

EXPENDITURE  
BUDGET  
2022 - 2023

VOL. 4

ESTIMATES, EXPENDITURES  
AND ANNUAL EXPENDITURE  
MANAGEMENT PLANS  
OF THE **NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
AND **PERSONS APPOINTED**  
BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

2022 - 2023



**ESTIMATES, EXPENDITURES  
AND ANNUAL EXPENDITURE  
MANAGEMENT PLANS  
OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
AND PERSONS APPOINTED  
BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**2022 - 2023**

for the fiscal year ending  
March 31, 2023

Tabled in the National Assembly as required  
by sections 45 and 47 of the  
Public Administration Act (CQLR, chapter A-6.01)  
by Mrs. Sonia LeBel,  
Minister responsible for Government Administration  
and Chair of the Conseil du trésor

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Expenditure Budget 2022-2023  
**Estimates, Expenditures and Annual Expenditure  
Management Plans of the National Assembly  
and Persons Appointed by the National Assembly**

Legal Deposit – March 2022  
Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec

ISBN: 978-2-550-91415-0 (Print Version)  
ISBN: 978-2-550-91416-7 (Online)

ISSN 2563-8564 (Print Version)  
ISSN 2563-8572 (Online)

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

I have the honour of presenting the National Assembly's annual expenditure management plan and the appropriations for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

In 2021, the National Assembly implemented innovative solutions in order to carry on its mission and maintain its role as the cornerstone of Québec democracy. The year was marked with many great achievements including the partial resumption of in-person parliamentary proceedings, and other institutional, educational, interparliamentary and international activities.

Throughout the year, Québec's 125 parliamentarians performed their functions as representatives, overseers and legislators with rigour and diligence. From April 1 to December 31, 2021, 342 committee sittings were held that covered 84 mandates. In addition to the 11 standing committees, a select committee was created to study issues related to extending medical aid in dying to incapacitated persons and those suffering from mental illness. Parliamentary proceedings led to the adoption of 36 bills, 22 of which were adopted unanimously. A portion of the National Assembly's work was carried out remotely including 28 public sittings and 41 deliberative meetings.

Moreover, 2021 was filled with educational and public activities, primarily via the implementation of the visitors' program, an annual calendar of activities for the public.

In 2021, the institution continued to broaden its international reach through the 39 virtual interparliamentary meetings between the National Assembly and its counterparts that facilitated ongoing collaboration and strengthening of ties. Two interparliamentary missions took place in person abroad, and a delegation was welcomed at the Parliament Building.

Despite the upheavals of this past year, the National Assembly stands firm and anchored in the midst of this climate of great change. I am profoundly proud of the work done by our teams, who rise unflinchingly to the daily challenges and obstacles with which they are faced.

In closing, I would now like to offer the reminder that the 2022-2023 expenditure budget and the appropriations compiled in this document are for information purposes only, as their final adoption and any possible corrections are the responsibility of the Office of the National Assembly. I nevertheless hope that in reading this document, you will see for yourself the careful and rigorous use of the public funds allocated to the legislative authority.

FRANÇOIS PARADIS

President of the National Assembly





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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**ANNUAL EXPENDITURE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

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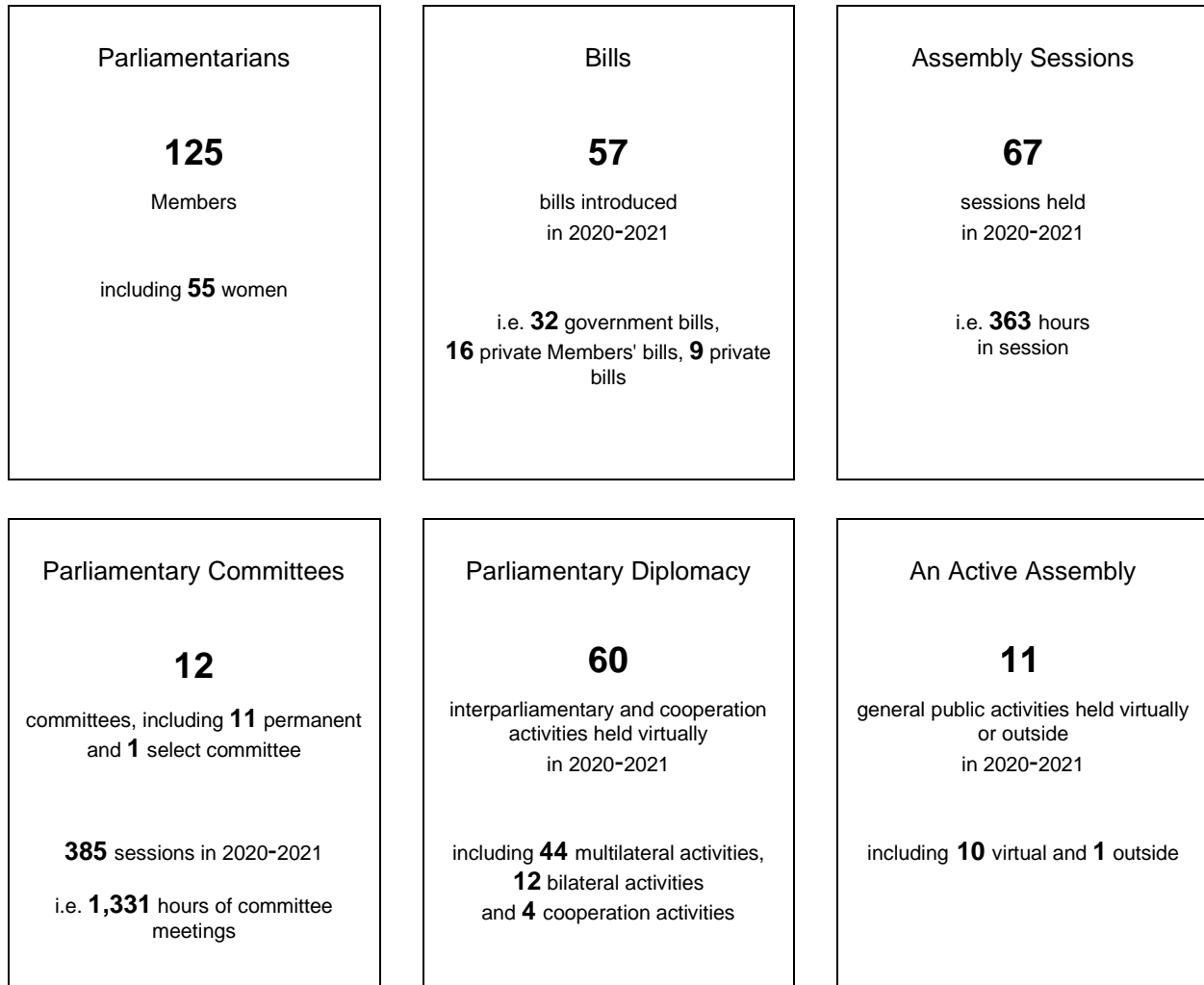


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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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## SNAPSHOT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Data from the 2020-2021 Activity Report of the National Assembly

## **NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

The mission of the National Assembly is to enact laws in its areas of jurisdiction, to oversee the Government's and the public administration's actions, and to debate matters of public interest.

Members, who are elected by universal suffrage, are at the core of the legislative process. They contribute directly to the drafting of legislation affecting Quebecers' everyday lives, particularly by studying and analyzing the various bills in the National Assembly or in parliamentary committee, and by voting on their adoption.

As controllers of government action, Members have several means of questioning the Government about its actions, such as the oral question period, the end of session debates and the annual study of department and body appropriations. In this regard, Members exercise continuous control over executive power and public administration. This process renders the Government and its administration accountable to the National Assembly and its committees.

In addition to their role as legislators and controllers of government activity, Members also perform an important function as intermediaries between their fellow citizens and the public administration.

In the exercise of its legislative authority, the National Assembly enacts legislation having a mandatory effect throughout Québec and in areas of jurisdiction recognized by the Constitution. The legislation adopted by the National Assembly consists of public interest laws for general application within Québec society or private bills, which affect a more limited portion of the population.

The National Assembly's autonomy is essential to accomplishing its mission and activities. Within this context of institutional independence, the law gives the National Assembly alone the power to adopt its own procedures and administrative means.

Operating within this autonomy, the administration of the National Assembly provides support services to Members in the performance of their parliamentary duties and in the fulfillment of the other aspects of the institution's core mission, in accordance with the law, the rules of procedure and operation, and the management framework it has adopted.

## **BUDGET PLAN**

### **EXPENDITURE BUDGET**

The expenditure budget for the National Assembly is set at \$167.4 million for 2022-2023, an increase of \$24.3 million from the 2021-2022 probable expenditure. The budget is grouped into three programs. These programs, by the appropriations allocated to them, seek to optimize the National Assembly's core activities.

PROGRAM 1

**General Secretariat and Legal and Parliamentary Affairs**

The purpose of this program is to assist the Members of the National Assembly in the performance of their role as legislators and controllers of government activity. Its objective is also to provide services concerning protocol and interparliamentary activities.

The 2022-2023 expenditure budget for this program is set at \$13.4 million, an increase of \$2.2 million from the 2021-2022 probable expenditure. This variation is due mainly to the increase in remuneration budgets.

PROGRAM 2

**General Directorate for Administration, Institutional Affairs and the National Assembly Library**

The purpose of this program is to ensure the necessary support for parliamentarians and administrative units regarding management of financial, human, material and informational resources and to ensure the safety of people and property. Its objective is also to provide services concerning the National Assembly Library, communications, and pedagogical activities.

The 2022-2023 expenditure budget for this program is set at \$77.2 million, an increase of \$12.9 million from the 2021-2022 probable expenditure. This variation is due mainly to the increase in remuneration budgets and the employer contribution to the Québec Pension Plan.

PROGRAM 3

**Statutory Services for Parliamentarians**

The purpose of this program is to ensure that Members have the necessary resources for carrying out their duties, both at the Parliament Building in Québec City and in their constituency office. The expenditure budgets essentially deal with the remuneration of parliamentarians and political staff at the National Assembly and the operating budget allocated to them.

The 2022-2023 expenditure budget for this program is set at \$76.9 million, an increase of \$9.2 million from the 2021-2022 probable expenditure. This increase is due mainly to increased remuneration budgets.

## National Assembly

### Expenditure Budget by Program <sup>1</sup>

(thousands of dollars)

	2022-2023		2021-2022	
	Expenditure Budget (1)	Variation (2)=(1)-(4)	Expenditure Budget (3)	Probable Expenditure (4)
1. General Secretariat and Legal and Parliamentary Affairs	13,407.1	2,215.7	11,191.4	11,191.4
2. General Directorate for Administration, Institutional Affairs and the National Assembly Library	77,180.8	12,899.1	64,281.7	64,281.7
3. Statutory Services for Parliamentarians	76,858.6	9,198.3	67,660.3	67,660.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>167,446.5</b>	<b>24,313.1</b>	<b>143,133.4</b>	<b>143,133.4</b>

<sup>1</sup> Under section 125 of the Act respecting the National Assembly (CQLR, chapter A-23.1), the National Assembly's expenditure budget is presented subject to the approval of the Office of the National Assembly.

## CAPITAL BUDGET

The 2022-2023 capital budget is set at \$17.4 million, an increase of \$1.3 million from the 2021-2022 probable investments. This variation is due mainly to investments for the evolution of the parliamentary precinct.

The evolution of Parliament toward better integration of digital technology opportunities remains a high-priority objective for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, particularly with regard to enabling the National Assembly to play its democratic role and continue its activities despite the current context. The National Assembly will also maintain its global capital budget strategy for the years ahead to ensure the evolution of the parliamentary precinct. The National Assembly thus continues turning toward an innovative and secure Parliament, while remaining open to the public.

### Capital Budget <sup>1</sup>

(thousands of dollars)

	2022-2023		2021-2022
	Capital Budget (1)	Variation (2)=(1)-(3)	Capital Budget (3)
Tangible Assets	10,442.5	2,872.5	7,570.0
Information Resource Assets	6,803.9	(1,611.4)	8,415.3
Loans, Investments, Advances and Other Costs	110.0	10.0	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,356.4</b>	<b>1,271.1</b>	<b>16,085.3</b>

<sup>1</sup> Under section 125 of the Act respecting the National Assembly, the National Assembly's capital budget is presented subject to the approval of the Office of the National Assembly.

## **BUDGETARY CHOICES**

The National Assembly's financial resources are allocated to ensure that the services and resources required by the Members reflect their evolving roles and how they perform their duties, both during parliamentary proceedings and in their constituency work.

As such, the proposed expenditure budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year takes into account the evolution of the service offering in the administration of the National Assembly, with continuous focus on openness toward the public, seeking out best practices, transparency and sound management of the appropriations allocated to it.





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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**EXPENDITURES AND APPROPRIATIONS**

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## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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### 2022-2023 Consolidated Expenditures of the Portfolio<sup>1</sup>

(millions of dollars)

	Expenditures of the Portfolio (1)	Debt Service (2)	Total (3)=(1)+(2)	Budget Measures (4)
<b>National Assembly</b>				
National Assembly	167.4	-	167.4	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>167.4</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>167.4</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>167.4</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>167.4</b>	<b>-</b>
Budget Measures	-			
<b>Portfolio Expenditures (Including Budget Measures)</b>	<b>167.4</b>			
<b>Variation in Portfolio Expenditures from Expenditures Set Out in 2021-2022<sup>2</sup> (%)</b>	<b>17.0</b>			

<sup>1</sup> Figures are rounded and the sum of the amounts recorded may not correspond to the total.

<sup>2</sup> Source: Ministère des Finances

## Budget and Appropriations for the National Assembly

### Breakdown by Program

(thousands of dollars)

	2022-2023 Expenditure Budget	Less: Expenditures not Requiring Appropriations	Plus: Capital Budget	2022-2023 Appro- priations	2021-2022 Appro- priations
1. General Secretariat and Legal and Parliamentary Affairs	13,407.1	-	10.0	13,417.1	11,191.4
2. General Directorate for Administration, Institutional Affairs and the National Assembly Library	77,180.8	8,000.0	17,246.4	86,427.2	73,242.0
3. Statutory Services for Parliamentarians	76,858.6	-	100.0	76,958.6	67,760.3
	<b>167,446.5</b>	<b>8,000.0</b>	<b>17,356.4</b>	<b>176,802.9</b>	<b>152,193.7</b>
Less: Permanent Appropriations				<b>176,802.9</b>	152,193.7
<b>Appropriations to be Voted</b>				-	-

Under the Act respecting the National Assembly, the expenditure budget and appropriations of the National Assembly are presented subject to the approval of the Office of the National Assembly.

### Allotment by Supercategory

(thousands of dollars)

	2022-2023	2021-2022
<b>Expenditure Budget</b>		
Remuneration	122,967.5	102,658.9
Operating	44,429.0	40,424.5
Transfer	50.0	50.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>167,446.5</b>	<b>143,133.4</b>
<b>Capital Budget</b>		
Tangible Assets	10,442.5	7,570.0
Information Resource Assets	6,803.9	8,415.3
Loans, Investments, Advances and Other Costs	110.0	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,356.4</b>	<b>16,085.3</b>

## PROGRAM 1 General Secretariat and Legal and Parliamentary Affairs

(thousands of dollars)

Elements	2022-2023 Expenditure Budget	Less: Expenditures not Requiring Appropriations	Plus: Capital Budget	2022-2023 Appro- priations	2021-2022 Appro- priations
1. General Secretariat and Legal Affairs	3,489.3	-	-	<b>3,489.3</b>	2,368.2
2. Parliamentary Affairs	9,917.8	-	10.0	<b>9,927.8</b>	8,823.2
	<b>13,407.1</b>	-	<b>10.0</b>	<b>13,417.1</b>	<b>11,191.4</b>
Less:					
Permanent Appropriations					
Act respecting the National Assembly, (CQLR, chapter A-23.1)					
Element 1				<b>3,489.3</b>	2,368.2
Element 2				<b>9,927.8</b>	8,823.2
<b>Appropriation to be Voted</b>				-	-

The objective of this program is to assist the Members of the National Assembly in the performance of their roles as legislators and controllers of government activity. Its objective is also to provide services concerning protocol and interparliamentary activities.

### Allotment by Supercategory

(thousands of dollars)

	Elements		2022-2023	2021-2022
	1	2		
<b>Expenditure Budget</b>				
Remuneration	2,972.0	8,459.3	<b>11,431.3</b>	9,488.1
Operating	517.3	1,458.5	<b>1,975.8</b>	1,703.3
	<b>3,489.3</b>	<b>9,917.8</b>	<b>13,407.1</b>	<b>11,191.4</b>
<b>Capital Budget</b>				
Loans, Investments, Advances and Other Costs	-	10.0	<b>10.0</b>	-
	-	<b>10.0</b>	<b>10.0</b>	-

**PROGRAM 2**  
**General Directorate for Administration, Institutional Affairs and the National Assembly Library**

(thousands of dollars)

Elements	2022-2023 Expenditure Budget	Less: Expenditures not Requiring Appropriations	Plus: Capital Budget	2022-2023 Appro- priations	2021-2022 Appro- priations
1. Institutional Affairs and the National Assembly Library	14,138.1	-	10.0	<b>14,148.1</b>	12,831.1
2. Administrative Affairs and Security	63,042.7	8,000.0	17,236.4	<b>72,279.1</b>	60,410.9
	<b>77,180.8</b>	<b>8,000.0</b>	<b>17,246.4</b>	<b>86,427.2</b>	<b>73,242.0</b>
Less:					
Permanent Appropriations					
Act respecting the National Assembly, (CQLR, chapter A-23.1)					
Element 1				<b>14,148.1</b>	12,831.1
Element 2				<b>72,279.1</b>	60,410.9
<b>Appropriation to be Voted</b>				-	-

The objective of this program is to ensure the necessary support for parliamentarians and administrative units regarding management of financial, human, material and informational resources and to ensure the safety of people and property. Its objective is also to provide services concerning the National Assembly Library, communications, and pedagogical activities.

**Allotment by Supercategory**  
(thousands of dollars)

	Elements		2022-2023	2021-2022
	1	2		
<b>Expenditure Budget</b>				
Remuneration	11,430.2	40,029.0	<b>51,459.2</b>	42,028.6
Operating	2,707.9	23,013.7	<b>25,721.6</b>	22,253.1
	<b>14,138.1</b>	<b>63,042.7</b>	<b>77,180.8</b>	<b>64,281.7</b>
<b>Capital Budget</b>				
Tangible Assets	10.0	10,432.5	<b>10,442.5</b>	7,570.0
Information Resource Assets	-	6,803.9	<b>6,803.9</b>	8,415.3
	<b>10.0</b>	<b>17,236.4</b>	<b>17,246.4</b>	<b>15,985.3</b>

### PROGRAM 3 Statutory Services for Parliamentarians

(thousands of dollars)

Elements	2022-2023 Expenditure Budget	Less: Expenditures not Requiring Appropriations	Plus: Capital Budget	2022-2023 Appro- priations	2021-2022 Appro- priations
1. Indemnities and Allocations for Parliamentarians	33,002.4	-	100.0	<b>33,102.4</b>	31,281.0
2. Members and Members' Staff Expenditures	36,959.2	-	-	<b>36,959.2</b>	29,967.7
3. Research Services for Political Parties	2,748.9	-	-	<b>2,748.9</b>	2,454.7
4. Pension Plan of the Members of the National Assembly	4,148.1	-	-	<b>4,148.1</b>	4,056.9
	<b>76,858.6</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>76,958.6</b>	<b>67,760.3</b>

Less:

Permanent Appropriations

Act respecting the conditions of employment and the pension plan of the Members of the National Assembly, (CQLR, chapter C-52.1)

Element 1

18,038.8

16,371.9

Element 4

4,148.1

4,056.9

Act respecting the National Assembly, (CQLR, chapter A-23.1)

Element 1

15,063.6

14,909.1

Element 2

36,959.2

29,967.7

Element 3

2,748.9

2,454.7

**Appropriation to be Voted**

-

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The objective of this program is to ensure that Members have the necessary resources for carrying out their duties, both at the Parliament Building in Québec City and in their constituency office.

**Allotment by Supercategory**

(thousands of dollars)

	Elements				2022-2023	2021-2022
	1	2	3	4		
<b>Expenditure Budget</b>						
Remuneration	19,433.0	33,747.0	2,748.9	4,148.1	<b>60,077.0</b>	51,142.2
Operating	13,569.4	3,162.2	-	-	<b>16,731.6</b>	16,468.1
Transfer	-	50.0	-	-	<b>50.0</b>	50.0
	<b>33,002.4</b>	<b>36,959.2</b>	<b>2,748.9</b>	<b>4,148.1</b>	<b>76,858.6</b>	<b>67,660.3</b>
<b>Capital Budget</b>						
Loans, Investments, Advances and Other Costs	100.0	-	-	-	<b>100.0</b>	100.0
	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## TRANSFER APPROPRIATIONS

(thousands of dollars)

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	2022-2023	2021-2022
<b>Program 3 - Statutory Services for Parliamentarians</b>		
Other Transfer Appropriations	50.0	50.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>50.0</b>

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### Allotment by Beneficiary

(thousands of dollars)

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	2022-2023	2021-2022
Non-profit Bodies	50.0	50.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>50.0</b>

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### Allotment by Expenditure Category

(thousands of dollars)

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	2022-2023	2021-2022
Support	50.0	50.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>50.0</b>

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**PERSONS APPOINTED  
BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**ANNUAL EXPENDITURE MANAGEMENT PLANS**

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## PUBLIC PROTECTOR

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### SNAPSHOT OF THE PUBLIC PROTECTOR<sup>1</sup>

<p>2022-2023 forecast budget</p> <p><b>22,168.1</b></p> <p>thousands of dollars</p>	<p>Intervention sectors</p> <p><b>4</b></p> <p>sectors, i.e. public administration, correctional services, health and social services network and public integrity investigations</p>	<p>Complaints, reports and disclosures</p> <p><b>12,396</b></p> <p>requests received</p> <p><b>21,803</b></p> <p>requests processed</p>
<p>Recommended acceptance rate</p> <p><b>98%</b></p> <p>following investigations conducted</p>	<p>Interventions in proposed legislation and regulations</p> <p><b>20</b></p> <p><b>16</b> in proposed legislation <b>4</b> in proposed regulations</p>	<p>Human resources</p> <p><b>181</b></p> <p>individuals</p> <p>of whom <b>73.1%</b> are assigned to handling the public's requests</p>

<sup>1</sup> Statistical data from the Québec Ombudsman's 2020-2021 Annual Report and the Annual Report on the management of the Québec Ombudsman for the 2020-2021 fiscal year, excluding the data about the 2022-2023 forecast budget.

## PUBLIC PROTECTOR

Appointed by and reporting to the Members of the National Assembly, the person appointed as the Public Protector acts impartially and with the independent status required to perform their functions. In performing its duties, the Public Protector is assisted by two Deputy Public Protectors, appointed by the Government, upon the Public Protector's recommendation.

The Public Protector's mission is to ensure that individuals and their rights are respected by the departments and bodies, the establishments and other bodies of the health and social services network and Québec detention facilities, and thereby participate in improving the quality and integrity of public services.

Operating within the framework established by the Public Protector Act (CQLR, chapter P-32) and the Act respecting the Health and Social Services Ombudsman (CQLR, chapter P-31.1), the Public Protector intervenes with departments and bodies of the Gouvernement du Québec whose staff are appointed according to the Public Service Act (CQLR, chapter F-3.1.1). This includes Québec detention facilities and specific bodies mentioned in the Public Protector's constituting Act. As a second and final recourse, or in response to a report, the Public Protector intervenes with institutions in the health and social services network (establishments, or any and all resources used for the delivery of health services and social services; community organizations; pre-hospital emergency services; and residences for seniors and vulnerable individuals). In order to rectify situations that pose harm to an individual or group of individuals, the Public Protector makes recommendations to the institution in question, indicating the measures required to correct any errors, negligence, abuse or failures it has observed.

Furthermore, under the Act to facilitate the disclosure of wrongdoings relating to public bodies (CQLR, chapter D-11.1), the Public Protector, since the coming into force of the Act on May 1, 2017, is the body in charge of dealing with any disclosure of wrongdoings relating to public bodies submitted to it by anyone, including staff. Since October 19, 2018, they also deal with certain disclosures relating to municipalities and municipal bodies. The Public Protector also processes complaints about reprisals when they result from a disclosure made to them or to the officer responsible for dealing with disclosures, or when they result from having cooperated in an audit or investigation conducted on the basis of a disclosure. It makes any recommendations considered appropriate in a report to the highest ranking administrative official within the public body concerned. It is also responsible for administering a legal advice service.

If, after making a recommendation, the institution of the Public Protector considers that no satisfactory action has been taken to remedy the situation acceptably within a reasonable time, it may notify the Government. If deemed appropriate, the Public Protector may also present the case in a special report or in its annual report to the National Assembly.

As part of its efforts to remedy harmful situations observed in the course of their duties and prevent their recurrence, the Public Protector may bring to the attention of the institution in question any legislative, regulatory or administrative reforms it considers of general interest. Within the same context, the Public Protector examines proposed legislation and regulations.

Lastly, the Public Protector may publicly comment on any report it has submitted to the National Assembly or on any action it has taken if it deems such an initiative to be of public interest.

## BUDGET PLAN

### EXPENDITURE BUDGET

#### PROGRAM 1 Public Protector

This program allows the Public Protector to protect individuals from abuse, error, negligence, violation of their rights or inaction in public services by assuring that they are treated with justice, equality and respect for democratic values. The Public Protector recommends corrective action when harmful situations are observed. This program also allows the Public Protector to monitor the integrity of the public sector by conducting audits, inspections and investigations following a disclosure of wrongdoings or of complaints regarding reprisals and to make any recommendations considered appropriate.

The Public Protector's 2022-2023 expenditure budget is set at \$22.2 million, an increase of \$1.6 million from the 2021-2022 probable expenditure. This variation is due mainly to the increase in remuneration budgets and new needs with regard to technical services and information technology.

#### Expenditure Budget by Program (thousands of dollars)

	2022-2023		2021-2022	
	Expenditure Budget (1)	Variation (2)=(1)-(4)	Expenditure Budget (3)	Probable Expenditure (4)
1. The Public Protector	22,168.1	1,623.7	20,369.4	20,544.4
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>22,168.1</b>	<b>1,623.7</b>	<b>20,369.4</b>	<b>20,544.4</b>

### CAPITAL BUDGET

The 2022-2023 capital budget is set at \$0.4 million, a decrease of \$0.2 million from 2021-2022. During the year, the Public Protector's 2022-2023 capital budget will mainly be used to maintain certain IT infrastructure to ensure the stability and security of its information resources network.

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**Public Protector****Capital Budget**

(thousands of dollars)

	2022-2023		2021-2022
	Capital Budget (1)	Variation (2)=(1)-(3)	Capital Budget (3)
Tangible Assets	50.0	-	50.0
Information Resource Assets	305.0	(150.0)	455.0
Loans, Investments, Advances and Other Costs	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>355.0</b>	<b>(150.0)</b>	<b>505.0</b>

**BUDGETARY CHOICES**

In 2022-2023, the budgetary choices of the Public Protector will be based primarily on its four investigative mandates:

- with regard to the departments and bodies of the Gouvernement du Québec;
- with regard to the health and social services network;
- with regard to the detention facilities of Québec;
- with regard to the disclosure of wrongdoings by public bodies, and certain disclosures relating to municipalities.

Handling individual complaints is a primary function of the Public Protector, which interprets and defends the balance between legality and legitimacy when attempting to resolve the issues brought before it, in seeking out an equitable solution.

The following key actions in this regard are:

- investigations leading to individual settlements;
- intercession with public authorities in favour of individuals;
- initiatives to resolve collective and multisector problem situations;
- monitoring the effective implementation of recommendations.

While the handling of individual complaints cannot always, by itself, produce the maximum impact that the Public Protector must have for correcting identified errors or injustices, it does provide a documented perspective on the dysfunctions to be addressed to improve the quality of public services. The Public Protector Act and the Act respecting the Health and Social Services Ombudsman assign a preventive role to the Public Protector, enabling it to fully carry out its mission. In this role, the Public Protector uses the various means of action at its disposal to address problems at their root and contribute to improving the quality of public services.

The main actions planned to accomplish this part of the mandate are:

- studying proposed legislation and regulations;
- submitting information and arguments to Parliamentary committee members;
- monitoring the effective implementation of recommendations, and reporting on their followup to parliamentarians;
- conducting special interventions and producing reports for the National Assembly, the Government or one of its members.

The Public Protector is also required, in the area of public integrity and under the Act, to facilitate the disclosure of wrongdoings relating to public bodies, to verify or investigate any disclosure of wrongdoings as well as complaints about reprisals. Once these audits, inspections or investigations have been concluded, the Public Protector may make any recommendations considered appropriate to correct the situation.

Under this Act, the Public Protector provides access to legal advice to any person making or wishing to make a disclosure. Access to legal advice may also be offered to persons cooperating in an audit, inspection or investigation or to persons who believe reprisals have been taken against them. Since May 25, 2019, this legal advice service has been available to persons cooperating in an audit conducted by the Autorité des marchés publics who believe reprisals have been taken against them, as set out in the Act to facilitate oversight of public bodies' contracts and to establish the Autorité des marchés publics (CQLR, chapter C-65.1). Since November 30, 2018, the same applies to the municipal sector under the Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning municipal affairs and the Société d'habitation du Québec (CQLR, chapter S-8).

The main actions planned in the area of public integrity are as follows:

- audits, inspections or investigations of disclosures of wrongdoings and complaints regarding reprisals;
- report to the highest-ranking administrative official within the public body concerned or, if warranted by the circumstances, the minister responsible for that body or to the Government or the National Assembly;
- monitoring the effective implementation of recommendations;
- administration of a legal advice service.

Moreover, over the next few years, the Public Protector will take actions to evaluate and follow up on the implementation of all calls for action recommended in the report by the Public Inquiry Commission on relations between Indigenous Peoples and certain public services.

It is important to note that all of the actions envisioned in the annual expenditure management plan are aligned with the commitments described in the Statement of Services for the Public and in the operational objectives of the 2018-2023 Strategic Plan.



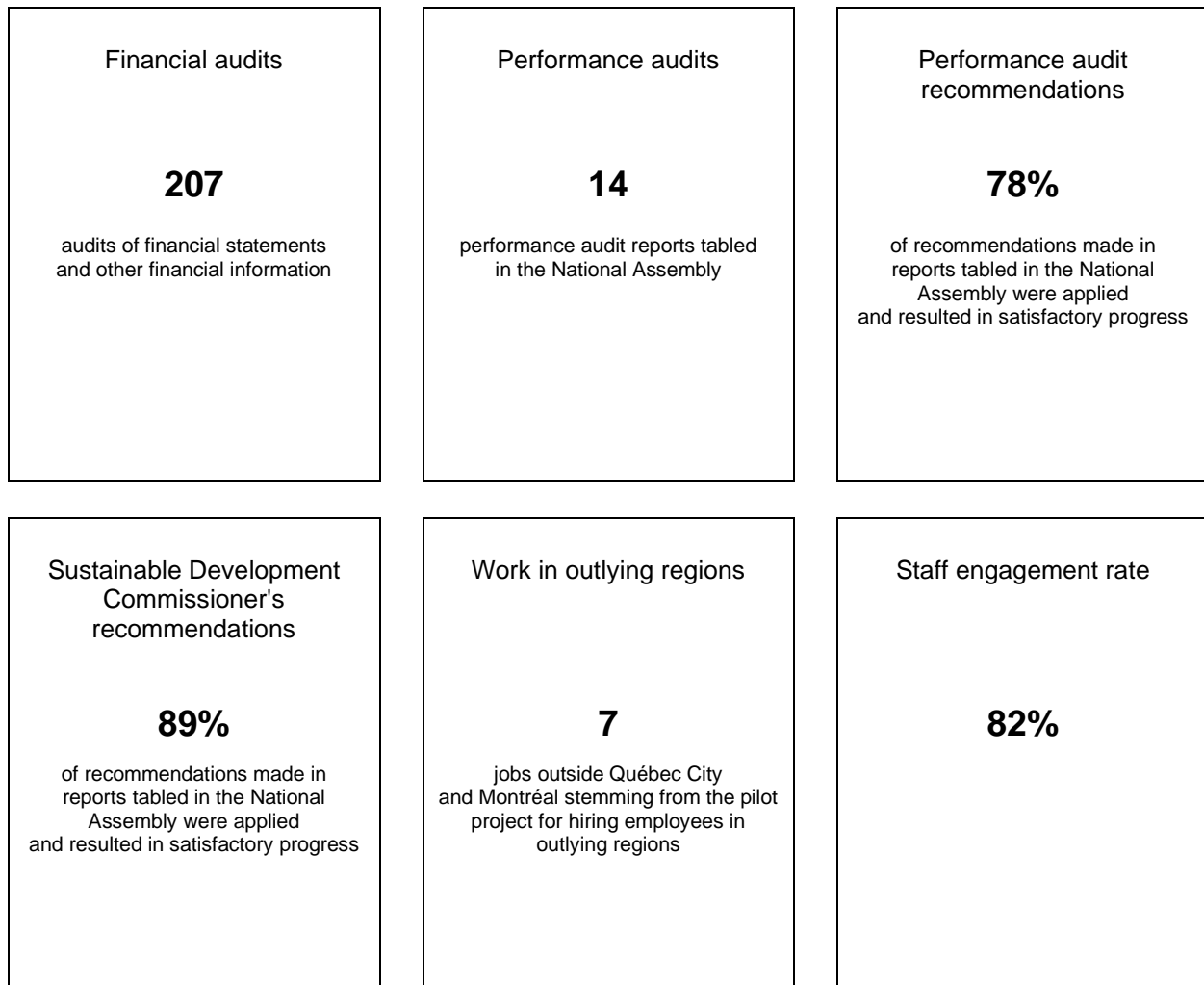


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## AUDITOR GENERAL

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### SNAPSHOT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> This data is taken from the Auditor General's 2020-2021 Annual Performance Report and the follow-up to recommendations by the Auditor General and the Sustainable Development Commissioner for 2020-2021.

## AUDITOR GENERAL

The Auditor General is at the service of the National Assembly and works closely with the parliamentary committees. Their mission is to contribute, through audits and other work, to better management of resources and to parliamentary control for the benefit of Québec citizens. To achieve this mission, they primarily perform two types of work: financial audits and performance audits.

The financial audit includes an audit of financial statements and of other financial information. This type of work is intended to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements or information are free from material misstatements. In this sector, the Auditor General's jurisdiction extends to the funds and other public property of the Government. The Auditor General may also, at their discretion, audit health and social services network establishments' and education network institutions' financial statements.

Performance audits focus on the quality and operation of the systems and processes used by the departments and bodies to ensure that the resources available to them are used economically, efficiently and effectively. They also include missions related to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Act (CQLR, chapter D-8.1.1). The Auditor General's jurisdiction in this area encompasses the entities that fall under the one pertaining to the financial audit, and all the public and government bodies that do not produce financial statements. It also includes audits on the use of subsidies by recipients, when such subsidies were granted by a public or government body. The decision to undertake a performance audit remains at the discretion of the Auditor General, except in the case of the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec, for which an agreement must be signed with the board of directors.

The Auditor General pays special attention to operational compliance with statutes, regulations, policies and guidelines. This type of audit is usually done as part of performance and financial audits.

The Auditor General also has the mandate of formulating an opinion on the plausibility of forecasts and assumptions presented in the pre-election report published by the Minister of Finance before a general election is held.

In addition to this work, the Government or the Conseil du trésor may entrust the Auditor General with a special audit in any area that falls within their jurisdiction. Lastly, the Auditor General can accept or turn down a special audit pursuant to a resolution by the National Assembly.

## BUDGET PLAN

### EXPENDITURE BUDGET

#### PROGRAM 2 Auditor General

The purpose of this program is to enable the Auditor General to carry out audits of financial statements, audits of operational compliance with statutes, regulations, policies and guidelines, and performance audits, in particular those pertaining to the enforcement of the Sustainable Development Act.

The Auditor General's jurisdiction extends to all government and public bodies, to the health and social services and education networks, and to grant recipients. This program also provides the Auditor General with a way of communicating their findings to the National Assembly.

The Auditor General's expenditure budget is set at \$39.9 million for 2022-2023, compared with the 2021-2022 probable expenditure of \$36.9 million. This upward variation of \$3.0 million is due mainly to changes to working conditions, employee salary and pay scale increases, and vacant positions being filled.

#### Expenditure Budget by Program<sup>1</sup> (thousands of dollars)

	2022-2023		2021-2022	
	Expenditure Budget (1)	Variation (2)=(1)-(4)	Expenditure Budget (3)	Probable Expenditure (4)
2. The Auditor General	39,938.5	3,082.5	36,856.0	36,856.0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>39,938.5</b>	<b>3,082.5</b>	<b>36,856.0</b>	<b>36,856.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> Under the Auditor General Act (CQLR, chapter V-5.01), the Auditor General's expenditure budget is presented subject to the approval of the Office of the National Assembly.

### CAPITAL BUDGET

The 2022-2023 capital budget is set at \$4.2 million, an increase of \$3.2 million from 2021-2022.

The main projects for 2022-2023 are the following:

- major renovation project for the Auditor General's main offices;
- project involving the acquisition of new auditing software;
- projects involving the replacement of certain obsolete technological components and the addition of data security-related controls.

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**Auditor General****Capital Budget**<sup>1</sup>

(thousands of dollars)

	2022-2023		2021-2022
	Capital Budget (1)	Variation (2)=(1)-(3)	Capital Budget (3)
Tangible Assets	2,950.0	2,810.0	140.0
Information Resource Assets	1,206.7	423.7	783.0
Loans, Investments, Advances and Other Costs	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,156.7</b>	<b>3,233.7</b>	<b>923.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> Under the Auditor General Act, the Auditor General's capital budget is presented subject to the approval of the Office of the National Assembly.

**BUDGETARY CHOICES**

The budgetary choices support the activities that are essential for carrying out the Auditor General's mission to perform audits. Financial resources are allocated among activities related to financial audits, performance audits and support activities. The financial statement audits are generally determined by the entities' incorporating acts.

The resources invested in these audits are affected by changes in accounting standards, events specific to the year and the financial statements' level of complexity. In addition, the Auditor General sometimes uses contractual resources or the services of a chartered professional accounting firm from the private sector to conduct all or part of a financial statement audit.

Lastly, the decision to undertake a performance audit or to carry out work on matters of a financial nature remains at the discretion of the Auditor General.

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## CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

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### SNAPSHOT OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER<sup>1</sup>

<p>Organization and holding of municipal elections</p> <p><b>52</b></p> <p>by-elections</p> <p><b>6</b></p> <p>referendums</p>	<p>Published brief</p> <p><b>1</b></p> <p><i>Brief on Bill 64, An Act to modernize legislative provisions as regards the protection of personal information (S.Q. 2021, chapter 25)</i></p>	<p>Recommendations</p> <p><b>40</b></p> <p>recommendations made to the legislature to better serve Quebecers in the next elections</p>
<p>Permanent list of electors</p> <p><b>6,219,395</b></p> <p>registered voters as at March 31, 2021</p> <p>i.e. <b>361</b> fewer voters than in 2020</p>	<p>Register of authorized political entities of Québec</p> <p><b>672</b></p> <p>authorized entities at the three elected levels as at March 31, 2021</p> <p>including <b>154</b> new authorizations</p>	<p>Investigations and prosecutions</p> <p><b>80</b></p> <p>investigations</p> <p><b>43</b> prosecutions undertaken in 2020-2021</p>

<sup>1</sup> Data according to the 2020-2021 Annual Management Report

## CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

The Chief Electoral Officer is a neutral, independent institution charged with ensuring the integrity, transparency and reliability of elections and of promoting democratic values.

As it is responsible for provincial elections, the institution provides training for election staff and updates the information in the permanent list of electors. It revises the list of electors and carries out all the steps leading to the holding of elections. It issues directives on how the law is applied.

The Chief Electoral Officer does not directly administer municipal and school board elections. However, it offers its support to the returning officers in the planning of their event.

As concerns the financing of political parties and control of election spending, the institution authorizes political entities to raise contributions and pay expenses. It ascertains that the entities comply with the provisions of the law. It provides training and support for the official agents and representatives of the parties and candidates, as well as for municipal treasurers and directors general of Anglophone school boards. It also checks and reviews financial reports and election expenditure reports. Provincially, it administers the payment of contributions and the government financing granted to political entities.

It has the powers to institute inquiries to enforce the laws for which it is responsible and acts as a prosecutor to sanction any contravention of these laws. In this regard, it is responsible for keeping a criminal registry.

In the area of electoral representation, it provides professional and technical support to the Commission de la représentation électorale (CRE), which does not have its own staff.

## BUDGET PLAN

### EXPENDITURE BUDGET

#### PROGRAM 3

#### **Administration of the Electoral System**

The expenditure budgets of the Chief Electoral Officer and of the CRE are in Program 3 of the "Persons Appointed by the National Assembly" portfolio, Administration of the Electoral System. The purpose of this program is to implement legislation respecting election and referendum administration and political financing.

The 2022-2023 expenditure budget for Administration of the Electoral System is set at \$167.8 million, or \$108.5 million higher than the 2021-2022 probable expenditure. This variation is due mainly to the amounts earmarked for the preparation and holding of the next provincial general elections scheduled for October 2022.

Any amounts necessary for the Chief Electoral Officer to hold by-elections during the year, or for any new mandate that the National Assembly entrusts to the Chief Electoral Officer or the CRE, would have to be added to the 2022-2023 expenditure budget.

A parliamentary committee is responsible for approving these amounts in the study of budget forecasts and the preliminary financial report, and then submitting its report to the National Assembly.

### Expenditure Budget by Program<sup>1</sup>

(thousands of dollars)

	2022-2023		2021-2022	
	Expenditure Budget	Variation	Expenditure Budget	Probable Expenditure
	(1)	(2)=(1)-(4)	(3)	(4)
3. Administration of the Electoral System	167,755.8	108,483.2	59,272.6	59,272.6
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>167,755.8</b>	<b>108,483.2</b>	<b>59,272.6</b>	<b>59,272.6</b>

<sup>1</sup> Under section 543 of the Election Act, (CQLR, chapter E-3.3), the expenditure budget is presented subject to the approval of a parliamentary committee.

### CAPITAL BUDGET

The 2022-2023 capital budget is set at \$2.9 million, down \$9.2 million from 2021-2022. This budget will be used mainly to upgrade information systems and the technology infrastructure.

### Capital Budget<sup>1</sup>

(thousands of dollars)

	2022-2023		2021-2022
	Capital Budget	Variation	Capital Budget
	(1)	(2)=(1)-(3)	(3)
Tangible Assets	500.0	(7,200.0)	7,700.0
Information Resource Assets	2,350.0	(1,950.0)	4,300.0
Loans, Investments, Advances and Other Costs	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,850.0</b>	<b>(9,150.0)</b>	<b>12,000.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> Under section 543 of the Election Act, the expenditure budget is presented subject to the approval of a parliamentary committee.

## **BUDGETARY CHOICES**

The 2022-2023 expenditure budget of the Chief Electoral Officer is set at \$167.8 million, broken down as follows: 26% of the budget is allocated to internal management activities and support for electoral activities, 56% is dedicated to electoral activities and special mandates, and 18% is earmarked for the financial support of political entities.

Organizing and holding the next provincial general elections is scheduled for a fixed date that should be October 3, 2022. A \$108.5-million budget will be allocated for election staff remuneration, election logistics in 125 ridings, communications with voters and the public as well as reimbursement of election expenses and public funding of elections. This budget will also be used to complete the final preparatory activities in the ridings as well as finalize the resupply of election materials. Of this amount, \$11.1 million is budgeted for health measures to be implemented in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.



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# LOBBYISTS COMMISSIONER

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## SNAPSHOT OF THE LOBBYISTS COMMISSIONER<sup>1</sup>

<p>Monitoring, audit and investigation activities</p> <p><b>603</b></p> <p>monitoring, audit and investigation activities</p> <p>including <b>4</b> investigations conducted during the year</p> <p>including <b>2</b> that resulted in penalties<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Awareness-raising and monitoring of businesses and organizations working in cybersecurity (target group)</p> <p><b>1,519</b></p> <p>awareness-raising emails regarding the Act<sup>2</sup> and the Code of Conduct for Lobbyists</p>	<p>New lobbyists registered</p> <p><b>3,216</b></p> <p>a decrease of <b>20%</b> from 2019-2020</p>
<p>Analysis of returns published in the lobbyists registry</p> <p><b>6,280</b></p> <p>returns</p>	<p>Individuals made aware of the Act<sup>2</sup> and Code<sup>3</sup> at conferences, training workshops and meetings</p> <p><b>1,068</b></p> <p>individuals</p>	<p>Requests for information and consulting assistance, including journalists' requests</p> <p><b>725</b></p> <p>requests</p>
<p>Visitors to our website</p> <p><b>40,352</b></p> <p>i.e. <b>35%</b> more than in 2019-2020</p>	<p>Development of a new lobbying activities disclosure platform<sup>4</sup></p> <p><b>\$4 million</b></p> <p>Cost of completing this project, spread out over four fiscal years as of 2019-2020</p>	<p>Establishment of a major partnership with the OECD<sup>5</sup></p> <p><b>1</b></p>

- <sup>1</sup> This data is taken from the 2020-2021 activity report of the Lobbyists Commissioner and the 2020-2021 Registry of Lobbyists activity report.
- <sup>2</sup> Lobbying Transparency and Ethics Act (CQLR, chapter T-11.011)
- <sup>3</sup> Code of Conduct for Lobbyists
- <sup>4</sup> The Act to transfer responsibility for the registry of lobbyists to the Lobbyists Commissioner and to implement the Charbonneau Commission recommendation on the prescription period for bringing penal proceedings (S.Q. 2019, chapter 13) mandates the Lobbyists Commissioner to develop and administer a new streamlined, efficient platform to replace the current lobbyists registry.
- <sup>5</sup> The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) will evaluate Québec's legislative and regulatory framework with regard to the transparency and integrity of lobbying activities as compared to international best practices, as well as the work to modernize the Act presented by the Commissioner in the policy statement it tabled in 2019. The OECD will present a report of its recommendations in the first quarter of 2022.

## **LOBBYISTS COMMISSIONER**

Appointed by the National Assembly and reporting to it, in order to preserve complete independence, the Lobbyists Commissioner's mission is to enforce the Lobbying Transparency and Ethics Act (Act) and the Code of Conduct for Lobbyists (Code), to monitor and oversee lobbying activities, and to promote the transparency, legitimacy and sound practice of lobbying activities in order to uphold the right to information.

In addition to these responsibilities, under the Act to transfer responsibility for the registry of lobbyists to the Lobbyists Commissioner and to implement the Charbonneau Commission recommendation on the prescription period for bringing penal proceedings, the Lobbyists Commissioner was mandated to develop a new lobbying activities disclosure platform to replace the current lobbyists registry. The Commissioner will also assume the management of information regarding the lobbying and customer service activities inherent to this new component of its mission.

## **BUDGET PLAN**

### **EXPENDITURE BUDGET**

#### **PROGRAM 4**

#### **Lobbyists Commissioner**

The Act was unanimously enacted by the National Assembly on June 13, 2002. It is designed to contribute to improving the quality of democratic life and building public confidence in parliamentary, government and municipal institutions and in their leaders. Through its actions, the Québec Lobbyists Commissioner is responsible for the transparency and healthy practice of lobbying activities, and the public's right to know who is seeking to exercise influence with public institutions.

The project to modernize the lobbyists registry will be carried out in 2022-2023 by redirecting the current service, which is administered by the Ministère de la Justice, to a brand-new cloud-based platform that meets the efficiency and simplicity criteria included in the Act to transfer responsibility for the lobbyists registry to the Lobbyists Commissioner and to implement the Charbonneau Commission recommendation on the prescription period for bringing penal proceedings.

The platform's functionalities are being fully developed using cloud-based services. Although the Commissioner is an independent institution, the administration has strongly insisted that the project be in line with government technical architecture orientations for cloud computing and that it be designed and completed while optimizing the user experience, as recommended by the Government's digital transformation strategy.

The execution phase (preliminary analysis, design, completion, installation, debugging), launched in February 2020, will continue until the platform's implementation in the spring of 2022, at the latest.

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## Lobbyists Commissioner

On December 9, 2021, the National Assembly of Québec adopted Bill 8 – An Act to postpone the coming into force of certain provisions of the Act to transfer responsibility for the registry of lobbyists to the Lobbyists Commissioner and to implement the Charbonneau Commission recommendation on the prescription period for bringing penal proceedings (S.Q. 2021, chapter 38). The adoption of this bill essentially allowed for a new schedule to be established for the deployment of the platform that will replace the current lobbyists registry, for which the initial deadline was December 19, 2021.

The 2022-2023 expenditure budget for the Lobbyists Commissioner is set at \$5.9 million, an increase of \$1.2 million from the 2021-2022 probable expenditure. This variation is due to the incorporation of the lobbyists registry into the institution's activities and includes remuneration for the new customer service department, operating costs as well as the first year of the project's amortization.

### Expenditure Budget by Program<sup>1</sup>

(thousands of dollars)

	2022-2023		2021-2022	
	Expenditure Budget (1)	Variation (2)=(1)-(4)	Expenditure Budget (3)	Probable Expenditure (4)
4. The Lobbyists Commissioner	5,902.0	1,180.9	4,626.9	4,721.1
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>5,902.0</b>	<b>1,180.9</b>	<b>4,626.9</b>	<b>4,721.1</b>

<sup>1</sup> Under section 35 of the Lobbying Transparency and Ethics Act, the Lobbyists Commissioner's expenditure budget is presented subject to the approval of the Office of the National Assembly.

## CAPITAL BUDGET

The 2022-2023 capital budget is not very substantial, down \$1.5 million from 2021-2022. This variation is due to the completion of the lobbyists register.

### Capital Budget<sup>1</sup>

(thousands of dollars)

	2022-2023		2021-2022
	Capital Budget (1)	Variation (2)=(1)-(3)	Capital Budget (3)
Tangible Assets	45.0	-	45.0
Information Resource Assets	-	(1,488.2)	1,488.2
Loans, Investments, Advances and Other Costs	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>(1,488.2)</b>	<b>1,533.2</b>

<sup>1</sup> Under section 35 of the Lobbying Transparency and Ethics Act, the Lobbyists Commissioner's capital budget is presented subject to the approval of the Office of the National Assembly.

## **BUDGETARY CHOICES**

### **ORIENTATION 1**

#### **ESTABLISH A GREATER PUBLIC PRESENCE TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF THE ACT AND THE ACTIONS OF THE LOBBYISTS COMMISSIONER**

Increase public understanding and awareness of the organization's mission and actions, and garner support for the rules governing lobbying, in particular by playing a proactive role, taking a positive approach within the public arena, and improving synergy with stakeholders.

#### **Actions envisioned**

- Garner media and public interest in the objectives of the Act, its rules and the initiatives of the Lobbyists Commissioner;
- Convey a positive message with respect to the governance of lobbying activities;
- Continue to increase public understanding and awareness of the Lobbyists Commissioner's role in preserving public confidence in government institutions and inform the public about the implementation of a new online lobbying activities disclosure platform in June 2022;
- Encourage stakeholders to take more effective measures to ensure compliance with applicable rules.

### **ORIENTATION 2**

#### **BE MORE AGILE BY TARGETING THE MOST EFFECTIVE POWERS, INTERVENTION TOOLS AND ACTIONS FOR ENFORCING THE ACT AND THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

Optimize the use of the powers and tools at the organization's disposal and enhance these to meet the needs of a modern, effective, efficient and agile organization.

#### **Actions envisioned**

- Enhance our intelligence capacity in order to better focus our efforts;
- Implement an integrated approach for awareness-raising, monitoring and control by activity sector;
- Identify and prioritize actions according to their scope;
- Revamp the lobbyists registry;
- Continue the process of reflection with the eventual aim of reforming the Act.

### **ORIENTATION 3**

#### **ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT THE EXPRESSION OF PEOPLE'S FULL POTENTIAL AND PROMOTE INNOVATION IN ALL OF THE ORGANIZATION'S AREAS OF ACTIVITY**

Improve the organization's overall performance through the fully integrated use of all human, financial and information resources.

**Actions envisioned**

- Develop a collective intelligence strategy that fosters collaboration and the sharing of expertise among staff members;
- Support innovation, performance and the full use of employees' capabilities;
- Finish rolling out information systems that are fully integrated and tailored to the new business architecture by incorporating the tools selected in 2021 to operationalize the new lobbying activities disclosure platform;
- Establish a continuing education and support program for our information systems using trained multipliers.

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# ETHICS COMMISSIONER

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## SNAPSHOT OF THE ETHICS COMMISSIONER<sup>1</sup>

<p>Individuals<sup>2</sup> subject to the Code<sup>3</sup></p> <p><b>125</b></p> <p>Members, 29 of whom are subject to the rules that concern the Conseil exécutif</p>	<p>Individuals<sup>2</sup> subject to the Rules<sup>4</sup> and the Regulation<sup>5</sup></p> <p><b>856</b></p> <p>staff members of the MNAs, Cabinet ministers and House officers of the National Assembly</p>	<p>Disclosure statements</p> <p><b>164</b></p> <p>statements analyzed</p> <p><b>126</b></p> <p>summaries made public on the Commissioner's website</p>
<p>Gifts, benefits and hospitality</p> <p><b>14</b></p> <p>statements submitted by MNAs</p> <p><b>1</b></p> <p>statement submitted by staff members</p>	<p>Advisory opinions</p> <p><b>133</b></p> <p>advisory opinions delivered under the Code<sup>3</sup></p> <p><b>62</b></p> <p>advisory opinions delivered under the Rules<sup>4</sup> and Regulation<sup>5</sup></p>	<p>Inquiries</p> <p><b>2</b></p> <p>inquiry requests made by MNAs</p> <p><b>2</b></p> <p>inquiry reports tabled in the National Assembly</p>
<p>Training and awareness</p> <p><b>50</b></p> <p>people were informed and trained</p>	<p>Quebecers</p> <p><b>117</b></p> <p>responses to requests from the population</p>	<p>Media</p> <p><b>34</b></p> <p>responses to media requests</p>

- <sup>1</sup> Data source: 2020-2021 Activity Report of the Ethics Commissioner, September 2021
- <sup>2</sup> After their term, former members of the Conseil exécutif, office staff of Ministers and some staff of Members and House officers of the National Assembly remain subject to the provisions of the Code, the Rules and the Regulation. These are post-term rules. Part of the clientele is therefore made up of an ever-increasing number of former members of the Conseil exécutif and former office staff of Ministers.
- <sup>3</sup> Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly (CQLR, chapter C-23.1)
- <sup>4</sup> Rules of conduct applicable to the staff of Members and House officers of the National Assembly, Decision 1690 of the Office of the National Assembly of March 21, 2013
- <sup>5</sup> Regulation respecting the rules of conduct applicable to the office staff of ministers (CQLR, chapter C-23.1, r. 2)



## **ETHICS COMMISSIONER**

The Ethics Commissioner is an independent institution responsible for applying the provisions set forth in the:

- Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly (Code);
- Rules of conduct applicable to the staff of Members and House officers of the National Assembly (Rules);
- Regulation respecting the rules of conduct applicable to the office staff of ministers (Regulation).

The Code, the Rules and the Regulation state the primary ethics to which the Members of the National Assembly and their staff must adhere, as well as the rules of conduct they must follow when exercising their duties. In carrying out its mission, the Commissioner fulfills three major functions:

- advising and assisting Members of the National Assembly and their staff in fulfilling their obligations, such as by issuing notices, giving training and producing the statements and guidelines they are responsible for;
- conducting inquiries when there are reasonable grounds to believe that violations may have been committed;
- informing the public of the rules and their meaning in relation to the duties of Members of the National Assembly or the work performed by members of their staff.

## **BUDGET PLAN**

### **EXPENDITURE BUDGET**

#### **PROGRAM 5**

#### **Ethics Commissioner**

This program allows the Ethics Commissioner to implement the Code, the Rules and the Regulation.

The Ethics Commissioner began its activities on January 5, 2011. An expenditure budget of \$2.1 million is in place for 2022-2023 to meet its stated objectives, which is essentially the same as the 2021-2022 probable expenditure.

This budget is allocated as follows:

- \$1.5 million for remuneration of staff composed primarily of specialized professionals;
- \$0.6 million for operating expenditures, including rent, professional fees and all the other expenditures necessary for its operations.

**Expenditure Budget by Program**<sup>1</sup>

(thousands of dollars)

	2022-2023		2021-2022	
	Expenditure Budget	Variation	Expenditure Budget	Probable Expenditure
	(1)	(2)=(1)-(4)	(3)	(4)
5. The Ethics Commissioner	2,140.8	143.6	1,997.2	1,997.2
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,140.8</b>	<b>143.6</b>	<b>1,997.2</b>	<b>1,997.2</b>

<sup>1</sup> Under section 74 of the *Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly* (CQLR, chapter C-23.1), the expenditure budget of the Ethics Commissioner is presented subject to the approval of the Office of the National Assembly.

**CAPITAL BUDGET**

The 2022-2023 capital budget involves the amounts that will be required to purchase office material and equipment.

**Capital Budget**<sup>1</sup>

(thousands of dollars)

	2022-2023		2021-2022
	Capital Budget	Variation	Capital Budget
	(1)	(2)=(1)-(3)	(3)
Tangible Assets	15.0	-	15.0
Information Resource Assets	-	-	-
Loans, Investments, Advances and Other Costs	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> Under section 74 of the *Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly*, the capital budget of the Ethics Commissioner is presented subject to the approval of the Office of the National Assembly.

**BUDGETARY CHOICES**

The financial resources of the Ethics Commissioner are allocated to ensure deployment of the means necessary to implement the Code, the Rules and the Regulation in a manner that meets the needs of the Members of the National Assembly and their staff.

Thus, it is in an ongoing quest for transparency and sound management of the appropriations it is allocated that the expenditure budget proposed for the 2022-2023 fiscal year takes into account the evolution of the Commissioner's service offering.

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**PERSONS APPOINTED  
BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**EXPENDITURES AND APPROPRIATIONS**

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## PERSONS APPOINTED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

### 2022-2023 Consolidated Expenditures of the Portfolio<sup>1</sup>

(millions of dollars)

	Expenditures of the Portfolio (1)	Debt Service (2)	Total (3)=(1)+(2)	Budget Measures (4)
<b>Persons Appointed by the National Assembly</b>				
Ethics Commissioner	2.1	-	2.1	-
Lobbyists Commissioner	5.9	-	5.9	-
Chief Electoral Officer	167.8	-	167.8	-
Public Protector	22.2	-	22.2	-
Auditor General	39.9	-	39.9	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>237.9</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>237.9</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>237.9</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>237.9</b>	<b>-</b>
Budget Measures	-			
<b>Portfolio Expenditures (Including Budget Measures)</b>	<b>237.9</b>			
<b>Variation in Portfolio Expenditures from Expenditures Set Out in 2021-2022<sup>2</sup> (%)</b>	<b>92.8</b>			

<sup>1</sup> Figures are rounded and the sum of the amounts recorded may not correspond to the total.

<sup>2</sup> Source: Ministère des Finances

## Budget and Appropriations for the Persons Appointed by the National Assembly

### Breakdown by Program

(thousands of dollars)

	2022-2023 Expenditure Budget	Less: Expenditures not Requiring Appropriations	Plus: Capital Budget	2022-2023 Appro- priations	2021-2022 Appro- priations
1. The Public Protector	22,168.1	840.0	355.0	<b>21,683.1</b>	20,199.4
2. The Auditor General	39,938.5	680.3	4,156.7	<b>43,414.9</b>	37,229.0
3. Administration of the Electoral System	167,755.8	3,080.0	2,850.0	<b>167,525.8</b>	69,172.6
4. The Lobbyists Commissioner	5,902.0	449.7	45.0	<b>5,497.3</b>	6,105.1
5. The Ethics Commissioner	2,140.8	106.7	15.0	<b>2,049.1</b>	1,905.5
	<b>237,905.2</b>	<b>5,156.7</b>	<b>7,421.7</b>	<b>240,170.2</b>	<b>134,611.6</b>
Less:					
Permanent Appropriations				<b>170,020.8</b>	71,524.0
<b>Appropriations to be Voted</b>				<b>70,149.4</b>	63,087.6

### Allotment by Supercategory

(thousands of dollars)

	2022-2023	2021-2022
<b>Expenditure Budget</b>		
Remuneration	<b>145,004.0</b>	81,082.2
Operating	<b>62,291.8</b>	30,065.4
Transfer	<b>30,609.4</b>	11,974.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>237,905.2</b>	<b>123,122.1</b>
<b>Capital Budget</b>		
Tangible Assets	<b>3,560.0</b>	7,950.0
Information Resource Assets	<b>3,861.7</b>	7,026.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,421.7</b>	<b>14,976.2</b>

**Breakdown by Persons Appointed by the National Assembly**  
(thousands of dollars)

	<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2021-2022</b>
<b>Expenditure Budget</b>		
Ethics Commissioner	<b>2,140.8</b>	1,997.2
Lobbyists Commissioner	<b>5,902.0</b>	4,626.9
Chief Electoral Officer	<b>167,755.8</b>	59,272.6
Public Protector	<b>22,168.1</b>	20,369.4
Auditor General	<b>39,938.5</b>	36,856.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>237,905.2</b>	<b>123,122.1</b>
<b>Capital Budget</b>		
Ethics Commissioner	<b>15.0</b>	15.0
Lobbyists Commissioner	<b>45.0</b>	1,533.2
Chief Electoral Officer	<b>2,850.0</b>	12,000.0
Public Protector	<b>355.0</b>	505.0
Auditor General	<b>4,156.7</b>	923.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,421.7</b>	<b>14,976.2</b>

Persons Appointed by the National Assembly

**PROGRAM 1  
The Public Protector**

(thousands of dollars)

Element	2022-2023 Expenditure Budget	Less: Expenditures not Requiring Appropriations	Plus: Capital Budget	2022-2023 Appro- priations	2021-2022 Appro- priations
1. The Public Protector	22,168.1	840.0	355.0	<b>21,683.1</b>	20,199.4
Less:					
Permanent Appropriations					
Public Protector Act, (CQLR, chapter P-32)					
Element 1				<u>445.9</u>	<u>445.9</u>
<b>Appropriation to be Voted</b>				<b>21,237.2</b>	<b>19,753.5</b>

Through this program, the Public Protector protects individuals from abuse, error, negligence, violation of their rights or inaction in public services by ensuring that they are treated with justice, equality and respect for democratic values. The Public Protector recommends corrective action when harmful situations are observed.

**Allotment by Supercategory**

(thousands of dollars)

Element	1	2022-2023	2021-2022
<b>Expenditure Budget</b>			
Remuneration	17,785.2	<b>17,785.2</b>	16,730.4
Operating	<u>4,382.9</u>	<b>4,382.9</b>	3,639.0
	<b>22,168.1</b>	<b>22,168.1</b>	<b>20,369.4</b>
<b>Capital Budget</b>			
Tangible Assets	50.0	<b>50.0</b>	50.0
Information Resource Assets	<u>305.0</u>	<b>305.0</b>	455.0
	<b>355.0</b>	<b>355.0</b>	<b>505.0</b>



## PROGRAM 2 The Auditor General

(thousands of dollars)

Element	2022-2023 Expenditure Budget	Less: Expenditures not Requiring Appropriations	Plus: Capital Budget	2022-2023 Appro- priations	2021-2022 Appro- priations
1. The Auditor General	39,938.5	680.3	4,156.7	<b>43,414.9</b>	37,229.0
<b>Appropriation to be Voted</b>				<b>43,414.9</b>	37,229.0

The objective of this program is to enable the Auditor General to carry out audits of financial statements, audits of operational compliance with statutes, regulations, policies and guidelines, resource optimization audits, and performance audits, including audits pertaining to the enforcement of the Sustainable Development Act (CQLR, chapter D-8.1.1). The Auditor General's jurisdiction extends to all government and public bodies, to the health and social services and education network, and to grant recipients. This program also provides the Auditor General with a way of communicating his findings to the National Assembly.

### Allotment by Supercategory

(thousands of dollars)

	1	Element	2022-2023	2021-2022
<b>Expenditure Budget</b>				
Remuneration	32,237.2		<b>32,237.2</b>	29,628.3
Operating	7,701.3		<b>7,701.3</b>	7,227.7
	<b>39,938.5</b>		<b>39,938.5</b>	<b>36,856.0</b>
<b>Capital Budget</b>				
Tangible Assets	2,950.0		<b>2,950.0</b>	140.0
Information Resource Assets	1,206.7		<b>1,206.7</b>	783.0
	<b>4,156.7</b>		<b>4,156.7</b>	<b>923.0</b>

### PROGRAM 3 Administration of the Electoral System

(thousands of dollars)

Elements	2022-2023 Expenditure Budget	Less: Expenditures not Requiring Appropriations	Plus: Capital Budget	2022-2023 Appro- priations	2021-2022 Appro- priations
1. Internal Management and Support	43,492.3	1,450.0	1,550.0	<b>43,592.3</b>	44,754.7
2. Commission de la représentation électorale	22.3	-	-	<b>22.3</b>	9.0
3. Electoral Activities	124,241.2	1,630.0	1,300.0	<b>123,911.2</b>	24,408.9
	<b>167,755.8</b>	<b>3,080.0</b>	<b>2,850.0</b>	<b>167,525.8</b>	<b>69,172.6</b>
Less:					
Permanent Appropriations					
Election Act, (CQLR, chapter E-3.3)					
Element 1				<b>43,592.3</b>	44,754.7
Element 2				<b>22.3</b>	9.0
Element 3				<b>123,911.2</b>	24,408.9
<b>Appropriation to be Voted</b>				<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

The objective of this program is to implement legislation respecting election and referendum administration and the financing of political parties. The expenditure budgets of the Chief Electoral Officer and the Commission de la représentation électorale are included in this program.

### Allotment by Supercategory (thousands of dollars)

	Elements			2022-2023	2021-2022
	1	2	3		
<b>Expenditure Budget</b>					
Remuneration	30,083.0	11.2	59,205.1	<b>89,299.3</b>	29,846.7
Operating	13,409.3	11.1	34,426.7	<b>47,847.1</b>	17,451.4
Transfer	-	-	30,609.4	<b>30,609.4</b>	11,974.5
	<b>43,492.3</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>124,241.2</b>	<b>167,755.8</b>	<b>59,272.6</b>
<b>Capital Budget</b>					
Tangible Assets	500.0	-	-	<b>500.0</b>	7,700.0
Information Resource Assets	1,050.0	-	1,300.0	<b>2,350.0</b>	4,300.0
	<b>1,550.0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,300.0</b>	<b>2,850.0</b>	<b>12,000.0</b>

## PROGRAM 4 The Lobbyists Commissioner

(thousands of dollars)

Element	2022-2023 Expenditure Budget	Less: Expenditures not Requiring Appropriations	Plus: Capital Budget	2022-2023 Appro- priations	2021-2022 Appro- priations
1. The Lobbyists Commissioner	5,902.0	449.7	45.0	<u>5,497.3</u>	<u>6,105.1</u>
<b>Appropriation to be Voted</b>				<b>5,497.3</b>	<b>6,105.1</b>

The objective of this program is to allow the Lobbyists Commissioner to contribute to improving the quality of democratic life and to strengthen public trust in parliamentary, government and municipal institutions and their leaders. Through its actions, the Québec Lobbyists Commissioner ensures the transparency and sound practice of lobbying activities in order to uphold the public's right to know who is seeking to exercise influence with Québec's public institutions.

### Allotment by Supercategory

(thousands of dollars)

	1	Element	2022-2023	2021-2022
<b>Expenditure Budget</b>				
Remuneration	4,217.7		<b>4,217.7</b>	3,544.3
Operating	<u>1,684.3</u>		<b>1,684.3</b>	<u>1,082.6</u>
	<b>5,902.0</b>		<b>5,902.0</b>	<b>4,626.9</b>
<b>Capital Budget</b>				
Tangible Assets	45.0		<b>45.0</b>	45.0
Information Resource Assets	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>	<u>1,488.2</u>
	<b>45.0</b>		<b>45.0</b>	<b>1,533.2</b>

Persons Appointed by the National Assembly

**PROGRAM 5  
The Ethics Commissioner**

(thousands of dollars)

Element	2022-2023 Expenditure Budget	Less: Expenditures not Requiring Appropriations	Plus: Capital Budget	2022-2023 Appro- priations	2021-2022 Appro- priations
1. The Ethics Commissioner	2,140.8	106.7	15.0	<b>2,049.1</b>	1,905.5
Less:					
Permanent Appropriations					
Code of Ethics and Conduct of the Members of the National Assembly, (CQLR, chapter C-23.1)					
Element 1				<u>2,049.1</u>	<u>1,905.5</u>
<b>Appropriation to be Voted</b>				<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

This program allows the Ethics Commissioner to apply the Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly, the Rules of conduct applicable to the Staff of Members and House officers of the National Assembly and the Regulation respecting the rules of conduct applicable to the office staff of ministers.

**Allotment by Supercategory**

(thousands of dollars)

Element	1	2022-2023	2021-2022
<b>Expenditure Budget</b>			
Remuneration	1,464.6	<b>1,464.6</b>	1,332.5
Operating	<u>676.2</u>	<b>676.2</b>	<u>664.7</u>
	<b>2,140.8</b>	<b>2,140.8</b>	<b>1,997.2</b>
<b>Capital Budget</b>			
Tangible Assets	<u>15.0</u>	<b>15.0</b>	15.0
	<b>15.0</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>15.0</b>

**TRANSFER APPROPRIATIONS**

(thousands of dollars)

	<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2021-2022</b>
<b>Program 3 - Administration of the Electoral System</b>		
Financing of Political Parties	<b>30,609.4</b>	11,974.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,609.4</b>	<b>11,974.5</b>

**Allotment by Beneficiary**

(thousands of dollars)

	<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2021-2022</b>
Non-profit Bodies	<b>30,609.4</b>	11,974.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,609.4</b>	<b>11,974.5</b>

**Allotment by Expenditure Category**

(thousands of dollars)

	<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2021-2022</b>
Support	<b>30,609.4</b>	11,974.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,609.4</b>	<b>11,974.5</b>

