



ANNOUNCING A SPECIAL ISSUE OF THE MCGILL JOURNAL OF EDUCATION

Guest Editors:
William J. Smith & William F. Foster

EDUCATION REFORM IN QUÉBEC: A BOLD NEW EXPERIMENT

The year 1996-97 is a year to be remembered in Québec education. First, the Commission for the Estates General on Education tabled its final report. This was followed by a ministerial policy paper, *A New Direction for Success*. This policy talk was soon followed by a trilogy of legislative action: a constitutional amendment, linguistic school boards and a new distribution of powers, especially between school boards and schools, as well as the launching of a major reform of the curriculum, *Québec Schools on Course*. Never known for tardiness once a decision to proceed has been made, the Government has moved posthaste to implement this bold new experiment of education reform.

This special issue of the McGill Journal of Education attempts to capture the spirit of this reform in a series of articles by Québec policy makers, practitioners and scholars. The manuscript for this issue is "still moving" but the final product will include:

- *The Transformation of Educational Governance in Québec: A reform whose time has finally come* (William J. Smith, William F. Foster, McGill, & Helen M. Donahue, English Montreal School Board)
- *Educational Reform and the English Schools of Québec* (Elaine Freeland, Assistant Deputy Minister of Education)
- *The New Curriculum Reform: What does it really mean?* (Norman Henchey, Professor Emeritus., McGill)
- *The Changing Role of the Teacher* (Michael Weiner, President, Sir Wilfred Laurier Teachers' Association)
- *Building the Quality School: The real challenge* (Carolyn Sturge Sparkes, McGill, with Margaret Dupuis, Diane Fyfe, & Thérèse Taylor, Western Quebec School Board; James Sullivan, Ministry of Education)

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