



1200 McGill College, Bureau 1910, Montréal (Québec) H3B 4G7

jmartin@maitremartin.com
www.maitremartin.com

Jeremie John Martin

Avocat / Attorney at law

t1. 514.866.3636

t2. 514. 798.9491

f. 514.800.0677

WITHOUT PREJUDICE

BY FAX : (514) 422-3008

Montreal, May 15, 2014

Maître François Hamel
1925 avenue BrookDale
Dorval (Québec) H9P 2Y7

Object: The rights of Mister Chris Eustace

Maître Hamel,

The Quebec Education Act grants our client at section 168 the right to ask questions to the Board at the public meetings.

Section 220.1 establishes that the commissioners must present the content of an annual report and answer **any questions** concerning this report.

The LBPSB rules for internal management at section 6.4 specify the following:

Question Period for the public

6.4.1 **Two question periods** are reserved so that members of the public may address Council through the Chairman, **to ask questions or present petitions** on issues relevant to Council, as determined by the Chairman.

6.4.3 The second question period will be at the end of the agenda and reserved for questions that have arisen from items on that agenda.

6.4.4 Each question period will be of no more than 15 minutes duration.

6.4.7 Each member of the public will be limited to 3 minutes to ask a question or make a **comment**.

6.4.8 A member of the public may present their question and/or **comments** in writing through the live blog.



1200 McGill College, Bureau 1910, Montréal (Québec) H3B 4G7

jmartin@maitremartin.com
www.maitremartin.com

Jeremie John Martin

Avocat / Attorney at law

t1. 514.866.3636

t2. 514. 798.9491

f. 514.800.0677

6.4.9 Decorum at Council meetings will be strictly upheld. All persons will show respect for others, whether present in the room or not, in language and conduct.

6.4.10 **The Chairman may use discretion to terminate any speaker's privilege to speak or exclude a speaker from the meeting if, after due warning, the speaker persists with conduct or comments which are not appropriate.**

We believe that your client is trying to limit the capacity of our client which as you know is running for Chair in the upcoming school board elections to ask questions. It seems to our client that your client, Madame Stein Day, is in a conflict of interest and should not be the judge of which questions our client can ask or not ask.

As you may well know, our client, a retired school teacher, has been a very much involved tax payer, and has demonstrated a constant competence in the affairs of the Board.

This competence is demonstrated by his attendance for many years, at school board meetings, where most of the time, strictly as a volunteer, he is the "public".

Moreover, editors of several English and one French newspaper have published his many writings which were aimed to improve the elected school board system.

Some of his contributions to the board include these ideas: the webcasting system, defibrillators in all schools, the concept of the student ombudsman, and an improvement Code of Ethics for Commissioners.

With the help of others, our client was most instrumental in putting an end to the practise of diverting funds from the regular operating budget in the hundreds of thousands of dollars (\$100,000's) for the creation of Pre-Kindergarten classes.

Other recommendations which the Board employed due to the intervention of our client is the publication of Executive Committee Agendas, which were non-existent for over 10 years and the disclosure of commissioners' salaries.

It should also be noted, our client for years has submitted his questions and comments, in advance of the meetings, to the Board, including all commissioners, the Directorate, Central Parents Committee, the Minister of Education and the two Opposition counterparts.

The submission of questions and comments, in advance, was done in the spirit of fairness, to give opportunity for the Board to research answers and respond appropriately. This competence has given him a good reputation in the community, well before the arrival of Madame Stein Day.



1200 McGill College, Bureau 1910, Montréal (Québec) H3B 4G7

jmartin@maitremartin.com
www.maitremartin.com

Jeremie John Martin

Avocat / Attorney at law

t1. 514.866.3636

t2. 514. 798.9491

f. 514.800.0677

We also note that your client, Madame Stein, made contradictory allegations when she accused our client of calling the police, and we now hear in the Media a tape where, using her position as chair, she is the one who initiated the call to the police.

This contradiction in the official and private words of your client makes us wonder what is the real reason, and why she wants to limit or decide the questions of our client at the meetings, which are public in their definition.

If you were to meet him, or watch interviews that he gave in the Media, you would see that our client is a very reasonable and well-spoken person.

If Madame Stein cannot take some questions, our client thinks she needs to resign from the Board and let someone else respond to the questions.

The whole reason our client sent a formal notice to the Board earlier this year is because he was not able to ask questions.

This situation has been created by Madame Stein Day. Please advise your client to govern herself accordingly and let our client ask questions.

If not, our client does not exclude any recourse including a Mandamus procedure at the Superior Court to make sure his rights guaranteed by the Quebec Education Act are respected.

Regards,

Jeremie John Martin, attorney