

2018-2019 Expenditure Budget

Responsible management for the benefit of the population

Québec, March 27, 2018 – As a result of sound management of public finances and the Québec economy's better-than-expected performance, the Government will be able to invest an additional \$4.3 billion during the 2018-2019 fiscal year. This 5.2% growth in program spending will benefit all Quebecers.

More specifically, in 2018-2019, the \$76.9 billion expenditure budget will enable the Government to move forward with its efforts to:

- reduce hospital wait times
- reduce wait times for diagnostic services and surgery
- increase student academic success
- increase and improve care and services in residential and long-term care centres
- shorten delays in criminal and penal cases
- increase access to youth protection and psychosocial services
- introduce information technology to modernize the justice system
- strengthen the government's internal expertise, in particular to maintain control of technologies that support public services

This renewed freedom to make choices for the future of Québec also puts the Government in a position to further invest in public infrastructure and accelerate economic growth province-wide. The 2018-2028 Québec Infrastructure Plan provides for a record \$100 billion-plus in investments and the biggest increase since the rollout of Québec's first infrastructure plan in 2007. Not only will these historic investments address the public's current and future infrastructure needs, but they will also enable the Government to achieve its goal of creating 250,000 jobs.

Quote:

"For each of the Government's actions, our concern has remained the same: to improve the quality of life of all citizens. Over the years, we were able to make critical decisions which now make it possible for us to invest in the Government's priorities. In addition to sound management of public finances, the performance of the Québec economy—one of the strongest in the country—is generating additional revenue for the Government. With the economy exceeding our forecasts, and with our responsible management, we can now seek expenditure growth reflective of our ambitions for the Québec of tomorrow."

Pierre Arcand, Minister responsible for Government Administration and Ongoing Program Review and Chair of the Conseil du trésor

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