



## FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION News Release

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### Court denies OACS motion to save the tax credit

ONTARIO ALLIANCE OF  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS  
617 Garner Road East  
Ancaster ON L9G 3K9

TEL: (905) 648-2100  
FAX: (905) 648-2110  
EMAIL: [oacs@oacs.org](mailto:oacs@oacs.org)  
WEBSITE: [www.oacs.org](http://www.oacs.org)

The Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools is disappointed with today's ruling by Justice Ian Nordheimer to deny a temporary injunction to prevent the Liberal government from debating a bill that eliminates the Equity in Education Tax Credit. In handing down his decision, the judge acknowledged there may well be a conflict between the government's tax plans and the Taxpayer Protection Act, but the issue will have to be resolved in the legislature or with remedies other than an injunction at this stage of the parliamentary debate.

OACS initiated this action on behalf of thousands of low and middle income parents who will be seriously affected by the removal of the tax credit. The Equity in Education Tax Credit was made law by the Conservative government over two years ago. OACS took the position that there is a significant distinction between the cancellation of proposed tax cuts, and the claw back of a tax policy that has already been in effect for part of three school years.

In recent weeks hundreds of parents from OACS schools have appealed to MPPs and the premier to save the tax credit. "It is unfair for government to target an identifiable group as the only persons who will be paying more taxes," said OACS Executive Director, Dr. Adrian Guldemond. "and on a broader plane, this will be a deliberate return to the state-sponsored discrimination decried by the United Nations prior to the introduction of the tax credit. We had no choice but to seek the intervention of the court."

OACS is a comprehensive educational service organization for 78 Christian schools with over 13,000 students. OACS has been advancing the cause of Christian education since 1952.

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**For further information contact:**

John Vanasselt,  
Director of Communications  
Email: [johnv@oacs.org](mailto:johnv@oacs.org)  
Cell: 905-520-4001