

A portrait of a middle-aged man with dark hair, a mustache, and glasses. He is wearing a light blue short-sleeved button-down shirt, a light blue and white striped tie, and dark blue trousers with a black belt. He has his arms crossed and is standing outdoors in front of a light-colored stone wall and green foliage. The text "GOLDY MONTREALIES" is overlaid on the left side of the image, and "DR HUSSAM HUSSEIN ABU AZAB" is overlaid at the bottom in large, bold, yellow letters.

**GOLDY
MONTREALIES**

**DR HUSSAM HUSSEIN
ABU AZAB**

QUÉBEC

Dans les charmants yeux

Quebec is one of the thirteen provinces and territories of Canada. Quebec is the largest province by area and the second largest by population. Much of the population lives in urban areas along the St. Lawrence River. Montreal, and the provincial capital, Quebec City are between the most populous city.

Quebec is the home of the Quebecois nation. Located in Central Canada, the province shares land borders with Ontario to the west, Newfoundland and Labrador to the northeast, New Brunswick to the southeast, and a coastal border with Nunavut; in the south it borders Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York in the United States.

Between 1534 and 1763, Quebec was called Canada and was the most developed colony in New France. Following the Seven Years' War, Quebec became a British colony: first as the Province of Quebec, then Lower Canada, and lastly Canada East, as a result of the Lower Canada Rebellion. It was confederated with Ontario, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick in 1867, beginning the Canadian Confederation. Until the early 1960s, the Catholic Church played a large role in the social and cultural institutions in Quebec. However, the Quiet Revolution of the 1960s to 1980s increased the role of the Government of Quebec in l'État Québécois.

The Constitution Act, 1867 incorporated the present-day Government of Quebec, which functions within the context of a Westminster system and is both a liberal democracy and a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary system. The Premier of Quebec, presently François Legault, acts as head of government. Quebecois political culture mostly differs on a nationalist-vs-federalist continuum, rather than a left-vs-right continuum. Quebec independence debates have played a large role in politics. Quebec society's cohesion and specificity is based on three of its unique statutory documents: the Quebec Charter of

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Human Rights and Freedoms, the Charter of the French Language, and the Civil Code of Quebec. Furthermore, unlike elsewhere in Canada, law in Quebec is mixed: private law is exercised under a civil-law system, while public law is exercised under a common-law system.

Quebec's official language is French; Quebecois French is the local variety. The economy of Quebec is diversified and post-industrial. Quebec's substantial natural resources have long been a mainstay. Notably exploited in hydroelectricity, forestry, and mining. Quebec is well known for producing maple syrup, for its comedy, and for making hockey one of the most popular sports in Canada. It is also renowned for its culture; the province produces literature, music, films, TV shows, festivals, folklore, and more.

Etymology

The name Quebec comes from an Algonquin word meaning 'narrow passage' or 'strait'. The name originally referred to the area around Quebec City where the Saint Lawrence River narrows to a cliff-lined gap. Early variations in the spelling included Québee and Kébec. French explorer Samuel de Champlain chose the name Quebec in 1608 for the colonial outpost he would use as the administrative seat for New France.

History

Before New France

The Paleo-Indians, who were the first people to establish themselves on the lands of Quebec, arrived there after the Laurentide Ice Sheet melted, roughly 11,000 years ago. The ethnocultural groups that emerged can today be grouped into twelve Indigenous peoples: the Inuit, the Metis and the ten Indigenous nations of the Abenaki, the Algonquin, the Atikamekw, the Cree, the Huron-Wyandot, the Maliseet, the Mi'kmaq, the Mohawk, the Innu and the Naskapi. At the time of the European explorations of the 1500s, it was known that

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Algonquians organized into seven political entities and lived nomadic lives based on hunting, gathering, and fishing. Inuit, on the other hand, fished and hunted whales and seals along the coasts of Hudson and Ungava Bay.

On April 5TH 1453, Sultan Muhammad II of Ottoman Empire moved the capital of his kingdom from the city of Edirne – in Europe – to Constantinople after opening it, and it renamed it to “Islambul”. This results in the Byzantine Empire fell, prompting Western Europeans to search for new sea routes to the Far East. Around 1522-1523, Giovanni da Verrazzano persuaded King Francis I of France to commission an expedition to find a western route to Cathay via a Northwest Passage. Though this expedition was unsuccessful, it established the name “New France” for Northeastern North America. In his first expedition ordered from the Kingdom of France, Jacques Cartier became the first European explorer to discover and map Quebec when he landed in Gaspé on July 24, 1534. The second expedition, in 1535, included three ships: the Grande Hermine, the Petite Hermine and the Emérillon. That year, Jacques Cartier explored the lands of Stadaconé and decided to name the village and its surrounding territories Canada. After wintering in Stadaconé, Cartier returned to France with about 10 Native Americans, including the St. Lawrence Iroquoians chief Donnacona. In 1540, Donnacona told the legend of the Kingdom of Saguenay to the King of France. This inspired the king to order a third expedition, this time led by Jean- François de La Rocque de Roberval; it was unsuccessful in its goal of finding the kingdom.

After these expeditions, France mostly abandoned North America for 50 years because of its financial crisis; France was at war with Italy and there were religious wars between Protestants and Catholics. Around 1580, the rise of the fur trade reignited French interest; New France became a colonial

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trading post. In 1603, Samuel de Champlain travelled to the Saint Lawrence River and, on Pointe Saint-Mathieu, established a defense pact with the Innu, Wolastoqiyik and Micmacs, that would be “a decisive factor in the maintenance of a French colonial enterprise in America despite an enormous numerical disadvantage vis-à-vis the British”. Thus, also began French military support to the Algonquian and Huron peoples against Iroquois attacks; these would become known as the Beaver Wars and would last from the early 1600s to the early 1700s.

New France

In 1608, Samuel de Champlain returned to the region as head of an exploration party. On July 3, 1608, with the support of King Henri IV, he founded the Habitation de Quebec and made it the capital of New France and its regions. Several missionary groups arrived in New France after the founding of Québec, like the Recollects in 1615, the Jésuites in 1625 and the Supliciens in 1657. Coureurs des bois and Catholic missionaries used river canoes to explore the interior of the North American continent and establish fur trading forts.

The Compagnie des Cent-Associés¹, which had been granted a royal mandate to manage New France in 1627, introduced the Custom of Paris and the seigneurial system, and forbade settlement in New France by anyone other than Roman Catholics. In 1629, Quebec surrendered, without battle, to English privateers led by David Kirke during the Anglo-French War; in 1632, the English king agreed to return the lands with the Treaty of Saint-Germain-en-Laye. Paul de Comedy de Maisonneuve founded Ville-Marie in 1642.

In 1663, the Company of New France ceded Canada to the King, King Louis XIV, who officially made New France into a royal province of France. New France was now a true colony administered by the

¹ The Company of a Hundred Participants, or Company of New France, was a French trading and colonization company set up in 1627 to profit from the North

American fur trade and expand the French colonies there. Founded by Richelieu on April 29, 1627, ceased operations in 1663

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Sovereign Council of New France from Quebec. A governor-general be assigned, assisted by the intendant of New France and the bishop of Quebec, governed Canada, and its administrative dependencies: Acadia, Louisiana and Plaisance. The French settlers were mostly farmers and were known as "Canadiens" or "Habitants". Though there was little immigration, the colony still grew because of the Habitants' high birth rates. In 1665, the Carignan-Salières regiment developed the string of fortifications known as the "Valley of Forts" to protect against Iroquois invasions and brought along with them 1,200 new men. To redress the severe gender imbalance and boost population growth, King Louis XIV sponsored the passage of approximately 800 young French women to the colony, the world has known for the first time the group marriage!

New France's territory grew to extend from Hudson Bay all the way to the Gulf of Mexico and would also encompass the Great Lakes. In the early 1700s, Governor Callières concluded the Great Peace of Montreal, which not only confirmed the alliance between the Algonquian and New France, but also definitively ended the Beaver Wars. From 1688 onwards, the fierce competition between the French and British to control North America's interior and monopolize the fur trade pitted New France and its Indigenous allies against the Iroquois and English in a series of four successive wars called the French and Indian Wars by Americans, and the intercolonial Wars in Quebec. The first three of these wars were King William's War, Queen Anne's War, and King George's War. In 1690, the Battle of Quebec became the first time Quebec's defences were tested. In 1713, following the Peace of Utrecht, the Duke of Orleans ceded Acadia and Plaisance Bay to Great Britain, but retained Île Saint-Jean, and Île-Royale where the Fortress of Louisbourg was subsequently erected. These losses were significant since Plaisance Bay was the primary communication route between New France and France, and Acadia contained 5,000 Acadians. In the siege of Louisbourg in 1745, the British were victorious, but returned the city to France after war concessions.

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The last of the four French and Indian Wars was called the Seven Years' War and lasted from 1754 to 1763. In 1754, tensions escalated for control of the Ohio Valley, as authorities in New France became more aggressive in their efforts to expel British traders and colonists from the area. In 1754, George Washington launched a surprise attack on a group of sleeping Canadian soldiers, known as the Battle of Jumonville Glen, the first battle of the war. In 1755, Governor Charles Lawrence and Officer Robert Monckton ordered the forceful Deportation of the Acadians. In 1758, on Île -Royale, British General James Wolfe besieged and captured the Fortress of Louisbourg. This allowed him to control access to the Gulf of St. Lawrence through the Cabot Strait. In 1759, he besieged Quebec for nearly three months from Île d'Orléans. Then, Wolfe stormed Quebec and fought against Montcalm for control of the city in the Battle of the Plains of Abraham. After a British victory, the king's lieutenant, and Lord of Ramezay concluded the Articles of Capitulation of Quebec. During the spring of 1760, the Chevalier de Lévis besieged Quebec and forced the British to entrench themselves during the Battle of Sainte-Foy. However, the loss of the French vessels sent to resupply New France after the fall of Quebec during the Battle of Restigouche marked the end of France's efforts to try to retake the colony. Governor Vaudreuil signed the Articles of Capitulation of Montreal on September 8, 1760.

While awaiting the results of the Seven Years' War in Europe, New France was put under a led by Governor James Murray. In 1762, Commander Jeffery Amherst ended the French presence in Newfoundland at the Battle of Signal Hill. Two months later, France ceded the western part of Louisiana and the Mississippi River Delta to Spain via the Treaty of Fontainebleau. On February 10, 1763, the Treaty of Paris concluded the war. Except for the small islands of Saint Pierre and Miquelon, France ceded its North American possessions to Great Britain. Thus, France had put an end to New France and abandoned the remaining 60,000 Canadiens, who sided with the Catholic clergy in refusing to take an oath to the British Crown. The

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rupture from France would provoke a transformation within the descendants of the Canadians that would eventually result in the birth of a new nation.

British North America

After the British officially acquired Canada in 1763, King George III reorganized the constitution of Canada using the Royal Proclamation. From this point on, the Canadians were subordinated to the government of the British Empire and circumscribed to a region of the St. Lawrence valley and Anticosti Island called the Province of Quebec. With unrest growing in the colonies to the south, the British were worried that the Canadians might support what would become the American Revolution. To secure the allegiance of Canadians to the British crown, Governor James Murray and later Governor Guy Carleton promoted the need for accommodations, resulting in the enactment of the Quebec Act of 1774. This act allowed Canadians to regain their civil customs, return to the seigneurial system², regain certain rights, and reappropriate their old territories: Labrador, the Great Lakes, the Ohio Valley, Illinois Country, and the Indian Territory.

United Empire Loyalists from the US migrated to Quebec and populated various regions, including the Niagara Peninsula, the Eastern Townships and Thousand Islands. The dissatisfied with the many rights granted to Canadians and wanting to use the British legal system to which they were accustomed, the Loyalists protested to British authorities until the Constitutional Act of 1791 was enacted, dividing the Province of Quebec into two distinct colonies starting from the Ottawa River: Upper Canada to the west and Lower Canada to the east. Lower Canada's lands consisted of the coasts of the Saint Lawrence River, Labrador and Anticosti Island, with the territory extending north to the boundary of

² The seigneurial system was an institutional form of land distribution established in New France in 1627 and

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Rupert's Land, and extending south, east and west to the borders with the US, New Brunswick, and Upper Canada. The creation of Upper and Lower Canada allowed Loyalists to live under British laws and institutions, while Canadians could maintain their familiar French civil law and Catholic religion. Furthermore, Governor Haldimand drew Loyalists away from Quebec City and Montreal by offering free land on the northern shore of Lake Ontario to anyone willing to swear allegiance to George III. In 1813, Charles-Michel de Salaberry became a hero by leading the Canadian troops to victory at the Battle of Chateaugay, during the War of 1812. This loss caused the Americans to abandon the Saint Lawrence Campaign, their major strategic effort to conquer Canada.

Gradually, the Legislative Assembly of Lower Canada, who represented the people, came into conflict with the superior authority of the Crown and its appointed representatives. Starting in 1791, the government of Lower Canada was criticized and contested by the Parti canadien - Party of Canadian. In 1834, the Parti canadien presented its 92 resolutions, a series of political demands which expressed a loss of confidence in the British monarchy. Discontentment intensified throughout the public meetings of 1837, and the Rebellion of the Patriots began in 1837. In 1837, Louis-Joseph Papineau and Robert Nelson led residents of Lower Canada to form an armed resistance group called the Patriots. They made a Declaration of Independence in 1838, guaranteeing human rights and equality for all citizens without discriminations. Their actions resulted in rebellions in both Lower and Upper Canada. The Patriots forces were victorious in their first battle, the Battle of Saint-Denis. However, the Patriots were unorganized and badly equipped, leading to their loss against the British army in their second battle, the Battle of Saint-Charles, and their defeat in their final battle, the Battle of Saint-

officially abolished in 1854. The land was therefore granted as fiefs and seigneuries to the most influential colonists who, in turn, granted tenancies.

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Eustache.

In response to the rebellions, Lord Durham was asked to undertake a study and prepare a report offering a solution to the British Parliament. In his report, Lord Durham recommended that Canadiens be culturally assimilated, with English as their only official language. In order to do this, the British passed the Act of Union of 1840, which merged Upper Canada and Lower Canada into a single colony: the Province of Canada. Lower Canada became the francophone and densely populated Canada East, and Upper Canada became the anglophone and sparsely populated Canada West. This union, unsurprisingly, was the main source of political instability until 1867. Despite their population gap, both Canada East and Canada West obtained an identical number of seats in the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada, which created representation problems. In the beginning, Canada East was under-represented because of its superior population size. Over time, however, massive immigration from the British Isles to Canada West occurred, which increased its population. Since the two regions continued to have equal representation in the Parliament, this meant that it was now Canada West that was under-represented. The representation issues were frequently called into question by debates on "Representation by Population", or "Rep by Pop". In this period, the Loyalists and immigrants from the British Isles appropriated the term 'Canadian', referring to Canada, their place of residence. The "Old Canadians" responded to this appropriation of identity by henceforth identifying with their ethnic community, under the name "French Canadian".

As access to new lands remained problematic because they were still monopolized by the Clique du Château³, an exodus of Canadiens towards New England began and went on for the next one

³ The Château Clique, or Clique du Château, was a group of wealthy families in Lower Canada in the early 19th century, known as Bureaucratic Party, also known as the British Party or the Tory Party.

⁴ Several American cities near the Canadian border

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hundred years. This phenomenon is known as the "the great hemorrhage"⁴, and greatly threatened the survival of the Canadian nation. The massive British immigration ordered from London that soon followed the failed rebellion compounded this problem. In order to combat this, the Church adopted the revenge of the cradle policy. In 1844, the capital of the Province of Canada was moved from Kingston to Montreal.

Political unrest came to a head in 1849, when English Canadian rioters set fire to the Parliament Building in Montreal following the enactment of the Rebellion Losses Bill, a law that compensated French Canadians whose properties were destroyed during the rebellions of 1837-1838. This bill, resulting from the Baldwin-La Fontaine coalition and Lord Elgin's advice, was a very important one as it established the notion of responsible government. In 1854, the seigneurial system was abolished, the Grand Trunk Railway was built, and the Canadian American Reciprocity Treaty was implemented. In 1866, the Civil Code of Lower Canada was adopted.

Canadian province

On July 1, 1867, negotiations took place for a confederation between the colonies of the Province of Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia. This led to the British North America Act, which created Canada and its four founding provinces: New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec, and Ontario. These last two came from the splitting of the Province of Canada and used the old borders of Lower Canada for Quebec, and Upper Canada for Ontario. Since this federal system's constitution was founded on the same principles as that of the United Kingdom, each of the provinces was guaranteed sovereign authority in the sphere of its legislative powers. After having fought as a Patriot, George-Étienne Cartier joined the ranks of the Fathers of

developed very rapidly during the 1840s. From 1850 to 1900, approximately 400,000 people emigrated to New England. This migration is so important that it is nicknamed "the great hemorrhage".

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Confederation and submitted the 72 resolutions of the Quebec Conference of 1864, which approved the establishment of a federated state whose territory was to be limited to the historic heart of the French-Canadian nation and where French Canadians would most likely retain majority status. On July 15, 1867, Pierre-Joseph-Olivier Chauveau became Quebec's first Premier.

From Confederation until the First World War, the omnipresence of the Church was at its peak. The objective of Clerico-nationalists⁵ was promoting the values of traditional society: family, the French language, the Catholic Church, and rural life. Also, during this period, events such as the North-West Rebellion, the Manitoba Schools Question and Ontario's Regulation 17 turned the promotion and defense of the rights of French Canadians into an important concern. Under the aegis of the Catholic Church and the political action of Henri Bourassa, various symbols of national pride were developed, like the Flag of Carillon, and O Canada⁶, a patriotic song composed for Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day. Many organizations would go on to consecrate the affirmation of the French-Canadian people, including the Desjardins credit unions in 1900, the Club de Hockey Canadian in 1909, Le Devoir in 1910, the Congres de la langue frangaise in 1912, and National Action - *L'Action nationale*- in 1917. In 1885, liberal and conservative MPs formed the Parti national out of anger with the previous government for not having interceded in the execution of Louis Riel.

In 1898, the Canadian Parliament enacted the Quebec Boundary Extension Act, 1898, which gave Quebec part of Rupert's Land, which Canada had bought from the Hudson's Bay Company in 1870. This Act expanded the boundaries of Quebec northward. In 1909, the government passed a law obligating wood and pulp to be transformed in Quebec, which helped slow the Large Bleeding -

⁵ Clerico- Canada's national anthem, "O Canada" was first sung in French 100 years earlier. was a traditionalist, religious form of French-Canadian nationalism focused

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Grande Hémorragie - by allowing Quebec to export finished products to the US instead of its labor force. In 1910, Annand Lavergne passed the Lavergne Law, the first language legislation in Quebec. It required the use of French alongside English on tickets, documents, bills, and contracts issued by transportation and public utility companies. At that time, companies rarely recognized the majority language of Quebec. Clerico-nationalists eventually started to fall out of favor in the federal elections of 1911. In 1912, the Canadian Parliament enacted the Quebec Boundaries Extension Act, 1912, which gave Quebec another part of Rupert's Land: The District of Ungava. This extended the borders of Quebec northward all the way to the Hudson Strait.

When the First World War broke out, Canada was automatically involved, and many English Canadians voluntarily enlisted. However, because French Canadians did not feel the same connection to the British Empire and there was no direct threat to Canada, French Canadians saw no reason to fight. A few did enlist in the 22ND Battalion, precursor to the Royal 22ND Regiment. By late 1916, the number of casualties were beginning to cause reinforcement problems. After enormous difficulty in the federal government, because virtually every French-speaking MP opposed conscription while almost all the English-speaking MPs supported it, the Military Service Act became law on August 29, 1917. French Canadians protested in what is now called the Conscription Crisis of 1917, which eventually led to violence left four civilians dead and dozens injured, and shocked supporters on both sides.

In 1927, the British Judicial Committee of the Privy Council drew a clear border between northeast Quebec and south Labrador. However, the Quebec government did not recognize the ruling of this council, resulting in a boundary dispute which remains ongoing. The Statute of Westminster of 1931 was enacted, and it confirmed the autonomy of the

on the Roman Catholic Church.

⁶ Canada's national anthem, "O Canada".

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Dominions; including Canada and its provinces; from the United Kingdom as well as their free association in the Commonwealth. In the 1930s, Quebec's economy was affected by the Great Depression because it greatly reduced American demand for Quebecois exports. Between 1929 and 1932 the unemployment rate increased from 7.7% to 26.4%. In an attempt to remedy this, the Quebecois government enacted infrastructure projects, campaigns to colonies distant regions, financial assistance to farmers, and the "secours directs", the ancestor to Canada's Employment Insurance.

French Canadians remained opposed to conscription during the Second World War. When Canada declared war in September 1939, the federal government pledged not to conscript soldiers for overseas service. As the war went on, more and more English Canadians voiced support for conscription, despite firm opposition from French Canada. Following a 1942 poll that showed 72.9% of Quebec's residents were against conscription, while 80% or more were for conscription in every other province, the federal government passed Bill 80 for overseas service. Protests exploded and the Bloc Populaire emerged to fight conscription. However, as early as 1948, French Canadian society began to develop new ideologies and desires in response to significant societal changes such as new inventions like the television, the baby boom, workers' conflicts, electrification of the countryside, emergence of a middle class, the rural exodus and urbanization, expansion of universities and bureaucracies, creation of a motorway system, renaissance of literature and poetry, and others. The more French-Canadian society was shaken by social change, the more the traditional elite, grouped around clerical circles, reflexively hardened their conservative and French-Canadian nationalism.

Modern Quebec

The Quiet Revolution was a period of intense modernization, secularization, and social reform where, in a collective awakening, French Canadians clearly expressed their concern and dissatisfaction

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with their inferior socioeconomic position and the cultural assimilation of francophone minorities in the English-majority provinces. It resulted, among many other things, in the formation of the modern Quebecois identity and Quebecois nation. In 1960, the Liberal Party of Quebec was brought to power with a two-seat majority, having campaigned with the slogan "It's time to change it... We are masters of our own home". This government made many reforms in the fields of social policy, education, health, and economic development. It created the Quebec deposit and placement fund - *Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec* - Labour Code, Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Education, Office *Québécois de la langue Française*, *Régie des rentes* and *Société générale de financement*.

In 1962, the government of Quebec nationalized its electricity and dismantled the financial syndicates of Saint Jacques Street.

The Quiet Revolution was particularly characterized by the 1962 Liberal Party's slogan "It's time to change it... We are masters of our own home", which, to the Anglo-American conglomerates that dominated the economy and natural resources of Quebec, announced a collective will for freedom of the French-Canadian people. As a result of confrontations between the lower clergy and the laity, state institutions began to deliver services without the assistance of the church, and many parts of civil society began to be more secular. During the Second Vatican Council, the reform of Quebec's institutions was overseen and supported by the Holy See. In 1965, the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism wrote a preliminary report underlining Quebec's distinct character, and promoted open federalism, a political attitude guaranteeing Quebec to a minimum amount of consideration. To favor Quebec during its Quiet Revolution, Lester B. Pearson adopted a policy of open federalism. In 1966, the Union National was re-elected and continued with major reforms.

In 1967, President of France Charles de Gaulle visited Quebec, the first French head of state to do so, to

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attend Expo 67⁷. There, he addressed a crowd of more than 100,000, making a speech ending with the exclamation: "Long live Montreal... long live Quebec... long live free Quebec! - *Vive Montréal... vive le Québec... vive le Québec libre!*". This declaration had a profound effect on Quebec by bolstering the burgeoning modern Quebec sovereignty movement and resulting in a political crisis between France and Canada. Following this, various civilian groups developed, sometimes confronting public authority, for example in the October Crisis of 1970. The meetings of the French speaking Canadian states in November 1967 marked a tipping point where relations between francophones of America, and especially francophones of Canada, ruptured. This breakdown greatly affected Quebec society's evolution.

In 1968, class conflicts and changes in mentalities intensified. That year, Option Quebec⁸ sparked a constitutional debate on the political future of the province by pitting federalist and sovereigntist doctrines against each other. In 1973, the liberal government of Robert Bourassa initiated the James Bay Project on La Grande River. In 1974, it enacted the Official Language Act, which made French the official language of Quebec. In 1975, it established the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms and the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement.

Quebec's first modern sovereigntist government, led by René Levesque, materialized when the Party

⁷ Expo 67 was a public exhibition, the first category world fair held in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, from April 27 to October 29, 1967. It is considered the most successful exhibition in the twentieth century with the largest number of attendances up to that date and 62 participating countries. It also set a record for one-day attendance at a world fair, with 569,500 visitors on its third day.

Expo 67 was the main celebration of Canada during its centenary year. The exhibition was intended to be held in Moscow to help the Soviet Union celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Russian Revolution. However, for various reasons, the Soviets decided to cancel, and Canada granted it in late 1962.

The project was not well supported in Canada at

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Quebecois was brought to power in the 1976 Quebec general election. The Charter of the French Language came into force the following year, strengthening the linguistic rights of Quebecois. Between 1966 and 1969, the Estates General of French Canada confirmed the state of Quebec to be the nation's fundamental political milieu and for it to have the right to self-determination. In the 1980 referendum on sovereignty, 60% of the votes were against. After the referendum, Levesque went back to Ottawa to start negotiating constitutional changes. On the night of November 4, 1981, the Kitchen Accord took place. Delegations from the other nine provinces and the federal government reached a compromise in the absence of the Quebec delegation, which had left for the night. The National Assembly refused to recognize the new Constitution Act, 1982, which patriated the Canadian constitution and made numerous modifications to it. The 1982 amendments apply to Quebec despite never having officially consented to it.

Between 1982 and 1992, the Quebec government's attitude changed to prioritize reforming the federation. The subsequent attempts at constitutional amendments by the Mulroney and Bourassa governments ended in failure with both the Meech Lake Accord of 1987 and the Charlottetown Accord of 1992, resulting in the creation of the Bloc Québécois. In 1995, Jacques Parizeau called a referendum on Quebec's

beginning. It took the persistence and determination of the mayor of Montreal, Jean Drabeau, and his advanced team of managers to guide it through political, material, and temporal hurdles. In defiance of a computer analysis that said it could not be done, the exhibition opened on time [OECD (2008). Local Economic Development and Employment (LEED) Local development benefits from the organization of global events. OECD Publishing. p. 54. ISBN 978-9264042070.]

⁸ The Quebec Option is an article by former Quebec Prime Minister René Levesque published in 1968. The article presents the constitutional proposal of a group of progressive liberals who, after leaving the Liberal Party of Quebec, formed the Sovereign League movement.

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independence from Canada. This consultation ended in failure for sovereigntists, though the outcome was very close: 50.6% “no” and 49.4% “yes”. The Unity Rally, a controversial event paid for by sponsors outside Quebec, supporting the “no” side, took place on the eve of the referendum.

In 1998, following the Supreme Court of Canada's decision on the Reference Re Secession of Quebec, the Parliaments of Canada and Quebec defined the legal frameworks within which their respective governments would act in another referendum. On October 30, 2003, the National Assembly voted unanimously to affirm “that the people of Quebec form a nation”. On November 27, 2006, the House of Commons passed a symbolic motion declaring “that this House recognize that the Quebecois form a nation within a united Canada”. In March 2007, the Party Québécois was pushed back to official opposition in the National Assembly, with the Liberal party leading. During the 2011 Canadian federal elections, Quebec voters rejected the sovereigntist Bloc Québécois in favor of the federalist and previously minor New Democratic Party. As the NDP's logo is orange, this was called the “orange wave”. After three subsequent Liberal governments, the Party Québécois regained power in 2012 and its leader, Pauline Marois, became the first female premier of Quebec. The Liberal Party of Quebec then returned to power in April 2014. In 2018, the Coalition Avenir Québec, led by François Legault, won the provincial general elections.

Geography

Located in the eastern part of Canada, Quebec occupies a territory nearly three times the size of France or Texas. Most of Quebec is very sparsely populated. The most populous physiographic region is the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Lowlands. The combination of rich soils and Quebec's relatively warm climate makes this valley the most prolific agricultural area of Quebec. The rural part of the landscape is divided into narrow rectangular tracts of land that extend from the river and date back to the seigneurial system.

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Quebec's topography is very different from one region to another due to the varying composition of the ground, the climate, and the proximity to water. More than 95% of Quebec's territory, including the Labrador Peninsula, lies within the Canadian Shield. It is generally a quite flat and exposed mountainous terrain interspersed with higher points such as the Laurentian Mountains in southern Quebec, the Otish Mountains in central Quebec and the Torngat Mountains near Ungava Bay. While low and medium altitude peaks extend from western Quebec to the far north, high altitude mountains emerge in the Capitale-Nationale region to the extreme east. Quebec's highest point is Mont d'Iberville, known in English as Mount Caubvick. In the Labrador Peninsula, there is a part of it, in the Shield. The far northern region of Nunavut includes the Ungava Peninsula and consists of flat Arctic tundra inhabited mostly by the Inuit. Further south is the Eastern Canadian Shield taiga ecoregion and the Central Canadian Shield forests, where the Appalachian region has a narrow strip of ancient mountains along the southeastern border of Quebec.

Quebec has one of the world's largest reserves of fresh water, occupying 12% of its surface and representing 3% of the world's renewable fresh water. More than half a million lakes and 4,500 rivers empty into the Atlantic Ocean, through the Gulf of Saint Lawrence and the Arctic Ocean, by James, Hudson, and Ungava bays. The largest inland body of water is the Caniapiscau Reservoir; Lake Mistassini is the largest natural lake. The Saint Lawrence River has some of the world's largest sustaining inland Atlantic point. Since 1959, the Saint Lawrence Seaway has provided a navigable link between the Atlantic Ocean and the Great Lakes.

The public lands of Quebec cover approximately 92% of the Quebecois territory, including almost all the bodies of water. Protected areas can be classified into about twenty different legal designations, etc.). More than 2,500 sites in Quebec today are protected areas. As of 2013, protected areas comprise 9.14% of

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the Quebecois territory.

Climate

In general, the climate of Quebec is cold and humid, with variations determined by latitude, maritime and elevation influences. Because of the influence of both storm systems from the core of North America and the Atlantic Ocean. Precipitation is abundant throughout the year, with most regions' precipitation is more than its annual average, including the snow that falls more than its annual average as well, in many areas. During the summer, severe weather patterns occur occasionally.

Quebec is divided into four climatic zones: arctic, subarctic, humid continental and East maritime. From south to north, average temperatures range in summer between 5 and 25, in winter, between -10 and -25. In periods of intense heat and cold, temperatures can reach 26 in the summer and -29 during the Quebec winter. The record of the greatest precipitation in winter was established in winter 2007-2008, with more than five meters of snow in Quebec City. March 1971, however, saw the "Century's Snowstorm" with more than 44 cm of snow in Montreal to in Mont-Apica within 24 hours, in addition to many regions of southern Quebec. The winter of 2010 was the warmest and driest recorded in more than 60 years.

Flora and fauna

Given the geology of the province and its different climates, there are a number of large areas of vegetation in Quebec. These areas, listed in order from the northernmost to the southernmost are:

- ■ The tundra.
- ■ The taiga.
- ■ The Canadian boreal forest.
- ■ Mixed forest.
- ■ Deciduous forest.

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In addition, the areas are characterized by a greater number of both plant and animal species. The taiga covers about 20% of the total area of Quebec. From the Abitibi- Témiscamingue to the North Shore, the forest is composed primarily of conifers such as the *Abies balsamea*, the jack pine, the white spruce, the black spruce, and the tamarack. The deciduous forest of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Lowlands is mostly composed of deciduous species such as the sugar maple, the red maple, the white ash, the American beech, the buttemut, the American elm, the basswood, the bittemut hickory and the northern red oak as well as some conifers such as the eastern white pine and the northern whitecedar. The distribution areas of the paper birch, the trembling aspen and the mountain ash cover more than half of Quebec's territory.

Biodiversity of the estuary and Gulf of Saint Lawrence River includes aquatic mammal wildlife, such as the blue whale, the beluga, the minke whale and the harp seal. The Nordic marine animals include the walrus and the narwhal. Inland waters are populated by small to large freshwater fish, such as the largemouth bass, the American pickerel, the walleye, the *Acipenser oxyrinchus*, the muskellunge, the Atlantic cod, the Arctic char, the brook trout, the *Microgadus tomcod*, the Atlantic salmon, and the rainbow trout.

Among the birds commonly seen in the southern part of Quebec are the American robin, the house sparrow, the red-winged blackbird, the mallard, the common grackle, the blue jay, the American crow, the black-capped chickadee, some warblers and swallows, the starling, and the rock pigeon. Avian fauna includes birds of prey like the golden eagle, the peregrine falcon, the snowy owl, and the bald eagle. Sea and semi-aquatic birds seen in Quebec are mostly the Canada goose, the double-crested cormorant, the northern gannet, the European herring gull, the great blue heron, the sandhill crane, the Atlantic puffin, and the common loon.

The large land wildlife includes the white-tailed deer, the moose, the muskox, the caribou, the

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American black bear, and the polar bear. The medium- sized land wildlife includes the cougar, the coyote, the eastern wolf, the bobcat, the Arctic fox, the fox, etc. The small animals seen most include the eastern grey squirrel, the snowshoe hare, the groundhog, the skunk, the raccoon, the chipmunk, and the Canadian beaver.

Government and politics

Quebec is founded on the Westminster system, and it is both a liberal democracy and a constitutional monarchy with parliamentary regime. The head of government in Quebec is the premier, who leads the largest party in the unicameral National Assembly from which the Executive Council of Quebec is appointed. The lieutenant governor represents the Queen of Canada and acts as the province's head of state. The lieutenant governor is appointed by the Governor General, on the recommendation of the prime minister of each province.

Quebec has 78 members of Parliament in the House of Commons of Canada. They are elected in federal elections. At the level of the Senate of Canada, Quebec is represented by 24 senators, which are appointed on the advice of the prime minister of Canada. Quebec has a network of three offices for representing itself and defending its interests in Canada; these offices' mandate is to ensure an institutional presence of the Government of Quebec near other Canadian governments and to allow Quebec to interact effectively with the other provinces of the country.

The Quebec State holds administrative and police authority in the areas of exclusive jurisdiction. The Treasury Board supports the ministers of the Executive Council in their function of stewardship of the state. The Parliament of the 40th legislature is made up of the following parties: Coalition Avenir Quebec, Coalition Avenir Quebec, Liberal Party of Quebec, Quebec Solidaire Party and Party Québécois, as well as an independent member. There are 22 official political parties in Quebec.

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Subdivisions

Quebec's territory is divided into 17 administrative regions as follows:

- Bas-Saint-Laurent
- Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean
- Capitale-Nationale
- Mauricie
- Estrie
- Montréal
- Outaouais
- Abitibi-Témiscamingue
- Côte-Nord
- Nord-du-Québec
- Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine
- Chaudières-Appalaches
- Laval
- Lanaudière
- Laurentides
- Montréal
- Centre-du-Québec

The province also has the following divisions:

4 territories which group together the lands that once formed the District of Ungava

36 judicial districts

For municipal purposes, Quebec is composed of:

1,117 local municipalities of various types:

11 agglomerations grouping 42 of these local municipalities

45 boroughs within 8 of these local municipalities

89 regional county municipalities or RCMs

2 metropolitan communities

the regional Kativik administration

the unorganized territories

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Public policies

The Quebecois constitution is enshrined in a series of social and cultural traditions that are defined in a set of judicial judgments and legislative documents. Other notable examples include the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, the Charter of the French language, and the Civil Code of Quebec. Since 1969, the Official Languages Act has guaranteed a legal and linguistic context conducive to the development of the province.

Quebec's international policy is founded upon Gérin-Lajoie doctrine in 1965, what is defined as "the external extension of Quebec's internal jurisdictions". In other words, Quebec asserted the right to negotiate and implement treaties and other international agreements in the areas of jurisdiction granted to it under the Canadian Constitution, such as health, education, and culture.

While Quebec's Ministry of International Relations coordinates international policy, its Quebec's general delegations are the main interlocutors in foreign countries. Under the rule of law, any agreement made abroad, by the federal or Quebecois government, is only applicable in domestic politics by the consent of popular sovereignty. Quebec is the only Canadian province that has set up a ministry to exclusively embody the state's powers for international relations.

Global warming

Since 2006, Quebec has adopted a green plan to meet the objectives of the Kyoto Protocol regarding climate change. The Ministry of Sustainable Development, Environment, and Fight Against Climate Change is the primary entity responsible for the application of environmental policy. The Quebec Society of Outdoor Establishments is the main body responsible for the management of national parks and wildlife reserves. On November 23, 2009, Jean Charest announced Quebec's greenhouse gas reduction targets at the Copenhagen conference: Quebec intended to reduce its

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emissions by 20% by 2020 and focus on the transportation sector, which accounts for 40% of GHG emissions in Quebec, most of it comes from heavy transportation. Nearly 500,000 people took part in a climate protest on the streets of Montreal in 2019. The government failed to achieve its goal, like the rest of the world's governments, because of the lack of seriousness in dealing with this crucial issue!

Agriculture

Agriculture in Quebec has been subject to agricultural zoning regulations since 1978. Faced with the problem of expanding urban sprawl, agricultural zones were created to ensure the protection of fertile land, which make up 2% of Quebec's total area are essentially public property. The calculation of annual cutting possibilities is the responsibility of the Union of agricultural producers - *Union des producteurs agricoles* - which seeks to protect the interests of its members, including forestry workers, and works jointly with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources.

Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Solidarity

has the mandate to oversee social and workforce developments through Emploi-Quebec and its local employment centers. This ministry is also responsible for managing as well as last-resort financial support for families and people in need. The ministry is the main body responsible for the application of labor laws in Quebec and enforcing the collective agreements concluded between unions of employees and their employers.

Revenue Quebec

When it comes to taxation, Revenue Quebec takes most of its revenue through a progressive income tax, a 9.975% sales tax and various other taxes, equalization payments from the federal government, transfer payments from other provinces and direct payments. By some measures

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Quebec is the most taxed province; a 2012 study indicated that "Quebec companies pay 26 per cent more in taxes than the Canadian average". A 2014 report by the Fraser Institute indicated that "relative to its size, Quebec is the most indebted province in Canada by a wide margin".

Immigration

Immigration to Quebec is supported by integration programs favoring French, as it is the common language, as well as the principles of pluralism and interculturalism. This responsible for the selection and integration of immigrants.

External relationships

International relationships-wise, Quebec's closest partner is the United States, with which it has a long history of economic relations and military-related interactions; 87% of Quebec's international exports head to the United States, and Quebec has several economic and military pacts with the U.S. like NAFTA and NORAD. Quebec also has a historied relationship with the United Kingdom, having been a part of the British Empire. Quebec and the UK currently share the same head of state.

Quebec has a network of 32 offices in 18 countries. These offices serve the purpose of representing Quebec in the country in which they are situated and are overseen by Quebec's Ministry of International Relations. Quebec, like other Canadian's provinces, also maintains representatives in some Canadian embassies and consulates general. As of 2019, the Government of Quebec has delegates-general in Brussels, London, Mexico City, Munich, New York City, Paris, and Tokyo; delegates to Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, and Rome; and offices headed by directors offering more limited services in Barcelona, Beijing, Dakar, Hong Kong, Mumbai, Sao Paulo, Shanghai, Stockholm, and Washington. In addition, there are the equivalent of honorary consuls, titled antennas, in Berlin, Philadelphia, Qingdao, Seoul, and Silicon Valley.

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Quebec also has a representative to UNESCO and participates in the Organization of American States. Québec is a member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Francophonie and the International organization of Francophonie.

Law

Quebec law is the shared responsibility of the federal and provincial government. The federal government is responsible for criminal law, foreign affairs and laws relating to the regulation of Canadian commerce, interprovincial transportation, and telecommunications. The provincial government is responsible for private law, the administration of justice, and several social domains, such as social assistance, healthcare, education, and natural resources.

Quebec law is influenced by two judicial traditions and four classic sources of law. Private law in Quebec affects all relationships between individuals and is largely under the jurisdiction of the Parliament of Quebec. The Parliament of Canada also influences Quebec private law, in particular, through its power over banks, bankruptcy, marriage, divorce and maritime law. The Civil Law of Quebec is the primary component of Quebec's private law and is codified in the Civil Code of Quebec. Public law in Quebec is largely derived from the common law tradition. Quebec constitutional law governs the rules surrounding the Quebec government, the Parliament of Quebec, and Quebec's courts. Quebec administrative law governs relations between individuals and the Quebec public administration. Quebec also has some limited jurisdiction over criminal law. Finally, Quebec, like the federal government, has tax law power. Certain portions of Quebec law are considered mixed. This is the case, for example, with human rights and freedoms which are governed by the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, a Charter which applies to both government and citizens.

English is not an official language in Quebec law. However, both English and French are required by

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the Constitution Act, 1867 for the enactment of laws and regulations, and any person may use English or French in the National Assembly and the courts. The books and records of the National Assembly and the courts. The books and records of the National Assembly must also be kept in both languages.

Courts

Although Quebec is a civil law jurisdiction, it does not follow the pattern of other civil law systems which have court systems divided by subject matter. Instead, the court system follows the English model of unitary courts of general jurisdiction. The provincial courts have jurisdiction to decide matters under provincial law as well as federal law, including civil, criminal and constitutional matters. The major exception to the principle of general jurisdiction is that the Federal Court and Federal Court of Appeal have exclusive jurisdiction over some areas of federal law, such as review of federal administrative bodies, federal taxes, and matters relating to national security.

The Quebec courts are organized in a pyramid. At the bottom, there are the municipal courts, the Professions Tribunal, the Human Rights Tribunal, and administrative tribunals. Decisions of those bodies can be reviewed by the two trial courts, the Court of Quebec the Superior Court of Quebec. The Court of Quebec is the main criminal trial court, and also a court for small civil claims. The Superior Court is a trial court of general jurisdiction, in both criminal and civil matters. The decisions of those courts can be appealed to the Quebec Court of Appeal. Finally, if the case is of great importance, it may be appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada.

The Court of Appeal serves two purposes. First, it is the general court of appeal for all legal issues from the lower courts. It hears appeals from the trial decisions of the Superior Court and the Quebec Court. It also can hear appeals from decisions rendered by those two courts on appeals or judicial review matters relating to the municipal courts and administrative tribunals. Second, but much more

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rarely, the Court of Appeal possesses the power to respond to reference questions posed to it by the Quebec Cabinet. The Court of Appeal renders more than 1,500 judgments per year.

Law enforcement

The Sûreté du Québec is the main police force of Quebec. The Sûreté du Québec can also serve a support and coordination role with other police forces, such as with municipal police forces or with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The RCMP has the power to enforce certain federal laws in Quebec. However, given the existence of the Sûreté du Québec, its role is more limited than in the other provinces.

Municipal police, such as the Service de police de la Ville de Montréal and the Service de police de la Ville de Quebec, are responsible for law enforcement in their municipalities. The Sûreté du Québec fulfills the role of municipal police in the 1038 municipalities that do not have a municipal police force. The Indigenous communities of Quebec have their own police forces.

Canada's Department of Justice also has the power to prosecute perpetrators, but only for crimes against specific federal laws. Quebec is responsible for crimes against provincial or federal laws in Quebec, as well as the prosecution of perpetrators in court through the Crown attorney. Quebec is responsible for operating the prison system for sentences of less than two years, and the federal government administers prisons for sentences of two years or more.

Demographics

In the 2016 census, Quebec had a population of 8,164,361, a 3.3% change from its 2011 population of 7,903,001. With a land area of, it had a population density of in 2016. Quebec accounts for a little under 23% of the Canadian population. The most populated cities in Quebec are Montreal, Quebec City, Laval, and Gatineau.

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In 2016, Quebec's median age was 41.2 years. As of 2020, 20.8% of Quebecois are less than 20 years old, 59.5% are aged between 20 and 64, and 19.7% are 65 or older. In 2019, Quebec witnessed an increase in the number of births compared to the year before and had a replacement rate of about 1.6 per woman. As of 2020, the average Quebecois lifespan is 82.3 years. Quebec in 2019 registered the highest rate of population growth since 1972, with an increase of 110,000 people, mostly because of the arrival of a high number of non-permanent residents. As of 2019, most international immigrants come from China, India or France. In 2016, 3 out of 10 Quebecois possessed a postsecondary degree or diploma. Most residents, particularly couples, are property owners. In 2016, 80% of both property owners and renters considered their housing to be "unaffordable".

The 2016 census counted a total Indigenous population of 182,885 including 92,655 First Nations, 69,365 Metis, and 13,940 Inuit. There is an undercount, as some Indian bands regularly refuse to participate in Canadian censuses. In 2016, the Mohawk reserves of Kahnawake and Doncaster 17 along with the Indian settlement of Kanesatake and Lac-Rapide, a reserve of the Algonquins of Barriere Lake, were not counted. Almost 9% of the population of Quebec belongs to a visible minority group. Most visible minorities in Quebec live in or near Montreal.

Religion

Religion, more precisely the Roman Catholic Church, has long occupied a central and integral place in Quebec society, and Catholicism still represents the beliefs of 75% of the Quebec population in 2011. The 2001 census showed the population to be 90.3% Christian with 83.4% Catholic; 4.7% Protestant Christian; 1.4% orthodox Christian; and 0.8% other Christian; as well as 1.5% Muslim; 1.3% Jewish; 0.6% Buddhist; 0.3% Hindu; and 0.1% Sikh. An additional 5.8% said they had no religious affiliation.

The oldest parish church in North America is the

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Cathedral-Basilica of Notre-Dame de Quebec. Its construction began in 1647, when it was known under the name Notre-Dame-de-la-Paix, and it was finished in 1664. The most frequented place of worship in Quebec is the Basilica of Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupre. This basilica welcomes millions of visitors each year. Saint Joseph's Oratory is the largest place of worship in the world dedicated to Saint Joseph. Many pilgrimages include places such as Saint Benedict Abbey, Notre-Dame de Montreal Basilica, Marie-Reine-du-Monde de Montreal Basilica-Cathedral, Saint-Michel Basilica-Cathedral, and Saint-Patrick's Basilica. Another important place of worship in Quebec is the Anglican Holy Trinity Cathedral, which was erected between 1800 and 1804. It was the first Anglican cathedral built outside the British Isles.

Language

Quebec differs from other Canadian provinces in that French is the only official and preponderant language, while English predominates in the rest of Canada. French is the common language, understood and spoken by 94.46% of the population. Quebec is the only Canadian province whose population is mainly Francophone; 6,102,210 people recorded it as their sole native language in the 2011 Census, and 6,249,085 recorded that they spoke it most often at home. Knowledge of French is widespread even among those who do not speak it natively; in 2011, about 94.4% of the total population reported being able to speak French, alone or in combination with other languages. 17 of which can be found in Quebec. There are also people in Quebec who will naturally speak using Standard Quebecois or Joual, both of which are considered sociolects rather than regional accents.

The Gendron Commission report of 1968 established the foundations for the white book of the government of Quebec' linguistic policy. Dependent on commissions of inquiry, this policy statement is also accompanied the Charter of the French language since 1977. As French's demographic weight continues to decline, Quebec faces the threat

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of assimilation. Several institutions seek to protect and promote French such as the Quebec office of the French language, the Superior Council of the French Language, and the Commission de toponymie du Québec.

As of 2011, English is the mother tongue of nearly 650,000 Quebecers. These anglophones, sometimes called Anglo-Quebecois, constitute the second largest linguistic group in Quebec. In addition, in 2001, roughly 50,000 people considered their mother tongue to be both French and English. Anglo-Quebecers reside mainly in the west of the island of Montreal, downtown Montreal, and the Pontiac.

Three families of Indigenous languages encompassing eleven languages exist in Quebec: The Algonquian language family, the Inuit Aleut language family, and the Iroquoian language family. In the 2016 census, 50,895 people in Quebec said they knew at least one Indigenous language.

Furthermore, 45,570 people declared having an Indigenous language as their mother tongue. In Quebec, most Indigenous languages are transmitted quite well from one generation to the next with a mother tongue retention rate of 92%.

As of the 2016 census, the most common immigrant languages are Arabic, Spanish, Italian, Creole languages and Mandarin.

Indigenous people

In 2016, the Indigenous population of Quebec numbered 1,182,885. In 1975, the Cree, Inuit and the Quebec government agreed to an agreement called the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement that would extend Indigenous rights beyond reserves, and to over two-thirds of the Quebecois territory. Because this extension was enacted without the participation of the federal government, the

⁹ The Expulsion of the Acadians, also known as the Great Revolt, the Great Expulsion, and the Great Deportation, was the forcible removal of the Acadian people by the

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extended Indigenous rights only exist in Quebec. In 1978, the Naskapis joined the agreement when the Northeastern Quebec Agreement was signed. Discussions have been underway with the Montagnais of the Cote-Nord and Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean for the potential creation of a similar autonomy in two new distinct territories that would be called Innu Assi and Nitassinan.

A few political institutions have also been created over time: The Grand Council of the Crees, and The Makivik Corporation Acadians.

The subject of is an important one as more than a million Quebecois are of Acadian ascent, with roughly 4.8 million Quebecois possessing one or multiple Acadian ancestors in their genealogy tree, because a large number of Acadians had fled Acadia to take refuge in Quebec during the Great Upheaval⁹. Furthermore, more than a million Quebecois wear a patronym of Acadian origin.

Quebec houses an Acadian community spread out across several regions. Acadians mainly live on the Magdalen Islands and in Gaspesia, but about thirty other communities are present elsewhere in Quebec, mostly in the Cote-Nord and Centre-du-Quebec regions. An Acadian community in Quebec can be called a "Cadie" or "Petite Cadie", and some cities and villages use the demonym "Cadien".

Economy

Quebec has an advanced, market-based, and open economy. In 2009, its gross domestic product of US\$32,408 per capita at purchasing power parity remains lower than the Canadian average of US\$37,830 per capita. The economy of Quebec is ranked the 37th largest economy in the world just behind Greece and 28th for the GDP per capita. The economy of Quebec represents 20.36% of the total GDP of Canada. The provincial debt-to-GDP ratio

British from the present-day Canadian Maritime Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and northern Maine, parts of a region also known as Acadia.

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peaked at 50.7% in 2012-2013 and is projected to decline to 33.8% in 2023-2024.

Like most industrialized countries, the economy of Quebec is based mainly on the services sector. Quebec's economy has traditionally been fueled by abundant natural resources and a well-developed infrastructure but has undergone significant change over the past decade. Firmly grounded in the knowledge economy, Quebec has one of the highest growth rates of GDP in Canada. The knowledge sector represents about 30.9% of Quebec's GDP. In 2011, Quebec experienced faster growth of its research-and-development spending than other Canadian provinces. Quebec's spending in R&D in 2011 was equal to 2.63% of GDP, above the European Union average of 1.84% and will have to reach the target of devoting 3% of GDP to research and development activities in 2013 according to the Lisbon Strategy. The percentage spent on research and technology is the highest in Canada and higher than the averages of the OECD – Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development – and of the G7 countries.

Industries

Quebec is a major player in several industries including aerospace, information technologies and software, and multimedia. Approximately 60% of the production of the Canadian aerospace industry are from Quebec, where sales totaled C\$ 12.4 billion in 2009. Quebec is one of North America's leading high-tech players. This vast sector encompasses approximately 7,300 businesses and employs more than 145,000 people. Then-Premier Pauline Marois unveiled a \$2-billion budget for the period between 2013 and 2017 to create about 115,000 new jobs in knowledge and innovation sectors.

Approximately 52% of Canadian companies in the information technology sector are based in Quebec, mainly in Montreal and Quebec City. There are currently approximately 115 telecommunications companies established in the province, such as Motorola and Ericsson. About 180,000 Quebecers

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work in different fields of IT.

The mining industry accounted for 6.3% of Quebec's GDP. As of 2011, it employs about 50,000 people in 158 companies. Quebec is the third most attractive province for investment from the mining industry.

The pulp and paper industry generates annual shipments valued at more than \$14 billion. The forest products industry ranks second in exports, with shipments valued at almost \$11 billion. It is also the main, and in some circumstances only, source of manufacturing activity in more than 250 municipalities in the province. The forest industry has slowed in recent years because of the softwood lumber dispute. This industry employs 68,000 people in several regions of Quebec. This industry accounted for 3.1% of Quebec's GDP.

The agri-food industry plays an important role in the economy of Quebec, with meat and dairy products being the two main sectors. It accounts for 8% of the Quebec's GDP and generate \$19.2 billion. This industry generated 487,000 jobs in agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing of food, beverages and tobacco and food distribution.

Some of the most important national Quebecois companies include Bombardier, Desjardins, the National Bank of Canada, the Jean Coutu Group, Transcontinental media, Quebecor, the Metro Inc. food retailers, Hydro-Quebec, the Societe des alcools du Quebec, the Bank of Montreal, Saputo, the Cirque du Soleil, the Caisse de Dépôt et placement du Québec, the Normandin restaurants, and Videotron.

Exports and imports

Thanks to the World Trade Organization and the North American Free Trade Agreement, Quebec is experiencing an increase in its ability to compete on the international market. The province has seen its exports increase significantly. NAFTA is especially advantageous as it gives Quebec, among other things, access to a market of 130 million consumers

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within a radius of 1,000 kilometers. These international exchanges contribute to the strength of the Quebec economy, most particularly in terms of employment. About 60% of exports are made to outside of Canada.

In 2008, Quebecois exports to other provinces in Canada and abroad totaled 57.3 billion CAD, or 51.8% of Quebec's gross domestic product. Of this total, 60.4% were international exports, and 39.6% were interprovincial exports. The breakdown by destination of international merchandise exports is: United States, Europe, Asia, Middle East, Central America, South America, Africa, and Oceania. Quebec's main economic partner remains the rest of Canada. It has about 30 mines, 158 exploration companies and fifteen primary processing industries. Many metallic minerals are exploited, the principals are gold, iron, copper, and zinc. Many other substances are extracted including titanium, asbestos, silver, magnesium, nickel and many other metals and industrial minerals. However, only 40% of the mineral potential of Quebec is currently known. In 2003, the value of mineral exploitation reached \$3.7 billion. Moreover, as a major source of diamonds, Quebec has seen, since 2002, an increase in its mineral explorations.

Energy

Quebec stands out for its use of renewable energy. In 2008, electricity ranked as the main form of energy used in Quebec, followed by oil and natural gas. By 2017, 47% of all energy came from renewable sources. The Quebecois government's energy policy seeks to build, by 2030, a low carbon economy. The policy aims in particular to reduce the quantity of petroleum products consumed by 40%, increase renewable energy production by 25%, and increase the production of bioenergy by 50%. The government estimates that its targets should reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 16 mega tones of CO₂ equivalent by 2030.

Quebec produces most of Canada's hydroelectricity and is the second biggest hydroelectricity producer

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in the world. Because of this, Quebec has been described as a potential clean energy superpower. In 2019, Quebec's electricity production amounted to 214 terawatt-hours, 95% of which comes from hydroelectric power stations, and 4.7% of which come from wind energy. The public company Hydro-Quebec occupies a dominant position in the production, transmission, and distribution of electricity in Quebec. Hydro-Quebec operates 63 hydroelectric power stations and 28 large reservoirs. Because of the remoteness of Hydro-Quebec's Trans Energy division, it operates the largest electricity transmission network in North America.

What is wrong with Hydro-Quebec is that it adopts very old technologies to produce electric power from waterfalls, as the company can triple its production of clean electric energy, if modern technology methods are adopted, both hydro and wind energy.

As Quebec has few significant deposits of fossil fuels all hydrocarbons are imported. Refiners' sourcing strategies have varied over time and have depended on market conditions. In the 1990s, Quebec purchased much of its oil from the North Sea. Since 2015, it now consumes almost exclusively the crude produced in western Canada and the United States. Quebec's two active refineries have a total capacity of 402,000 barrels per day, greater than local needs which stood at 365,000 barrels per day in 2018.

Tourism

The tourism industry is a major economic pillar in Quebec. The Ministry of Tourism ensures the development of this industry under the commercial name "Bonjour Quebec". Quebec is the second most important province for tourism in Canada, receiving 21.5% of tourists' spending.

The industry provides employment to over 400,000 people. These employees work in the more than 29,000 tourism-related businesses in Quebec, most of which are restaurants or hotels. 70% of tourism-related businesses are in or close to Montreal or

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Quebec. It is estimated that, in 2010, Quebec welcomed 25.8 million tourists. Of these, 76.1% came from Quebec, 12.2% from the rest of Canada, 7.7% from the United States and 4.1% from other countries. Annually, tourists spend more than \$6.7 billion in Quebec's tourism industry.

Science and technology

Approximately 1.1 million Quebecers work in the field of science and technology. In 2007, the Government of Quebec launched the Strategies Quebecer for research and innovation aiming to promote development through research, science, and technology. The government hoped to create a strong culture of innovation in Quebec for the next decades and to create a sustainable economy.

Quebec is considered one of world leaders in fundamental scientific research, having produced ten Nobel laureates in either physics, chemistry, or medicine. It is also considered one of the world leaders in sectors such as aerospace, information technology, biotechnology, and pharmaceuticals, and therefore plays a significant role in the world's scientific and technological communities. Between 2000 and 2011, Quebec had over 9,469 scientific publications in biomedical research and engineering. The contribution of Quebec in science and technology represented approximately 1% of the research worldwide between the 1980s and 2009.

The province is one of the world leaders in the field of space science and contributed to important discoveries in this field. One of the most recent is the discovery of the complex extrasolar planets system HR 8799. HR 8799 is the first direct observation of an exoplanet in history. The Canadian Space Agency was established in Quebec due to its major role in this research field. A total of four Quebecers has been in space since the creation of the CSA: Marc Garneau, Julie Payette, and David Saint-Jacques as CSA astronauts, plus Guy Laliberte as a private citizen who paid for his trip. Quebec has also contributed to the creation of some Canadian artificial satellites including SCISAT-1, ISIS,

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Radarsat-1 and Radarsat-2.

Quebec ranks among the world leaders in the field of life science. William Osler, Wilder Penfield, Donald Hebb, Brenda Milner, and others made significant discoveries in medicine, neuroscience and psychology while working at McGill University in Montreal. Quebec has more than 450 biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies which together employ more than 25,000 people and 10,000 highly qualified researchers.

Education

The education system of Quebec, administered by the government of Quebec's Ministry of Education and Higher Education, differs from those of other Canadian provinces. The province has five levels of education: First: Kindergarten, second: Primary 6 years, third: Secondary 5 years, fourth: Three years CEGEP The student obtains a diploma, or two years called a specialization before entering the university; And finally, the university. Attached to these levels are the options to also attend professional development opportunities, classes for adults, and continuing education. For every level of teaching, there exists a public network and private network: the public network is financed by taxes while the private options must be paid for by the student. In 2020, school boards were replaced by school service centers.

All universities in Quebec exist by virtue of laws adopted by the National Assembly of Quebec in 1967 during the Quiet Revolution. Their financing mostly comes from public taxes, but the laws under which they operate grants them more autonomy than other levels of education.

High Education

The Quebec's education system is administered by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. In 2012, the annual cost for postsecondary tuition was CA\$2,168 -less than half of Canada's average tuition. Part of the reason for this is the relative

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democratization of higher education implemented during the Quiet Revolution, when the Quebec government froze tuition fees to a relatively low level and created CEGEPs. When Jean Charest's government decided in 2012 to sharply increase university fees, students protest erupted. Because of these protests, Quebec's tuition fees remain relatively low.

Transportation Infrastructure

Development and security of land transportation in Canada are provided by Transports Quebec. Other organizations, such as the Canadian Coast Guard and Nav Canada, provide the same service for the sea and air transportation. The Commission des transports du Québec works with the freight carriers and the public transport.

The road network in Quebec – *réseau routier Québécois* – is managed by the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec and consists of highways and national, regional, local, collector and forest roads. In addition, Quebec has almost 12,000 bridges, tunnels, retaining walls, culverts, and other structures such as the Quebec Bridge, the Laviolette Bridge, and the Louis-Hippolyte Lafontaine Bridge-Tunnel.

In the waters of the Saint Lawrence there are eight deep-water ports for the transshipment of goods. In 2003, 3886 cargo and 9.7 million tons of goods transited the Quebec portion of the Saint Lawrence Seaway.

Concerning rail transport, Quebec has of railways integrated in the large North American network. Although primarily intended for the transport of goods through companies such as the Canadian National and the Canadian Pacific, the Quebec railway network is also used by inter-city passengers via Via Rail Canada and Amtrak. In April 2012, plans were unveiled for the construction of a railway running north from Sept-Îles, to support mining and other resource extraction in the Labrador Trough.

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Quebec's air network includes 43 airports that offer scheduled services on a daily basis.

Various other transport networks crisscross the province of Quebec, including hiking trails, snowmobile trails and bike paths. The Green Road is the largest at nearly in length.

Healthcare

Québécois public health pursues a health policy that emphasizes prevention, is based on the analysis of health-related data and evolves with the needs of the population. Like in other nations, the public health policies implemented in Québécois society have enabled Québécois to considerably extend their life expectancy since the mid-20th century.

Health and social services are part of the same administration. The Quebec health system is also public, which means that the state acts as the main insurer and administrator, that funding is provided by general taxation, and that patients have access to care regardless of their income level.

There are 224 health establishments in Quebec. They ensure the distribution of different services on the territories they are assigned to. Quebec has approximately 140 hospitals for general or specialized care. Québec also has other types of establishments in its healthcare system, such as Local community service center - *Centre local de services communautaires*, Long-term residential and care center - *Centre d'hébergement et de soins de Longue durée*, Rehabilitation center - *Centre de réadaptation*, and Child and Youth Protection Center - *Centre de protection de l'enfance et de la jeunesse*. Finally, there are private healthcare establishments like, pharmacies, private clinics, dentists, community organizations and retirement homes.

Culture

Quebec has developed its own unique culture from its historic New France roots. Its culture also

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symbolizes a distinct perspective: being a French-speaking nation surrounded by a bigger English-speaking culture. The culture has also been influenced by First Nations, the British, Americans, other French-speaking North Americans like the Acadians and Franco-Ontarians, English-speaking Canadians, and some immigrants.

The Quartier Latin of Montreal, and Vieux-Quebec in Quebec City are two hubs of cultural activity. Life in the cafes and "terrasses" reveals a Latin influence in Quebec's culture, with the theatre Saint-Denis in Montreal and the Capitole de Québec théâtre in Quebec City being among the principal attractions.

A number of governmental and non-government organizations support cultural activity in Quebec. Quebec Council of Essays and Letters is an initiative of the Ministry of Culture and Communications. It supports creation, innovation, production, and international exhibits for all cultural fields of Quebec. The Cultural Business Development Corporation works to promote and fund people working in the cultural industry. The Prix du Quebec is an award given by the government to confer the highest distinction and honor to individuals demonstrating exceptional achievement in their respective cultural field. Other Quebecois awards include the Athanase David Awards, Félix Awards, Gémeaux Awards, Jutra Awards, Masques Awards, Olivier Guimond Awards, and the Opus Awards.

Performing arts

Traditional music is imbued with many dances, such as the jig, the quadrille, the reel and line dancing. Traditional instruments include harmonica, fiddle, spoons, jaw harp and accordion. The First Nations and the Inuit of Quebec also have their own traditional music. Quebec's most popular artists of the last century include the singers Félix Leclerc, Gilles Vigneault, Kate and Anna McGarrigle and Céline Dion. The Quebec Association of the Entertainment and Video Recording Industry - *Association québécoise de l'industrie du disque du*

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spectacle et de la video, was created in 1978 to promote the music industry in Quebec. The Quebec Symphony Orchestra and the Montreal Symphony Orchestra are respectively associated with the Opera de Quebec and the Opera de Montreal whose performances are presented at the Grand Theatre de Quebec and at Place des Arts. The Ballets Jazz de Montreal, the Grands Ballets and La La La Human Steps are three important professional troupes of contemporary dance.

Among the theatre troupes are the Compagnie Jean-Duceppe, the Theatre La Rubrique, and the Theatre Le Grenier. In addition to the network of cultural centers in Quebec, the venues include the Monument-National and the Rideau Vert Theatre in Montreal, and the Trident Theatre in Quebec City. The National Theatre School of Canada and the Conservatoire de musique et d'art dramatique du Quebec form the future players.

Several circus troupes were created in recent decades, the most important being the Cirque du Soleil. Among these troops are contemporary, travelling and on-horseback circuses, such as Les 7 Doigts de la Main, Cirque Eloize, Cavalia, Kosmogonia, Saka and Cirque Akya. The National Circus School and the Quebec Circus School - *Ecole de cirque de Québec* were created to train future Contemporary circus artists. Tohu, la Cité des Arts du Cirque was founded in 2004 to disseminate the circus arts.

Comedy is a vast cultural sector. Quebec has created and is home to several different comedy festivals, including the Just for Laughs festival in Montreal, as well as the Big Laugh festivals of Quebec, Gatineau, and Sherbrooke. The Association of Professionals in the Comedy Industry is the main organization for the promotion and development of the cultural sector of humour in Quebec and the, created in 1988, trains future humorists in Quebec.

Media

The Quebec Cinematheque - *Cinémathèque*

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québécoise has a mandate to promote the film and television heritage of Quebec. The National Film Board of Canada, a federal Crown corporation, provides for the same mission in Canada. The Association of Film and Television in Quebec promotes independent production in film and television. While the Association of Producers and Directors of Quebec represents the business of filmmaking and television, the Association of Community Radio Broadcasters of Quebec represents the independent radio stations. Several movie theatres across Quebec ensure the dissemination of Quebec cinema. With its cinematic installations, such as the Cite du cinema and Mel's studios, the city of Montreal is home to the filming of various productions. The state corporation Tele-Quebec, the federal Crown corporation CBC, general and specialized private channels, networks, independent and community radio stations broadcast the various Québec téléromans, the national and regional news, and other programming. Les Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois is a festival surrounding the ceremony of the Jutra Awards Night that rewards work and personalities of Quebec cinema. The Artis and the Gemini Awards gala recognize the personalities of television and radio industry in Quebec and French Canada. The Film Festival of the 3 Americas, the Festival of International Short Film, the World Film Festival, and the Festival of New Cinema personalities of Quebec cinema.

Many popular Québécois comedy shows exist, such as Cré Basile, Le zoo du Capitaine Bonhomme, Lundi des Ha! Ha!, Démons du midi, La petite vie, Les Bougon, and Le sketch show. There are also many comedy and cartoon shows for children, such as La boîte à surprise, Bobino, Le pirate Malxme, Fanfreluche, La Ribouldingue, Les 100 Tours de Centour, Patofville, Passe-Partout, Robin et Stella, Iniminimagimo, Vazimolo, Télé-Pirate, Bibi et Genevieve, Watatatow, Caillou, Cornemuse, Macaroni tout garni, Toe toe toe, Ramdam, and Tactik.

In the realm of literature and international

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publishing, the Quebec Edition group is a committee created by the National Association of Book Editors dedicated to the international influence of French-language publishings from Quebec and Canada.

Literature and folklore

Quebec's French-speaking populace has the second largest body of folktales in Canada. When the early settlers arrived from France in the 17th century, they brought with them popular tales from their homeland, which were adapted to the local context. Many were passed on through generations by what French speaking Quebecois refer to as Les Raconteurs, or storytellers. Almost all the stories native to Quebec were influenced by Christian dogma and superstitions. The Devil, for instance, appears often as either a person, an animal or monster, or indirectly through Demonic acts. Various tales and stories are told through oral tradition, such as, among many more, the legends of the Bogeyman, the Chasse-galerie, the Black Horse of Trois- Pistoles, the Complainte de Cadieux, the Corriveau, the dancing devil of Saint-Ambroise, the Giant Beupre, the monsters of the lakes Pohénégamook and Memphremagog, of Quebec Bridge, the Rocher Perce and of Rose Latulipe, for example.

From New France, Quebec literature was first developed in the travel accounts of explorers. The Moulin à paroles traces the great texts that have shaped the history of Quebec. The first to write the history of Quebec, since its discovery, was the historian François-Xavier Garneau. Many Quebec poets and prominent authors marked their era and today remain anchored in the collective imagination, like, among others, Philippe Aubert de Gaspé, Octave Crémazie, Honoré Beaugrand, Emile Nelligan, Lionel Groulx, Gabrielle Roy, Hubert Aquin, Michel Tremblay, Marie Laberge, Fred Pellerin and Gaston Miron. The regional novel from Quebec is called Terroir novel and is a literary tradition specific to the province.

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Popular French-language contemporary writers include Louis Caron, Suzanne Jacob, Yves Beauchemin, and Gilles Archambault. Well-known English-language writers from Quebec include Leonard Cohen, Mordecai Richler, and Neil Bissoondath.

Art and architecture

The art of Quebec has developed around the specific characteristics of its landscapes and cultural, historical, social, and political representations. The development of Quebec masterpieces in painting, printmaking and sculpture is marked by the contribution of artists such as Louis-Philippe Hébert, Cornelius Krieghoff, Alfred Laliberté, Marc-Aurèle Fortin, Marc-Aurèle de Foy Suzor-Coté, Jean Paul Lemieux, Clarence Gagnon, Adrien Dufresne, Alfred Pellon, Jean-Philippe Dallaire, Charles Daudelin, Arthur Villeneuve, Jean-Paul Riopelle, Paul-Émile Borduas and Marcelle Fenon.

The fine arts of Quebec are displayed at the Quebec National Museum of Fine Arts, the Montreal Museum of Contemporary Art, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, the Quebec Salon des métiers d'art and in many art galleries. The Montreal School of Fine Arts forms the painters, printmakers, and sculptors of Quebec.

Quebecois architecture is characterized by its unique Canadian-style buildings as well as the juxtaposition of a variety of styles reflective of Quebec's history. When walking in any city or town, one can come across buildings with styles congruent to Classical, Neo-Gothic, Roman, Neo-Renaissance, Greek Revival, Neo-Classical, Quebecois Neo-Classical, Victorian, Second Empire, Modern, Post-modern or Skyscrapers.

Canadian-style houses and barns were developed by the first settlers of New France along the banks of the Saint Lawrence River. These buildings are rectangular one-story structures with an extremely tall and steep roof, sometimes almost twice as tall as the house below. Canadian-style churches also

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developed and served as landmarks while traversing rural Quebec.

Heritage

Several sites, houses and historical works reflect the cultural heritage of Quebec, such as the Village Québécois d'Antan, the historical village of Val-Jalbert, the Fort Chambly, the national home of the Patriots, the Chicoutimi pulp mill, the Lachine Canal and the Victoria Bridge. As of December 2011, there are 190 National Historic Sites of Canada in Quebec. These sites were designated as being of national historic significance.

Various museums tell the cultural history of Quebec, like the Museum of Civilization, the Museum of French America, the McCord Museum or the Montreal Museum of Archaeology and History in Pointe-a-Callière, displaying artifacts, paintings and other remains from the past of Quebec. Notable schools include the Conservatoire de musique et d'art dramatique du Québec, the École nationale de théâtre du Canada and the École nationale de cirque. Notable public agencies to catalogue and further develop Quebecois culture include the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec et Télé-Québec. The Association Québécoise des Loisirs Folkloriques is an organization committed to preserving and disseminating Quebec's folklore heritage.

Cuisine

The traditional Quebecois cuisine descends from 16th-century French cuisine, the fur trade, and a history of hunting. Quebec's cuisine has also been influenced by learning from First Nation, by English cuisine and by American cuisine. Quebec is most famous for its Tourtière, Pâté Chinois, Poutine, St. Catherine's taffy among others. "Le temps des sucres" is a period during springtime when many Quebecers go to the sugar shack for a traditional meal.

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Quebec is the world's biggest maple syrup producer. The province has a long history of producing maple syrup and creating new maple-derived products. Other major food products include beer, wine, and cheese.

Sports

Sports in Quebec constitutes an essential dimension of Quebec culture. Ice hockey remains the national sport. This sport was played for the first time on March 3, 1875, in Montreal and has been promoted over the years by numerous achievements, including the centenary of the Montreal Canadiens. Other major sports include Canadian football with the Montreal Alouettes, soccer with Club de Foot Montreal, the Grand Prix du Canada Formula 1 racing with drivers such as Gilles Villeneuve and Jacques Villeneuve, and professional baseball with the former Montreal Expos. Quebec has hosted several major sporting events, including the 1976 Summer Olympics, the Fencing World Championships in 1967, track cycling in 1974, and the Transat Quebec-Saint-Malo race created in 1984.

Quebec athletes have performed well at the Winter Olympics over recent years. They won 12 of Canada's 29 medals at the most recent Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang; they won 12 of the 27 Canadian medals in Sochi; and 9 of the 26 Canadian medals in Vancouver. On the other hand, Quebec athletes also performed well at the 2020 Tokyo (2021) Olympic Games, collecting 9 of Canada's 24 medals.

Holidays and symbols

St-Jean-Baptiste Day is one of Quebec's biggest holidays. In 1977, the Quebec Parliament declared June 24, to be the Quebec's National Holiday, honors French Canada's patron saint, John the Baptist. On this day, the song "Gens du pays", by Gilles Vigneault, is often heard. The song A la claire fontaine was the anthem of the New France, Patriots and French Canadian, then replaced by O Canada, but "Gens du pays" is preferred by many Quebecers to be the national anthem of Quebec.

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National Patriots' Day, a statutory holiday in Quebec, is also a unique public holiday, which honors the patriots with displays of the patriot flag, music, public speeches, and ceremonies. Le Vieux de '37, an illustration by Henri Julien that depicts a patriot of this rebellion, is sometimes added at the center of Patriate flags. Moving Day is a tradition where leases terminate on July 1. This creates a social phenomenon where everyone seems to be moving out at the same time.

Quebecois can also have different ways of celebrating certain holidays. A good example is the Reveillon, a giant feast and party which takes place during Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve and goes on until midnight. Traditional dishes like tourtière or cipâte are offered, and rigaudon, spoon and/or violin may be played. April Fools' Day is called Poisson d'Avril because while pulling pranks is still important, there is another major tradition: sticking fish-shaped paper cutouts to people's backs without them noticing.

In 1939, the government of Quebec unilaterally ratified its coat of arms to reflect Quebec's political history: French rule, followed by British rule, followed by Canadian rule. Je me souviens is an official part of the coat of arms and has been the official license plate motto since 1978, replacing the previous motto: La belle province, still used as a nickname for the province. The fleur-de-lis, one of Quebec's most common symbols, is an ancient symbol of the French monarchy. Finally, the Great Seal of Quebec is used to authenticate documents issued by the government of Quebec.

The first members of the Saint-Jean-Baptiste Society created the Carillon Sacre-Coeur flag, which consisted of a white cross on an Azur background with white fleur-de-lis in each corner and a Sacred Heart surrounded by maple leaves in the center; it was based on the French merchant flag flown by Champlain and the Flag of Carillon. The Carillon Sacre-Coeur and French merchant flag went on to be the major inspirations for creating Quebec's current flag in 1903, called the Fleurdelisé. The

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Fleurdelisé replaced the Union Jack on Quebec's Parliament Building on January 21, 1948.

Three new official symbols were adopted in the late 1900s:

Iris versicolor, the floral emblem of Quebec since 1999. It was chosen because it blooms around the time of Fête Nationale du Québec.

The snowy owl, the avian emblem of Quebec since 1987. It was selected by the Quebecois government to symbolize Quebec's winters and northern climate.

Betula alleghaniensis - colloquially known as cherry tree - was adopted as a national symbol in 1965, a tree representative of the mixed forests of southern Quebec.

The Admiral butterfly has been the insect emblem of Quebec since 1998. This butterfly is the only natural emblem of Quebec to have been chosen by popular vote. In competition with four other insects, he wins with 32% of the 230,660 votes.

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Quebecois regions

French Canadians often established themselves in Little Canadas in many industrial New England centers. Of the 900,000 Quebecois who emigrated, about half returned. Most of the descendants of those who stayed are now assimilated, though a few Franco-Americans remain, speaking New England French.

Some tried to slow the Grande Hémorragie – grand bleeding – by redirecting people north, which resulted in the founding of many regions in Quebec but also in Northeastern Ontario. The northeastern Franco-Ontarians of today, which are primarily concentrated in Timmins, Hearst, Moosonee, and Sault Sainte Marie, are the descendants of emigrants from Quebec who worked in the mines of the area. In recent times, Quebecois snowbirds often migrate to southern Florida during the winter, resulting in the emergence of temporary “Quebecois regions”.

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GROUPE CANADA
INGÉNIERTÉ