

Investing in Youth  
Empowering  
**Québec's  
Future**

Youth Action Strategy  
**2009-2014**



I'M DISCOVERING THE WORLD!

MAKING OUR WAY,  
AN ENRICHING AND  
STIMULATING EXPERIENCE!



*i'm flourishing!*

The IDEO project is great—it helps us build self-esteem and learn new things. Despite the challenges, I reached my objective: finish secondary school and start my vocational school diploma in industrial mechanics.

- Mathieu, Participant in IDEO 16-17 at the Carrefour Jeunesse-Emploi, Richmond

# Transitions to independence

Education is a source of freedom—the freedom to make choices and carve a path through life based on one's dreams and aspirations. All young people must be able to benefit from guidance adapted to their realities and intended to help them be successful throughout their studies. They must also be able to flourish in a stimulating environment that promotes effort and the pursuit of knowledge.

In order to foster the success of young people, the government will continue the fight against dropping out, which is one of its priorities. We must mobilize regional and national actors to provide a response that meets the particular needs of each region.

## The strategic choices of the Education and Employment Challenge

- Fight against dropping out
- Facilitate career choices
- Promote the transition to working life and employee retention
- Promote the reconciliation of family life, work and school
- Prepare young people for the new global context



## Health Challenge

# For our collective well-being



The École en santé project shows us a different way of life. It helps us take charge of our health, and I like that.

- Laurie, student at  
École secondaire de l'Aubier,  
Lévis -

By improving young Quebeckers' overall physical, psychological and social health, we are giving them the opportunity to develop their full potential. Consequently, our young people will be better ambassadors for the Québec of tomorrow.

Making young people aware of the importance of healthy lifestyles and the prevention of risk behaviour will promote the integration of young people into the workforce. This initiative has a particular focus on young people facing difficulties.

The strategic choices  
of the Health Challenge

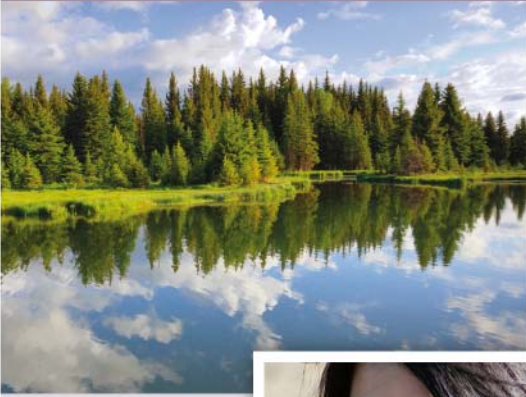
- Promote the acquisition of healthy lifestyles
- Prevent and respond to risk behaviour

*i'm taking charge!*

## Regional Challenge

*i'm finding my place!*

# Young people driving development



In the spirit of the quote by young Québec poet Fred Pellerin: "Il faut des enfants pour faire grandir un village" ("It takes children to raise a village"), we must get young people behind the wheel of regional development. It is an essential condition for Québec's economic, social and cultural development. As new sources of knowledge and know-how, young Quebecers, young immigrants and Native youth add significant value to their communities. The challenge before us is to make the regions more attractive to youth and to instill a feeling of belonging in these young people.

*The Place aux jeunes program helped me rediscover my home region. I saw my region's richness, its residents who make a difference, and its job opportunities from a new perspective. My experience during the exploratory stay made me decide to take the big leap and move.*

*- Véronic Beaulé,  
Témiscamingue RCM -*

### The strategic choices of the Regional Challenge

- Promote presence of young people in Québec's regions
- Encourage community involvement
- Support the involvement of young Native people in their community and Québec society

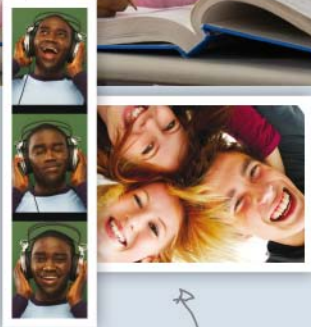
## Diversity Challenge

# For an inclusive society

Diversity is a source of wealth and added-value for Québec. Ignorance and prejudice are obstacles to civic involvement and personal growth for young people who come from cultural communities. The acquisition of the values of tolerance and community is important if young people of every origin are to fully participate in Québec's social, economic, political and cultural life. Our society must thus be inclusive to ensure that all young people can contribute to the prosperity of Québec society.

### The strategic choices of the Diversity Challenge

- Promote respect for diversity
- Encourage the participation of young immigrants



*I'm participating!*

After two exploratory stays with the Place aux Jeunes program in the Dolbeau-Mistassini region, I found a job as an integration officer for Portes Ouvertes sur le Lac, an organization that ensures the welcoming and integration of immigrants in Lac-Saint-Jean. Place aux Jeunes helped me develop a good contact network.

- Raphaël Kinvi Gbadœ,  
native of Togo -



## Environmental Challenge

# Young people working for a greener Québec

*i'm getting  
involved!*

Québec youth have demonstrated increasing interest and involvement in environmental protection. This generation has been environmentally aware from a very young age and they do not want to watch from the sidelines—young people want to make a difference. Increasing know-how in the subject of resource preservation as well as the promotion of jobs related to the sector will help improve the quality of life of future generations.

*“ Young people have surpassed our expectations. They have met the challenge head-on and proven their leadership in environmental issues.*

*- Michel Séguin,  
Co-ordinator, C-Vert project -*

The strategic choice  
of the Environmental Challenge

- **Develop environmental expertise**





## Entrepreneurship Challenge



# For an enterprising Québec

The development of individual and social entrepreneurship is of critical importance to Québec's future. We must ensure the personal growth of citizens, the creation of new jobs and the economic vitality of our society. When the Québec government launched the Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge in 2004, it announced its vision of the future through the framework of a strategy focused entirely on the development of entrepreneurial culture among young people. By promoting values such as creativity, responsibility, solidarity, perseverance, self-confidence and initiative, we are making a solid contribution to individual and societal enrichment.

### The strategic choices of the Entrepreneurship Challenge

- Intensify the development of an entrepreneurial culture
- Foster the success of young entrepreneurs
- Introduce young people to the global realities of entrepreneurship

“ Entrepreneurship is at the core of school life, which is why students enjoy coming to school each morning. Different projects help them develop previously undiscovered skills and values. Believe me—once you get introduced to entrepreneurship, you'll never turn back! ”

- Denise Arsenault,  
Grade 6 teacher,  
École du Parc-Orléans, Québec - ”



We have a vision for the young people of Québec  
and it is a **vision of the future.**

We have a vision for our society,  
and it is a **vision of growth  
and prosperity.**

That is why we dream of  
**empowering  
youth for  
tomorrow's Québec.**

*The future  
belongs to me!*

**The Youth Action Strategy  
unites all government policy  
designed for young people.**

The Youth Action Strategy is a way  
to empower young people with the  
means for personal growth, so that  
they can reach their full potential.

*ENTREPRENEURSHIP,  
AT THE HEART OF OUR SCHOOLS!*



Legal deposit, Bibliothèque et Archives nationale du Québec, 2009  
ISBN 978-2-550-56383-9  
ISBN 978-2-550-56384-6