

The construction of commercial or office buildings, the advent of new freeways, the shifting of the territorial boundaries of constituencies or other districts have hopelessly dismembered those natural concentrations and have dispersed the Francophones who lived there in an English environment. This phenomenon is continuously growing.

12. The neighbourhoods homogeneity gave the Francophones a certain degree of control or representativeness at the level of municipal institutions. Dispersion denies them this control. Their efforts to survive were supported by existing institutions rooted in the community. They must now turn part of their efforts toward the development and implementation of new means of action without, however, having the benefit of additional resources. In other words, "development" makes them more vulnerable to assimilation while denying them the traditional means to fight this very assimilation.

13. It is not up to us to assess whether the dictates of urbanization are as necessary in this case as some would have it. We can even take for granted that "development" is irreversible.

14. We however wish to recall that if the dismemberment of the French-speaking communities was unavoidable, those who are responsible for it should consider "alternative proposals to relieve the situation". It is not for the French-speaking communities only to pay for this "disturbance".

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15. In the Quebec part of the Capital Region, it is not so much the existence of the French-speaking community that is now at stake, as the French characteristic of this territory.

16. The Province of Quebec and the French-speaking community give the Canadian Confederation its main distinctive characteristic. The Hull territory within the Capital Region is also probably the best way to ensure the bilingual and bicultural character