



The Federation of English Speaking Catholic Teachers represents teachers in the English Sectors of the Montreal Catholic School Commission and the Jerome Le Royer School Commission.

## F.E.S.C.T. A CHRONOLOGY

- 1918-1943:** English Catholic teachers in the Montreal Catholic School Commission were represented by two associations: one for men, the other for women.
- 1921:** English Catholic teachers went on strike. The M.C.S.C. reacted by dismissing the leaders.
- 1943:** The two Associations were amalgamated to form the Federation of English Speaking Catholic Teachers. It is interesting to note that F.E.S.C.T. is incorporated under the Quebec Companies Act, with the following as its primary purpose: "The advancement of the cause of education, the professional and intellectual development of its members, the encouragement of social and religious activities." The charter members who applied for the Letters Patent were: R.W. Stoeckel, Michael Collins, Hannah Healy, Mary Anne Rusk, Helen O'Regan, John Hart and Emmet Kierans. Dues were set at 5.00\$ per annum.
- 1944:** F.E.S.C.T. was issued a bargaining certificate to represent all teachers in the English Schools of the M.C.S.C. and teachers of English in French schools of the M.C.S.C. L'Alliance was issued a similar certificate on the same date.
- 1949:** F.E.S.C.T. and L'Alliance went on strike. The M.C.S.C. forced them back to work under threat of dismissal. The M.C.S.C. then petitioned the Labour Relations Board to revoke the certificates of F.E.S.C.T. and L'Alliance. The Labour Relations Board gave the M.C.S.C. its wish.
- 1949-1954:** F.E.S.C.T. went without a bargaining certificate and was referred to in the collective agreement of 1952 as an "unrecognized association."
- 1952:** George Glashan became President of F.E.S.C.T. and set about achieving the restoration of the bargaining certificate.

1954: F.E.S.C.T. was issued a joint certificate with l'Association des Educateurs Catholiques de Montreal, a splinter group of l'Alliance. l'Alliance immediately challenged this decision in Superior Court and won a suspension on the grounds that the M.C.S.C. dominated l'Association.

1959: F.E.S.C.T. and l'Alliance were granted a joint certificate "to act jointly and severally as the bargaining agent for lay teachers (male and female) of the M.C.S.C." Even though both syndicates had applied for separate certification, they agreed to negotiate as one syndicate and formed a joint committee for this purpose: 5 from Alliance and 3 from F.E.S.C.T.

1967: F.E.S.C.T. and l'Alliance went on strike. Bill 25 terminated the strike and established bargaining at the provincial level through the provincial association, PACT.

1967-1972 All negotiating was carried out at the provincial level through PACT.

1974: Bill 95 established partage; some items would be negotiated at the local level and local arrangements were provided for. PACT opted for local arrangements.

1975: Judge Deschenes ruled on the F.E.S.C.T. - l'Alliance joint bargaining certificate that both syndicates could negotiate separately at the local level.

1979: East End Teachers' Association merged with F.E.S.C.T.

1982-1983: The government of Quebec enacted a series of draconian laws as their method of negotiating with the teachers:

- Bill 70: cut teachers' salaries
- Bill 101: decreed working conditions
- Bill 111: suspended the civil rights provisions of the Canadian Constitution and ordered the teachers back to work under threat of heavy fines.

The Desilets Report was an attempt to soften some of the harsher provisions of Bill 105. It was agreed to by the government and a majority of syndicates. F.E.S.C.T. was not one of them.

1986:

M.C.S.C. has challenged the Law (Bill 37) establishing two-tier negotiations. F.E.S.C.T. is intervening in the action against the M.C.S.C.

Negotiations continue at the provincial level.

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