



Un parti propre au Québec

Summary of the electoral platform

3750, Crémazie Est, Suite 307
Montréal (Québec) H1A 2B6


TÉL. : (514) 725-5252
FAX : (514) 528-2868

www.blocquebecois.org

To read the full version of Bloc Québécois' electoral platform,
please consult the following web-site : www.blocquebecois.org.

Authorized by the official agent of the Bloc Québécois.

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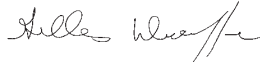
Dear Elector,

Since last year, Quebec has entered into a new political cycle. From now on, there are only two possible options for the future of Quebec: a growing form of centralized federalism from Ottawa and sovereignty. You may have noticed that no political entity is proposing to reform federalism in order to take into account the distinct character of Quebec.

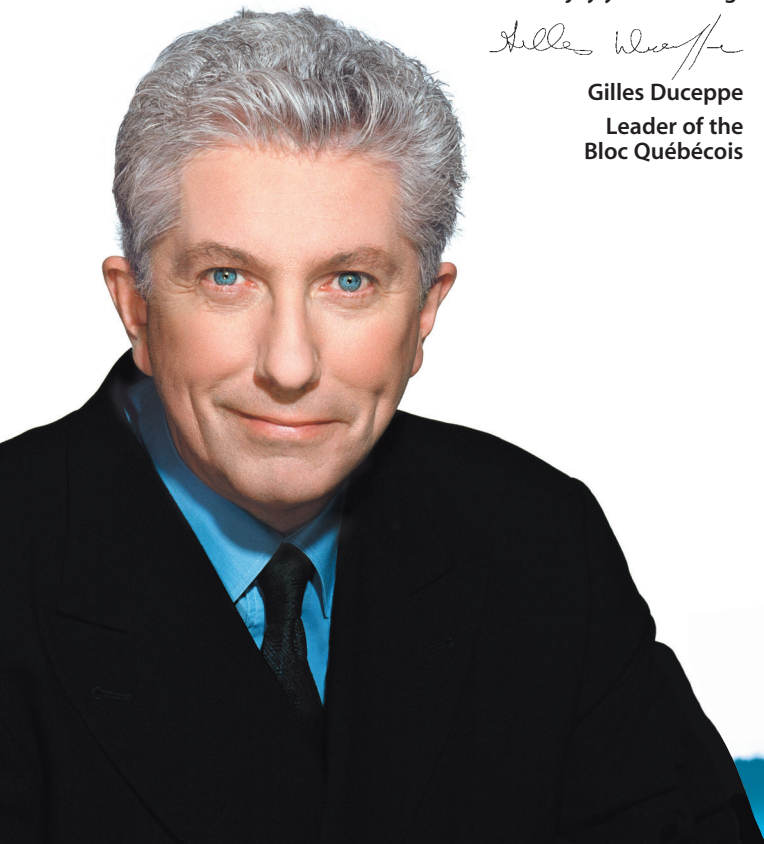
However, the vision and actions of the Bloc Québécois are founded on the conviction that all Quebecers are part of a different nation, a nation that is now ready, more than ever, to express these differences in a sovereign country.

Our electoral platform, a complete copy of which is available on our web-site, contains a comprehensive and eloquent demonstration of this maturity. It proposes answers, on the federal scene, to five considerable challenges that Quebec must address quickly in order to advance. Please find enclosed a summary of this platform.

Enjoy your reading!



Gilles Duceppe
Leader of the
Bloc Québécois



Democracy Because We are Concerned

It is essential that a democratic party protect our collective interests in Ottawa. The Bloc Québécois, a resolutely sovereignist party, has been achieving this challenge since 1990 by defending the responsibilities of Quebec in health-care, education and the training of the labour-force. We feel Quebec must possess the necessary financial resources to realize its objectives.

THIS IS WHY THE BLOC QUÉBÉCOIS IS COMMITTED TO :

- Continue fighting against the federal government's interventions into the responsibilities of the National Assembly.
- Seeking a right to withdraw with full compensation for Quebec for all its areas of responsibility.
- Supporting all unanimous decisions by the National Assembly in Ottawa.
- Fighting against fiscal inequity in order to ensure adequate financing for the collective and democratic choices of all Quebec citizens.
- Monitoring the use of public funds in Ottawa and denouncing all examples of abuse and fraud.

Our own Agenda !

Sustainable development Because We Want to Build

In light of the substantial challenges that lie ahead concerning sustainable development, it is essential to take decisions that will allow the Quebec of today to develop without placing a burden on the future of our children. With this in mind, the environment, education, culture, the economy and employment must lie at the heart of our concerns.

THIS IS WHY THE BLOC QUÉBÉCOIS IS COMMITTED TO:

- Demanding that the federal government increase transfer payments to Quebec for matters concerning education.
- Proposing the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol so that it is fair for Quebec and based on the principle of polluter-pays.
- Proposing an investment plan for the wind turbine energy industry that will lead to the creation of thousands of jobs that will be environmentally friendly.
- Firmly opposing the expansion of the Saint-Laurent seaway.
- Blocking all attempts by Ottawa to use culture for political purposes, while ensuring adequate financing.
- Demanding a surtax on the profits of large oil companies.
- Opposing the relocation of jobs and unfair business practices.
- Drafting an anti-strike breaking bill and engaging in a proper follow up if it is not adopted.

Our own priorities !

Population Because we are different

Despite the unanimity of the National Assembly in respect of the family policy, Quebec still does not possess all the necessary means it needs to effectively address the challenges of declining birth-rates and an aging population. While we are seeking more open immigration policies, immigration remains influenced by federal parameters that don't correspond to the needs of Quebec. As well, fiscal imbalance continues to paralyze the Quebec health system.

THIS IS WHY THE BLOC QUÉBÉCOIS IS COMMITTED TO:

- Demanding that the federal government substantially increase its financing of the health sector without conditions.
- Demanding that the federal government transfer the savings from Quebec's low-cost day-care programs to the Quebec government
- Ensuring that Ottawa transfers \$630 million that will allow the Quebec government to put in place a universal parental leave program.
- Proposing a tax credit that is refundable for all families that have children under the age of 18.
- Proposing that the federal government set aside 1 % of its expenses, or \$2 billion per year, for the development of social housing.
- Ensuring that eligible senior citizens receive guaranteed income supplements and that the government refunds the \$3.2 billion in funds they should have received.
- Fighting with determination alongside the aboriginal population in order to encourage their achievement of self-government.

Our own future !

Territory Because we are united

Quebec cannot adequately develop while only relying on the contributions of its different regions. The Bloc Québécois considers it essential to stimulate economic development across Quebec, encourage the establishment of a real transportation policy and counter the exodus of youth who are moving from certain regions to larger areas by offering everyone an enviable quality of life.

THIS IS WHY THE BLOC QUÉBÉCOIS IS COMMITTED TO:

- Proposing a re-imbusement plan for the employment insurance program designed to make it more accessible to women, youth, and seasonal employees and to establish a reserve in the case of an economic crisis.
- Demanding that the federal government put in place a new program for repairing infrastructures under the jurisdiction of the Quebec government.
- Demanding that the different regions of Quebec receive their fair share of federal expenses and that the different federal programs are modified according to the realities of the different regions.
- Supporting the agricultural sector in order to better defend how it is managed all the while demanding new investments in this nerve centre so as to be able to ensure agricultural relief.
- Demanding that the federal government put in place a real program to assist the logging industry from now until the return of free trade that is integral to this field.
- Demanding the federal government put in place a sustainable plan for the fishing industry.

Our Own Space !

Quebec in the World Because they are waiting for us

Attaining sovereignty for Quebec is the main reason for the Bloc Québécois' existence. In this context, it is important to ensure that the views of Quebec on major international issues such as globalization, security, international relations and defence, are known.

THIS IS WHY THE BLOC QUÉBÉCOIS IS COMMITTED TO :

- Opposing all military intervention that contravenes international rights, like, for example, the war in Irak.
- Opposing Canada's participation in the anti-missile defence shield and campaigning in favour of an international treaty forbidding the militarization of space.
- Proposing maintaining peace-keeping missions as the primary role of Canadian military forces.
- Proposing that the federal government introduce a plan to fight poverty in the world by increasing the levels of its international aid and respecting its dialogue concerning the debt reduction of the world's poorest nations.
- Demanding that the government submit to Parliament, before ratification, all proposed agreements of the North American Free Trade Agreement.
- Demanding that the federal government end the use of tax shelters and flags of convenience that allow businesses to avoid having to pay taxes and honouring their social and environmental responsibilities
- Supporting positive practices of globalization such as responsible investment and fair business practices.

Our unique voice !

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