



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Bill 34

An Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional

Introduction

**Introduced by
Mr. Michel Audet
Minister of Economic and Regional Development**

**Québec Official Publisher
2003**

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bill creates the Ministère du Développement économique et régional. To that end, the bill defines the mission of the new department as including the functions formerly exercised by the Minister of Industry and Trade, the Minister of Research, Science and Technology and the Minister of Regions.

Besides establishing new local and regional authorities, including regional conferences of elected officers, the bill maintains the provisions relating to the Conseil de la science et de la technologie and to the different funds established under the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Industrie et du Commerce, the Act respecting the Ministère de la Recherche, de la Science et de la Technologie and the Act respecting the Ministère des Régions, which are incorporated into the Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional.

As well, the bill contains transitional provisions and provisions for concordance.

LEGISLATION AMENDED BY THIS BILL:

- Act respecting assistance for the development of cooperatives and non-profit legal persons (R.S.Q., chapter A-12.1);
- Act respecting assistance for tourist development (R.S.Q., chapter A-13.1);
- Act respecting land use planning and development (R.S.Q., chapter A-19.1);
- Health Insurance Act (R.S.Q., chapter A-29);
- Act to promote the capitalization of small and medium-sized businesses (R.S.Q., chapter A-33.01);
- Savings and Credit Unions Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-4);
- Act respecting the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec (R.S.Q., chapter C-8.1);
- Charter of Ville de Longueuil (R.S.Q., chapter C-11.3);

- Charter of Ville de Montréal (R.S.Q., chapter C-11.4);
- Cities and Towns Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-19);
- Fish and Game Clubs Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-22);
- Amusement Clubs Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-23);
- Municipal Code of Québec (R.S.Q., chapter C-27.1);
- General and Vocational Colleges Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-29);
- Companies Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-38);
- Cemetery Companies Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-40);
- Act respecting Roman Catholic cemetery companies (R.S.Q., chapter C-40.1);
- Gas, Water and Electricity Companies Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-44);
- Telegraph and Telephone Companies Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-45);
- Mining Companies Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-47);
- Act respecting artistic, literary and scientific competitions (R.S.Q., chapter C-51);
- Natural Heritage Conservation Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-61.01);
- Act respecting the constitution of certain Churches (R.S.Q., chapter C-63);
- Cooperatives Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-67.2);
- Religious Corporations Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-71);
- Real Estate Brokerage Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-73.1);
- Act respecting duties on transfers of immovables (R.S.Q., chapter D-15.1);
- Act respecting the establishment of a steel complex by Sidbec (R.S.Q., chapter E-14);
- Roman Catholic Bishops Act (R.S.Q., chapter E-17);

- Executive Power Act (R.S.Q., chapter E-18);
- Act to secure the handicapped in the exercise of their rights (R.S.Q., chapter E-20.1);
- Act respecting fabriques (R.S.Q., chapter F-1);
- Act respecting hours and days of admission to commercial establishments (R.S.Q., chapter H-2.1);
- Taxation Act (R.S.Q., chapter I-3);
- Act respecting the Inspector General of Financial Institutions (R.S.Q., chapter I-11.1);
- Winding-up Act (R.S.Q., chapter L-4);
- Act respecting lotteries, publicity contests and amusement machines (R.S.Q., chapter L-6);
- Act respecting stuffing and upholstered and stuffed articles (R.S.Q., chapter M-5);
- Act respecting the Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale and establishing the Commission des partenaires du marché du travail (R.S.Q., chapter M-15.001);
- Act respecting the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (R.S.Q., chapter M-19.2);
- Act respecting the Ministère de la Sécurité publique (R.S.Q., chapter M-19.3);
- Government Departments Act (R.S.Q., chapter M-34);
- Act respecting the implementation of international trade agreements (R.S.Q., chapter M-35.2);
- Act respecting the special powers of legal persons (R.S.Q., chapter P-16);
- Act respecting the preservation of agricultural land and agricultural activities (R.S.Q., chapter P-41.1);
- Act respecting the legal publicity of sole proprietorships, partnerships and legal persons (R.S.Q., chapter P-45);

- Act respecting health services and social services (R.S.Q., chapter S-4.2);
- Act respecting the Société des alcools du Québec (R.S.Q., chapter S-13);
- Act respecting the Société du parc industriel et portuaire de Bécancour (R.S.Q., chapter S-16.001);
- Act respecting the Société du parc industriel et portuaire Québec-Sud (R.S.Q., chapter S-16.01);
- Act respecting the Société générale de financement du Québec (R.S.Q., chapter S-17);
- Act respecting Société Innovatech du Grand Montréal (R.S.Q., chapter S-17.2.0.1);
- Act respecting Société Innovatech du sud du Québec (R.S.Q., chapter S-17.2.2);
- Act respecting Société Innovatech Québec et Chaudière-Appalaches (R.S.Q., chapter S-17.4);
- Act respecting Société Innovatech Régions ressources (R.S.Q., chapter S-17.5);
- National Benefit Societies Act (R.S.Q., chapter S-31);
- Act respecting societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals (R.S.Q., chapter S-32);
- Professional Syndicates Act (R.S.Q., chapter S-40).

LEGISLATION REPLACED BY THIS BILL:

- Act respecting the Ministère de l’Industrie et du Commerce (R.S.Q., chapter M-17);
- Act respecting the Ministère de la Recherche, de la Science et de la Technologie (R.S.Q., chapter M-19.1.2);
- Act respecting the Ministère des Régions (R.S.Q., chapter M-25.001).

LEGISLATION REPEALED BY THIS BILL:

- Act respecting the Société du tourisme du Québec (1994, chapter 27);
- Act respecting the Ministère des Finances, de l'Économie et de la Recherche (2002, chapter 72).

Bill 34

AN ACT RESPECTING THE MINISTÈRE DU DÉVELOPPEMENT ÉCONOMIQUE ET RÉGIONAL

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

CHAPTER I

MINISTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The Ministère du Développement économique et régional shall be under the direction of the Minister of Economic and Regional Development, appointed under the Executive Power Act (R.S.Q., chapter E-18).

2. The mission of the Minister shall be to support economic and regional development, particularly by encouraging coordinated and concerted action among the various players in the economic, scientific, social and cultural arenas in order to promote job creation, economic prosperity, scientific development and sustainable development, and enable local and regional communities to take responsibility for their own economic and regional development in partnership with the State.

3. The Minister shall formulate policies in the areas under the Minister's authority and propose them to the Government with a view to fostering the development of industry, particularly tourism, trade and cooperatives, promoting research, science, technology and innovation, and encouraging local and regional development.

The Minister shall implement these policies and oversee and coordinate their application in collaboration with any government departments and bodies concerned.

4. The Minister shall also be responsible for the administration of the Acts assigned to the Minister, and shall assume any other responsibility conferred on the Minister by the Government.

5. The functions and powers of the Minister shall be, more particularly, to

(1) frame and implement development strategies and assistance programs in collaboration with any government departments and bodies concerned;

(2) provide a main gateway, on-line or otherwise, to such business start-up and development services as the Minister deems necessary and provide ready access to the forms and procedures needed to complete registration, modification, declaration and other formalities;

(3) seek new investments, expand existing markets and ensure that activities resulting from these investment prospecting and market expansion efforts are realized within the scope of the policy on Canadian intergovernmental affairs and the policy on international affairs;

(4) promote Québec as a tourism destination and further the development and promotion of Québec's tourism products;

(5) ensure the coherence of government action in the fields of research, science, technology and innovation, and promote Québec's influence in those fields both within Canada and abroad;

(6) increase the effectiveness of initiatives aimed at stimulating local and regional development by promoting the harmonization, simplification and accessibility of entrepreneurial support services;

(7) ensure that government action to support local and regional development is coherent and concordant by taking part in the development of related measures and ministerial decisions and giving an opinion whenever appropriate;

(8) be responsible, in conjunction with recognized local and regional authorities, for the funds made available to such authorities and administer the other sums entrusted to the Minister for the carrying out of local or regional development projects;

(9) make agreements with government departments and bodies on cooperative arrangements to facilitate the exercise of the Minister's responsibilities; and

(10) advise the Government and government departments and bodies and make recommendations, where warranted.

6. In the exercise of ministerial responsibilities, the Minister may

(1) obtain the necessary information from government departments and bodies;

(2) enter into agreements with a person, association, partnership or body;

(3) facilitate the development and signing of agreements, particularly between bodies and government departments and bodies;

(4) enter into agreements in accordance with the applicable legislative provisions with a government other than that of Québec, a department of such

a government, an international organization, or a body under the authority of such a government or organization; and

(5) conduct or commission research, studies and analyses and make the findings public.

7. The Minister may take all appropriate measures in the pursuit of the Minister's mission. In particular, the Minister shall provide financial and technical support for the realization of actions or projects, subject to the conditions determined by the Minister under government guidelines and policies and, in certain cases, with the authorization of the Government.

8. The Minister may make regulations to

(1) prescribe the fees payable for any act performed or document issued by the Minister; and

(2) prescribe the fees, costs or other compensation payable for the services provided by the Minister.

9. The Minister shall lay before the National Assembly an activity report for each fiscal year of the Government within six months of the end of the fiscal year or, if the Assembly is not sitting, within 30 days of resumption. The report shall reflect the contents of the activity reports sent to the Minister by the regional conferences of elected officers pursuant to section 103.

CHAPTER II

DEPARTMENTAL ORGANIZATION

(Insert sections 10 to 18 consisting, as provided in section 128, of sections 7 to 15 of the Act respecting the Ministère de la Recherche, de la Science et de la Technologie (R.S.Q., chapter M-19.1.2).)

CHAPTER III

TOURISM PARTNERSHIP FUND

(Insert sections 19 to 30 consisting, as provided in section 127, of sections 17.1 to 17.12 of the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Industrie et du Commerce (R.S.Q., chapter M-17).)

CHAPTER IV

THE CONSEIL DE LA SCIENCE ET DE LA TECHNOLOGIE

(Insert sections 31 to 45 consisting, as provided in section 129, of sections 15.1 to 15.15 of the Act respecting the Ministère de la Recherche, de la Science et de la Technologie (R.S.Q., chapter M-19.1.2).)

CHAPTER V

RESEARCH SUPPORT FUNDS

(Insert sections 46 to 88 consisting, as provided in section 130, of sections 15.16 to 15.56 of the Act respecting the Ministère de la Recherche, de la Science et de la Technologie (R.S.Q., chapter M-19.1.2).)

CHAPTER VI

LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES

DIVISION I

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRES

89. The Minister shall enter into an agreement with the regional county municipality concerning its role and responsibilities in local development and the conditions under which they are to be exercised.

This agreement must take into account the obligations of the regional county municipality under sections 90 and 91.

The regional county municipality shall administer the funds entrusted to it under this agreement and holds all the necessary powers to carry out the agreement.

90. A regional county municipality shall constitute a body known as a “local development centre” to be responsible for promoting local development and developing entrepreneurial support within its territory. It may also designate an existing body as a local development centre.

The body must be a non-profit body constituted under Part III of the Companies Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-38).

A local development centre may also be designated by the initialism “LDC”. No person or body may use a name that includes the words “local development centre” or the initialism “LDC” unless designated as such under this Act.

91. The regional county municipality shall assign the local development centre the following mandates:

(1) to offer a full range of front-line services to businesses, possibly in partnership with persons or bodies including those from the private sector, by grouping or coordinating these services and providing funding for them;

(2) taking into account the five-year development plan established by the regional conference of elected officers for its territory, to develop a local plan of action to stimulate the economy and create employment, obtain the regional county municipality’s approval concerning the plan and see to its implementation;

(3) to formulate a strategy, consistent with provincial and regional orientations, strategies and objectives, for the development of entrepreneurship, including social economy entrepreneurship; and

(4) to act as an advisory committee for the benefit of the local employment centre serving its territory.

The regional county municipality may also assign the local development centre a mandate stemming from a power assigned to it by law or under an agreement with the Government or one of its Ministers or bodies.

The local development centre shall carry out these mandates in compliance with the agreement made under section 89 and in keeping with the expectations expressed by the regional county municipality.

92. Local development centres shall be distributed as follows:

(1) the territory of a regional county municipality may be served by one local centre only; and

(2) the territories of two or more regional county municipalities may be served by the same local centre.

The territory of Ville de Montréal may be served by more than one local development centre, in which case the city shall identify their respective territories.

93. The regional county municipality shall appoint the members of the board of directors of a local development centre it constitutes. In the case of an existing body, the body must make any changes required to the composition of its board of directors and voting rights to bring them into conformity with this section.

The board of directors of a local development centre must include elected municipal officers. It may also include, among other persons, representatives of the business community, associations and community groups, as well as the Member of the National Assembly for any electoral division in the territory served by the local development centre, as a non-voting member. The board of directors shall also include the following persons as non-voting members:

(1) the head of the local development centre; and

(2) the director of the local employment centre.

Each voting member has one vote only.

94. A local development centre must file an annual activity report with the regional county municipality on the date and in the manner determined by the regional county municipality, together with its financial statements for the preceding fiscal year.

The report shall contain any other information required by the regional county municipality. The financial statements shall be filed together with the auditor's report.

95. For the purposes of this division, a local municipality whose territory is not comprised in that of a regional county municipality is considered a regional county municipality.

DIVISION II

REGIONAL CONFERENCES OF ELECTED OFFICERS

96. A regional conference of elected officers is hereby established for each administrative region of Québec.

A regional conference of elected officers is a legal person.

In the territories of the metropolitan communities of Montréal and Québec, the Government may establish other regional conferences of elected officers within an administrative region, identify their respective territories and, subject to the power granted to regional conferences of elected officers under section 100, determine the composition of their boards of directors. The territory of such other regional conferences is no longer comprised in that of the regional conference established for the administrative region.

97. A regional conference of elected officers is the primary interlocutor of the Government for the territory it represents as regards regional development.

The Minister shall enter into an agreement with the regional conference of elected officers determining the conditions that the regional conference undertakes to fulfill and the role and responsibilities of each of the parties.

98. The mandate of a regional conference of elected officers consists primarily in evaluating local and regional planning and development bodies funded in whole or in part by the Government, promoting concerted action among partners in the region and, where warranted, giving advice to the Minister on regional development matters.

The regional conference of elected officers shall establish a five-year development plan identifying general and specific development objectives for the region.

The regional conference of elected officers may enter into specific agreements with government departments or bodies and, where warranted, other partners, to exercise the powers and responsibilities stemming from the agreement referred to in section 97.

The regional conference of elected officers shall carry out any other mandate received from the Minister.

99. The board of directors of a regional conference of elected officers shall be composed of the following members from its territory:

- (1) the wardens of the regional county municipalities;
- (2) the mayors of local municipalities with a population of 100,000 or more;
- (3) the mayors of core cities within the meaning of paragraph 9.1 of section 1 of the Act respecting land use planning and development (R.S.Q., chapter A-19.1);
- (4) the mayors of the local municipalities listed in the schedule to this Act; and
- (5) the borough chairs of the cities of Montréal and Québec.

If the warden of a regional county municipality is also the mayor of a local municipality referred to in the first paragraph, the council of the regional county municipality shall appoint one additional member to the board of directors of the regional conference from among its members. The same applies if the territory of a regional county municipality does not include a local municipality referred to in the first paragraph.

The board of directors of the regional conference of elected officers for the Laval administrative region shall be composed of all the members of the municipal council of Ville de Laval.

The Government may, by order, amend the schedule to this Act.

100. A regional conference of elected officers may appoint additional members to its board of directors whose number may not exceed one third of the number of members who are elected municipal officers. The conference shall choose these additional members after consulting the bodies it considers representative of the various sectors of the community it serves, including those in the education, cultural, economic and scientific sectors. The regional conference shall determine the term of office of additional members and decide whether they are entitled to vote.

The Member of the National Assembly for an electoral division over whose territory a regional conference of elected officers has authority is entitled to take part in the proceedings of the board of directors of the regional conference but is not entitled to vote.

101. The meetings of the board of directors of a regional conference of elected officers are public.

102. A regional conference of elected officers shall administer the funds entrusted to it by the Government under an agreement for the carrying out of

any regional development project under the authority of the Minister who has signed the agreement.

103. A regional conference of elected officers must file an annual activity report with the Minister on the date and in the manner determined by the Minister, together with its financial statements for the preceding fiscal year.

The report shall contain any other information required by the Minister. The financial statements shall be filed together with the auditor's report.

104. The Minister shall lay the activity report of a regional conference of elected officers before the National Assembly within 30 days of its receipt or, if the Assembly is not sitting, within 30 days of resumption.

105. The Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal and the Communauté métropolitaine de Québec shall establish, with the regional conferences of elected officers for their respective territories, a mechanism to harmonize the exercise of their powers and responsibilities.

106. The harmonization mechanism referred to in section 105 shall be approved jointly by the Minister of Economic and Regional Development and the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Sports and Recreation.

DIVISION III

TABLE QUÉBEC-RÉGIONS

107. A consultative committee known as the "Table Québec-régions" is hereby established.

The consultative committee shall advise the Minister on any matter within its purview which is submitted to it by the Minister.

108. The composition of the consultative committee shall be determined jointly by the Minister of Economic and Regional Development and the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Sports and Recreation.

CHAPTER VII

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

(Insert sections 109 to 120 consisting, as provided in section 131, of sections 24 to 35 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Régions (R.S.Q., chapter M-25.001).)

CHAPTER VIII

AGREEMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CERTAIN POLICIES

(Insert sections 121 to 126 consisting, as provided in section 132, of sections 35.1 to 35.6 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Régions (R.S.Q., chapter M-25.001).)

CHAPTER IX

AMENDING PROVISIONS

DIVISION I

INTEGRATION OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF OTHER ACTS INTO THIS ACT

127. Division II.2 of the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Industrie et du Commerce (R.S.Q., chapter M-17), comprising sections 17.1 to 17.12, becomes, under the same heading, Chapter III of this Act, comprising sections 19 to 30, subject to the following amendments:

(1) the reference to section 17.5 and the first paragraph of section 17.6 in paragraph 4 of section 17.3 becomes a reference to section 23 and the first paragraph of section 24;

(2) the reference to paragraph 5 of section 17.3 in the first paragraph of section 17.7 becomes a reference to paragraph 5 of section 21.

128. Chapter II of the Act respecting the Ministère de la Recherche, de la Science et de la Technologie (R.S.Q., chapter M-19.1.2), comprising sections 7 to 15, becomes, under the same heading, Chapter II of this Act, comprising sections 10 to 18, subject to “de la Recherche, de la Science et de la Technologie” in section 7 being replaced by “du Développement économique et régional”.

129. Chapter II.1 of the said Act and Divisions I, II and III of that Chapter, comprising sections 15.1 to 15.15, become, under the same headings, Chapter IV of this Act and Divisions I, II and III of that Chapter, comprising sections 31 to 45, subject to the reference to section 15.3 in the first paragraph of section 15.5 becoming a reference to section 33.

130. Chapter II.2 of the said Act, Divisions I, II, III, IV and V of that Chapter and Chapter II.3 of that Act, comprising sections 15.16 to 15.56, become, under the same headings, Chapter V of this Act and Divisions I, II, III, IV, V and VI of that Chapter, comprising sections 46 to 88, subject to the following amendments:

(1) the reference to section 15.20 in the first paragraph of section 15.24 becomes a reference to section 50;

(2) the reference to section 15.27 in the second paragraph of section 15.30 becomes a reference to section 57;

(3) the reference to section 15.43 in section 15.44 becomes a reference to section 75;

(4) the reference to section 15.33 in the second paragraph of section 15.46 becomes a reference to section 64;

(5) “by this Act” is replaced in section 15.49 by “by this Chapter”;

(6) the reference to section 15.49 in section 15.50 becomes a reference to section 81;

(7) the reference to section 15.49 or 15.50 in section 15.51 becomes a reference to section 81 or 82 and “under this Act” is replaced by “under this Chapter”;

(8) the reference to section 15.16 in section 15.53 becomes a reference to section 46.

131. Chapter III of the Act respecting the Ministère des Régions (R.S.Q., chapter M-25.001), comprising sections 24 to 35, becomes, under the same heading, Chapter VII of this Act, comprising sections 109 to 120, subject to the following amendments:

(1) “des Régions” in section 29 is replaced by “du Développement économique et régional”;

(2) “not later than 1 April 2003” in section 35 is replaced by “not later than (*insert the date occurring five years after the date of coming into force of this section*)”.

132. Chapter III.1 of the said Act, comprising sections 35.1 to 35.6, becomes, under the same heading, Chapter VIII of this Act, comprising sections 121 to 126, subject to the reference to section 35.1 in sections 35.2 to 35.6 becoming a reference to section 121.

DIVISION II

OTHER AMENDMENTS

§1. — General amendments

133. The words “of Industry and Trade” are replaced by the words “of Economic and Regional Development” and the words “de l’Industrie et du Commerce” are replaced by the words “du Développement économique et régional” in the following provisions:

- (1) section 25 of the Act respecting assistance for the development of cooperatives and non-profit legal persons (R.S.Q., chapter A-12.1);
- (2) sections 11, 37 and 39 of the Act respecting assistance for tourist development (R.S.Q., chapter A-13.1);
- (3) section 21 of the Act to promote the capitalization of small and medium-sized businesses (R.S.Q., chapter A-33.01);
- (4) section 50 of the Savings and Credit Unions Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-4);
- (5) section 46 of Schedule C to the Charter of Ville de Longueuil (R.S.Q., chapter C-11.3);
- (6) section 239 of Schedule C to the Charter of Ville de Montréal (R.S.Q., chapter C-11.4);
- (7) section 8 of the Fish and Game Clubs Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-22), enacted by section 264 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;
- (8) section 12 of the Amusement Clubs Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-23), enacted by section 266 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;
- (9) section 1 of the Companies Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-38), amended by section 275 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;
- (10) section 15 of the Cemetery Companies Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-40), enacted by section 280 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;
- (11) section 53 of the Act respecting Roman Catholic cemetery corporations (R.S.Q., chapter C-40.1), enacted by section 282 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;
- (12) section 99 of the Gas, Water and Electricity Companies Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-44), enacted by section 285 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;
- (13) section 26 of the Telegraph and Telephone Companies Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-45), amended by section 287 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;
- (14) section 24 of the Mining Companies Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-47), amended by section 290 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;
- (15) section 16 of the Act respecting the constitution of certain Churches (R.S.Q., chapter C-63), enacted by section 294 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;
- (16) section 328 of the Cooperatives Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-67.2);
- (17) section 20 of the Religious Corporations Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-71), enacted by section 340 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;

(18) section 190 of the Real Estate Brokerage Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-73.1), replaced by section 347 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;

(19) section 17 of the Act respecting duties on transfers of immovables (R.S.Q., chapter D-15.1);

(20) sections 9.3 and 17.1 of the Act respecting the establishment of a steel complex by Sidbec (R.S.Q., chapter E-14);

(21) section 23 of the Roman Catholic Bishops Act (R.S.Q., chapter E-17), enacted by section 502 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;

(22) section 76 of the Act respecting fabriques (R.S.Q., chapter F-1), enacted by section 509 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;

(23) section 38 of the Act respecting hours and days of admission to commercial establishments (R.S.Q., chapter H-2.1);

(24) sections 725.9, 776.1.5.3, 776.1.5.4, 965.11.7.1, 965.36.1, 1029.8.36.5, 1029.8.36.6, 1029.8.36.7, 1029.8.36.16, 1029.8.36.20, 1029.8.36.21, 1029.8.36.22, 1029.8.36.23, 1029.8.36.54, 1029.8.36.55, 1029.8.36.55.1, 1029.8.36.56, 1029.8.36.72.1, 1029.8.36.72.14, 1130, 1137 and 1137.1 of the Taxation Act (R.S.Q., chapter I-3);

(25) section 275 of the Act respecting the Inspector General of Financial Institutions (R.S.Q., chapter I-11.1), amended by section 539 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;

(26) sections 17 and 18 of the Winding-up Act (R.S.Q., chapter L-4) and section 35 of that Act, enacted by section 544 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;

(27) section 20.1.1 of the Act respecting lotteries, publicity contests and amusement machines (R.S.Q., chapter L-6);

(28) sections 21 and 38 of the Act respecting stuffing and upholstered and stuffed articles (R.S.Q., chapter M-5);

(29) section 9 of the Act respecting the Ministère de la Sécurité publique (R.S.Q., chapter M-19.3);

(30) section 7 of the Act respecting the implementation of international trade agreements (R.S.Q., chapter M-35.2);

(31) section 54 of the Act respecting the special powers of legal persons (R.S.Q., chapter P-16), amended by section 548 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;

(32) section 539 of the Act respecting the legal publicity of sole proprietorships, partnerships and legal persons (R.S.Q., chapter P-45), replaced by section 552 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;

(33) sections 20.2, 30, 34.1, 37, 59 and 61 of the Act respecting the Société des alcools du Québec (R.S.Q., chapter S-13);

(34) section 63 of the Act respecting the Société du parc industriel et portuaire de Bécancour (R.S.Q., chapter S-16.001);

(35) sections 1 and 20 of the Act respecting the Société du parc industriel et portuaire Québec-Sud (R.S.Q., chapter S-16.01);

(36) sections 15, 15.1 and 17 of the Act respecting the Société générale de financement du Québec (R.S.Q., chapter S-17);

(37) section 8 of the National Benefit Societies Act (R.S.Q., chapter S-31), enacted by section 614 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;

(38) section 5 of the Act respecting societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals (R.S.Q., chapter S-32), enacted by section 616 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002;

(39) section 31 of the Professional Syndicates Act (R.S.Q., chapter S-40), enacted by section 620 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 2002.

134. The words “of Research, Science and Technology” are replaced by the words “of Economic and Regional Development” and the words “de la Recherche, de la Science et de la Technologie” are replaced by the words “du Développement économique et régional” in the following provisions:

(1) section 42 of the Act respecting the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec (R.S.Q., chapter C-8.1);

(2) section 17.2 of the General and Vocational Colleges Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-29);

(3) section 1 of the Act respecting artistic, literary and scientific competitions (R.S.Q., chapter C-51);

(4) sections 227, 737.19, 737.22.0.0.5, 1029.8.1, 1029.8.10, 1029.8.11 and 1029.8.16 of the Taxation Act (R.S.Q., chapter I-3);

(5) sections 89, 90 and 91 of the Act respecting health services and social services (R.S.Q., chapter S-4.2).

135. The words “of Regions” in section 27 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-61.01) are replaced by the words “of Economic and Regional Development”.

136. The words “Act respecting the Ministère de l’Industrie et du Commerce (chapter M-17)” are replaced by the words “Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act*)” in sections 965.35, 1049.12, 1049.13 and 1049.14 of the Taxation Act (R.S.Q., chapter I-3).

137. The words “Act respecting the Ministère de la Recherche, de la Science et de la Technologie (chapter M-19.1.2)” are replaced by the words “Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act*)” in the following provisions:

- (1) section 96 of the Health Insurance Act (R.S.Q., chapter A-29);
- (2) section 11.1 of the Act respecting the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (R.S.Q., chapter M-19.2);
- (3) section 88 of the Act respecting health services and social services (R.S.Q., chapter S-4.2).

§2. — *Specific amendments*

ACT RESPECTING LAND USE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

138. Section 79.20 of the Act respecting land use planning and development (R.S.Q., chapter A-19.1) is amended by replacing subparagraphs 2, 3 and 4 of the second paragraph by the following subparagraphs:

“(2) the local action plan developed under section 91 of the Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act*) by the local development centre serving the territory of the regional county municipality;

“(3) the five-year development plan established under section 98 of the Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional by the regional conference of elected officers for the administrative region in which the territory of the regional county municipality is situated;

“(4) any agreement entered into under section 97 of the Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional by the regional conference of elected officers referred to in paragraph 3;”.

CHARTER OF VILLE DE LONGUEUIL

139. Section 60.2 of the Charter of Ville de Longueuil (R.S.Q., chapter C-11.3) is amended by replacing “12 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Régions (chapter M-25.001)” at the end of the first paragraph by “89 of the Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act*)”.

CITIES AND TOWNS ACT

140. Section 466.2 of the Cities and Towns Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-19) is amended by replacing “accredited under the Act respecting the Ministère des Régions (chapter M-25.001)” in the fourth and fifth lines by “referred to in section 90 of the Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act*)”.

MUNICIPAL CODE OF QUÉBEC

141. Article 627.2 of the Municipal Code of Québec (R.S.Q., chapter C-27.1) is amended by replacing “accredited under the Act respecting the Ministère des Régions (chapter M-25.001)” in the fourth and fifth lines by “referred to in section 90 of the Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act*)”.

142. Article 688.10 of the said Code is amended by replacing “accredited under the Act respecting the Ministère des Régions (chapter M-25.001)” in the third and fourth lines by “referred to in section 90 of the Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act*)”.

EXECUTIVE POWER ACT

143. Section 4 of the Executive Power Act (R.S.Q., chapter E-18) is amended

(1) by replacing subparagraph 16 of the first paragraph by the following subparagraph:

“(16) A Minister of Economic and Regional Development;”;

(2) by striking out subparagraphs 34 and 35 of the first paragraph.

ACT TO SECURE THE HANDICAPPED IN THE EXERCISE OF THEIR RIGHTS

144. Section 7 of the Act to secure the handicapped in the exercise of their rights (R.S.Q., chapter E-20.1) is amended by replacing “of Industry and Trade, the Deputy Minister of Research, Science and Technology” in the second and third lines by “of Economic and Regional Development”.

TAXATION ACT

145. Section 1029.8.21.17 of the Taxation Act (R.S.Q., chapter I-3) is amended by replacing “of Industry and Trade and the Minister of Research, Science and Technology” in the third paragraph by “of Economic and Regional Development”.

ACT RESPECTING THE MINISTÈRE DE L'EMPLOI ET DE LA
SOLIDARITÉ SOCIALE AND ESTABLISHING THE COMMISSION DES
PARTENAIRES DU MARCHÉ DU TRAVAIL

146. Section 21 of the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale and establishing the Commission des partenaires du marché du travail (R.S.Q., chapter M-15.001) is amended

- (1) by striking out subparagraph 1 of the third paragraph;
- (2) by replacing subparagraph 3 of the third paragraph by the following subparagraph:

“(3) the Deputy Minister of Economic and Regional Development or an Associate or Assistant Deputy Minister of Economic and Regional Development designated by the Deputy Minister;”.

147. Section 38 of the said Act is amended

- (1) by replacing “the regional development council” in the second and third lines of paragraph 6 by “the regional conference of elected officers referred to in section 96 of the Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act*)”;
- (2) by replacing “the regional development council” in the first line of paragraph 7 by “the regional conference of elected officers referred to in section 96 of the Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional”.

148. Section 40 of the said Act is amended

- (1) by striking out subparagraph 1 of the third paragraph;
- (2) by replacing subparagraph 3 of the third paragraph by the following subparagraph:

“(3) the regional director of the Ministère du Développement économique et régional or a regional representative from that department designated by the Deputy Minister of the Ministère du Développement économique et régional.”

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ACT

149. Section 1 of the Government Departments Act (R.S.Q., chapter M-34) is amended

- (1) by replacing paragraph 15 by the following paragraph:

“(15) The Ministère du Développement économique et régional, presided over by the Minister of Economic and Regional Development;”;

(2) by striking out paragraphs 34 and 35.

ACT RESPECTING THE PRESERVATION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND AND AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

150. Section 47 of the Act respecting the preservation of agricultural land and agricultural activities (R.S.Q., chapter P-41.1) is amended by replacing “to the regional development council” at the end of the first paragraph by “to the regional conference of elected officers referred to in section 96 of the Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act*)”.

ACT RESPECTING HEALTH SERVICES AND SOCIAL SERVICES

151. Section 343.1 of the Act respecting health services and social services (R.S.Q., chapter S-4.2) is amended by replacing “the regional development council” in the second line of the third paragraph by “the regional conference of elected officers referred to in section 96 of the Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act*)”.

ACT RESPECTING SOCIÉTÉ INNOVATECH DU GRAND MONTRÉAL

152. Section 5 of the Act respecting Société Innovatech du Grand Montréal (R.S.Q., chapter S-17.2.0.1) is amended by replacing “Three” in the first line by “Two” and by replacing “of Industry and Trade, one by the Minister of Research, Science and Technology and the other” in the second and third lines by “of Economic and Regional Development and one”.

153. Section 33 of the said Act is amended by replacing “of Research, Science and Technology” in the second line by “of Economic and Regional Development”.

ACT RESPECTING SOCIÉTÉ INNOVATECH DU SUD DU QUÉBEC

154. Section 5 of the Act respecting Société Innovatech du sud du Québec (R.S.Q., chapter S-17.2.2) is replaced by the following section:

“**5.** One person shall be delegated to the board of directors by the Minister of Economic and Regional Development from among the personnel members of the Minister’s department.”

155. Section 33 of the said Act is amended by replacing “of the Minister of Industry and Trade, the Minister of Research, Science and Technology” in the first and second lines by “of the Minister of Economic and Regional Development”.

156. Section 45 of the said Act is replaced by the following section:

“45. The Minister of Economic and Regional Development is responsible for the administration of this Act.”

ACT RESPECTING SOCIÉTÉ INNOVATECH QUÉBEC ET CHAUDIÈRE-APPALACHES

157. Section 5 of the Act respecting Société Innovatech Québec et Chaudière-Appalaches (R.S.Q., chapter S-17.4) is replaced by the following section:

“5. One person shall be delegated to the board of directors by the Minister of Economic and Regional Development from among the personnel members of the Minister’s department.”

158. Section 33 of the said Act is amended by replacing “of the Minister of Industry and Trade, the Minister of Research, Science and Technology” in the first and second lines by “of the Minister of Economic and Regional Development”.

159. Section 45 of the said Act is replaced by the following section:

“45. The Minister of Economic and Regional Development is responsible for the administration of this Act.”

ACT RESPECTING SOCIÉTÉ INNOVATECH RÉGIONS RESSOURCES

160. Section 5 of the Act respecting Société Innovatech Régions ressources (R.S.Q., chapter S-17.5) is replaced by the following section:

“5. A person shall be delegated to the board of directors by the Minister of Economic and Regional Development from among the personnel members of the Minister’s department.”

161. Section 33 of the said Act is amended by replacing “of the Minister of Industry and Trade, the Minister of Research, Science and Technology” in the first and second lines by “of the Minister of Economic and Regional Development”.

162. Section 42 of the said Act is replaced by the following section:

“42. The Minister of Economic and Regional Development is responsible for the administration of this Act.”

CHAPTER X

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

163. This Act replaces the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Industrie et du Commerce (R.S.Q., chapter M-17), the Act respecting the Ministère de la Recherche, de la Science et de la Technologie (R.S.Q., chapter M-19.1.2) and the Act respecting the Ministère des Régions (R.S.Q., chapter M-25.001).

164. The Act respecting the Société du tourisme du Québec (1994, chapter 27) and the Act respecting the Ministère des Finances, de l'Économie et de la Recherche (2002, chapter 72) are repealed.

165. In any agreement, regulation, by-law, order in council, ministerial order, agreement, contract or other document, regardless of its nature or form, unless the context indicates otherwise and with the necessary modifications,

(1) a reference to the Minister or Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade is a reference to the Minister or Deputy Minister of Economic and Regional Development and a reference to the Ministère de l'Industrie et du Commerce is a reference to the Ministère du Développement économique et régional;

(2) a reference to the Minister or Deputy Minister of Research, Science and Technology is a reference to the Minister or Deputy Minister of Economic and Regional Development and a reference to the Ministère de la Recherche, de la Science et de la Technologie is a reference to the Ministère du Développement économique et régional;

(3) a reference to the Minister or Deputy Minister of Regions is a reference to the Minister or Deputy Minister of Economic and Regional Development and a reference to the Ministère des Régions is a reference to the Ministère du Développement économique et régional;

(4) a reference to the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Industrie et du Commerce or to any of its provisions is a reference to the Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional or to the corresponding provision of that Act;

(5) a reference to the Act respecting the Ministère de la Recherche, de la Science et de la Technologie or to any of its provisions is a reference to the Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional or to the corresponding provision of that Act;

(6) a reference to the Act respecting the Ministère des Régions or to any of its provisions is a reference to the Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional or to the corresponding provision of that Act.

166. A body referred to in Schedule A to the Act respecting the Ministère des Régions (R.S.Q., chapter M-25.001), as it read on (*insert the date preceding*

the date of coming into force of section 90) and a body which, on that date, was accredited in accordance with section 8 of the said Act, are deemed to be designated as local development centres under section 90 until the regional county municipality establishes or designates a new one.

Within the six months following (*insert the date of coming into force of this section*), such deemed designated local development centres shall make any changes required to the composition of their board of directors and voting rights to bring them into conformity with section 93.

167. Agreements entered into under section 12 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Régions shall remain effective until they expire or until an agreement is signed in accordance with section 89, whichever occurs first.

However, the provisions of those agreements that relate to the discontinuance of the activities of a local development centre or to the non-renewal of the agreement shall continue to apply, with the necessary modifications, after that occurrence.

168. The rights and obligations of a local development centre existing on (*insert the date preceding the date of coming into force of this section*) under an agreement entered into under section 12 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Régions, except rights and obligations relating to operating expenses, shall be transferred, where applicable, from that local development centre to the new local development centre established or designated by the regional county municipality as of the date of its establishment or designation and to the extent specified in the agreement entered into under section 90.

169. The accreditation granted by the Minister under section 16 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Régions shall cease, for each administrative region, when an agreement is entered into in accordance with section 97.

170. Agreements entered into under section 19 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Régions shall remain effective until they expire or until an agreement is signed in accordance with section 97, whichever occurs first.

However, the provisions of those agreements that relate to the discontinuance of the activities of a regional development council or to the non-renewal of the agreement shall continue to apply, with the necessary modifications, after that occurrence.

171. The rights and obligations of a regional development council under an agreement entered into under section 16 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Régions, except rights and obligations relating to operating expenses, shall be transferred to the regional conference of elected officers, to the extent and as of the date specified in the agreement entered into under section 97.

172. The provisions of this Act come into force on the date or dates to be fixed by the Government.

SCHEDULE

(section 99)

Ville d'Acton Vale
Ville d'Amqui
Ville d'Asbestos
Ville de Baie-Saint-Paul
Ville de Beauceville
Ville de Berthierville
Ville de Brownsburg-Chatham
Ville de Cabano
Ville de Carleton-Saint-Omer
Ville de Chandler
Ville de Chibougamau
Ville de Coaticook
Ville de Disraeli
Ville de Donnacona
Ville d'East Angus
Ville de Farnham
Ville de Forestville
Ville de Huntingdon
Municipalité des Îles-de-la-Madeleine
Ville de La Malbaie
Ville de La Pocatière
Ville de La Sarre
Ville du Lac-Brome
Ville de Lac-Mégantic
Municipalité de Louiseville
Ville de Malartic
Ville de Maniwaki
Ville de Marieville
Ville de Mirabel
Ville de Mont-Joli
Ville de Mont-Laurier
Ville de Montmagny
Ville de Mont-Tremblant
Village de Napierville
Ville de New Richmond
Ville de Nicolet
Ville de Plessisville
Ville de Princeville
Municipalité de Rawdon
Ville de Richmond
Ville de Rivière-Rouge
Ville de Roberval
Ville de Saint-Césaire
Ville de Sainte-Adèle
Ville de Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts
Ville de Sainte-Anne-des-Plaines
Ville de Sainte-Marie

Ville de Saint-Félicien
Paroisse de Saint-Gabriel-de-Brandon
Ville de Saint-Joseph-de-Beauce
Ville de Saint-Raymond
Ville de Saint-Sauveur
Ville de Saint-Tite
Ville de Senneterre
Ville de Témiscaming
Ville de Trois-Pistoles
Ville de Valcourt
Ville de Ville-Marie
Ville de Warwick
Ville de Waterloo
Ville de Windsor