



EDUCATION POLICY

Choice. Excellence. Equality.

Education is the foundation of a strong, just, and forward-looking society. The Canadian Party of Quebec (CaPQ) is committed to building a public education system that respects the Canadian Charter, upholds minority rights, and prepares Quebecers for success in the modern world — in both official languages. We believe in an inclusive, adaptable, and empowering education system that works for all.

Modern, Safe & Inclusive Schools

Keywords: Infrastructure | Safety | Equity

Our children deserve to learn in schools that are physically safe, emotionally inclusive, and academically sound. The CaPQ will invest in retrofitting and modernizing Quebec's aging school infrastructure — particularly ventilation systems — to ensure students and educators are learning and working in healthy environments.

We will immediately lift the Bill 21-imposed restrictions on hiring based on religious dress, which have unfairly excluded qualified educators. A 21st-century education system must reflect the diversity of Canada and allow the best teachers to serve regardless of religious expression.

In both English and French schools, The CaPQ will improve the quality of French language education by emphasizing effective teaching tools like daily dictation, grammar exercises, and exposure to literature. Quebec students deserve to graduate with strong bilingual skills — without the need for punitive or exclusionary policies.

What this means for Quebecers:

- Healthier, modern classrooms that meet today's environmental and health standards
- An inclusive educational environment that reflects Canadian values of diversity and pluralism

- A stronger foundation in French through teaching excellence, not coercion

Democratic and Accountable School Governance

Keywords: Local | Democratic | Transparent

Educational institutions should be run by and for the communities they serve — not centralized political machines. The CaPQ will repeal Bill 40, which dismantled elected school boards and replaced them with CAQ-appointed service centers, stripping local voices from the education system.

We will restore democratic governance and tie school board elections to municipal elections to increase voter turnout and civic engagement. Alongside this, we'll modernize board regulations to increase transparency, professionalism, and accountability — making sure every decision reflects local realities, not bureaucratic agendas.

What this means for Quebecers:

- Schools governed by your community, not by party loyalists
- More civic engagement and democratic accountability in education
- Policies that reflect parents', teachers', and students' real needs

Freedom of Educational Choice

Keywords: Rights | Language | Access

In a free and democratic society, parents and students must have the right to choose the language of instruction that best suits them. The CaPQ will eliminate the outdated and discriminatory requirement for a certificate of eligibility to attend English schools at all levels.

We will roll back Law 14's (Bill 96) French course mandates and the 80% French course requirement for English university students, which unfairly burden minority students and undermine post-secondary success. The right to an English or bilingual education is rooted in the Charter and must be protected, not undermined.

We will also reinstate the Dawson College expansion project to support the growing demand for English and bilingual higher education, ensuring these institutions have room to grow and compete with their francophone counterparts.

What this means for Quebecers:

- True freedom to choose the language of education, without unnecessary state interference

- Equal access to CEGEPs and universities for English-speaking and bilingual students
- A reaffirmation of language rights as protected by Canada's Constitution

Curriculum That Prepares Students for Real Life

Keywords: Relevance | Readiness | Literacy

We must rethink what it means to be “educated” in the 21st century. A high school curriculum that ignores life skills or fails to adapt to individual learning needs is outdated and unjust. The CaPQ will introduce mandatory high school courses in World History, Life Sciences, and Financial Literacy to ensure students graduate with global awareness, scientific literacy, and a real understanding of personal finance.

To address Quebec's chronic youth and adult literacy challenges, The CaPQ will promote individualized education plans that adapt teaching methods to student needs, not vice versa. In addition, we propose the creation of an optional Grade 12 year in both public and private schools for students who don't wish to attend CEGEP but have demonstrated academic strength (average above 80%). This offers a new, flexible pathway that aligns more closely with the rest of Canada and international systems.

What this means for Quebecers:

- A more practical, well-rounded education that prepares students for life and work
- Reduced dropout rates and higher literacy through personalized support
- Alternative pathways for high achievers that keep doors open without CEGEP

Fair, Accessible, and Competitive Higher Education

Keywords: Affordability | Fairness | Opportunity

Quebec must remain a competitive and attractive place for students from across Canada and around the world — but recent policies are making that harder. The CaPQ will immediately reverse CAQ-imposed tuition hikes for international and rest-of-Canada students attending English universities.

We will also end preferential tuition rates for France and Belgium students, replacing them with a fair, equal system for all international students. In addition, The CaPQ will repeal Law 14's (Bill 96) 80% French course requirement for graduation in English universities, and restore institutional growth projects like Dawson's expansion to ensure capacity keeps up with demand.

What this means for Quebecers:

- A fairer tuition system that puts Quebec on equal footing with other provinces
- Fewer barriers for English-speaking and out-of-province students
- More choices and opportunities for students at every level of higher education

Indigenous Access and Educational Partnership

Keywords: Inclusion | Reconciliation | Support

Reconciliation requires action. The CaPQ will bring post-secondary education closer to Indigenous communities by establishing nearby institutions and forging partnerships with English & French universities to build off-site campuses.

Beyond geography, we will co-develop programs that reflect the needs, cultures, and aspirations of Indigenous communities. Education must be a tool of empowerment — not assimilation.

What this means for Quebecers:

- Lower financial and logistical barriers for Indigenous students
- Educational opportunities rooted in Indigenous priorities and knowledge
- A step toward real, sustained reconciliation through partnership

Refocusing the Language Office on Education, Not Policing

Keywords: Accountability | Pedagogy | Charter Rights

The Office québécois de la langue française (OQLF) has drifted from its original educational mission and now acts more as a language police than a public servant. The CaPQ believes it's time to restore balance and purpose to Quebec's language policy — one that supports teaching, not punishes compliance.

We will place the OQLF under the Ministry of Education and revise its mandate to focus on improving the quality of French language education across all schools — English and French alike. Instead of spending millions on surveillance and signage investigations, we will redirect this funding to classroom-level programs that build strong, confident French speakers through excellent pedagogy.

The CaPQ will also reallocate the CAQ's planned \$20 million increase to the OQLF budget toward core educational priorities, such as infrastructure upgrades, updated learning materials, and language teacher training programs. Our approach affirms that the best way to promote French is through education, not intimidation.

What this means for Quebecers:

- A modern, constructive approach to promoting the French language through teaching excellence
- A reformed OQLF that serves students and educators — not political agendas
- More funding directly supporting classrooms, not bureaucratic overreach