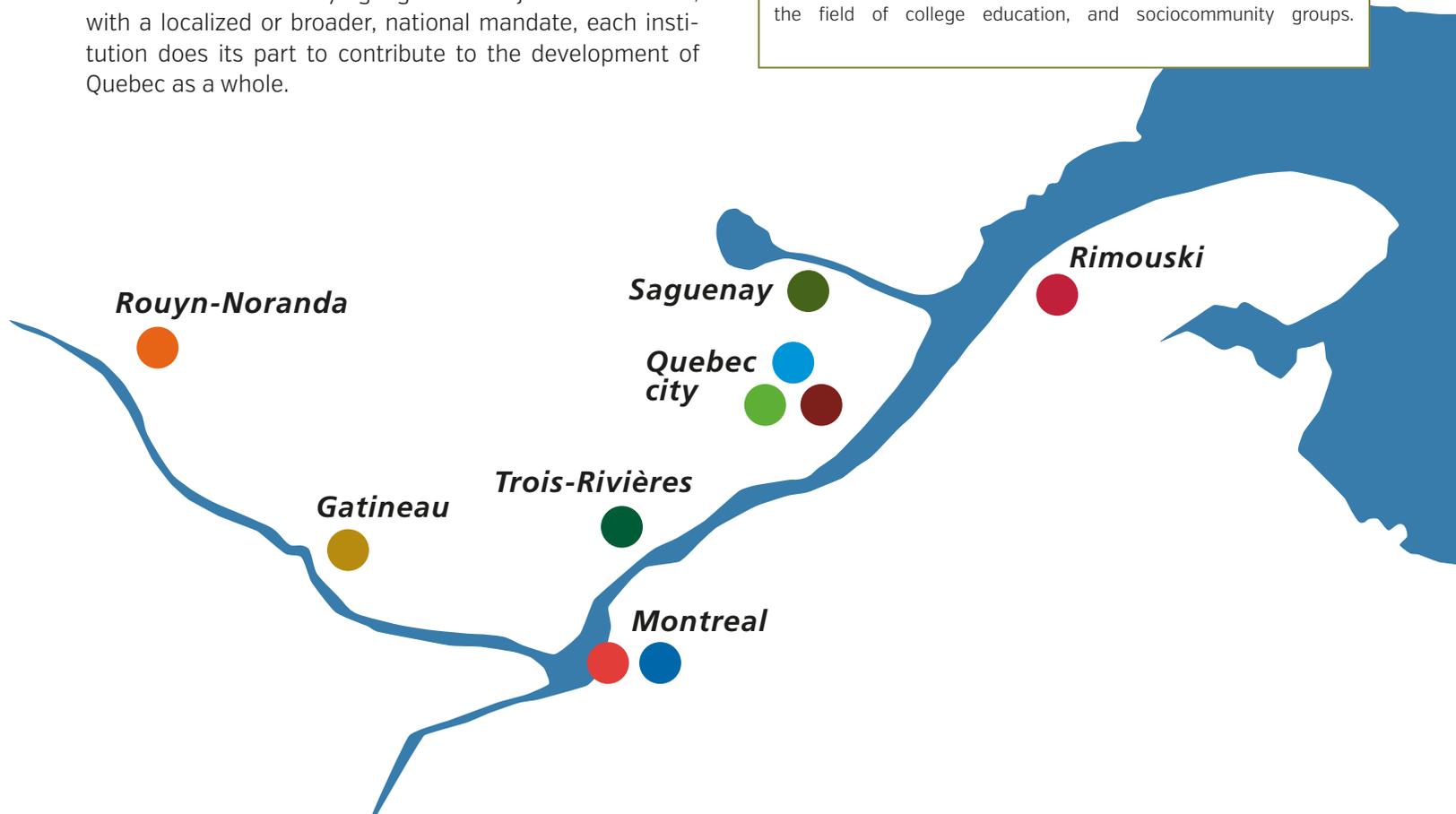


Local and regional development

Institutions with deep community roots

Université du Québec (UQ) member institutions throughout Quebec promote interaction between the scientific, social, community, government, professional, and industrial cohorts that helped nurture them. These institutions play a key role in the development and transfer of knowledge. Whether located in outlying regions or major urban centers, with a localized or broader, national mandate, each institution does its part to contribute to the development of Quebec as a whole.

Member institutions are firmly rooted in their communities, and their organizational makeup reflects this. Each has a board of directors and an academic committee to handle academic issues. The individuals serving on these boards and committees come from all walks of life, including the municipal and industrial sectors, the field of college education, and sociocommunity groups.



ABOUT UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC

The mission of Université du Québec's ten institutions is to promote access to higher education while contributing scientific advancement and regional development across Quebec. Today, some 96,000 students enroll every fall in the over 750 programmes offered by the institutions in the Université du Québec network. The network's 6,900 professors and lecturers and 4,100 permanent employees administer day-to-day teaching and research activities in over 60 municipalities throughout the province.

Université du Québec à Montréal (**UQAM**) / Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières (**UQTR**) / Université du Québec à Chicoutimi (**UQAC**) /
Université du Québec à Rimouski (**UQAR**) / Université du Québec en Outaouais (**UQO**) / Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue (**UQAT**) /
Institut national de la recherche scientifique (**INRS**) / École nationale d'administration publique (**ENAP**) / École de technologie supérieure (**ÉTS**) /
Télé-université (**TÉLUQ**)

The economy

Université du Québec research institutions often rank among their regions' leading employers in terms of their direct (e.g., salaries), indirect (e.g., the purchase of goods and services), and associated impacts (e.g., consumer spending), all of which contribute to local economic vitality.

Communities often turn to member institutions for help devising and implementing local development issues to take advantage of their pool of highly qualified personnel, which includes:

- Over 2,700 professors;
- Nearly 8,800 full-time UQ graduate students, the fourth largest graduate cohort in Canada.¹

Member institutions located outside large cities often attract, train, and retain the kind of highly qualified employees that local businesses and organizations need.

By contributing to the retention of young talent, they help stave off regional devitalization.

- In 2011, on average, over 34% of new students recruited by member institutions in the region had resided in the area prior to age 20; UQAC and UQAT led the way with 60% and 53% residency ratios respectively (ICOPE, Enquête 2011).
- In Abitibi-Témiscamingue, 70% of today's workforce holds a university degree from UQAT.²
- Since it was founded, UQAR has educated 2,600 students in Gaspésie and Îles-de-la-Madeleine. And since 2008 it has offered over 20 programs and over 200 courses to 20 some student cohorts. Over 75% of UQAR graduates are estimated to work in the region where they attended school.³

Internships, research projects and continuing education are some of the ways that member institutions collaborate with societal stakeholders such as municipalities, school boards and Cégeps, the public and para-public sectors, and business, industrial, and cultural communities.

- Over 16,000 UQ students took part in internships in a variety of fields between 2013 and 2014.
- 36% of the private sector research funds directed to UQ institutions come from regional companies.²
- UQAM's Centre de recherche sur les innovations sociales (CRISES) studies and analyzes social innovation and transformation in social policy and practices – both locally and beyond – within collective organizations as well as the world of work and employment.
- UQTR's Institut de recherche sur les PME (INRPME) is renowned as one of the world's foremost research centers for the study of small and medium sized businesses.²
- UQO's Centre for Studies and Research on Family Health Intervention (CERIF) was created to improve the health of at-risk parents and children.²
- UQAT's numerous partnerships with area entities (such as school boards, Cégeps, First Nations communities, industry, etc.) are a distinguishing characteristic of the institution's development model.



Member institutions are first-rate economic actors

UQAT's \$35 million payroll, for example, supports 656 employees, including 250 instructors, 41% of them from outside the region. Add to that investments made by 25 research entities that employ 156 professionals and 253 graduate students. UQAT spends nearly \$8 million per year locally, and has invested \$53.3 million in the region over the last four years. Between 2007 and 2012, UQAT hosted 25 events in the form of conferences, symposiums, seminars, summer schools, and other gatherings, resulting in economic spinoffs of \$704,000.²

Member institutions contribute to regional industrial and economic development through their research activities, dissemination of research results, and entrepreneurial development.

Whether their orientation is general, regional, or sectoral, they perform targeted research to meet the needs of regional sectors that provide high-level scientific resources and expertise.

As for the amount and intensity of this research:⁴

- Eight UQ member institutions rank among the top 50 Canadian research universities (in terms of research funding grants): UQAM, INRS, UQAC, UQAR, UQTR, ÉTS, UQAT, and UQO – and UQAR is ranked #1 in its category.
- Six of them are among the top 30 Canadian universities in terms of research intensity (average funding per professor): INRS, UQAT, ÉTS, UQAR, ENAP, and UQAC. ENAP is Canada's second-ranked institution when it comes to research intensity improvement, having risen from 39th in 2005 to 24th in 2006. More recent data from RESEARCH Infosource Inc. shows that INRS ranked second (in 2014) among universities without faculties of medicine.
- Among the 20 Canadian institutions without faculties of medicine that experienced the greatest research intensity, seven are part of UQ: INRS, UQAT, ÉTS, UQAR, ENAP, UQAC, and UQAM. In this category, INRS and UQAT occupy the #1 and #3 positions respectively.
- Collectively, member institutions obtain a significant amount of the research funding disbursed by federally funded organizations. In Canada, the UQ system was ranked #7 by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and #3 by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). Among universities that do not have faculties of medicine, the system was ranked #2 by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR).

1. According to RESEARCH Infosource 2013.

2. Excerpt from the UQ position paper for the Summit on Higher Education.

3. UQAR, 2004. L'accessibilité à l'université : un nécessaire investissement dans l'avenir du Québec et de ses régions. Position paper for the Parliamentary Committee for the Quality, Accessibility and Funding of Universities, February 6, 37 pp.

4. Source: Compiled and prepared by RESEARCH Infosource Inc., 2006-2013, Canada's Top 50 Research Universities; and CAUBO, 2006-2013, Financial Information of Universities and Colleges, March 2014.

Society

UQ member institutions have also proven to be lively forums supporting the cultural, artistic, and athletic endeavors that comprise the very core of intellectual life. Their administrators, professor, students, and staff members are fully engaged in interactions that shape their regions or communities.

As wellsprings for the dissemination of knowledge, these institutions bring together professors, students, and all those interested in discussion to take part in conferences, symposiums, and seminars. Subject matter experts from the community and the media add their expertise to that of the teaching staff.

Professors, researchers, and students serve their communities by offering their knowledge and resources for the purpose of:

- intervention projects designed to spread expertise and promote learning
- Hands-on or participatory action-research activities that foster local involvement, mobilization, and the transfer of knowledge, contributing at times to the emergence of new fields of exploration
- Made-to-measure learning activities that are typically defined in conjunction with partners
- Dissemination and outreach activities such as conferences, day-long study sessions, etc.

Member institutions are hubs for research innovation in their areas.

At UQ, we know that one key to developing a knowledge economy in our specific markets is cooperating with local business communities to establish and develop research institutions like the Technopole maritime du Québec, Interdisciplinary Centre for the Development of Ocean Mapping, St. Lawrence Global Observatory, Centre de recherche sur les biotechnologies marines à Rimouski, Centre de recherche sur les milieux insulaires et maritimes aux Îles-de-la-Madeleine, Québec Fisheries and Aquaculture Innovation Centre, Wind Energy TechnoCentre, and the Consortium en foresterie de la Gaspésie-Les-Îles.



Denis Bernier

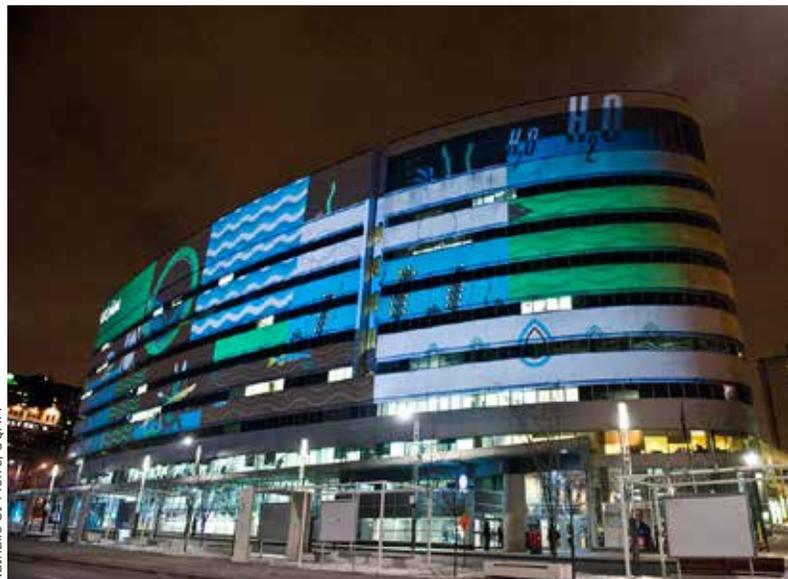
Université du Québec student video competition, 2014 ACFAS conference.

Culture

UQ member institutions also make their presence known by injecting a greater cultural vibrancy into their communities.

UQAM, which is located in Montreal's Quartier Latin – the heart of the entertainment district – is ground zero for city's artistic and cultural life, with its Galerie d'art, Centre de design, Agora de la danse, performance venue, Centre Pierre-Péladeau, and the CDEX, home to exhibits and experiments by master's students in the visual arts. Elsewhere in Quebec, UQ member institutions are often focal points for cultural development and dissemination, and it's not unusual for their employees and students to be involved in the area's sociocultural organizations.

UQ campuses also serve as havens for relaxation, places to pursue athletic activities or embrace healthy living habits. Their sports facilities are often open to the public, and their athletic teams frequently enjoy a following well beyond the confines of the campus.



Nathalie St-Pierre, UQAM

Le cycle de l'eau, projected on the Président-Kennedy Pavilion as part of a joint UQAM entertainment district partnership, uses 8 projection panels to depict the water cycle – and the Faculty of Sciences' areas of expertise.

Urbanism

Localities with university campuses in their midst see the considerable influence such institutions have on area development. Some Université du Québec research institutions have helped foster that type of dramatic change in their neighborhoods. This is true especially of INRS, ÉNAP, and TÉLUQ in Quebec City's Saint-Roch area, and ÉTS in Montreal, which has ambitious plans for the Quartier de l'innovation in Griffintown.

Saint-Roch

Located in the Lower Town, Saint-Roch¹ is one of the Quebec City's oldest neighborhoods. When growth spread to suburban areas in the mid-1950s, Saint-Roch started its own, slow decline and during the next three decades its population plummeted from 100,000 to 5,000.

In the 1980s, the City pledged to breathe life back into Saint-Roch by making it a center for culture and education. The first initiative involved construction of Bibliothèque Gabrielle-Roy, followed by the creation of an actual campus marked by the arrival of INRS, ENAP, TÉLUQ, and UQ's main location near Jardin Saint-Roch and Place de l'Université du Québec.

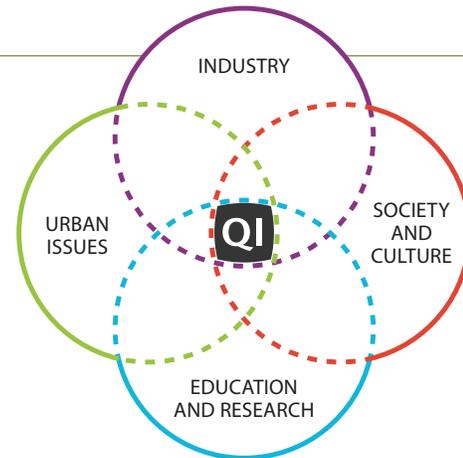
Today Saint-Roch is a vibrant neighborhood thrumming with activities that attract businesses in the knowledge economy, like those in the video game field.



Quartier de l'innovation

ÉTS, in cooperation with McGill University and numerous municipal, industrial, and socio-community partners, is creating an international "innovation ecosystem" in Montreal in an area that is already home to the largest concentration of specialized IT professionals in Canada. ÉTS is also striving to contribute to the development of an area that promotes economic and social innovation as well as artistic and cultural diversity. The school is committed to working toward this objective throughout the process with – and for – involved participants.

Located just steps from downtown in a former industrial neighborhood, Quartier de l'innovation (QI)² intends to become a prime destination for university students and researchers, avant-garde artists, visionary entrepreneurs, forward-thinking investors, and others from the surrounding environment. Unlike an urban scientific research park, QI covers the full spectrum of innovation, and its activities are based on interactions between its four platforms: education and research, society and culture, industry, and urban issues.



This cross pollination fosters interdisciplinary collaboration among researchers, students, entrepreneurs, and other stakeholders who can interact with community organizations and some of the world's most innovative businesses. It is hoped that this pollination will give rise to a veritable hotbed for innovation that generates wealth and social progress.

1. Data on the evolution of Quartier Saint-Roch can be found online at http://www.ameriquefrancaise.org/fr/article-547/Quartier_Saint-Roch,_la_renaissance_du_coeur_urbain_de_Qu%C3%A9bec.html.

2. Information on the Quartier de l'innovation can be found online at http://quartierinnovationmontreal.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/WEB_McGill_QI_vision-brochure_FRE.pdf.

To learn more about local and regional development:
www.quebec.ca