

Why not make the Parti Québécois your party and get involved? The National Anglophone Commission was set up to bring the party into contact with interested Anglophones. For those who'd like to join, the committee will help you to integrate into the party.

For those who wish merely to find out more, the committee has information available and is organizing informal get-togethers.

Let's work for a better Quebec... together!

Quebec is our home Quebec's future is our future

Like all Quebecers, we care about the economy and the shape our lives will take.

The Parti Québécois' goal of political sovereignty is inseparably linked with a vision of a Quebec that is just, open and respectful of the rights of all Quebecers.

It's time to take our place



Comité national des anglophones
National Anglophone Commission
Parti Québécois

Name _____

Address _____

Tel. No. _____

- I wish to become a member (Please enclose a cheque for 5.00\$ per year)
- I wish to find out more

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**Parti
Québécois**

The Party of all Quebecers



Anglophone delegates were very active at the Parti Québécois' Eighth Congress (February 1982).

The Parti Québécois: Democracy, a means and an end.

The Parti Québécois is run by and for its 300 000 members. It is among the most actively supported mass parties in the western world. Its grass-roots fund-raising methods reflect its decentralized and democratic structure. The right of members to participate fully and to be heard at all levels is built into the very nature and structure of the Parti Québécois, from the riding association to the national congress. Members select candidates and executives locally, regionally and nationally. Most importantly, they decide upon the party program.

The program reflects the party's vision of Quebec present and future. It guides the government in its policy decisions.

Legislation reflecting this fundamental commitment to democracy includes:

- the clean-up of Quebec's party financing methods;
- municipal reform and decentralization;
- televised parliamentary debates; a more accessible government.

The goal of a more just and democratic Quebec in which the people shape the forces that affect their lives is at the base of the three other fundamental principles of the program:

Political Sovereignty and Economic Association

"Four centuries of history have made us into a nation: all of us, no matter what our origins, want to create a society true to what we are. But that has not been possible in an increasingly centralizing federal system that can renew itself only at our expense. Our future, our individual and collective hopes for progress, rest on our ability to acquire all the powers and tools ensured by full and complete sovereignty.

(Proposition one, Parti Québécois' program)

"Cooperation among sovereign peoples is an unavoidable consequence of the economic realities in North American countries. The idea of association consistent with this kind of reality has engendered a world-wide movement that already involves more than a dozen associations or communities that link fifty or so sovereign states, some of which were out-and-out enemies only a few decades ago. The very close integration of Quebec's economy with that of English Canada clearly shows the advantages for both in maintaining the freest possible movement of people and goods to which could be added the sharing of certain institutions, such as for instance currency".

(from the preamble to the Parti Québécois' program)

"One of the reasons I have dreamed of political sovereignty is precisely so that we will not have to legislate on questions which should be as clear as the air we breathe. The language of a people and their rights to use it should not be protected by a fortress of laws, but until there, we are obliged to follow this route".

(Rene Levesque, My Quebec, page 116)

We, in Quebec, have the resources, the talent and the knowledge enabling us to assume control of our own affairs and to best meet the challenges of our rapidly changing world. That's what sovereignty means.

Cultural Diversity

Political sovereignty and economic association with Canada is the most appropriate constitutional structure to reflect Quebec's (and Canada's) reality.

Quebec's ability to develop as a community, to protect its culture and economy has been stunted under federalism. The government of Quebec has defended Quebec's interest and, with the Charter of the French Language, acted to ensure that French becomes and remains the official working language of Quebec.

With the French language secure in Quebec and the position of the majority protected, a real cultural pluralism becomes possible.

The Parti Québécois has:

- Created a ministry of Cultural Communities to assist minorities in their development and integration, with a series of specific programs;
- established CIPACC, the first high-level commission to facilitate non-francophone employment in the civil service;

The new program of the Parti Québécois clearly spells out these commitments in specific sections on the cultural communities, Anglophones and native peoples.

"Once it finally becomes master of its own destiny, Quebec will be able to rid itself of that tendency to withdraw into itself which inevitably stems from dependency and, while ensuring respect for everyone's individual rights, will encourage the development of the institutions the cultural communities deem necessary to flourish as well as to integrate closely into the life of the nation".

(from the preamble to the Parti Québécois' program)

"The Parti Québécois will concentrate its energies on... reaffirming its respect of all Quebecers, of every ethnic and cultural origin, notably by recognizing the right of the anglophone community to its educational and other essential institutions."

(Program: chapter 1, article 5)

Social Democracy

Far from being an abstraction, social democracy is, for the Parti Québécois, a commitment to using public policy and state investment for the benefit of all Quebecers.

Its many reforms in this spirit follow these broad lines:

Economic progress

- Despite the unfavorable economic climate, the Parti Québécois government created more jobs than the previous Liberal government and increased Québec's GNP and manufacturing investment more rapidly than Ontario's;
- Economic planning and coordination encouraged important advances in specific target economic sectors such as agriculture, where production increased by more than 50%. Crown corporations were set on a profit-making course;
- Coordination through economic summits has contributed to the improved economic and social climate: work days lost through strikes and lockouts were half those under the previous government.

Social justice

- A just, efficient and comparatively inexpensive state auto insurance plan;
- Minimum wage increases to keep up with inflation;
- Revenue supplements for workers below the poverty line;
- Protection of safety and security in the workplace: protection of the right of workers to organize;
- Protection of tenants' rights through the rent control board;
- Free prescriptions plus housing subsidies for the elderly;
- A class action law.

Affirmative action against discrimination

- A strengthened human rights Charter;
- Paid maternity leave and improved day care;
- The creation of a ministry for the status of women;
- Reform of family law;
- Access to home ownership for families with children.



Parti Québécois