

PRESS RELEASES

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UNDER EMBARGO

2025-2026 Expenditure Budget

Disciplined measures and targeted actions

Québec, March 25, 2025 - Today, the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, Ms. Sonia LeBel, tabled the 2025-2026 Expenditure Budget, totalling \$130.6 billion. This fiscal year reiterates the importance of the Government's commitment to public services while deploying targeted measures to protect the Québec economy in a time of uncertainty.

"This is an opportunity to secure the benefits of the major investments made in recent years in health and education while significantly improving our expenditure management. The entire Government, including all departments and bodies, at every decision-making level, must mobilize to ensure compliance with their budget forecasts. The review of expenditures we initiated this year is just the beginning. We will be redoubling our efforts to ensure that public funds are managed even more rigorously and efficiently within the Gouvernement du Québec. We can do better, and we will," emphasized the Chair of the Conseil du trésor.

In fact, a review of budgetary expenditures has identified \$3.0 billion in savings across various departments and bodies. These savings mainly concern administrative measures related to government operations, the cap on independent labour rates in the health and social services sector, and the transformation of certain programs. Certain public bodies that provide administrative services to their peers, such as the Société québécoise des Infrastructures, the Ministère de la Cybersécurité et du Numérique, and the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales, will be called upon to pool certain activities to optimize associated costs. This approach aligns with efforts to reduce bureaucracy and streamline the regulatory and administrative structure.

Prioritizing Québec businesses in public procurement

The Stratégie gouvernementale des marchés publics, which aims to promote Québec procurement in the awarding of public contracts, is proving effective. In 2023-2024, out of \$32.0 billion in public contracts awarded, \$27.0 billion went to Québec companies. This rate has risen from 78% in 2019-2020 to 85% today, a significant gain. Furthermore, the rate of government procurement in Québec goods increased from 38% to 52% over the course of the same period.

Strong response to U.S. tariffs

In response to the tariffs imposed by the United States, the Government will continue to leverage public procurement by imposing penalties, until further notice, on U.S.-based companies bidding on its tenders. These penalties add to efforts to tighten the rules governing public procurement, particularly on online purchasing platforms, which do not encourage public bodies to source from Québec suppliers.

These measures are, in turn, complemented by a number of support programs, including FRONTIERE and ESSOR, which are being deployed by the Minister of Economy, Innovation and Energy to provide local businesses with financial assistance and improve productivity. The Minister of Employment, for her part, has launched two initiatives, FORCE and ACOMOD, to rapidly develop new markets and increase productivity through customized training programs for workers in businesses.

Return on investments

Between 2018-2019 and 2024-2025, recall that consolidated spending by the Gouvernement du Québec rose from \$98.3 billion to \$153.4 billion, an increase of 56%. “Colossal sums were invested in health and education because they were needed. The current Expenditure Budget has now sent out a strong signal to Gouvernement du Québec stakeholders that the time has come for these major investments in public services to deliver results. The public’s expectations are clear. We must improve our effectiveness at all levels. It’s our responsibility to take action for Quebecers,” concluded the Minister.

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UNDER EMBARGO

The 2025-2035 Québec Infrastructure Plan: the Gouvernement du Québec is taking the necessary steps to fulfill its commitments and contribute to economic growth

Québec City, March 25, 2025 – *The 2025-2035 Québec Infrastructure Plan* (QIP) totals \$164 billion in investments over the next decade, a 7.2% increase in relation to the preceding year, offering a clear response to the need to support the Québec economy, and a 63% increase in relation to 2018. The investments will lead to quality construction to serve Quebecers.

With an average annual investment of \$19 billion over the next three years, the QIP announced by Minister Responsible for Infrastructure and Minister Responsible for the Capitale-Nationale Region, Jonatan Julien, outlines rigorous planning of investments that enable all regions of Québec to remain productive, competitive, and resilient.

Some \$96.7 billion has been earmarked to ensure the sustainability of existing infrastructure, equivalent to 65% of all government investments, a proportion that has risen steadily since 2018 to make up for underinvestment by previous governments.

Health and social services

The health and social services sector obtains the biggest share of the new funds, i.e., over \$4.6 billion, up 7.5% in its 2025-2035 QIP. The funds will be used to build, expand, and redevelop hospitals, seniors and alternative housing (MDAA) and rebuild CHSLDs based on the MDAA concept.

Education and higher education

The rebuilding of schools and the addition of classrooms will continue in the education network. The 2025-2035 QIP is up by \$3.8 billion, an 8.7% increase. Significant construction, expansion, and maintenance operations will be carried out in elementary and secondary schools and in vocational training centres.

The higher education sector is receiving an additional \$918.9 million in response to space and building repair needs, including \$550 million specifically earmarked to maintain in good condition establishments in the college and university networks.

The road network and public transit

An additional \$3.4 billion in investments has been allocated to the road network to carry out major rehabilitation work, further develop the network, and improve the traffic flow. The 2025-2035 QIP focuses specifically on the maintenance of road infrastructure by devoting 85% of the funds to this end.

The government is also pursuing the development of public transit by allocating \$1.4 billion to projects that promote individual mobility. Of this amount, \$0.6 billion has been provided to maintain existing public transit infrastructure. Lastly, with an additional \$1 billion for the marine, air, and rail sectors, the 2025-2035 QIP of the Ministère des Transports et de la Mobilité durable increases by 7%.

Other priority sectors

The government intends to increase investments in several other key sectors:

- \$1.1 billion for detention facilities, courthouses, and Sûreté du Québec police stations;
- \$559 million to increase social and community housing;
- \$448.1 to ensure the sustainability of cultural infrastructure;
- \$302.5 million to develop sports infrastructure.

Quote

“With the additional investments of \$11 billion planned over the next three years, the 2025-2035 QIP reaches a new high of \$164 billion. This reaffirms the importance of investing in our public infrastructure to stimulate our economy, especially in these uncertain times. Quebecers deserve quality infrastructure at the best possible cost, which is why the 2025-2035 QIP enables us to better plan and coordinate investments to ensure that the market delivers. Moreover, the *Stratégie québécoise en infrastructures publiques* launched last spring and the adoption of the attendant legislation will ensure gains at every stage of our infrastructure projects, from their ideation to their maintenance. Whether we are renovating our schools, residential and long-term care centres, or hospitals, or maintaining our roads, I am indeed proud to be part of a government that deems the sustainability of infrastructure to be a priority. The \$96.7 billion in investments allocated to maintain them speak for themselves.”

Jonatan Julien, Minister Responsible for Infrastructure and Minister Responsible for the Capitale-Nationale Region

Related links

[Québec Infrastructure Plan](#)

[Stratégie québécoise en infrastructures publiques](#)

[Bill 62](#)

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