

## Resolution 2022-02: Request to Maintain Race, Religion, and Culture as Central Themes in the Proposed Citizenship Course

WHEREAS the Government of Quebec has decided to denounce the entire Ethics and Religious Culture curriculum as outdated and "scrap it" rather than update it to ensure societal advances and current realities are addressed;

WHEREAS the Government of Quebec sees fit to unnecessarily create, pilot, and implement a completely new curriculum during a global pandemic and amidst a provincial teacher shortage that will only be made worse by Law 21;

WHEREAS the proposed replacement course, as publicized, emphasizes Quebec culture and citizenship;

WHEREAS Quebec is home to members of myriad different races, religions, and cultures;

WHEREAS these facets of a personal identity are instrumental in the forming of one's ethics, morals, and thought processes;

WHEREAS good inter-personal relations and being a responsible global citizen require understanding, accepting, and respecting others as well as oneself;

WHEREAS the Government of Quebec proclaims Quebec an "open and inclusive society" which "recognizes and values cultural diversity<sup>1</sup>"; and

WHEREAS *Racism in Quebec: Zero Tolerance - the Report of the Groupe d'Action contre le racisme (GACR)* states that racial prejudice and discrimination are ongoing<sup>2</sup> and that racism and discrimination issues must be included throughout the school curriculum <sup>3</sup>;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the **Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc.** strongly recommends to the Minister of Education of Quebec:

- that race, religion, and culture remain central themes in the new Citizenship course;
- that Action Nos. 10 and 17 of the GACR Report\* are implemented in the new Citizenship course.

\*Action No. 10: Include racism and discrimination issues throughout the school curriculum. Action No. 17: Change the academic curriculum at the primary and secondary levels to update concepts related to the history, cultures, heritage, and current realities of Indigenous peoples in Quebec and Canada and their impact on society.

<sup>1</sup>Racism in Québec: Zero Tolerance - the Report of the *Groupe d'Action contre le racisme (GACR),* p.7 <sup>2</sup>Ibid. <sup>3</sup>Ibid., p.27