

The Capacity of Quebec Businesses to Address Climate Challenges Must Be Strengthened

More than half were affected by climate events over the past year

Montréal, January 28, 2025 – Québec Net Positive (QNP) today publishes the special report *"Adaptation to Climate Change and Resilience: Where Do Québec Businesses Stand?"* highlighting Quebec businesses' concerns about climate phenomena, their impacts, the measures taken to address them, and a standard approach for effective adaptation.

For this special report, QNP collaborated with the scientific consortium Ouranos, whose mission is to help Quebec society better adapt to climate change. The data comes from the third edition of the *Business Transition Barometer* by QNP, the most comprehensive survey on Québec businesses' climate actions. To conduct this important study, QNP commissioned the research firm Léger, which surveyed 806 Québec business leaders between August 13 and August 25, 2024. The sample is representative of Quebec's economy as a whole, encompassing sectors, business sizes, and regions.

"Quebec businesses are on the front lines of extreme climate events. Over half of them have been affected by climate phenomena in the past year, with tangible consequences: property damage, financial losses, and health and safety challenges. Yet, their level of preparedness remains limited. It is crucial to take action now to strengthen their resilience and ability to face these challenges," says Anne-Josée Laquerre, Executive Director and Co-Founder of Québec Net Positif.

Key Findings:

Direct Climate Impacts on Québec Businesses

- 52% of Québec businesses report having been affected by climate phenomena or their derivatives over the past 12 months, including: heatwaves (21%), extreme precipitation (19%), flooding (18%) and freezing rain (16%)
- Among businesses affected by climate phenomena (or their derivatives) in the past year, the impacts include:
 - Losses or damage to company property (30%)
 - Revenue losses due to business interruptions (28%)
 - Disruptions related to client or employee health and safety (28%)

Levels of Preparedness for Climate Risks

- While 76% of business leaders express concern about the impact of climate phenomena on their company: 10% report having a structured adaptation plan, 24% are in the process of developing one, 41% have implemented at least one measure to address climate risks
- 60% state that they are confident their company is resilient and prepared to face the potential consequences of climate change, a rising trend (vs. 52% in 2023)
- 26% feel they have sufficient knowledge of "adaptation and resilience to climate change" to explain these concepts in their own words

Identifying simple and targeted measures requires a structured adaptation process.

"Quebec businesses are already feeling the impacts of climate change. Both extreme weather events and less dramatic occurrences are disrupting their operations, highlighting the importance of taking action. With a flexible and accessible approach, businesses can anticipate risks, gradually adapt to the new climate reality, and strengthen their resilience in a constantly changing world," says Alain Bourque, Executive Director of Ouranos.

For More Information

- **Special report: "Adaptation to Climate Change and Resilience: Where Do Québec Businesses Stand?"** (in French): [click here to download](#)
- **Webinar, March 19, 2025, at noon** (in French): [register here](#)
- **2024 Business Transition Barometer** highlights (in English [click here](#)); Report (in French) [here](#)
- For more details about our sectoral and regional Barometers, and our trainings: info@quebecnetpositif.ca

About Québec Net Positif

Québec Net Positif (QNP) is an independent, non-profit think tank dedicated to accelerating the transition to a low-carbon, positive economy. Its mission is to raise awareness, mobilize, and equip businesses—particularly SMEs and those supporting them—to go beyond risk mitigation, seize business opportunities, and unleash their full potential to create positive societal and environmental impacts.

www.quebecnetpositif.ca

About Ouranos

Drawing from its rigorous scientific knowledge, Ouranos endeavours to assist Quebec society in better adapting to an ever-changing climate. Ouranos exercises the role of a boundary organization with the goal of ensuring strong ties and cohesion between the scientific community and adaptation stakeholders. Through a shared leadership approach, Ouranos promotes a research environment that offers room for growth and opportunities and where each player tackles the issues and actively contributes to their solutions.

www.ouranos.ca/en

Media: For interviews or additional information, please contact:

Anne-Josée Laquerre
Québec Net Positif
ajlquerre@quebecnetpositif.ca
(514) 476-6249