paradigm shift* by reframing their status position from a « **fragile majority** » to that of a **dominant majority** ?

3.4. **Québécois francophones** are a **dominant majority** imbued with the **psychology** of a *besieged minority*, armed with **ALL the tools of the Quebec STATE**.

This puts **anglophone and allophone, indigenous minorities** in a **precarious** situation under **Dominant Québécois majority** governments.

Vitality clarification themes

4. Francophones can reframe Anglophone & Allophone minorities as assets, not threats

4.1. Can **Québécois Francophone dominant majority** develop the **cultural security** to view its own *linguistic minorities* as a **responsibility** rather than as **threatening, suspect liabilities** ?

4.2. Can **Québécois Francophone majority** « **reframe** » Anglophone and Allophone minorities as **assets** contributing to the *economic, linguistic and cultural diversity* of Quebec? Such '**reframing**' will make **Anglophone and Allophone minorities** feel **more accepted** in Québécois majority society.

4.3. **Québécois francophones** acting as a **secure dominant majority** could view **investment** in the **institutional vitality** of its **linguistic minorities** as building **social cohesion** and **enhancing** the **adaptability** of Québécois society within North American economy.

Vitality clarification themes:

5. Rights of Anglophones & Allophones minorities to also OWN Quebec as their HOMELAND !

5.1. Anglophone and Allophone minorities have the **right** to consider Québec as their **homeland** as much as **do** the Francophone majority. **All pay taxes and have canadian citizenship rights.**

5.2. Anglophone and Allophone communities & leaders **built** many of their **own institutions in Quebec** over centuries. They have the **collective human right** to **protect and develop** the institutional **vitality** of their **languages, cultures and institutions**. This without being « **stigmatized** » and **excluded** as « **traitors** » to « **La Nation Québécoise** ».

5.3. But CAQ Government is using a '**wedge approach**' by granting '**historical anglophones**' priority access to English CEGEPS relative to '**categories of non historical anglophones & allophones**' and francophones. CAQ is also forcing **Anglophone** undergraduates from the rest of Canada to **pay 100% higher fees** to attend 3 English Universities of Quebec than do **francophone** undergraduates from the ROC, France & Belgium.

vitality clarification themes

6. Right of Anglophone & Allophone communities to value & celebrate their own socio-affective language & culture

6.1. Quebec Anglophone, Allophone communities have the **right** to fight to have their **own mother tongue and culture** as valued pillars of their **socio-affective identity** as **unique** and **universal** as the French language & culture **is** for the *Québécois francophones majority*.

6.2. Quebec Anglophones & Allophones minorities along with Francophone majority have the **right to endorse multiple national, cultural & linguistic identities**, including **to Quebec, to Canada** and other nations **without stigma or exclusion !**

6.3 Quebec **Anglophone & Allophone** minorities have the right to be considered as **much** part of '**La Nation Québécoise**' as are the **Francophone dominant majority**. **ALL have equal rights and duties as citizens of Quebec & Canada.**

6.4: The **eleven Indigenous communities** of Quebec have rights to their homelands as the first inhabitants of the continent and are developing their own institutional vitality clarification themes in Quebec and Canada and USA.

MERCI
THANK YOU
GRACIAS GRAZIE
להודות شُكُور
Obrigado Trugarez

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