

# PLAN NORD

PROVIDING ACCESS  
TO THE LAND



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Québec 

# THE PLAN NORD: PROVIDING ACCESS TO THE LAND



Ministère des Transports du Québec

The integration of different modes of transportation into a strategic, coherent network is essential to developing the immense wealth of the Plan Nord's resources.

The government is entrusting the Société du Plan Nord with the ongoing development of a comprehensive, integrated vision of the various modes of transportation and communication.

The implementation of an integrated transportation network will require cooperation by experts from all ministries and government agencies, as well as regional stakeholders, businesses already operating in the territory, and those with plans to operate there. It will be the Société du Plan Nord's role to coordinate these stakeholders.

The government will emphasize public investments that contribute most to developing an integrated transportation and communication network and that facilitate economic development projects by providing access to resources. The government also hopes to innovate in the area of infrastructure financing using a project-specific cost sharing formula.

Furthermore, the possible opening up of the Northwest Passage, which will reduce shipping time between Asia and Europe significantly, must be assessed in order to take full advantage of it. Québec can position itself advantageously on this new maritime route, which is likely to appreciably alter world trade.

With regard to telecommunications, the government will emphasize improvement of existing networks to broaden access to northern territories and facilitate entrepreneurial development.

## STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE

- In the realm of maritime transport, four of Québec's ten biggest ports from the standpoint of commercial tonnage handled are located in the Côte-Nord region (Sept-Îles-Pointe-Noire, Port-Cartier, Baie-Comeau, and Havre-Saint-Pierre). The Port of Sept-Îles even ranks as the third largest port in Canada in terms of tons of bulk cargo handled.
- The airport system currently comprises forty-six airport facilities at all levels of jurisdiction, including twenty-six airports and six heliports for which the gouvernement du Québec is responsible.
- The rail network spans 1,190 km north of the 49th parallel.
- The road network, developed along major arteries, also comprises 51,000 km of logging roads. This network is strategic since it allows all types of users to travel in the territory.

## Transportation Infrastructure and Proposed Roads

