

## Letters to Quebec

### Presence of French culture important to us

Dear Editor,

To the people of Quebec, my fellow Canadians, I am pleased to take this opportunity to tell you how important the presence of French culture and language is for us in Ontario. Many of our children are involved in French Immersion programs and thereby gain a wider view of themselves and their place in the world. We, as Canadians, are an inspiration to the world: two peoples living side by side in

cooperation and respect for our differences.

I feel Quebec is special and will always be so, and that our confederation is a shining example for the world in a time where there seems to be less and less tolerance!

What we have is not perfect but we hope to keep working together to dispel ignorance and end bigotry. We are praying that our country remains together to force the challenge of the twenty-first century.

Jo Erikson  
Stouffville

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### Reader wonders: How can we let country fall apart?

Dear Editor,

Dear friends, mes chers amis:

As I am Ontario-born and a still unilingual (although I'm getting better at reading French) Canadian of English descent, you might be tempted to think that I don't care what goes on in Québec. I want you to know that this is not the case.

I need to let you know that I think we will all be the poorer, in so many ways, if Québec chooses to go its separate way. I have always felt a special attachment to Québec and its people. Every one of my visits to La Belle Province, even the business trips, have been thoroughly enjoyable because of the special nature of your culture and the warmth of your people.

I have a great pride in this country we share and a quiet passion for those characteristics which make Canada unique in the world, so I can't begin to imagine how we will fare if we are separate pieces. We are all extremely fortunate and privileged to live in such a beautiful, safe, prosperous, friendly, diverse and civilized country. What can we do to keep it together? How can we just let it fall apart?

I feel so powerless in the face of the events which are proceeding, on the one hand, at a frighteningly fast pace yet, on the other hand, seem to be taking so long, so many years to reach resolution.

My Canada includes Québec. Please don't let that become only a faded memory. I want the Canada of generations to come to also include Québec.

Sincerely,

Nianne Foley  
Stouffville

### Reader sends his thoughts en française

Dear Editor,

Mes chers amis,

Vous, les Québécois, avec votre langue et culture très spéciales, vous faites partie de la réalité quotidienne de ma vie canadienne.

Moi, j'ai besoin de mes concitoyens dans la province de Québec pour mieux comprendre le fait canadien.

Mes amis, bâtissons ensemble notre futur canadien dans un pays magnifiquement divers mais absolument uni.

Demeurons comme concitoyens et pas comme étrangers.

Roger Glazin  
Stouffville

### Don't be deceived by outlandish promises


Dear Editor,

As I follow the news from Quebec and especially Mr. Bouchard's speeches I am reminded of what Hitler once said:

"If you tell a big enough lie, and repeat it often enough, people will believe anything."

I surely hope the people of Quebec will not be deceived by the outlandish promises the separatists are making.

John C. Reesor  
Stouffville



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