



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PEN Canada statement on Bill 78

TORONTO, May 23, 2012

PEN Canada is carefully monitoring student unrest in Québec and response to that unrest by different levels of government. PEN's particular concern is any threat to freedom of expression.

PEN Canada condemns violence and other forms of intimidation, by students or police, as antithetical to freedom of expression.

PEN Canada considers Bill 78 to be overreaching, containing provisions that go beyond what is necessary to ensure that assemblies and demonstrations by students and others are peaceful. As such, PEN believes the Bill indirectly limits freedom of expression and asks the Government of Québec to reconsider this legislation.

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PEN Canada fights censorship and defends the right to freedom of expression.

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