

QUÉBEC'S SOCIAL ECONOMY

Quebec is a world leader in social enterprises.



WHAT ARE SOCIAL ENTERPRISES?

- Defined by the **Social Economy Act**
- Purpose is to **meet the needs** of their **members** or their **community**
- **Democratic** governance
- Not a public entity
- Principal types: **cooperatives** and **non-profits**
- Sale of **goods and services**
- Aspire to **economic viability**
- Redistribution of surpluses
- In the event of dissolution: property must be transferred to a similar corporation

WHAT IS A COOPERATIVE?

- Formed by people who come together to meet common **economic, social** and **cultural** needs
- Governed by members; **one member, one vote**
- **Types of co-ops:** consumer, producer, worker, multistakeholder, housing

WHAT IS A NON-PROFIT SOCIAL ENTERPRISE?

- **Cannot distribute surplus funds** to their members
- **Do not** pay income tax
- Eligible for government grants
- Also **member-controlled**, with mission beyond maximizing financial return
- Must serve the greater community
- **Larger purpose** (philanthropic, charitable, educational, scientific, or social)
- To be a **social enterprise:** must have 40% of revenue as self-generated

AT A GLANCE

- **11,200 social enterprises**
- **\$47.8 billion in revenue**
- **13.4 million members**
- **39% of enterprises have existed for 30+ years**

Source:

INSTITUT DE LA STATISTIQUE DU QUÉBEC (2019). L'économie sociale au Québec

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