



**PRESS RELEASE
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First Nations Education: A Paradigm Shift Conditional on Significant Outcomes

Wendake, October 21, 2022 – In the wake of the newly formed provincial cabinet, the First Nations Education Council (FNEC) wishes to react to Premier François Legault’s statement on making education his government’s top priority as it was in 2018.

Drawing on its 37 years of experience, the FNEC continues to pursue the common goal of attaining full and complete control over education in our member communities. The FNEC is a key partner in the academic success of First Nations students in Quebec.

On July 14, 2022, FNEC member communities and the Government of Canada signed a historic education funding agreement marking the takeover of education by and First Nations. In the 2022 federal budget, Indigenous Services Canada announced \$310.6 million in new funding would be issued through this agreement, in addition to approximately \$790 million through existing education funding components.

The successful implementation of the Regional Education Agreement requires a provincial partner that is actively involved in the academic success of young Indigenous students. Leadership from the new minister of education will be essential to focus on eradicating systemic barriers to education.

“The FNEC and the FNEC Chiefs Committee hope the decolonization of the provincial curriculum will continue. In addition, we hope to be able to come to an agreement on concrete proposals for action emanating from the FNEC-MEQ high-level joint working committee on the recognition of Indigenous realities, particularly with respect to language requirements to obtain a certification of secondary studies. However, this paradigm shift is conditional on legislative outcomes and the decolonization of provincial regulations,” said FNEC Director General Denis Gros-Louis.

À propos du CEPN

The FNEC est l’association de 22 First Nations du Québec qui œuvre depuis plus de 35 ans à la réalisation du droit des First Nations d’exercer leur pleine compétence en matière d’éducation grâce à la mise en place d’un système d’éducation complet, doté de ressources adéquates, conçu et géré selon leurs valeurs et leurs cultures. Pour en savoir plus, rendez-vous sur son site Web au www.cepn-fnec.com.

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