



Montréal, Monday, April 11th, 2005

Dear Québec Chapter CANASA Member,

As Québec president of our association, let me take a few minutes of your time to explain what has taken place during the past 18 months in the electronic security industry.

In 1996, the government decided to revise the Private Security Act in Québec which dated back to 1962. An advisory committee was formed with the various representatives of the private security industry, including CANASA. The report was submitted to the Minister. Changes of Ministers and of Government itself delayed the project until November, 2003. Following the events of September 11th, 2001 in New York, almost all the governments in the world gave top priority to the evaluation of their internal security. Minister Jacques Chagnon also decided to update this file, by requesting that his civil servants prepare a bill in the form of a white paper.

To our great disappointment, this white paper did not in any way reflect the results submitted by the 1999 advisory committee. CANASA thus joined a coalition to stop the process, because there would have been major negative impacts to our industry. We were successful, and the Minister asked us to submit a report voicing our complaints with regard to the white paper, and to present it at the May 26th 2004 parliamentary committee.

Following these public audiences, the Minister agreed to set up 5 sector-based committees to work during the summer of 2004 and to submit recommendations for a bill. These five committees were:

Electronic security and Locksmithing.
Guarding.
Private investigating.
Internal security.
Transportation of valuables.

CANASA and Locksmithing formed one of these sector-based committees, and we submitted our recommendations in compliance with the basic requirements established by the Minister.

The main goals of the mandatory and non-negotiable framework established by the Minister were:

Increased public security.
An assurance of professionalism in the private security industry.
The requirement for agencies and agents to be licenced.
Minimal criteria to obtain these licences (such as: negative criminal records).
A self-financing ruling body.

Having examined the reports of all five sector-based committees, the Minister drafted bill 88. We were quite satisfied to realize that this bill closely reflected our recommendations. There were still some concerns which we submitted in the form of a paper which we also presented in parliamentary committee on February 17th, 2005.

Since this time, however, there has been a cabinet shuffle and Jacques Chagnon was replaced by Jacques Dupuis. As of March 11th, 2005, we were still waiting to see if the new Minister would keep up his predecessor 's stride.

This summarizes the efforts made by your association. Time has come to pay the editorial staff of the lobbyists' firm for both memoirs and the preparation of the parliamentary committee presentations. The national committee's participation and a first fund raising paid off \$15,000 of the first \$20,000 invoice for the initial parliamentary committee representation. There remains a balance of \$5,000 to cover the invoice of the first committee, and \$20,000 for the second committee, for a total of \$25,000 owing. The board of directors and myself have made many efforts to raise funds, but please understand that as volunteers, it is not rewarding for us all to have to beg for funds at every turn.

We have thus sent every company an invoice to the amount of \$10 per employee. This seems to be the fairest way to share the total amount of what is left to pay. We would be grateful to you for settling this invoice as soon as possible.

You have people at your service who are ready to stand up for your interests in a voluntary way, and even more: these people personally absorbed all travel, meal and even hotel costs. We are asking you to support their efforts, and to spare us the thankless task of begging each and every time there are funds to be raised.

Thank you for your understanding

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Normand Fiset". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent than the last.

*Normand Fiset
President, CANASA - Québec Chapter*