

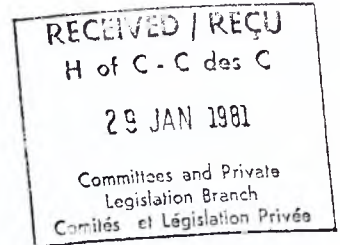
Sisters of St. Martha

support

MOTHERHOUSE
Bethony
Antigonish - Nova Scotia
B2G 2G6

January 27, 1981

Special Joint Committee on the
Constitution of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6



Dear Committee Members:

I wish to state that we as a religious congregation support the submission made by the Canadian Catholic Trustees' Association to the Special Joint Committee of Canada on December 4, 1980. Having reviewed the proposed Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the Canadian Catholic Trustees expressed concern for the freedom, rights and privileges of the publicly funded Roman Catholic Separate Schools, rights and privileges which have been ours since the formation of our country in 1867.

The three proposed amendments to section 24 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms to which we add our support are found on pages (1) and (2) of the Canadian Catholic Trustees' submission.

The following quote is taken from the document of Vatican II, Declaration on Christian Education, Article 8:

Consequently this Sacred Synod (Vatican II) proclaims anew a right already made clear in numerous documents of the Church's teaching authority, namely, the Church's right freely to establish and to run schools of every kind and at every level. At the same time, the Council recalls that the exercise of this right makes a supreme contribution to freedom of conscience, the protection of parental rights, and the progress of culture itself.

We trust that you too are concerned with and respect the freedom, rights and privileges of publicaly funded Roman Catholic Separate Schools.

Sincerely,

Sister Mary MacIntosh

Sister Mary MacIntosh
Superior General