

**ONTARIO
SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE**

BETWEEN:

**Amelia Penney-Crocker, Parker Boot-Quackenbush, Khadijat Folasayo Dairo,
Catherine He, Tharan D'Silva, Katie Yu, Diego Christiansen-Barker, Lachlan
Brown, Zoey Ann Purves, Jacob Colatosti, Milan Rozotto-Lagos, Oswaldo
Andrés Paz Flores, Lauren Handley and Justice for Children and Youth**

Applicants

and

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL IN RIGHT OF CANADA

Respondent

AFFIDAVIT OF OSWALDO ANDRÉS PAZ FLORES

I, OSWALDO ANDRÉS PAZ FLORES, of the City of Montreal, in the Province of Quebec,
student MAKE OATH AND SAY AS FOLLOWS:

1. My name is Oswaldo Andrés Paz Flores and I am 16 years old. While I was born and have lived in Quebec all my life, my parents are originally from Latin America and I can speak three languages: English, French and Spanish. I avidly believe that young people should be given the right to vote in Canada and I am very excited to be participating in the youth voting age challenge.

2. I am currently attending high school at Jean-Grou High School in Montreal, but I spend a great deal of my spare time engaging with my community through various extra-curricular activities. Environmental sustainability is one of the issues I am most passionate about and I am currently involved in several organizations that work towards protecting our planet. I work with Eau Secours as a project lead for Water Access (Chargé de Projets Accès à L'eau) and I am very involved with the Blue Communities Project (Communautés Bleues). I am a member of Oxfam-Qc's Youth Seat, Lab22's Youth Council Jeunesse22, and #Sorsedetabulle CNJME as a Young Minister of the Environment. I hope to one day be able to use my right to vote to protect our environment as well.
3. While my extra-curricular activities have given me an opportunity to work towards and improve the issues I am passionate about, they have also shown me that so much work remains to be done. Beyond environmental sustainability, I want to help achieve greater equity in our country. The intergenerational wealth gap and inequality between genders remains too large. I want to have a voice in government to start narrowing these inequalities.
4. I do not feel that my interests are currently represented in government. The Canadian Government makes many promises, claiming they will make the changes that Canadians want to see. Yet often times these are only empty words. It feels as though we are not progressing or moving forward. I want to vote because I want to have a voice in the things that really matter and help our society progress, rather than go backwards. Young people are the new generation, and our opinions reflect the changes that are happening in life. Our perspectives are valuable to government and political decision-making, and they should be treated as such.

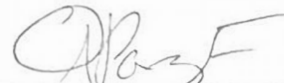
5. Many adults think that young people should not be given the right to vote because they are too young or too immature to understand complex social and political issues. I do not think that this is a convincing argument. Of all generations the current one is the most engaged, active and informed. We have the knowledge and experience to cast real and informed votes.
6. Young people work and we pay taxes. We live by a law that is entirely made by adults, we can be charged with a crime and sent to prison, we can even be sentenced as adults. The law already treats young people as adults. It should do so consistently.

AFFIRMED REMOTELY BY Oswaldo
Andrés Paz Flores at the City of Montreal, in
the Province of Quebec before me in the
Town of Stouffville, in the Province of
Ontario on the 29th of November, 2021, in
accordance with O. Reg. 431/20,
Administering Oath or Declaration Remotely.



Commissioner for Taking Affidavits

Athena Josephine Caldarella,
a Commissioner, etc., Province of Ontario,
for Justice for Children and Youth.
Expires January 8, 2022.



Oswaldo Andrés Paz Flores