



Live. Recycle. Take Part.



"Since a picture is worth a thousand words, the photos in this annual report show how important it is to preserve our natural resources. This has been the goal of all our efforts in the past year."

Dany Michaud, President and CEO of RECYC-QUÉBEC

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 3 – Message from the Chair of the Board
- 4 – Message from the President and Chief Executive Officer
- 5 – RECYC-QUÉBEC is...
- 6 – Year in review

ACRONYMS

4Rs REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, RECOVER / **CTE** CAR TIRE EQUIVALENT / **EPR** EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY / **GHG** GREENHOUSE GAS / **IBI** INDUSTRIES, BUSINESSES, AND INSTITUTIONS / **LCA** LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT CONTAINER / **NRC** NON-REFILLABLE CONTAINER / **RC** REFILLABLE CONTAINER / **RMM** RESIDUAL MATERIALS MANAGEMENT / **RMMP** RESIDUAL MATERIALS MANAGEMENT PLAN / **RMO** RECOGNIZED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

The information presented in the 2016-2017 annual report dates from the period ending March 31, 2017.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

**Karine
Joizil**



I sign the RECYC-QUÉBEC's 2016-2017 annual report today with much pride.

For just over a year now, I have had the immense privilege of investing my time and experience in a government corporation whose mandate is perfectly aligned with the future of Québec we all desire: A green, sustainable Québec for our generation and those to come.

This vision of a society without waste also drives the guidance process for the 2017-2022 strategic planning launched in recent months. In tandem with all the many ongoing projects initiated and piloted by RECYC-QUÉBEC, alone or in collaboration with partners, this crucial reflection is without a doubt one of the key exercises begun this year.

It is routine, in annual report messages, to thank board members, managers, and employees. It is with sincere gratitude and gladness that I once again follow this tradition. Dedication, creativity, openness, initiative, and cooperation are the hallmarks of the work and—if I may say so—the culture of RECYC-QUÉBEC, its board, its partners, and the entire team. This is borne out each day and is reflected in this annual report.

Guiding RECYC-QUÉBEC through its mandate to help achieve environmental objectives demands diligence and conviction. With my colleagues on the board, I promise to continue my commitment with the same enthusiasm.

Karine Joizil
Chair of the Board

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**Dany
Michaud**



I am proud to present the 2016-2017 RECYC-QUÉBEC annual report, which marks my second year in this position and summarizes the past year by focusing on our main achievements, governance, financial results, and the status of our sustainable development action plan.

Plus, in line with our mission and ongoing desire to promote reduction at the source, we are presenting the annual report as a microsite for the very first time, in addition to the usual PDF document.

Since an image is worth a thousand words, we have chosen to include photos that reflect how important it is to preserve our natural resources. It's what drives the RECYC-QUÉBEC team's work each day.

Year after year, our entire team, with the cooperation of our partners, analyzes, informs, implements, supports, fosters, and carries out concrete projects with one very specific objective: improving Québec's environmental performance. Each action is aligned with this desire to build a responsible society that is free of waste and engaged in the fight against climate change.

I unreservedly join Karine Joizil in highlighting the exemplary work of all RECYC-QUÉBEC's managers and employees. I also applaud the continued collaboration and involvement of our partners. Finally, I would like to sincerely thank the board of directors for their trust and support over this second year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Michaud'.

Dany Michaud

President and Chief Executive Officer

RECYC-QUÉBEC IS:

MISSION

—
Lead Québec to reduce, reuse, and recycle residual materials to promote a circular economy and fight against climate change.

VISION

—
Become a key partner in a waste-free Québec.

VALUES

—
Respect
Integrity
Collaboration
Responsibility
Fairness

Year in review



YEAR IN REVIEW

Financial Support for the Future of All Quebecers

Through calls for proposals, RECYC-QUÉBEC provides financial support, for innovative projects with an environmental focus.

REDUCTION AT THE SOURCE

More than \$2.8 million has been invested in eight promising projects conducted by companies in the Bas-Saint-Laurent, Capitale-Nationale, Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine, and Montréal areas.

Reducing food waste

This financial assistance helps to reduce at the source the amount of food products that would otherwise be thrown away. Among the indicators measuring the positive spin-offs of these projects:

- Amount of food not lost or wasted because of the project;
- Cost overview (savings or value of the foodstuffs reclaimed);
- GHGs not produced (avoided).

Sustainable management of construction, renovation, and demolition sites

This program also supported the implementation of sustainable construction, renovation, and demolition projects. The goal of such projects is to avoid using new materials and avoid the waste, loss, breakdown or rejection of materials at any stage in a building's lifecycle (design, planning, distribution, construction or maintenance). The indicators measuring the positive spin-offs of these projects include the following:

- Quantity of new materials avoided;
- Quantity of CRD materials diverted for reuse;
- Savings or gains realized;
- GHGs not produced (avoided).



8
promising projects

+\$2.8 million
invested in companies

YEAR IN REVIEW (cont.)

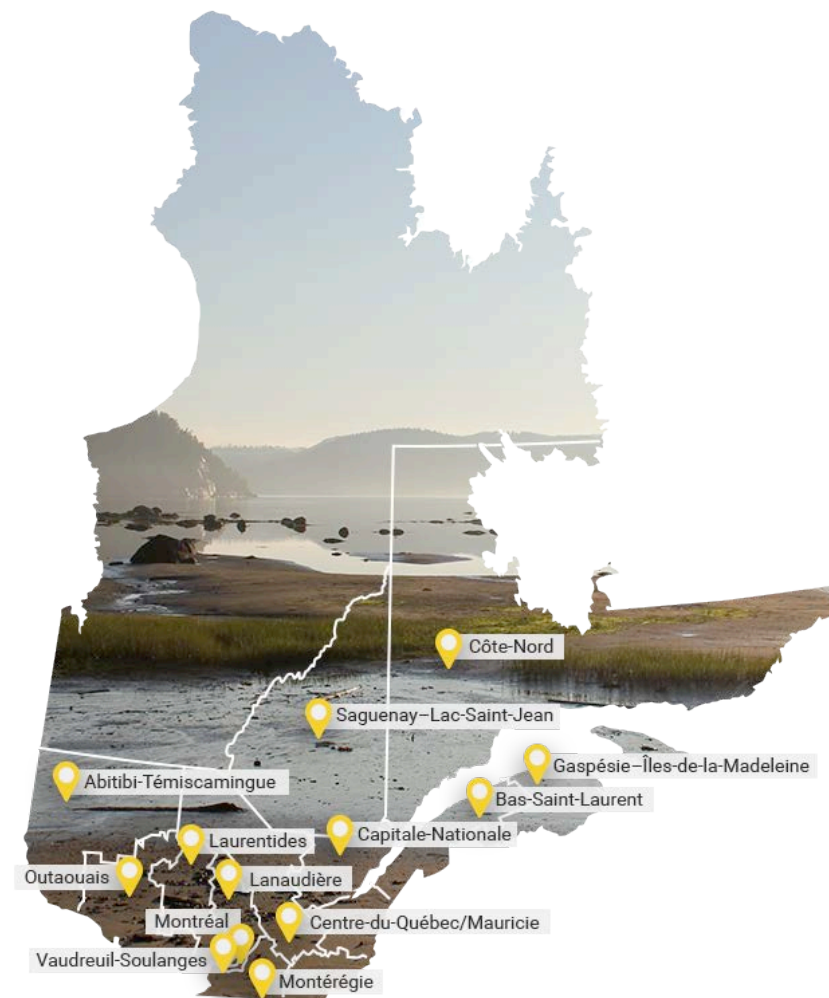
Financial Support for the Future of All Quebecers

TRANSITION TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

More than \$2.3 million was invested in 14 projects conducted by companies in the Bas-Saint-Laurent, Centre-du-Québec, Côte-Nord, Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine, Lanaudière, Laurentides, Mauricie/Centre-du-Québec, Montréal, Montérégie, Outaouais, and Vaudreuil-Soulanges regions.

The purpose of this program is to support industries, businesses, and institutions (IBI) and foster synergies in the province. This helps them enhance their performance in terms of the recovery and reclamation of residual materials, as part of a circular economy approach, thus improving how they manage materials and promoting the 4Rs.

Concretely, the financial support granted has enabled networking activities and industrial symbiosis in the regions served by these organizations.



SUPPORT FOR THE CRD SECTOR

In February 2017, the Québec government announced it was investing over \$1 million to reduce disposal in the construction, renovation, and demolition (CRD) sector. The goal of this financing is to help companies in the CRD sector reduce their rejection rates and thus the amount of materials sent for disposal. This initiative was made possible through the Green Fund, more specifically through the disposal fees for residual materials and the 2013-2020 Climate Change Action Plan.

RECYC-QUÉBEC works actively with various industry partners to improve their practices and incorporate reducing, reusing, recycling, and recovering (the 4Rs) in their procedures to prevent waste.

14

projects completed

+\$2.3 million

invested in companies

YEAR IN REVIEW (cont.)

Support for Municipalities

RECYC-QUÉBEC assisted municipalities throughout the year in two specific areas:

REVIEW OF RESIDUAL MATERIALS MANAGEMENT PLANS (RMMPs)

The *Environment Quality Act* requires regional municipalities to develop and implement a residual materials management plan (RMMP). The provisions of the Act also dictate how frequently the RMMP must be reviewed to account for changes in residual materials management in their area and the related regulatory and legal framework. Regional municipalities conducted the very first review of their RMMPs from 2013 to 2017. As part of this important regional planning exercise, RECYC-QUÉBEC set up a support service for regional municipalities.

The service encompassed three components:

- 1- **Monitoring of the legal process** by regional municipalities, with the creation of multiple resolution, regulation, and schedule templates;
- 2- **Creation of tools and programs**, such as a monthly newsletter, document and analysis chart templates, and tools for creating residual material inventories;
- 3- **RMM expertise** concerning different materials and management options (e.g., organic materials, EPR, deposit return).

RECYC-QUÉBEC analyzed 189 files, which included 34 preliminary projects, 79 draft RMMPs, and 76 RMMPs, in addition to developing 36 tools and sending 28 newsletters to 800 subscribers.

189
files analyzed

36
tools developed

28
newsletters sent
to 800 subscribers

MUNICIPAL TRAINING ON THE FINANCIAL LEVERS IN RESIDUAL MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

RECYC-QUÉBEC partnered with Fédération québécoise des municipalités (FQM) to develop a practical training session on the financial levers in residual materials management to help elected officials:

- Better differentiate between funding sources;
- Understand performance factors;
- Identify the aspects that would improve their performance.

Fifteen training sessions were held in various regions of Québec, with 218 people in attendance, of whom half were elected officials (mayors and councillors).

15
training sessions

218
participants



YEAR IN REVIEW (cont.)

On the Ground with IBI in Québec

ICI ON RECYCLE! RECOGNITION PROGRAM

The program is divided into three levels and its purpose is to recognize the capacity of industries, businesses, and institutions (IBI) to implement measures for residual materials management.

Industries, businesses, and institutions (IBI) are the largest producers of residual materials in Québec. That's why RECYC-QUÉBEC strives to celebrate their efforts to promote sound management of residual materials.

LEVEL 1 – COMMITMENT requires a formal undertaking from a decision-maker to implement RMM measures.

LEVEL 2 – IMPLEMENTATION requires the development and implementation of an action plan incorporating measures to reduce, reuse, recycle, and recover materials as well as information and awareness initiatives for stakeholders in the organization.

LEVEL 3 – PERFORMANCE requires an audit to determine the recovery rate for residual materials. Note that this level requires a minimum recovery rate of 70%. Depending on the rate achieved, establishments are awarded one of the following three levels:



Gold:
recovery rate between
90% and 99%

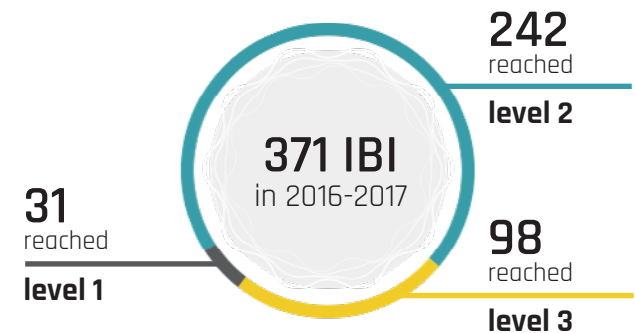


Silver:
recovery rate between
80% and 89%



Bronze :
recovery rate between
70% and 79%

In 2016, **371 IBI** reached one of the program levels:



40 companies
reported recovery
rates above

90%

ICI ON RECYCLE! TOUR: A LITTLE SOMETHING NEW!

RECYC-QUÉBEC added something new to its recognition ceremonies to mark IBI's important contribution to Québec's environmental performance. Its province-wide tour included seven meetings in the following regions: Bas-Saint-Laurent, Centre-du-Québec, Capitale-Nationale, Estrie, Laval-Lanaudières-Laurentides, Montérégie, and Montréal.

Among the many innovations, RECYC-QUÉBEC gave each establishment a certificate in a reclaimed-wood frame and a brand new trophy to highlight the "Reduction at the Source" special mention. This work of art, made of aluminum, wood and acrylic from reused and recycled materials, demonstrates the 3Rs: reduce, reuse, and recycle.



REDUCTION AT THE SOURCE

Under the recognition program, special mentions are also awarded to certified establishments that implement innovative measures to reduce waste at the source.

Seven companies earned this special mention:

- **Créations Jade**, Ascot Corner, Estrie
- **Rockland**, Mont-Royal, Montréal
- **Coopérative d'alimentation saine La Manne**, Victoriaville, Centre-du-Québec
- **Héroux Devtek Inc. – Site de Laval**, Laval
- **E.I. DuPont Canada – Thetford Inc.**, Thetford Mines, Chaudière-Appalaches
- **Chic Alors!**, Québec, Capitale-Nationale
- **Pharmacie Sébastien Aubin et Nadine Lacasse**, La Pêche, Outaouais

YEAR IN REVIEW (cont.)

Where Information and Expertise Meet

A number of reference documents were published in the last year.

2015 REPORT ON RESIDUAL MATERIALS MANAGEMENT IN QUÉBEC

For 25 years, RECYC-QUÉBEC has published the *Bilan de la gestion des matières résiduelles au Québec* (Report on Residual Materials Management). This document is the only synopsis that, every two years, presents the situation throughout the industry, making it a reference and aid for decision-making.

To make the 2015 overview even more exhaustive than previous editions, data from sorting centers for construction, renovation, and demolition (CRD) waste and ecocenters has been added.

Furthermore, three separate sections, *Producer Behaviour and Attitudes*, *Recycling Systems and Materials*, were included in the [2015 report](#) (French only) to facilitate reading. All the data on materials and system performance are shown using highlights, explanations, graphs, and tables.



2012-2016 CHARACTERIZATION STUDY OF RESIDUAL MATERIALS IN THE RESIDENTIAL SECTOR

Since 2006, RECYC-QUÉBEC and Éco Entreprises Québec have conducted characterization studies on residual materials in the residential sector. The purpose of these successive studies is to create an accurate picture of residents' habits when managing their residual materials at home and to study changes.

The data collected through these studies is used to better understand the composition of the materials municipalities collect at the curbside (garbage, recycling, and organic waste collection), as well as the recycling rate per category of materials.

The 2015-2017 characterization study of residual materials in the [residential sector](#) (French only) differs from those of previous years because of its methodology. Conducted over a single year, recent characterizations offered a snapshot of the situation. The new approach extends over a longer period of three years and uses a moving average that enables us to monitor changes in the situation as trends.

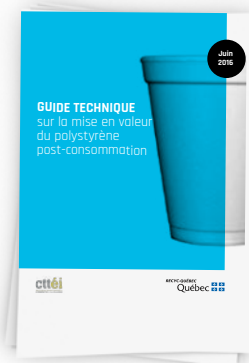


TECHNICAL GUIDE ON THE RECOVERY OF POST-CONSUMER POLYSTYRENE

RECYC-QUÉBEC developed a [technical guide on the recovery of post-consumption polystyrene from curbside collection](#). (French only)

It discusses a number of topics, including:

- Polystyrene sorting, conditioning and recovery technologies;
- The polystyrene recycling market;
- Results of experiences in and outside Québec.



OTHER STUDIES →

YEAR IN REVIEW (cont.)

OTHER STUDIES

[Analysis of the factors for multiple-unit housing participation in organic material collection](#) (French only)

This guide is a tool to help set up a reclamation program for food waste and other organic matter in multiple-unit housing.

[Support guide to optimized practices – Agricultural recycling of municipal biosolids](#) (French only)

The purpose of this guide is to help managers of municipal wastewater treatment stations identify the main technical, administrative, and logistical aspects associated with recycling of biosolids, particularly in agriculture.

[Information for Québec municipalities contemplating a ban on single-use shopping bags](#) (French only)

To assist municipalities considering a ban, RECYC-QUÉBEC created an informational document and announced an analysis of the shopping bag lifecycle.

[Call for tender best practices for food and green waste collection and management](#) (French only)

This document compiles and proposes best practices for calls for tenders (by municipalities and IBI) to optimize service costs and conditions and promote a high level of performance in organic material reclamation and recycling.

[Status report on residual materials management behaviour of industries, businesses, and institutions \(IBI\) in Québec](#) (French only)

RECYC-QUÉBEC conducted a study on the status of IBI's residual materials management behaviour.

[Report on the use of fertilizing residual materials in agriculture](#) (French only)

This report describes the current use of fertilizing residual materials in agriculture.

[Health risks associated with the spreading of municipal biosolids on agricultural land](#) (French only)

This guide reports on current knowledge of health risks associated with the spreading of municipal biosolids on agricultural land.

[Use of residual organic materials for degraded site restoration and other opportunities](#) (French only)

This report discusses using organic materials to restore degraded sites, such as sand and gravel pits, quarries, mines, and mine tailing and waste rock sites, road sides, contaminated sites, and landfills.

YEAR IN REVIEW (cont.)

Outreach

INFORMATION AND AWARENESS

Over the past year, RECYC-QUÉBEC has made numerous efforts to educate and inform residents through campaigns like the one conducted through Quebec newspapers about collecting recyclable materials through curbside recycling.

Tips and tricks were also published encouraging residents to better manage residual materials from special occasions and events such as the holidays and the July moving season.

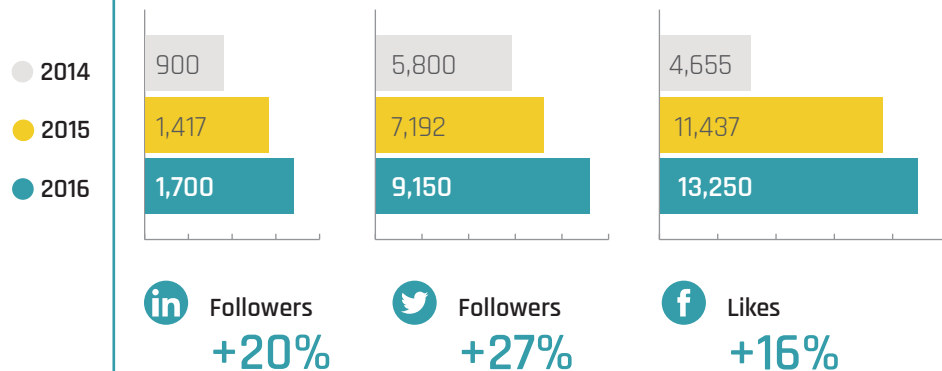
200,000
visits to the
website

WEBSITE AND MEDIA IMPACT

The website had 200,000 visits, making it a record year. What's more, the amount of media coverage (positive articles) and articles mentioning RECYC-QUÉBEC increased substantially.

SOCIAL MEDIA

All these efforts yielded the following results:



PARTNERSHIPS

RECYC-QUÉBEC also provided **\$222,705** in financial support to promote a number of events held across Québec, such as residual materials management conferences, the network for women in the environment (Réseau des femmes en environnement), and the festival Mondial des cultures in Drummondville.

RECYC-QUÉBEC SQUAD

RECYC-QUÉBEC also raised people's awareness of how best to handle materials at events outside their homes by deploying a squad at Québec national holiday festivities in Québec City and Montréal and at the Rogers Cup presented by National Bank.

YEAR IN REVIEW (cont.)

Programs

SCRAP TIRE

Québec has the most economically efficient scrap tire management system in Canada.

It is also the most technologically advanced: **83%** of all tires collected by the program are sent for recycling and **17%** are used in energy recovery as an alternative fuel source, meaning **100%** of scrap tires are recovered.

Tires are sent to Québec recyclers where they are transformed into a wide variety of products, including blasting mats, livestock mats, factory mats, carpet padding, floor covering tiles, and sport surfaces.



83%
sent for recycling
+
17%
energy recovery

Total
100%
of tires

Number of
tires recovered
and recycled

7,937,419

2014

8,747,848

2015

8,780,292

2016

DEPOSIT

RECYC-QUÉBEC manages the non-refillable beer and soft drink container deposit program. The program requires bottlers, brewers, retailers, and consumers of beer and soft drinks to collect or pay a deposit on non-refillable containers, which is recovered when the empty containers are returned.

- For the past three years, the combined rate of recovery for non-refillable containers (NRCs) for beer and soft drinks has been over **70%**.
- The recovery rate for refillable containers (RCs) has held steady at **98%** for ten years.



70%
For 3 years

RECOVERY RATE



98%
For 10 years

YEAR IN REVIEW (cont.)

Extended Producer Responsibility

Extended producer responsibility (EPR) is the principle under which companies that put products on the Québec market are responsible for the end-of-life management of such products.

All products combined, 96,675 tons were recycled from January to December 2016 through individual companies and organizations implementing recovery and reclamation programs. These include the creation of a permanent province-wide organization and some 8,500 drop-off points, as well as numerous one-time collection events.

A FEW HIGHLIGHTS

- Twelve recovery and reclamation programs: five collective (RMO) and seven individual;
- Five broad target product categories: mercury light bulbs, paint and paint containers, batteries, electronics, and oils, antifreeze, filters and containers;
- Nearly **8,500 drop-off points** in Québec;
- **96,675 tons** collected in total;
- Growth of 1.2% compared to 2015, and of **7.3%** since 2013.



Used oils
(including their containers and filters)
Antifreeze and coolants
(including their containers and filters)
Brake cleaners
Containers



**Mercury
light bulbs**



Paints
(including aerosols
and containers)



Batteries
(rechargeables and
non-rechargeables)



Electronics
(computers and peripherals,
laptops, screens, cellphones, televisions,
audio and video equipment, etc)



info@recyc-quebec.gouv.qc.ca
recyc-quebec.gouv.qc.ca

INFO-RECYC LINE

Toll-free/1-800-807-0678
Montréal area/514-351-7835

QUÉBEC CITY OFFICE

300 rue Saint-Paul, suite 411
Québec, QC G1K 7R1
418-643-0394

MONTRÉAL OFFICE

141 avenue du Président-Kennedy, 8th floor
Montréal, QC H2X 1Y4
514-352-5002



ISBN: 978-2-550-76408-0

Copyright deposit - Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec

In line with RECYC-QUÉBEC'S mission, the 2016-2017 annual report only exists in pdf form.

To obtain an accessible version of this document in accordance with the downloadable document accessibility standard (SGQRI 008-02), please contact us.