

Montreal, June 21st 1963.

CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION: DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

Private citizens, realizing the importance of freedom of the individual in a changing society, have formed the Civil Liberties Union.

The purpose of the Civil Liberties Union, as described in the charter, is to protect the rights of citizens, such as freedom of speech and association, as well as to promote tolerance and combat discrimination.

The association desires to ensure proper application of the law and, through education, make citizens aware of their civil rights and their responsibilities within the framework of a freely elected democratic government.

In order to win in the present struggle of conflicting ideologies, we must raise a generation of free men who will have faith in our political system and can prove to the rest of the world that we live in a better and more just society.

The Civil Liberties Union is a constructive association, not affiliated with any political party, composed of men and women of goodwill, representing every language or ethnic group of all creeds and religions. Its only concern is justice, law and order.

In these difficult times, we cannot remain silent when justice is being delayed or denied, and we cannot be satisfied with empty resolutions and a Bill of Rights which could remain on paper. The Civil Liberties Union is rather concerned with the true meaning and application of the law.

Our legal and constitutional experts will intervene and defend the rights of persons arrested without warrants, or detained in mental hospitals, or wherever citizens' constitutional rights are being denied.

Thus, all this means great responsibilities and unpopular tasks. Therefore, we wish to invoke the purest ideals of democracy and liberty, on which the freedom of this continent was founded and for which so many have given their lives.

We appeal herewith to all interested men of goodwill to support our objectives and to join our ranks.

Me Alban Flamand

Yves Michaud

R.P. Gérard Labrosse

Gordon L. Echenberg

Jean-Charles Harvey

Bernard Landry

M. J. Z., Léon Patenaude

Me Pierre Elliott-Trudeau, C.R.

Me Gabriel Glazer

Me René Hurtubise

Mme Thérèse Casgrain

Me Raymond Favreau

Jacques Hébert

Me André Nadeau, C.R.

Me Frank Scott, C.R.

George J. Wesley