Regulations and other Acts

Agreement

Election Act (chapter E-3.3)

CONCERNING THE TESTING OF NEW POLLING FORMALITIES

BETWEEN

MR. PHILIPPE COUILLARD, LEADER OF THE QUEBEC LIBERAL PARTY, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

AND

MR. JEAN-FRANÇOIS LISEE, LEADER OF THE PARTI QUÉBÉCOIS, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

AND

MR. FRANÇOIS LEGAULT, LEADER OF COALITION AVENIR QUÉBEC-L'ÉQUIPE FRANÇOIS LEGAULT, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

AND

MR. GAÉTAN CHÂTEAUNEUF, LEADER OF QUÉBEC SOLIDAIRE, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

AND

MR. PIERRE REID, IN HIS CAPACITY AS THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER OF QUEBEC.

WHEREAS the parties signed an agreement in February 2014, under section 489 of the Election Act (CQLR, chapter E-3.3), to allow the testing of an online registration service for electors wishing to register to vote outside Québec;

WHEREAS according to the terms of said agreement, the agreement was to be applicable for the general election of April 7, 2014 and for by-elections held prior to the next general election;

WHEREAS said agreement is not applicable to the general election in 2018;

WHEREAS the results of using the online registration service were found to be satisfactory;

WHEREAS the Chief Electoral Officer wishes to avail himself of section 489 of the Election Act in order to recommend to the leaders of the authorized parties represented in the National Assembly the renewal of the agreement concerning the online registration service for electors who are eligible to vote outside Québec and allowing this service to be provided and made available between election periods;

WHEREAS the recommendation of the Chief Electoral Officer has been accepted by the four leaders of authorized parties represented at the National Assembly;

WHEREAS section 489 of the Election Act states that when the recommendation of the Chief Electoral Officer is accepted by the party leaders, an agreement must be signed in this respect by these party leaders and the Chief Electoral Officer:

WHEREAS this agreement has force of law.

Therefore, the parties agree as follows:

I. PREAMBLE

The preamble to this agreement forms an integral part thereof.

2. PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT

The purpose of this agreement is to test a new method of exercising the right to vote by allowing electors wishing to exercise their right to vote outside Québec to be able to register online at all times.

3. AMENDMENTS TO THE ELECTION ACT

3.1 Section 283 of the Election Act (CQLR, chapter E-3.3) is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"The request provided for in this section may be filed using the electronic form prescribed by the Chief Electoral Officer. In such a case, one of the documents stipulated in the second paragraph must bear the elector's signature. The elector's statement attesting that he or she is in fact the elector to whom the request for registration to vote outside Québec applies shall replace the signature provided for in the first paragraph."

3.2 Section 292 of the Act is amended by replacing the first paragraph by the following paragraph:

"As soon as it is received, the Chief Electoral Officer verifies the signature on the envelope. If it matches the signature that appears on the request provided for in the first paragraph of section 283 or, in the case of a request contemplated in the fourth paragraph of this section, on the document accompanying the elector's request, the envelope is kept without being opened."

3.3 Section 490 of the Act is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"This section applies to an agreement entered into by the leaders of the authorized parties represented in the National Assembly and the Chief Electoral Officer, pursuant to section 489."

4. APPLICATION OF THE AGREEMENT

The Chief Electoral Officer is responsible for the application of the agreement.

5. EVALUATION REPORT

Within 90 days following the date of any general election, the Chief Electoral Officer shall convey to the leaders of the political parties represented at the National Assembly, a report covering the following points:

- election preparations related to the present agreement;
- the advantages and disadvantages encountered in applying the present agreement;
- recommended amendments to the provisions of the Election Act, if any.

6. EFFECT OF THE AGREEMENT

This agreement shall come into force on the date of its signing by the last signatory and replaces the agreement reached by the parties in February 2014, which is therefore cancelled.

7. CANCELLATION OF THE AGREEMENT

The Chief Electoral Officer may cancel this agreement at any time upon 30 days advance notice to the parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE PARTIES HAVE SIGNED, IN FIVE COPIES,

In Québec, on 13 February 2018

PHILIPPE COUILLARD, Leader of the Quebec Liberal Party

In Québec, on 14 February 2018

JEAN-FRANÇOIS LISÉE, Leader Of the Parti québécois

In Québec, on 15 February 2018

FRANÇOIS LEGAULT, Leader of Coalition Avenir Québec -Équipe François Legault

In Montréal, on 26 February 2018

GAÉTAN CHÂTEAUNEUF, Leader of Ouébec Solidaire

In Québec, on 28 February 2018

PIERRE REID, Chief Electoral Officer of Québec

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Regulations and other Acts

Agreement

Election Act (chapter E-3.3)

CONCERNING THE TESTING OF NEW POLLING FORMALITIES

BETWEEN:

MS. PAULINE MAROIS, LEADER OF THE PARTI QUÉBÉCOIS, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AND

MR. PHILIPPE COUILLARD, LEADER OF THE QUEBEC LIBERAL PARTY, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AND

MR. FRANÇOIS LEGAULT, LEADER OF COALITION AVENIR QUÉBEC-L'ÉQUIPE FRANÇOIS LEGAULT, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AND

MR. PIERRE-PAUL ST-ONGE, LÉADER OF QUÉBEC SOLIDAIRE, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AND

MR. JACQUES DROUIN, IN HIS CAPACITY AS THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER OF QUEBEC

WHEREAS pursuant to sections 132 and 300 of the Election Act (chapter E-3.3), polling stations located in the offices of returning officers and advance polling stations must be accessible to handicapped persons;

WHEREAS pursuant to section 303 of the Election Act, polling stations on polling day must be accessible to handicapped persons; however, if the returning officer is unable to establish a polling station in a place that is accessible, he or she must obtain authorization from the Chief Electoral Officer;

WHEREAS the returning officers visited the voting places in September 2013 at the request of the Chief Electoral Officer, in order to prepare a status report on their accessibility;

WHEREAS the Chief Electoral Officer has observed that the obsolescence of certain buildings that will serve as polling places will make access difficult;

WHEREAS the current provisions of the Election Act do not allow electors to vote in a place other than the one in which the polling station for the polling subdivision of their domicile is located;

WHEREAS the Chief Electoral Officer wishes to avail himself of section 489 of the Election Act in order to recommend to the leaders of the authorized parties represented in the National Assembly that a new method of voting should be tested, in order to allow a returning officer to issue an authorization to vote to a elector whose mobility is impaired and whose polling station is located in a voting place that is not accessible on polling day;

WHEREAS the recommendation of the Chief Electoral Officer has been accepted by the four leaders of authorized parties represented at the National Assembly;

WHEREAS section 489 of the Election Act states that when the recommendation of the Chief Electoral Officer is accepted by the party leaders, an agreement must be signed in this respect by these party leaders and the Chief Electoral Officer;

WHEREAS this agreement has force of law.

CONSEQUENTLY, THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

I. PREAMBLE

The preamble to this agreement forms an integral part of this agreement.

2. PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT

The purpose of this agreement is to test a new method of voting, whereby an elector whose polling station is located in an inaccessible voting place on polling day may obtain an authorization to vote that would allow him to vote in another accessible voting place in his electoral division.

3. AMENDMENTS TO THE ELECTION ACT

- 3.1 Section 340 of the Election Act (chapter E-3.3) is amended by adding the following subparagraph at the end of the first paragraph:
- "(7) whose mobility is impaired and whose voting place is not accessible on polling day".
- 3.2 Section 490 of the Act is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"This section applies to an agreement entered into by the leaders of the authorized parties represented in the National Assembly and the Chief Electoral Officer, pursuant to section 489."

4. AMENDMENTS TO VOTING REGULATION

4.1 Section 9 of the Voting Regulation (chapter E-3.3, r. 17) is amended by inserting the following paragraph after the first paragraph:

"The authorization to vote stipulated in the first paragraph may also be issued to an elector whose mobility is impaired and whose voting place is not accessible on polling day."

4.2 Form 50 of the Voting Regulation, as adapted by the Chief Electoral Officer pursuant to section 35 of the Act to amend the Election Act to encourage and facilitate voting (2006, chapter 17) and section 88 of the Act to amend the Election Act and other legislative provisions (2008, chapter 22) is replaced by the following form:

« FORM 50			
Election Act (chapter E-3.3, s. 340)			
AUTORIZATION TO VOTE			
Elc	ctoral Division:	Polling Subdivision:	
I attest that the revised list of electors for the said polling subdivision of the electoral division contains the following entry:			
	I attest the following name was erroneous during the transcription of the decision of the board of revisors:		
	fattest that the following elector was struck the list of electors due to an error with the identity of another elector:		
	I attest that the following elector has left his domicile to ensure his safety or that of his children:		
	I attest that the elector is an election officer in the electoral division in which he is domiciled, that he is entered on the list of electors of said electoral division, but that his name does not appear on the list of electors of one of the polling stations of the place where he is performing his duties on polling day:		
	I attest that the elector is entered on the list of electors for the politing subdivision of the address of his domicile, but that the voling place at which he must vote on polling day is not accessible to persons whose mobility is impaired.		
Name			
Domicitiary address			
Sex Date of birth			
Signed at			
this		, 20	
		Returning Officer	

OR

Assistant Returning Officer

5. APPLICATION OF THE AGREEMENT

The Chief Electoral Officer and the returning officer of each electoral division in which the present agreement will be applicable are responsible for its application.

6. EVALUATION REPORT

Within 90 days following the date of any general election or by-election referred to in the present agreement, the Chief Electoral Officer shall transmit to the leaders of the political parties represented at the National Assembly, a report covering the following points:

- -election preparations related to the present agreement;
- the advantages and disadvantages encountered in applying the present agreement;
- recommended amendments to the provisions of the Election Act, if any.

7. EFFECT AND DURATION OF THE AGREEMENT

This agreement comes into force on the date of the last signature and shall be applicable to every general election or by-election that is ordered after it comes into force.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE PARTIES HAVE SIGNED, IN FIVE COPIES,

In Québec, on 5 November 2013

PAULINE MAROIS, Leader of The Parti Québécois

In Québec, on 7 November 2013

PHILIPPE COUILLARD, Leader of The Quebec Liberal Party In Québec, on 6 November 2013

FRANÇOIS LEGAULT, Leader of Coalition Avenir Québec-Équipe François Legault

In Montréal, on 28 October 2013

PIERRE-PAUL ST-ONGE, Leader of Quebec solidaire

In Québec, on 8 November 2013

JACQUES DROUIN, Chief Electoral Officer of Québec

3094

MR. PIERRE-PAUL ST-ONGE, LEADER OF QUÉBEC SOLIDAIRE, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AND

MR. JACQUES DROUIN, IN HIS CAPACITY AS THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER OF QUEBEC

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 348 of the Election Act, a visually handicapped elector may use a template to vote, in accordance with the model prescribed by regulation;

WHEREAS the Voting Regulation provides that the template model is that stipulated by Form 49, reproduced as a schedule to the Regulation;

WHEREAS, following agreements reached in October 2010, in April 2012 and in August 2012 between the Chief Electoral Officer and the leaders of the authorized parties represented at that time in the National Assembly, a new type of ballot bearing photographs was produced for the by-elections of December 5, 2011, in the electoral division of Bonaventure, of June 11, 2012, in the electoral divisions of Argenteuil and LaFontaine and during the general election of September 4, 2012;

WHEREAS, during these trials, visually handicapped persons used the template stipulated by Form 49 of the Voting Regulation;

WHEREAS, following the recommendations made during evaluation of the trial of the new ballot with photographs, the Chief Electoral Officer prepared a more functional template model, specifically adapted to the new ballot:

WHEREAS the Chief Electoral Officer wishes to avail himself of section 489 of the Election Act, in order to recommend to the leaders of the authorized parties represented in the National Assembly the testing of a new template model during any general election or by-election ordered after a period of three months following the signature of this agreement;

WHEREAS the recommendation of the Chief Electoral Officer has been accepted by the four leaders of authorized parties represented at the National Assembly;

WHEREAS section 489 of the Election Act states that when the recommendation of the Chief Electoral Officer is accepted by the party leaders, an agreement must be signed in this respect by these party leaders and the Chief Electoral Officer;

WHEREAS this agreement has force of law.

Agreement

Election Act (chapter E-3.3)

CONCERNING THE TESTING OF NEW POLLING FORMALITIES

BETWEEN

MS. PAULINE MAROIS, LEADER OF THE PARTI QUÉBÉCOIS, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AND

MR. PHILIPPE COUILLARD, LEADER OF THE QUEBEC LIBERAL PARTY, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

AND

MR. FRANÇOIS LEGAULT, LEADER OF COALITION AVENIR QUEBEC-L'EQUIPE FRANÇOIS LEGAULT, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AND

CONSEQUENTLY, THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

I. PREAMBLE

The preamble to this agreement forms an integral part of this agreement.

2. PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT

The purpose of this agreement is to test a new template model at any general election or by-election ordered after a period of three months following the coming into effect of this agreement, in accordance with section 7.

3. AMENDMENTS TO THE ELECTION ACT

3.1 Section 490 of the Act is amended by adding the following paragraph:

"The present section applies to an agreement made between the leaders of the authorized parties represented in the National Assembly and the chief electoral officer in accordance with section 489.".

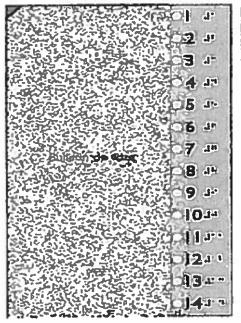
4. AMENDMENTS TO VOTING REGULATION

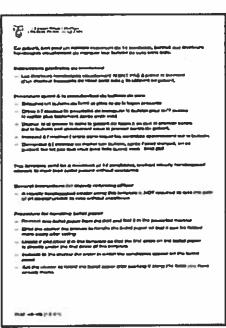
4.1 Form 49 of the Voting Regulation (chapter E-3.3, r.17) is replaced by the following:

"FORM 49 Election Act (chapter E-3.3, s. 348)

OBVERSE

REVERSE





5. APPLICATION OF THE AGREEMENT

The Chief Electoral Officer and the returning officer of each electoral division in which the present agreement will be applicable are responsible for its application.

6. EVALUATION REPORT

Within 90 days following the date of any general election or by-election referred to in the present agreement, the Chief Electoral Officer shall transmit to the leaders of the political parties represented at the National Assembly, a report covering the following points:

- election preparations related to the present agreement;
- —the advantages and disadvantages encountered in applying the present agreement;
- --- recommended amendments to the provisions of the Election Act, if any.

7. EFFECT OF THE AGREEMENT

The present agreement takes effect on the date on which the last signature is affixed on this agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE PARTIES HAVE SIGNED, IN FIVE COPIES,

In Quebec, on 7 May 2013

PAULINE MAROIS, Leader of the Parti Québécois

In Quebec, on 28 May 2013

PHILIPPE COUILLARD, Leader of the Quebec Liberal Party

In Montreal, on 16 May 2013

FRANÇOIS LEGAULT, Leader of Coalition Avenir Québec-équipe François Legault In Montreal, on 8 June 2013

PIERRE-PAUL ST-ONGE, Leader of Quebec solidaire

In Quebec, on 13 June 2013

JACQUES DROUIN, Chief electoral officer of Québec

Regulations and other Acts

Agreement

Election Act (R.S.Q., c. E-3.3)

CONCERNING THE TESTING OF NEW POLLING FORMALITIES

BETWEEN

MR. JEAN CHAREST, LEADER OF THE QUEBEC LIBERAL PARTY, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AND

MS. PAULINE MAROIS, LEADER OF THE PARTI QUÉBÉCOIS, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AND

MR. FRANÇOIS LEGAULT, LEADER OF COALITION AVENIR QUEBEC-L'ÉQUIPE FRANÇOIS LEGAULT, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AND

MR. RÉGENT SÉGUIN, LEADER OF QUÉBEC SOLIDAIRE, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AND

MR. JEAN-MARTIN AUSSANT, LEADER OF OPTION NATIONALE, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AND

MR. JACQUES DROUIN, IN HIS CAPACITY AS THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER OF QUEBEC

WHEREAS the Election Act prescribes a model ballot that must be used during provincial elections;

WHEREAS the model does not provide for candidates' photographs to appear on the ballot;

WHEREAS, following agreements reached in October 2010 and in April 2012 between the Chief Electoral Officer and the leaders of the authorized parties represented at that time in the National Assembly, a new type of ballot bearing photographs was produced for the by-elections of December 5, 2011, in the electoral division of Bonaventure, and of June 11, 2012, in the electoral divisions of Argenteuil and LaFontaine.

WHEREAS the Chief Electoral Officer wishes to avail himself of section 489 of the Election Act in order to recommend to the leaders of the authorized parties represented in the National Assembly that a new type of ballot bearing photographs be tested during any general election or by-election to be held after July 31, 2012;

WHEREAS the recommendation of the Chlef Electoral Officer has been accepted by the five leaders of authorized parties represented at the National Assembly;

WHEREAS section 489 of the Election Act states that when the recommendation of the Chief Electoral Officer is accepted by the party leaders, an agreement must be signed in this respect by these party leaders and the Chief Electoral Officer;

WHEREAS this agreement has force of law.

CONSEQUENTLY, THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. PREAMBLE

The preamble to this agreement forms an integral part of this agreement.

2. PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT

The purpose of this agreement is to test a new model ballot during any general election or by-election ordered after July 31, 2012.

The amendments to the current model are as follows:

- 1. The circle currently measuring 3 mm is enlarged to 9 mm;
- The size of the font used to write the candidates' names and political affiliations is enlarged from 16 pt to 18 pt;

3. Photographs of the candidates are added to the stub of the ballot.

3. AMENDMENTS TO THE ELECTION ACT

3.1 Section 241 of the Election Act is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"The photograph contemplated in the first paragraph shall be reproduced on the ballot opposite the candidate's name. The candidate may submit another photograph in accordance with the standards prescribed by regulation, before 2:00 p.m. on the sixteenth day preceding polling day."

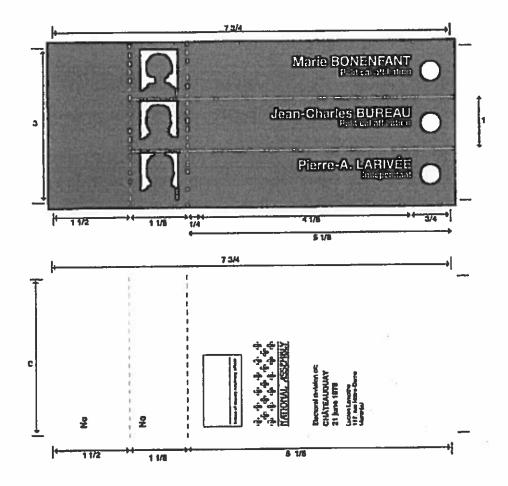
3.2 Section 323 of the Election Act is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"The photograph contemplated in section 241 shall be reproduced in black and white on the stub of the ballot, opposite the candidate's name."

3.3 Section 490 of the Act is amended by adding the following paragraph:

"The present section applies to an agreement made between the leaders of the authorized parties represented in the National Assembly and the chief electoral officer in accordance with section 489.".

3.4 Schedule III of the Act is replaced by the following schedule:



4. AMENDMENTS TO ELECTION REGULATIONS

- 4.1 Section 6 of the Nomination Regulation is replaced by the following section:
- "6. The photograph attached to the nomination papers shall show a full face view or slightly offset view of the candidate from the shoulders, bareheaded, against a plain light background and be printed on single-thickness paper measuring approximately 13 cm x 18 cm."

5. APPLICATION OF THE AGREEMENT

The Chief Electoral Officer and the returning officer of each electoral division in which the present agreement will be applicable are responsible for its application.

6. EVALUATION REPORT

Within 90 days following the date of any general election or by-election referred to in the present agreement, the Chief Electoral Officer shall transmit to the leaders of the political parties represented at the National Assembly, a report covering the following points:

- election preparations related to the present agreement;
- the advantages and disadvantages encountered in applying the present agreement;
- recommended amendments to the provisions of the Election Act, if any.

7. EFFECT OF THE AGREEMENT

The present agreement takes effect on the date on which the last signature is affixed on this agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE PARTIES HAVE SIGNED, IN SIX COPIES,

In Québec, on 1 August 2012

JEAN CHAREST, Leader of the Quebec Liberal Party

In Montréal, on 5 August 2012

PAULINE MAROIS,

Leader of the Parti Québécois

In Montréal, on 8 August 2012

FRANÇOIS LEGAULT, Leader of Coalition Avenir Québec-Équipe François Legault

In Montréal, on 11 August 2012

REGENT SEGUIN, Leader of Quebec Solidaire

In Nicolet, on 15 August 2012

JEAN-MARTIN AUSSANT, Leader of Option Nationale

In Québec, on 17 August 2012

JACQUES DROUIN, Chief Electoral Officer of Quebec Gouvernement du Québec

Addendum

Election Act (CQLR, c. E-3.3)

ADDENDUM TO THE AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE TESTING OF NEW POLLING FORMALITIES

AGREED TO IN AUGUST 2012

BETWEEN

MR. PHILIPPE COUILLARD, LEADER OF THE QUEBEC LIBERAL PARTY, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AND

MR. JEAN-FRANÇOIS LISEE, LEADER OF THE PARTI QUÉBÉCOIS, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AND

MR. FRANÇOIS LEGAULT, LEADER OF COALITION AVENIR QUÉBEC-L'ÉQUIPE FRANÇOIS LEGAULT, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AND

MR. GAÉTAN CHÂTEAUNEUF, LEADER OF QUÉBEC SOLIDAIRE, AN AUTHORIZED PARTY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AND

MR. PIERRE REID, IN HIS CAPACITY AS THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER OF QUEBEC

WHEREAS the parties signed an agreement in August 2012, under section 489 of the Election Act (CQLR, c. E-3.3), to allow the testing of a new type of ballot bearing photographs;

WHEREAS section 4 of the agreement replaces section 6 of the Nomination Regulation (CQLR, c. E-3.3, r. 7);

WHEREAS in accordance with section 550 of the Election Act, the Committee on Institutions has approved with modification, on February 20, 2018, the Regulation to amend the Nomination Regulation which had been submitted to it by the Chief Electoral Officer of Québec;

WHEREAS section 1 of the Regulation to amend the Nomination Regulation, coming into force on March 22, 2018, replaces section 6 of the Nomination Regulation;

WHEREAS section 4 of the agreement is no longer required.

THEREFORE, THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. PREAMBLE

The preamble to this agreement forms an integral part thereof.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGREEMENT REACHED IN AUGUST 2012

2.1 Section 4 of the agreement is deleted.

3. COMING INTO FORCE

This addendum is effective as of the date of the last signature.

In Witness Whereof, The Parties Have Signed, In Five Copies,

In Québec, On April 11, 2018

PHILIPPE COUILLARD, Leader of the Quebec Liberal Party

In Québec, On April 12, 2018

JEAN-FRANÇOIS LISÉE, Leader of the Parti québécois

In Québec, On April 18, 2018

FRANÇOIS LEGAULT, Leader of Coalition Avenir Québec -Équipe François Legault In Montréal, On April 20, 2018

GAÉTAN CHÂTEAUNEUF, Leader of Québec Solidaire

In Québec, On April 25, 2018

PIERRE REID, Chief Electoral Officer of Québec