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BRIEF FOR THE COMMISSION ON LANGUAGE LAW #14

This brief is prepared by Steven Gold an individual and resident of Montreal, Quebec.

STEVEN GOLD

SUMMARY OF BRIEF

I would like to participate in the commission for the new language law for Quebec bill #14. I am acting on behalf of myself and my goal is to assure the commission that other Canadians of different nationalities in Quebec and across Canada are respecting the French language in spirit and also with an understanding that there are two official languages in Canada. We are encouraged to learn and use these languages as a choice and that should be brought to the attention of the general public that we are welcome to use these languages as equal and in Quebec with an understanding that French is the more popular of the two languages in Quebec and understand the need to make the point that we use French in business and commerce yet it is of importance to note that due to the fact that Canadian federalism in Quebec is being considered more often than not and we should be aware that this is now a growing trend. This is why I am preparing this brief it is a new reality that consideration for Canada and the good things that Canada has to offer Quebecers who have been forced to speak only French when in general English is being omitted in the culture and laws of Quebec. We need to bring this out in this public consultation and let commissioners have a chance to recognize that we can get along with the rest of Canada and leave language issues as footnote from a by-gone era and we could concentrate on other endeavors. So I would like to say that I believe we can try to ease up on restrictions on the use of English in Quebec.

BRIEF FOR COMMISSION ON BILL#14 AND POINTS OF INTEREST

1) The elimination of English in the work place is not acceptable in Quebec and should be looked at in a Canadian context where “good will” and “mutual respect” is the norm now in our country and also it is now common knowledge that other provinces in Canada are doing the same in 2013.

- 2) The basic understanding of English is important to the French community also in Quebec and should not be ignored in work and university and should be an important issue in this commission of the use of French in Quebec.
- 3) We should not be ready to change the bilingual status of communities in Quebec that fall below the 50% mark of English speaking residents and switch to a unilingual French community which would confuse the policy makers and local politicians on the maintenance of the quality of life and basic understanding of each individual of the community.
- 4) I believe that French signs of information style in windows of establishment in Quebec should be offered in French and English as equal signage and copyrights of Business should be respected and should be left as it is with an understanding that identity and trademarks are very valuable to each business and their relationship with their customers.
- 5) It is now the year 2013 and we are trying to make Canada a desired destination for young Canadians, new immigrants and tourists and should not be confronted with the old attitudes of language in Quebec and hopefully these issues can be resolved today. We are lucky to live in this country of tolerance and forgiving of different nationalities not forgetting that we are working together and not giving up on the Canadian dream of unity.
- 6) It is time to acknowledge to the general public that we are part of a larger country that has made an effort through our representatives in Ottawa to get the message out that we are working together and no longer in different zones we are truly nationalistic with pride for our country and understanding of our differences.
- 7) The idea of "Reasonable Accommodations" brought out in the "Bouchard-Taylor Commission" of several years ago was a step in the right direction in tolerance of different cultures in Quebec but it is important to note that we are discussing the possibility of changing the status of the use of English in Quebec and we have to be open in our discussion to include that it is common knowledge today that the use of English is very popular in the business community and we should not deny the motivation of profit.
- 8) I have been living in Quebec for most of my life and to be denied basic understanding of Canadian rights is unacceptable when anyone can read the Canadian Constitution of Canada which clearly says that English and French are the official languages in Quebec. I am happy to speak French when ever I can and I would expect the same from our French speaking Quebecers. _

Thank you
Steven Gold