

April 27, 2004

**Re: Québec Longitudinal Study of Child Development (QLSCD)**

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Dear Principal,

Since 1998, the Direction de Santé Québec of the Institut de la Statistique du Québec has been following a cohort of children on an annual basis in order to further scientific knowledge of child development<sup>1</sup>. The children being followed are now in school; they have been in kindergarten since last September. One or more of the students currently attending your school is part of this cohort.

In collaboration with your school board, we are requesting your authorization so that we may evaluate this child or these children. Naturally we have already obtained the parents' consent to contact the school and to evaluate their child outside of school. The parents have also consented for the school to send us, at the end of the school year, a copy of their child's report card.

Your collaboration will involve that you:

- Authorize an interviewer to meet with students individually to administer certain cognitive tests (vocabulary, knowledge of numbers, memory, etc.) as well as to test their scholastic motivation and relationships with their peers. These tests will take approximately one hour and 20 minutes. Our interviewer will need to meet with students outside their classroom, in a room where they can work quietly together. Please bear in mind that the meeting with each student will take somewhat longer, since students will need to rest between tests.
- Authorize the interviewer to meet with students to test their physical condition and psychomotility. These tests will last approximately 45 minutes and will require a larger space, such as a gymnasium or another large, open room. The tests will be simple, and should involve no physical discomfort. They will consist of activities involving agility and coordination such as running, jumping, throwing and catching a ball. At the same time we will also measure the students' height, weight, and adiposity (% of body fat obtained by means of three subcutaneous folds of the skin, at the triceps, calf, and abdomen). There will also be a test involving a standing long jump and number of sit-ups performed in 30 seconds.
- Ask that the kindergarten teachers who have a QLSCD child in their class to complete a questionnaire that evaluates the child's social and scholastic adaptation. This questionnaire can be completed at the teacher's convenience and mailed back using the

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<sup>1</sup>. To learn more about QLSCD, please visit the ISQ's website, where you will find all of the publications that make up this study: [http://www.stat.gouv.qc.ca/publications/sante/index\\_an.htm](http://www.stat.gouv.qc.ca/publications/sante/index_an.htm), under the heading *Québec Longitudinal Study of Child Development / Reports*).

return envelope that comes with the questionnaire. It should take approximately 45 minutes to complete the evaluation. Teachers will receive the sum of \$10 to compensate them for their time.

- Send us, at the end of the school year, a copy of the report card of each of our students, and whose parents have consented to our receiving it.

Attached you will find the name of the student(s) at your school involved in the project, together with a response form. We request that you return the response form by fax as soon as possible. As well, we would be grateful for your discretion concerning the children who are participating in this study.

Following your agreement, an interviewer will contact you to set a time and visit the facilities needed for administering the tests. The questionnaires will be given directly to the teachers. However, in order to match the questionnaire with our file number (names do not appear on the questionnaire), we would ask you to return to us the list of children with the name of their teacher.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or for further information.

We sincerely hope that you will agree to our request, and remain,

Yours sincerely,

Hélène Beauchesne  
Coordinator  
(514) 345-2182

Hélène Beaumont  
Coordinator  
(514) 345-2178

**School number**

**Name of school**

**List of students**

Student number

Last and first name of student

For consultation only

**N.B.** Please note that you may add names to this list after receiving parents' consent.

**FAX**

To: QLSCD **(514) 345-7741**

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Consent form**

**In 2002 I was 5 years old – Québec Longitudinal Study of Child Development  
(QLSCD 2003-2011)**

Name of school: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

The principal authorizes that the activities related to the project take place in the school:

Yes\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_

The kindergarten teacher(s) agree(s) to participate in the project:

Yes\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_

(Please return to us the teacher consent form and the list of numbers of the students together with the name of their teacher.)

We will contact you to arrange a time for our visit. However, should you wish us to contact someone else, please provide the latter's name and phone number:

Family and given names: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal's signature

Please fax us the response form with the list of students **by May 7, 2004, at latest** to:

**(514) 345-7741**

Note: if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at:

(514) 345-2182 (Hélène Beauchesne) (514) 345-2178 (Hélène Beaumont)

**Please write the name of the student's teacher as well as their class group:**

<b>Student's number and initials</b>	<b>Teacher's name</b>	<b>Class group</b>

For consultation only