WHEREAS April 10, 2006, will be an examination day for many pupils and students who are qualified electors in the electoral division of Sainte-Marie-Saint-Jacques;

WHEREAS pupils and students who are qualified electors in the electoral division of Sainte-Marie-Saint-Jacques attend educational institutions that are scheduled to hold exams on April 10, 2006;

WHEREAS the holding of these exams can not be postponed without causing major difficulties to the educational institutions and to the pupils and students concerned;

WHEREAS section 490 of the Election Act enables the chief electoral officer to adapt a provisions of the Act under exceptional circumstances;

WHEREAS the chief electoral officer has informed the authorized parties represented at the National Assembly of his intention to apply the provisions of this section and has taken necessary measures to also inform the other authorized parties, candidates and the electors concerned:

The chief electoral officer, pursuant to the powers conferred upon him by section 490 of the Election Act, has decided to replace the second paragraph of section 306 of this Act with the following:

"Every educational institution has to ensure that pupils and students who are qualified electors have four consecutive hours to enable them vote on polling day.".

This decision takes effect on March 10, 2006.

Québec, 10 March 2006

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

7508

## Decision

An Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities (R.S.Q., c. E-2.2)

## Chief electoral officer

## — Issuing of an authorization to vote to certain electors in the City of Sainte-Luce

Decision of the chief electoral officer pursuant to the powers conferred upon him by section 90.5 of the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities, concerning the issuing of an authorization to vote to certain electors in the City of Sainte-Luce

WHEREAS a by-election will be held in the City of Sainte-Luce on March 19, 2006;

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2006 and in accordance with section 100 of the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities, the chief electoral officer provided the list of electors whose names are entered on the permanent list of electors and who are entitled to have their names entered on the municipal list to be used in the election;

WHEREAS, following a technical error during the preparation of the list of electors, 21 electors domiciled on des Rosiers street are not entered on the list of electors:

WHEREAS the revision period of the list of electors ended on March 2, 2006;

WHEREAS, due to this technical error, certain electors are not entered on the revised list of electors for the City of Sainte-Luce, even though they were entered on the list of electors provided by the chief electoral officer on January 30, 2006;

WHEREAS the said electors were not informed that they were not entered on the list of electors;

WHEREAS the said electors will be unable to exercise their right to vote;

WHEREAS it is pertinent to permit the said electors to vote:

WHEREAS section 219 of the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities allows certain electors to obtain an authorization to vote from the returning officer, under certain conditions;

WHEREAS the said section, as currently worded, does not allow the returning officer to grant such authorization to an elector whose name does not appear on the revised list of electors or on any document of a board of revisors;

WHEREAS section 90.5 of the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities states that if, subsequent to an error, a provision of the Act does not meet the demands of the resultant situation, the chief electoral officer may adapt the provision in order to achieve its object;

WHEREAS the chief electoral officer has first informed the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Regions of the decision he intends to make:

The chief electoral officer, pursuant to the powers conferred upon him by section 90.5 of the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities, has decided to adapt the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities in order to authorize the returning officer of the City of Sainte-Luce to take the following steps:

- 1. The preamble forms an integral part of this decision.
- 2. The returning officer of the City of Saint-Gabriel is authorized to issue an authorization to vote to the 21 electors domiciled on des Rosiers street who go to the polling station, whose name appears on the list of electors provided by the chief electoral officer in January 2006, and whose name does not appear on the revised list of electors.
- 3. An elector who obtains an authorization to vote shall be admitted to vote after producing identification, presenting the said authorization to the deputy returning officer and after declaring under oath that he or she is the person who obtained it. An indication thereof shall be entered in the poll book.
- 4. The returning officer shall take the steps required to notify the deputy returning officers and poll secretaries working in the polling stations of the content of this decision and the measures required to apply it.

- 5. The returning officer shall, at the earliest opportunity, notify every independent candidate concerned by this decision.
  - 6. This decision shall take effect on March 15, 2006.

Québec, 15 March 2006

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

7514