

Laws of Her Majesty's Province of United Canada, passed in the year 1851. York: Stewart Derbshire and George Desbarts, 1851.

14 & 15 Victoria – Chapter 158

An Act to incorporate the Directors of the Berthier Academy. 30th August, 1851.

Whereas a Petition has been presented to the Legislature of this Province by a certain number of the principal inhabitants of the Village of Berthier in the District of Montreal, praying that in order to the well working of a certain Educational Establishment commenced in the said Village, and for the greater advantage of Education in their locality, certain persons should be incorporated under the name of “The Directors of the Berthier Academy”; And whereas it is expedient to grant the prayer of the said Petition, inasmuch as an Act of Incorporation would in fact be advantageous to the welfare and progress of Education, as well as for the said locality in particular as for the Country in general: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen’s Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and intituled, *An Act to re-unite the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, and for the Government of Canada*, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That John McBean, Leopold Desrosiers, Laurent Ubald Turcotte, Louis Joseph Moll, Jean François Gilbert Coutu, Narcisse Gauthier, Eugène Urgel Piché, and Anselme Douaire Bondy, all of the said Village of Berthier, and such other persons as shall under the provisions of this Act succeed them in the offices, duties and obligations which they shall perform and hold under this Act, shall be and they are hereby constituted a Body Politic and Corporate, in deed and in name, by the name of “The Directors of the Berthier Academy;” and shall, by the same name, from time to time, and at all times hereafter, be able and capable to purchase, acquire, hold, possess, exchange, sell, accept and receive for them and their successors, to and for the uses and purposes of the said Corporation, any lands, tenements and hereditaments situate in this Province, or any constituted rents in money also in this Province not exceeding the value of Six Hundred Pounds currency of net annual revenue or of annual rent; and to sell and alienate the same and acquire others by any title whatsoever for the same purposes; and they shall have full power and authority to make and establish such By-laws, Rules and Regulations as they shall think proper, for the government of the said Academy, which shall not be altered or repealed otherwise than in such manner and by such number of votes as they shall have decided, in making and establishing the same; and on ordinary questions, any majority whatsoever of the Members of the Corporation assembled at a meeting thereof, and assisted by a Secretary who shall be appointed at a Meeting of the Corporation, and who may be chosen from among the Members of the Corporation, or out of the Corporation, shall be entitled to pass Resolutions and give Decisions, adopt plans and measures, and put the same into execution, in order to promote and advance Education, for which purpose they are constituted a Corporation as aforesaid: Provided always, That nothing in the aforesaid By-laws, Rules and Regulations, Decisions, Plans and Measures shall be contrary to this Act, nor to the laws in force in this Province.

II. Provided always and be it enacted, That all the rents, revenues, issues and profits whatsoever of the said Corporation shall be appropriated and exclusively applied to the support of the Academy, the welfare of Education, and to the construction, repairing or renting of buildings necessary for the purposes of the Corporation, and in such manner as the Members of the Corporation shall judge best to attain the said purposes, which shall not be other than those of Education.

III. And be it enacted, That the Members of the said Corporation for the time being, or a majority of them, in such manner as shall be provided by their By-laws, shall have power to appoint such Attorneys or persons as Administrators of the property of the Corporation, and such persons as they shall think proper for the purposes of Education, and to grant them respectively such salary or remuneration as they shall think proper, and entrust such persons with the duty of teaching, on such charges and conditions and in such form and under such system as they shall deem preferable; and the Members of the Corporation may enter into an Agreement with the School Commissioners of their School Municipality, and the said Commissioners may under this Act also enter into an Agreement with the said Members of the Corporation, so as to unite their efforts and resources in order to place the Elementary Schools in connection or in relation with the Academy, and thus favor Elementary Education.

IV. And be it enacted, That the aforesaid Members of the Corporation created under this Act, shall act as such during two years to be computed from the day on which the first Meeting of the Members of the Corporation shall take place, which Meeting may be called at any time after the passing of this Act, by any two of the above named Members, and at such Meeting the Corporation shall choose a President, appoint a Secretary, and may pass By-laws as above mentioned; Provided nevertheless, that any Member may, even after performing his functions as such for two years, form part of the said Corporation so long as he may desire; and the said Corporation shall always be composed of eight Members, and no more; and the Members shall, on retiring from office, which they shall in no case do unless they shall have remained in office two years, or in case they shall have permanently left the Parish, or in case of their decease, be replaced by others to be elected in such manner as shall be provided for by the By-laws of the said Corporation.

V. And be it enacted, That the said Corporation shall, when required by either of the three Branches of the Legislature, present a Return shewing the Amount of Real and other property, held by them under the provisions of this Act, and the income derived therefrom; together with a List of the Directors and Officers of the said Corporation, a Copy of the By-Laws, and a Statement of the course of Study pursued.

VI. And be it enacted, That this Act shall be a Public Act.