

Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations

The Voice of the Parent in Education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The QFHSA Welcomes the Appointment of a Federal Special Representative on Combatting Islamophobia

MONTREAL, QUEBEC, Monday, February 6, 2023 — The Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc. (QFHSA) welcomes Amira Elghawaby as the newly appointed federal special representative on combatting Islamophobia in the wake of the growing discrimination and hate crimes our Muslim communities face.

Canada is a richly diverse country that is home to many cultures, religions, and races. The QFHSA strongly believes that acceptance and understanding are learned from a young age, both at home and at school. It is therefore of utmost importance that our multicultural reality be reflected in our curricula and represented in our children's role models—including those in public service positions and **especially** their teachers.

To that end, in June 2021, the QFHSA adopted a resolution to "Request to Revise and Improve the Secondary III and Secondary IV History of Quebec and Canada Curriculum" in response to the Minister of Education's new history curricula. Further, in June 2022, the QFHSA adopted a resolution to "Request to Maintain Race, Religion, and Culture as Central Themes in the Proposed Citizenship Course" in response to the decision to replace the Ethics and Religious Culture program with a Culture and Citizenship in Quebec program.

At a time when our minority communities' contributions to our society are being minimized and their rights increasingly restricted, the QFHSA supports the federal government's initiative and encourages the creation of other such positions.

Ignorance and fear can most effectively be countered with education and experience.

About Us: The Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc. (QFHSA) is an independent, incorporated, not for profit volunteer organization dedicated to enhancing the education and general well-being of children and youth. Since 1944, the QFHSA has been promoting the involvement of parents, students, educators and the community at large in the advancement of learning and acting as a voice for parents. For more information on the QFHSA, please visit gfhsa.org, follow us on Facebook.com/qfhsa

If you would like more information about this topic, please call Carol Meindl at 514-481-5619 or email carolmeindl@qfhsa.org.

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