

CAP. LXXX.

An Act respecting the school commissioners of the town of
Côte Saint Antoine.

[Assented to 27th February, 1893.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS the school commissioners for the municipality of the town of Côte Saint Antoine, in the county of Hochelaga, have, by their petition, represented that, owing to the increase in population and the development of the town, it is essential that further and more extensive powers should be conferred on the said commissioners to enable them to more efficiently provide for the educational requirements of the municipality ;

Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislature of Quebec, enacts as follows :

Term of office
of present
school com-
missioners.

1. The present school commissioners for the municipality of the town of Côte Saint Antoine, in the county of Hochelaga, shall remain in office until the month of January, following the month of July, in the respective years in which their terms of office respectively expire, and the retiring commissioners shall be respectively replaced in the said month of January. The present chairman shall remain in office until replaced under the provisions of this act.

ELECTIONS.

Laws and re-
gulations
applicable to
elections of
school com-
missioners.

2. The election of school commissioners and their terms of office shall be governed by the provisions of the school laws of this Province regarding such elections, subject to the following modifications :

(a) The annual elections shall be held on the second juridical Monday in the month of January in each year, instead of the first juridical Monday in July, and the word " July," whenever used in the articles of the said school laws, as respects the time of elections, shall be replaced by the word " January," every time the meaning of the said articles thus applied shall require it.

(b) The presiding officer, at any meeting for the election of school commissioners, is bound to receive and propose as candidates only the names of such persons as may be nominated or submitted to him in writing.

(c) The nomination paper must be signed by at least five duly qualified electors, and the name and surname of the person nominated must be given in full.

(d) Elections shall commence at the hour of nine o'clock in the forenoon, and, in the event of a contest, shall be

closed at six o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, subject to the right of closing the election as hereinafter mentioned.

(e) In the event of a poll being demanded at any election, the same shall be opened one hour after the opening of the meeting and shall be closed at six o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, but if one hour should elapse during which no vote has been polled, the presiding officer shall declare the election closed.

MEETINGS.

3. The said school commissioners shall hold at least one regular meeting every month, the first of which regular meetings shall be held within thirty days from the coming into force of this act, at the place in the said municipality where the meetings are held. Monthly meetings. First meeting.

The time and place of holding such monthly meetings shall be fixed by resolution passed at such first meeting, and thereafter at the first meeting held after any annual election, and such resolution or resolutions can be repealed or amended only after notice given at a previous meeting. Time and place of meeting how fixed, &c.

4. After the first annual election to be held in the month of January, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, and annually thereafter, the commissioners shall meet within fifteen days after such election for the purpose of choosing a chairman. Election of chairman.

5. Notices of sessions or meetings shall be given by the secretary-treasurer by letter or printed circular, addressed and posted to each commissioner at least three days before each meeting, or delivered personally at their respective domiciles at least one day prior to the time of such meeting. Notice of meetings.

6. By special notice of such session given to all the school commissioners, other than those summoning the same, a special session of the Board may be convened at any time by the chairman, or by the secretary-treasurer, or by two members of the Board. Calling of special meetings.

7. At a special session, the subjects or matters mentioned in the notice calling the Board together shall alone be taken into consideration. Subjects to be considered at special meetings.

The Board, before proceeding to business at such special session, must set forth and declare in the minutes of the sitting, contained in the book of its deliberations, that the notice of meeting has been served, in conformity with the foregoing sections, upon the members of the Board who are not present at the opening of the sitting, and upon whom the notice should have been served. Preliminary proceedings at special meetings.

Closing of
meeting in
certain event.

If it appears that the notice of meeting has not been served on all the absent members who should have been served, the session shall, under penalty of all the proceedings being null, be immediately closed.

ISSUE OF DEBENTURES.

Power to make
certain ex-
penditure.

8. The said school commissioners, with the authorization of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, may expend, from time to time, such sum or sums of money as they deem necessary for the purchase of land and the constructing and furnishing of school-houses, or for any purpose within their jurisdiction, provided that the whole debt of the said Board shall not, at any time, exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.

Proviso.

Power to bor-
row and issue
debentures,
and form
thereof.

9. The said school commissioners may contract loans, to meet such expenditure, by the issue of bonds or debentures, which must be signed by the chairman, be countersigned by the secretary-treasurer and bear the seal of the corporation.

How payable
&c.

Interest there-
on.

Registration
of holders of
debentures.

Such debentures may be made payable to bearer at the periods and places fixed by the said school commissioners. The rate of interest payable on such loans shall not exceed five per centum per annum, and may be paid in instalments at such periods in each year as the said commissioners may determine.

The said commissioners may make regulations for registration in their books of the owners or holders of such bonds or debentures.

Interest cou-
pons.

How payable.

To be surren-
dered on pay-
ment, &c.

10. Coupons for the amount of the interest shall be attached to each bond or debenture, and shall bear the written or lithographed signature of the secretary-treasurer. They shall be payable to bearer at the period the interest specified therein falls due, and may be made payable at such places as the commissioners may determine. Such coupons must be surrendered on payment of the amount of interest specified therein, and the possession by the secretary-treasurer of any coupon is *prima facie* evidence that the interest specified therein has been paid.

Special assess-
ment for pay-
ment of inter-
est on bonds,
&c.

11. In addition to the sum deemed necessary for the support of the schools under their control, the school commissioners shall cause to be levied in each year, by means of a special tax or assessment, sufficient moneys for the payment of the annual interest on such bonds, and to provide a sum of not less than one per centum of the amount of all loans, to be set aside annually, to form a sinking fund for the redemption of such loans.

12. The sinking fund must be invested in the public funds of the Dominion or of the Province, or be employed in the redemption of bonds or debentures issued by the corporation, or be deposited in an incorporated bank, and all interest accruing thereon shall be invested or disposed of in the same manner. Investment of sinking fund.

13. The said school commissioners may lay, levy and collect such special tax or assessment at such time or times as may by them be ordered, the whole by law as provided. How tax to be levied and paid.

Such special tax or assessment shall bear interest at six per centum per annum from the time it becomes due. Interest on arrears.

14. Such special tax shall be imposed uniformly, according to the valuation, upon all the taxable real property in the said school municipality liable for such taxation, and shall be payable in money by the owner, occupant or possessor of such property, and shall, if not paid, be a special charge thereon bearing hypothec and not requiring registration. Tax how imposed.

15. No loan shall be contracted, nor bond or debenture signed or issued, unless a by-law or resolution authorizing the same has been passed by the said school commissioners, and such resolution or by-law must declare the purpose or purposes to which the sums so borrowed must be applied, and may contain all the provisions deemed requisite to ensure the proper application of the money. Resolution authorizing loan, &c.

TAXES.

16. The said school commissioners may raise, by taxation on the taxable real estate of the municipality, all sums of money necessary for any of the purposes mentioned in this act, and not otherwise provided for. Tax on real estate for purposes of this act, &c.

17. The said school commissioners may, by resolution, in their discretion, allow a discount for pre-payments of ordinary school taxes or special taxes or assessments, paid within such a period after the completion of the said school collection rolls, as the said school commissioners may determine in such resolution or resolutions. Discount on pre-payments.

SCHOOLS.

18. It shall be lawful for the said school commissioners to establish, either separately or in connection with any school under their control, a "Superior" or "High School" with separate classes for boys and girls, if they so determine, and, subject to the approval of the Protestant Committee of the Council of Public Instruction, to regulate the course of studies therein. Establishment of : High School ;

- Infant classes. They may also establish classes for manual training and physical culture, and also "Kindergarten" or "Infant Classes" in connection with any school under their control.
- Monthly fees for such. The commissioners may fix the monthly fees to be paid by scholars attending such "Superior" or "High School" or "Infant Classes."
- Engagement of teachers. Schools to be under certain regulations. The commissioners, with the approval of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, may engage teachers of special subjects for any such "High School," although such teacher does not hold a diploma under authority of the department.
- Effect of this act. **19.** All schools under the control of the said commissioners shall be subject to the regulations of the Department of Public Instruction regarding the inspection of schools.
- Scholars from other municipalities. **20.** Nothing in this act contained, or resulting from the provisions thereof, shall deprive the said school commissioners of any grant or allowance in respect of superior education to which they might otherwise be entitled.
- Notice of termination of teachers, engagement. **21.** The said school commissioners may admit scholars from other municipalities to attend any of the schools under their control, and regulate and determine the monthly fees payable by such scholars.
- Proviso. **22.** The teachers serving under the said school commissioners shall be deemed to be engaged for one year, and not more than one month's notice shall be required, either from the said teachers or the said school commissioners, in order to terminate such engagement: nevertheless any teacher may be discharged at any time for incompetency, insubordination or misconduct.
- Salary of secretary-treasurer. **23.** The salary of the secretary-treasurer shall be fixed and determined by the school commissioners.
- Power to make rules, &c. **24.** The school commissioners may make, amend, repeal or replace, in whole or in part, from time to time, by-laws with respect to any subject under their jurisdiction.
- Certain acts not repealed. **25.** The present act shall not have the effect of repealing any provisions of any act not inconsistent therewith.
- Rights of minority. **26.** This act shall not affect in any way the right of the minority.
- Coming into force. **27.** This act shall come into force on the day of its sanction.
-