

Together for Quebec



Table of Contents

Message from the NDP Leader and Deputy Leader.....	5
Together for a strong Quebec.....	6
Together, a strong voice for Quebec.....	7
Promoting French culture and language together.....	8
Together for the integration of newcomers.....	11



Message from the NDP Leader and Deputy Leader



Dear Quebecers,

Together, we can achieve this vision of a strong and vibrant Quebec. Together, we can build a more prosperous, sustainable, and just society for everyone.

The NDP's vision is like an extended hand, a partnership between progressives in Quebec and the rest of Canada. Respectful of a strong asymmetrical federalism, this plan brings together all Quebecers who believe in the future of their nation and are proud of its achievements.

Time and time again, the Quebec nation has shown boldness, creativity, and foresight. Think of all the areas where Quebec craftspeople and workers have made their mark; think of the nationalization of hydroelectricity; and think of flagship social programs, like childcare.

Quebec as a nation is a powerful source of inspiration, but it's no longer enough simply to recognize Quebec's individuality – it's time for a new era where Ottawa is a partner rather than the one giving orders. This so-called cooperative federalism must be based on respecting Quebec's own areas of jurisdiction. Quebec is a valued ally and it deserves better.

We are proud that our party is offering Quebecers concrete solutions that will make Quebec shine even brighter, here and elsewhere. The potential is all there; what is missing is a real ally in Ottawa to move us forward. This is your opportunity to finally elect a strong team with the courage to build a better future for you.

The NDP's vision for a strong Quebec outlines our commitments to move this great province forward. It is based on the values that have inspired our movement for decades, as well as Jack Layton's hopes and dreams of rallying progressives in Quebec and the rest of Canada. It is our vision of a federal government that would partner with Quebec to improve people's lives, now and in the future.

New Democrats have the will and, above all, the courage to act for Quebecers.

Sincerely,



Jagmeet Singh

Leader of the New Democratic Party of Canada



Alexandre Boulerice

Deputy Leader of the New Democratic Party of Canada

Together for a strong Quebec

If we want to build a country where Quebecers feel they are real partners, the relationship between Ottawa and Quebec must be based on good faith, recognition, and the reconciliation of differences.

The approach of successive Liberal and Conservative governments toward the Government of Quebec has too often been unilateral and paternalistic. We have seen Justin Trudeau's Liberals close the door on the Government of Quebec and impose several rulings without any consideration whatsoever.

- ➔ The NDP wants a future where Quebec's national character is not only recognized with fine words and great speeches, but with concrete decisions and governance that **exercises asymmetric, cooperative, and respectful federalism**. This means that Quebec must have specific powers and some flexibility. In concrete terms, this includes the right to withdraw from federal programs with financial compensation for Quebec. It is not a question of smoothing out the specifics, but harmonizing them.
- ➔ The NDP believes that the 1982 repatriation of the Constitution without Quebec's signature is a historical error. Our objective is to enable Quebec **to integrate into the Canadian constitutional framework** because we sincerely believe that Quebec's national character can be expressed in the Canadian federal context.

Together, a strong voice for Quebec

Quebecers are progressive and want to move forward, but Ottawa has a bad habit of making decisions that have negative impacts on the people of Quebec.

And Justin Trudeau did not spare them – whether it was the workers at the Davie Shipyard, actors and local media threatened by the preferential treatment given to web giants like Netflix, citizens and dairy producers forced to live with the consequences of free trade agreements that attack supply management and drive up drug costs, or Quebecers who are paying the price for the Liberals’ inaction on tax havens.

The NDP wants to build a future where Quebecers will stop paying the price for the bad choices of a paternalistic federal government that ignores Quebec’s recommendations and demands.

On the basis of asymmetrical, cooperative, and respectful federalism, New Democrats believe that Quebec should have a say in the issues that affect it.

- The NDP firmly believes that **infrastructure projects** which could have an environmental impact – particularly those related to the transportation of hydrocarbons – must be subject to Quebec’s environmental assessment procedures; they cannot bypass Quebec’s environmental laws and cannot proceed without the agreement of the Government and people of Quebec.
- The NDP is committed to formalizing the process for **appointing Supreme Court** judges who represent Quebec and will ensure the selection is made from a list of candidates pre-selected by the Government of Quebec.
- The NDP is committed to legislation that prevents Conservative or Liberal governments from signing a unilateral agreement with **web giants** without consulting with Quebec, as Melanie Joly did with Netflix.
- The NDP will formally consult Quebec on any **international trade agreement**. We also commit ourselves to transparent trade negotiations so that the costs and benefits are known before agreements are signed.

Promoting French culture and language together

Every day, Quebecers celebrate and bring to life their arts and culture, here at home and around the world. A society's richness is expressed through its culture and language and it is a source of pride to do so in French!

In an era of globalization and multiplication of digital broadcasting channels, it's a challenge to promote cultures and languages, and ensure their sustainability in Quebec and elsewhere.

But instead of promoting Quebec's culture, successive Liberal and Conservative governments have undermined it. They did not have the courage to implement the necessary safeguards to protect and promote the French language in Quebec.

This situation reached new heights with Justin Trudeau who, in a single mandate, threatened Quebec culture with several decisions and a lack of leadership. Quebecers expected better. The NDP wants a future where Quebec culture, arts, and the French language are seen and heard in Quebec, in Canada, and around the world.

- ➔ The NDP will require **web giants to pay their fair share** of taxes and impose the same tax rules on them as any other company.
- ➔ The NDP is committed to providing artists and cultural workers with the opportunity to **spread their income** when calculating their payable federal income tax and to create a tax exemption for the first \$10,000 they receive from royalties from their artistic activities.
- ➔ The NDP will increase funding for organizations working to promote and **protect the French language** in Quebec and elsewhere. In the face of globalization and web giants, we will update the necessary legislative protections for the French language.

- The NDP will ensure that federally regulated companies in Quebec, like banks and telecommunications companies, are subject to **Bill 101**.
- The NDP will ensure that **Supreme Court judges are bilingual**, and this will be at the heart of the new judicial appointment process. The NDP will ensure that each judge is able to read and speak both English and French.
- The NDP will consult the cultural community and the Government of Quebec in order to restore Quebec's **cultural autonomy**. This autonomy would take the form of a transfer of powers and a transfer of the historical share of federal funding for culture.





Together for the integration of newcomers

Quebec and Canada were built on immigration. We will continue to welcome new talent from around the world, as well as families torn apart or forced to leave their homelands because of the climate crisis and conflict.

Unfortunately, under successive Liberal and Conservative governments, Ottawa has done too little to facilitate the integration of people who have chosen Quebec as their new home.

To ensure that Quebec benefits as much as possible from immigration in combatting labour shortages and ensure that newcomer integration is positive and fosters living together, the Government of Quebec must have a reliable ally in Ottawa. It is time for a real partner in Ottawa who will do their fair share in facilitating the integration and francization of people who settle in Quebec.

- The NDP will permanently increase the immigration transfer to the Government of Quebec by \$73 million, from \$490 million to \$563 million per year. This funding will help the Government of Quebec expand **French language and integration programs** for newcomers.
- The NDP is committed to engaging in discussions with the Government of Quebec to better align Canada's immigration policies with those of Quebec. Federal immigration policies do not sufficiently take into account the particular challenges of integration in Quebec. This situation needs to be assessed and remedied in collaboration with the Government of Quebec.
- The NDP is also committed to working with the Government of Quebec to raise awareness of and encourage newcomers to **settle in the region**.