

# Moving Forward.

Coalition Avenir Québec  
**Electoral Platform**



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Message from the Leader of the Coalition Avenir Québec

# Moving forward together

We've been through a lot together since 2018. Despite the challenges we faced in dealing with the pandemic, we can all be proud of putting Québec back on the path to prosperity. Our financial house is in order, the wealth gap with our neighbours has diminished, and we now have the lowest unemployment rate ever. The last thing we want to do now is stop the momentum.

It's been a real honour for me to have been your premier for the past four years. It certainly wasn't always easy, but we stuck together and got through the crisis together. I am proud of our government's record, and I hope you will put your trust in us so we can continue serving all Quebecers for another term.

## Putting money back into your wallet

The first priority in our second term is to help protect you against inflation by putting money back into your wallet. Over the last few months, I've seen how families have struggled to make ends meet with everything costing more, especially gas and groceries. I've talked with lots of seniors living on limited incomes and I understand their concerns about ongoing price hikes. As premier, it's my job to protect the standard of living of all Quebecers.

To do this, we'll be putting up an **Inflation Shield** that includes:

- A responsible tax cut for the middle class
- A one-time payment of \$600 for adults earning \$50,000 or less, and \$400 for those earning above \$50,000 to \$100,000, an initiative that will benefit 6.4 million Quebecers
- An extra \$2000 annually for low-income seniors
- Capping government rate increases at a maximum of 3% for the next four years

## Improving access to healthcare

Our other major priority is healthcare. While the pandemic revealed where the flaws in the system are, it also showed us that with courage and determination we could fix them. We're lucky to have an experienced, results-oriented manager like Christian Dubé as minister of health and social services leading the way. We're proposing a health plan that will provide everyone with easier and faster access to care, and a healthcare network that is more user-friendly and more efficient.

## | To become a world leader in the green economy

The environment is humanity's challenge of the century. Québec's abundance of clean energy gives us a major head start in the energy transition. The CAQ vision is to make Québec a world leader in the green economy, to protect our environment while generating wealth for all. By building a greener and more prosperous Québec, we'll be able to finance improvements in education, healthcare, the environment, and our cultural infrastructure.

## | Defend and promote our identity and values

I have a deep love and respect for Québec and Quebecers, and I believe this is one of the most important qualities for a premier. Québec has regained its pride in its heritage during the past four years thanks to a government that stands up for our identity and our values. To this end, we passed Bill 21 to ensure that there is no impression of religious influence in government services and Bill 96 to safeguard the French language. Unfortunately, the oppositions seem bent on turning back the clock by repealing legislation that means so much to so many Quebecers. The CAQ team needs a strong mandate to continue defending our language, our values, and our Québec identity.

Again, I'm honoured to be your premier and I am proud of the progress we have made together. Everyone on CAQ team is eager to continue serving you and the needs of Québec. To do this, we need your support to keep moving forward.

Moving forward by building a greener, more prosperous Québec, a Québec we can all be proud of!

  
François Legault

# Major achievements

The CAQ made history by winning the 2018 election and ending 50 years of government by either the Liberal Party or the Parti Québécois. Voters chose to turn their backs on administrations marked by confrontations for more than a generation.

And what did we accomplish during our first four years?

First off, the Legault government has succeeded in delivering on almost all of its election commitments. Even under difficult circumstances in a pandemic that really put Québec to the test, CAQ ministers managed to deliver on a higher proportion of election commitments than any previous government.

The result is changes that affect all areas of life in Québec, achievements that are proof positive that the CAQ keeps its election promises and does so for the benefit of all Quebecers.

Here are a few good examples:

## | Your finances

Thanks to its sound management of public finances and the economy, the CAQ government succeeded in giving back more than \$3 billion a year back to Quebecers. Money that improved their quality of life and increased their purchasing power.

So far this year, the CAQ has provided 6.4 million Quebecers with \$500 each to help them deal with the impact of unusually high inflation. This type of direct assistance made it easier for many to meet their most pressing needs. This was on top of assistance the CAQ had already provided to 3.3 million low-income Quebecers (\$275 for individuals, \$400 for couples). And in a show of support for seniors over 70, each and every one of them received an extra \$400 last November.

School taxes have also been brought down to a more acceptable level after increasing 112% in the last 15 years. The government also eliminated the family tax introduced by the Liberal government, which had deprived middle-class taxpayers of thousands of dollars due to exorbitant childcare fees.

## | The economy

Thanks to the mobilization of all of Québec's dynamic resources, the economy quickly recovered what it had lost during the pandemic. As a result, our economic growth outpaced that of Ontario, the rest of Canada, and even the US in 2021. With the CAQ economic team in place, Québec is ideally positioned to continue making its mark going forward in sectors like green energy, electrified transportation, and artificial intelligence.

## | The electrified transportation sector

Governments around the world are increasingly turning to the electrification of public and private transportation. Québec enjoys unparalleled advantages in supporting this transition: strategic minerals for battery manufacturing, green and affordable energy and infrastructure to produce the cleanest aluminum in the world. By building on its many strengths, Québec has everything it takes to become a world leader in the electrified transportation and battery industry.

The government has taken bold steps to make this vision a reality and to ensure that Québec workers benefit as well. Economy Minister Pierre Fitzgibbon has presented a solid development strategy for the battery industry. This strategy is already paying off with recent investments in Québec by major corporations like GM, Alstom, Volvo, and BASF.

## Landmark investments in public transit

Never before has the Québec government invested so much in major public transit projects. With the Réseau express de la capitale in Québec City, the Pie-IX express bus service, the extension of the Metro Blue Line in Montreal, the Réseau express métropolitain (REM) in east Montreal and on the South Shore, the government is working to develop a full range of more efficient and more accessible public transit systems. Significant investments are also being made to develop and expand public transit in the regions. And wherever possible, these projects include clauses for the purchase of buses and train cars manufactured in Québec.

In addition, the Legault government is also investing like never before in the electrification of city and school buses. Last year, it announced the largest order of electric transit buses in North America. The government plans to gradually electrify the entire school bus fleet as well. This major transition is being achieved by relying as much as possible on the expertise of Québec bus manufacturing companies. It's another significant measure the government is taking to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions while generating wealth in Québec.

## Operation Workforce

Operation Workforce is an historic initiative to address the workforce needs in six priority sectors: healthcare and social services, education, childcare, construction, information technology, and engineering. A total of \$3.9 billion will be invested over five years to attract, train, and retain an additional 170,000 workers.

## The environment

With the Green Economy Plan, Environment Minister Benoît Charrette has provided an achievable and well-funded roadmap to meet Québec's greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050. It's a comprehensive and rigorous plan, based primarily on the electrification of the economy, thanks to clean energy produced in Québec. More than \$7.6 billion has been earmarked over five years to support this essential initiative.

## End of oil and gas exploration

On April 12, 2022, Québec became the first jurisdiction in North America to ban fossil fuel production and exploration in its territory, when the National Assembly passed a bill to better protect the environment. All fossil fuel exploration and development activities are now prohibited in Québec. This law upholds the commitment made by Québec when we joined the *Beyond Oil and Gas Coalition* (BOGA), a group of governments saying no to developing more fossil fuels.



## | Protecting our land

With 17% of our land and 10% of our bodies of water protected, the CAQ government has taken Québec from substandard performance to world leadership. Québec now has the largest extent of protected areas in Canada, including Anticosti Island, the jewel in our environmental heritage. The CAQ government has also introduced a traceability system to stop illegal dumping of contaminated soil on Québec farmland.

## | Waste management

The CAQ government has modernized waste management by making producers responsible for marketing products that can be recycled. The government has also modernized the deposit system for several types of beverage containers, including alcoholic drinks – a great boost to our recycling efforts.

## | Regions

The CAQ economic team has launched investment plans to create thousands of well-paying jobs in sectors with high potential, including wind energy, electrified transportation, aerospace, food autonomy, and tourism. We've taken a giant step forward by providing high-speed internet everywhere in Québec. Thanks to the CAQ government's initiatives, our remote regions are now key players in an economic vision that's sure to generate new leading industries located anywhere in Québec.

## | Agriculture

The CAQ government has actively promoted buying local through the very first Strategy for Québec Grown Foods in our schools, hospitals, and childcare centres. We've also invested in enhancing the visibility for Québec food products, with more than 26,000 made-in-Québec products available in grocery stores today. We're also working to double greenhouse production, with 61 new hectares of fruits and vegetables – an area as large as 85 soccer fields – in addition to existing greenhouse operations. Our investment in robotics, automation, and innovation to build a stronger supply chain reached a record \$12 billion in 2021 – significantly higher than anything done between 2016 and 2018. We're also doing more to promote community-based agriculture and agri-tourism for our next generation of farmers. Already with the largest organic farm production in Canada and recognized leadership in the field, we're now about to accelerate the shift to eco-responsible farming with the first Québec Sustainable Agriculture Plan.



## School renovation and construction

Previous governments did little to support our youth, and the CAQ government has worked hard to put this situation right. We've invested massively in the renovation of our schools and construction of new facilities – incentives for students to keep on learning and continuing their education for as long as possible. There's still a lot of catching up to do, but we're working on it, and a new generation of truly excellent educational facilities is going up across Québec.

## Special services in Québec schools

A massive investment is helping Québec teachers carry on their outstanding work in meeting the needs of our children. We've made it possible to add hundreds of special classes and to recruit the speech therapists, remedial teachers, psychoeducation specialists, and the other professionals it takes to better support students with learning disabilities.

This is a real step forward towards a system where all children will enjoy academic success. The new tutoring program now in place – a first in Canada – also helps over 160,000 students get the support they need to succeed in school.

## Historic pay increase for Québec teachers

The CAQ government has kept its promise to show more appreciation for the teaching profession by offering unprecedented salary increases to teachers in elementary and secondary schools. This is an appreciable initiative toward better working conditions for those we entrust with the care of our children on a daily basis. We also hope it will help attract more young people to the teaching profession and ease the labour shortage in this vital sector of society.

## Citizenship and shared values

The CAQ government has replaced the Ethics and Religious Culture program with a course that better reflects life in Québec today. The Québec Culture and Citizenship course will provide a detailed historical, cultural, and social framework help build greater unity and cohesion among Québec's young people, regardless of where they live or where they come from.

## | Secularism

The CAQ made a firm commitment to settle the ongoing debate over a secular state that has spanned so many years in Québec society. The *Act Respecting the laicity (secular nature) of the State* (Bill 21), adopted by the National Assembly on June 16, 2019, defines how we live together in Québec. It formally establishes the secular nature of the state and enshrines this requirement in the Québec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms. Based specifically on the principle of equality between women and men, it prohibits the wearing of religious symbols by those in positions of authority (including teachers) when exercising their official duties. As well, those providing public services must do so with their faces uncovered.

## | Bill 96

A highlight of the CAQ government's first term of office was the passage of Bill 96 to strengthen and safeguard the status of the French language. This was without a doubt the most significant step taken for protecting French in Québec since Bill 101 in 1977.

Bill 96 is intended to establish French as the language to be shared by everyone living in Québec. It also strengthens the presence of French in all spheres of Québec life and creates a central source, Francisation Québec, for services promoting the use of French. The government's exemplary use of French is now ensured by a new language policy that is much more systematic for all government departments and agencies.

## | Healthcare plan

During his effective management of the pandemic and its consequences, health and social services minister Christian Dubé introduced an ambitious plan to make essential changes to create a more user-friendly and efficient health and social services system.

The plan proposed key sweeping measures for transforming our healthcare network so that patients have better access to care and treatment when and where they need it. The Healthcare Plan also seeks to upgrade and retain medical and service staff, promote access to reliable data for reliable management and performance monitoring, implement the most advanced technologies, and modernize facilities and infrastructure. Work is already underway to make these proposed changes a reality.

## | Improved housing for seniors

This new concept is the Legault government's approach for a thorough overhaul of housing and accommodation for Québec's senior citizens. The new elder care centres (Maisons des aînés) are living environments on a human scale, with fewer residents, more comfortable rooms, private bathrooms, and more stimulating common areas. It's a simple idea: a seniors' home should feel like a real home to its residents and should

be a pleasant and efficient working environment where the trained workers who provide for them can deliver the best possible care. The CAQ government has also invested substantially in homecare so that seniors can remain in their own homes for as long as possible if they so wish.

## Mental health

In January 2022, deputy health and social services minister Lionel Carmant presented an ambitious action plan to improve access to mental health services, reduce waiting times for care, and manage the adverse effects of the pandemic. More than \$1 billion will be invested over the next five years to ensure that Quebecers of all ages and in every region have easy access to specialists who can provide the ongoing support and care they need. The physical and mental well-being of all Quebecers will always be a top priority for the CAQ.

## 10,000 caregivers trained – and on the job

The first wave of the pandemic shed a glaring light on major shortcomings in care for seniors in Québec – faults that reflected the failure of successive Liberal government reforms. Understaffing in our CHSLDs was the most conspicuous problem. To correct the situation and to be better prepared for managing the next waves of COVID-19, the CAQ government created an accelerated program that trained a record number of new CHSLD caregivers (PABs) in a matter of months. Premier François Legault baffled skeptics by mobilizing Québec's entire healthcare and education systems to get this done. The initiative made a huge difference during the pandemic, when close to 10,000 additional caregivers were hired, vastly improving the quality of care for seniors.

## One of the world's most effective vaccination campaigns

Health and social services minister Christian Dubé put his outstanding organizing skills to work by pulling out all the stops to get Québec's highly successful COVID-19 vaccination campaign up and running. Quebecers found they could get their vaccination appointments quickly and easily through the Clic Santé portal. Other unprecedented initiatives allowed the network to rapidly mobilize thousands of staffers from various professions to help administer the vaccines. Québec soon attracted notice as one of the places in the world where a significant percentage of the population had received their first and second vaccine doses. Not only were Quebecers better protected against COVID-19 but being able to easily access that protection more than exceeded their expectations.

## Hospital parking

In order to make life easier for patients and their loved ones, the CAQ government has allowed free parking for up to two hours at all hospitals and public healthcare institutions in Québec since 2019. We also drastically cut the cost of day-long parking: fees now range from \$7 to \$10, depending on the region.

## Prescription glasses for children

The CAQ government now helps families cover the cost of glasses or contact lenses for children under 18 years of age. When we came to power, we introduced the See Better to Succeed program. The program is a real sight for sore eyes by reimbursing families \$250 towards the purchase of glasses or contact lenses in any 24-month period.

## Community groups

Community organizations provide a broad range of essential services Quebecers depend on as part of their social safety net. Every day these groups and their members play an active role in relieving the plight of those who live in isolation and in helping the most vulnerable members of society.

The CAQ government made an unprecedented effort to support community groups in its 2022–2023 budget by earmarking nearly \$1.1 billion to implement our government's new 2022–2027 Community Action Plan. The investment represents our very real and significant ongoing support for the community sector.

## Children with disabilities

To provide additional support to families with a disabled child, the CAQ committed to enhancing the SEHNSE program (supplement for children with disabilities requiring additional care). This was made in the spring of 2019. We have increased funding for the program by \$30 million to create a second tier to help more children. The first tier of the program limited assistance to families caring for very severely disabled children.

## Childcare spaces available

Over the past few years, thousands of new parents have had tremendous difficulty in getting the childcare they need because of the previous government's dragging its feet in creating new spaces to meet increased demand. To make up for lost time, the CAQ government launched a major project that will completely upgrade the network of educational services for children by 2025. Eventually, all parents looking for childcare will find the spaces they need regardless of the region they live in. A great deal has been accomplished in the past four years and the pace of progress is accelerating. This is a huge step forward after years of stagnation and decline under the previous Liberal government.

## | High-speed internet

In 2018, when François Legault promised to connect all Québec homes to high-speed internet during his first term, there was no shortage of doubting Thomases. But who can blame them when previous governments had been making the same promise for 15 years with nothing to show for it. Today those same skeptics are at a complete loss for words. After an unprecedented effort by the government to fast-track the work of providers, all Québec households will finally be connected to high-speed internet this fall. It's an especially essential tool for growth in Québec's regions.

## | Screening for learning disabilities in children: newborns to age five

Drawing on the expertise of the minister responsible for health and social services and internationally renowned neurologist, Lionel Carmant, the Legault government introduced the Agir tôt (act early) program. With specialized teams across Québec, the program provides earlier detection of learning disabilities in children from newborns to age five. The goal is to make sure that children needing help get developmentally appropriate services as early as possible to prevent educational problems later on. More than 12,800 children have been tested to date.

## | Kindergarten for four-year-olds

The CAQ government has rolled out a new free network of kindergartens for four-year-olds across Québec. Thousands of Québec families are already making the most of this expanding network. Kindergartens for four-year-olds provides more advanced educational services and improved supervision of children with learning disabilities. As a complement to the existing childcare network they make it possible to offer a wider range of services to Québec families.

## | Youth protection

Quebecers were shocked in 2019 by the tragic death of an abused young girl in Granby. Premier Legault promised he would do everything in his power to make sure that such a tragedy never happens again. He immediately set up a commission with a mandate to carry out a thorough review of the organization that provides youth protection services in Québec. The commission, chaired by Régine Laurent, presented a series of specific recommendations to better protect our children under youth protection. The government has moved quickly in implementing the recommendations of the Laurent Report and continues its work in this area.



## Espaces bleus cultural centres

One of Premier Legault's priorities is to restore the pride we have in Québec. Espaces bleus cultural centres provide easy access to cultural institutions that celebrate our culture, our history, our heroes and heroines, and what makes each of Québec regions so special. Whenever possible the centres are set up in heritage buildings to give them a second life.

## Government efficiency

As promised, the Legault government has reduced the paperwork and administrative burden in many areas, especially for business. It also introduced a more advanced performance monitoring system to better control government spending, with dashboards on each ministry anyone can access. It's one way to ensure that Quebecers get more for their money.

## Public security

There's been a worrisome increase in gun violence in Québec recently, particularly in the Montreal area. Deputy premier and public security minister Geneviève Guilbault has taken a number of steps to address the problem, such as providing police officers with more tools they can use in the fight against gun trafficking and organized crime.

Faced with a rising tide of domestic violence and femicide, Guilbault has also coordinated government action in collaboration with the minister for education and minister responsible for the status of women, Isabelle Charest, to implement a series of measures in response to the recommendations in the *Report on Rebuilding Trust* by the expert committee on support for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. Measures include increasing the number of shelter spaces for victims, adding domestic violence staff to police forces, making rapid response units permanent, and introducing tracking bracelets to ensure women's safety. In addition to domestic violence, measures have also been put in place to counteract pimping, to prevent sexual exploitation, and to provide support for victims of these crimes.

## Social and affordable housing

The CAQ government has taken significant steps to promote access to affordable housing for low-income Quebecers, including the creation of the new Québec Affordable Housing Program. We have also increased the housing allowance and invested \$3 billion in the renovation of thousands of low-cost housing units in various regions. As promised, the government invested more than \$1.6 billion as well to build 15,000 new affordable and social housing units.

## Relocating 5000 government jobs out of major centers

As promised, the CAQ government began transferring 5000 Québec government jobs to the regions, including 2000 in its first term. This not only creates quality jobs outside the major centres, but also brings the civil service closer to the grassroots by decentralizing departments that are especially active in the regions, including tourism, agriculture, fisheries, and natural resources. It sends a strong message of the government's confidence in the regions.

## Promoting Québec culture

Promoting culture is another CAQ priority. The numbers speak for themselves. The budget of the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec was increased by more than 50% and the budget of the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles (SODEC) by 143%, both record levels of support. We've also kept our promise to students with two free cultural outings every year from preschool to high school. Book purchases for school libraries have been significantly increased as well for the benefit of both students and Québec authors.

An upgrade of the rules relating to the professional status of artists has also significantly improved the socio-economic conditions of those working in the cultural sector. A request for changes that had been made for decades was finally dealt with successfully by the CAQ government.

## Canadian relations

Over the past four years, Québec has made several substantial gains in its negotiations with the federal government. These gains include the opportunity for Québec to submit its choice in the appointment of Supreme Court justices and a transfer of nearly \$6 billion in unconditional funding over five years for childcare services. We've also reached a series of agreements on workforce training as well as on social housing, public transit, and high-speed internet that increase federal transfer payments by billions of dollars. The CAQ government amended the Canadian constitution as well to recognize that Québec is a nation, and that French is its official language, a genuine affirmation of our special responsibility for the survival of the French language in America.

## First Nations and Inuit communities

The development of Québec includes ensuring that our First Nations and Inuit communities have the means to develop economically, socially, and culturally. The CAQ has concluded major agreements, including the Grand Alliance with the Cree and the Apuiat Wind Project with the Innu, in addition to passing the first two bills in the history of



the Secrétariat aux Affaires autochtones. With regards to reconciliation, we have followed up rigorously on the recommendations of the Viens Commission and ENFFADA.

The new version of the Indigenous Initiatives Fund supports economic initiatives (\$190 million), while our Action Plan for Cultural and Social Development (\$140 million) targets the well-being of Indigenous people.

## | The fight against racism

The CAQ government is committed to fighting racism in all its many forms. That's why we've taken several positive steps in that direction over the past four years. The appointment of a minister responsible for the fight against racism and the launch of a large-scale awareness campaign are in keeping with this commitment, as is the ban on police targeting individuals using racial profiling. Social service personnel were also incorporated into the police force to create joint patrol teams. The Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse (human rights and youth rights commission: CDPDJ) has also received increased funding for extra staff to enable it to process complaints more quickly, particularly in housing. A number of other concrete measures have been taken in the areas of training, awareness, recruitment, advocacy, and professional accreditation.

# *Priorities* for our next term

*"Everyone on my team wants to continue serving all Quebecers and Québec.*

*What I'm asking for is a mandate to continue moving Québec forward:*

*To continue on the path to prosperity for Québec and Quebecers with sound management of our finances and the economy.*

*To continue protecting Quebecers against rising inflation by putting money back into their wallets.*

*To continue fighting climate change and making Québec a world leader in the green economy.*

*To continue with the changes in our healthcare system that will make it more accessible, more user-friendly, and more efficient.*

*To continue standing up proudly for our language, our values, and our rights.*

*To continue building a greener, more prosperous, and prouder Québec."*

# The economy

## Putting more money into the wallets of Quebecers

As inflation runs rampant worldwide, the cost of living is skyrocketing. Groceries, transportation, clothing – everything is going up in price. CAQ initiatives in our first term have already put money back into your wallets. We'll continue with our Inflation Shield to help Quebecers through these troubled times. In today's unstable global environment, Québec needs a government that knows what the word "economy" means.

## | Direct support to fight inflation

Millions of Quebecers these days have to spend more of their income just for basic goods and services – food, clothing, housing, and transportation. The CAQ government has already taken action with measures that delivered crucial one-time assistance to over six million Quebecers. Right now, the experts are saying that inflation will remain high until the end of this year. So, it makes sense once again to provide additional assistance to support your purchasing power.

A CAQ government will ensure a second one-time payment of hundreds of dollars for millions of Quebecers before the end of the year.

## | Tax cuts

A lighter tax burden for the middle class is a priority. Even during the pandemic, the CAQ government managed to put \$3 billion a year back into your wallets. But to cope with the rising cost of living, taxpayers need more money they can manage themselves on a permanent basis. Which is why we believe tax cuts are the real solution – the right way to help millions of families in the years ahead.

A CAQ government will deliver responsible tax cuts to Quebecers in the first year of our second term. We can make this happen because Québec's finances are in good shape thanks to sound management practices and effective stimulus measures that have dramatically reinvigorated the economy. So, we'll be cutting taxes without sacrificing essential government services – or imposing austerity measures like the Liberals did.

## | More help for seniors

Far too many elderly Quebecers live on the edge of poverty due to their low incomes. Seniors have few, if any, ways to boost their income to better cope with rising costs, and this makes them particularly vulnerable.

In the past four years, we've taken significant measures to help seniors. If re-elected, a CAQ government will continue making every effort to better support them financially. We'll ensure that support for seniors will increase within the first year of our next term. This additional assistance will go a long way toward protecting the purchasing power of those with limited incomes.

## | No more sudden rate increases

The exceptional conditions in the last year have clearly shown what runaway inflation can do – impact far worse than anything we’ve been accustomed to. Quebecers can see this for themselves as they watch their purchasing power dwindle. Many fees charged by government are tied to the rate of inflation, including motor vehicle registration, driver’s licences, college and university tuition, childcare services, and nursing home accommodations. When rising inflation occurs, these rates can increase drastically. If nothing is done, your disposable income will become less and less.

Exceptional conditions call for exceptional measures. To limit the impact of inflation and the rising cost of living, the CAQ will commit to capping rate increases at 3% in all government departments. We’re also prepared to adjust taxation and social assistance programs, starting in 2023, to ensure that government assistance makes it possible for all Quebecers to better deal with inflation.

## | A pro-Québec economy

The future of Québec and quality of life for Quebecers depend on a strong economy. In a more prosperous Québec, we can provide more readily accessible and efficient public services, invest more in infrastructure, support cultural life more generously, protect the environment, and reduce the tax burden on Quebecers. The CAQ has always understood the arithmetic that makes these things possible. Which is why a wealthier, more prosperous Québec is a fundamental goal, and everything we do must go toward achieving this.

A CAQ government will continue revising government purchasing policies to include buying from Québec-based businesses – support that helps them grow by manufacturing here in Québec the goods that used to be imported. We’ll encourage people here to buy locally made products from locally based businesses. These purchases by the Québec government will set the example – from the top down.

This emphatically pro-Québec economic policy will provide a fresh stimulus to Québec-based companies and may even hatch a new generation of major flagship industries. Companies that will become leaders in key sectors of today’s globalized market.

Companies that will launch here, grow here, and invest here in innovation and research – generating higher wages and better jobs that will benefit Québec as a whole.

## | Workforce training

Québec-based companies that expect to keep on growing need workers who have the skills to make that growth possible.

We plan to help them keep up to speed by bringing more employees back into the workforce. To this end, contributions to the Québec Pension Plan will be made optional for all employees sixty-five and over.

To help meet these needs, we'll be making every effort to increase and enhance vocational training in electricity, welding, computer support, and other strategic sectors.

Last but not least, we'll be increasing our budgets to help fund more workforce skill upgrades and retraining.

## | Innovation zones

One of the solutions promoted by the CAQ to help our businesses modernize, become more innovative, and more productive is the creation of innovation zones.

In this approach, based on studies of best practices worldwide, a CAQ government will throw its weight behind research and innovation. In its first term, the CAQ government already announced that Québec would create innovation zones in Sherbrooke and Bromont. The first of these is based in the city and centred in institutions like the Université de Sherbrooke, the Quantum Institute, the Institut interdisciplinaire d'innovation technologique, and the Cégep de Sherbrooke. The Bromont innovation zone, on the other hand, is designed to assist our manufacturing sector in accelerated changeovers to digital technology – a resource that will benefit nearly 700 Québec companies.

The CAQ government is committed to continue creating innovation zones like these in many other regions of Québec. As potent hubs of dynamic economic growth, they establish a favourable climate for wealth creation that can benefit not only individual businesses or economic sectors, but entire communities.

## | Revive the economy in our small towns

A business fails, a credit union relocates, a grocery store closes – sometimes that's all it takes to upset the fragile balance that keeps a small village alive and functioning. Special efforts are needed to guarantee the vitality of local economies in Québec's small towns and villages. A new CAQ government will make sure that this happens.

Investments and initiatives will encourage retrofitting abandoned buildings and revitalizing downtown areas, while preserving and highlighting traditional building styles as records of the past in these communities, in all their authenticity and historic splendour.

## | High-speed internet and cellular coverage

Thanks to the CAQ government's tech offensive over the past four years, all regions in Québec finally have access to high-speed internet. Québec is now actually one of the most connected areas in the world.

A lot more remains to be done, however, as the world economy advances toward ever-



greater digitization. Today's cultural industries, now dominated by online music and streaming, are a striking example. Increasingly people rely on telemedicine, teleworking, distance learning, the emerging "Internet of Things," artificial intelligence – and more to come. Not to mention robotics, augmented virtual reality, and self-driving vehicles. The new digital economy is continually evolving right before our eyes – and by now it's growing twice as fast as the traditional economy.

In this new world, digital infrastructure is strategic, and crucial. Québec must be prepared to adapt to this ongoing revolution. We can't let ourselves watch passively as new technology gaps open up between outlying regions and major urban centres.

A CAQ government will complete the process of providing mobile communications for all Quebecers in response to urgent demand from residents and small business owners in areas that still lack wireless coverage. The existing mobile network will also be converted to 5G technology to attract more private investment and keep Québec's economy competitive. Finally, fibre-optic lines will be installed throughout Québec so that all Quebecers can benefit from today's most advanced technologies.

## High-speed productivity

Business productivity is one of the major indicators of a healthy economy. After lagging behind for a long time, Québec has now shifted into high gear. For the past three years, we've seen growth rates double the Canadian average. This means that Québec-based companies are becoming more and more productive. Automation, digitization, increased reliance on technology, smarter work organization, and a host of other innovations have stimulated growth and honed their competitive edge. This higher productivity also helps companies compensate in part for the ongoing labour shortage.

Many of the fiscal measures adopted in the past four years have helped reverse this trend. A future CAQ government will continue these major efforts to boost productivity, working hand in hand with the new Investissement Québec, which now has more resources than ever to support our businesses as they grow and prosper.

## Waste not, want not

Quebecers deserve value for their money. Which means that public funds must be managed with precision, know-how, and accountability. Waste in all its forms should be eliminated. Under the CAQ, all government programs can and will continue to be managed as efficiently as possible. Crown corporations as well will have to follow the same rules. Better management of information technology is a key part of the process, and meeting this challenge will be the sole, exclusive mission of a new department created specifically for this purpose.

During its first term, the CAQ government initiated a process to lighten the load of regulations and red tape, promote a more competitive business environment, and stimulate growth and development of small and medium-sized enterprises. Despite real progress, there are still too many obstacles and administrative formalities holding



Québec's entrepreneurs back. In its second term, the CAQ government will do even more to reduce bureaucratic excess and free entrepreneurs to do what they do best – innovate and generate wealth.

## | Government goes digital

In today's digital economy, companies succeed by taking the lead with a vast array of online services. They allow users to perform a full range of transactions with unprecedented ease through apps installed on mobile phones, tablets, or computers. This new environment makes life so much easier for so many that people now expect the government to follow suit and offer comparable digital services.

In its second term, the CAQ government plans to meet this demand by creating a simple, efficient app to access key government services. Quebecers will soon be able to renew their health insurance card and driver's license with a few simple clicks online.

## | Land-use occupancy

Québec is an immense territory, with forests that cover more than half its territory, innumerable lakes and rivers, rich and abundant natural resources, and a majestic river that flows for a full 1200 kilometres.

Above the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel lies Québec's northern territory, vast and diverse. Its realities are very different from what we take for granted further south. Northern communities and their residents have needs and aspirations that are entirely their own. Housing, labour shortages, environmental protection and conservation, adaptation to climate change – in the north, all these challenges call for specifically adapted solutions. The CAQ is ready and willing to hear what local and Indigenous communities have to say about how we can work together on planning and sustainable development in Northern Québec.

Under the 2020–2023 Northern Action Plan, the CAQ government is already committed to investing more than \$1.4 billion over the next three years to improve transportation infrastructure, stimulate economic development, promote more vital communities, and protect the environment. A CAQ government will continue working to create value and promoting economic development in Québec's most remote regions.

## | Forests

Most would agree that it's essential to ensure the sustainability of our forests, and to use them responsibly. However, the compatibility between forest usage, GHG emission control, resource conservation and protection of forest ecosystems as well as wildlife habitats represents quite an issue. This makes it obvious more government investments in our forest assets are needed. A CAQ government will increase its investments in the sustainable management of our forests.

# Agriculture

The major project launched by the CAQ for greater food autonomy in Québec is delivering real results and benefiting all our residents and regions, as part of a stronger, more sustainable economy. In 2019–2021, annual investments in agriculture, fisheries, and food processing in Québec averaged \$2.5 billion, a 72.6% increase compared to 2016–2018 (\$1.5 billion per year).

The CAQ knows and understands what Quebecers want. In keeping with its pro-Québec vision, a CAQ government will continue to make record investments in food autonomy during its next term. We'll continue to promote buying locally, help more "Made in Québec" products than ever appear on store shelves, strengthen the food supply chain, and accelerate the shift to more organic, sustainable, and eco-responsible agriculture. We'll also support Québec farmers with more investments in sustainable agriculture and a larger investment fund for young farmers.

# Commitments

- A second one-time payment to help Quebecers better cope with inflation
- Responsible tax cuts in the first year of a new mandate
- Increased assistance to seniors in the first year of a new mandate
- Cap on rate increases (Hydro-Québec, government services)
- Ongoing pro-Québec policy to promote “Made in Québec” products and buying locally by government
- Actively support vocational and skills training in strategic sectors
- Continue to create innovation zones throughout Québec
- Rebuild dynamic local economies in cities and villages
- Finalize wireless and mobile coverage across the entire Québec territory
- Upgrade most of Québec’s wireless network to 5G technology
- Promote higher productivity in Québec-based businesses
- Reduce bureaucratic red tape for Quebecers
- Digitize access to government services
- Develop the economic potential of Québec’s remote regions
- Increase investment in sustainable forest management
- Continue to make record investments for food autonomy
- Increase assistance for eco-responsible agricultural practices
- Support for next-generation farmers

# Healthcare

## A caring, efficient, and accessible front line

Clearing up the backlog up of surgeries, easing emergency room overcrowding, improving the well-being of seniors, increasing mental health services ... there's no shortage of post-pandemic challenges to meet. The CAQ government will continue fighting on all fronts with the goal of improving front-line accessibility through innovative family medicine groups. Because when you're sick, it's vitally important that you see a doctor or healthcare professional without delay.

The key to better healthcare access is to provide care to all Quebecers through family medicine groups. What this means is getting a quick appointment with a doctor or healthcare professional whenever any non-urgent health problem arises.

Achieving this objective will have a phenomenal impact on the entire hospital system. First of all, it will divert traffic from emergency rooms overflowing with patients who are there for minor problems because they can't access care anywhere else. Family medicine groups will manage interdisciplinary disciplines as well, offering patients a more personalized service and, above all, maintaining continuity in the delivery of care.

While focusing its efforts on ensuring that every Quebecer is cared for in a family medicine group, the CAQ government will continue deploying primary care access in every region to serve so-called orphan patients (those without a regular doctor) in particular. Such patients can use a telephone helpline that will promptly direct them to a clinic near where they live or to the appropriate healthcare professional, depending on their needs.

## I “Votre Santé”

A re-elected CAQ government will create a single, streamlined “Votre Santé” (your health) platform: a digital gateway where Quebecers can get an appointment quickly and easily.

The “Votre Santé” platform will allow Quebecers to assess their health status and identify their needs by completing a simple self-care questionnaire. This will get them an in-person or telemedicine consultation with a physician or healthcare professional. It’s all done with a few clicks online. Those preferring to speak to someone in person will have access to a single phone number with the same options.

Telemedicine consultations between healthcare professionals will also be encouraged. This digital platform is designed so family doctors can easily consult specialists to get an opinion or a treatment plan for the patient. Whenever necessary, the patient can immediately get an appointment with the specialist using the same platform.

## I Digital health files

The CAQ government is committed to developing the information technology necessary to bring our healthcare system fully up to date with the latest 21st century standards. All Quebecers will have immediate access to their complete medical records, in digital form, regardless of where they undergo their diagnostic tests or receive their treatments. The plan is to eventually have digital health files also accessible via the “Votre Santé” platform.

The platform represents a true revolution for our healthcare network. Healthcare professionals will now have immediate access to any patient’s digital health file. Which means that will be able to devote their precious time treating patients instead of filling out forms.

## I Health Québec

All too often, the ministry of health and social services gets bogged down in managing operations when it should be setting long-term strategic direction. Field managers aren’t given enough autonomy and accountability. This imbalance leads to inefficiency and ultimately, it’s the patients who pay the price.

Over the years, numerous experts have pointed out this major deficiency in the system. A “radical transformation of governance” is necessary, the health and welfare commissioner wrote in her report early this year, urging the ministry to focus on policy decisions and to get out of operations.

To this end, the CAQ government will set up the Santé Québec agency to make the healthcare system more efficient, more flexible, and more effective for patients. Santé Québec will be responsible for managing operations and implementing the Health Plan following strategic directions from the ministry of health and social services.



The new agency will be a definite game changer and a real breath of fresh air for the health and social services network. Decisions will be made by experienced managers with operations closer to what's going on at street level. The decision-making process will be more flexible, more responsive, and more efficient, to the benefit of all concerned, patients and staff alike.

## | An interdisciplinary approach

During its first mandate, the CAQ government granted increased powers and autonomy to certain healthcare professionals, nurses and pharmacists in particular. Now more needs to be done to enable every healthcare worker to make the most of their skills.

This strategy is more rewarding for healthcare professionals because it acknowledges their autonomy and gives them more power to do their job, and it also promotes an interdisciplinary approach so that patients can see the appropriate practitioner based on their needs without delay, freeing up physicians for cases that really need their attention.

For example, special nurse practitioners, nurses, pharmacists, paramedics, and many other healthcare professionals will be able to play an increased role on the front lines by giving them the autonomy and latitude to assume the full range of responsibilities possible in their field of expertise.

The idea is to give healthcare professionals the opportunity to do more, to handle all the medical procedures they are fully authorized to perform within the scope of their practice, which is not always the case at present. The CAQ government will continue working to empower them to do more so they can contribute more to the overall healthcare process. The end result is that patients will benefit measurably from this interdisciplinary approach with improved management and better front-line accessibility.

## | Workforce

The CAQ government is also committed to training and recruiting more doctors and healthcare professionals. During its first mandate, the CAQ undertook to increase admissions in medicine programs. The plan now is to admit an additional 660 medical students over the next four years. On top of this, the CAQ will put other measures in place, including scholarships and programs, and train another 5000 more professionals in its second mandate.

These workers will be in addition to the 27,000 healthcare workers that the CAQ government plans to recruit with Operation Workforce. Implemented at the end of 2021, this large-scale \$1.14 billion project is designed to train and hire more workers through accelerated training programs, similar to what we did during the pandemic in training 10,000 CHSLD caregivers (PABs), as well as scholarships and increased international recruiting efforts.

## Investments in infrastructure

The pandemic highlighted the shortcomings in Québec hospital capacity. The shortage led to agonizing choices when it came to prioritizing care for patients with COVID-19. This is a situation we must never be in again.

In conjunction with its major efforts to recruit more staff to fill the gap and make more beds available in hospitals, the CAQ government will also increase investments to build, modernize, and expand hospitals in the various regions of Québec.

While continuing in the development of homes for seniors to offer them accommodations on a more human scale, an ambitious program to renovate outdated CHSLDs will also be carried out based on an innovative eldercare concept.

## Increased role for the community and the private sector

A CAQ government will encourage collaboration with the community sector and private enterprise to support the public healthcare system. There are already many examples of the value of this type of collaboration, from reducing waiting lists by having private clinics handle minor surgeries and in processing thousands of requests for imaging tests, to performing specimen and lab tests and providing housing for those with reduced autonomy. These can all be done efficiently and responsibly without compromising the principles of free access, equity, and universality that are the foundation of our healthcare system. A CAQ government will plan to move forward and develop partnerships with the private sector and community organizations to provide even more care and services to Quebecers.

A CAQ government will implement a new concept of private medical centres to complement existing services and to fulfill the CAQ ambition of making the healthcare network more accessible and ensure better patient care all around. This would fill the need for an intermediate service between family practice groups and hospitals for patients who need care but do not necessarily have to go to the emergency room. These privately developed and managed outreach services will reduce pressure on hospitals and ensure access to quality front-line services to the public at no cost.

## A major shift in homecare

According to various analyses, the number of people over 70 in Québec increased from 4.2% in 1971 to 13.6% in 2020, and the percentage will continue going up. By 2035, one in five Quebecers will be over the age of 70, representing 20.5% of the population. This dramatic demographic shift will pose a considerable challenge, especially since a majority of seniors wish to remain at home as long as possible.

The CAQ government has already begun working on a shift towards more homecare, a shift certain to accelerate in our second mandate. It's another priority for sure.



It will take massive investments to promote homecare to deal with the demographic shift. A CAQ government will put a series of measures in place to intervene early to prevent and delay the loss of autonomy, to encourage innovations for ensuring a safe environment at home and, of course, by improving homecare and services.

We believe that everyone from the healthcare community and academia to municipalities and community organizations must be committed to working on all these fronts to help develop a satisfactory collective vision for society.

At the same time, there's a real need to ensure greater efficiency in the organization and funding of homecare services. That's the mandate we've given to the Québec health and welfare commissioner. Her recommendations, expected in December 2023, will help guide our decisions about where we go in the future..

## | Hospitalization at home

With just two beds per 1000 population, Québec has a hospital capacity ratio lower than most other comparable jurisdictions. There's no question that the healthcare system must look for innovative solutions to the congestion in our hospitals. Hospitalization at home is one possibility. It eliminates another admission to the hospital or the need to free a bed more quickly. But above all, it could be what's best for the patients, because it allows them to be treated in the comfort of their own home, close to their loved ones.

To this end, a CAQ government will gradually deploy home hospitalization services linked to all Québec healthcare centres by the end of 2026. Patients will be integrated into a virtual hospitalization unit where their health and well-being will be monitored by an interdisciplinary team (including physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists, and rehabilitation professionals). Follow-up will be done remotely, with in-person home visits as needed. Obviously, patients will have to meet specific criteria and give their consent to benefit from the hospitalization-at-home program. The CAQ believes that this innovative solution, one that is now being deployed around the world – including the US and Europe – will be a major benefit the healthcare network and patients alike.

## | Heliport transport

Québec is such a vast territory that people living in more remote areas can face additional delays when an emergency occurs. A CAQ government intends to remedy this situation by progressively deploying a helicopter medical transport service in regions located from 75 km to over 250 km from a major centre, including Bas-Saint-Laurent, Basse-Côte-Nord, Mauricie, Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean, Lanaudière, Laurentides, and the Outaouais. The service will improve the speed of interventions in the regions during any emergency and will cut down on the need of patient transfers monopolizing vehicles for hours at a time, making their service unavailable in their territory during this period.

## Mental health

The impact of the pandemic on public mental health has been repeatedly demonstrated, particularly among the young. By directly addressing this significant social issue, a CAQ government will roll out the 2022–2026 Interdepartmental Mental Health Action Plan and support it with an unprecedented investment of \$1.15 billion over five years to improve the psychosocial services offering across Québec.

Because of the widely acknowledged shortage of psychologists in the public healthcare network, a CAQ government will offer practitioners differentiated remuneration in the next collective bargaining round, as was done for teachers, to retain those already working in the public network, to enhance the value of their service, and to improve access to mental healthcare and services.

## Youth protection

The CAQ government demonstrated the courage of its convictions by launching a major review of the entire youth protection system in Québec. The special commission on children's rights and youth protection, chaired by Régine Laurent, produced numerous recommendations that will lay the groundwork for a comprehensive reform. The government has pledged to act on the Laurent Commission's recommendations without delay. With the passage of the *Youth Protection Act*, the minister responsible, Lionel Carmant, has committed to put the best interests of the child at the centre of every initiative undertaken, to ensure that any decisions about any child's future take this principle into account to ensure that they are kept safe from harm.

In its next mandate, the CAQ will be committed to pursuing the implementation of the Laurent Commission's recommendations to fully recognize the rights of children and ensure the well-being of the most vulnerable among us. With an effective protection system, committed partners, and a renewed legal framework, the CAQ government will carry out a comprehensive reform program to finally ensure quality and access to community-based services for disadvantaged youth and their families.

## Children with disabilities — respite care spaces

During its first mandate, the CAQ government has increased the Support for Families of Children with Disabilities Program by 58%. Despite this significant financial injection, access to respite care remains an issue for families. We know because numerous CAQ MNAs have been approached by parents looking for respite care.

The CAQ fully understands how important it is to give families providing care to a child with a disability 24 hours a day a break. With this in mind, the CAQ will increase funding to community organizations to create new respite spaces where children, minors, or

adults with a disability or an autism spectrum disorder can be accommodated for a few hours or days in order to provide the relief their parents need for their own health and well-being.

## Healthcare transfers

Provincial healthcare spending has increased significantly over the past twenty years while provincial revenues haven't even come close to keeping pace. The impact and collateral damage of the COVID-19 pandemic on healthcare systems will greatly exacerbate the pressure on the ability of provinces to finance their spending growth over the next few years.

That's why Canadian premiers are demanding that the federal government increase the level of its unconditional contribution on a per capita basis to their overall healthcare costs through the Canada Health Transfer (CHT) from 22% to 35%. Going forward, the federal government's contribution should be maintained through an escalation mechanism that reflects the 6% average annual growth in provincial healthcare spending. A long-term increase in the CHT to this effect would make a big difference in reducing the growing fiscal imbalance between the federal government and the provinces.

# Commitments

- Set up the “Votre Santé” platform
- Create digital health files
- Improve access to front-line services with telemedicine
- Create Santé Québec, a new agency designed to make the healthcare system more efficient and more effective
- Give more autonomy to the various types of healthcare professionals
- Increase the number of doctors and healthcare professionals
- Increase investments to build, modernize, and expand Québec hospitals
- Pursue partnerships with the private sector and community organizations to improve the services offered to Quebecers
- Improve homecare services
- Deploy hospitalization at home across Québec
- Introduce record-breaking measures and investments in mental health
- Implement a heliport transport service
- Continue to implement the recommendations of the Laurent Commission
- Offer more respite care spaces for parents of children with disabilities
- Continue putting pressure on the federal government to respect its obligations in funding the healthcare system

# Climate change

## A global leader in the green economy

The fight against global warming requires far greater use of green energy. For Québec, with its abundant hydroelectric resources, this poses a tremendous opportunity. Besides hydroelectric power and a highly skilled workforce, other renewable energy sources – wind power, biofuels, geothermal energy, green hydrogen – put Québec in the pole position among leaders in the global green economy.

Let's not forget that right now Québec has the lowest per capita greenhouse gas emissions in North America. To keep on reducing those GHG emissions, we must cut our consumption of fossil fuels and let electricity play an even bigger role in our economy. And that's what the CAQ Plan for a Green Economy is all about.

Québec has set a GHG reduction target of 37.5% from 1990 levels by 2030 and hopes to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. These are ambitious but realistic goals. To reach them, the CAQ is counting on a plan that's credibly backed by the numbers and based on practical, doable solutions. The plan will ensure a just transition to carbon neutrality by supporting industries during their changeover and their workers while they retrain. By replacing oil dependency with electric power generated in Québec, we will achieve two great goals at once – lowering GHG emissions and generating major wealth creation.



## | Electrified transportation

Québec is in an ideal position to rapidly electrify its transportation sector – private vehicles and public transit alike. Our conversion to electric-powered transportation will be one of the fastest in North America. A number of measures will help us achieve this objective, including significant compliance obligations for manufacturers, financial incentives for users, and an all-out ban on sales of gasoline-powered vehicles by 2035.

Where Québec will benefit the most from electrification is in the heavy transport sector. Québec is already a leader in electric-powered school and city buses. In the next few years, our roads will also see many more electric intercity buses and electric trucks of every type: ambulances, delivery trucks, bucket trucks, and garbage trucks to name just a few. A great many of these vehicles are already being manufactured in Québec – right here, right now.

Electrification will require a massive vehicle charging infrastructure. Québec already has the largest, most reliable network of electric charging stations in North America. But in just a few years we'll need a system ten times the size to keep up with – or ideally to outpace – our mass transition to electric vehicles and trucks. A CAQ government will make sure this rollout delivers all the charging stations that Quebecers will need.

An electrified transportation sector will also bring onboard increasing numbers of electrified public transit projects like the Metro Blue Line in Montreal and the Québec City tramway.

## | Energy self-sufficiency

Since the CAQ came to power four years ago, the energy situation in Québec has changed significantly. In 2018, we had major energy surpluses. Things are very different today.

The fight against climate change, unexpectedly rapid economic growth in recent years, and our government's efforts to reduce economic disparities with Ontario are raising the pressure in terms of energy demand. Development of Québec's own battery industry, green hydrogen production, transportation sector electrification, and the transition of major industries to renewable energy are just a few examples that explain the huge increases in demand for green electricity in Québec.

Although Québec-generated electricity is truly 100% renewable, there's still a long way to go since this and other forms of renewable energy represent only about 50% of all energy consumption in Québec today.

Given these new factors, Hydro-Québec estimates that it will need roughly 20 additional terawatt-hours (TWh) of deliverable electrical energy by the end of this decade, plus another 100 TWh by 2050 – equal to about half its current generating capacity.

To achieve Québec's goal of zero GHG emissions by 2050, a CAQ government will ask Hydro-Québec to seek partnerships to generate additional electricity and build more wind farms. We'll also give Hydro-Québec the go-ahead for essential studies on

construction of new electrical generation facilities here in Québec. These projects will be developed in cooperation with Indigenous communities, an approach that has worked well recently with the Innu on the Apuiat project and with the Mohawk Council for a power transmission line to New York City.

## Protecting our water resources

With tens of thousands of rivers and over three million bodies of water, Québec alone holds three percent of the Earth's renewable freshwater reserves. We tend to consume drinking water as if it would never run out. But it's actually a rare and precious resource and must always be carefully protected.

During its first term in power, the CAQ government succeeded in meeting the international target of 10% of marine protected areas by creating seventeen territorial reserves to be held as protected areas – six of them totalling more than 14,000 square kilometres in the St. Lawrence Estuary, and eleven in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

However ample Québec's water resources may be, major issues exist that impact water quality and availability – poor wastewater treatment in large cities, blue-green algae or invasive plants in many lakes, and pesticide runoff contaminating our rivers. In this era of climate change, these problems are multiplying. We need more protective measures. A CAQ government will make this a priority during its next term by creating a dedicated "Fonds bleu" (blue Fund) to protect our lakes and rivers. Resources from the fund will be used to bring wastewater facilities up to standard, enhance efforts to combat invasive plants, and help prevent water shortages.

## Shoreline erosion

Many coastal municipalities of Eastern Québec, the North Shore, the Gaspé Peninsula, and the Magdalen islands are feeling the effects of shoreline erosion due to rising sea levels. A re-elected CAQ government will increase its support to these municipalities to help them take shoreline erosion preventative and remedial measures. It will also facilitate coordination between the different orders of government in their various projects.

## Access to nature

Québec also has enormous green spaces. Numerous parks, outdoor centres, and gardens allow Quebecers to enjoy the best that nature has to offer. This contact with nature has tangible benefits – good for our bodies and minds alike. Unfortunately, not everyone has access to natural environments, especially those living in cities and densely urbanized areas.

In its next term, the CAQ government will expand the network of protected areas in Southern Québec, where biodiversity is the greatest. We'll also improve access to nature



by building interpretive centres, enhanced development of nature trails, and better access to public swimming areas.

Municipalities will also receive more support to provide more natural spaces for their residents, as well as improvements to existing areas like former golf courses, beaches, and shorelines.

Expansion and creation of Québec parks and wildlife reserves will also be on the agenda if a CAQ government returns to power. We appreciate the growing popularity of outdoor activities in SÉPAQ parks and facilities, which have welcomed record numbers of visitors in the past two years. This is also true for hunting and fishing, but there are still too few networks that allow enthusiasts to discover the many Québec regions that are home to these activities. Other development efforts will include new trails that highlight Québec's wildlife heritage.

## Waste reduction

In its first term, the CAQ government took a strong stand on reducing the volume of waste materials sent to landfills, with a resulting drop in GHG emissions. In our next term, we'll take further action to upgrade all waste management processes on four critical fronts: organic waste recovery, selective collection, beverage container deposits, and reduction of plastic waste.

A CAQ government will introduce universal "brown bin" use for composting, particularly in industrial or commercial operations like restaurants, to reach the 70% target for recycling organic waste by 2030.

In the CAQ's next term, the responsibility of manufacturers will be extended to include several other items that represent a significant portion of the waste found in landfills.

A CAQ government will roll out the long-awaited reform of beverage container deposits, targeting 75% recovery by 2025 and 90% by 2030.

While plastic has become an essential component in so many products, it's also part of the problematic extraction-manufacture-consumption-disposal cycle. A CAQ government will work hard to reduce the volume of plastic waste in Québec.

## Agri-environmental best practices

The biofood industry must play a key role in successfully reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Emissions from livestock production and soil management account for nearly 10% of all GHG emissions in Québec. Of course, we must work with our farmers and not against them. The Green Economy Plan calls for a rollout of measures that will really help Québec's agricultural sector address climate change issues – including lower methane emissions from livestock, energy efficiency, and increased electrification on farms.

The Sustainable Agriculture Plan also supports Québec's climate change commitments, with a 15% reduction target in nitrogen-based fertilizers on farmland. In its next term,

a CAQ government will do even more to support agricultural producers by promoting agri-environmental best practices to achieve sustainable food self-sufficiency.

A CAQ government will continue encouraging these agri-environmental best practices by more investments in our Sustainable Agriculture Plan, and by establishing two additional components to reward farms that already have best practices in place and others making real contributions to GHG reduction.

## Intercity transit

Intercity bus travellers have seen a decline in service in recent years, and the pandemic has only worsened this trend. The CAQ government invested nearly \$40 million in recent years to maintain intercity bus services. New routes must now be developed to better connect Québec's regions – working in conjunction with municipalities, rural public transit organizations, and intercity carriers. This is achievable, and we'll continue investing to improve services.

## Protected areas

When it comes to land protection, Québec is going full speed ahead. Before the CAQ government came to power in 2018, protected areas covered only 9.4% of the Québec land mass and 1.9% of its marine environments. Since then, Québec has successfully met its international protection goals – 17% of its land and 10% of its marine bodies.

During its next term, a CAQ government will take all necessary steps to ensure that the 2030 targets soon to be announced by the international community will result in immediate action.

# Commitments

- Continue to apply the Green Economy Plan for significantly lower GHG emissions by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality
- Develop electrified transport in the private and public sectors, plus a sustainable battery industry – from manufacturing to recycling
- Develop new renewable energy networks – wind power, biofuels, bioenergy, geothermal energy, and hydrogen
- Fast-track installation of charging stations throughout Québec
- Create a dedicated “Fonds bleu” to help protect our lakes, rivers, and waterways
- Invest in shoreline erosion control
- Enhance access to nature with new or expanded Québec parks and wildlife reserves
- Enhance protection of nature in an expanded network of protected areas in Southern Québec
- Assist municipalities with support for green space development
- Reduce the volume of waste materials going to landfills through organic waste recovery, selective collection, expanded beverage container deposits, and reduction of plastic waste
- Work to reduce food waste
- Support agricultural producers to achieve sustainable food self-sufficiency
- Increase investments in intercity transportation
- Meet 2030 protected area targets

# Education

## Major offensive to stop dropping out

Education has always been a core priority for the CAQ. It's what defines the foundations of a society, forms the basis on how a community is built, and is a powerful engine of wealth creation, progress, and self-esteem. What Quebecers want is to ensure that quality education is accessible to all and to develop leading-edge institutions of higher learning to attract talent, generate wealth, and promote Québec.

The top priority is to stop students from dropping out of school. Our motto is not to leave anyone behind. Collectively, we don't have the luxury of abandoning any of our students. They deserve our full support, every one of them at every stage on their educational journey, to maximize their chances of success and to enable them to reach their full potential. In the context of today's longstanding labour shortage, the future of Québec and the sustainability of our economy are at stake.

Parents of students in the regions know that resources are sometimes difficult to access. But it shouldn't matter if you're in Abitibi, Montreal, Québec City, or on the North Shore, you should have access to the same professional help if you're a student having a hard time. Because of the pandemic, the CAQ government knew it had to think outside the box and explore new support measures for solutions, a learning experience we'll draw on extensively in our second mandate.

## Upgrading and enhancing vocational training

The CAQ government has already announced an ambitious program to tackle the labour shortage in a number of priority sectors. Education will have a major role to play in this strategy. We know that the shortage is not a temporary thing and that it's very likely to get worse as the Québec population ages.

In the next four years, we'll be awarding 30,000 more vocational training diplomas in strategic areas like welding, electricity, and carpentry. This represents an increase of nearly 35% over the current rate of graduation in these sectors. We're going to achieve this by emphasizing remote learning, by using dual diplomas (Diploma of Vocational Studies and Diploma of Secondary Studies), by introducing new shorter programs such as the one we used for training CHSLD caregivers (PABs), and by increasing our requalification budget for people who are unemployed or reorienting their careers.

## Tutoring

In 2021, to better help students meet the schooling and learning challenges brought on by the pandemic, the CAQ government created the first Québec-wide tutoring program.

Through the mass recruitment of tutors, the program was designed to provide additional support for the students hardest hit by the pandemic.

More than one student in five received tutoring during the 2020–2021 school year and over 15,000 tutors were hired to do the job. The satisfaction rate was an impressive 95% within the school service centres, while partnerships with Alloprof and Tel-jeunes racked up very positive results as well. Following on the heels of this stellar success, and the CAQ government will take it to the next level by expanding the program to the entire Québec educational network.

## A dedicated platform for students in difficulty

Helping vulnerable students has been a CAQ priority since day one. Ensuring a successful education for as many students as possible is a critical factor in reducing the school dropout rate. Which is why a CAQ government will significantly increase the supply of teaching services for students with learning difficulties since they're the ones at the highest risk of quitting school. The platform will provide students with, among other things, virtual meetings with a professional guidance counsellor, a service they can access no matter what region they live in. The platform will also provide a range of tools that parents will find very useful.



## Major renovation program for Québec schools

After years of neglect by previous governments, the CAQ rolled up its sleeves to deal with the dilapidated condition of our schools by investing heavily in an expansion and new construction program. In a second mandate, the CAQ will intensify the program and invest even more in renovating and beautifying Québec's older schools so that students will have more stimulating facilities to learn in.

Schoolyards play an important role in our communities. Unfortunately, these gathering places par excellence are still too often nothing more than great grey slabs of concrete and asphalt that create heat islands. The CAQ will enhance Québec's learning environments by greening more schoolyards and upgrading and enhancing their sports fields and playgrounds. The goal is to provide students with healthier and more enjoyable places to get the education they need to succeed in the world of today.

## Schools that make the grade

As soon as it came to power in 2018, the CAQ launched a massive school construction and renovation project to provide a better learning experience for students, and a much more motivating work milieu for teachers.

Thankfully, the bunker mentality in school architecture is now a thing of the past. The new generation of schools the CAQ is building is big on windows and in maximizing natural light. They're also well ventilated in addition to respecting the latest guidelines in terms of eco-responsibility and sustainable development. The new schools are designed to be super conducive to student development and with plenty of space where plants get their place in the sun, too. Their contemporary architecture gives them a distinctive look that's beautifully highlighted with materials Québec is well known for, like stunning natural wood and aluminum.

The CAQ government has also made significant investments in many primary and secondary school expansion projects. We have created thousands of more spaces for students, modernized gymnasiums, fitted out brighter classrooms, and renovated common areas and schoolyards to make them more user-friendly and more fun. The CAQ will continue investing in the kinds of new schools that win top marks for both the Québec government and our students.

## Unified digital portal

All of these changes would not be complete if they didn't make life easier for parents as well. That's where the unified student digital file comes in. This standardized file will facilitate the transition from primary to secondary school or whenever students change schools.



Whether for administrative or academic purposes, parents will have various technological platforms to make it easy to register for activities, pay any fees, notify about absences, or to access documents like school reports. During the pandemic, the use of such platforms expanded exponentially, including remote learning and video conferencing (Zooming). The proliferation of such platforms can be a headache, of course, for parents who do not always have the time, the skills, or the technology to keep up. So, it's time to simplify everything.

Taking its cue from ClicSanté, the user-friendly digital platform where Quebecers easily book their vaccination appointments, a CAQ government will develop an equally easy digital gateway for all Québec parents, with all the information they need on their children's education at their fingertips.

## | The value of mastering French

If French is what distinguishes us, it's also what unites us. French is a source of pride, a source of knowledge, and a source of beauty we must safeguard.

It's hard to overestimate the value of mastering a second language when it comes to the job market. What's less well known is how much a poor command of French puts someone applying for a job at a disadvantage. Some 35% of employers recently reported rejecting job applications out of hand simply due to a lack of proficiency in French. Even among French-speaking applicants, the failure rate is alarming. So, it's essential that Québec students master their own language to ensure their success in school and in the workplace.

In its second mandate, a CAQ government will really put the emphasis on teaching French more effectively to those in school. In fact, a thorough review of the entire French language curriculum is in order. This reform will also provide support to English-speaking Quebecers to help them improve French as their second language.

## | Enhance reading skills

The CAQ will implement a number of initiatives to make reading a priority and encourage parents and their children, seniors, community organizations, and municipalities to join in. To this effect, we will launch a massive promotional campaign to get more Quebecers into the healthy habit of reading on a regular basis. This will include allocating an annual budget to all preschool and primary school teachers they can use to stock up on books by Québec authors for their classrooms.

## | Higher Education

The CAQ government's goal is a fully integrated approach to higher education. Both CEGEPs and universities are brimming with opportunities here. The potential is there, and it only needs to be better developed to improve their teaching and their research abilities. After all, knowledge is power, and this is the kind of power that can have a significant impact on our economy. To make the most of it, the link between higher education and business should be enhanced. That would be a real win-win for everyone in Québec.

We need to support all researchers, all faculty, and all students so they can work together in a stimulating and dynamic environment, free from intimidation and censorship, and where their expertise is acknowledged and appreciated. What's made civilization develop and become strong over the centuries is freedom of thought and expression, freedom of conscience, and freedom to devote oneself to a search for the truth without fear of being chastised or ostracized. We must remain committed to defending our democratic values, to what has been a major factor in the history of the progress and freedom we enjoy. Academic freedom is something we must continually safeguard. And first and foremost, we must nurture and empower education. It's time we recast education in the leading role it deserves to play, today more than ever.

## | Québec studies

Québec studies have been in decline at our universities since the 1990s. The situation has gradually led to a real loss of understanding about Québec's history, its institutions, its challenges, its distinctive features, and its unique cultural identity on the North American landscape. What must be done to rectify this is increased support for the Québec university community by investing more in research and development on Québec studies. In its second mandate, a CAQ government will fund research that reflects Québec's unique perspective, including social, economic, historical, cultural, and legal considerations.

# Commitments

- Modernize vocational training to help alleviate the labour shortage
- Expand the tutoring program to the entire Québec school network
- Offer more services to students with special needs
- Renovate our aging and dilapidated schools
- Continue building beautiful new schools
- Transforming and greening schoolyards for the well-being of students and the community
- Creating a single digital access portal to the student's school career
- Promote the teaching of French throughout the school network
- Promote reading among the young
- Support primary school teachers in building their library of children's books
- Promote a fully integrated approach to higher education
- Enhance Québec studies

# A question of identity

## Prioritizing Québec

Québec's identity is rooted in our shared history, culture, and language. These are what make us proud as a people. They are the foundation on which a CAQ government will build a future for Québec to achieve its vision of greatness.

Despite its unique status as the only majority French-speaking jurisdiction in North America, Québec remains a minority within Canada. This situation creates a special historical responsibility to protect and promote not only the French language but also Québec's culture, its system of civil law, and its own institutions, as well as the secular nature of Québec itself.

### More autonomy, more powers

Throughout its first term, the CAQ government has been staunchly pro-Québec, a position that's the core of our party's political program, based on a principle of unwavering loyalty to Québec, particularly with regard to protection of its identity and the defence of its vital interests – what former Premier Daniel Johnson, Sr. (1915–1968) called “Québec first.”

This crucial pillar is very clearly expressed in the preamble (article 1) of our constitution, which defines the CAQ as “a modern nationalist party whose primary purpose is to ensure the growth and prosperity of the Québec nation within Canada, while proudly defending its autonomy, language, values, and culture.”

In any future term of office, a CAQ government will continue to work constructively within the Canadian federation, but most importantly it will continue to seek political and economic autonomy as well as greater recognition for Québec. A CAQ government will faithfully reflect this aim in its decisions and actions. Key priorities will be further increases in Canada Health Transfers, and full control over immigration.

## | Full control over immigration

Québec is one of the places in the world that accepts the most immigrants relative to its population. That is a precious asset for our society. However, the integration of new citizens into the French-speaking reality of Québec remains a challenge.

We need a larger percentage of immigrants to be speakers of French, and we need to have the vast majority of international students attending French-language CEGEPs and universities in every region.

It's time for Ottawa to accept the fact that Québec should have all essential control over the intake and integration of its own immigrants, who in turn should be granted the means to learn the French language if they are not already fluent. Regional distribution of immigration to Québec will also be on the agenda in the next CAQ term. Immigration must contribute toward greater social and economic vitality everywhere Québec.

## | Protecting the French language – a major step forward

One of the high points in the CAQ government's first term was the passage of Bill 96 to safeguard the status of French. This is without a doubt Québec's greatest advance in the protection of the French language since Bill 101 in 1977.

This is by no means the last of CAQ efforts to protect the French language. In fact, the adoption of Bill 96 represents the kick-off to a major linguistic revival that will continue in our next term – allowing the people of Québec to proudly express and share their enduring identity.

## | Secularism – a new value to protect

The CAQ had committed itself to address the question of the laity of the State, on the heels of a debate that had been going on for years. In that context, the *Act Respecting the Laicity (secular nature) of the State* (Bill 21) defines how we live together as a Society. It formally establishes the secular nature of the State and includes this requirement in the Québec charter of rights and freedoms.

Like Bill 96, Bill 21 is now under attack by various oppositions. A CAQ government will continue to defend this legislation which guarantees the secular nature of Québec.

## | Promoting Québec culture

Culture is an integral part of our identity and an organic source of our pride in being Quebecers. It expresses who we are – what we feel strongly about, what makes us distinct, and what brings us all together. Throughout its first term, major support for Québec's cultural community has been an integral part of CAQ government policy.



It's a policy we will keep moving forward with still more resources for our creators and cultural industries. Artistic creativity is key to Québec's unique energy and character. A re-elected CAQ government will maintain this support across the board, helping Québec's cultural products reach the largest possible audience. Most important of all, we will actively promote reading in Québec classrooms. It's a major aspect of identity for a society like ours. Educating new audiences is crucial if our culture is to thrive and survive.

With the "Espaces bleus" cultural centres, the government's goal is to create popular places for local residents and visitors to discover or honour the history of Québec and its people. By revitalizing heritage buildings of exceptional character, these centres present a significant tribute to those who built Québec and passed down to us their deep sense of pride in being Quebecers. Many of these builders are figures in the cultural sphere. Expanding this new cultural infrastructure helps to promote our heritage even more effectively. A CAQ government will continue to open more Espaces bleus centres in its next term.

## | Made-in-Québec content for young people

Content produced here in Québec, in French, by our artisans and creators is still the best way to express our identity and share our heritage. In this new age of information technology and social media, there's a real danger that young Quebecers will lose touch with their cultural roots. A CAQ government will energetically support production in French of quality entertainment and information for young audiences. We also intend to promote wider distribution of made-in-Québec television shows and films.

We want to offer Québec children a safe, commercial-free environment where they can watch stimulating series, entirely in French and firmly rooted in Québec. Which is why we're committed to investing in new, original youth-oriented productions along with existing broadcasting content over the next five years.

## | Coping with illiteracy and promoting reading

The literacy rate among Quebecers is cause for serious concern. According to the Literacy Foundation, over 53% of Quebecers face severe literacy challenges, while the reading scores of Québec students are currently below the Canadian average. In its first term, the CAQ government undertook to address this problem through initiatives like the "Agir tôt" (act early) program and funding for more books in school libraries.

We must keep working actively to remedy the situation. A re-elected CAQ government will roll out practical, down-to-earth initiatives especially for young Quebecers to promote the joy of reading. We'll be providing more resources to support preschool and elementary school teachers to get their students reading more children's books by Québec authors



and illustrators. We also plan to launch a major reading awareness campaign in our second term. For example, one of the next four years will be officially declared the Year of Reading, which will feature numerous supportive activities to promote reading and access to books throughout Québec.

Promoting the value of reading by supporting Québec authors is a great way to fight illiteracy head-on – and enhance our cultural awareness and identity as well.

## | Architecture and land-use policy

A re-elected CAQ government will table a rollout and action plan to complement and put the finishing touches on the strategic vision of the Politique nationale de l'architecture et de l'aménagement du territoire, Québec's architecture and land-use planning policy. The plan will amend several pieces of legislation and provide leverage for municipal governments to fast-track reviews of their local planning and optimize decision-making based on cumulative knowledge and expertise.

To make this possible, the government will adopt new land-use planning guidelines. These will support the creation of comprehensively high-quality, sustainable living areas, ensure conservation of nature and agricultural land, and carry on in the fight against climate change. The guidelines will also promote more authentic, dynamic, and economically vibrant communities. Supportive resources will include a bank of specific indicators and targets developed and agreed upon with the community, plus follow-up measures to help us to achieve our land-use and architectural objectives.

## | Religious heritage

In any Québec village or small town, a church steeple is often the outstanding landmark. And indeed, the whole town in the past grew up and lived its daily life around the church. Even apart from its religious mission, a church is a heritage architectural feature that adds beauty and personality in remote or rural regions. For this reason, the CAQ government, during its first term, earmarked \$15 million annually for the preservation of religious heritage sites, in addition to creating a five-year \$25 million redevelopment program. Despite these efforts, many Québec churches are in danger of demolition, as religious organizations struggle to maintain them. Which is why the CAQ will continue to help preserve these churches or repurpose them in the built environment to better serve present community needs.

## Sports infrastructure

In winter and summer, rain or shine or snow, Quebecers like to get out and get active, let off steam, and excel in a host of sports activities – including, of course, hockey, our national sport. Québec's history features an impressive array of sports figures and athletes who have made a permanent impression on our collective memory.

Over the past few years, the need for more and better recreational and sports infrastructure has been growing steadily. Local municipalities and organizations like the Union of Québec Municipalities (UMQ) and the Federation of Québec Municipalities (FQM) are calling for an overhaul of sports infrastructure programs like the Programme d'aide financière aux infrastructures récréatives et sportives (financial assistance program for recreational and sports infrastructure). Most of Québec's hockey arenas and swimming pools are over thirty years old and will soon reach the end of their useful life.

A re-elected CAQ government will invest massively in sports infrastructure renovation and new construction so that all Quebecers can enjoy access to safe, high-quality facilities.

## Positive partnership with First Nations and Inuit

The CAQ government is committed to working with Québec's First Nations to implement the recommendations of two major reports: one by the Viens Commission on relations between Indigenous peoples and various Québec departments, and the other by the 2019 Federal Inquiry. In the aftermath of the tragic death of Joyce Echaquan, the government has also promised to continue its efforts to implement greater cultural respect within Québec's health and social services network.

The CAQ favours a partnership approach with Indigenous organizations and communities. To this end, we will introduce a bill that would enshrine the partnership principle in the *Health and Social Services Act*. The CAQ has also promised to develop a plan for promoting Indigenous languages and cultures in cooperation with First Nations and Inuit. This joint project has already begun and will finally result in the tabling of appropriate legislation.

# Fighting racism

Regardless of origin, skin colour, or descent, every resident of Québec is entitled to be treated with dignity and respect. The CAQ government is committed to fighting racism in all its many forms and will continue in its efforts along these lines. We have chosen to do this in real, down-to-earth ways, focusing on the positive things that unite us, instead of arguments about the things that divide us or in debates that often devolve into nothing more than unproductive word-splitting exercises.

The scandal over First Nations residential schools, the abuse suffered by Indigenous women in Val-d'Or, and the recent tragic death of Joyce Echaquan should remind everyone that Indigenous nations and Inuit are still clearly victims of racism. We must summon up the courage to face this problem squarely and take pragmatic action to end the discrimination that far too many Indigenous people still experience once and for all.

No one in Québec should suffer because of discrimination or racism. The CAQ's sincere hope is that Québec will some day be the model for an open society where everyone gets the respect they deserve.

# Commitments

- Work constructively within the Canadian federation, while staunchly pursuing greater autonomy for Québec
- Negotiate with Ottawa to obtain full control over immigration
- Continue the policies of Bill 96 and ensure protection of the French language
- Defend Bill 21 and protect the secular nature of Québec
- Continue to support our artists
- Continue to create more “Espaces bleus” cultural centres
- Develop youth-oriented content
- Promote the joy of reading to combat illiteracy
- Roll out and implement a Québec architecture and land-use plan
- Invest in the preservation and repurposing of Québec’s neglected churches
- Invest massively in sports infrastructure renovation and new construction
- Develop a plan to promote Indigenous languages and culture in cooperation with First Nations and Inuit
- Continue to fight racism in all its forms



# *Our commitments*

# THE ECONOMY

## | Putting more money into the wallets of Québeckers

### 18 commitments to keep strengthening our economy

- A second one-time payment to help Quebecers better cope with inflation
- Responsible tax cuts in the first year of a new mandate
- Increased assistance to seniors in the first year of a new mandate
- Cap on rate increases (Hydro-Québec, government services)
- Ongoing pro-Québec policy to promote “Made in Québec” products and buying locally by government
- Actively support vocational and skills training in strategic sectors
- Continue to create innovation zones throughout Québec
- Rebuild dynamic local economies in cities and villages
- Finalize wireless and mobile coverage across the entire Québec territory
- Upgrade most of Québec’s wireless network to 5G technology
- Promote higher productivity in Québec-based businesses
- Reduce bureaucratic red tape for Quebecers
- Digitize access to government services
- Develop the economic potential of Québec’s remote regions
- Increase investments in sustainable forest management
- Continue to make record investments for food autonomy
- Increased assistance for eco-responsible agricultural practices
- Support for next-generation farmers



# HEALTHCARE

## | A caring, efficient, and accessible front line

### 15 commitments to improve our healthcare system

- Set up the “Votre Santé” platform
- Create digital health files
- Improve access to front-line services with telemedicine
- Create Santé Québec, a new agency designed to make the healthcare system more efficient and more effective
- Give more autonomy to the various types of healthcare professionals
- Increase the number of doctors and healthcare professionals
- Increase investments to build, modernize, and expand Québec hospitals
- Pursue partnerships with the private sector and community organizations to improve the services offered to Quebecers
- Improve the supply of homecare services
- Deploy hospitalization at home across Québec
- Introduce record-breaking measures and investments in mental health
- Implement a heliport transport service
- Continue to implement the recommendations of the Laurent Commission
- Offer more respite care spaces for parents of children with disabilities
- Continue putting pressure on the federal government to respect its obligations in funding the healthcare system

# CLIMATE CHANGE

## | A global leader in the green economy

**14 commitments to fight climate change, to increase the part played by electricity in our lives and to make Québec a leader in the green economy.**

- Continue to apply the Green Economy Plan for significantly lower GHG emissions by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality
- Develop electrified transport in the private and public sectors, plus a sustainable battery industry – from manufacturing to recycling
- Develop new renewable energy networks – wind power, biofuels, bioenergy, geothermal energy, and hydrogen
- Fast-track installation of charging stations throughout Québec
- Create a dedicated “Fonds bleu” to help protect our lakes, rivers, and waterways
- Invest in shoreline erosion prevention
- Enhance access to nature with new or expanded Québec parks and wildlife reserves
- Enhance protection of nature in an expanded network of protected areas in Southern Québec
- Assist municipalities with support for green space development
- Reduce the volume of waste materials going to landfills through organic waste recovery, selective collection, expanded beverage container deposits, and reduction of plastic waste
- Work to reduce food waste
- Support agricultural producers to achieve sustainable food self-sufficiency
- Increase investments in intercity transportation
- Meet 2030 protected area targets

# EDUCATION

## | Major offensive to stop dropping out

**12 commitments to encourage our young to stay in school, to promote reading and to provide them and their teachers more stimulating school environments. Promote higher education research, improve links between programs and the workplace and promote enhanced Québec studies.**

- Modernize vocational training to help alleviate the labour shortage
- Expand the tutoring program to the entire Québec school network
- Offer more services to students with special needs
- Renovate our aging and dilapidated schools
- Continue building beautiful new schools
- Transforming and greening schoolyards for the well-being of students and the community
- Creating a single digital access portal to the student's school career
- Promote the teaching of French throughout the school network
- Promote reading among the young
- Support primary school teachers in building their library of children's books
- Promote a fully integrated approach to higher education
- Enhance Québec studies

# A QUESTION OF IDENTITY

## | Prioritizing Québec

**13 commitments to protect and promote the French language and all that makes us who we are.**

- Work constructively within the Canadian federation, while staunchly pursuing greater autonomy for Québec
- Negotiate with Ottawa to obtain full control over immigration
- Continue the policies of Bill 96 and ensure protection of the French language
- Defend Bill 21 and protect the secular nature of the state
- Continue to support our artists
- Continue to create more “Espaces bleus” cultural centres
- Develop youth-oriented content
- Promote the joy of reading to combat illiteracy
- Roll out and implement a plan for the Québec architecture and land-use planning policy
- Invest in the preservation and repurposing of Québec’s neglected churches
- Invest massively in sports infrastructure renovation and construction
- Develop a plan to promote Indigenous languages and cultures in cooperation with First Nations and Inuit
- Continue to fight racism in all its forms

# Continuons.



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