

March 2018

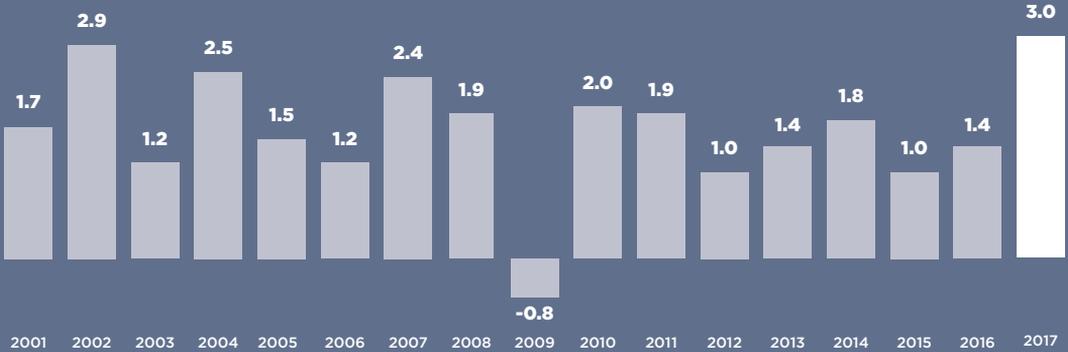
# THE ECONOMIC PLAN *In Brief*



Quality of Life  
and Mobility

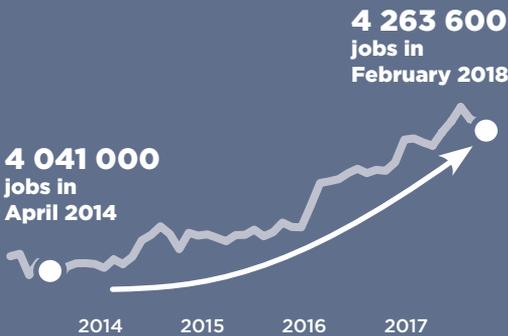
# A STRONG ECONOMY

## The strongest economic growth in nearly 20 years



## 222 600 jobs created since May 2014

On track to achieve the objective of creating 250 000 jobs in 5 years



## A record-low unemployment rate

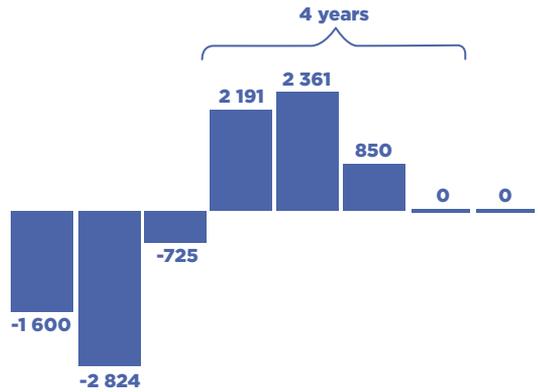


The good financial shape of families and business confidence will drive growth

# SOUND PUBLIC FINANCES

## The fourth balanced budget in a row

The Québec Economic Plan provides for continued fiscal balance in 2018-2019 and an \$ 850-million surplus for 2017-2018.

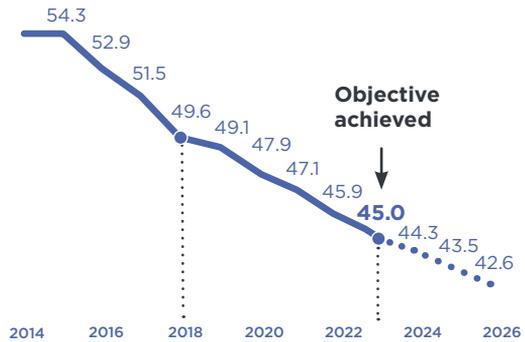


2012-13 2013-14 2014-15 2015-16 2016-17 2017-18 2018-19 2019-20

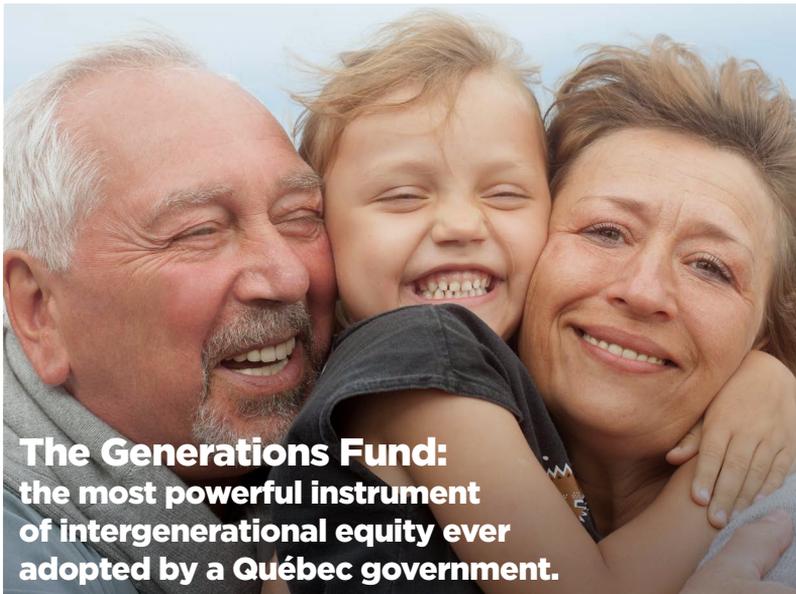
Note: Budgetary balance (millions of dollars).

## Québec is reducing its debt through the Generations Fund

The Québec Economic Plan is providing \$10 billion for debt repayment, that is, \$2 billion a year for 5 years.



Note: Forecasts for the gross debt until 2023 and projections thereafter (% of GDP).



**The Generations Fund: the most powerful instrument of intergenerational equity ever adopted by a Québec government.**

### Section 2:

“A Generations Fund is established at the Ministère des Finances. The Fund is dedicated exclusively to repaying the gross debt.”

– Act to reduce the debt and establish the Generations Fund

# IMPROVING QUALITY OF LIFE

## Investing in educational success: \$1.2 billion

### More support to guide young people toward success

- An additional 10 200 professional staff in elementary, secondary and higher education
- Rollout of the digital action plan to make better technologies available to students
- Increased based funding for CEGEPs and universities
- Financial support for practicums for future teachers



**Nearly \$1 billion  
for the digital shift**

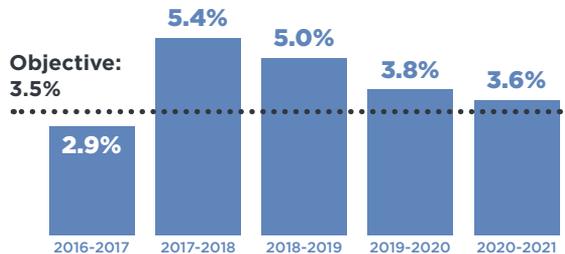
### Investments of \$16.2 billion to provide healthy, safe, accessible environments that are conducive to students' learning and success

- Modernization of infrastructure
- Addition of classrooms to meet existing needs
- Addition of gymnasiums and sports facilities

Program spending -  
Education and higher education

### Objective achieved:

- Growth of 5% in 2018-2019;
- Objective of 3.5% to be met in the coming years.



**Acquisition and implementation of digital technology teaching tools in every school**

## THANKS TO BETTER SERVICES

### Improving access to health care and services: \$3.6 billion

#### The additional investments will make it possible to, among other things:

- improve access to home care and intermediate care;
- enhance assistance for seniors;
- add specialized nurse practitioners to, in particular, improve access to frontline health care;
- provide the population of each region with a comparable level of access to frontline and specialized services;
- improve health prevention.



### The 2018-2028 Québec Infrastructure Plan: investments of \$18.7 billion to modernize and develop the health and social services network

#### Since 2014, more services for patients

- Nearly 1.1 million more people now have access to a family physician
- To date, 325 family medicine groups (FMGs) have been set up
- A total of 1 300 nurses and patient-care attendants have been hired in residential and long-term care centres (CHLDs)
- A total of 31 super clinics open 7 days a week, 12 hours a day have been created to reduce emergency room overcrowding and simplify the lives of patients and families

#### Program spending - Health and social services

#### Objective achieved:

- Growth of 4.6% in 2018-2019;
- Objective of 4% to be met in the coming years.



#### Spending growth of 5.3% in hospitals for direct services in 2018-2019.

## IMPROVING QUALITY OF LIFE

### \$800 million to support families and seniors

#### Nearly \$300 million to support families

- Nearly \$160 million to enhance the tax credit for childcare expenses
- \$140 million to facilitate access to property and reduce the debt load for people buying their first home



#### Over \$100 million for informal caregivers and seniors

- More than \$50 million to provide greater support for informal caregivers and volunteer respite services
- Nearly \$40 million to help seniors live independently longer and make it easier for them to stay in their home
- \$10 million to encourage intergenerational cohabitation

**The government is increasing assistance for work incentives by enhancing the increase in work income eligible for the tax shield from \$3 000 to \$4 000.**

#### A better standard of living: reduction of \$3 billion per year in the tax burden on individuals

- Elimination of the health contribution
- Tax cuts
- Supplement of \$100 per child for the purchase of school supplies
- School tax reform

#### Nearly \$1 000 per family and \$500 for person living alone



**Extension of RénoVert  
to March 31, 2019**

## THANKS TO BETTER SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

### Investments to improve the quality of life of individuals and communities

#### More than \$80 million to support families with children

- Improving the offering of childcare services in order to foster family-work-study balance
- Providing the Fondation du Dr Julien with stronger support for social pediatrics
- Supporting regional and local mobilization for early childhood development

#### Close to \$50 million granted to Aboriginal communities to ensure better living conditions

- Supporting Aboriginal participation and input in wildlife and forestry issues
- Reducing the cost of living in Nunavik
- Building a new regional rehabilitation centre in Nunavik

#### Over \$50 million to improve seniors' quality of life

- Funding additional measures for active aging
- Increasing the number of workers for reaching out to socially isolated seniors
- Improving support for the Aide Abus Aînés helpline



#### \$500 million to make the justice system more accessible and more efficient

- Introducing innovative practices
- Bringing the justice system in line with the latest technology
- Enabling the justice system's principal stakeholders to communicate effectively and efficiently

#### \$500 million to further promote Québec's cultural sector by, among other things, bringing culture closer to young people and to the community



**\$431 million to build 3 000 social housing units and facilitate access to affordable, quality housing**

## IMPROVING QUALITY OF LIFE BY MAKING TRAVEL EASIER

**An additional \$1.8 billion for the sustainable mobility policy, bringing investments to \$3.5 billion for the next five years**

### **Nearly \$850 million in additional funding for public transit throughout Québec**

- Close to \$200 million for modern and efficient public transit
- Close to \$40 million for improving regional public transit
- Over \$100 million for supporting the transportation of persons with a disability or reduced mobility

### **Nearly \$175 million in support for regional air transportation to help citizens who live in outlying regions to travel at affordable prices**

- Investing in regional airport infrastructure
- Implementing an assistance program for regional air services
- Increasing air travel in Québec and reducing airfares

### **Nearly \$430 million for cleaner and higher-performance land transportation**

- \$92 million to promote the acquisition of electric vehicles
- \$250 million to support municipalities in maintaining and rehabilitating their local road networks
- Over \$30 million for strengthening the railway sectors' contribution to the transportation of goods
- Over \$50 million to support the land transportation and sustainable mobility industry

### **A new era of major sustainable mobility projects**



### **Three strategic public electric transit projects totalling \$13.5 billion**

- The Réseau express métropolitain
- The extension of the Montréal metro blue line
- The city of Québec's strategic transportation network

# A STRONG ECONOMY FOR INCREASING QUEBECERS' STANDARD OF LIVING

## WORKFORCE STRATEGY

### **\$810 million to ensure a sufficient and qualified labour force to meet the needs of the labour market**

- Acquiring a better understanding of current and future labour needs, particularly in the regions
- Having access to a sufficient workforce by, among other things, improving the integration of immigrants into the labour market and retaining experienced workers
- Ensuring a skilled workforce with flexible training adapted to the needs of the labour market

### **More than \$2 billion to ease the tax burden on SMBs**

- Reduction of payroll taxes
- Gradual reduction from 8% to 4%, by 2022-2023, in the tax rate of SMBs in the service and construction sectors, as in other sectors

### **Over \$270 million to accelerate business investment**

- Increase in and extension of the additional capital cost allowance to support the acquisition of cutting-edge technologies
- Broadening of the tax holiday for large investment projects to include development of digital platforms
- Better electricity discounts for major projects
- Additional investments for the implementation of major tourism projects



**Immigration: a significant contribution to the labour market and Québec's economic development**



**\$63 million for adapting the workplace to promote physical activity**

## SUPPORTING INNOVATION AND THE CHANGING ECONOMY

### **\$1 billion more to accelerate the digital transition in our economy**

- Tax credit to support digital transformation in print media companies
- Broadening of the tax credit for film production to numerical platforms
- Support for the digital transition in the tourism industry and the construction sector



### **\$120 million for the implementation of mobilizing projects that are strategic for Québec's economy**

- Development of projects for supply chains optimized by artificial intelligence in Québec piloted by the SCALE.AI supercluster

### **Nearly \$380 million to promote the energy transition and to protect the environment**

- Supporting innovation in the energy sector
- Deriving value from residual forest biomass
- Promoting the development of biofuels in Québec
- Developing the clean technologies sector

### **An additional \$36.5 million to encourage access to natural gas for the greatest possible number of regions within Québec**

### **\$226 million to improve water management and mitigate risks related to flooding**

- Implementation of the next Québec Water Strategy
- Support for local partners in the protection and sustainable use of resources
- Strengthening of the safety of public and municipal dams
- Implementation of tools to support decision making during disasters
- Improvement of Québec's flood preparedness



**Promoting the creation in Montréal  
of the World Artificial Intelligence Organization.**

## IN ALL REGIONS OF QUÉBEC

### Nearly \$350 million for a new biofood policy, including:

- \$180 million to spur investment in biofood production and processing;
- Nearly \$65 million to stimulate the development of biofood in Québec;
- Close to \$30 million to step up efforts in innovation and training.

### Nearly \$55 million to promote healthier, local food in Québec



### Over \$80 million to promote economic diversification in the regions

- Renewal of the Fonds d'aide aux initiatives régionales for the Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine region
- Establishment of the Fonds de diversification économique pour le territoire de la MRC des Appalaches
- Support for territories facing economic difficulties

### Over \$300 million in initiatives for continuing the Québec Maritime Strategy

- Creating the Fonds Bleu to improve water management
- Supporting Québec's shipyards
- Funding the Réseau Québec maritime
- Funding studies aimed at developing industrial port zones and logistics hubs

### Developing Northern Québec

- Construction of two new sections of Route 138
- Development of the Société ferroviaire et portuaire de Pointe-Noire, in Sept-Îles
- Repair of multi-resource access roads
- Clean-up of hazardous waste storage sites in the 14 northern villages of Nunavik



**Nearly \$475 million for projects generating jobs and prosperity in the Plan Nord territory**

## Quality of Life and Mobility

[www.budget.finances.gouv.qc.ca/2018-2019](http://www.budget.finances.gouv.qc.ca/2018-2019)

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