

TALQ CALLS ON ÉLECTIONS QUÉBEC TO PROVIDE ELECTORAL INFORMATION IN BOTH FRENCH AND ENGLISH

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MONTREAL, September 1, 2026 — TALQ is calling on Élections Québec to reconsider its decision to mail important electoral information in French only during the upcoming provincial election.

TALQ has written to Quebec's Chief Electoral Officer, Jean-François Blanchet, urging Élections Québec to reverse the decision and provide essential electoral information directly to citizens in both French and English.

For the first time in a Quebec general election, Élections Québec will mail documents including the election guide, notice of entry, and reminder card in French only. Citizens who want the information in English will need to scan a QR code or make a special request to Élections Québec. Those requesting services in English will also need to tell staff that they are eligible to receive information in English.

"This is fundamentally an issue of democratic participation, not language politics," said **Eva Ludvig, President of TALQ**. "TALQ fully recognizes the importance of French as Quebec's official language. But our electoral system should maximize participation, not put additional barriers in the way of voters."

The new approach may disproportionately affect seniors and other citizens who face challenges using digital tools or navigating additional administrative requirements.

"The right to vote is fundamental to our democracy, and we should make it as easy as possible for citizens to access the information they need to exercise that right," Ludvig said. "Scanning a QR code or making a special request may seem like a small step, but for some citizens, it can make essential electoral information harder to access."

Élections Québec provided bilingual electoral information directly to citizens in previous Quebec general elections and referenda. TALQ sees no reason to abandon a practice that has helped make electoral information broadly accessible.

"Élections Québec has a responsibility to administer elections with integrity and reliability and to contribute to the vitality of Quebec democracy," Ludvig said. "Providing essential electoral information in both French and English supports that responsibility and gives citizens the information they need to participate fully."

TALQ is asking Élections Québec to reverse course and continue providing essential electoral information directly to citizens in both French and English.

TALQ (www.talq.ca) is a not-for-profit organization bringing together English-language community organizations and individuals across Quebec. Its mission is to identify, explore, and address strategic issues affecting the development and vitality of English-speaking Quebec and to encourage dialogue and collaboration.

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