

THE NEW GREEN PLAN  
**PROGRAM 2022**



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# INTRODUCTION

Quebecers,

The year is 2022 and climate change, environmental degradation and economic inequality are getting worse every year. Our democracy is in peril and world peace is far from being achieved.

The Green Party of Quebec proposes a positive and bold vision for Quebec. An eco-socialist society that promotes the environment, peace, democracy, economic equity and living together in an inclusive Quebec that is open to the world. Through our 2022 program, the Green New Deal for Quebec, the Green Party of Quebec puts forward an inclusive, hopeful and positive vision for the future of Quebec. A vision in which no one is left behind. A vision in which respect for the environment is at the heart of the government's orientations. A vision in which the government strives to fight racism, discrimination and promotes living together. A vision in which ordinary people can not only house themselves, but also own their own homes. A vision in which world peace is a tangible goal, not a dream. A vision in which people help and support each other.

I invite you to discover the proposals of the Green Party of Quebec through the following pages. I believe you will find that our projects, proposals and values will resonate with you. I am certain that the Green Party of Quebec has something to offer you and that with your support we can build, together, the Quebec of our dreams.

In solidarity,

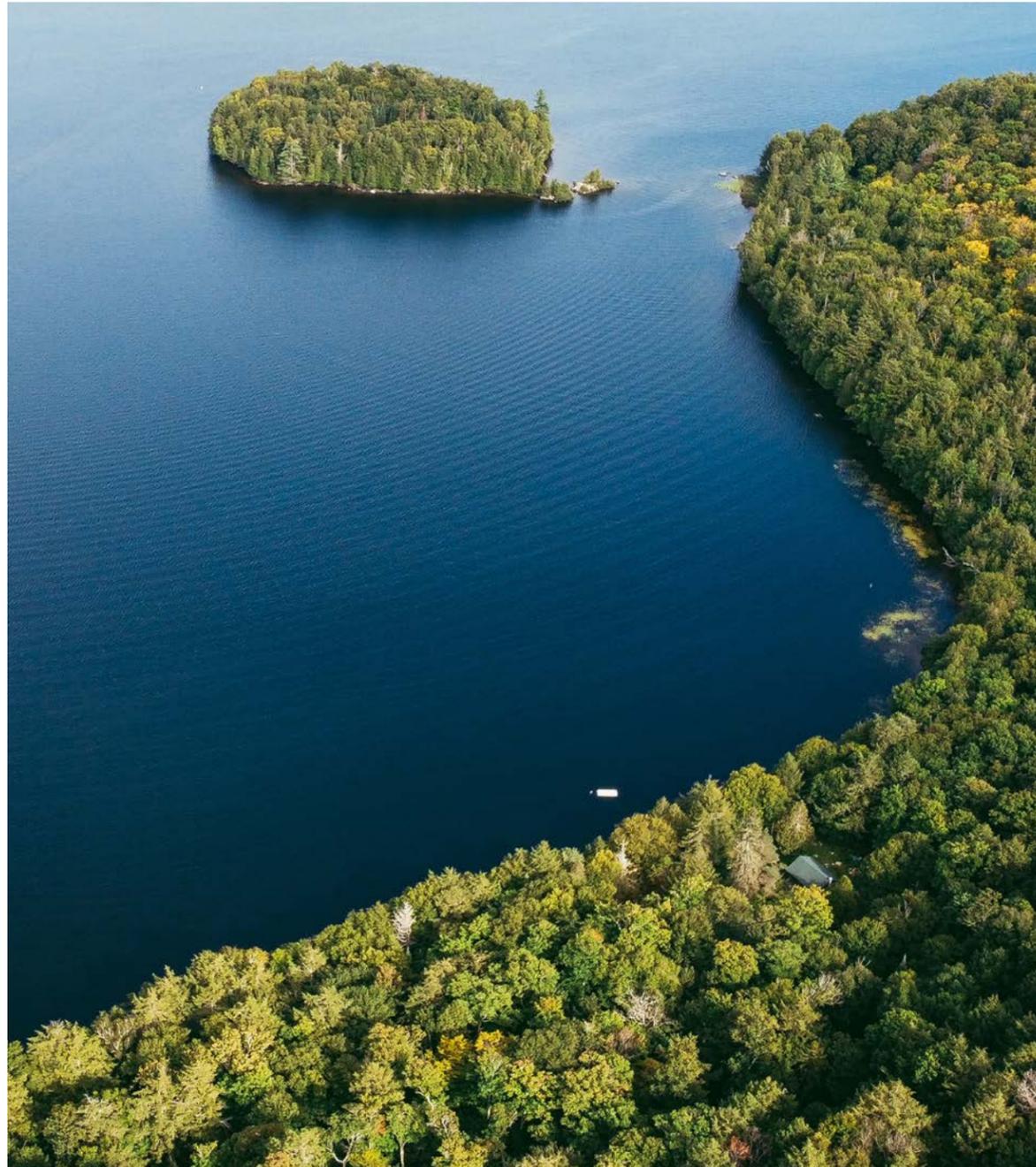


**Alex Tyrrell**  
Leader of the Green Party of Quebec



**ALEX  
TYRRELL**  
LEADER OF THE GREEN PARTY OF QUEBEC  
AND CANDIDATE IN NOTRE-DÂME-DE-GRÂCE

# ECOLOGICAL TRANSITION AND ENVIRONMENT



## FREE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

The Green Party of Quebec proposes to make public transit faster, more comfortable, efficient and affordable than private cars. To achieve this, we propose a massive expansion of the network combined with free fares. Free public transit will be an important financial lever to increase ridership. This increase in ridership will allow transit agencies to increase the frequency of service, thereby improving the speed and efficacy. This shift to public transit will benefit all Quebecers, who will be able to breathe clean air, waste less time in traffic jams and save money on vehicle ownership and maintenance, while doing their part in the fight against climate change. The shift will be financed primarily through a carbon tax on gasoline and disincentives to the purchase of gas-guzzling vehicles.

## Building a high-speed rail network



For intercity transportation between Quebec cities, the Green Party supports VIA Rail's proposed high-speed rail system, with some improvements. We propose to connect Gatineau, Laval, Montreal, Trois-Rivières, Quebec City, Saguenay, Matane, Gaspé, Sherbrooke and Drummondville to this network.

The project will be public, will be based on renewable electricity and will offer affordable services, more advantageous than the private car. This large-scale project will allow Quebecers and tourists to travel quickly throughout the territory without emitting GHGs and will contribute to the economic

development of the regions while offering a safe and low-cost means of transportation.

## Extensions and constructions of subways

A green government would like to improve the quality of transportation and facilitate daily travel. Some areas of the City of Montreal are currently underserved and require massive investments to connect their populations to downtown. We propose the creation of a loop with stations in Bois-Franc, Cartierville and Laval. Our platform proposes:

### Greater Montreal:

- The extension of the yellow line along Taschereau to the Panama station of the REM.
- The extension of the green line to Arlie and Laflur on Newman.
- Build the pink line in Montreal. The construction of the pink line would not only alleviate the overcrowding problems of the green and orange lines, but also connect certain neighbourhoods where travel is extremely difficult. This line would facilitate access to employment and contribute to the economic development of the affected regions.
- The construction of 14 streetcar lines throughout the island of Montreal to relieve congestion on the island, in the west, center and east, as well as a line in Longueuil and stations in Laval.
- The completion of the Orange Line as proposed in the initial project.
- The blue line expansion project.

### Quebec City area:

- A two-line metro project from Cap-Rouge to La Cité-Limoilou and Lévis.
- A streetcar project covering Quartier 4-5, Vieux-Moulin, Saint Louis and serving the south shore from Charny to Place-Martinière

### Gatineau

- Construction of an underground metro that will serve the city of Gatineau while connecting it to the Ottawa light rail system.

## Revolutionizing active transportation in Quebec

The Green Party of Quebec proposes to invest \$250 million per year in the development of cycling and pedestrian infrastructure across Quebec to encourage active transportation, increase user safety and improve the health of the population. This includes the construction of new bike paths in urban areas, changes in urban planning and subsidies for sports equipment. We also propose to fund active transportation, including cycling. The Green Party of Quebec will implement a subsidy program for the purchase of new and/or refurbished bicycles. We also propose to make more room for cyclists, including the construction of bicycle routes on specific days of the week, and to create car-free urban zones to reduce the number of vehicles on the road. A green government will develop its policies with a zero fatality vision, as the safety of cyclists is paramount. Finally, we propose to raise awareness and encourage the use of active modes of transportation, both for the environment and the general health of the population.

## Electrification of public transportation

Commuter trains, new rail infrastructure, buses and streetcars all have options for electrification without the use of batteries. In major cities, we support overhead wire power for buses. Connecting power directly to public transit is an effective way to reduce our GHGs while avoiding the harmful effects of batteries on the natural environment.

## Transportation and sustainable mobility

The Green Party of Quebec supports a rapid shift in our society towards urban and intercity public transit. Our goal is to reduce transportation sector emissions by 50% by 2035 and to reduce traffic congestion by 80% over the same period in Quebec's urban areas. To achieve this goal, we propose a range of solutions, financial levers and tools to change our habits, to develop the urban and interurban public transportation network and to make it affordable and accessible to all.

## Accessibility

We want to renovate existing stations and public transit modes while creating a comprehensive and inclusive accessibility plan for the people of Quebec. In addition, we will ensure that all future stations are designed and built with accessibility in mind. In this way, we can ensure that public transit projects are universal and provide seamless travel for all Quebecers.

## DEGROWTH OF THE AUTO-MOBILE INDUSTRY: FAIR AND EQUITABLE

### Fair and equitable reduction of the automobile sector

Oil consumption by private motor vehicles represents 22% of Quebec's total GHG emissions, with all road transportation contributing 34.4%. Electric vehicles are less polluting than petroleum vehicles, but require considerable resources to manufacture. They have significant environmental impacts in terms of GHGs, water pollution and the preservation of ecosystems, as well as on human health, particularly during the extraction of resources and the treatment of automotive waste at the end of their useful life.

It is important to consider the significant number of workers who will be affected by degrowth in this industry and to provide supports for this transition. This industry is larger than many people realize and some would argue that we are more dependent on private vehicles for jobs than for transportation. In every city you will find mechanical garages, gas stations, insurance vendors, accessory vendors, parts manufacturing plants, scrap yards, advertising agencies, financing agents, dealerships, vehicle resellers and more.

Any economic transition made to address climate change should be fair and equitable. Workers in the auto industry will need to be reassigned to other jobs in another industry to minimize the impact on employment. That is why a Green Party of Quebec government would offer a job guarantee to every auto worker who needs to be reassigned. Workers will

be offered alternative employment, the opportunity to be paid to return to school, and early retirement. This job guarantee is essential for the well-being of affected workers and their families and will allow the government to build public support for important measures to transition and combat climate change..

## Electric vehicle policy



In Quebec, approximately 7 million vehicles are on the road every day, which represents a 32% increase in the number of vehicles in 20 years. In addition, approximately 140,000 vehicles per year are scrapped, demonstrating that vehicle consumerism is rampant in Quebec. Since road vehicles are the largest consumer item a citizen can own, the "scrapping" of these vehicles reinforces excess consumption and depersonalizes the responsibility of citizens towards the environmental consequences of scrapping a vehicle.

In addition, while most hydro-electric vehicles emit less GHGs than petroleum-powered vehicles, their environmental impact is significant and should not be overlooked. Electric vehicles are not a magic solution to Quebec's environmental problems and contrary to industry marketing they are not "zero emission" since their manufacture and dismantling require many natural resources including a significant amount of oil. The Green Party of Quebec believes that it is urgent to impose policies that aim at a rapid decrease in the number of cars on the road in order to protect the environment.

**How can we encourage the use of electric vehicles on Quebec roads?**

Currently, the Quebec government offers a \$7,000 rebate on the purchase of an electric vehicle, the federal government adds a subsidy of up to \$5,000. In other words, governments are paying up to \$12,000 per electric vehicle sold in addition to the many other subsidies offered to the automotive industry.

Despite these generous subsidies, which are very costly for the government, the price of electric vehicles after subsidies remains higher than that of gasoline vehicles. Some explain this phenomenon by the fact that manufacturers tend to increase the price of electric vehicles based on the subsidies offered to consumers by the government. These subsidies are inefficient and represent a way of transferring public funds to the auto industry without achieving any concrete results.

For these reasons, the Green Party of Quebec proposes to abolish subsidies for the purchase of electric vehicles and to invest these funds in the expansion of urban, inter-city and rural public transportation and the construction of charging infrastructure, which is already significantly behind schedule. In our view, it is more effective to achieve electrification targets through legislation rather than through large subsidies to the auto industry, which we would like to phase out. A Green government would require car manufacturers to sell only electric vehicles by 2030.

## Banning SUV advertising

Sport Utility Vehicles (SUVs) are the biggest sellers in Quebec. Not only do they contribute to road congestion because they are larger vehicles, they also contribute more to GHG emissions. For all these reasons, the Green Party of Quebec intends to ban the promotion of such vehicles through advertisements.

## Reducing the average size of road vehicles

In Quebec, consumers tend to buy more and more large, gas-guzzling vehicles. Over the past 30 years, the weight and size of passenger vehicles on the road have increased dramatically to the point where any gains in fuel economy have been offset. The average weight of vehicles has increased by 18% in 20 years.

Two-thirds of new vehicles sold in Quebec are light trucks (SUVs or vans) and our fuel consumption has never been higher than in 2020, when we consumed nearly 11 billion liters. This trend must change quickly. Quebecers are paying more and more for less and less efficient vehicles. The purchase of vehicles costs Quebecers about \$16 billion each year and represents a current expense of \$10,000 per citizen. To combat this new trend, the Green Party of Quebec supports a vehicle registration fee based on vehicle weight and engine size. Under a green government, it will be significantly more expensive to buy and register large, gas-guzzling vehicles. Compact, electric and hybrid vehicles will be favoured in the calculation of registration fees. Fees will vary and will be based on the size of the vehicle and the accessibility of the transportation system in the jurisdiction where the vehicle owner resides. We also support a significant increase in the tax on luxury vehicles (planes, boats and cars). Since 1998, Quebec has imposed an additional registration fee of 1% of the excess value of automobiles up to \$40,000. However, this rate is increasing very slowly. The GPQ proposes to increase this rate to 5% effective by 2030.

### Car-free urban zones in major cities

Require Quebec's 30 largest cities to establish car-free zones in the heart of their downtowns. Cities will be able to rely on generous provincial grants to implement pedestrian and active transportation facilities.

### Car sharing

Encourage car-sharing services as much as possible to reduce the number of vehicles on the road by offering more convenient alternatives to private car ownership. The GPQ relies on the Dunsky report prepared for Équiterre to formulate the measures proposed in its platform.

- Modernize existing policies and regulations in collaboration with industry. There are barriers to the development of car-sharing services, such as the maximum amount allowed for carpooling services.
- Harmonize transportation services. Different transportation options fall under different departments

and different levels of government.



- Combining efforts in transportation would allow for a harmonized and sustainable vision with clear goals. Partnerships between different transportation services have also led to better service for users, for example by reducing subscription fees (e.g. STM and Communauto).

- Implement incentives to help the industry. Financial measures could include reduced subscription fees, tax credits for subscribing to a subscription service, lower parking fees for car sharing, or more incentives for the purchase of electric vehicles.

### Removing legislative barriers to carpooling

Carpooling is an essential part of reducing our oil consumption. Despite this fact, Quebec imposes strict guidelines that prevent anyone from profiting from carpooling, i.e., a person can accept passengers in his or her vehicle as long as he or she only charges the price of gas and the fees associated with the vehicle. In other words, the driver is not entitled to receive any remuneration or monetary compensation for accepting passengers. This has resulted in carpooling applications being slow to develop, as they cannot operate on a commercial basis. The Green Party of Quebec supports a regulatory framework that encourages carpooling, recognizes that it is reasonable to compensate drivers for their service, and recognizes that solo driving is a source of astronomical emissions and a detriment to the fight against climate change. To this end, the Green Party of Quebec is advocating

for new criteria to establish that a carpooling activity is commercial. It is the frequency of carpooling that should determine that a carpooling activity is commercial, not the mere generation of profit.

### Say not to the third highway link between Quebec City and Lévis

The Green Party of Quebec is categorically opposed to the construction of a third link between Quebec City and Lévis at a cost of \$13 billion for its construction and operation during its life cycle. In addition, such a project will have significant environmental impacts that are not being addressed by the current government. These huge sums of money would be much more useful in the green transition sector than an expensive, unnecessary and environmentally damaging highway tunnel project.

## CLIMATE CHANGE, FOSSIL FUELS AND AIR POLLUTION

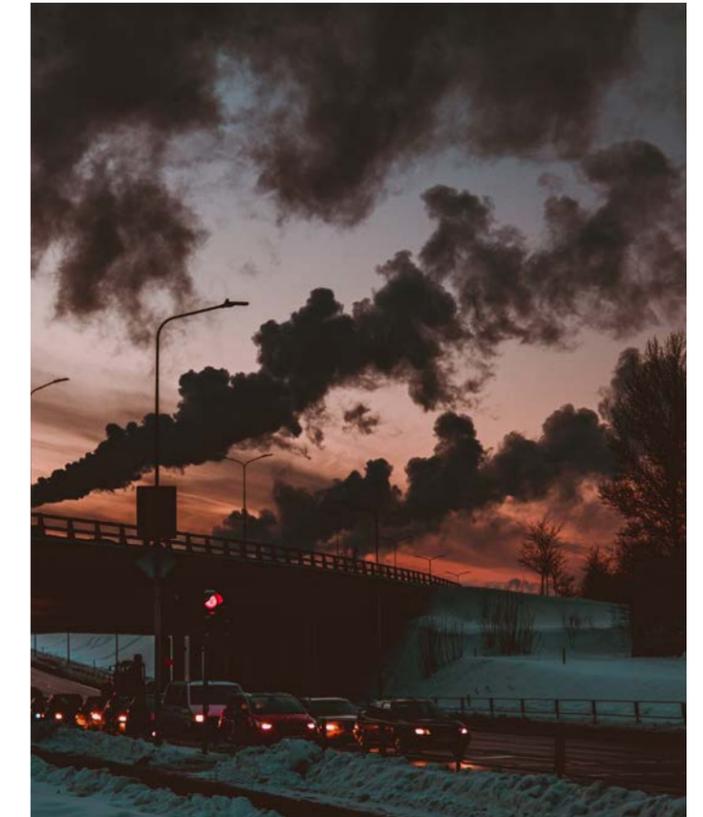
### Rapid energy transition : achieving carbon neutrality by 2035

The Green Party of Quebec has by far the most ambitious plan for reducing CO2 and all GHGs. This plan aims for net-zero emissions by 2035. This means a major reduction in all sectors combined with concrete measures to capture CO2 including reforestation, methane emissions capture and banning the burial of organic waste. This project will require major changes in our daily lives. It is a societal project that we are proud to support. We recognize that the transition to net-zero emissions will have to be done in collaboration with all in respect of social and economic justice. We recognize that a rapid energy transition will require significant investments in the short term. A Green Party of Quebec government commits to spending a minimum of \$500 billion in its first term to provide a major boost to a rapid, efficient and equitable energy transition.

### Improving urban air quality

Quebec's major cities are currently flooded with

polluted air. A recent study estimates that 7,700 people die prematurely each year in Canada and that smog costs the country's economy over \$36 billion. Locally, the Lung Association estimates that 1540 of these deaths occur in the Greater Montreal area each year.



To remedy the situation, the Green Party of Quebec proposes the following measures:

- A complete ban on wood burning in urban areas
- The conversion of oil and natural gas heating systems to electricity
- Measures that restrict the number of vehicles that have access to the metropolis
- Car-free zones in the 30 largest cities in Quebec
- The introduction of more vegetation, including vines, trees, green roofs, etc.

### Reducing the allowable limit of nickel in the air

The Legault government wants to increase the allowable limit of nickel in the air from 14 to 70 nanograms

per cubic meter for the benefit of industry and at the expense of citizens' health. We strongly oppose such a corporatist decision and propose instead a strengthening of air quality regulations to ensure a healthy environment for all citizens. The Green Party of Quebec is committed to reducing the allowable limit of nickel in air to 10 nanograms per cubic meter. We also want to install airborne particle detectors in all Quebec municipalities to identify air quality problems.

### Asbestos and CO2 in Quebec schools



The majority of Quebec schools contain asbestos in their walls. This fibre, while effective for its insulating properties, poses a real health risk if fibres are found in the air we breathe, especially when walls are damaged. The Green Party of Quebec is proposing a complete renovation of all Quebec schools to replace asbestos and provide our students with a safe and healthy environment in which to grow. In addition, the majority of classrooms have poor ventilation, requiring a major investment to reduce the level of CO2 in the air our children breathe. We plan to invest in our school ventilation systems to ensure clean air in these facilities. Thriving in a healthy environment is a right for all citizens.

### Developing a major carbon tax

In 2020, Quebec consumed nearly 11 billion liters of fuel, surpassing all previous years. Two-thirds of the vehicles sold were SUVs or light trucks. This status quo is not sustainable. It is time to take concrete action to fight climate change and transportation emissions. The experts are clear that to reduce greenhouse gases and fight climate change, we must take concrete action to reduce gasoline and fossil fuel consumption. It is for these reasons that the Green Party of Quebec is proposing to increase the price of carbon to \$200 per tonne in 2023 with a \$40 per year increase thereafter. The carbon tax will also be added to any imported goods to account for emissions generated in other countries that manufacture products used in Quebec.

### Carbon card

However, any increase in the carbon price must take into account the economic realities of individuals, families and regions. This is why we support a system of rationalizing the price of carbon in a more equitable manner. We propose to offer a carbon price exemption to every resident of Quebec. The number of liters of gasoline exempted will be determined by residents' proximity to public transit and their ability to reduce emissions. Children will also be eligible for an exemption. This will allow, for example, families living in the regions to receive a large number of liters of exemption, while a person living in the metropolis close to public transit will receive a much smaller exemption. In addition, this change will be coupled with a major expansion of the public transit system, which will now be free, more frequent, fast and comfortable. Carbon tax-exempt liters of gasoline will be granted on a monthly basis and every resident will have a carbon card. By presenting the carbon card to gasoline retailers, the carbon price will be deducted from the bill directly at the pump. Each liter of gasoline purchased in excess of the exemption will be subject to a carbon price of approximately \$0.46 per liter. The money from the carbon price will go into Quebec's green fund and will be used to finance public transit. We plan to exempt 40% of gasoline purchases in the first year and gradually decrease

the exemptions thereafter. This will allow the Quebec government to generate \$2.7 billion in revenue for public transit in the first year.

### Climate test for all new government projects

Every industrial project comes with GHG emissions. Currently, the government does not account for emissions associated with major projects in Quebec. The information associated with these emissions is critical to any decision on the merits of a project. For these reasons, a Green Party government will institute a climate test for all new major government projects in Quebec.

### Accounting for and reducing government and non-government emissions

Measure the carbon footprint of the government and its bodies (ministries, agencies, (e.g., Crown corporations, government and non-government agencies) and implement a carbon neutrality target for the year 2035.

### Legislate against new oil infrastructure

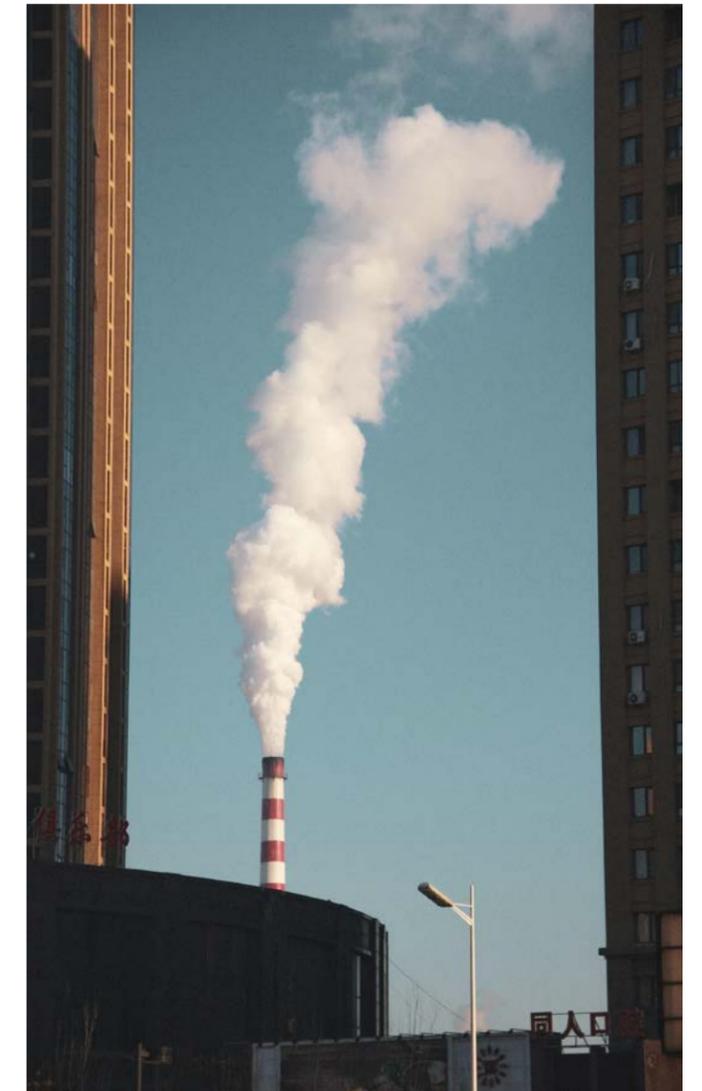
The multiplication of oil infrastructures is incompatible with the fight against climate change. It is for this reason that the Green Party of Quebec opposes all pipeline projects, oil ports and other similar offences such as drilling and extraction or exploitation projects. Building new infrastructure will tie Quebec's economy to a declining industry for decades to come. With respect to existing pipelines, the GPQ considers them unsafe due to daily spills that negatively affect the ecosystem.

### Abolish all public subsidies and investments in the oil industry

In 2018, Quebec spent approximately \$300 million per year in subsidies to the oil industry. According to the Green Party of Quebec and the entire environmental movement, these subsidies must be abolished now and in full. These subsidies are preventing Quebec from moving towards a true energy transition and

would be better invested in the energy transition and support for green initiatives.

### Eliminate fossil fuels in building heating



In Quebec, a large number of buildings are heated with oil and natural gas. These fossil fuels are easily replaced with electric heating and geothermal energy. While Quebec has a surplus of electricity and new wind turbine projects are aimed at increasing our production capacity, the replacement of fuels in building heating should be a priority. The Green Party of Quebec supports significant subsidies that will allow us to completely eliminate fossil fuel consumption

for residential, industrial and commercial heating by the year 2035.

### Increased fines for environmental violations

Fines for violations of the Environmental Quality Act are currently very low. People who fail to comply with the law are rarely held accountable for their actions and those who are not severely punished. This is why the Green Party of Quebec is proposing to significantly increase fines for environmental offences on Quebec territory. In doing so, we wish to establish fines that are proportional to the income of the individual or corporation that fails to comply with the law, followed by a multiplier based on the number of repeat offences of non-compliance with these laws.

### Implementation of an environmental police force

The Green Party of Quebec proposes to establish a new police unit dedicated to environmental investigations. This police unit will have environmental experts, specialized detectives and conventional police officers working together on investigations. This new police force will be governed by a new Environmental Policing Act that will give them the legal leverage to obtain the tools, funding and powers they need to do their job.

### Enshrining the precautionary principle in environmental laws

Currently, the state of environmental law in Quebec means that citizens affected by toxic emissions or other contaminants are required to prove, beyond a reasonable doubt, that they have suffered adverse effects from the pollution in question before the courts will intervene to protect them. To remedy the situation, the Green Party of Quebec aims to enshrine the precautionary principle in the Environmental Quality Act. This amendment will allow the courts to intervene as soon as health or the environment is threatened by a contaminant. Companies will have a duty to demonstrate that their practices are safe beyond a reasonable doubt.

## RECYCLING AND WASTE

### A nationalized recycling industry



Quebec is going through a major crisis in the field of recycling caused by China's refusal to accept our paper and cardboard. The main factor contributing to this crisis is the lack of local capacity to process waste. This lack of infrastructure means that we are not able to recover or exploit our own recycling. To remedy the situation, the Green Party of Quebec supports major public investments in recycling infrastructure to promote the circular economy, local jobs and a responsible environmental policy. Our goal will be to completely eliminate the export and landfill of recyclable materials. To do this, the Green Party of Quebec will nationalize Quebec's recycling industry and implement an ecotax on certain industrial materials. In addition, a deposit system will be implemented to encourage the population to reduce the amount of waste while financing the recycling industry. A new, more complex sorting system will be created to separate the various recyclable materials and avoid the contamination that makes some materials non-recyclable or more difficult to recycle. We will invest in the recycling industry in both northern and southern Quebec, while improving our capacity to recycle textile waste, which is currently landfilled or sent overseas.

### Reducing consumption and recycling better with the ecotax

Although Quebec already imposes an eco-tax on certain products such as electronics, the amounts are not sufficient to encourage the purchase of more sustainable products or to adequately finance their full recycling after use. For these reasons, the Green Party of Quebec proposes to expand the number of products subject to the eco-tax and to increase the size of the tax.

### Bottle deposit

The deposit issue is a delicate one, with many pushing for its outright abolition. The Green Party of Quebec believes that not only should this system be maintained, but it should even be extended. It is important to mention that the deposit represents an important source of income for many low-income and homeless people: taking this income away from them would be a serious mistake. We want to incorporate more products into the deposit system, including all bottles sold in Quebec. A Green government would first increase the current deposit to 50 cents, to make recycling more efficient and revenues more attractive. We also want to further increase the deposit on wine and spirits bottles and introduce it as soon as possible, with a deposit of \$1 per bottle sold. In short, upgrade existing sorting facilities to make the process more efficient and fund research to find new opportunities and ways to maximize glass recycling.

### Plastic and single-use policy

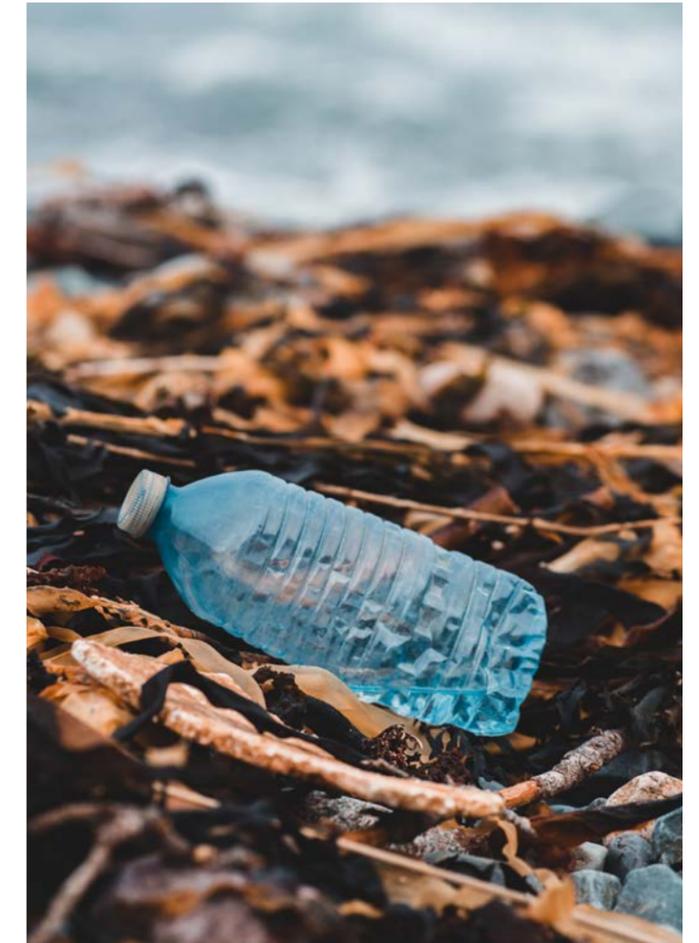
Every year, we consume billions of coffee cups, straws, plastic bags, disposable plates and single-use utensils. Reusable cups are widespread, but not many consumers use them, and systemic issues and inconveniences limit their use by all Quebecers. To counter the consumption of single-use items and to address the systemic disadvantages that this represents.

#### The Green Party of Quebec proposes:

- Ban straws, plastic bags, utensils and single-use cups. Single-use cups will be replaced by a universal reusable cup through a deposit-exchange program.

The universal cups will also be redeemable on a deposit system regardless of the restaurant chain or small coffee shop the consumer patronizes. Restaurants will be responsible for cleaning the cups and distributing them to customers. In addition, a similar program will be implemented for certain grocery containers and take-out meals. The ban would remove thousands of tons of plastic and waste from our landfills, waterways and oceans.

### Fighting over-packaging



To effectively combat plastic, we must also address overpackaging, which is one of the largest sources of plastic pollution. It is important to act against this plastic which is not only useless, but which generally ends up in the oceans and in our drinking water, which represents a direct threat to the health of Quebecers.

### To effectively fight against this plastic, the GPQ proposes to:

- Establish a regulation regarding packaging, in order to limit it as much as possible, while respecting the principles of health and hygiene.
- Encourage the development and transition towards “bulk businesses”.
- Replace plastic with paper where possible.
- Complete province-wide abolition of plastic bags.
- Introduce a tax on over-packaging.

### Online shopping and overpackaging

With e-commerce on the rise, the Green Party of Quebec wants to address the over-packaging of products delivered, particularly by the e-commerce giants.

#### To do so, we recommend:

- A tax based on the weight of the packaging to push private companies to reduce as much as possible the unnecessary packaging found in their products.
- Regulate the maximum percentage of empty space allowed in a product’s packaging.
- Require companies operating in Quebec to ship products together and not in multiple boxes or orders.
- Mandate the use of biodegradable packaging materials, including the protective cushions that are usually placed in packages.
- Apply the QST on all online shopping platforms.

### Modernization of Canada Post

The Green Party of Quebec proposes to allow stores to store their products directly in the Canada Post warehouse to allow small businesses to access the logistics of ultra-fast online commerce and compete with large distribution companies such as Amazon. It will also standardize packaging methods to reduce unnecessary waste more efficiently.

### Programmed obsolescence

One of the big problems with our current consumer system is product quality and shelf life. Many companies, especially those producing electronic products, design their goods to have a deliberately limited life span or to be beyond repair. This practice forces

consumers to replace their goods more frequently, increases the amount of waste produced, and contributes to pollution in various ways.

### To combat this practice, the Green Party of Quebec proposes to:



- End disposable small appliances by gradually extending the warranty on almost all of these products to ten years, addressing both their design and the availability of replacement parts. The aim is to design modular objects made up of sub-assemblies that can be easily dismantled and exchanged.

- Adopt minimum resistance criteria covering, among other things, robustness, repairability and evolutivity for each category of products from their design.

- Valuing repair over exchange.
- Encourage voluntary product labeling (life cycle) as a competitive advantage for companies.

- Take financial incentives by reducing the QST on repairs to clothing, electrical and electronic appliances by 50% in order to put an end to a system in which repairing a broken product costs more than buying a new model at a low price.

- The creation of an offence of programmed obsolescence - Adopt a universal charger plug for cell phones

- Contribute to the international fight against programmed obsolescence by strengthening regulations In the specific case of mobile devices, we propose to:
  - Impose the reversibility of operating system updates.
  - Extend the legal warranty period from 1 to 4 years for cell phones, and improve consumer information on its existence and content.
  - Charge more for making batteries non-removable to discourage this practice, in particular through eco-taxes.

### Residual materials management

Organic waste has enormous energy potential in Quebec. A Green government will make organics collection mandatory for all residents. This waste will be recovered through locally built bio-methanization infrastructures that remain in public ownership. A portion will also be used for local/urban garden/agriculture projects and for the national greenhouse project. The biogas generated from organic waste is interchangeable with natural gas and could be used to replace fossil fuels in heavy road transport and even in some automobiles with the necessary equipment. The implementation of biomethanization technologies will both capture methane emissions (a greenhouse gas four times more potent than CO<sub>2</sub>) and reduce our consumption of fossil fuels. Quebec has everything to gain by investing in the valorization of organic materials.

### Invest massively in wastewater biogasification

In Quebec, almost all wastewater treatment plants burn fossil fuels to incinerate wastewater sludge. This way of doing things is simply obsolete. New technologies that are privately owned and already in place in many cities allow treatment centers to generate renewable energy and fertilizer that can then be used for agriculture. The Green Party of Quebec supports a massive wastewater reclamation program across Quebec.

### Capture and reclaim emissions from

### existing landfills

Existing landfills contain large quantities of organic material that emit methane, a greenhouse gas four times more potent than CO<sub>2</sub>. In Lachute, Quebec, emissions are captured and recovered. The Green Party of Quebec supports the expansion of this technology to all existing landfills in Quebec where the gas potential is high.

### Contaminated sites and soil management

Across Quebec, thousands of contaminated sites are abandoned. These sites emit toxins into the groundwater, into the air and into nature to the detriment of ecosystems. Some pollutants remain in the environment for hundreds, even thousands of years. Currently, site owners are reluctant to invest the money needed to clean up and the provincial government rarely funds cleanup efforts, regardless of the circumstances or the magnitude of the environmental threat. These circumstances mean that future generations will suffer the consequences. This represents a source of intergenerational inequity that must be addressed as quickly as possible. Some studies estimate the ecological debt related to contaminated soils in Quebec to be over \$3 billion. The financing of the management of contaminated soils should be shared by the owners of the sites, the companies concerned (if they still exist) and the State as a last resort. However, disputes over cost-sharing should not slow down decontamination efforts, which can proceed even if an agreement is not reached between the parties involved before work begins.

## ENERGY RESOURCES AND ECOLOGICAL TRANSITION

### Renewable energy

The Green Party of Quebec supports subsidy and interest-free loan programs to massively expand solar, geothermal and wind energy technologies in the home to reduce our ecological footprint and promote sustainable development.

## HYDRO-QUÉBEC



### Hydroelectricity and renewable energy exports

Quebec is a major producer of hydroelectricity and currently has a huge capacity to generate electricity. The Green Party of Quebec proposes to drastically increase the energy efficiency of new and existing buildings with targeted programs. These programs, combined with an expansion of wind, geothermal and solar power, will increase our surplus electricity, which can then be sold to Ontario or the United States. The funds generated will be injected into energy efficiency programs..

### Moratorium on new electric dams

Quebec has developed large-scale hydroelectric potential. majority of the rivers are already developed, the Crown corporation has a surplus of energy and potential future dam sites will be less fiscally and environmentally efficient than what is already in place. Environmental hazards, such as flooding, reduce the viability of new electric dams. For these reasons, the Green Party of Quebec supports a moratorium on new electric dams.

### Allow for the purchase of small-scale renewable energy

Currently, the legal framework does not allow Hydro-Québec to purchase electricity generated by passive houses or small-scale generation by residential or commercial buildings. The Green Party of Quebec will mandate Hydro-Quebec to purchase small-scale renewable energy at a price advantageous to generators by following the example of Ontario which pays \$0.42 per kWh to small-scale generators, while maintaining the current ability of self-generators to re-inject the electricity to obtain credits at advantageous rates on their bills.

### Changing electricity rates to make them more environmentally friendly and equitable

The Green Party of Quebec proposes to offer a base amount of electricity free to every citizen and only charge for usage above that amount. This policy will discourage over-consumption while reducing the tax burden on residential consumers. For businesses that are large consumers, they will have to pay much higher rates than at present.

### Buildings, construction and energy efficiency new construction standards

Require all new construction to follow LEED standards and if possible passive building principles. That is, buildings must be oriented to maximize energy efficiency, take advantage of solar energy, be highly insulated, and sometimes use geothermal energy.

### Eco-renovation

At the moment, Quebec is facing a major problem: the inefficiency of our buildings in terms of energy consumption. This increases our consumption of hydroelectricity, oil and natural gas. The Green Party of Quebec is proposing a major program to improve the energy efficiency of our buildings. Better insulation being the priority, followed by the installation of geothermal and solar energy infrastructures, etc. This will allow us to create jobs, reduce our energy consumption and modernize Quebec's infrastructure.

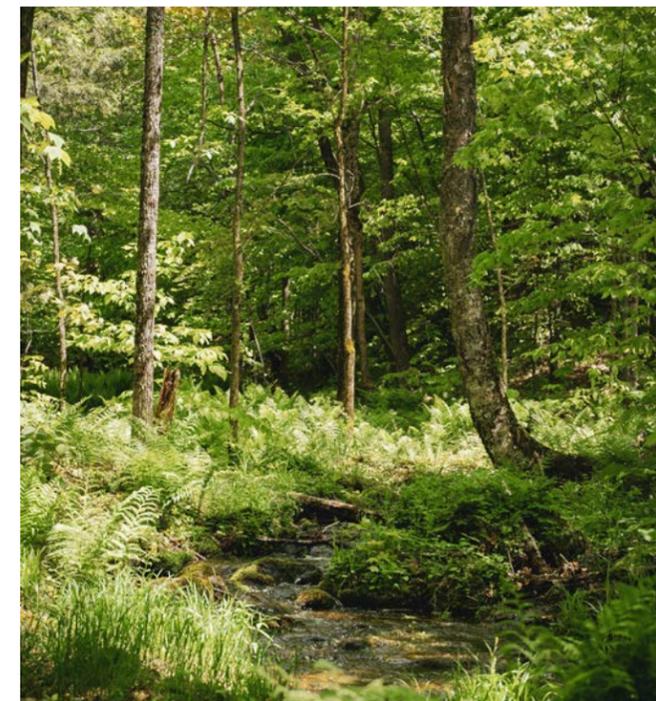
### Promote the development of natural infrastructures

Natural infrastructures are essential to meet the needs of the species inhabiting our Quebec ecosystem. These include primarily wetland networks and forest networks, providing our biodiversity with the ability to thrive in a healthy environment. The Green Party of Quebec is committed to dedicating a minimum of 1% of Quebec's infrastructure budgets to natural infrastructure such as woodland protection, wetlands, urban greening measures and natural bridges for wildlife. The construction of bridges with greenery or underpasses will aim to avoid the fragmentation of natural habitats.

### Policy to combat urban sprawl

The Green Party of Quebec supports the implementation of a national land use and urban planning policy to ensure coherence between the actions of the State and municipalities in order to achieve major national objectives in terms of environment, health, energy efficiency and more.

## NATURAL RESOURCES



### Forest and green spaces

Biodiversity and ecosystem conservation are essential elements of all scientific plans to combat climate change. Although Quebec's forest is vast, this has not prevented us from overexploiting it for decades for the benefit of multinational companies. We have allowed forestry companies to cut all the forests in southern Quebec several times. The few remaining old-growth forests are under threat and the Legault government has refused all protected area projects in southern Quebec, where biodiversity is at its highest. The views of First Nations, citizens and environmental groups are not being taken into account. Critical habitat for caribou and other threatened species are being destroyed every year. This includes the construction of forestry roads, which have consequences on the environment by encouraging more diesel vehicle travel by industry, but also on biodiversity by causing habitat losses for caribou.

### Decrease and nationalization of sustainable logging

Over the past several decades, the technological development of forestry machinery has made harvesting operations increasingly rapid and less dependent on labour. These circumstances have resulted in a decline in employment even as the industry cuts more and more wood. In the coming years, artificial intelligence and automation of forestry machinery will further reduce the need for human operators, again reducing the demand for labor. For far too long, the Quebec government's solution has been to allow more and more logging, charging less and less in royalties and putting the forestry ministry at the service of the industry. The Green Party of Quebec supports sustainable harvesting of our forests by well-paid workers with adequate working conditions. We support the nationalization of the forest industry, including the harvesting, transportation and local processing of this resource, which would be managed by a new government corporation, Forêts Québec. Nationalization combined with a decline in this industry will allow Quebec to better manage its public forests, guarantee quality jobs for fewer

workers and process more wood locally.

### **Moratorium on the development of green spaces in urban areas**

In southern Quebec, there are fewer and fewer green spaces close to urban centers. Unregulated real estate development and the lack of value placed on green spaces and urban forests in development plans has had profound consequences. The Green Party of Quebec is committed to protecting urban green spaces by imposing a moratorium on their development while promoting the densification of housing on already developed areas. The addition of green space will also help prevent the formation of heat islands.

## **WATER MANAGEMENT**

### **Protection of drinking water**

Oppose any economic development project that involves risks to drinking water throughout Quebec. This includes industrial projects, oil drilling and residential developments. Each project must be assessed for risk to drinking water and groundwater. This includes industrial projects, oil drilling, and landfill developments. This also includes a ban on the discharge of sewage into the St. Lawrence River. We also consider that the export of water for commercial purposes puts aquatic ecosystems and watersheds at risk.

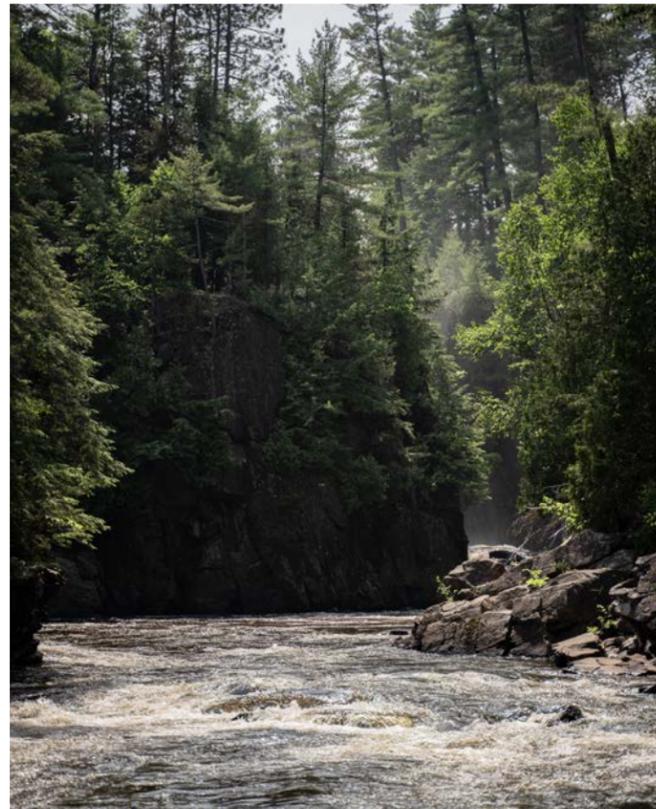
### **Establish a stormwater management plan**

Reusing stormwater is a good way to reduce our ecological footprint and the energy consumption associated with water treatment. Sound stormwater management plays an essential role in flood control. Groundwater is a natural reservoir of stormwater, but with traditional urban development, stormwater is being directed to sewers rather than to groundwater. The Green Party of Quebec supports a national stormwater management policy that takes into account the realities of climate change.

### **Lakes and rivers**

In Quebec, we have world-class freshwater reservoirs that feed our lakes, rivers and streams. However, the neglect of our waterways has gone on too long. Biodiversity levels are declining, pollution from human activities is increasing, and if significant action is not taken now, the health of our lakes, rivers and streams will be sacrificed. We need to protect them now, because we can't go back when it's too late.

#### **The GPQ proposes to:**



- Massively reduce pollution from animal agriculture near waterways through strict regulations that will limit agricultural operations near water.
- Establish a major fund for the control of harmful invasive species and mandate the Ministry of the Environment, in collaboration with watershed organizations, to develop action plans and carry out interventions to fight invasive species that reduce the biodiversity of water bodies.
- Ban pesticides and herbicides that pollute water bodies.
- Strengthen agricultural inspections and give

teeth to regulations while accompanying farmers towards practices that are less harmful to water bodies.

- More adequately fund the reforestation of lake and river banks.
- Work with and support NGOs and lake associations to protect the territory.
- Prohibit the drying and destruction of lakes for mining and construction projects.
- Ban single-use plastics.

### **Shoreline management and strategic relocation**

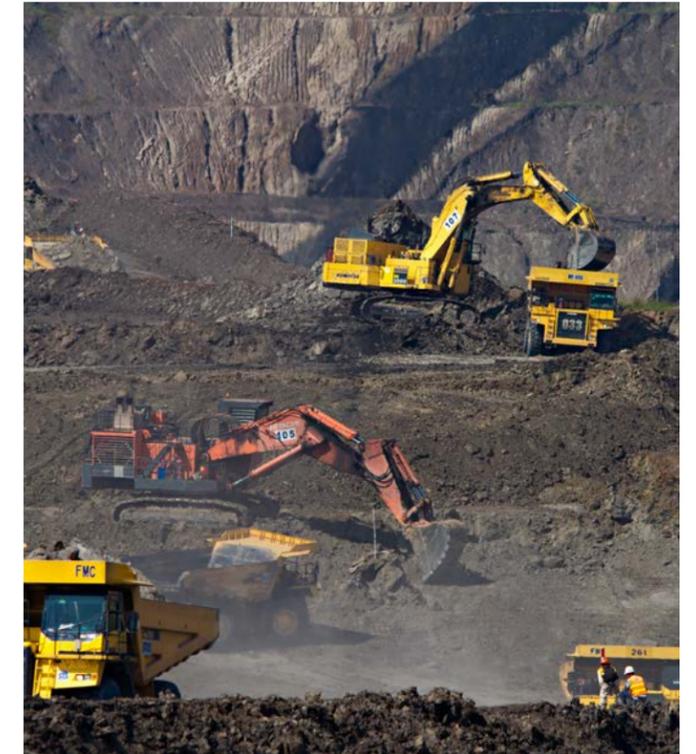
The reality of climate change is that the water level of the St. Lawrence and the ocean will continue to rise over the next few years. This has major implications for shoreline management and marine communities. The construction of retention walls in place of shorelines leaves little room for biodiversity. Protecting biodiversity and habitats means removing structures located near shorelines. The Green Party of Quebec is committed, if elected, to diligently manage shorelines in a manner that respects biodiversity and takes into account the reality of climate change. A Green government will also commit to initiate a strategic retreat plan in the Gaspé Peninsula, the Upper St. Lawrence and the North Shore. This measure will target the replenishment of existing infrastructure, but also of ecosystems.

## **MINING INDUSTRY**

### **Stricter standards**

The Green Party of Quebec supports much stricter environmental standards for the currently under-regulated mining industry. The status quo allows large mining companies to damage the land without being held accountable for their actions. We believe it is necessary to regulate the extraction of minerals for electric vehicles in order to minimize the environmental impacts of industrial-scale production. Furthermore, since the design of an electric vehicle is not carbon neutral, stricter standards for the mining industry will reduce the environmental impact of the production

of such vehicles and their polluting components, such as the lithium batteries required for their operation. Mining is also very damaging to the quality of life and sometimes even the health of local communities who have few legal levers to oppose the multinationals operating these mines.



In addition, the Green Party of Quebec wishes to prohibit the destruction of lakes for the development of the mining industry, as lakes are sources of drinking water for the region's biodiversity.

### **Public consultations and local autonomy**

Any new mining project should be subject to public consultation by the BAPE based on a thorough, independent and credible environmental study. Currently, the Ministry of the Environment has the discretionary power to exempt many mining projects from BAPE and public consultations. Currently, mines below the 2,000 tonne per day threshold defined in the regulation are exempt from the environmental assessment and review process. Mining companies ensure that they are slightly below this threshold so

that they do not have a legal obligation to carry out such assessments and extract freely without concern for the damage to our environment. We also support the right of indigenous and local communities to say no to projects that they feel are not in their best interests. In addition, the Green Party of Quebec believes that the Mining Act should be amended to give municipalities and First Nations a veto over any new economic, mining or industrial development project.

### **Obligation to finance the rehabilitation of used sites**

Through the Ressources Québec program, the Quebec government has transferred billions of dollars to non-renewable resource extraction and exploration projects. The Green Party of Quebec believes that these subsidies are not necessary for mining development and are nothing more than generous gifts to private industry with taxpayers' money. The Green Party of Quebec is committed to abolishing the Ressource Québec fund and transferring these investments to renewable resource industries.

## **BIODIVERSITY AND PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES**

### **Marine and terrestrial protected areas**

This should include a minimum of 30% strict protected areas north of the 49th parallel. The territory selected for protection should be protected indefinitely and without the possibility of changing the selection to allow mining or industrial projects. These decisions must be made in collaboration with Inuit and First Nations. We also want to achieve at least 20% marine protected areas in the Gulf and Estuary of the St. Lawrence and at least 30% terrestrial areas to protect biological diversity. Although Quebec has reached the 17% target for protected areas set by the United Nations Convention, there is a significant disparity between northern and southern Quebec and between marine and terrestrial areas. Marine areas are currently protected at 10%, while terrestrial areas are at 17%. The majority of protected areas are

in the north, but the majority of Quebec's biodiversity is in the south. We consider that the United Nations objective must be exceeded and that it is therefore necessary to aim higher to guarantee the sustainability of our ecosystem.

### **Concrete measures to protect endangered species**

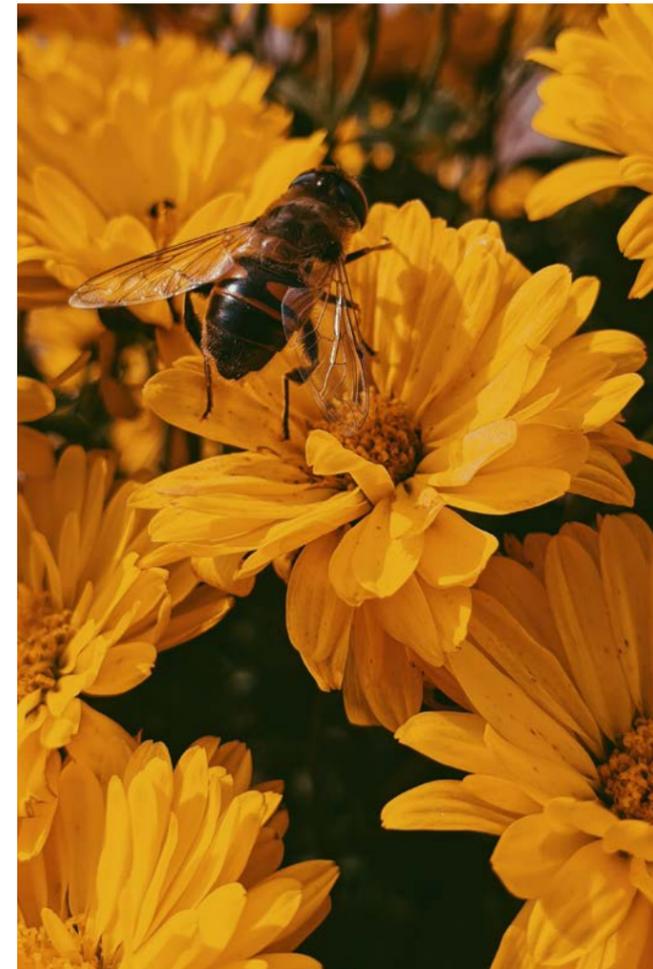


Endangered species such as the St. Lawrence beluga and the copper redhorse deserve the establishment of a marine protected area and acoustic refuges to fight for their survival. It is undeniable that the quantity of boats transiting through the waters inhabited by belugas leads to their premature deaths and endangers the species, which is currently on the verge of extinction. Thus, a green government would put pressure on the federal government to protect endangered marine species due to human activity in

areas that are supposed to be protected. Furthermore, we join Greenpeace's initiative to place a moratorium on industrial development projects on the shores of the Saguenay in an attempt to halt the demographic decline of belugas and reverse the deadly trend. The Green Party of Quebec is committed to protecting all species in the province.

### **Protected areas in southern Quebec**

In 2020, Quebec has reached its target of 17% protection of the territory by accepting mainly protected area projects in northern Quebec. In doing so, they set aside 83 protected area projects south of the 49th parallel. A Green Party government in Quebec is committed to moving forward with granting protected area status to 83 projects within the first 100 days of the election.



### **Protecting pollinating insects**

Protecting bees is vital to our future, as they are the main pollinators of the plants around us and play a vital role in many ecosystems. Bees make an essential contribution to our quality of life. The economic contribution of bees is also major, their pollination represents more than 153 billion dollars in the world economy. However, for several years, the number of bees has been declining and it is important to act quickly.

#### **To this end, the Green Party of Quebec proposes:**

- The complete ban on pesticides.
- Establish a program to monitor bee numbers.
- Increase the fight against harmful and exotic species.

# SOCIAL JUSTICE



## FIRST NATIONS RIGHTS

### Recognizing and ending the genocide against the indigenous peoples

The colonization of the territories that are now part of Canada and Quebec was extremely violent towards the First Peoples. The governments, in collaboration with the Catholic Church, perpetrated a genocide against the first peoples of these territories and the time has come to recognize the facts, to end the genocide and to take concrete action to bring justice, to document the events and to do everything possible to heal the wounds.

The UN definition of “genocide” is: “the killing of members of the group; serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; the deliberate infliction on the group of conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; and measures intended to prevent births within the group. All of these actions were taken in Quebec and some are ongoing. We have a duty to recognize this and to support the victims and their children who are equally affected by the horrors of the past and present.

### Land back

At the time Quebec was colonized, the entire territory belonged to the Indigenous communities. The colonizers imposed themselves with genocidal force by taking land without rights. Today Quebec is a diverse place where many peoples live together. Indigenous communities are subject to institutionalized racism and live on small lands that do not allow them to practice their traditional way of life. Some communities have so little space that members are forced to leave. With this in mind, The Green Party of Quebec is committed to ceding large sections of land to Indigenous nations. Communities that are short of space will be given additional land where they can continue to grow.

### Give seats in the national assembly to each of the 11 indigenous nations

In order to give Indigenous people a significant voice

in Quebec’s democracy, The Green Party of Quebec is committed to providing one seat in the National Assembly for each of the 11 Indigenous nations and one seat for Indigenous people living outside the communities, for a total of 12 seats. This gesture of reconciliation could give indigenous people a choice of government in the event of a minority parliament, while promoting dialogue, listening and exchange within parliament.

### Follow up on the recommendations of the viens commission, the truth and reconciliation commission and the inquiry into missing and murdered indigenous women



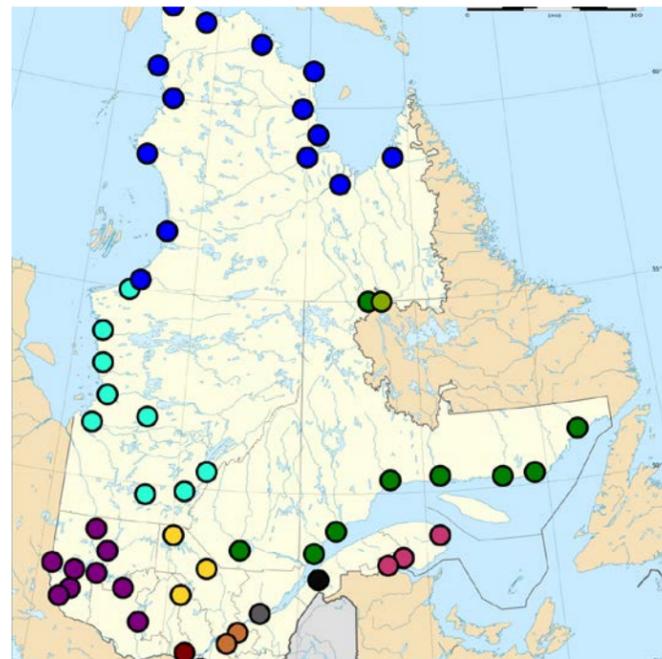
Issues of systemic discrimination against Indigenous people continue to exist. The situation must be corrected while healing the wounds endured since colonization, which are well known and documented, and the various commissions have already made concrete, achievable and fair recommendations. What is missing to follow up on the recommendations of these commissions is the political will to act. The Green Party of Quebec believes that the time has come to take concrete action and to build the future together with the First Peoples by recognizing their rights and their connections to their lands. We have a duty to act now and we will.

### Fight racism in the health care system

The Quebec government must formally recognize systemic racism and actively contribute to its elimination

through various measures outlined by Coroner Gehane Kamel. Stricter supervision and more rapid disciplinary measures must also be formulated to respond to the suffering that systemic racism causes Indigenous people in the health care system. What happened with Joyce Echaquan at the hands of the health system is unacceptable and shocking but sadly far from an isolated case. Racism exists in the Quebec health care system. It is a key place where systemic racism is practiced in Quebec and we all have a duty to eliminate racism everywhere in Quebec whether it is in our health care system, in education, in the hands of the police and elsewhere.

### Territorial and social autonomy



The Green Party of Quebec supports the self-determination of Indigenous peoples. In terms of territorial management, First Nations should have the power to block development (or exploitation) projects on their ancestral lands. On the social front, Indigenous people should have more control over social services, particularly to reduce the sending of Indigenous children to non-Indigenous foster families. In this sense, the agreement signed with the Atikamekw Nation is an example to follow. Furthermore, we consider that Indigenous youth are the future of First Nations and

that it is therefore necessary to increase the assistance and investments towards Indigenous youth.

### Formal recognition of indigenous governments

The Green Party of Quebec supports the formal recognition of Indigenous governments in the Canadian Constitution so that they can benefit from the same recognition as the provincial and federal governments.

### Allow a return to traditional governance

The Green Party of Quebec recognizes that the federal Indian Act of 1876 (still in force) is a fundamentally racist piece of legislation designed to disempower First Nations in the spirit of colonialism and is an affront to their fundamental rights. In particular, this legislation prevents First Nations from maintaining their traditional governance model. The Green Party of Quebec maintains that the Indian Act remains racist and colonialist to this day and should be overturned to allow First Nations the opportunity to transition to traditional governance.

### Preservation of indigenous languages

A The Green Party of Quebec government will put resources in place to restore endangered languages and help Indigenous youth learn their languages with free courses as we propose for French and English. In Quebec, some Indigenous languages are endangered. Young people often do not have access to learning courses in their language and have few opportunities to learn it. This loss of language brings with it a loss of culture and identity. We recognize that successive governments have taken strategic actions to prevent Indigenous people from speaking their language and practicing their culture. While no action can undo the past, it is our duty to do all we can to preserve Indigenous languages. Currently, the Huron language has no speakers in Quebec, Abenaki has only half a dozen speakers and Micmac has only 750. Algonquin and Mohawk are used by approximately 4700 and 2500 people respectively. The situation is more urgent than ever.

### Off-reserve indigenous rights

The Green Party of Quebec believes that the Indian Act violates the rights of First Nations people living off-reserve. Reconciliation requires a change in approach on the part of the federal government as stipulated in the Tsilhqot'in 2012 and Daniels 2016 Supreme Court decisions.

## WOMEN'S RIGHTS

The Green Party of Quebec is a feminist party. We note that equality is unfortunately still very far from being achieved in Quebec. For example, women are often paid less than men, they are more likely to be



victims of domestic violence, to experience systemic oppression by the state, by capitalism, by masculinist culture and by the patriarchy. While the challenges are numerous, The Green Party of Quebec proposes to take the following actions now:

### Ban street harassment

In Quebec, many women are victims of sexual street harassment. These acts are rarely punished; the severity is sometimes not enough to lead to criminal convictions, but it should still be illegal. For this reason, The Green Party of Quebec is proposing the implementation of a provincial law (outside of the Criminal Code) that will impose fines on those who are found guilty of making vulgar and unsolicited sexual comments in public places to people they do

not know. The implementation of this law would work in a similar way to the punishment for illegal street crossing. This would be both symbolic, to clearly place street harassment outside the social norm, and practical, in cases where the police witness street harassment firsthand and can intervene.

### Support survivors of sexual assault

- Establish specialized intensive training in sexual violence for all police officers and crown prosecutors in Quebec to facilitate the reporting and investigation process, to better serve victims in a respectful manner and to develop police and legal skills in this area.
- Adapt the Labour Code to provide paid leave for victims of sexual assault or domestic violence. Under this policy, leave may be prescribed to victims by CLSCs, social workers, physicians, or sexual and domestic violence support centers. These leaves will be paid by the Social Services so as not to place a financial burden on the victims. These paid leaves are intended to allow victims to take the time they need to recover, file a complaint, and/or escape an abusive domestic partner without jeopardizing their financial situation.
- Provide free psychotherapy services to anyone in need and particularly to victims of sexual violence.
- Provide funding for anti-violence programs, domestic violence shelters and women's centers.

### Fighting rape culture

A government of The Green Party of Quebec will fight for the implementation of a multidisciplinary strategy to prevent sexual assault.

- Address issues of consensual sex and respect for each other in sex education courses in the primary and secondary school curriculum. In college, university and technical schools, workshops on consent will be mandatory.
- Combat rape culture by undertaking measures to educate the public about consent through an advertising campaign to raise awareness about what sexual assault is and the physical and emotional consequences for victims.
- Reinforce individuals' control over their own

bodies by teaching them from elementary school that their bodies belong to them alone, that they have the final say, the power to refuse contact, and that they do not have to submit to anyone (including family members).

### Decriminalization and legal regulation of prostitution in Quebec

The murder of Marylène Levesque, a sex worker killed by one of her clients, and the numerous feminicides in Quebec have highlighted the insecurity present in the sex work environment. In response to this problem of violence against sex workers, The Green Party of Quebec believes that the safety of women and men in the sex trade can be better protected by decriminalizing prostitution at the federal level, which would allow the provincial government to regulate prostitution, drastically reduce cases of abuse and human trafficking, and reduce violence against women. We are convinced that such an approach, which can already be found in some European countries, will also allow this sector of activity to be regulated by labour law, thus improving the working conditions of sex workers in general by granting them rights, dignity and access to essential services, including physical and mental health care better adapted to their realities. Sex workers are often in a precarious situation and want to make a safe living from their work without being criminalized. The current criminalization of sex workers feeds the stigmatization of sex workers, reinforces the dynamics of violence, human trafficking, police repression, systemic racism and discrimination while generating important profits for organized crime and pimps. Like drugs, sex work cannot be eliminated by criminalizing it. This reality, combined with the violence against sex workers, forces us as a society to change our approach to protect vulnerable people. The Green Party of Quebec wants to give sex workers greater autonomy in their workplace decisions, greater respect for their bodies, their decisions and their basic rights in order to reduce violence.

### Fighting for gender equality

- Fight in solidarity for the rights of racialized

women. The Green Party of Quebec proposes to combat racism by promoting intersectional feminism and ensuring the representation of racialized women through affirmative action programs. For decades, women in Quebec have made tremendous progress. However, due to intersectional factors, equity is still far from being achieved for Indigenous and visible minority women.



- Fight for the growth of women in traditionally male workplaces by adapting the Labour Code to prohibit harassment and unequal treatment of these women. The Green Party of Quebec supports a less gendered division of labour. To achieve this, we propose the construction of a new CEGEP focused on the sciences (particularly physics and engineering), two traditionally male-dominated fields, which will be required to respect gender parity among students.
- Combat the hypersexualization of young girls by banning their sexualization in advertising campaigns in Quebec. The Green Party of Quebec also supports the obligation to clearly indicate that a photo has been altered when published by a Quebec company, as well as the implementation of a minimum body mass index to be paid as a model or for images of oneself by a company. We would like to see the organization of ethics courses for advertising programs, in order to better understand the effects of gendered advertising on society, and to introduce a provincial law to allow women to have the same rights as men regarding their clothing. The GPQ would also like to fund a non-profit organization to analyze the sexism and hypersexualization generated by advertising.

- Achieving equal pay by following the example of the model adopted in Iceland where companies are required to prove that they pay women as much as men, based on their skills, responsibilities and added value to the company. Intersectional realities should also be considered, as equality is still far from being achieved for, among others, racialized and Indigenous women. Currently, Quebec companies are not required to demonstrate equality in their pay structure.

- Achieve parity among our elected officials by introducing a proportional voting system, with quotas for women candidates to be phased in over two general elections. Introduce parental leave for elected officials and increase funding for mentoring programs.

### LGBTQIA2+ RIGHTS



The Green Party of Quebec believes that the Quebec government must step up its fight against bullying, homophobia and transphobia. This fight begins in the schools, but must continue throughout our society. Our fellow citizens of gender and sexual minorities have the same rights as everyone else and intolerance towards them must be ardently fought. The gender and sexual diversity of Quebec and the openness of our society are sources of pride and must be celebrated.

### Quebec's formal apology

Over the past few years, the federal government has issued a formal apology to the LGBTQIA2+ community.

The City of Montreal and its police force have also apologized, among other things, for acts of police brutality and violent police raids against members of the community and their institutions. A The Green Party of Quebec government will formally apologize to the LGBTQIA2+ community and take concrete action to continue the fight for equality.

### Adoption and parenting

On adoption and parenthood, we believe that same-sex couples should have the same rights as heterosexual couples. There is no compromise on equality between citizens and we believe that same-sex parents are just as capable as heterosexual parents.

### Youth and schools

We propose to increase support for members of this community through the creation of LGBTQIA2+ youth centers throughout Quebec, particularly in the regions where the lack of resources and the isolation of LGBTQIA2+ youth are most acute. We also support the funding of measures that are better adapted to LGBTQIA2+, people of color and Indigenous people whose needs are urgent. We also propose a reform of sex education courses, which in addition to being introduced in high school, should better reflect the reality of gender and sexual minorities. We support the establishment of support groups for gender and sexual diversity students in all schools as well as gender neutral bathrooms. Youth are the future of Quebec, and we must fully support them and strive for their development.

### RIGHTS OF NON-BINARY AND TRANS PEOPLE

We also believe that provincially produced identification documents for citizens should offer a voluntary gender designation or a "gender neutral" option for those who do not identify as either male or female. The Green Party of Quebec is also committed to providing funding to the Government of Quebec to cover all costs associated with the transition of trans people, including psychological care and counselling,

surgeries, medical care, document and ID processing, hormone therapy, etc.

### Gender neutral bathrooms

In order to fight transphobia, The Green Party of Quebec proposes the implementation of gender neutral bathrooms in all Quebec schools and government institutions.

### Fighting violence against LGBTQIA2+ people

Unfortunately, homophobia, transphobia and intolerance result in shocking acts of violence. As a progressive society, it is our duty to fight against all forms of violence. This means actively fighting homophobia in all spheres of our society and putting in place structures to prevent and denounce violence against members of Quebec's sexual diversity.

### Reform of the compensation for victims of crime (IVAC)

The Green Party of Quebec believes that the process of processing files is too long and does not take into account the human aspect of these tragedies. It can take up to 10 years to process a case, creating additional stress for victims of crime. The government has a responsibility to ensure safety on its territory, so it is completely justified that the State is responsible for compensating victims of crime in the province. It is unacceptable that victims, such as those of the Quebec City mosque bombings, cannot access a psychologist because of the long waiting lists when they go through the IVAC.

#### The Green Party of Quebec therefore proposes to:

- Provide financial assistance that takes into account the complexity of victims' cases. Financial assistance for victims should not be time-limited.
  - Reinstate financial assistance for children born as a result of sexual assault. The current law is more restrictive than the previous law, and provides only for food assistance, whereas the previous law provided for financial assistance of up to 65 % of the wage base.
- \* Rehabilitate lifetime assistance for victims, with

medical justification. For victims who were employed at the time of the crime, Article 41 of the new law limits compensation to a maximum of three years.

- Reduce inefficient bureaucracy. For example, the IVAC only receives documents by fax, unnecessarily slowing down the administrative process. Slow and inefficient administration is an additional stressor for victims of crime.
- Allow the victim to choose the doctor who will evaluate their permanent injuries (this is not currently the case, currently the VCI chooses the doctor for the victim).

## REFUGEE RIGHTS

### Multiculturalism and living together



The Green Party of Quebec believes that Quebec's diversity is one of our greatest assets and should be celebrated. For this reason, we encourage a diversity of cultural events, the sharing of traditions and a greater exchange between the various communities that make up Quebec society.

### Refugees

We also believe that Quebec and Canada must accept more refugees in order to offer a chance to those who

are fleeing conflict zones, who are displaced by the climate crisis, discrimination or political repression around the world. This solidarity should be expressed with words, but also with concrete actions. It is our duty (and our international obligation) to treat every asylum seeker with respect, dignity and humanity and to do our utmost to help them.

### Immigration

We see cultural and ethnic diversity as a strength for Quebec. The Green Party of Quebec is therefore in favour of increasing the annual immigration threshold by 20 % to about 60,000 per year, in order to stimulate the economy, reunite families and allow immigrants to contribute more to Quebec society. We are in favor of a faster and more equitable recognition of diplomas obtained abroad in order to allow a better economic and social integration of new immigrants. This could be facilitated by the implementation of a conversion of diplomas and training financed by the State. A mentoring formula, allowing foreign workers to work under the supervision of Quebec workers for several years, would also be a solution. However, immigration should not be seen as a simple economic lever to fill the labour needs of businesses; immigration should also aim at family reunification and should not be selected solely on the basis of financial means. The Quebec government should take action to encourage immigrants to settle in all regions. We encourage actions of an incentive nature by creating favourable conditions. For example, the acceptance of the immigrant could be conditional on employment in the region for the first few years.

### Fight against discriminations

Although Quebec society is an open-minded society that welcomes minorities, the fact remains that there are racist people in Quebec who sometimes hold positions of authority over others. Faced with this reality, it is essential that our society take action to combat everyday and systemic racism, so that all people can participate fully in our society, benefit from the same opportunities as the majority and live together without discrimination.

#### The Green Party of Quebec proposes to:

- Establish a permanent Anti-Racism Council, composed of racialized people, with a mandate to conduct field research, advise the government on proposed legislation, make information available to the public, and participate in the development of policies to combat racism.



- Fight for the right to work by establishing incentive policies and minimum thresholds in the hiring process within all public and para-public institutions.
- Educate the public about the realities of racism by including a course in the primary and secondary school curriculum that addresses anti-Indigenous and anti-black racism, Islamophobia, sexism, and homophobia (among other issues), combined with instruction in the concepts of privilege, colonialism, and systemic, environmental and economic discrimination.
- Fight for justice by rigorously enforcing the hate crime sections of the Criminal Code while disseminating information to the public to reassure communities and deter potential criminals.
- End racial profiling by focusing on robust disciplinary measures and a compensation regime for victims.
- Launch a national awareness campaign to combat all forms of racism.
- Increase the representation of racialized people

in the media, in public service, and in funded cultural events by imposing minimum representation thresholds.

## ECONOMIC JUSTICE

The Green Party of Quebec believes that it is imperative to ensure good conditions for workers in Quebec. Work-family balance, training, upgrading certain jobs to attract the next generation of workers and improving the organization of work are among the party's values. Quebec is lagging behind in the defence of workers' rights and an upgrade is needed to ensure working conditions.

### Health and safety in the workplace

The Green Party of Quebec wants to strengthen standards to support workers' health and safety.

#### We propose to:

- Ensure recognition of mental illnesses to provide adequate care. This would allow employees to get the leave they need to recover if they are suffering from mental illness.
- Strengthen anti-scab legislation and make it easier to unionize. Too many employees suffer poor conditions because of the difficulty of organizing.
- Increase the number of inspections by the CNESST to ensure that laws and standards are respected, especially in places that hire a majority of minimum wage employees and where unions are often absent.

### Vacation

The GPQ wants to ensure the full development of all citizens by ensuring that everyone has enough free time to pursue other activities. Reducing work time would allow Quebecers to devote more hours to family activities, to leisure and to fully exercise their duties as citizens.

#### The Green Party of Quebec therefore wishes to:

- Introduce 4 weeks of vacations for all workers.
- Add 2 holidays, during which families could gather. These 2 days would be International Women's

Rights Day (March 8) and a Family Day (February 3) (as is the case in the rest of Canada).

- Introduce 10 days of flexible leave to help parents attend to various family matters.

### Workers' rights



For several years, the numerous strikes in various sectors have demonstrated the need to defend workers' rights. For The Green Party of Quebec, it is absurd that workers have to use exceptional measures to have their rights respected. The precariousness of conditions causes stress for workers and allows employers to level the playing field by offering fewer and fewer benefits.

#### The Green Party of Quebec is proposing a series of measures to enforce various workers' rights:

- Strengthen penalties regarding the employer's duty to ensure a harassment-free workplace. This should be combined with better training on respectful workplaces.
- Implement paid family leave in cases of domestic violence.
- Implement an early retirement plan for workers in physically demanding jobs.

- Improve the accessibility of pension plans for people with disabilities.
  - Guarantee the right to disconnect.
- Modern society facilitates interconnectivity between people, however, it is important to guarantee workers the right not to be solicited by their employers outside of work hours.

#### We therefore want to:

- Offer 4 weeks of vacation
- Give workers the right to choose part-time work, without penalty. Part-time work (including vulnerable minimum wage jobs).
- Provide more protection for vulnerable employees. These are the people most at risk of employer abuse.
- In addition to sick leave, launch an awareness campaign on mental health leave which is increasingly needed.

### Labour shortages

The pandemic has increased the already existing labour shortage in Quebec, combined with the aging population and the improved economic situation. More than 64 % of SMEs are having difficulty recruiting workers due to the excessively low unemployment rate combined with a segment of the population reaching retirement age and health restrictions. Only half of the one million jobs to be filled over the next 10 years can be filled by new Quebec workers. That's why Quebec needs to focus on other strategies to address the need for labour.

#### The Green Party of Quebec proposes to:

- Focus on worker training. Ensure that transferable skills are taught and that they are adapted to technological change. Training must be easily accessible and of high quality to ensure the employability of workers.
- Upgrade sectors in crisis. Some employment sectors are suffering from a labour shortage due to the working conditions that are attached to the job. The health and social services sector is just one example. By ensuring that working conditions are improved, we encourage worker renewal.

- Promote training for workers with disabilities to facilitate access to employment.
- Facilitate the transition to work at home when employment conditions permit.
- Recognize more foreign credentials to fill more positions.

### Restauration



The difference in pay between cooking and serving is inordinate; waiters earn an average of \$26 per hour while cooks with experience and training only earn an average of \$16 per hour, according to a 2017 salary survey by the Quebec Restaurant Association. It is important to act quickly to recognize the work of cooks and other employees, as well as to help restaurateurs address the labour shortage. We propose that the Quebec government hold a Commission of Inquiry on the respect of labour standards, salaries and tips in the restaurant industry in Quebec in order to establish a true picture of the current context and to take the necessary measures to restore the situation. We propose, following the recommendations of this commission, to introduce a system of tip sharing governed by law, which will set up a committee including a representative of the service and cooks and which will ensure the equitable sharing of tips among employees. The GPQ believes that a stricter application of labour standards in the restaurant

industry is necessary. Many abuses have been noted and workers' rights must be defended.

## Caregivers

In Quebec, 300,000 people, mainly women between the ages of 45 and 65, provide the majority of care to seniors. The lack of support for these people often causes exhaustion, psychological or economic distress. The Green Party of Quebec is advocating for greater recognition of the care provided by family caregivers.

## Services for seniors



For far too long, we have left the care of our seniors in the hands of the private sector. The pandemic has exposed the flaws in this system that prioritizes profit over the well-being of our seniors. From one service to another, seniors find themselves lining the pockets of corporations just to get basic services such as access to drugs, long-term residential care and dental care. All of these are left to the private market, which works very well for the wealthy, but leaves our seniors destitute.

### The Green Party of Quebec therefore proposes to:

- Improve the CHSLD network and raise the quality of life there to the level of the best private residences.
- A guaranteed minimum income of \$25,000 per year with bonuses, which will allow us to lift all of our seniors out of poverty immediately.
- A universal and free public dental care system for all.

- The creation of Pharma-Quebec, which will provide free prescription drugs.
- Improving mobility by providing free adapted public transportation.
- The Green Party of Quebec supports the development of social economy services that allow independent and semi-independent seniors to remain in their homes. This saves on hospitalization costs while creating jobs in the service sector (housekeepers, collective kitchens and Meals on Wheels, personal care, etc.). Within retirement homes, the GPQ would like to expand the system of integration of seniors, adapting it to individual needs, so that seniors maintain a sense of autonomy and accomplishment.

### The GPQ also supports the following measures from the senior care community:

- Standardization of eligibility criteria for the S.A.P.A. program
- Equitable distribution of the basket of services throughout Quebec.
- Standardization and improvement of the training of caregivers.
- Free parking for visitors in CHSLDs to break the isolation.
- Addition of volunteer accompaniment to the PEFSAD.
- Increase in the death benefit offered to the estate up to \$5,000.
- Established waiting periods for financial assistance from the Home Adaptation Program based on the health status of seniors.

## Public daycare

It is high time to act to protect these vital institutions for Quebec. The Green Party of Quebec supports a massive reinvestment in the public child care system. In addition to providing equal opportunities, daycare centers have given thousands of women access to the job market, stimulating the economy. According to the most recent estimates, child care centres have given 70,000 women access to employment, adding \$5 billion to the GDP. The modulation of child care rates according to parents' income is not the best way

to fund child care centres. Previous governments have pursued an obsessive zero deficit policy, combined with a phobia of raising tax rates. By focusing on the rates, the real debate is not being addressed. We should be focusing on our collective responsibility to fund the CPEs.

### The Green Party of Quebec proposes:

- An increase in salaries. This measure would allow for the revaluation of jobs in the CPE network, which is suffering from a lack of manpower.
- The improvement of working conditions. Childcare workers are passionate about providing quality education to children throughout Quebec. This is why respect for seniority, the work week, the decision-making role of workers, access to leave, progressive retirement and the splitting of leaves are all important.



- Improved services for children. Accessible child care is a priority for the Green Party. However, this must be combined with quality service. Increased budgets would improve access to services for children with special needs.
- Free quality child care for all families.
- Remove subsidies and tax credits that benefit the private sector. Government actions should not disadvantage the public sector in favour of the private sector. That is why the Green Party proposes the abolition of subsidies for private child care.

- Ensure that bargaining goes smoothly. Most business associations in Quebec negotiate in good faith and reach agreements with workers. However, some associations are refusing to accept national agreements and are stubbornly trying to roll back workers' conditions. The government should therefore take an active role in the negotiations and should ensure that progress is made, using sanctions if necessary.

## Discrimination in the workplace

Discrimination in employment is one of the biggest barriers to employment for many communities. These minorities are denied positions and promotions simply because of their differences. We want to move forward with a Commission on Systemic Racism in Quebec because it is time to address employment discrimination. Intersectional realities must also be taken into account to ensure fair representation: religious, racial, LGBTQIA2+, Indigenous, sexual, etc.

## Foreign and seasonal workers

Foreign workers provide an indispensable workforce for many Quebec entrepreneurs who have difficulty recruiting workers in Quebec. However, we must take into consideration the vulnerability of these workers who are too often mistreated and who do not dare or cannot report this mistreatment.

### The Green Party therefore wants to ensure the safety and respect of these workers by:

- Increasing inspections of working conditions for these workers.
  - Ensuring compliance with labour standards by increasing the severity of penalties for violators.
  - Prohibiting the payment of fees to recruitment agencies. Too often, workers find themselves owing money to their employer before their contract even begins.
  - Updating labour standards for seasonal workers to ensure better working and living conditions.
- Unpaid work

In Canada, more than 300,000 people work for free for companies. These workers are not only present in

NPOs and community organizations, but in all sectors. This practice is outdated and it is not normal to see some of the most successful companies replace an employee with an unpaid intern. The communication, education, health and social services sectors are the most affected and it is important to remember that these sectors are predominantly female. For the majority of interns, it is difficult to reconcile work, studies and the internship.

**The Green Party of Quebec therefore wishes to implement a series of measures to better supervise the work of interns:**



- Recognize the status of interns and include a definition of this status in the law on labour standards. Employers will no longer be able to use this term to avoid paying an employee.
- Improve protection for interns who are often not entitled to the same protection, particularly with respect to workplace accidents.
- Introduce stiffer penalties for employers who use interns to do the work of an employee. This practice is illegal, but interns are afraid to report it for fear of consequences.
- Differentiate between observation internships

and internships where the participant replaces an employee. It is not normal not to compensate an intern who performs the normal duties of an employee.

- Introduce remuneration for internships, with the exception of internships in NPOs or community organizations. In psychology, for example, students in this field have a 1600-hour internship to complete where they perform 80 % of the tasks of a psychologist, thus contributing to the decongestion of the public system, but are not entitled to any compensation.
- Establish a system of scholarships for education students during their internship period. Students in this field must not only work for free, but also pay to access credits for their internship.
- Prohibit unpaid internships when they are a mandatory part of a student's professional training.

## FIGHT AGAINST WEALTH IN-EQUALITIES

### Increase taxes on the wealthiest

The Green Party of Quebec proposes to increase the number of tax brackets, based on increments of \$10,000 rather than \$20,000, in order to tax people earning more than \$120,000 per year. This higher number of brackets will allow the government to tax the wealthiest according to the size of their income. The total tax rate (including federal taxes) will not exceed 75 %. People earning less than \$100,000 a year are already taxed enough (up to a combined rate of 50 %) and will not see any tax increase.

### Increase taxes on large corporations

The Green Party of Quebec is proposing to triple provincial taxes on large corporations to 35 %. This policy aims to balance the contribution of large corporations and bring them closer to the tax rate paid by citizens on their income. On the other hand, the Green Party will not increase taxes on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), will encourage their development, and is committed to encouraging the development through economic incentives (tax cuts, subsidies, etc.) of cooperatives that follow an innovative model

of redistribution and sharing of wealth within their communities.

### Reducing subsidies to large corporations



In Quebec, large corporations benefit from significant subsidies that allow the transfer of public funds, paid for by taxpayers, to large corporations that are often multinationals. The Green Party of Quebec proposes to reduce and eliminate these generous subsidies and reinvest the funds in the energy transition.

### Capital tax on financial institutions

The Green Party of Quebec supports a tax of 1.5 % per year on the capital of financial institutions. This tax would generate over \$500 million per year and will be used to fund free education, from daycare to university.

### Tax havens

The financial pressure on middle-class workers is growing. While millions of Quebecers are paying their fair share, millions of dollars are escaping taxation because of tax havens. The Green Party of Quebec believes that more resources should be invested in the fight against tax havens. The money collected will allow the Quebec government to have the means to

carry out major projects, without putting additional pressure on taxpayers.

### The Green Party of Quebec therefore wishes to

- Tighten the rules governing taxation in the country. Many strategies exist to allow tax evasion to take place legally. The GPQ wants to put an end to these loopholes.
- Review tax credits and their use. Several studies have shown that certain tax credits are only used by the wealthy when the credit is not intended for them.

### Single tax return

In order to reduce the bureaucratic burden on Quebecers and the state, The Green Party of Quebec proposes the introduction of a single income tax return managed by the Quebec state. This would result in savings of nearly \$400 million for the government and even more for citizens.

### Tax equality and limits on executive salaries

The wealth gap between the poorest and the richest is widening every year. The Green Party of Quebec strongly believes that the growing inequity must be stopped and the trend reversed. Tax inequity accentuates social injustice and undermines social peace. To address this, the GQP proposes to cap the salaries of corporate executives at 20 times the average salary within the company. The Green Party of Quebec believes that it is indecent for corporate executives to be paid up to 300 times more than the average salary within their own company.

### Tax equality and executive pay limits

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be paid up to 300 times more than the average salary within their own company.

## RIGHT TO HOUSING

### Nationalization of rental housing

In Quebec, apartment rents have increased well above the annual inflation rate. The owners of rental housing are increasingly large corporations and less and less honest people who rent a few apartments while living in the same building as their tenants. These large companies are looking to profit from the rents, and too often at the expense of the tenants' quality of life. Access to home ownership by individuals has never been more difficult in Quebec. People should have the opportunity to own their own homes.

Remedying the current situation will require structural changes in the real estate market. Changes that will give tenants the opportunity to own their homes. Changes that will stop real estate speculation and protect tenants from abuses committed by large real estate companies, such as renovation.

### Implementation of nationalization of rental housing

The Green Party of Quebec proposes to expropriate all rental units owned by real estate companies with more than 10 units. These units will be paid at 80% of their pre-pandemic value and will become the property of a new government corporation, Habitations Québec.

The people who live in the units will have two options; either to buy their unit for the amount Habitations Québec paid or to continue to rent it, but this time with an option to buy. The tenants who become owners will pay some maintenance fees for the building; the equivalent of the condo fees in cost. Tenants will have a portion of their rent covered for maintenance costs, while the remainder of their rent will be put into a savings account that can be used to either purchase the unit, return to school, retire or purchase a property outside of the Habitations Québec program.

This ambitious program will operate on a revenue-neutral basis for the government, as the purchase of the apartment buildings will be financed by the tenants who will buy their units or continue to pay their rent. The new Crown corporation, Habitations Québec, will allow tenants to own their own homes while putting an end to real estate speculation fuelled by large corporations.

### Building new housing



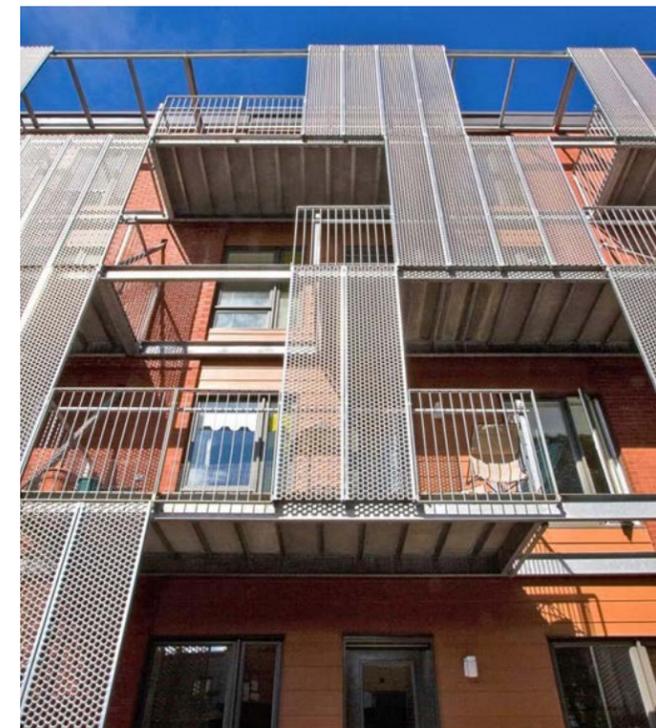
With the housing crisis, a large number of new affordable units will need to be built. These units should be built on already developed land, promoting densification. A Green Party of Quebec government will fund the construction of new affordable housing units that will be made available for purchase or rent through the government-owned corporation Habitations Québec.

### Implementing regulations to curb real estate speculation

The Green Party of Quebec is proposing a new regulation that will impose an additional sales tax when real estate is sold within 5 years of the original purchase date. This policy is intended to curb and stop the current trend of speculation and short-term resales to artificially raise property values on the market.

### Creation of Telecom-Québec

The Green Party of Quebec supports the establishment of a Crown corporation to provide a nationalized, low-cost telecommunications option for the people and businesses of Quebec. The mandate of this corporation will be to provide internet, telephone, cable and cell phone services to all Quebecers, including those in remote areas, at lower cost. By 2022, Internet access should be a universal right, not an expensive privilege. The status quo means that prices remain very high and service is still not available in many communities.



### Social housing

The GPQ considers housing to be a fundamental right to which everyone should have access. This right must be respected without discrimination, regardless of income, social status, ethnic origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or physical or mental condition. The GPQ believes that government intervention in certain areas is necessary to ensure that citizens' rights are respected. The free market exposes residents to the pressures of speculation and it is the

most vulnerable who pay the price. The state must therefore be present to ensure access to housing for those citizens most at risk.

### Based on various FRAPRU recommendations, the PVQ proposes to

- Strengthen the means of the Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse du Québec to fight discrimination more effectively.
- Establish a national housing policy to control the harmful practices of the private housing industry.
- Ensure the construction of 50,000 social housing units per year in Quebec to alleviate the shortage and ensure that these units meet the needs of the most vulnerable tenants.
- Assist in the construction and renovation of housing on Indigenous reserves.
- Increase the budget allocated for the renovation of housing to adapt it to the needs of people with disabilities.
- Ensure that people with mental health issues are considered in housing policies.
- Support the construction of affordable housing.
- Guarantee the right of people to be housed without paying more than 20% of their salary for housing.

### Eco-responsible housing

In order to facilitate the reduction of Quebecers' energy needs, The Green Party of Quebec is committed to taking a series of measures to promote eco-responsible housing in Quebec. The GPQ proposes to subsidize the construction of housing that reduces its ecological footprint. These financial incentives would be granted if the dwelling has a high-performance insulation envelope, an energy-efficient heating and ventilation system, energy-efficient appliances and lighting, local materials, when available, renewable or recyclable materials, etc.

### Renovations to existing housing

While the construction of new housing must be regulated, it is imperative to act to increase the energy efficiency of existing housing. A vast subsidy program for ecological renovations must be set up.

## Gentrification

It is important to ensure that neighbourhoods are economically developed and that they are constantly evolving. However, it is important to ensure that this development does not occur at the expense of the local population. Thus, rapid development in neighbourhoods must be controlled and regulated to ensure that it is possible for low-income people and families to remain in place. It is not normal for some residents to leave neighbourhoods because of the rising cost of living.

### How do we address homelessness and how do we get out of it?

The Green Party of Quebec is committed to actively fighting homelessness, but we are also proposing downstream solutions to take concrete and more effective action that will have a better long-term impact. We believe that government investments must be spread out for all people at risk of homelessness, in cities and regions, regardless of age and gender, with special consideration for marginalized people (women, First Nations, LGBTQIA2+, racialized people, etc.). It is time for the provincial government to live up to its commitments on homelessness, including putting a permanent end to the many austerity measures that are making the situation worse.

#### The Green Party of Quebec proposes:

- The introduction of a guaranteed minimum income of \$1800 per month.
- The construction of 50,000 social housing units per year; more accessible for people experiencing homelessness.
- Implementing measures to ensure the preservation of the stock of rooming houses and developing new ones.
- Hire more social workers to streamline the system and make more resources available.
- Emphasize reintegration into employment rather than a punitive system.
- Reform police training to end social profiling and facilitate a social intervention approach.
- Develop and invest in community resources for

issues related to substance abuse, addiction, mental health, violence, but also adapted to marginalized people; Native Friendship Centres, Women's Shelters, Youth Centres, LGBTQIA2+ centers, etc.

- Provide public washrooms and water fountains that are accessible to all and available to homeless people.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

### Reduce funding for police forces



The protests that took place around the world following the death of George Floyd in the United States highlighted the police brutality, discrimination and systemic racism that has plagued our societies for too long. All too often, politicians respond to these tragedies by providing more funding to police forces. This strategy has failed. Police officers are becoming more and more numerous and social services more and more difficult to find. The best way to fight crime and discrimination is to ensure that our society is educated, prosperous, fair and healthy. This starts with a strategy that focuses on prevention. The Green Party of Quebec believes that the best solution is to cut the police budget by 50% while investing that money in social programs.

### Promote a de-escalation and peaceful resolution approach

The GPQ is opposed to any form of militarization of

law enforcement and instead encourages de-escalation approaches to violence in order to restore calm and not generate panic or worsen the conflict. We also propose a ban on the use of agents provocateurs, the wearing of civilian clothes, and intimidation during demonstrations. The Green Party of Quebec also supports a ban on the use of plastic bullets by police, which cause death 1 out of 37 times. Finally, we want police to prioritize the peaceful resolution of demonstrations whenever possible.

### Progressive disarmament

The Green Party of Quebec recommends a progressive disarmament of patrol officers, similar to the practices in the United Kingdom, Norway and New Zealand. In parallel with disarmament, we recommend an increase in conflict resolution training, avoiding the use of weapons and encouraging the multitude of other existing practices that promote group strategies to subdue individuals. This transition will allow police forces to focus on education and prevention rather than repression or oppression of citizens.

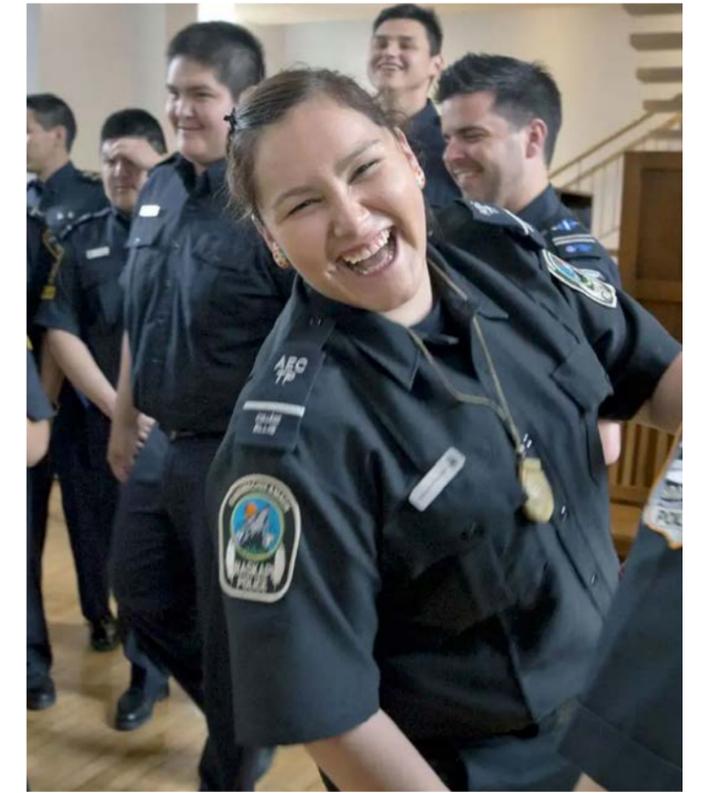
### For a true independent office of inquiry into police work

The Quebec government legislated in 2013 to create the Independent Investigation Office (BEI), which is responsible for investigating cases of serious injury or death during a police intervention. The BEI has been severely criticized for hiring a large number of retired police officers, rather than citizens who are independent of the police. There are also major shortcomings in transparency, including the fact that investigation reports are not made public. The Green Party of Quebec proposes to correct these shortcomings in order to restore the public's confidence in Quebec's police forces.

### Body cameras on police officers

In many North American jurisdictions, police officers are equipped with body cameras that capture images of their actions. Quebec has already experimented with pilot projects and The Green Party of Quebec believes that these cameras should be worn by all

police officers in the province. We also want these cameras to be activated at all times, rather than at the whim of officers. The content of these cameras should



be accessible to the public concerned upon request.

### Increase training for police officers

The Green Party of Quebec proposes to increase the training of police officers on several levels. First, we recommend the inclusion of humanities courses in CEGEP, such as psychology, crime intervention, sociology, ethnic relations and Indigenous history, to prepare police officers for field work and the social issues that influence them. Police forces should be aware of the dynamics of society and the impact their work can have on them. We then recommend the implementation of internships and trainings within social groups, so that intervention is practiced in the field.

### Promote rehabilitation and education in prisons

The Green Party of Quebec believes that prisons and the justice system should focus more on

rehabilitation by providing the necessary funding to do so. Rehabilitation is the best way to fight recidivism and crime. Prisoners should have the option to pursue secondary and post-secondary education while in prison. These courses should take into account the reality of the inmates and the particular needs of the incarcerated. This means more personal follow-up and access to additional, personalized assistance. The Green Party of Quebec also supports access to psychotherapy, social work and social rehabilitation services to accompany and improve the chances of prisoners to contribute to society upon their release.

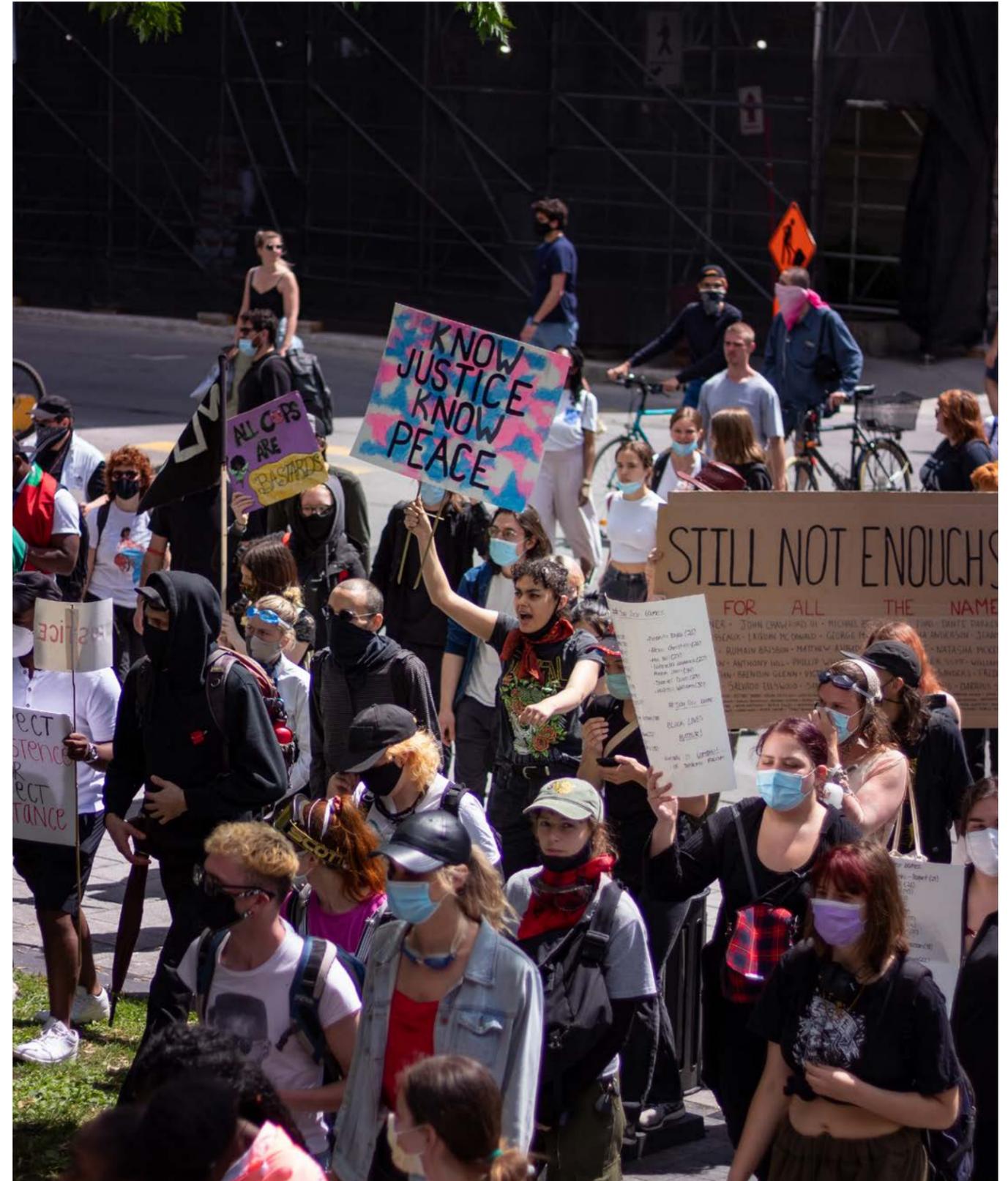


## CONDITIONS OF DETENTION

Rehabilitation requires humane and safe conditions of detention as well as access to education programs, psychotherapy and other activities that promote the reintegration of prisoners into society. Currently, the Legault government's health measures compound the already existing problems of poor living conditions in the province's detention centers. Knowing that incarcerated people are 7 times more likely to commit suicide than the general population and that Quebec has more inmate suicides than Ontario, despite the fact that Quebec has 50% fewer prisoners than Ontario, our detention centers are in dire need of help to improve conditions in Quebec. Hygiene and sanitation problems are common in our prisons, coupled with ventilation problems that constantly lead to outbreaks of Covid-19 in these facilities. The pandemic has exacerbated the appalling living conditions of inmates, such as confinement of prisoners for up to 23 hours a day, overcrowded cells, lack of access to showers for several days, or even lack of visits.

In addition, studies show that people placed in solitary confinement in prisons quickly develop insomnia, confusion, despair or hallucinations. This practice is, according to the UN Special Rapporteur, comparable to torture. He recommends a maximum limit of 15 consecutive days. The Green Party of Quebec will abolish the practice of long-term isolation and impose a maximum limit of 5 consecutive days for at-risk prisoners.

These issues are not lost on correctional officers, who report on a daily basis that the Legault government is in dire need of assistance to improve their working conditions, with no results or concrete action in response to their demands. These conditions are unacceptable and must be improved. Inmates are human beings and should be treated as such.



# DEMOCRACY



## NATIONAL QUESTION

The Green Party of Quebec is a left-wing federalist party that differs from classical Canadian federalism. Our eco-socialist program is fully achievable within Canada and we are committed to working with progressive people across Canada for the protection of the environment and the common good. While we recognize Quebec's right to self-determination and the legitimacy of succession followed by a legitimate democratic process, we believe that Quebec has everything to gain by remaining within the Canadian federation. Most of the powers related to the environment, education and health are already under provincial jurisdiction.

## REFORM OF DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS

### Reform of the voting system

The Green Party of Quebec supports a reform of the voting system to make the National Assembly more representative of the popular vote. To this end, we propose a mixed regional compensatory voting system. Under this new voting system, voters would be invited to vote in two stages; first for a MNA in their riding and second for the political party of their choice. Of the 125 members of the National Assembly, 75 would be constituency members (elected under the first-past-the-post system) and 50 would be regional compensation members. The 50 compensation seats would be distributed among 3 electoral regions. The seats in each electoral region would be distributed proportionally according to the votes cast for the political parties (second vote) using the Sainte-Laguë method. In the event that a party obtains more than 2% of the national vote but fails to elect a regional or constituency MNA, the number of seats in the National Assembly would be increased so that these parties could be represented in the legislative chamber.

### Constitutional demands

The federalist position of the Green Party of Quebec does not mean that we endorse all positions taken by Canada. On the contrary, there is still much work to be done to improve this country. For example, the Canadian constitution does not guarantee the right to a healthy environment. Secondly, it does not allow the provinces to have a formal say on interprovincial projects. Legally speaking, and according to the constitution, the provinces do not have the right to intervene in matters concerning intra-provincial oil pipelines, nor do they have the right to rule on projects located near their borders such as the Belledune Oil Port (NB) and the Chalk River Nuclear Waste Site (ONT). This problem is not unique to Quebec; the federal government's position in the Kinder Morgan pipeline dispute between Alberta and British Columbia demonstrates the extent to which provinces like Quebec and British Columbia lack autonomy. Any constitutional reform must also be accomplished in a perspective of reconciliation with indigenous peoples and must formally recognize indigenous nations, their governments and their right to self-determination. This reform must include the right to a healthy environment. In addition, all provinces should have the right to veto projects that pass through First Nations territories, such as oil pipelines. On the subject of the monarchy, we propose that Canada be removed from the British monarchy.

### Representation of indigenous nations

In a perspective of reconciliation with Indigenous nations, the National Assembly of Quebec should include at least one seat for each of the 11 nations of Quebec, as well as for those who live off-reserve. This change should be implemented in consultation with the First Nations and with their consent, while respecting our nation-to-nation relationship with Indigenous peoples.

### Power to the municipalities

In 2018, the mining company Canada Carbon filed a \$96 million lawsuit against the Laurentian municipality of Grenville-sur-la-Rouge, claiming that the municipality cost them potential revenue by blocking

their proposed marble quarry and graphite mine in the area. Although the lawsuit was dropped in 2020 after an agreement was reached between the two parties, this is not an isolated case. Many similar situations exist throughout Quebec. We consider such pressure on municipalities to be intolerable and wish to increase the powers of municipalities.

The GPQ believes in strong local communities, with control over their development, and the right to say NO to economic development projects that are not in their interests. Decentralization of power will allow municipalities to ensure their own development, while respecting their environment and their interests, and while respecting their values. Today's municipalities are in a weak position when faced with large economic powers that would like to exploit their resources, and they need strong legal tools to protect their population from such oppression. The best economic, social or community development projects are those that are able to receive the support of the local population, that is, social acceptability. We must stop imposing projects on communities that do not want them.

### **Create a new ministry of efficiency**

The Green Party of Quebec wishes to create a new ministry, the Ministry of Efficiency, with the objective of improving the efficiency of all branches of public administration. Whether in our health care system, our education system or elsewhere, bureaucracy is often slow and the process too cumbersome and expensive. Public administration faces many challenges in terms of its inefficiency..

## **MEASURES TO REVIVE DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION**

In Quebec, we are witnessing a significant decline in voter turnout and a profound lack of interest in Quebec democracy. The status quo cannot continue; the Quebec government must take action to reverse the trend. Here are some of our proposals.

### **Positive financial incentives to vote**

One of the most effective tools for increasing voter turnout is to reward those who do their civic duty. The Green Party of Québec proposes to offer each citizen a \$50 lump sum for voting on official election day, and a \$75 lump sum for voting on advance polling days, not only to increase voter turnout, but also to reduce excessive traffic on election day in an effort to reduce line-ups and further mobilize voters.

### **Allowing 16-year-olds to vote**



Environmental, social and political issues are affecting young people today more than ever. The policies adopted by the government strongly influence their lives. However, they tend not to vote on Election Day. To counter this, the Green Party of Quebec is proposing to lower the minimum voting age to 16. This would allow young people to vote before they leave high school, which would increase their interest in politics and encourage greater voter participation in the present and future.

### **Advance voting on the internet**

The requirement to physically go to the polls can be a significant barrier to democratic participation. In an era where almost everything is done over the Internet, the Chief Electoral Officer of Québec should implement a pilot program that would allow advance voting over the Internet. This would reduce the risk of fraud or computer malfunctions by generating a unique code for each vote that would be traceable and anonymous. In addition, citizens will have access to the platform of each political party in an accessible

and intuitive way directly on the voting system. All citizens would not be required to vote on the Internet and, in case of technical problems, they would still have the opportunity to go to the polling station on election day.

### **Counting blank votes**

Currently, in Québec, election results are communicated based on "valid votes". In other words, the state does not distinguish between rejected ballots and blank votes. Voters should have the right to vote for "none of the above" and these numbers should be reflected in the official election results.

### **Allow for registration on voting day**

Currently in Quebec, people who wish to vote must ensure that they are registered on the voters' list approximately two weeks before voting day. This practice disadvantages recent movers and young people, who are less likely to exercise their democratic right. In federal elections, voters can register to vote on election day. We propose that this practice be extended to provincial elections.

### **Fixed election dates**



The GPQ supports the principle of fixed election dates and believes that the law should be strengthened to close the loopholes that allow the government

party to ask the Lieutenant Governor to dissolve the National Assembly at any time.

### **Referendums and signature-based election recalls**

Many jurisdictions (such as the United States, Switzerland and other countries with semi-direct democracy) allow for referendums on popular initiatives once a certain number of signatures have been obtained. We propose the implementation of this model in Quebec for referendum questions, with the exception of those dealing with Quebec independence, which would require the support of a majority of the National Assembly. We also propose to allow citizens to trigger new elections for MNAs following the deposit of a large number of signatures from constituents living in the riding in question.

### **Monthly consultation forum**

We believe that MLAs should be as accessible as municipal councillors. That is, all MLAs should hold a monthly citizens' meeting to answer questions from the public. If elected, the Green Party of Quebec candidates commit to holding such meetings in their ridings every month.

### **Introduce a bill with signatures**

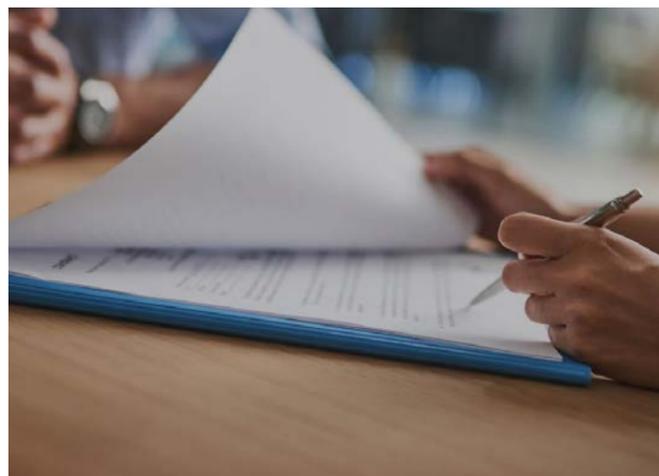
Debates in the National Assembly are often very uninteresting and the major political parties have difficulty finding relevant topics to debate. Currently, only MPs can introduce bills and start debating legislation. In order to make the National Assembly more dynamic and open, we propose to allow citizens to introduce bills after obtaining signatures. This could force the major political parties to take a stand on bills that come from the people rather than from their own political party.

### **Send party platforms to voters**

During elections, the ability of political parties to reach voters and promote their platforms varies according to their financial means. To counter this inequality, we propose to mandate the Directeur général des Élections (DGEQ) to include partisan

information on the background and program of each candidate during elections. This information could be sent to households along with the notice to vote and the list of candidates. France already has such a system in place and the Chief Electoral Officer recommended the implementation of this policy in his most recent annual report.

### **Restriction of opinion polls during an election period**



Opinion polls during election periods have a significant impact on voters' choices and the media's treatment of Parties. The Green Party of Quebec proposes a ban on election period polls to allow voters to make informed decisions based on information that is not distorted by opinion polls.

### **Government access to lobbyists**

The Green Party of Quebec believes that lobbyists serve the interests of the wealthy as they represent and serve the interests of large corporations. Accordingly, the GPQ advocates regulating the number of hours and meetings allowed between ministers and lobbyists. In order to balance citizen and corporate demands, the government must respect the parity between citizen organizations and lobbyists by accounting for the number of meetings and the number of hours in an equal, fair and public manner. Through the Ethics Commissioner, we hope to establish a new political dynamic that will provide greater access to citizen, community and environmental organizations

in order to positively influence our leaders and move society forward in a fair and democratic manner.

### **Revealing the expenses of mps**

In the interest of transparency, all expenses incurred by MPs and their staff should be published on a web portal so that voters and journalists can be informed about how public money is spent by our representatives.

### **Improve access to information**

Improve access to information legislation to increase transparency around projects and situations that impact the environment. This includes the release of information about the discharge of contaminants that is currently excluded on the grounds that it may be "trade secrets". The public should have full information about contaminants released into the environment by polluting industries, among other things.

### **Simulation of elections in all primary and secondary schools**

Throughout Quebec, some high schools hold simulated elections during provincial and federal elections. These simulated elections are important pedagogical tools that allow students to analyze the issues, the electoral platforms, the candidates and the parties before having to make a political choice. In addition to understanding how the electoral system works, these students would be inclined to vote and would have developed a critical analysis of electoral programs. We therefore propose that mock elections be implemented in every elementary and secondary school in Quebec during federal, provincial and municipal elections.

### **Civic participation courses**

In 2021, the Legault government announced the implementation of a new Quebec Culture and Citizenship course that will be progressively deployed in Quebec's primary and secondary schools as of the start of the 2022 school year and will completely replace the Ethics and Religious Culture course. The Green Party of Quebec proposes that this program include more

space for civic participation and teaching about our democratic system.

### **Support for local and national media**

In Quebec, there are fewer and fewer local newspapers. The national media have made significant cutbacks that leave citizens with less and less quality information. This reality, caused by declining advertising revenues in the digital age, must be addressed by the state. The Green Party of Quebec supports the establishment of a media fund to subsidize local and national media that provide quality information to citizens. In addition, subsidizing local and national media will allow the state to ensure the quality of the information published in them and limit the negative effects of the proliferation of fake news.

## **PARITY IN POLITICS**

### **Increase the presence of women in the national assembly**

In 2022, Quebec politics is still dominated by men. For example, 56% of the members of the National Assembly are men. Despite the progress made in recent years to reduce the gender representation gap in the National Assembly, there is a need to ensure long-term parity. To correct this situation, the Green Party of Quebec proposes to introduce quotas for women's representation in a proportional voting system. Parties would be required to nominate a minimum of 45% women candidates in the next general election and 50% in the following election. Quotas would remain in place for 16 years, or four general elections, and their appropriateness would be reviewed at that time. Parties that do not meet the quotas will see a significant reduction in their operational funding by the Chief Electoral Officer under the Public Financing of Political Parties. Many of the systemic barriers to women's participation are unfortunately entrenched. Although these problems are primarily social in nature, we are proposing targeted changes within democratic institutions to promote the participation of women in Québec political life.

### **Sanctioning political parties that do not respect gender parity**

We propose imposing a financial penalty on provincial political parties that do not field a parity team during elections. The amount representing the penalty would be withdrawn from the public funding of political parties that do not present at least 45% women candidates.

### **Provide a financial subsidy to women candidates running for office for the first time**

In order to encourage candidates to run for office, we propose the establishment of a grant that would help citizens take unpaid leave from their employer to run for office for the first time.

### **Allow maternity or paternity leave for elected officials**

Currently, there is no legal way for provincial or municipal elected officials to take maternity or paternity leave. Although elected officials can be absent for votes, there is no way for them to appoint a substitute or to perform their duties as representatives without being physically present at the municipal council or the National Assembly. We therefore propose to allow these MNAs to appoint a worthy replacement in case of maternity or paternity leave.

### **Secularism of institutions - freedom of individuals**

The Green Party of Quebec is radically opposed to Bill 21 on the secularism of the State. We consider that this law must be withdrawn, because each citizen must have the freedom of his or her religious choices, even in a situation of authority. This is a fundamental right of the Canadian constitution. We therefore support the freedom of religion of individuals and we are strongly opposed to any bill or law in force that attacks individual freedoms, including the freedom to display our faith with religious symbols or clothing. It is not the role of the state to impose a dress code. We believe that wearing a religious symbol does not prevent an individual from being a judge, crown prosecutor,

prison guard, police officer, teacher, doctor, engineer, nurse or any other profession vital to our society.

### **Justice system: a prompt, accessible and fair legal system**

An accessible, fair and impartial legal system is vital to any free and democratic society. In Quebec, the justice system is slow. Many criminals have not been held accountable for their crimes as a result of the Jordan decision and a critical shortage of judges, courtrooms, resources and legal staff continues to affect our justice system.

The justice system in Quebec has many challenges to overcome in the coming years. Reforms are needed to sustain our justice system which ensures the proper functioning of our society. At present, the system is extremely expensive and is unable to overcome the many challenges it faces. Not only is the current system expensive, it is inefficient, slow and inaccessible. That's why the GPQ wants to reform Quebec's justice system to modernize it and make it more efficient. A Green government will invest in the resources necessary to remedy the situation.

#### **The Green Party of Quebec proposes to:**

- Determine fees for access to justice based on the income of those involved rather than by fixed fees imposed under the current system.
- Commit to fighting pervasive systemic injustices. Racialized, linguistically diverse and other minorities are often disadvantaged by the current justice system.
- Fund public legal education and representation services and increase justice funding to support greater access for all.
- Train and hire community disability advocates to provide advocacy services and where such advocates are not available, mandate Legal Aid Quebec to provide legal aid certificates to advocates for people with disabilities.
- Mandate Legal Aid Quebec to provide public legal education in institutions, schools, rehabilitation centers and the community at large.
- Adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples at the provincial level.

From a reconciliation perspective, it is important to enshrine the rights of these peoples in the Quebec legal system.

- Ensure that juries are representative of society. The failure to respect this constraint is currently causing many injustices and inequalities.
- Accelerate the computerization of the justice system. Catch-up is needed to make the system less cumbersome, more accessible and more efficient.
- Abolish minimum sentences. They are systematically challenged and further slow down an already overburdened system.
- Improve contract clarity. To protect consumers, contracts should be more understandable and free of hidden clauses.
- Support the work of organizations whose mission is to facilitate access to law and justice.

### **Right to protest**

The Green Party of Quebec supports the right to demonstrate, strike and express oneself freely without being subjected to state violence by law enforcement. During the student movement of 2012-2013, thousands of young Quebecers were illegally arrested, detained and sometimes brutalized by the forces of law and order who are enforcing unconstitutional laws passed specifically to stop this unprecedented social movement. The Green Party of Quebec opposes any regulation or law that undermines our democracy, our freedom to peacefully assemble and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Furthermore, the GPQ is committed to compensating all those arbitrarily arrested during student protests held between 2012 and 2015 for violating anti-demonstration laws that have since been struck down by the courts.



# EDUCATION AND CULTURE



## PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

### Universal second language education

Learning a second language is one more tool that our youth can master to open their horizons, pursue new opportunities and communicate with the rest of the world. The Green Party of Quebec supports the implementation of second language learning for all students in Quebec. As studies show that it is easier to learn languages at a young age, bilingual instruction will begin in kindergarten through to the end of high school and will be set at 25 % of school time.

### Private school funding

In Quebec, we currently have a two-tier school system. Public school classrooms are currently being deprived of a very large number of students who are attending private school programs instead. We believe that all students should have an equal opportunity to succeed and have access to a high quality education. By dividing students in this way, the system tends to create a social divide. This division is becoming apparent at an increasingly early age and is detrimental to community development. We believe that the elementary school should move away from programs or concentrations that select students based on achievement. Furthermore, we believe that public funds invested in private schools would be better spent serving the community. We therefore propose to phase out public subsidies to private schools over a ten-year transition period.

### Decentralizing budgets

In order to empower teachers and schools, it is important to consider decentralizing budgets so that each setting can invest in meeting the real needs of their community. This measure must be accompanied by an increase in the value of the governing board in the community and possibly by increased powers for the board.

### Teachers' working conditions

The Green Party of Quebec is very aware of the heavy workload of teachers and proposes to undertake a consultation on the possible contribution of teacher assistants. This could result in a college training in pedagogy to assist the teacher, who remains the professional responsible for teaching. The creation of these permanent positions could alleviate the effects of the inclusion of students with difficulties on the workload of teachers. These teacher assistants could also allow special education technicians and remedial teachers to target their actions more precisely and intervene in a more sustained manner with students with special needs. The Green Party of Quebec also supports a reduction in the teacher-student ratio, with particular attention to the situation in high schools.

### Reducing class sizes

Currently, elementary and secondary school teachers are faced with managing classes with increasing numbers of students. Studies show that reducing class sizes is the best way to ensure academic success and equal opportunity for all.

The Green Party of Quebec proposes to gradually reduce class sizes to a maximum of 20 students per teacher. This will contribute to the value of education, the success rate and the improvement of working conditions for teachers.

### School timetable

Under GPQ governance, the school day would begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 4:00 p.m. with an additional mandatory hour of extracurricular activity each day of the week in order to promote youth success and keep their days full of activities. We will also remove the power of school bus companies to influence the school calendar.

### Welcoming foreign students (elementary and secondary)

The Green Party of Quebec is in favour of welcoming foreign students into our school system, as it promotes multiculturalism and living together. However, we believe that these students should master the language of learning before being incorporated

into regular courses, so as not to affect the quality of teaching of other students.

### Support for new teachers



We are also proposing increased support for new teachers. The Green Party of Quebec proposes the creation of a national mentoring structure. Experienced teachers could be accompanied and guided in order to offer quality support to young sponsored teachers without adding to their workload. This mentoring structure could be created in collaboration with the university institutions offering initial teacher training, which has already developed expertise in supporting teachers in training.

### The learning environment

The Green Party of Quebec supports a caring learning environment that promotes the well-being and development of all children. In order to allow teachers to focus on the student rather than on the assessment, we suggest that all formal assessment be eliminated at the elementary level and gradually reinstated at the junior high level. This measure would reduce the stress level of students, the comparison between students and the pressure on teachers. Quebec

teachers, trained as teaching professionals, are perfectly capable of ensuring appropriate follow-up on the progress of student learning and of reacting quickly in the event of difficulties. This measure could also make it easier for teachers to move away from the traditional lecture-based teaching aimed at memorization and move towards a socio-constructivist teaching approach as advocated by the Quebec school education program.

We also believe that every student can find his or her place in the Quebec public school system. We support the continuing education measures that have been put in place and prioritize training that will enable teachers to respond even more effectively to the needs of their students. Gifted students, newcomers as well as students with disabilities, learning difficulties or adjustment problems must be supported by the Quebec school system. It is the government's responsibility to ensure that human, material and financial resources are sufficient and available to meet the specific needs of the community.

The Quebec government has an obligation to provide safe and healthy learning environments. In this sense, it is important to continue the fight against bullying and violence. It is important to continue our actions to foster a climate of solidarity, non-violent communication and caring. The Green Party of Quebec is in favour of adding practices that allow children to refocus through practices such as meditation and yoga.

## PRESCHOOL, ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Young people are particularly sensitive to the environmental changes and challenges that await them. However, they need to be informed and accompanied in order to become important actors in the reduction of negative effects due to the deterioration of their environment. Moreover, every child in Quebec has the right to a quality education and a stimulating and safe environment that meets all their needs.

Currently, the main causes of climate change and various environmental problems are not sufficiently

addressed in the school curriculum. The Green Party of Quebec supports the addition of priority environmental elements to existing curricula to enable the next generation to become leaders in the fight against climate change. It is imperative to conduct a broad consultation with the school community in order to agree on the most effective way to combine our efforts and integrate key elements such as: questioning consumption habits, greener alternatives, the circular economy or waste reduction into the school. The idea is not to impose a structure on teachers, but rather to choose together the priorities of each community and to move quickly into action.



History courses in high school are very important and we believe that they do not devote enough space to the history of First Nations. They neglect crucial aspects such as the existence of the residential schools and skim over the damage caused by colonization and genocide. We propose to implement the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada in order to better inform young Quebecers about the historical wrongs of our governments towards First Nations. We also believe that genocide and the contributions of women and ethnic minorities are not sufficiently covered in current history courses.

The Green Party of Quebec believes that it is essential to include in the Quebec school curriculum a comprehensive sex education program from elementary

to high school. This program should include, among other things, the notion of consent, respectful relationships, and the reality of the LGBTQIA2+ minority.

### Environment and healthy lifestyles

The school environment of Quebec students must be rethought so that they are more in contact with nature and thrive in a healthy physical environment. Major investments must be made to provide Quebec schools with green schoolyards and even include edible plantings.

Too many school cafeterias in Quebec serve students meals that are too fatty, too sweet and unhealthy. The Green Party of Quebec proposes to eliminate junk food, sugary drinks and unhealthy, ultra-processed food from our schools and replace them with healthy meals with vegetarian and vegan options. Through partnerships with local producers, as organic as possible, and community organizations, The Green Party of Quebec wishes to provide lunches and snacks to food insecure students at a very low cost and eventually extend this practice to all elementary and high school students.

The Green Party of Quebec would like to support schools in developing a green plan that includes waste reduction, reduction of single-use plastics (bottles, utensils, plastic wrap), school composting, a clearer reuse and recovery policy and reduction of food waste.

In Quebec, many schools are in a pitiful state. Poor air quality, insufficient natural lighting, asbestos insulation and lack of maintenance are still being denounced across Quebec. The Green Party of Quebec is proposing that the mandate of monitoring buildings and air quality be entrusted to independent firms. A Green government would not allow young people and teachers to work in dangerous buildings.

The Green Party of Quebec also supports the recommendation of a minimum of 60 minutes of physical activity per day starting in elementary school. This will help students become more physically fit and willing to learn. Combined with a variety of activities related to nutrition and healthy lifestyles, we believe that students would be better equipped to enter adult life.

## Alternative educations



Respect for rights is a priority for The Green Party of Quebec and as such, we feel it is important to ensure that every family that chooses to home school their child receives appropriate support and guidance. Since the benefits of this form of schooling are numerous, it is important that the school environment support the family, accept a different form of evaluation and help with the reintegration into school if necessary.

The Green Party of Quebec also supports those who wish to see alternative pedagogy emerge within existing schools or for the creation of new schools. These pedagogies, which emphasize the global development of the child, are still too often misunderstood and discriminated against.

### Community involvement

Volunteering is one of the social actions that contribute the most to local communities and to the vitality of regions. We believe that the school system currently does not sufficiently value volunteer work and community involvement.

The Green Party of Quebec would like to see greater collaboration between schools, parents and the community. Extracurricular activities, which are important

for the overall optimal development of young people, should be jointly organized by all community actors (schools, municipalities, community organizations, etc.) to ensure that the services offered meet the needs of the community. Extracurricular student life is important in the fight against drug and alcohol abuse and youth crime. It is very important to ensure that young people have opportunities for after-school activities so that they stay fit, build social connections and avoid falling into substance use and crime. We intend to inject more resources into after-school activities to provide a better future for our youth.

Furthermore, we believe that encouraging greater parental involvement in the school, as in alternative schools for example, would allow for better networking of families in the neighbourhood, an increase in the feeling of parental competence, help that is always appreciated and a greater appreciation of the work of teachers.

## FREE EDUCATION, CEGEPS AND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

### Free education

The Green Party of Quebec supports free education so that all people can pursue post-secondary education regardless of their financial means. Free education is an issue that has a great deal of support among the population of Quebec. This policy would ensure that more Quebecers can pursue education. It allows Quebec to rely on the know-how of our population, rather than on the extraction of our natural resources as an economic engine. This free education includes school supplies for primary and secondary students. This will allow school service centers to centralize their purchasing power, reduce the cost of supplies and save parents time while ensuring that all students have the materials they need to succeed.

### Governance of post-secondary institutions

Currently, the boards of post-secondary institutions are largely managed by representatives of private

companies. This structure leaves little room for faculty, education professionals and students. This dynamic means that the interests of the private sector and the economic elite often take precedence over the interests of students and faculty.

Education is not a commodity. The Green Party of Quebec proposes to put the boards of post-secondary institutions back in the hands of the people who work: professors, education professionals and students. This change would allow institutions to better serve their clientele and be free from the influence of lobbyists and special interests.

### Divestment from fossil fuels

In Quebec, all universities have financial investments in fossil fuel companies. We believe that the Quebec government, and all of these institutions, should follow the scientific evidence that shows that fossil fuels pose an extremely serious threat to the planet and immediately stop investing in fossil fuels.

### Satellite campuses

For some time now, Quebec universities have been building satellite campuses. These campuses are often within a few hours drive of the central university buildings and create unfair travel times and costs for students. The Green Party of Quebec proposes to put an end to this practice.

### The right to a student strike

Quebec has a tradition of student democracy and student strikes that have marked the province's history. Despite this fact, the right to student democracy and the right to strike is not enshrined in Quebec law. This led to many violent confrontations during the 2012 student strike, as strike votes were not recognized by the courts. The Green Party of Quebec proposes to recognize the reality of student strikes and enshrine the right to strike in the laws of Quebec, in order to avoid conflicts during these rare political events.

### Adult education

When we talk about education in Quebec, we pay particular attention to students from the regular

education system, i.e. those from primary and secondary schools, CEGEPs and universities. However, nearly 300,000 adult students are in the Quebec education system without the same rights and opportunities for success as regular students. Moreover, the education of these adults is often perceived as a poor relation due to a lack of rights, personnel, pedagogical resources and financial resources. To address the specificity of these barriers and the particular needs of adult students, the GPQ proposes the following solutions:

#### Financial accessibility for students:

- Granting scholarships for adult students at the general and vocational secondary level regardless of status (full-time or part-time). In this way, adult students will have the same chances of success as regular students.
- Reform financial aid by no longer including child support in the calculations. This will ensure that adult students do not have to choose between subsistence and education.
- Ensure that the person returning to school retains all the rights that were granted to him or her by social assistance for medical care, dental care, optometry, medical transportation and living expenses, and expenses related to special needs related to physical condition, because this care should not depend on any status, but should be universal.

#### Through Emploi Québec:

- Respect the training choice of adults returning to school through Emploi Québec programs. An adult making the decision to return to school must have the same right as a regular student in the choice of training.
- Review the allowance scales upwards so that adult students can support themselves and their families while having access to a parallel education.
- Standardize the rules for granting benefits from one employment center to another. This includes benefits related to transportation, childcare, and school materials that are covered in some local employment centers and not in others. Therefore, any adult returning to school will have the same benefits

without distinction and will have the same chances of success.

- Provide an accommodation period for adult students between the end of their placement and the end of their social benefits. Today, an adult student who is on an internship is obliged to find a job before the end of his or her practical training, otherwise his or her social benefits will be cut off. This measure forces a significant number of adults to have a precarious job and to remain in precariousness.

#### **Better redistribution of the budgets allocated to education:**

- Redistributing government budgets more fairly and equitably would ensure real equity in the services available. To date, the resources allocated are absorbed into a global envelope and information on their distribution is non-existent. By having a better idea of the resources allocated, we would have a more accurate picture of the current situation. This is also a blatant lack of transparency on the part of the government.

#### **Adult Education Framework Act:**

- Affirm the principles, directions, objectives and priorities of a comprehensive policy based on the right of access to education. We are helping to ensure that every adult who wishes to do so has free access to basic education, i.e. Secondary V or its equivalent. In the long term, this Act would ensure that everyone has a basic diploma and that everyone has the right to continuing education and training. In this way, we are taking a progressive approach to lifelong learning and ensuring that everyone has an equal opportunity to achieve success.

#### **School democracy and school service center reform (bill 40)**

A Green government will delegate responsibility for buildings to municipalities, school service centers will also deal with school materials. The taxing power of school service centers will be abolished. Funding for school service centers will come from the Ministry of Education and municipalities will collect the taxes

needed to maintain the buildings.

#### **School election**



In order to enhance, stimulate and reinvigorate school democracy, The Green Party of Quebec proposes that the right to vote and run in school elections be reinstated and be reserved for teachers employed by school service centers and parents of minors. They will have an advisory role with their schools and at the secondary level, they will sit on the school service centers with voting rights.

#### **Student democracy**

The Green Party of Quebec supports the establishment of school elections among students to elect a student council. These councils will have an advisory role to their schools and at the high school level, will sit in the school service centers with voting rights.

#### **PROTECTION OF THE FRENCH LANGUAGE**

The protection of the French language, the official and common language of Quebec, is an important objective for Quebec society, but so is the protection of individual freedoms. We believe that the new bill 96 infringes on personal freedom and discriminates against Quebecers based on their linguistic attributes. The Green Party of Quebec strongly disapproves of

this policy and will repeal it. We will continually fight for linguistic rights and a more diverse and inclusive Quebec within Canada.

The protection of Quebec culture is very important, and the PVQ believes that the best way to promote Quebec arts and culture is to subsidize them.

#### **CULTURE**

Culture is often perceived as a source of expense, when in fact it is an important source of revenue. We want to make it an important pillar of our economy by giving it the place it deserves. Quebec's culture is rich and shines throughout the world; it is an important driver of domestic and international tourism. However, it must be promoted and adequately financed in order to benefit from the important economic spin-offs that will result from it.

The cultural sector is one of the few sectors that is able to use the funds invested in it efficiently and quickly, at a low administrative cost. These investments generally result in an increase in the level of employment. Every dollar invested in culture generates, on average, \$2.70 in non-government revenue (Finances of Performing Arts Organizations). It is therefore a sector with incredible economic potential.

The Satellite Account of Culture reported that in 2010: "Spin-offs related to cultural industries amounted to \$12.8 billion, contributing to 4.1 % of Quebec's gross domestic product (GDP), placing it in first place nationwide. The cultural industries generated over 175,000 jobs across the province, representing 4.5 % of all jobs in Quebec.

We support the proposal of La Coalition La culture, le cœur du Québec, to increase the budget for culture from 1.1 % to 2.2 %.

#### **Protection of indigenous and minority languages and cultures**

Cultural subsidies should also be aimed at promoting the culture of minority groups and First Nations, who form an essential part of Quebec society. In this perspective, we must try to collaborate with the federal government in order to obtain more funding for

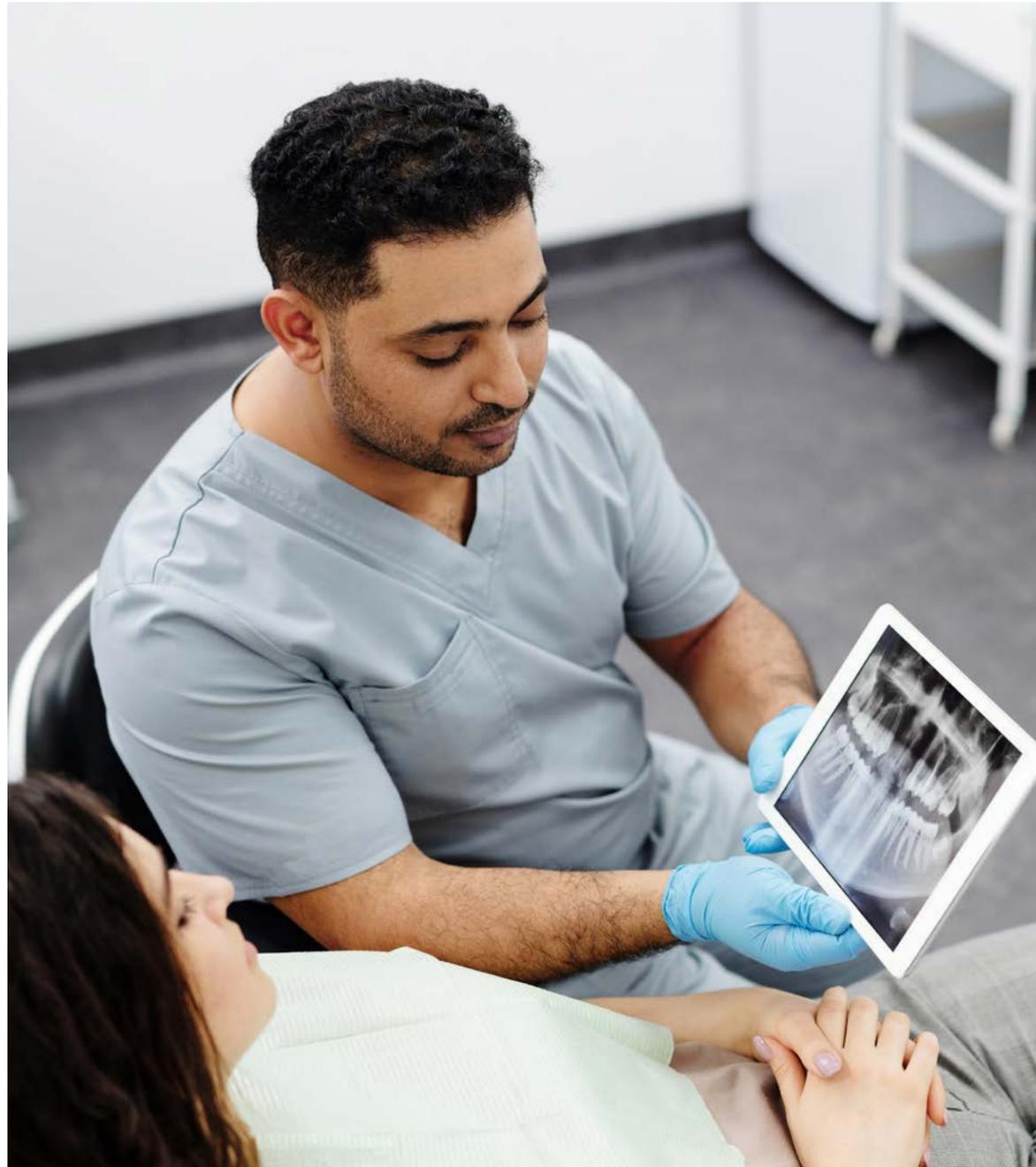
this type of project. Let's preserve cultural diversity. Reconciliation with First Nations requires adequate funding for Indigenous arts and culture so that they can be better disseminated, taught and celebrated.

In Quebec, a large number of Indigenous people live off-reserve and attend schools run by the provincial government. Unfortunately, Quebec schools do not offer an education that takes into account the Indigenous reality and culture. Solutions are already in place for a very limited number of Indigenous students in Quebec through specialized programs adapted to their needs and traditions. These programs have a concrete impact on the quality of education offered to Indigenous students and we support their implementation throughout Quebec.

#### **Research and continuing education**

The Green Party of Quebec supports public and transparent funding for scientific research, especially basic research. This branch of science has been neglected by the state in recent years, particularly by the federal government. We consider that it is the duty of the State to support scientists in their research, since it benefits society as a whole and informs the debate as well as public policy. The GPQ is strongly opposed to the commodification of public research. We also oppose censorship and support full freedom of expression for scientists. Finally, we propose to guarantee at least five days of continuous training per year in companies, in order to develop productivity and professional mobility. This training could be offered by the companies themselves, local educational institutions, Emploi-Québec, etc. We propose to create an emergency national literacy plan to drastically reduce the high illiteracy rate in four years.

# HEALTH



## INCREASE CAPACITY OF THE PUBLIC HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Long before the pandemic, our health system was in critical need of capacity. Quebec is not training enough doctors, nurses and health professionals to meet the growing needs of Quebecers. A Green government will increase the capacity of the system by training and hiring more staff and retaining them with attractive working conditions.

### Create a new ministry of efficiency

The Green Party of Quebec wants to create a new ministry, the Ministry of Efficiency, with the goal of improving the efficiency of all branches of government, starting with our health care system. This will allow us to increase the productivity of the public system without resorting to privatization, which necessarily involves paying profits on illness to large medical corporations.

### Universal mental health care

There is a growing need for mental health care; sedentary lifestyles, long working hours, inequality and many other factors are increasing the need for mental health care.

**We propose several measures to drastically improve the current situation :**

- More timely psychological care and follow-up, including hiring more staff.
- Establish a program that allows for free mental health services.
  - Reduce the prescription of behavioral health drugs for children, offset by access to psychologist services and class size reduction.
  - Accelerate suicide prevention and intervention, through more training in schools, more effective and active anti-bullying efforts.
  - The creation of more accessible and adapted support resources for First Nations, created in collaboration with them.
  - The remuneration of internships for psychology students.

- Training in psychosocial intervention for police officers.

## FREE DENTAL AND VISION CARE

Within the framework of the universal health coverage that is already in place, the Green Party believes that it is time for the province to consider all elements related to the health of Quebecers.

We believe that dental care is just as important as the overall health of Quebecers and that it is an essential component of overall health and that in a place as rich as Quebec, residents should be able to keep all their teeth. However, at present, many people in the province cannot afford these sometimes expensive services, thus neglecting a major aspect of their health and well-being. For these reasons, we are proposing to make dental care free for everyone.

Sight is an essential element of our health. However, many Quebecers go without this care because it can be expensive. This is why we are proposing the introduction of free eye exams for everyone.

## PHARMA QUEBEC, UNIVERSAL COVERAGE AND DRUGS

The importation of generic drugs by the province is extremely expensive and represents a significant portion of the health care budget. We propose the creation of Pharma Québec, whose mandate would be to negotiate the prices of imported drugs and to manufacture these generic drugs at a lower cost. By producing its own generic drugs, Quebec will be able to more easily negotiate import prices by better evaluating the cost of manufacturing across the province.

We also propose to introduce a prescription drug coverage plan to reduce inequalities in access for Quebecers. The cost of creating Pharma Québec would be amortized by the profits made over the long term by the production of lower cost drugs. These savings will eventually fund universal prescription drug coverage.

We also propose to establish a better framework for so-called natural health products (NHPs). Many of

these products are sold without a prescription with no knowledge of their effects. The GPQ proposes that companies producing these drugs be required to prove the effectiveness and reliability of their products, notably through scientific testing. Given the lack of evidence, the GPQ is calling for product labelling to allow consumers to make an informed decision.

## HOSPITALS, EMERGENCY ROOMS AND CLINICS



Many Quebecers are concerned about the situation of our health care system and we share these concerns. We are proposing to relieve emergency room congestion with walk-in clinics and to recruit more staff.

### Fighting privatization

The Green Party of Quebec is strongly opposed to any privatization of our health care system. On the contrary, the public health care system must be celebrated, strengthened and better funded.

We believe that all Quebecers should have access to quality, timely and free services. Citizens' wallets should not be a limit to the accessibility of health care in the province. The development of a parallel private system only benefits the richest, to the detriment of

the poorest and the middle class. Equality of opportunity and universal access to health care must be protected. Privatization would not, contrary to popular belief, reduce costs; in fact, countries that privately fund their health care have all shown increased costs. In countries that fund their care through the public sector, 2 to 5 % (3 % in Quebec) of the total is used to administer the system. In the private sector, these figures rise to 10 to 15 %.

### Decentralization, not privatization

The Green Party of Quebec believes that centralization of the health care system is detrimental to citizens. Indeed, the concentration of care in large centers takes services away from the regions and is part of the trend to devalue the regions. Moreover, the centralization of the health system has not resulted in the savings hoped for, since the bureaucratic entities created are too cumbersome to manage. It is therefore essential, through the creation of the new Ministry of Efficiency, to improve efficiency and reduce the bureaucratic burden of the health system. Savings were made by cutting services directly to patients, not in administrative positions. The Green Party of Quebec believes that a transfer of competencies to regional authorities would allow us to be more responsive to the needs of citizens. A less cumbersome system that is closer to the people will improve direct services to patients.

The Green Party of Quebec would like to improve access to home health care. For patients, the ability to stay at home means a substantial improvement in quality of life, which in turn means a much easier recovery.

The Green Party of Quebec also wants to ensure quality care for all patients. This inevitably translates into quality food in our health care facilities. The GPQ would like to see a minimum quota of food that is organic and local. This would not only reduce the impact on the environment, but would also improve the health and well-being of patients.

### Organ and blood donations

We propose that organ donation be made automatic

and that citizens complete a declaration if they do not wish to donate their organs. This will allow a greater availability of organs and avoid that a person who forgot to sign his card to identify himself as a donor, but who would have liked to donate his organs, dies without it being done. We also want to facilitate organ donation or sponsorship systems to discourage Quebecers from seeking more affordable and quicker options, especially abroad, by undergoing dangerous and questionable operations.

The Green Party of Quebec will also end the homophobic discrimination in blood donation services. There is no reason to justify the continuation of this discriminatory practice which must be abolished.

We also propose to change the current procedures surrounding blood collection. The current schedules do not work with the work schedules of Quebecers and must be changed to make them more accessible.

### Pandemic management squad

The health crisis has shown us how unprepared the health care system is to deal with a pandemic and the increase in the number of people needing care. To remedy the situation, The Green Party of Quebec proposes to create a squad of technicians specially trained in pandemic management. When there is no pandemic, the technicians work in their regular jobs just like army reservists. In times of pandemic, these technicians would be called upon to play a key role in relieving the health care system, informing the population and caring for the most vulnerable.

#### The Pandemic Management Technician Squad would be trained to do the following:

- Work in vaccination centers and administer injections.
- Administer screening tests and analyze laboratory results
- Inform the public about health measures and the benefits of vaccination campaigns, for example, by going door-to-door
- Enforce quarantine measures by conducting audits, delivering groceries to confined persons and issuing citations as required

- Acting as beneficiary attendants in the event of a labour shortage
- The members of the pandemic management squad would be composed of people who do not normally work in the health care system, so that a mobilization of the squad would not cause absences in the health care system.

## ACTORS OF OUR HEALTH

### Doctors, nurses and caregivers



In the last 8 years, the disastrous Barrette reforms and the COVID pandemic have exposed the plight of nurses and caregivers in the province. The Green Party of Quebec believes it is time to recognize the problems of health care professionals and take action.

#### To do so, we propose:

- To require that a portion of the doctors trained in the province's universities must practice during the first two years in the regions where the needs are the greatest. In the short term, we propose that medical students receive financial support (payment of part of their studies or financial support) and that in exchange they practice for a few years in the regions, where the need is greatest.
- Put an end to the bonuses that doctors receive when they take on new patients.
- Allow psychologists and pharmacists to make

certain prescriptions, which will alleviate the current cumbersome network and waiting times.

- Set up a registry that would show which doctors have received gifts from pharmaceutical companies. A bill in Ontario is the first of its kind in Canada and Quebec should follow suit. This measure is part of an effort to change the mindset of the industry, where trying to influence doctors is a common and accepted practice.



- Improve the working conditions of nurses and attendants. Increase salaries for these professions significantly, reduce shift lengths and hire more staff.

- Give nurses more flexibility. Allow nurses with a Baccalaureate to prescribe drugs and other necessary products. Also encourage front-line nurse practitioners to take over or set up many walk-in and outreach clinics where they can provide general or specialized care depending on their training. This would drastically free up hospitals and clinics.

- Organize a major publicity and promotion campaign for nurses and attendants to make them

attractive to the population and, by the same token, to facilitate the hiring of new personnel.

- Valuing the role of family caregivers. The PVQ proposes to introduce a paid leave plan for caregivers, with the increase in health problems and the aging of the population it is important to take concrete action. The work of caregivers must be recognized for its true value and importance to society, otherwise the State is simply delegating one more responsibility to women who most often find themselves with this burden.

- Improve the accessibility of family doctors to allow all Quebecers to obtain care, regardless of their social or economic situation.

### Prevention

The Green Party of Quebec believes that in terms of health, prevention is essential and should play a primary role. Prevention is better than cure! Health is not limited to visits to the doctor. It is also closely linked to socio-economic conditions, family context, environmental quality (water, land and air), inequalities, working conditions, education, eating habits, etc. Policies focused on prevention would ultimately result in significant savings and a healthier population overall. It is important to remember that, despite the importance of prevention, The Green Party of Quebec is aware that it is not the ultimate solution, but that it would allow us to prevent so-called infectious diseases and, at the same time, to relieve our health centers.

### Prescriptions

The Green Party of Quebec recognizes that taking medication is very important and necessary for many individuals, particularly for mental health. This is not a matter of regulating the work of physicians, most of whom recommend other practices, but a matter of principle. That being said, the Green Party would like to encourage doctors and pharmacists to recommend physical activity and healthy eating rather than just prescribing medication. This would help prevent many problems rather than simply addressing them with medication. This could help fight against health problems caused by the consumption

of harmful products and bad habits for mental and physical health.

## SPORTS



We propose to better finance sports activities throughout the province in order to fight against sedentary lifestyle and related health problems which represent a huge problem in rich countries. These sports practices must of course be combined with healthy eating practices, as well as regulations on products containing high levels of sugar. To do this, the GPQ proposes

- To increase the frequency of physical activities in schools to a minimum of 60 minutes of physical activity per day for primary and secondary students.

- Fund the construction, repair and improvement of sports infrastructures across the province.

- Fund the construction of more bike paths outside of Montreal.

- Launch an awareness campaign and encourage initiatives to fight sedentary lifestyles in government institutions, public and private companies.

- Encourage public transit and eliminate the car to increase physical activity when traveling, as walking

has been scientifically proven to have a beneficial effect on health.

## HEALTHY EATING

The Green Party of Quebec believes that it is time for the government to take concrete measures to encourage healthy eating habits among Quebecers:

- To organize a national campaign to reduce meat consumption, which is linked to several health problems.

- Encourage the consumption of local foods throughout Quebec.

- Introduce courses on healthy eating in elementary school. This allows students to be healthier, more active and better equipped to make healthy lifestyle choices.

- Ensure diversification of meals during the week in schools by limiting, but not entirely eliminating, meat consumption, increasing the consumption of healthy foods and offering more vegetarian and local alternatives.

- Continue and accelerate programs to eliminate trans fats.

- Prohibit the sale of sugar-sweetened beverages in government, provincial and municipal institutions.

- Encourage universities and colleges to sell fewer sugary products and increase healthy, less sugary options.

- Facilitate access to nutritionist services for the entire population.

- Introduce maximum levels of sodium, fat and sugar in meals served in elementary and secondary school cafeterias, CEGEPs and universities.

- Encourage the consumption of local products, organic agriculture and local and urban agriculture.

### Contamination of drinking water by lead pipes

Exposure to lead is scientifically recognized as a long-term hazard to the human body, particularly for the most vulnerable (pregnant women, children, the elderly). The Green Party of Quebec is committed to changing the plumbing in all buildings that were built

before the 1989 National Plumbing Code banned the installation of plumbing containing more than 0.2 % lead. It is not reasonable to allow these slowly poisoning pipes to continue to operate in Quebec

## EDUCATION

- Establish a program to provide free mental health services.
- Reduce the prescription of medication for children's behaviour, compensated by access to psychologists and the reduction of class sizes.
- Accelerating suicide prevention and intervention, through more training in schools, would allow for more effective action against bullying.
- The creation of more accessible and adapted support resources for First Nations, created in collaboration with them.

## SEXUALITY AND HEALTH

The GPQ proposes to simplify access to screening tests for STIs, HIV, pap tests, etc. Improve services to ensure that all people can be tested in the same locations.

The Green Party also supports the introduction of more advanced sex education courses to effectively combat disease, but also homophobia and transphobia. These courses should also reflect the reality of LBGQTQIA2+ people.

We also propose to introduce free contraceptives (such as the pill) and emergency contraception.

## GLOBAL WARMING AND HEALTH

The report from Health Canada's Climate Change and Innovation Office is clear that the health effects of air pollution will get worse every year. A large body of research shows that global warming is increasing the incidence of infectious diseases, such as Lyme disease. Many deaths are caused by increasingly hot weather, air pollution and environmental degradation. These new phenomena risk putting an additional burden on our already struggling Quebec health system.

## HEALTH AND FIRST NATIONS

The Green Party of Quebec also proposes to create and fund clinics that are better adapted to Indigenous realities and practices while fighting systemic racism in hospitals and health care settings. See the Social Justice, Indigenous Rights section for more information.

## RIGHTS OF PEOPLE WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES



The Green Party of Quebec advocates for equal opportunity for all. This is why the GPQ supports all the demands of the group Personnes Handicapées pour l'Accès aux Services (PHAS). In particular, the GPQ is in favour of the principle of universal accessibility, which must be applied throughout the network. Also, mechanisms must be put in place to assess the needs and quality of services for people with disabilities in a timely and efficient manner. More generally, improving services requires reinvestment in rehabilitation, housing, home support and family support.

The Green Party of Quebec also supports the demands of activist Jonathan Marchand, who wants

Quebec to implement a system of self-directed personal assistance. This consists of creating a new profession that will allow people with disabilities to train them according to their individual needs. Such a system will allow for the decentralization of assistance and give people with disabilities complete control over services. Funding for this program will be subsidized by the state, with the person with a disability receiving the funds directly to make the hire.

The Green Party of Quebec believes that the centralization of the health care system is detrimental to the services provided to citizens. Indeed, the concentration of care in large centers takes away services from the regions and is part of the trend to devalue the regions. Moreover, the centralization of the health care system has not resulted in the savings hoped for, since the bureaucratic entities created are too cumbersome to manage. The Green Party of Quebec believes that a less cumbersome system that is closer to the people will improve direct services to patients while offering an adapted service.

The Green Party of Quebec would like to improve access to home health care. For patients, having the option to stay at home means a substantial improvement in quality of life, which in turn means a much easier recovery. Families also need more support from the state and greater autonomy to manage them and have better access to services. Early access to a diagnostic service would also help children.

## RIGHTS OF PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

Financial support, clinical assessments and treatment for people with disabilities in Quebec is not working. People with disabilities suffer from long waiting lists or grow old without ever receiving needed therapies, especially for occupational and speech therapists. This situation accelerates the transfer of patients to the private sector and is a sign of the two-tier health care system that is taking hold in Quebec. The Green Party of Quebec wants to put an end to this trend. That is why we are proposing a series of measures to improve the situation of these people in Quebec:

## Creation of a support and monitoring organization

People with disabilities will have access to a regulatory body that will have the power to rule on whether treatment delays or material and financial assistance are lacking. If assessments or therapies are not provided in a timely manner, the Quebec government will pay for these services directly to the private sector. This body would also be mandated to monitor the quality of treatment provided.

A green government will provide legal assistance to people with disabilities, their parents, guardians and caregivers so that their legal rights and remedies are understood and respected. People with disabilities would also be made aware of all the services to which they are entitled.

The Green Party of Quebec would also like to create an independent body to defend the rights of citizens with disabilities (ombudsperson) and deal with their complaints in an effective and fair manner.

In addition, the Quebec Health Care Act will be amended to remove the provision that entitlement to treatment is conditional on the availability of financial resources.

## TRAINING FOR HEALTH CARE WORKERS

We wish to add a course for first responders, renewable annually, in order to equip them adequately to deal with crisis situations involving people with disabilities. The Green Party of Quebec will ensure that first responders are better able to disarm crisis situations involving people with disabilities.

## SERVICES AND DEADLINES

The Green Party of Quebec wants to make occupational and speech therapy more accessible to the community by launching pilot projects, where therapies will be offered in the home. The GPQ will ensure that all such treatments are available within a reasonable time frame.

Practitioners and teaching assistants of Applied

Behaviour Analysis (ABA) and Intensive Behavioural Intervention (IBI) therapy will now be subject to a regulatory framework in Quebec. Individuals with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) will hold positions of responsibility in this new regulatory body overseeing ABA and IAB therapists and teacher assistants.

## LEGISLATION FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Green Party of Quebec will introduce new legislation for adults and children with special needs, ensuring realistic financial support and mandatory timelines for assessments and therapies. The right to prescribed therapies is unconditional and will be enshrined in this law and its regulations.

### Educational, institutional and financial support

Schools, PPEs, and institutions responsible for the care and education of adults and children with disabilities will provide resources for personal aids, supervision, and support (transportation, recreation, hygiene, food, shelter, and adaptive devices including mobility, hearing, and communication, appliances, and prostheses) to persons with disabilities if prescribed by a qualified health care professional

The provision of funds will be attached to the person with a disability and not pooled or shared within an institution or school unless special permission is granted with the ultimate ability for the person with a disability, or their parents, guardian or caregiver, to appeal the decision to the regulatory body.

Adults with disabilities and families (caregivers and guardians) caring for children or adults with disabilities will receive a monthly allowance that realistically covers the actual costs of food, shelter, therapy, transportation and other supports (adaptive devices). These funds will be provided based on the recommendations of a qualified health care provider and will take into account the higher costs faced by communities in Northern Quebec.

## ACCESS TO CARE FOR ALL

We also want to provide access to the health care system for non-status pregnant women and seasonal workers. The Green Party of Quebec believes that it is essential to provide access to health care for all human beings.

## ENDOMETRIOSIS AWARENESS AND RESEARCH INVESTMENT

Endometriosis is a disease with serious social, economic and professional consequences for women who suffer from it. The Green Party proposes to raise awareness, provide information and communication on a large scale so that the disease is known and better managed. At the same time, we will invest in research and the development of care networks and the training of health professionals in order to put an end to medical erraticism so that a diagnosis can be made as quickly as possible. These measures will be combined with agreements with employers so that a reduction in tasks or telecommuting can be offered to women with the disease who have a doctor's bill.

## ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

### Legalization of drugs and nationalization of distribution

The Green Party of Quebec proposes a complete legalization of drugs and a state supervision of the distribution of drugs produced, including those produced by chemical processes, which will guarantee the safety and quality of such processed products. Furthermore, we consider that the nationalization of distribution will remove a large source of income from organized crime, reducing violence and illegal trafficking, while obtaining a source of income for the State. As with cannabis, we do not intend to promote it, but rather to offer a safe supply to citizens caught in an addiction and to guide them towards a gradual reduction of their addictive consumption. Our approach also includes an increase in treatment

service units and a program to provide sterile needles for drug users. As for the so-called "hard" drugs, we will set the legal age at 21.

### Cannabis



The current provincial regulations are restrictive for producers. They will remain criminals in the eyes of the state, while large companies will dominate the legal market. On the other hand, the sales network proposed by the government simply does not have the capacity to supply the demand. The black market will continue to exist and the state will be deprived of significant tax revenues. The Green Party of Quebec proposes to allow more individuals and businesses to participate in the production and sale of cannabis on the legal market in order to allow the government to tax the product while benefiting the decentralization of the industry. In addition, allow the consumption of cannabis in specialized cafes and restaurants.

### Alcohol

We propose to pursue policies that encourage moderation in the consumption of alcohol.

### The Green Party of Quebec proposes :

- To ban the advertising of alcoholic products in order to get alcohol out of the public space and also to fight against alcoholism by introducing labels warning of the health effects of the consumption of alcoholic beverages.
- To permanently abolish alcoholic beverages with high amounts of sugar.
- To promote support groups and centers such as Alcoholics Anonymous and to better support these organizations.
- Carrying out publicity campaigns to raise awareness of the dangers of excessive consumption of alcoholic products.

### Opioid crisis

A terrible opioid crisis is currently raging across the country and has already claimed thousands of lives. We must act quickly and take drastic measures to deal with this tragedy. Open supervised injection centers in all regions. Ensure that these centers receive adequate funding, particularly to be more effective in dealing with the opioid crisis and to help their clients overcome drugs and addictions.

### Fight against recreational addictions

The Green Party of Quebec is committed to fighting all forms of gambling addictions, such as video games and gambling addiction. To do this, we will create support centers that will aim to raise awareness and help people in their efforts to put an end to the addiction that is consuming them..

# ECONOMY



## ECONOMIC JUSTICE

The Green Party of Quebec is committed to an eco-socialist vision, which involves protecting the environment while providing quality public services to the population. We are very concerned about social inequalities and the need to build a more just and equitable society.

## MINIMUM INCOME

The Green Party of Quebec proposes to introduce a guaranteed minimum income of \$1800 per month to lift all Quebecers out of poverty. This amount will be increased for people with illnesses or physical or mental disabilities. This program will eventually replace the social assistance program. All residents will be eligible without condition. There will also be a work exemption of \$600 per month to allow people to work part-time without compromising their access to the program.

### Minimum wage - \$20/hr

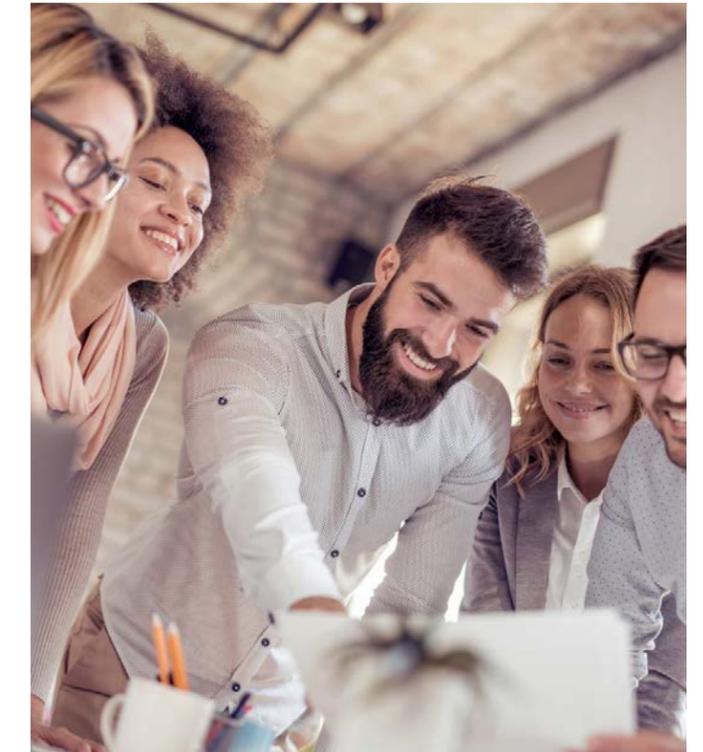
The Green Party of Quebec supports a rapid increase in the minimum wage to \$20/hour by the spring of 2023. This increase in the minimum wage will be combined with changes to the Labour Code, which will prohibit employers from reducing benefits (coffee breaks, insurance, etc.) to offset the increase in the minimum wage. The minimum wage will also be indexed to inflation.

### Reduction in working hours

From 1976 to the present day, the work week in Quebec has been progressively reduced from 45 hours to 40 hours. It is only in the year 2000 that Quebec dropped to 40 hours. As productivity increases, especially with new technologies, less work time is needed to accomplish the same tasks.

In Quebec and around the world, new technologies are significantly reducing the labour needs of businesses and the public service. For each day worked, factories produce more and more products and in a few years, the arrival of artificial intelligence will

accelerate this phenomenon. The increase in productivity, thanks to technological advances, pushes us towards an important societal choice; do we prefer to take advantage of this increase in productivity to reduce working hours or to continue to increase our capacity to consume goods?



Studies show that a reduction in working hours increases individual productivity, which is a significant benefit to businesses. In addition, stress levels, sick days and burnout all tend to decrease when the number of hours worked is reduced. Unemployment will also decrease and citizens will have more time to participate in community life, take care of themselves and their families while reducing the ecological footprint associated with the fifth day of work.

The Green Party of Quebec proposes to gradually reduce the length of the work week to 32 hours per week by the year 2024.

To comply with this legislation, companies will be required to maintain weekly compensation at the same level (or higher) as they pay employees for 40 hours per week. The Green Party of Quebec is committed to reducing the time spent on work and

redirecting it towards the well-being and fulfillment of the population. As the population of Quebec is aging, it is important that citizens have more time to take care of their loved ones, but also that Quebecers can invest in their community, their family and enjoy life.

## RIGHT TO HOUSING

The Green Party of Quebec supports the construction of a minimum of 50,000 social housing units per year. We believe that all citizens have a right to affordable, safe and healthy housing. We also support the updating of housing laws to give more rights to tenants and to ensure that housing is kept in good condition by landlords at all times. We also speak out against “ghettoization” and do not want to see housing concentrated in the same areas. The construction of these units must also be used to effectively combat homelessness by providing housing for homeless people.

## MORE SUSTAINABLE ELECTRICITY RATES

Currently, large consumers of electricity in Quebec, such as the aluminum industry, pay very little for electricity (in fact, less than residential consumers). This situation must change. Hydro-Quebec belongs to the people, not to the corporations. The Green Party of Quebec proposes to offer a basic amount of free electricity to every citizen and to charge only for usage above that amount. This policy will discourage over-consumption while reducing the tax burden on residential consumers. For businesses that are large consumers, they will have to pay much higher rates than at present.

## EMPLOYMENT AND IMMIGRATION

The Green Party of Quebec is proposing to facilitate integration and combat employment discrimination by establishing quotas for immigrant and racialized employees in small and medium-sized businesses so that these individuals can obtain their grants. This

measure would be applied in regions with a higher rate of immigration (notably the Montreal metropolitan area). SMEs would have to have either hired these individuals or made efforts to recruit them. This will facilitate integration into the labor market. For regions with a low immigration rate, SMEs will not see this criterion applied in the form of subsidies, but as a bonus. This would have the positive effect of encouraging more immigrants to settle in the regions, thus stimulating the local economy and slowing down the demographic decline.

## A NEW WEALTH INDICATOR

The Green Party of Quebec proposes to use a new wealth indicator that would be created from a combination of a Green GDP, the Human Development Index (HDI), the Social Health Index (SHI) and the Ecological Footprint.

## VOLUNTEERISM



We propose that legally constituted charities and cultural, environmental or social economy NPOs be able to issue an official receipt granting a tax reduction for social commitment. This will encourage and value volunteerism at levels of increasing need and will be an economically beneficial asset for the province.

## FIGHT FOR THE RENEGOTIATION OF TRADE AGREEMENTS

Trade agreements have benefits and disadvantages. Globalization has many negative effects on the environment. In particular, the GHG emissions associated with the transportation of goods over long distances. The Green Party of Quebec supports the renegotiation of many of these agreements to protect local businesses, the circular economy, local food and the environmental realities of our time. We also support measures to encourage ethical trade; we believe that trade and political relationships cannot be treated separately. Government must respect its own principles when it trades.

## FINES ACCORDING TO OFFENDERS' INCOME

In several countries, such as Finland, fines for offences are determined according to the income of those accused of the offence. This has the effect of bringing some fairness to the awarding of fines, which currently have a much harsher impact on low-income earners compared to the middle and upper classes. Under this system, fines are assigned to offenders based on the number of days of private income and calculated according to their income. This policy aims to establish more equitable justice and to counter the current imbalance in the justice and fines system, which is heavily biased in favour of the wealthiest.

## INCREASED GOVERNMENT REVENUES (IN BRIEF)

### New sources of state revenue

- Increase taxes on the rich, large corporations and multinationals and mining companies so that they pay their fair share
- Implement a carbon tax
- Tax carbon from large industries, increase carbon price and institute a fossil fuel rationing system
- Eliminate subsidies to large corporations, and

tax them more

- Tax the capital of financial institutions
- Optimize spending on road networks
- Put an end to tax havens
- Increasing vehicle registration fees
- Implement a national eco-renovation, eco-tax and recycling program
- Increase exports of solar and wind energy
- Application of the QST on all online shopping platforms
- Tax advertising and overpackaging
- Implement a single tax report
- Invest heavily in culture to increase economic benefits

### Major investments

- Financing the energy transition
- Massive investments in health and education
- Provide free, fast and efficient public transportation
- Development of the recycling industry and the circular economy
- Building organic waste and wastewater infrastructure
- Supporting cooperatives and community organizations
- Implementation of a guaranteed minimum income

### Nationalization projects

- Nationalization of forestry on public lands
- Nationalization of all public transportation services
- Creation of Télécom-Québec
- Implementation of a national greenhouse project
- Creation of Habitation-Québec
- Nationalization of the recycling industry

# AGRICULTURE



## LOCAL AGRICULTURE

### National community greenhouse project



Local food is an essential step in the energy transition. In Quebec, we have significant hydroelectric resources and yet a very small, centralized and privately managed greenhouse system. As a result, a phenomenal amount of our fruits and vegetables are imported from South America and the United States.

The Green Party of Quebec proposes to address the problems of imported food by building a vast network of public urban and rural greenhouses powered by hydro-electricity. These greenhouses will be built by Hydro-Quebec through a new subsidy program and then handed over to local communities in every neighbourhood in Quebec.

The greenhouses will benefit from financial support and free electricity provided by the government. They will be managed democratically by users and community members. The food produced will be distributed to residents at very low cost to avoid food waste.

Beyond local food, job creation and the creation of vibrant local communities, this program aims to concretely reduce the role of capitalism in the Quebec food system while stimulating a culture of mutual aid, local solidarity and cooperation.

### Financial assistance

For the Green Party of Quebec, investing in the agricultural production sector will allow us to fight global warming more effectively and make a greater ecological transition. Our ambitious goals of transforming our production and consumption patterns require state funding to guide and assist our agri-food industries in Quebec.

### To do so, the Green Party of Quebec advocates

- Improving income security programs.
- Recovering an amount equivalent to the residual balance of \$38 million from the Farm Income Stabilization Insurance (FISI) program to improve productivity in the grain sector.
- Enhance agri-environmental support programs, including mechanisms to compensate producers for investments made to adapt to environmental requirements.
- Implement a system to limit the effects of the rapid increase in the minimum wage on the profitability of agricultural businesses, particularly in the horticultural sector.
- Establish a program to compensate farmers for damages caused by extreme weather events.
- Stem the disappearance of farms in Quebec by implementing a support policy for small farms.
- Strengthen the financial support program for young farmers.
- Put an end to the financing of monocultures. Monocultures require more pesticides and herbicides, deplete the soil of its nutrients, accelerate soil erosion due to the constant use of heavy machinery and represent a danger to biodiversity.

### Banning the use of pesticides and nitrogen fertilizers

The Green Party of Quebec supports the banning of all pesticides (and herbicides) and nitrous oxide fertilizers (fertilizers that produce a lot of greenhouse gases) on our territory by the year 2035. This ban will apply to both agriculture and urban centers. Scientific research is clear; pesticides are harmful to the health of humans, animals and biodiversity. Alternatives exist; permaculture, mechanical weed

control systems and bioremediation are all solutions to pesticide problems. The agricultural industry is fully capable of adapting and a Green government will be there to help them with the transition.

### Supporting small-scale passive greenhouse farming

Across Quebec, people are building passive greenhouses that use solar and geothermal energy to grow fruits and vegetables year-round in Quebec, with little or no added energy. The Green Party of Quebec proposes to subsidize the construction of small-scale passive greenhouses to promote local food and food security.

### Supporting organic agriculture

The Green Party of Quebec supports significant subsidies for the production and consumption of certified organic food. These investments of \$1 billion per year will be concentrated around educational programs and hundreds of millions of dollars in financial assistance to farmers to assist in the transition to organic agriculture across Quebec (at a lower cost). The Green Party of Quebec will therefore:

- Support farmers and take economic measures to ensure that organic and local food is affordable for all Quebecers.

- Ban the use of harmful pesticides and encourage the use of organic and natural alternatives.

### Dismantling the union monopoly of the Union des Producteurs Agricoles du Québec

The Green Party of Quebec proposes to dismantle the Union des producteurs agricoles du Québec. This UPA monopoly favours large farms that aim to export, and disadvantages smaller farms (family or otherwise). We therefore consider that it is necessary to divide the UPA into smaller unions, which would allow for a better democratic representation of farmers.

### Farm labour force

In order to alleviate the crying lack of manpower in the agricultural sector,

#### the Green Party of Quebec commits to:

- Establish a special agriculture and agri-food labour program to ensure consistent and effective access to foreign agricultural workers to help ensure the future productivity, growth and success of the industry.



- Improve working conditions for temporary foreign workers in the agricultural production sector. Each year, more than 18,000 temporary workers from South America come to work on our Quebec farms. They are housed in substandard buildings and do such physically exhausting work that many of them try to escape by crossing the U.S. border illegally in the hopes of obtaining better working and living conditions.

- Improve agriculture education and job training throughout the education system, ensuring that skills training programs can include on-farm training and meet other non-traditional on-the-job training requirements.

- Make agricultural training more available and accessible in urban areas.

- Establish a single office for Agriculture and Agri-Food Labour Market Information Assessments, with a staff with the knowledge to ensure timely completion of Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMI) assessments and consistent processing of applications.

### Moratorium on de-zoning

The Green Party of Quebec supports a moratorium

on the de-zoning of agricultural land in both rural and urban areas. The development of these lands is an essential pillar of local food and energy transition. We cannot afford to sacrifice farmland for real estate projects and private interests.

## ANIMAL PRODUCTS AND BY-PRODUCTS

### Reduce consumption of animal products and by-products

The science is clear that reducing the consumption of meat and animal products is an effective way to reduce our GHGs and fight climate change. For this reason, the Green Party of Quebec supports the implementation of a 50% reduction target for animal products by 2035, combined with a series of innovative measures to help citizens make the change and reduce demand for these products. The Green Party of Quebec believes that society must move towards a global reduction in meat consumption and is putting forward the following policies to support people in this ecological transition

- Encourage the population, through advertising campaigns, to reduce its consumption of meat and animal products.

- Use financial levers in agriculture to increase subsidies for plant-based food production. This will include the implementation of a vast nationalized greenhouse program that will allow all Quebecers to enjoy fruits and vegetables produced with our green electricity.

- Subsidize products and programs that help citizens reduce their consumption of meat and animal by-products. This will include lower prices for plant-based foods and free cooking classes that are accessible to all.

- Add healthy cooking classes to the curriculum of Quebec's primary and secondary schools. These courses will be important for the health of young people and will include training in vegetarian and vegan cooking, as well as education on nutrition and the ecological impact of eating meat and animal products.

- Mandate public institutions, such as schools and hospitals, to provide vegetarian and vegan meal options to encourage food choices that are healthier for human health and less damaging to the environment.

### Farm animals

The public would certainly choose to ensure better living conditions for farm animals if they were aware of the abuse they receive. Currently, the Animal Welfare and Safety Act does not protect farm animals. They are subject to industry regulation or "common practice" by the industry. For this reason, the Green Party believes that a set of regulations to alleviate suffering and stop the abuse of farm animals must be implemented.

### Animal production

#### The Green Party platform aims to:

- Educate the public on current industry practices to raise awareness of the treatment of farmed animals.

- Impose strict regulations on industry practices and increase the number of inspectors.

- Prohibit farm animal mutilations such as tail docking, live castration and beak trimming, and chick crushing.

- Mandate access to information and transparency in slaughterhouses, factory farms and transporters. This access to information should be a tool available not only to government authorities, but also to the media and interested citizens.

- Encourage local farms and slaughterhouses and, on a small scale, encourage free-range and outdoor farming practices. Prohibit any form of slaughter that does not provide for prior desensitization and encourage practices with immediate effects.

- Impose stricter standards on animal transportation that reduce travel time, increase living space for animals in trucks, and limit transport during extreme temperatures. The use of electric prods should be banned and the enforcement powers of inspectors increased.

- Encourage small-scale livestock production by increasing the quota on livestock production. Currently,

small-scale producers are disadvantaged because quotas are very expensive and profitability is limited when production is small-scale.

### Enforcement and compliance

A green government would establish a Ministry of Animal Welfare to ensure the implementation, development, enforcement and compliance of animal welfare laws. This ministry would work with the SPCAs and inspectors to effectively enforce provincial laws.

The Green Party would also proceed to give more powers to the SPAs and SPCAs and more budgets to hire more inspectors. We believe that the Quebec government should give a budget and powers to these organizations that are already working in the field, which would allow for greater efficiency.

A Green government would implement a special tax on animal accessories to finance, in part, the enforcement of the law and the creation of the new ministry.

To ensure that the law is enforced and that animals are protected and that our legislation is rigorously respected,

#### the Green Party of Quebec proposes to:

- Inform people of their rights and obligations towards pets, as set out in section 5 of the Animal Welfare and Safety Act
- Significantly increase fines for violations of the law. A person who violates the law could be prohibited from owning a pet.

### DOMESTIC PETS

The GPQ wants to get animals out of a capitalist consumer system. We must focus on adopting shelter animals and on ethical breeding in order to give good homes to pets and avoid their commodification. We must also act on the serious problem of pet overpopulation, which leads to the euthanasia of pets every year.

We wish to ban the sale of overpopulated animals (cats, dogs and certain rodents) in pet stores and put an end to the breeding of these animals. On the other

hand, we encourage the adoption of animals from shelters in pet stores, as well as responsible adoption from shelters and ethical breeders. Only small breedings will be allowed, small family or non-profit breedings that do not aim for profit and that generate a small number of animals.

### Exotic pets

Concerning the sale of so-called “exotic” animals, we wish first of all to create a sale and/or breeding permit in Quebec (none will be given or created for endangered species or poaching, etc.) in order to regulate the sale of these animals. We also want to make sure that these complex animals cannot be sold and purchased lightly and by just anyone. These people should have all the necessary knowledge to inform future adopters of the responsibilities that this represents.

### GENERAL MEASURES

#### A green government would also take the following general actions:

- Educate the public on the importance of considering the biological needs of pets and inform people of their rights and obligations towards pets
- Encourage guardians to spay and neuter their pets, in order to combat abandonment and overcrowding in shelters. Increase the availability of pet spay/neuter clinics for low-income people and make pet identification and vaccination mandatory to ensure traceability and health of pets.
- Eliminate no-pet clauses in residential leases and better regulate pet therapy and other animal-related professions.
- To act against the overpopulation of stray cats while reducing the number of euthanasias by encouraging the practice of CRSM (catch, neuter, release, maintain) and prohibiting the permanent chaining of dogs.
- Prohibit all medical procedures to change the physical characteristics of animals (declawing, ear or tail docking, etc.) except for medical reasons or sterilization.

### Breed bans

The Green Party of Quebec denounces the laws banning certain breeds of dogs in Quebec. We believe that these regulations are completely illogical, discriminatory, unenforceable and demonstrate the profound shortcomings of the political class in the area of animal rights and animal abuse.

As dog breeds are difficult to identify, even by experts, and cross-breeding makes the task even more difficult, it will be impossible to enforce the law accurately. In addition, the Ordre des médecins vétérinaires du Québec and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, among others, have already spoken out against breed-specific legislation.

### WILD ANIMALS

#### Control of hunting and fishing

The Green Party of Quebec believes that hunting and fishing should be better regulated in Quebec to ensure the long-term viability of certain species. We believe that hunting and fishing should be used for subsistence and not for sport.

#### Protection of wildlife habitat

- Encourage the establishment of green zones in and around urban centers.
- Create more provincial parks to protect more land
- Encourage greater respect for the natural environment of wildlife.
- Regulate ecotourism practices to minimize impacts on animals and their natural environment.
- Building animal bridges or tunnels and safety fences to allow animals to cross roads and highways safely.

#### Threatened or vulnerable species

- Raising awareness about the importance of protecting threatened or endangered species.

Other proposals on animal habitat protection and threatened or vulnerable species can be found in the environment section of the Green Party of Quebec

platform.

### Animals raised or trapped for their fur

The Green Party opposes the farming of animals for fur. This industry is responsible for the death and suffering of millions of foxes, coyotes, rabbits, minks and others.

### ANIMAL TESTING

The Green Party considers animal testing for the development of cosmetics to be cruel and unnecessary. Animal testing in Quebec is not regulated by the government. The companies that do the testing are left to their own devices to ensure the welfare of the animals, and this has led to many abuses. The Green Party of Quebec advocates a ban on animal testing for commercial purposes (such as makeup).

#### The medical or scientific field

The Green Party of Quebec proposes a strict framework and enforcement of regulations governing animal testing in the medical and scientific fields. Since these animals are excluded from the protections of the Animal Welfare and Safety Act, practices are currently left to self-regulation.

#### The Green Party platform aims to:

- Encourage the phasing out of animal use in the industry and the development of new methods that do not involve animals.
- Mandate MAPAQ officials to conduct thorough inspections not only while laboratories are empty or unused, but also while tests are being conducted on animals. They should produce detailed public reports to ensure transparency and report on the condition of the animals before, during and after testing.

### ANIMALS IN ENTERTAINMENT

The entertainment industry should not require wild animals to perform for human entertainment. The use of animals in entertainment must be reduced and eventually banned.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Through this ambitious platform, the Green Party of Quebec is committed to transforming Quebec into a more inclusive, equitable, just and green society to offer our future generations a truly sustainable future. We represent the eco-socialist, feminist and federalist option in Quebec politics. A vote for the Green Party of Quebec is a vote to end the status quo and establish a healthy social and natural environment for all. Join our movement now!

We would also like to thank our members, candidates, supporters, volunteers, and staff who have worked tirelessly to produce this ambitious New Green Plan for Quebec.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the consultation sessions, research, development, writing and creation of this platform. None of this would have been possible without you.



For free and efficient public transit

For true social and economic justice

For a more democratic and representative Quebec

For an educated and prosperous Quebec

For a reliable and efficient health care system

For a reeducation of wealth inequalities

For healthy and environmentally friendly food

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