



DELEGATES NEEDED

Give your Parents' Committee a voice about education issues in Québec

THE GENERAL COUNCIL - AT THE HEART OF THE ACTION!

The aim of the General Council (GC) is to ensure democratic governance of the Federation by giving every Parents' Committee the opportunity to delegate two of its members.

ROLES AND FUNCTIONS

The GC takes official positions and establishes the aims and objectives of the Federation concerning issues of importance in the world of education.

In recent years, the GC has given its opinion on:

- Full-time kindergarten for four-year-olds in disadvantaged neighbourhoods
- Budget cuts
- The role of the Student Ombudsman
- Intensive English
- Special projects
- Amendments to the Education Act

The GC can form work committees to give certain subjects more in-depth attention or to draft official positions. Once a year, the GC holds a General Assembly, notably, to elect the Federation's Executive Committee.

COMPOSITION

Each of the 62 member Parents' Committees of the Federation appoint two GC delegates annually.

These two delegates have the same rights and responsibilities before, during, and after meetings. However, only one of them has the right to vote at elections or on resolutions.

Furthermore, two other delegates are elected by the Forum of parents with children with special needs (FPEHDAA), another body of the Federation.

GENERAL COUNCIL DELEGATES - CRUCIAL LINKS!

Delegates play an essential role and rally parents by:

- Finding out and expressing the needs and opinions of their Parents' Committee;
- Participating in taking official positions on Québec-wide issues;
- Contributing to communicating the Federation's requests and the results of its work to the parents within their school board.

Type of delegate sought

The ideal delegate...

- Wants to play an active role in improving Québec's public education system;
- Keeps abreast of developments that affect education;
- Wants to promote parent involvement in our young people's success and in the participatory bodies within the school system;
- Acts to mobilize the local community around broad-based issues in education;
- Enjoys working as part of a team;
- Is willing to read documents that may be highly technical.

Given the knowledge required for the position, it is preferable, but not mandatory, that delegates have solid experience with the school system and parent involvement.





PARENTS' COMMITTEES AND THEIR DELEGATES

To support their delegates, Parents' Committees must include a mandatory slot on meeting agendas for the delegates to:

- Inform the other parents about positions taken by the GC
- Consult the members about all themes proposed by the Federation

Parents' Committees must also put in place the necessary means for delegates to easily communicate the Federation's requests and messages to the parent members of Parents' Committees and Governing Boards.

A TYPICAL GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING...

The three primary focuses of General Council meetings are strategic aims and objectives, current affairs, and parents' needs. Generally, one or two themes are chosen as the main topic for each meeting.

The required documentation is sent to the delegates prior to the meeting so they can become familiar with the subject and glean their Parents' Committee opinion.

Most meetings start with small discussion groups. Afterwards, the salient points that emerge from these discussions are shared during a plenary session with a view to reaching a consensus. Decisions are based on these outcomes.

Furthermore, at each meeting the delegates are given special information on what is happening in education and the events that could have an impact on the action of the Federation.

The work committees formed by the GC may meet the day before a meeting or videoconference as needed.

Of course, meals and breaks are opportunities to talk with other parents, who, like you, are involved in the education system across Québec.

OTHER BODIES WITHIN THE FEDERATION:

Executive Committee (EC)

The EC consists of four officers and six advisers from the GC elected by it for a two-year term of office.

The role of the EC is to carry out any work in preparation for GC meetings and ensure follow-up to the business arising from these meetings. The EC also oversees the operation and sound management of the Federation on a daily basis.

Ethics and Professional Conduct Committee (EPCC)

The EPCC consists of five members elected by the GC. Their role is to ensure that the members of the GC fulfil their mandate with integrity and honesty.

COSTS AND REIMBURSEMENT

The Federation has a policy regarding reimbursement of the costs incurred by its members who attend GC meetings.

The goal is to ensure that it does not cost delegates anything to attend a GC meeting. The policy therefore establishes guidelines for reimbursement of travel costs, accommodations, meals, and babysitting, where applicable.

Furthermore, in certain cases, advances can be issued.

MEETINGS IN 2018-2019

All meetings are held in Québec City. The schedule is as follows:

- **November 16 (evening) and 17, 2018**
- **February 23, 2019 (videoconferencing)**
- **April 13, 2019**
- **May 31, 2019**
- **April 13, 2019 (PEHDAA Forum)**

BEING A DELEGATE ON THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE



Fédération
des comités de parents
du Québec

MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE!

Certain sections of this document refer to the Federation's General Regulations and some of the organization's policies. The official texts of these documents prevail (www.fcpq.qc.ca/en/corporatedocuments.html).



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