

## Lowering business taxes and restarting infrastructure projects: the next budget must spur investment, say the FCCQ and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Vaudreuil-Soulanges

**Vaudreuil-Dorion, February 19, 2026** – The Fédération des chambres de commerce du Québec (FCCQ) and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Vaudreuil-Soulanges (CCIVS) are calling for a significant reduction in Quebec business taxes in the next budget to boost our competitiveness, which is losing momentum. Restarting public infrastructure projects currently on hold is also needed as soon as the next Québec Infrastructure Plan (PQI) is tabled.

These are the two main levers the FCCQ recommends stimulating private and public investment in its 2026–2027 Pre-Budget Brief.

“To revive investment and restore momentum to our economy, the next budget must send a clear signal: meaningfully reduce the tax burden on businesses and, without delay, get infrastructure projects currently on hold back on track. At the CCIVS, we will also put these issues front and centre at our upcoming conference on the major transportation priorities, to bring decision-makers together around practical solutions and help accelerate the projects that will improve mobility, safety, and our region’s competitiveness. We also reiterate our support for the regional initiative to have the MRC of Vaudreuil-Soulanges recognized as an exception region with respect to the PEQ, to ensure we can continue attracting and retaining the talent our businesses urgently need,” said Frédérick Perrier, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Vaudreuil-Soulanges (CCIVS).

“In the context of uncertainty and slowdown we are experiencing, the Québec government must put in place a business environment that stimulates investment and corporate competitiveness. Faced with U.S. protectionism, the Québec government must show the necessary ambition and take strong measures using the levers it controls. We must lower the corporate income tax rate and enhance the small business deduction so that both SMEs and large companies can reinvest here. We must also quickly restart construction and renovation projects for transportation infrastructure, hospitals, and schools that are currently on hold,” said Véronique Proulx, President and CEO of the FCCQ.

It is worth recalling that the tariff war with the United States has had major impacts on investment and economic growth over the past year. Real GDP growth is forecast at only 0.9% in 2025 and 1.1% in 2026. Business investment declined by 1.2% in 2025, including a 1.6% drop in machinery and equipment. Even more significant declines are expected in 2026. The announced enhancement of the Industrial and Technological Benefits (ITB) program and its prioritization toward 10 key industrial capabilities could also benefit Québec businesses. The FCCQ and the CCIVS underscore the importance of prioritizing proven sectors to propel them further, so that the impact of ITBs is as sustainable as possible.

The FCCQ and the CCIVS also identify two priorities that are cost-neutral or very low-cost for the government.

As competing jurisdictions increasingly favour their own businesses, Québec must reform its practices regarding access to public procurement. Ending the “lowest bidder” criterion is more urgent than ever to achieve this.

Restrictions on temporary foreign workers, the abolition of the PEQ, and lower immigration targets are forcing businesses to refuse or cancel contracts, put investments on hold, reduce production, or abandon recruitment projects. A grandfathering clause for temporary foreign workers already employed, along with higher permanent immigration targets, are necessary—otherwise, the delivery of infrastructure projects in particular will be jeopardized.

The FCCQ's pre-budget brief can be [consulted here](#).

### **About the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Vaudreuil-Soulanges (CCIVS)**

The CCIVS is an organization mandated to represent the interests of entrepreneurs and commercial, industrial, and service businesses across the Vaudreuil-Soulanges territory. The CCIVS represents more than 650 members in the region and, through its affiliation with Québec's largest network of business people and companies—the Fédération des chambres de commerce du Québec (FCCQ)—its members benefit from the province's broadest business network, bringing together more than 125 chambers of commerce across Québec to foster an innovative and competitive business environment.

### **About the Fédération des chambres de commerce du Québec (FCCQ)**

Through its vast network of 120 chambers of commerce and nearly 1,000 member companies, the FCCQ represents more than 45,000 businesses operating in all sectors of the economy across Québec. As Québec's largest network of businesspeople and companies, the FCCQ is both a federation of chambers of commerce and a provincial chamber of commerce. Its members—whether chambers or companies—share the same goal: fostering an innovative and competitive business environment.

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