



PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

**DETAILED STUDY OF BILL 99 : YOUTH PROTECTION ACT
INCREASED RECOGNITION OF FOSTER FAMILIES**

Quebec, August 14th, 2017 - In a final effort, at the time of the detailed study of Bill 99 Youth Protection Act (LPJ), the Fédération des familles d'accueil et ressources intermédiaires du Québec (FFARIQ) has been successful. The Minister Responsible for Rehabilitation, Protection of Youth, Public Health and Healthy Living, Lucie Charlebois, listened and responded favourably to the foster families.

In Quebec, prior to this review, the LPJ stipulated that only parties recognized by the court could participate in the debate and have access to the child's file. Foster families were not included.

"After more than two years of political representation, we are very pleased with this outcome. The new amendment finally reflects the child stability as a priority. Now, the FFARIQ wants the adoption of this bill to be done quickly, as soon as the parliamentary activities resume, "proudly expresses Geneviève Rioux, President of the FFARIQ.

"With the second amendment proposed to section 50.0.1 [initially section 51.2], in paragraph 83 [initially subsection 84.0.0] it is clearly stated" that a person or foster family is admitted to the hearing in any applications relating to the child in their care. They may testify and present their observations to the court at the hearing and, for that purpose, be assisted by a lawyer. "This is a great step forward for the well-being of children, which has always been at the heart of our efforts," adds Mrs. Rioux.

Since the beginning of its representation, the FFARIQ has had the support of the spokesperson from the official opposition of social services and youth protection, the deputy of Saint-Jean, the spokesperson of the Second opposition on youth protection and the deputy of Drummond-Bois-Francis. "Ultimately, we can say that this is a collective victory. All parties have worked seriously for the well-being of children, "says Rioux. The FFARIQ will continue to attend assiduously and attention to the progress of the detailed study of Bill 99.

"Foster families open their homes and their hearts to these children, they give them affection, encourage them, value them and give them confidence. We know the "living with". Today, the minister has demonstrated that she understands that foster families in Quebec are families first and foremost, "concludes the president.

Let's remember that in 2016, when this law was revised, FFARIQ was the only union to have mobilized its team to obtain this increased recognition of the role of foster families in Quebec. A petition was also tabled in the National Assembly.



Fédération des familles d'accueil
et ressources intermédiaires
du Québec

The FFARIQ represents the regions of Capitale-Nationale, Mauricie - Centre-du-Québec, Batshaw (Island of Montreal), Outaouais, Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Côte-Nord, Gaspésie – Iles-de-la-Madeleine, Laval and Laurentides.

About FFARIQ

The FFARIQ was founded more than 40 years ago. They defend the rights and interests of childcare resources, supports them in their commitment to young people, works to improve their conditions of practice and enhances the partnership between them and the establishments.

Since 2009, the FFARIQ has become a resource association authorized to negotiate a collective agreement, which was signed in August 2012. Its primary mission is to represent foster resources, ensure respect for the collective agreement, train and Inform resources, and promote their work with institutions and the general public.

The priority and fundamental value of the FFARIQ is to increased well-being of children placed in stable and committed resources.

- 30 -

Source :

Geneviève Rioux.
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