

DO MORE, DO BETTER

Government Action Plan for the Social and Cultural Development of the First Nations and Inuit 2017-2022

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4 FOSTER COLLABORATION AND RESEARCH

Implement more fruitful exchanges

In the realm of Aboriginal social and cultural development, collaboration is one of the conditions for the success of public policies. First, such policies are aimed at a clientele, which, in Québec, displays a unique trait: the Aboriginal peoples form nations and are therefore best suited to determine the initiatives that will contribute to their development. The First Nations and Inuit must, therefore, participate in the elaboration of and follow-up to the measures.

Second, such public policies are developed in a context in which the Government of Québec is not acting alone. It is a question of reconciling the Government of Québec's initiatives with those of federal bodies, bearing in mind the specific role that the Government of Canada plays and its jurisdiction over the Aboriginal peoples and the lands reserved for them.

What is more, it should not be forgotten that the Aboriginal communities are developing in a regional environment, which necessarily implies exchanges with local non-native authorities, especially at the municipal level.

The action plan seeks to implement ongoing joint-action mechanisms between interveners in the social and cultural development of the Aboriginal populations

to create a dialogue and the partnerships necessary to achieve significant, lasting progress. Moreover, the action plan itself will be implemented in this spirit of cooperation. A joint mechanism that involves the representatives of the Aboriginal bodies concerned and those of the Government of Québec will ensure follow-up to the measures.

Develop and promote research in Aboriginal communities

The initiatives that Aboriginal service organizations and Government of Québec departments, agencies or networks plan must draw on sufficient data. Diagnoses must be established such that the measures that will adequately satisfy the known needs can then be elaborated. The aim is to broaden knowledge of certain social and cultural realities in order to better clarify the elaboration of public policies.

In Québec, data on the actual living conditions of the Aboriginal peoples could be more varied and extensive. The Government of Québec thus wishes to contribute to the development of research on Aboriginal realities. It wishes to encourage the work of researchers, in particular action research, and promote Aboriginal affairs as a field of study in the universities.

KEY MEASURES TO PROMOTE COLLABORATION AND RESEARCH

1. BROADEN COLLABORATION WITH THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLES AND BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS

- Establish jointly with representatives of the First Nations and Inuit and with government departments and bodies a consensus-building and follow-up mechanism to ensure the implementation of this action plan
- Implement activities that promote the transfer of knowledge pertaining to addiction in the First Nations and Inuit communities
- Establish a working committee on the training of future Aboriginal police officers and police officers working in the Aboriginal communities, including training in investigation
- Foster the sharing between Aboriginal police forces of practices, expertise and intervention methods in the realm of sexual assault
- Support initiatives devoted to reconciliation between communities and local authorities to focus on specific issues
- Play an active role in the new Federal-Provincial-Territorial-Indigenous Forum in keeping with the call to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada
- Support Inuit communities in the implementation of Saqjuq
- Participate, in collaboration with the federal government and the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Health and Social Services Commission, in the elaboration of a transitional process to a new governance model in health and social services for the First Nations of Québec

2. CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF RESEARCH ON THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLES' SOCIAL AND CULTURAL REALITIES

- Conduct qualitative research in prisons to improve understanding of the rehabilitation and healing processes of incarcerated Aboriginal men
- Support the implementation of projects on Aboriginal social and cultural development
- Establish an Aboriginal section under the Chaire de recherche sur la jeunesse québécoise
- Document, in collaboration with Aboriginal partners and organizations, the health and well-being needs of Aboriginal men
- Take stock of knowledge on addiction problems in First Nations and Inuit communities