

The Provincial Statutes of Lower-Canada, Being the first session of the eleventh Provincial Parliament of Lower-Canada. Quebec: P. E. Desbarats, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1821.

1 George IV – Chapter 7

An Act to encourage the practice of Vaccine Inoculation and to appropriate a certain sum of money for that purpose. (17th March, 1821.)

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

Whereas it is expedient further to provide against the extension of the small-pox and to diffuse the practice of Vaccine Inoculation throughout the Cities, Towns and Country Parishes in this Province; May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of the Province of Lower-Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of Great-Britain, intituled, "An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled, 'An Act for making more effectual provision for the Government of the Province of Quebec, in North America,' and to make further provision for the Government of the said Province;" and to make further provision for the Government of the said Province;" and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that out of the unappropriated monies which now are in or that hereafter may come in the hands of the Receiver-General of this Province for the time being, it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor or person administering the Government of the Province for the time being, from time to time, to advance a sum not exceeding fifteen hundred pounds currency, to be employed for the purpose of encouraging the practice of Vaccine Inoculation in this Province, in the manner herein-after-mentioned, for the present year, one thousand, eight hundred and twenty-one.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that from and after the passing of this Act, it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor or other person administering the Government of the Province for the time being, to appoint any number of persons not less than five nor exceeding nine, being practicing Civil Physicians or Surgeons, and duly licenced as such according to Law, which said Civil Physicians or Surgeons so appointed, shall form a Board, to be known and distinguished by the name of "The Board to provide against the extension of the Small-pox, to promote Vaccine Inoculation," which said Board, or a majority of them, shall be charged with the faithful application of the monies to be advanced in virtue of this Act, and shall be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to adopt such measures as may appear expedient to check and arrest the progress of the Small-pox, when the same shall appear in any part or parts of this Province and to encourage the practice of Vaccine Inoculation, and to make such remuneration to license Physicians or Surgeons who shall have inoculated the Vaccine disease, gratis, when such Inoculation shall have produced the full effect, as may to the said Board or a majority of them appear just and reasonable, not exceeding two shillings and six pence, currency, for the Cities and Towns, and four shillings, currency, for the Country parts, for every person who shall have been so inoculated, with effect.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that of the monies hereby appropriated, the sum of six hundred pounds, currency, shall be applied for the District of Montreal, the sum of five hundred pounds for the District of Quebec, the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds for the District of Three-Rivers [Trois-Rivières] and the sum of fifty pounds for the Inferior District of Gaspé; and the remainder shall be at the disposal of the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor or person administering the Government of the Province for the time being, for the defraying the contingent and necessary expenses of the said Board.

IV. Provided always and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that no such price or recompence shall be granted to such Physician or Surgeon who shall have so inoculated, gratis, the vaccine disease as aforesaid, unless he shall previously lay before the said Board, a register containing the age, sex, name and surnames of all persons so inoculated, and the names of the Towns or Parishes, Seigniories [Seigneuries] or Townships in which they respectively reside, and shall affirm upon oath that the persons whose names are therein mentioned, have been by him inoculated, gratis, with the vaccine disease with effect, and have by himself been, at least once visited during its progress, after inoculation.

V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor or person administering the Government of the Province for the time being, to appoint some fit and proper person to act as Secretary to the said Board, whose duty it shall be, to attend at the sittings of the said Board, to keep a register of the proceedings thereof, and to maintain the necessary correspondence of the same, and it shall be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor or person administering the Government for the time being to make him a reasonable allowance for his services as such Secretary; which allowance shall be paid out of the sum of Two hundred pounds, currency, hereby left at the disposal of the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor or person administering the Government for the time being.

VI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be the duty of the said Board to meet for the purposes of transacting business pursuant to this Act on the first Monday of each and every month during this Act, and the said Board, may also sit for the dispatch of business on such other days as the said Board may then find it expedient to adjourn to.

VII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the said Board shall lay before the three branches of the Legislature within twenty days after the commencement of the ensuing Session, a statement, in the English and French languages, of their proceedings in virtue of this Act, specifying the amount of monies by them expended in virtue of this Act.

VIII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the due application of the monies appropriated under this Act, shall be accounted for to His Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, through the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury for the time being, in such manner and form as His Majesty, his Heirs and Successors shall be pleased to direct.