

The East Island Chapter of Alliance Quebec Passes a Resolution Supporting the Parents of Students Attending St Patrick Elementary in their Struggle to Save Quebec's First English school

Montreal, Friday, August 24, 2001 – The East Island Chapter of Alliance Quebec strongly supports the parents of students attending St Patrick Elementary in their struggle to save Quebec's first English school.

The parents, children and governing board of St. Patrick Elementary School believe that the closure of their school is contrary to the best interest of the English-speaking communities. Yet, despite the fact that the Quebec Superior Court rendered judgments in favour of the St Patrick Elementary, the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) has opted to forge ahead with its plans to close the school.

“It is unconscionable to think that the Education Minister would allow the EMSB to close this vital link to the community when the courts, the community, the parents and the children are so clearly against it,” said Giuliano D’Andrea, Chairman of the East Island Chapter. “We cannot allow this to happen.”

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the East Island Chapter last night, board members passed a resolution supporting the parents in their plight to save their school. The Chapter will be hosting a special fundraising event to offer partial financial support in order to help the St. Patrick's English-speaking communities maintain their rights as English-speaking Quebecers.

“This is an excellent initiative,” said AQ President Brent Tyler. “Alliance Quebec fully supports the East Island Chapter's initiative to ensure our children are provided with the best possible education in their cultural environment.”

Alliance Quebec is committed to the enhancement and preservation of the English-speaking communities and institutions in Quebec.