

A Quebec Superior Court Judge has issued a long-awaited decision regarding Bill 40, a law that was approved by the Quebec government in 2020. If approved, the law would have abolished Quebec's nine English school boards, turning them into service centres.

Judge Sylvain Lussier's decision was rendered following a legal challenge of Bill 40 that was led by the Quebec English School Boards Association. One of QESBA's main arguments was that Bill 40 infringes on the Constitutional rights of the English community to oversee its school system.

In his ruling Judge Lussier supported many of the arguments made by QESBA regarding Bill 40 in terms of how the law would reduce the autonomy and independence of English school boards. The judge's decision therefore represents a very significant win for Quebec's English community and for linguistic minorities across Canada.

The government can still decide to appeal the decision. Still, even if it chooses to do so there will be no impact on the day-to-day activities and operations at LBPSB's schools and centres.

**Lester B. Pearson School Board Administration**

**Lester B. Pearson School Board Council of Commissioners**