



**For immediate release**

## **SECOND WEEK-LONG IMMERSION PROGRAM ON CIVIC ENGAGEMENT FOR QUEBEC'S ENGLISH-SPEAKING YOUTH TO BE HELD AT BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY**

**Sherbrooke, April 09, 2018** – From August 12 through August 17, 2018, 18-24 year old English-speaking Quebecers will meet at Bishop's University for the second week-long immersion into Quebec's society.

“Last year's Bishop's Forum was a resounding success. Throughout the week, fifty young English-speaking Quebecers came together and met with politicians from all three levels of government, business leaders, civil servants, not-for-profit leaders, journalists and university professors to benefit from their perspectives on Quebec. Over the week, the participants drafted position papers on legislative changes they wanted to see in Quebec which they presented to a mock Parliamentary Commission. Our goal was to enhance young English-speaking Quebecers' capacity for, and interest in, civic engagement. Based on their feedback, I think we succeeded,” said Principal Michael Goldbloom, C.M.

Bishop's Forum Director Russell Copeman added that “We want to build on last year's Forum to allow more young English-speaking Quebecers to have this unique experience to engage with their peers, to develop their leadership skills and to work on issues that are of interest to them. We look forward to welcoming English-speaking Quebecers from all across Quebec to the 2018 Bishop's Forum.”

Participants will work in small groups throughout the week to identify a key change they want to effect to Quebec society and craft both the case for support and the road map to transformation. These efforts will culminate in a presentation by each group to a mock Parliamentary Commission made up of a blue ribbon panel of Quebec changemakers.

This initiative is being supported by the Quebec Government as part of its *Stratégie d'action jeunesse 2016-2021*. This opportunity for participants will be at no cost to the participants. A cross section of Quebec's institutional and organizational leaders will be involved in the program.

**Contact:** Denise Lauzière  
Associate Director  
denise.lauziere@ubishops.ca  
819-822-9600, extension 2201

[www.bishopsforum.ubishops.ca](http://www.bishopsforum.ubishops.ca)