

Bloc Québécois Environmental Platform: Translated by Juliahna Hill

1. Environmental Sovereignty:

- Québécois will have more environmental sovereignty; Ottawa will no longer be able to impose pipelines, airports, cell towers on Quebec without their consent.
- The Bloc Québécois will redraft a bill giving the Quebec government the power to accept or reject projects under federal jurisdiction that relate to land-use planning and environmental protection.

2. The Environment is Us

- Quebec sovereignty, not only in the environment but politically, is necessary for ambitious GHG reduction targets.
- The Bloc will use taxation and regulation to change the current system and better serve the environment.

23. Green Equalization

- The Bloc proposes “green equalization,” a tax reform that reshapes the carbon tax; instead of being a form of compensation, it would act as a scholarship of excellence based on Quebec and provincial GHG emission reduction efforts.

- The Bloc Proposes that:

- Ottawa impose a carbon tax in provinces where GHG emissions per capita are higher than average.
- the proceeds of this tax be paid to provinces where GHG emissions are lower than medium, creating a form of green equalization that taxes polluters and rewards good players.
- For every dollar received in green equalization, Ottawa will cut 90 cents on the equalization cheque. Thus, the lower the emissions, the higher the cheque will be, inspiring green innovation.
- Green Equalization will enable reductions in income taxes for Quebec households and also for all Canadians, creating another incentive to reduce its GHG emissions.
- Green Equalization, which combines the benefits of green taxation (it applies to all polluters) and the exchange market (where good players will pocket from), is a pan-Canadian market exchange that could even serve as a model internationally.

- Appropriate targets for reducing GHGs:

- The Bloc will introduce legislation to set GHG reduction targets consistent with the objectives of the Paris Agreement.
- Such legislation will contain an accountability mechanism and include a demanding clause that the government take into account the impacts of all its actions on climate change, including grants and contributions.
- There will be legislation that will have a mandatory four-year review clause, making sure that reduction targets can be increased, with the objective of reaching the more ambitious goal of 1.5 degrees issued in the Paris Agreement.

- The Bloc does not support the TransCanada Pipeline project, as well as ANY other pipeline projects.
- The Bloc will put an end to fossil fuel subsidies.

Railway Safety (in regard to the environment)

- The Bloc Quebecois demands a public inquiry committee to stronger regulate rail transport.
 - Will require municipalities to know in real time the quantity and type of materials dangerous goods circulating through their territory.
- The Bloc Quebecois opposes any increase in oil transportation across Quebec.

28. Electrifying Vehicles

- The Bloc will offer discounts on electric and hybrid vehicles.
 - Additional discounts for lower income households.
 - Additional discounts when the purchase of an environmentally friendly vehicle removes a particularly polluting vehicle off of our roads.
 - Incentives to purchase research in heavy and commercial vehicles.
 - Complete replacement of federal vehicles with green vehicles.

29. A Zero Emission Law

- Will introduce a zero emission bill which will require every vehicle manufacturer to sell a minimum number of zero-emission cars based on the number of gasoline cars sold.

30. Green Renovations

- Will offer subsidies for energy saving systems.

31. Elimination of pesticides that threaten biodiversity

- Will offer financial and scientific support for the elimination and immediate ban of bee-killing pesticides like neonicotinoids. There will be a grace-period for farmers to transition away from such pesticides, however.