



The Battle has started: Task Force Case against Bill 96 now in Superior Court

Montreal – QC – The Task Force on Linguistic Policy’s fight against the Legault government’s oppressive Bill 96 has begun! On August 29, lawyers from the Bergman law firm will appear on behalf of the Task Force to contest the impact of the law.

Task Force President Andrew Caddell points out that while this hearing is a formality, it is significant for the Task Force. “Just as crossing the Rubicon was an important moment in history, this hearing is the beginning of a journey that will likely end in the Supreme Court of Canada.” Caddell is one of six plaintiffs. They also include:

- General plaintiffs acting as public interest litigants, as a constitutional question.
- A teacher concerned about his status due to education provisions in Bill 96.
- A businessperson whose commercial affairs are affected by Bill 96.
- A permanent resident with an autoimmune disease who cannot receive communications in English.
- A mother whose autistic child has not been able to receive proper specialized

care because his first language is English.

Michael Bergman, who leads a team of lawyers, will face lawyers from the Attorneys General of Quebec and Canada. He has taken on this case with great determination. He promises to “pursue this case with diligence, dispatch and to the fullest extent possible.”

The Task Force has been busy these last few months. It all began with advertising to ensure bilingual municipalities kept their status and adopted resolutions, a very important step needed under Bill 96 to permit continued services and communications to residents in English. We launched a “Tell Us Your Story” program which gives a platform for those persecuted under Bill 96 to report their stories via www.TheTaskForce.ca so we can tell the world what is happening in Quebec. We also began collaborating with Bridging Ethnic Communities (RCE.BEC.org) for protests in the form of rolling processions.

The Task Force on Linguistic Policy/Comité spécial sur la politique linguistique was formed in June of 2021 to fight Bill 96 and Bill C-13, the federal Official Languages Act. It boasts thousands of subscribers and followers on social media. It is active in the community and uses crowd sourcing to finance its efforts and lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of Bill 96. Learn more at www.TheTaskForce.ca.

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