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# QUÉBEC IN ACTION AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

## The Carbon Market Advantage

In 2007 Québec was the first North American government to introduce a levy on fossil fuels. Québec went even further in its pioneering efforts to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in 2013 by implementing a carbon market system, which sets limits on carbon emissions but allows companies flexibility to achieve their GHG reduction obligations. They may adopt energy efficiency measures, invest in new technologies, turn to cleaner energy sources, or buy emission permits. In short, it encourages them to get a head start into the 21st-century economy, the low-carbon economy. When Québec's carbon market linked with California's, it resulted in the largest carbon market on the continent.

## Strengthening Our Green Roots

Québec's carbon market will generate more than \$3 billion

in revenue that will be 100% reinvested in programs that benefit people working and living in Québec. Initiatives range from assisting businesses in modernizing equipment to expanding the use of electric vehicles and public transportation, thus helping the people of Québec make the switch to a more sustainable way of life. The development of Québec's vast renewable energy potential (hydro, wind) is also contributing to Québec's economic prosperity and is today a major source of jobs and wealth creation.

As a result, Québec has embarked on a transition to a low-carbon and resilient economy. Along with its Canadian and international partners, Québec is moving the climate change conversation forward.

## Taking Action to Slow Climate Change

Climate change is one of the most important challenges we face today. The 1998 Ice Storm, recent flooding along the Richelieu River Valley, and erosion along the North Shore of the St. Lawrence River are just some of the climate issues that have affected people's lives in communities across Québec. Fighting climate change is a priority for Québec, hence it's helping guide the way. A shared problem requires shared commitment—together, we can ensure a better quality of life for our children.

**“The fight against climate change is a challenge, but it is also an opportunity to develop a 21st-century low-carbon economy.”**

Philippe Couillard, Premier of Québec



PHOTOS: Hydro-Québec (top, bottom); Réseau de transport de la Capitale (middle)



Learn more at [mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca](http://mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca).