ISSUE 169 Quebec's Systemic Ethnocide

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In early 2013, an intentionally inflammatory 32-page ethnocentric propaganda report was conducted by the separatist group 'The Estates General on Quebec Sovereignty,' who surveyed 1,200 people from 13 different regions of Quebec. Peter Goldring has these thoughts on the matter.

The report outlines 92 supposed 'blockages' to Quebec's development and shamelessly blames the Canadian state for "soft ethnocide" on all Francophones across

Canada and of not looking out chiefly for Quebec's values and interests. To no one's surprise, this study was funded largely by Pauline Marois and her separatist mandated Parti Quebecois. who will apparently go to any lengths to create a divide between Quebec and the rest of Canada. This is simply the most recent pathetic attempt to ignite support for the floundering separatist cause, which has also



Rights and Freedoms highlights the Educational rights of English and Frenchspeaking Canadians.

included attempting to remove the Canadian flag from the Quebec legislature and international embarrassment while trying to align Quebec's sovereign aspirations to those of Scotland only to be rebuked on the doorstep. Thankfully these shameful and divisive machinations failed to succeed.

The outrageous claims that Canada is committing "soft ethnocide" on Quebec and French-speaking Canadians across our nation represents a new low for the separatist Parti Quebecois. Perhaps it is time that Quebec's governing party takes a good hard look in the mirror to understand the truth of the matter. Ethnocentricity is the separatists' true mission mantra.

> Canada is not committing soft ethnocide on Francophones across Canada; Quebec is committing hard ethnocide on Quebecers, mostly through their egregiously written laws that propagate linguistic cleansing to attempt to create linguistic Quebecois "patois" exclusivity which is decidedly not Parisian French!

The Canadian federal government encourages bilingual-

ism, as all services provided through the federal government are offered fully in both French and "English" which in fairness is decidedly not England's English but Canadian



dialect.

Across the country, levels of Canadian students taking French immersion courses are at an all-time high. These courses demand a thorough understanding and comprehension of the French language and result in the growth of bilingualism outside of Quebec. Indeed, my two daughters both graduated high school with honours in French as well.

Section 23 of the Canadian Charter of

Rights and Freedoms highlights the Educational rights of English and French-speaking Canadians. In all provinces and territories where there are more English-speaking or French-speaking Canadians, all Canadian citizens in that province have the Constitutional right for their children to be educated in the alternate language as long as it was their parents' first language or that it was the language their par-

ents had their primary education in Canada

Can this right be said to be propagated by the separatist government in Quebec, supporting the growth and livelihood of the English language in their province?

I have enjoyed substantial involvement in Quebec in the past, from my military service with the Royal Canadian Air Force in the early 1960s being based in Lac St. Denis in Quebec guarding against the Front de liberation du Quebec during the earlier years of FLQ terrorism, to my eight years of employment with a Quebec-based manufacturing company working in the Toronto office then being sent to open and manage their new Alberta marketing office.

This was followed by my 25 years of association through my manufacturing company with Quebec-based supplier companies that involved regular and frequent very pleasurable visits to Quebec over the years

> where I developed numerous friendships.

also spent time in Quebec City just before and after the 1995 referendum. garnering support for the Canadian Unity cause in the face of possible separation. My wife Lorraine and I always have felt very comfortable and quite enjoy spending time in Quebec. However, with the prevalence of Bill 99 which received assent in

2000 and with the present separatist government publicly fostering an ever stricter French-only (Québecois Patois) policy under Bill 14, Quebec has become considerably less hospitable to English-speaking residents and visitors - Canadians and otherwise.

Bill 99 acts as a strict reinforcement of Quebec's Bill 101 from 1977, which frames fundamental language rights within the province of Quebec. This legislation instructs



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French-speaking Quebecers to speak only in French. Specifically, Bill 99 states:

"The Quebec State must promote the quality and influence of the French language. It shall pursue those objectives in a spirit of fairness and open-mindedness, respectful of the long-established rights of Quebec's English-speaking community." That is exactly the problem. In reality the long-established rights of L'Anglais are not being respected.

Section 16(1) of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms says that, "English and French are the official languages of Canada and have equality of status and equal rights and privileges".

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so (yet French is still the declared language in all of these areas). This leaves many Canadians, like me, wondering where exactly is the "fairness and respect of the long-standing rights of Quebec's English-speaking community"?

Through their different pieces of language legislation, and the ever more egregious Bill 14, Quebec is enforcing their goal of making French (Quebecois patois) the sole language of work, instruction, communication, commerce and business.

All of Quebec's governmental departments and agencies are designated by their French name alone and all administrative documents are drafted and published in the "official language" - French. Furthermore, all communications by the administration with other governments and legal persons, between departments and internally within de-



Mr. Goldring spent time in Quebec City with his wife during the 1995 referendum, to observe and sense how the province of Quebec felt about the issue, gathering support for the Canadian Unity cause in the face of possible separation. partments, are conducted in French. Quebec language laws also require employers to have job offers and promotions in French, as well as written communications to their staff. Commercial directories. sians. and posters must also be in French as well.

With all of these factors taken into consideration it becomes apparent that it is Quebec, and not Canada, who is guilty

of committing linguistic ethnocide.

If anything, Canada is absolutely accepting of linguistic freedoms; towards not only French enclaves, communities, business signage and publications, but also for all other ethnic groups' freedom of expression for signage, etc., whether it be Chinese in Vancouver, Ukrainian in Edmonton; or Italian in Toronto.

Many communities and regions small

ISSUE 169 Quebec's Systemic Ethnocide Page 4

OCTOBER 2013

and large of "Les Quebecois" Nation of Canadians can be found across Canada from coast-to-coast, enjoying their unhindered rights of linguistic choice spoken by their greater extended families and communities.

The Quebec government, on the other hand, has been actively working to marginalize, ostracize, and "ethnocide" L'Anglais and diminish English-speaking Canadians' linguistic freedoms in their province.

Apparently the "Joie de Vivre" that Quebec boasts about only extends to their French "Pure Laine" population. For Englishspeaking resident Quebecers, and Englishspeaking Canadians visitors to Quebec, Quebec has linguistically evolved into, at times, an inhospitable environment. You are either willing to acquiesce and assimilate incrementally into "Francais (Les Quebecois patois) seulement dans Quebec" or you are gradually and encouragingly shown the door. Not surprisingly, hundreds of thousands of L'Anglais within Quebec have left to other more accepting locations in Canada.

Commissioning a biased separatist group such as The Estates General on Quebec Sovereignty to make ridiculously false accusations that Canada is committing "soft ethnocide" against French-speaking "Le Quebecois" Canadians is a pathetic Hail Mary act of desperation that failed to ignite the expected indignation.

UPDATE: In 2003 the Equality Party launched a court challenge against Bill 99, which has been progressing slowly. In October 2013 the Attorney General of Canada joined the legal challenge, saying Bill 99 has several sections that violate federal law.

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This brochure series is intended to highlight special issues that Member of Parliament, Peter Goldring, has been involved in. If you wish to comment, please take a moment to fill out the survey below, write or call to the address above.

Your Opinion Matters Q1: Do you support the federal government's 2013 decision to file a legal intervention against Bill 99 joining the court challenge launched by Equality Party leader Keith Henderson and lawyer Brent Tyler? Yes No Q2: Do you believe the separatist Quebec govern- ment is actively working to marginalize and diminish English-speaking Canadians' linguistic freedoms? Yes No Comments:	Name:Address: City: Postal Code: Telephone: Peter Gol Member of Par Edmonton I House of Com Ottawa, ON K1
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ISSUE 169