

## **Declaration of the Teachers of the Cegep of Saint-Laurent concerning the judicialization of the student protest**

Considering that a return to class under judiciary pressure undermines the minimum pedagogic conditions required for teaching;

Considering the social aspect inherent to our pedagogic mission consisting in encouraging reflection and in nurturing critical thinking in our students in view of their participation in civic life;

Considering that we are required to portray and to defend values associated with this social role, particularly with respect to education, and that we are moreover summoned to do so by the Parent Report, the founding document of cegeps (c.f. Subsection 710 of Volume 5);

Considering that the current judicialization of the crisis surrounding the increase of tuition fees flouts, in the name of the rights of a few, the legitimacy of collective votes held during student general assemblies, thereby undermining the very principles of democracy;

Considering that such recourses to courts of law evacuate the political debate all the while generating tension and potential conflicts within our classrooms;

Considering that the Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, Line Beauchamp, and the Minister responsible for Youth Issues, Jean Charest, by their obstinacy, continue to fuel the ongoing crisis;

We, the Teachers of the Cegep of Saint-Laurent, have the deepest conviction that no enforced return to class compelled by a court of law may produce the necessary conditions required for teaching.

We urge the political and judiciary powers to recognise the legitimacy of the student associations and to agree that only a decision taken in general assembly may guarantee a harmonious return to class.

We demand that the government of Quebec negotiate the issue of tuition fee increases with the representatives of all student associations, including the CLASSE.

We demand the immediate resignation of the current Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, Line Beauchamp, who proves incapable of resolving the crisis.