Québec ⚜⚜

Le vice-premier ministre et
ministre d'État à l'Économie
et aux Finances

PRESS RELEASE No. 10

2000-2001 BUDGET

$430 MILLION FOR THE MUNICIPALITIES

Québec City, March 14, 2000 – Deputy Premier and Minister of State for the Economy and Finance Bernard Landry announced in the 2000-2001 Budget Speech a series of measures that will result in a financial gain of $430 million for the municipalities over the next three years.

The government confirms that it is ending the municipalities' contribution to the Local Activities Special Financing Fund as of 2001. The annual expenditures of $356 million which used to be financed by the municipal contribution will henceforth be assumed by the government.

In return, the proceeds of the tax on telecommunications, natural gas and electricity (TGE) will continue to be collected by the government, which will take over equalization, assistance to RCMs and assistance to main cities, previously funded by the TGE tax.

An amount of $155 million is being made available to the municipalities to facilitate their transition to the new system and implement the action plan to strengthen urban centres and RCMs, recently announced by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal.

By investing $175 million in the construction, improvement and repair of municipal infrastructures, the government is addressing the municipalities' needs with regard to the renovation and development of their infrastructures, especially those relating to water purification and drinking water.

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The series of measures presented in the 2000-2001 Budget Speech will result in a gain of $430 million for the municipalities for fiscal 2000, 2001 and 2002. "With these additional funds, the municipalities will be in a better position to continue offering high-quality services to their residents", concluded Mr. Landry.

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