



ANGLICAN DIOCESE MONTREAL

January 15, 2021

Dear fellow Anglicans and friends,

At the end of October 2020, we learned that the Quebec government had [blocked organizations](#) [1] such as [Action Réfugiés Montréal](#) [2] from submitting private sponsorship applications for refugees in 2021.

This is not fair to well-established organizations that have helped bring in refugees for 20 years or more without any irregularities and who often have lists of hundreds of refugees waiting to be sponsored from as far back as the Fall of 2015. Action Réfugiés itself has a waiting list of 500. Staff in these organizations are qualified to help prepare applications and also with the integration process once refugees arrive, and this expertise may be lost with a shutdown of new applications. It is also questionable why Quebec has put a limit on the number of private sponsorship applications it accepts. No other province has a limit.

Bishop Mary and Bishop Bruce Myers have both signed a letter expressing their dismay on this topic, but letter campaigns are most effective when MNAs receive a high volume of emails or letters about the same issue.

Will you help us amplify our dismay by sending a letter (see enclosed template) to each of the following?:

- Your local MNA. Your MNA contact information is here: <http://www.assnat.qc.ca/en/deputes/index.html#ListeDeputes>
- Mme Nadine Girault, Ministre de l'Immigration, de la Francisation et de l'Intégration at email address: cabinet@mifi.gouv.qc.ca
- Premier François Legault, see here : <https://www.premier-ministre.gouv.qc.ca/premier-ministre/joindre-pm/courriel/index.asp>

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Please feel free to share this outside the Anglican community. The more people who participate the better.

The letters may be sent by email or Canada Post. It is critical to include your address, especially your postal code, in the signature portion of the letter you send; this is how MNAs determine that you are a constituent they represent.

With every blessing,

Nancy Greene-Gregoire on behalf of
Diocesan Council

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[1] Quebec suspends private refugee sponsorships by organizations for one year, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/Quebec-suspends-private-refugee-sponsorships-1.5781213>

[2] interview with Paul Clarke of Action Refugies (<http://actionr.org>)
<https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-15-daybreak-montreal/clip/15806022-refugee-sponsorship-program-put-hold-government>

[3] Current government policy that we want to change: Immigration Québec, Programme des personnes réfugiées à l'étranger - Parrainage collectif, <http://www.immigration-quebec.gouv.qc.ca/fr/immigrer-installer/immigration-humanitaire/parrainage-collectif/index.html>