February 6th, 2016

RE: BILL 86

The Honourable Philippe Couillard Prime Minister of the Province of Québec Conseil exécutif Édifice Honoré-Mercier 835, boulevard René-Lévesque Est 3e étage Québec (Québec) G1A 1B4

Dear Premier Couillard,

I write to you as a concerned member of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board territory, to express my serious concern with your plan to modify the organization and governance of school boards as outlined in draft Bill 86.

Bill 86 would take away the rights of the Quebec Anglophone community to manage and control English school boards. It would transfer powers to the Minister that presently allows the democratically-elected Council of Commissioners to administer the school board while reflecting the needs and values of the Anglophone community.

The bill also removes our elected officials from office and complicates the school board election process.

Anglophone school boards across the province boast some of the best success rates in the province. The Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is proud of its 85% graduation rate. This accomplishment is the direct result of our community's commitment and involvement in our English schools. We take our responsibility to control and manage our English school system in Quebec very seriously. It is also our right under the Canadian Constitution.

I insist upon my right to freely elect my board representative without government interference. I insist on maintaining the rights of the Quebec Anglophone community to manage and control English school boards.

As such, I call on you and the Liberal Party of Quebec to withdraw Bill 86.

Respectfully,

Guy Gagnon – 123 1st Avenue, Saint-Eustache, Qc, J7P2R1

CC:

Pierre Moreau, Minister of Education and Higher Education

Pierre Karl Péladeau - Head of the Opposition

Alexandre Cloutier - Official Opposition critic for education, research and persistence in school

Francoise David - Parliamentary Spokesperson - Quebec Solidaire

Benoit Charrette - Member for Deux-Montagnes QESBA - Quebec English School Board Association

The Gazette, La Presse, Journal de Montreal, L'eveil et La Concorde, North Shore News

Jennifer Maccarone, Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board - Chairperson