Decisions

Decision

An Act respecting school elections (R.S.Q., c. E-2.3)

Chief electoral officer

- Des Affluents, des Îles and Sir-Wilfrid-Laurier school boards
- Holding of new elections

Decision of the chief electoral officer pursuant to the powers conferred upon him by section 30.8 of the Act respecting school elections, concerning the holding of new elections in the des Affluents, des Îles and Sir-Wilfrid-Laurier school boards

WHEREAS a general school election was held on November 16, 2003, in the school boards of Québec;

WHEREAS, following tie votes in electoral division number 2 of the Commission scolaire des Affluents, in electoral division number 7 of the commission scolaire des Îles and in electoral division number 11 of the Commission scolaire Sir-Wilfrid-Laurier, judicial recounts were held pursuant to section 144 of the Act respecting school elections (R.S.Q., c. E-2.3);

WHEREAS the tie votes were confirmed by the judicial recounts;

WHEREAS section 156 of the Act respecting school elections provides that, if a tie vote still exists after a judicial recount, the returning officer shall order a new election for the electoral division concerned and shall fix the dates for nominations and for the poll;

WHEREAS section 156 of the Act respecting school elections does not provide for the conditions of the new election, and whereas it would be appropriate to adapt the provisions of the Act due to the exceptional circumstances surrounding a tie vote;

WHEREAS section 30.8 of the Act respecting school elections allows the chief electoral officer to adapt a provision of the Act where it comes to his attention that, subsequent to an error or an exceptional circumstance, the provision does not meet the demands of the resultant situation;

WHEREAS the chief electoral officer has first informed the Minister of Education of the decision he intends to make;

The chief electoral officer, pursuant to the powers conferred upon him by section 30.8 of the Act respecting school elections, has decided to adapt the provisions of the Act respecting school elections as follows:

- The returning officer of a school board in which a new election must be held shall select the date of the poll from among the Sundays falling within the four months following the date of the judgment confirming the tie vote:
- When establishing the date of the poll, the returning officer may provide for an election period that begins at least twenty-eight days prior to the date selected;
- The public notice of election provided for in section 38 and the notice of revision of the list of electors provided for in section 51 may be given at the same time:
- The request of an elector entered pursuant to the second paragraph of section 15 on the list of electors of an English language school board all or part of whose territory overlaps the territory of the electoral division of the French language school board in which a new election must be held, and who wishes, pursuant to the second paragraph of section 17, to revoke the choice he has made, may be presented before the review board established by the returning officer of the French language school board in which a new election must be held; in such a case, the returning officer shall transmit the decision of the review board to the director general of the English language school board in which the elector was previously entered;
- The notice of revision provided for in section 52 is optional;
- On the last day established for the submission of nominations, the office of the returning officer shall remain open continuously from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;

- Any deadlines set by the Act respecting school elections that must be adapted to suit the election period mentioned above shall be so adapted in accordance with the electoral calendar attached to this decision:
- The authorization granted to a candidate pursuant to Division III of Chapter XII or the recognition of a ticket pursuant to section 66 for the poll of November 16, 2003, shall remain valid for the election period mentioned above;
- Delegations made pursuant to section 206.4 in respect of the authorization of candidates shall remain valid for the election period mentioned above;
- The following decisions made by the chief electoral officer during the election period ending on November 16, 2003, shall apply, adapted as required, to any new election held in the school boards contemplated in this decision:
- Decision of October 3, 2003, concerning the power to swear in election staff;
- Decision of October 3, 2002, concerning the acceptance of nominations by an assistant to the returning officer:
- Decision of October 3, 2002, concerning the ballot, the poll book and the statement of votes;
- Decision of November 11, 2002, concerning the entry of electors on the list of electors for the poll of November 16, 2003; this decision shall apply after the revision period only.

This decision shall take effect on November 27, 2003.

MARCEL BLANCHET, Chief Electoral Officer and Chairman of the Commission de la représentation électorale

