

CIN!

# Coalition for Integration NOW!

Down's  
Syndrome  
Association of  
Ontario

Ontario  
Association  
for Community  
Living

Integration  
Action  
Group

April 26, 1991

Dear Sir:

In reference to the excellent article by Chris Dafoe, "Segregation goes by the Boards" (April 25 1991), the Coalition for Integration Now! applauds the Minister of Education for supporting equality in education for children with disabilities through her intervention in the Hysert case.

Our Coalition, comprised of major advocacy groups representing approximately 150 local Associations across the Province was formed to advocate for legislative amendments to the Education Act which would give our children a guaranteed right to integration.

We support Ms. Boyd in her efforts to accelerate integration and to pull together relevant groups in policy discussions to ensure that integration will be successfully implemented.

However, the Ministry of Education's true commitment to equality for our children can best be demonstrated by providing legislated guarantees now! This means the legislated right to 1) attend neighbourhood schools, 2) in chronically age appropriate classes with 3) whatever program modifications are necessary for both student and teacher.

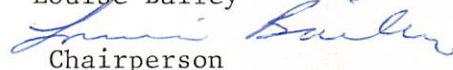
Even though many families across the Province have been fighting for years for changes to the Act, we are willing to trust the Minister and wait ONE more year for implementation in September 1992. We trust that she will not let us down!

Our children have been waiting decades for equality in this Province. School integration is the major stepping stone to equality of opportunity and independence in adult life.

Our children have much to gain through learning and growing alongside their typical peers. They have even more to give.

Equality rights for students with disabilities will be a victory for all children in Ontario.

Louise Bailey



Chairperson

Coalition for Integration NOW!

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integration  
is not dumping

Equity - Equality of Outcome  
Dysp. - long term process  
to have it Koz's story

1986 - Presentation to Standing Committee on Administration of Justice

All Party Working Group on Integration in Education -  
educated MPs + Comm., Press conference,  
Presentation to Committee on Education

Mtg Jan/91 Marvin Boyd

Hysert Decision

Policy Process

1992 implementation

Ongoing mtgs. to staff

1993 implementation

mtg. Tony Delipis

Coalition for Integration Now!

Work Up

How we can all participate in bringing about legislated guarantee of right to integration:

- letter writing
- support for families integrating w/ your area
- connecting families with your Bd.
- go to early other IPAC's
- flag media
- flag integration issue for 1<sup>st</sup> day of school
- speak at go Home School Assoc's.
- building allies - finding common ground  
build alliances based on common concern for  
kids + school pair

Alliances  
w/ black  
community

carry  
friendly  
character

anti racism  
training - various  
resources



1986 1<sup>st</sup> stage - policy awareness, awareness  
at legislature because integration was  
bizarre

1992 2<sup>nd</sup> stage - "systemic activity"

1993 3<sup>rd</sup> stage - real legislative right followed  
by real inclusion

Changing Civil Schools  
Sudden Pate

10

important for making