

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Bill 27 (2019, chapter 29)

An Act respecting mainly government organization as regards the economy and innovation

Introduced 12 June 2019
Passed in principle 23 October 2019
Passed 6 December 2019
Assented to 11 December 2019

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This Act proposes to update the organization of certain government departments and bodies responsible for developing and implementing government policies relating to the economy and innovation.

First, the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation is enacted. It specifies the mission and responsibilities of the Minister of Economy and Innovation, particularly as regards international trade, and provides for the department's organization.

Next, the Act respecting Investissement Québec is amended to, among other things,

- (1) include in Investissement Québec's mission that Investissement Québec must, among other things, participate in Québec's economic development and provide the Minister of Economy and Innovation with the necessary support to implement the policies, development strategies and programs he or she establishes and the other measures he or she takes;
- (2) specify the entrepreneur support services Investissement Québec must offer and provide for its regional presence such as by setting up regional development offices and establishing regional development committees;
- (3) integrate the mission of Ressources Québec inc., a subsidiary Investissement Québec must dissolve before 1 April 2020, into its provisions;
- (4) change the Mining and Hydrocarbon Fund's name to "Natural Resources and Energy Capital Fund" and modify the allocation of the Fund's assets so that the sums credited to the Fund may be used to acquire participations in enterprises that develop or process natural resources or produce, store, transmit or distribute certain energy resources;
- (5) establish the Québec Enterprise Growth Fund, a special fund dedicated to supporting enterprises whose principal activities are carried on in Québec and that have a high growth potential or are strategic to Québec's economy; and

(6) increase Investissement Québec's authorized capital fund to \$5,065,000,000.

The Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec is amalgamated with Investissement Québec and the Act respecting the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec is repealed. The constituting Acts of the four Innovatech corporations are repealed and the provisions necessary for their liquidation on 1 January 2020 are enacted.

The Act respecting the Société du parc industriel et portuaire de Bécancour is amended to update certain rules relating to the governance of the Société and empower the Société to carry out, even outside its territory of activity, any mandate entrusted to it by the Government and, when permitted by the latter, to delegate the carrying out of such a mandate to a business corporation all of whose shares are held by the Société.

The Act respecting hours and days of admission to commercial establishments is amended to give the Minister of Economy and Innovation the power to authorize, on a request from the Minister of Public Security, that the public be admitted, outside the periods otherwise provided for by law, to commercial establishments situated in or near a disaster area or an area at risk of a disaster.

The Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie's coordinating role with respect to Québec's international action abroad is consolidated. The roles and responsibilities of delegates general, delegates and official representatives abroad are clarified. Also, the Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales is amended to provide for the establishment of a liaison committee in which representatives from that department, the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation and Investissement Québec must participate in order to enhance the synergy of Québec's economic actions abroad.

Moreover, the Act respecting the Société des alcools du Québec and the Purchase and Bottling of Spirits Regulation are amended to authorize the bottling of imported spirits on behalf of a third person.

Last, consequential amendments and transitional provisions are included.

LEGISLATION AMENDED BY THIS ACT:

- Financial Administration Act (chapter A-6.001);
- Act respecting reserved designations and added-value claims (chapter A-20.03);
- Act respecting artistic, literary and scientific competitions (chapter C-51);
- Social Economy Act (chapter E-1.1.1);
- Act respecting hours and days of admission to commercial establishments (chapter H-2.1);
- Taxation Act (chapter I-3);
- Public Infrastructure Act (chapter I-8.3);
- Act respecting Investissement Québec (chapter I-16.0.1);
- Act respecting stuffing and upholstered and stuffed articles (chapter M-5);
- Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales (chapter M-25.1.1);
- Act respecting the sectoral parameters of certain fiscal measures (chapter P-5.1);
- Act respecting the process of negotiation of the collective agreements in the public and parapublic sectors (chapter R-8.2);
- Act respecting the Civil Service Superannuation Plan (chapter R-12);
- Voluntary Retirement Savings Plans Act (chapter R-17.0.1);
- Act respecting health services and social services (chapter S-4.2);
- Act respecting the Société des alcools du Québec (chapter S-13);
- Act respecting the Société du parc industriel et portuaire de Bécancour (chapter S-16.001).

LEGISLATION REPEALED BY THIS ACT:

- Act respecting the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec (chapter C-8.1);
- Act respecting Société Innovatech du Grand Montréal (chapter S-17.2.0.1);
- Act respecting Société Innovatech du sud du Québec (chapter S-17.2.2);
- Act respecting Société Innovatech Québec et Chaudière-Appalaches (chapter S-17.4);
- Act respecting Société Innovatech Régions ressources (chapter S-17.5).

LEGISLATION REPLACED BY THIS ACT:

- Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique, de l'Innovation et de l'Exportation (chapter M-30.01).

LEGISLATION ENACTED BY THIS ACT:

- Act respecting the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation (2019, chapter 29, section 1).

REGULATION AMENDED BY THIS ACT:

- Purchase and Bottling of Spirits Regulation (chapter S-13, r. 1).

Bill 27

AN ACT RESPECTING MAINLY GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION AS REGARDS THE ECONOMY AND INNOVATION

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

CHAPTER I

ENACTMENT OF THE ACT RESPECTING THE MINISTÈRE DE L'ÉCONOMIE ET DE L'INNOVATION

1. The Act respecting the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation, the text of which appears in this chapter, is enacted.

"ACT RESPECTING THE MINISTÈRE DE L'ÉCONOMIE ET DE L'INNOVATION

"CHAPTER I

"MINISTER'S MISSION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

"DIVISION I

"GENERAL PROVISIONS

- "L. The Minister of Economy and Innovation, appointed under the Executive Power Act (chapter E-18), has the direction of the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation.
- **"2.** The Minister's mission is, as regards the economy, to support entrepreneurship, acquisition entrepreneurship, the growth of enterprises in all of Québec's regions, and the development of their markets in Québec, elsewhere in Canada or abroad, as well as the growth of investment, in Québec, of capital sourced in Québec, elsewhere in Canada or abroad. The Minister must also see to the implementation of measures aimed at increasing enterprises' productivity in Québec.

The Minister's mission is also, as regards innovation, to contribute, in all circles, to the development of research, science, innovation and technology, and to encourage the adoption and commercialization of innovations, in particular when they foster the growth of enterprises, an increase in their productivity or the development of their markets in Québec, elsewhere in Canada or abroad.

As part of his or her mission, the Minister contributes to implementing sustainable development by promoting, more particularly, in respect of all of Québec's regions, access to knowledge, job maintenance and creation, the social economy, the creation of collective wealth, social progress, respect for the environment and the achievement of the Government's objectives as regards the electrification of the economy and the fight against climate change.

"3. The Minister develops general policies for economic development and proposes them to the Government. He or she also determines the sectors of the economy in which he or she intends to act as a matter of priority and advises the Government and government departments and bodies on all matters falling within his or her mission.

The Minister must, in matters of regional economic development and in all other matters falling within his or her mission, ensure that government actions in Québec and elsewhere are cohesive and concordant and must, to that end, take part in the development of measures and ministerial decisions and give an opinion whenever appropriate.

The Minister must also increase the effectiveness of initiatives relating to those matters by promoting the concordance, simplification and accessibility of entrepreneurship, acquisition entrepreneurship and innovation support services.

"4. The Minister must set objectives and develop policies, development strategies and programs to ensure the carrying out of his or her mission while promoting synergy among the players concerned. Such objectives, policies, development strategies and programs must take into account the specific characteristics of the regions concerned.

The Minister may also, to that end, take any other useful measures. He or she may, in particular, offer assistance for entrepreneurs and financial or technical support for the carrying out of actions or projects, subject to the conditions he or she determines within the framework of government policy directions and policies and, in certain cases, with the Government's authorization.

The Minister is responsible for the sums he or she entrusts to a local authority or to any other organization with which he or she acts in concert within the framework of a measure and may administer the other sums entrusted to him or her to ensure the carrying out of any economic development project or project to support research or innovation.

"5. The Minister is responsible for implementing the policies, development strategies and programs he or she establishes and the other measures he or she takes.

The Minister may, however, entrust such implementation, in whole or in part, to Investissement Québec, by a mandate given under its constituting Act. The Minister oversees its implementation.

If a body or a government department, other than Investissement Québec, is involved, the Minister must coordinate the performance of the mandate and the collaboration of all the players concerned.

- **"6.** The Minister is responsible for the administration of the Acts assigned to him or her and assumes any other responsibility conferred on him or her by the Government.
- "7. In exercising his or her responsibilities and taking charge of the coordination of the players concerned, the Minister may, in particular,
- (1) obtain from government departments and bodies the information the Minister considers necessary;
 - (2) enter into agreements with any person, association, partnership or body;
- (3) facilitate the development and signing of agreements, particularly between bodies and between government departments and bodies;
- (4) enter into agreements, in accordance with the applicable legislative provisions, with a government other than that of Québec or a department or body of such a government, or with an international organization or a body of such an organization; and
- (5) conduct or commission research, studies and analyses and make them public.
- **"8.** The Minister may make regulations to
- (1) prescribe the fees payable for any act performed or document issued by the Minister; and
- (2) prescribe the fees, costs or other compensation payable for the services provided by the Minister.
- **"9.** The Minister tables the department's annual management report before the National Assembly within four months of the end of the fiscal year or, if the Assembly is not sitting, within 15 days of resumption.

"DIVISION II

"TRADE POLICY AND RELATIONS

"10. In carrying out his or her mission as regards the economy, the Minister must, in particular, foster Québec enterprises' participation in Canadian internal trade and in international trade.

The Minister is therefore responsible for

- (1) developing, negotiating, coordinating and implementing the Government's trade policy;
- (2) planning and organizing the trade-related action of the Government, of its departments and of its bodies, steering that action and coordinating their activities in connection with such matters;
- (3) taking the lead in the negotiation of Canadian intergovernmental trade agreements and seeing to their implementation by the government departments concerned:
- (4) promoting and defending Québec's interests during the negotiation of any international trade agreement and obtaining gains the Minister considers satisfactory when entering into such an agreement;
- (5) seeing to the implementation in Québec, by the government departments concerned, of the agreements referred to in subparagraph 4;
- (6) coordinating, organizing and implementing the defence of Québec's interests in trade disputes, subject to the settlement and conduct, by the Attorney General, of all litigation against the State in relation to such a dispute, and doing so in collaboration with the government departments and bodies concerned and, if applicable, the other governments in Canada and abroad;
- (7) conducting research, studies and analyses on countries and their economic situation and potential to assess opportunities for developing Québec innovations or other Québec products and services in, or exporting them to, those countries, and for promoting foreign investments from those countries in Québec;
- (8) in complementarity with players having developed expertise in such matters, providing enterprises and bodies with support, in Québec, elsewhere in Canada and abroad, in enhancing, commercializing and promoting their innovations and their other products and services, in particular through missions, consulting services, internships, trade shows or financial assistance programs, and coordinating the activities of the government departments and bodies concerned; and
- (9) providing the Government with opinions, other than those within the purview of the Minister of Justice, on the compliance of measures, programs or other government interventions with trade agreements.

The Minister exercises the responsibilities conferred on him or her by this Act as regards international trade in keeping with the functions and powers of the Minister of International Relations; the Minister must consult with and inform the latter in conducting trade relations and negotiations and must also

ensure the participation of the department's representatives in the liaison committee established under section 18.1 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales (chapter M-25.1.1).

"**11.** The Minister is responsible, in collaboration with the ministers concerned, for seeing to the establishment of a deployment plan to coordinate the activities under the Minister's responsibility as regards international trade and foreign investment prospecting with those under the responsibility of the Minister of International Relations.

The deployment plan must cover, in particular, the regions, markets and sectors to be prioritized and the economy- and trade-related ministerial missions to be held.

The plan is established in such a manner as to promote complementarity with bodies having expertise in international trade and foreign investment prospecting.

"12. The deployment plan is devised by the Minister and the Minister of International Relations; it is integrated into the deployment plan provided for in section 11.1 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales for Québec's international action.

The delegates general, the delegates and the persons in charge of any other form of Québec representation abroad must be consulted.

The Minister consults bodies having expertise in international trade and foreign investment prospecting.

"13. The Minister may require any government department or any body to produce any document and to disclose any information the Minister considers useful to the exercise of his or her responsibilities in relation to trade disputes.

Despite section 3.8 of the Act respecting the Ministère du Conseil exécutif (chapter M-30), the Minister may, in exercising his or her responsibilities, acting alone and without the approval of the Government, enter into any confidentiality agreement that is a Canadian intergovernmental agreement to which that section applies.

"DIVISION III

"INNOVATION

- **14.** In carrying out his or her mission as regards innovation, the Minister is responsible for
- (1) promoting research in all its forms, including fundamental research, science, innovation and technology and fostering, in those fields, concerted action between the various players, cohesive government action and the expansion of Québec's influence both elsewhere in Canada and abroad;

- (2) contributing to developing, supporting and enhancing those fields, a scientific culture, as well as a culture of innovation and scientific knowledge, in all segments of the population of Québec;
- (3) seeing to the enhancement and quality of research activities and fostering their integrity, in particular by seeking to ensure the coordination and cohesiveness of government departments' and bodies' activities in the fields of research and innovation;
- (4) supporting academic circles and research centres, including college centres for technology transfer, that contribute to the development of research, science, innovation or technology;
- (5) promoting interactions between persons and enterprises taking part in research, the transfer of their knowledge and the commercialization of the results of such research; and
- (6) supporting enterprises during the stages leading up to the commercialization of their innovations and promoting the adoption of such innovations in Québec.

"CHAPTER II

"ORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT

- **"15.** The Government appoints a person as Deputy Minister of the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation in accordance with the Public Service Act (chapter F-3.1.1).
- **"16.** Under the Minister's direction, the Deputy Minister administers the department.

In addition, the Deputy Minister performs any other function assigned to him or her by the Government or the Minister.

- **"17.** The Deputy Minister has the Minister's authority in the exercise of his or her functions.
- **"18.** The Deputy Minister may, in writing and to the extent he or she specifies, delegate the exercise of his or her functions under this Act to a public servant or to the holder of a position.

The Deputy Minister may, in the instrument of delegation, authorize the subdelegation of the functions he or she specifies; in such a case, he or she identifies the public servant or holder of a position to whom they may be subdelegated.

"19. The personnel of the department consists of the public servants required for the exercise of the Minister's responsibilities; they are appointed in accordance with the Public Service Act.

The Minister determines those public servants' duties if they are not determined by law or by the Government.

"20. The Minister's or Deputy Minister's signature gives authority to any document emanating from the department.

No deed, document or writing is binding on the Minister or may be attributed to the Minister unless it is signed by him or her, the Deputy Minister, a member of the personnel of the department or the holder of a position but, in the latter two cases, only to the extent determined by regulation of the Minister.

- **"21.** The Minister may, by regulation and on the conditions he or she determines, allow a signature to be affixed by means of an automatic device or of any other information technology-based process.
- **"22.** A document or reproduction of a document emanating from the department or forming part of its records, signed or certified true by a person referred to in the second paragraph of section 20, is authentic.

"CHAPTER III

"FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

- **"23.** Unless the context indicates otherwise and with the necessary modifications, in any other Act and in any regulation or other document,
- (1) a reference to the Minister or Deputy Minister of Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade or to the Ministère du Développement économique, de l'Innovation et de l'Exportation is a reference to the Minister or Deputy Minister of Economy and Innovation and to the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation; and
- (2) a reference to the Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique, de l'Innovation et de l'Exportation (chapter M-30.01) or to any of its provisions is a reference to the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation (2019, chapter 29, section 1) or to the corresponding provision of that Act.

The first paragraph does not apply to section 965.36.1, the definitions of "recognized business" and "qualified corporation" in the first paragraph of section 1029.8.36.72.1, subparagraph b of the third paragraph of section 1129.12.24, the definitions of "eligible contract" and "eligible vessel" in section 1130 and section 1137 of the Taxation Act (chapter I-3).

- "24. The Terms and conditions for the signing of certain deeds, documents and writings of the Ministère du Développement économique, de l'Innovation et de l'Exportation (chapter M-30.01, r. 5) remain in force until replaced or repealed by a regulation made under this Act.
- **"25.** This Act replaces the Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique, de l'Innovation et de l'Exportation."

CHAPTER II

INVESTISSEMENT QUÉBEC, RESSOURCES QUÉBEC, INVESTISSEMENT QUÉBEC INTERNATIONAL AND CENTRE DE RECHERCHE INDUSTRIELLE DU QUÉBEC

DIVISION I

AMENDING PROVISIONS

ACT RESPECTING INVESTISSEMENT QUÉBEC

- **2.** Section 4 of the Act respecting Investissement Québec (chapter I-16.0.1) is replaced by the following sections:
- "4. The priority mission of the Company, as regards its own activities and the administration of programs or the carrying out of other mandates given to it by the Government or the Minister, is to actively participate in Québec's economic development in accordance with the Government's general policies in that area. The goals of the Company are to stimulate innovation in enterprises, entrepreneurship and acquisition entrepreneurship as well as the growth of investments and exports, and to promote, in particular, high-value-added jobs in all regions of Québec.

To carry out its mission, the Company supports the creation and development of enterprises of all sizes through consulting services for entrepreneurs and other support measures, including technology-based measures, and through adapted financial solutions and investments. In doing so, the Company tries to complement its partners' offerings.

In addition, the mission of the Company includes providing the Minister with the necessary support, in Québec, elsewhere in Canada and abroad, in implementing the policies, development strategies and programs he or she establishes and the other measures he or she takes, in particular as regards trade and foreign investment prospecting.

"4.1. The Company carries out its mission in keeping with the principle of sustainable development by promoting respect for the environment and the achievement of the Government's objectives as regards the electrification of the economy and the fight against climate change."

3. Section 5 of the Act is amended

- (1) by adding the following paragraph before paragraph 1:
- "(0.1) provides products and services to support entrepreneurs according to the stage of development of their enterprise;";
- (2) by inserting "for the purpose of establishing, in the various sectors of the economy, a full financing chain to ensure financing for enterprises according to their stage of development" after "financial services" in paragraph 1.
- **4.** The Act is amended by inserting the following sections after section 5:
- **"5.1.** The Company offers its products and services to for-profit enterprises as well as cooperatives and other social economy enterprises; it may also offer them, if it considers it appropriate to do so, to other groups of persons or of assets whose objects fall within the mission of the Company.
- **"5.2.** The Company sets up an office in every administrative region of Québec in which, in addition to its own products and services, it offers products and services developed at the request and with the financing of municipalities and other local or regional authorities. It may, given the specific characteristics of a region, establish more than one such office in that region.

The Company may agree to share premises with a minister or government body exercising activities complementary to its own.

"5.3. The Company establishes a development committee in each of the administrative regions in which it sets up an office. If more than one office is set up in a single region, the Company may establish more than one committee. Each development committee is composed of at least five members, a majority of whom are from the personnel of the Company and of the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation and from the region's business and economic development sector.

The development committees, which play an advisory role, must promote the development of projects that are likely to increase their region's economic development. They are also responsible for examining, in accordance with the Company's by-laws, the projects submitted to them, for selecting those that, in their opinion, are most likely to promote such development and for recommending to the Company that it make the loan or acquire the participation they consider necessary to support the projects thus selected.

A majority of the members in office constitutes a quorum at any meeting of a committee. A committee member who has an interest in a project which could cause his or her personal interest to conflict with the obligations of his or her office may not participate in the committee's deliberations on the project.

Committee members may not disclose anything revealed to or learned by them in the exercise of their functions." **5.** The Act is amended by inserting the following after section 8:

"DIVISION I.1

"CONSULTING SERVICES, PROJECT MANAGERS AND OTHER SUPPORT MEASURES

****8.1.** In order to provide entrepreneurs with support to simplify the carrying out of their investment projects or business development projects, the Company determines the range of measures it will offer to meet their needs according to the stage of development of their enterprise.

The following measures must be included:

- (1) strategic advice;
- (2) guidance services and referrals to available resources;
- (3) project management services to assist entrepreneurs in their dealings with government departments and bodies; and
 - (4) standardization and certification.

The range of measures offered must also include technological support for

- (1) designing, developing, testing or operating equipment, products or processes, and for gathering and disseminating technological and industrial information and data:
- (2) helping enterprises implement new technological means, including by enabling them to conduct digital audits or other forms of technological audits; and
- (3) helping enterprises commercialize new processes or other technological innovations.
- **"8.2.** The Company maintains an administrative unit referred to as the "Bureau de normalisation du Québec" to offer its range of services relating to standardization and certification.

In addition, the Bureau de normalisation du Québec must carry out any standardization- or certification-related mandate given to it by an Act or a regulation.

****8.3.** In addition to the enterprises and groups referred to in section 5.1, the Company may offer its products and services relating to technological support and to standardization and certification to clients of any kind.

"8.4. If an enterprise to which the Company provides products or services expresses the intention to exercise an activity for which it could avail itself of measures administered by a minister or that requires compliance with standards whose application falls under a minister's responsibility, the Company must refer the enterprise to the minister concerned.

Unless the enterprise objects, the Company must share with the minister concerned the information that it holds in relation to the enterprise and that is useful in helping the enterprise avail itself of those measures or comply with those standards.

The minister concerned processes the requests from enterprises thus referred to him or her and shares with the Company the information that will allow it to improve the products and services it offers to enterprises.

****8.5.** Section 65.1 of the Act respecting Access to documents held by public bodies and the Protection of personal information (chapter A-2.1), except its fourth paragraph, applies, with the necessary modifications, to any information relating to an enterprise that is shared by the Company under section 8.4, as if the information were personal information.

"DIVISION I.2

"RESSOURCES QUÉBEC

- **"8.6.** In addition to the other activities it may exercise in pursuing its mission, the Company must
- (1) offer financial services and support services to enterprises wishing to develop projects offering an attractive return potential, or large-scale structuring projects that are profitable for Québec, in the fields of natural resource exploration, development or processing or of energy production, storage, transmission or distribution; and
- (2) harness the human and financial resources at its disposal to promote investment prospecting, business development and investment in the form of participations or debt obligations in the natural resources and energy sectors.

The Company exercises those activities under the name "Ressources Québec"."

- **6.** Section 10 of the Act is amended by inserting "so that a full financing chain may be established in the various sectors of the economy to ensure financing for enterprises according to their stage of development" at the end of the first paragraph.
- **7.** Section 11 of the Act is repealed.

8. Section 12.1 of the Act is amended by replacing "sector of mineral substances or petroleum resources in the domain of the State" and "Mining and Hydrocarbon" by "natural resources and energy sectors" and "Natural Resources and Energy", respectively.

9. Section 13 of the Act is amended

- (1) by inserting "and economic development targets" at the end of paragraph 1;
 - (2) by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"The economic development targets must be consistent with the Company's mission."

- **10.** Section 14 of the Act is replaced by the following section:
- **"14.** The Company makes its investments, under normal conditions of profitability, with due regard for its mission and the economic spinoffs expected, among other things, and in complementarity with its partners, while seeking a long-term average return on its equity that is at least equivalent to the Government's borrowing rate."
- **11.** Section 19 of the Act is replaced by the following section:
 - "19. When the Government gives it the mandate to do so, the Company must
- (1) grant and administer any one-time financial assistance the Government determines for the realization of projects that are of major economic significance for Québec; and
- (2) provide the Minister with the support he or she considers necessary to implement the policies, development strategies, assistance programs and other measures the Minister develops.

The mandate provided for in subparagraph 2 of the first paragraph determines the respective functions and responsibilities of the Company and the Minister as well as the measures to ensure the coordination of their activities."

12. Section 20 of the Act is amended by replacing "business investment, development or financing" by "its mission".

- **13.** The Act is amended by inserting the following sections after section 20:
- "**20.1.** The Company, in accordance with the mandate given to it by the Government, ensures the conduct of investment prospecting outside Québec, in Canada or abroad, assists enterprises in developing their markets there and carries out strategic interventions in accordance with the deployment plan devised under section 12 of the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation (2019, chapter 29, section 1).

The Company carries out that mandate under the name "Investissement Ouébec International".

The Company may not set up offices abroad or fill a position there without having obtained the authorization of the Minister of International Relations.

- "**20.2.** A coordination committee is responsible for advising the president and chief executive officer on the implementation of the deployment plan devised under section 12 of the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation (2019, chapter 29, section 1).
- **"20.3.** The coordination committee is composed of at least five members, including
 - (1) one member representing the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation;
 - (2) one member representing the Ministère des Relations internationales; and
 - (3) one member representing the Company.

The committee members, other than those mentioned in subparagraphs 1 to 3 of the first paragraph, must have expertise that is relevant to the mandate in progress.

The Minister appoints the committee members, except the member representing the Ministère des Relations internationales, who is appointed by the Minister of International Relations.

"**20.4.** The Minister designates the chair of the coordination committee from among the members who represent the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation. The committee chair presides at meetings and sees to the proper operation of the committee. In the case of a tie vote, the chair has a casting vote.

The committee chair is answerable to the Minister for the operation of the committee.

"**20.5.** The Company must inform the delegates general, the delegates and the persons in charge of any other form of Québec representation abroad as well as the other members concerned among the personnel of the Ministère des Relations internationales of its actions and activities relating to the implementation abroad of the deployment plan devised under section 12 of the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation (2019, chapter 29, section 1).

The Company must participate in the liaison committee established under section 18.1 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales (chapter M-25.1.1)."

- **14.** Section 21 of the Act is replaced by the following section:
- **"21.** The Company must carry out any other mandate given to it by the Minister or the Government.

Except for the purposes of section 23, a mandate given by the Minister is considered to be a mandate given to the Company by the Government. The following are also considered to be mandates given by the Government:

- (1) the administration, by the Company, of the sectoral parameters set out in Schedule A to the Act respecting the sectoral parameters of certain fiscal measures (chapter P-5.1);
- (2) any mandate given by Energy Transition Québec to grant a loan under section 18 of the Act respecting Transition énergétique Québec (chapter T-11.02) and administer it;
- (3) the standardization and certification services provided by the Bureau de normalisation du Québec under the first paragraph of section 8.2; and
- (4) the range of technological support products and services offered by the Company where the clientele concerned is not formed of enterprises or groups mentioned in section 5.1.

Energy Transition Québec pays annually, to the Company, remuneration the Government considers reasonable for the carrying out of the mandate and the administration of a loan referred to in subparagraph 2 of the second paragraph."

- **15.** The Act is amended by inserting the following section after section 21:
- **"21.1.** The Minister may not, in a fiscal year, give the Company a mandate if the sums necessary for the carrying out, in that fiscal year, of all the other mandates the Minister has given the Company exceed the amount determined by the Government.

The Government determines the terms according to which the Minister may give the Company such a mandate. The Government may not, however, exempt such a mandate from the application of sections 8 and 12, under which the Government's authorization is required.

A notice setting out the content of the mandate is published in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* and section 11.1 of the Executive Power Act (chapter E-18) applies to such a notice as if it were an order and the Minister were substituted for the Government."

16. Section 23 of the Act is amended

- (1) by adding the following sentence at the end of the first paragraph: "Likewise, the Minister is responsible for the mandates he or she gives the Company and for the revenues and losses of the Economic Development Fund that are attributable to those mandates.":
 - (2) in the second paragraph,
- (a) by inserting "or, as the case may be, to the Minister" after "to the Government":
- (b) by replacing "the Government gives it" by " the Government or the Minister gives it";
- (3) by inserting "or, as the case may be, by the Minister" after "Government" in the third paragraph.
- **17.** Section 25 of the Act is amended by replacing "du Développement économique, de l'Innovation et de l'Exportation" in the first paragraph by "de l'Économie et de l'Innovation".
- **18.** Section 27 of the Act is replaced by the following section:
- **"27.** The Government, on the recommendation of the Minister and the Minister of Finance, sets the remuneration it considers reasonable to grant the Company for the administration by the Company of the financial assistance programs the Government develops or designates under this Act, and for the carrying out by the Company of the mandates given to it by the Government, except a mandate referred to in the third paragraph of section 21.

For the purpose of setting that remuneration, the Company sends the Minister, on the date the Minister determines, a report showing, among other things, the amount corresponding to the sums it has allocated to the administration of those financial assistance programs and the carrying out of those mandates. An auditor's report on the truth and accuracy of the sums so allocated must be attached to the Company's report. The Company sends a reproduction of the reports, on the same date, to the Minister of Finance.

When setting the Company's remuneration, the Government takes into account the revenue from the investment of the sums paid to the Company or to one of its subsidiaries under the Regulation respecting the selection of foreign nationals (chapter I-0.2, r. 4).

The Government determines, in the same manner, the other sums allocated to the administration of those financial assistance programs and the carrying out of those mandates that may be debited from the Fund by the Company.

The Government may set the conditions on which that remuneration and those sums may be debited from the Fund. The Minister then ensures compliance with the conditions set by the Government.

The Company debits that remuneration from the Fund."

- **19.** The heading of subdivision 3 of Division III of Chapter II before section 35.1 of the Act is amended by replacing "Mining and Hydrocarbon" by "Natural Resources and Energy".
- **20.** Section 35.1 of the Act is replaced by the following section:
- **"35.1.** The Natural Resources and Energy Capital Fund is established within the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation.

The purpose of the Fund is to expand and grow the sums credited to it through investments in participations in enterprises whose principal activity is

- (1) the development or processing, in Québec, of natural resources, provided that, as concerns processing, a portion of those resources was first developed in Québec;
- (2) the production, storage, transmission and distribution of fuels that, as substitutes for other fuels, including fossil fuels, allow carbon intensity to be reduced;
- (3) the production, storage, transmission and distribution of renewable energy or of fossil fuel substitutes, provided that, in the latter case, such substitutes allow greenhouse gas emissions to be reduced or contribute to the clean energy or hydrogen supply in Québec; or
- (4) the development, commercialization or implementation of technologies that promote energy transition, innovation or effectiveness, reduce fugitive emissions or make the activities referred to in subparagraph 3 possible."

21. Section 35.2 of the Act is amended

(1) by replacing "the mining of a mineral substance or the production of petroleum" in paragraph 2 by "if a natural resource is a mineral substance or petroleum, the mining of the former or production of the latter";

(2) by striking out paragraph 3.

22. Section 35.3 of the Act is amended

- (1) by replacing "the endowment" in paragraph 1 by "the advance";
- (2) by inserting the following paragraph after paragraph 2:
- "(2.1) the sums transferred to the Fund by the Minister of Finance under section 54 of the Financial Administration Act (chapter A-6.001);".

23. Section 35.4 of the Act is amended

- (1) by replacing "endowment" by "advance";
- (2) by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"The advance does not bear interest and its term, which may exceed 10 years, is determined by the Government."

24. Section 35.5 of the Act is amended

- (1) by replacing "the endowment referred to" and "mine or process mineral substances or produce petroleum found" by "the advance provided for" and "develop or process natural resources situated", respectively;
- (2) by inserting ", or in enterprises whose principal activity is carried on in that area and is described in subparagraphs 2 to 4 of the second paragraph of section 35.1" at the end.
- **25.** Section 35.6 of the Act is amended by striking out "or one of its subsidiaries designated by it" in the first paragraph.

26. Section 35.7 of the Act is amended

(1) by inserting the following paragraph after the first paragraph:

"In addition to the opinions referred to in the first paragraph, an investment project in an enterprise whose activities fall within the mission of another minister must be the object of a favourable opinion from the latter, on the recommendation of the government department under the latter's responsibility.";

- (2) by replacing "those Ministers" in the third paragraph by "that minister";
- (3) by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"For the purposes of this subdivision, an enterprise is affiliated with another if one is the subsidiary of the other or if both are controlled by the same person. The definitions of the terms "subsidiary" and "control" in section 7 apply, with the necessary modifications."

- **27.** Section 35.11 of the Act is replaced by the following section:
- **"35.11.** The Government, on the recommendation of the Minister and the Minister of Finance, sets the remuneration it considers reasonable to grant the Company for the carrying out of the mandate under section 35.6.

For the purpose of setting that remuneration, the Company sends the Minister, on the date the Minister determines, a report showing, among other things, the amount corresponding to the sums it has allocated for the carrying out of that mandate. An auditor's report on the truth and accuracy of the sums so allocated must be attached to the Company's report. The Company sends a reproduction of the reports, on the same date, to the Minister of Finance."

- **28.** Section 35.13 of the Act is amended by replacing "that mines mineral substances or produces petroleum forming part of the domain of the State" in the first paragraph by "whose principal activity is described in the second paragraph of section 35.1".
- **29.** Section 35.17 of the Act is amended by replacing "and 53, the first paragraph of section 54 and section" in the second paragraph by ", 53 and".
- **30.** The Act is amended by inserting the following after section 35.17:
- "§4. Québec Enterprise Growth Fund
- **"35.18.** The Québec Enterprise Growth Fund is established within the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation.

The purpose of the Fund is to expand and grow the sums credited to it by supporting enterprises whose principal activities are carried on in Québec and that have a high growth potential or are strategic to Québec's economy, by investing in participations in those enterprises or in funds of any juridical form pursuing the same object, other than a special fund within the meaning of section 5.1 of the Financial Administration Act (chapter A-6.001).

A participation includes the acquisition of a right of ownership in assets but excludes claims that can be converted into participations.

- **"35.19.** An investment of sums credited to the Fund in an enterprise or in another fund is possible only if it is greater than \$5,000,000.
 - **"35.20.** The following are credited to the Fund:
- (1) the advance transferred to the Fund by the Minister of Finance under section 35.21;
- (2) the sums transferred to the Fund by a minister out of the appropriations granted for that purpose by Parliament;

- (3) the sums transferred to the Fund by the Minister of Finance under section 54 of the Financial Administration Act (chapter A-6.001);
- (4) the gifts, legacies and other contributions paid into the Fund to further the achievement of its objects;
- (5) the income and growth resulting from the investment of the sums credited to the Fund; and
 - (6) the other revenues generated by the sums credited to the Fund.
- **"35.21.** The Minister of Finance transfers to the Fund, out of the sums credited to the general fund and to the extent and on the dates determined by the Government, an advance of \$1,000,000,000.

The advance does not bear interest and its term, which may exceed 10 years, is determined by the Government.

"35.22. Each proposed investment of sums credited to the Fund is subject to authorization by the Minister and to a favourable opinion from the Minister of Finance, acting on the recommendation of the Ministère des Finances.

Apart from the proposed investment of such sums referred to in section 12.1, a proposed investment that would result in an acquisition of control or cause the sums taken out of the Fund and invested in the same enterprise or in affiliated enterprises to exceed \$50,000,000 may not be authorized by that Minister and requires the authorization of the Government.

"35.23. Section 35.6, the fourth paragraph of section 35.7 and sections 35.8 to 35.17 apply to the Fund, with the necessary modifications.

For the purpose of applying those sections to the Fund, the reference to section 35.7 in sections 35.6, 35.8 to 35.10 and 35.13 is replaced by a reference to section 35.22."

- **31.** Section 36 of the Act is amended by replacing "and the president and chief executive officer" by ", the president and chief executive officer and the Deputy Minister of Economy and Innovation, who is a member of the board by virtue of office".
- **32.** Section 37 of the Act is amended by replacing "and the president and chief executive officer" in the first paragraph by ", the president and chief executive officer and the Deputy Minister of Economy and Innovation".

- **33.** The Act is amended by inserting the following section after section 54:
- **"54.1.** The Company must, in its by-laws, determine, for each of the committees it establishes under section 5.3, the nature and characteristics of the projects they examine. It must, in those by-laws, specify the situations that constitute conflicts of interest and prescribe rules on the disclosure of conflicts of interest of members of such committees as well as the other particulars of their framework of operation."
- **34.** Section 60 of the Act is amended by replacing "\$4,000,000,000" and "4,000,000" in the first paragraph by "\$5,065,000,000" and "5,065,000", respectively.
- **35.** Section 67 of the Act is amended by replacing "the financial services it provides" by "the products and services, in particular the financial products and services, it provides".
- **36.** Section 68 of the Act is amended by replacing "financial services" by "products and services, in particular the financial products and services,".
- **37.** Section 69 of the Act is amended by replacing "its range of financial services" in the first paragraph by "the range of products and services it offers to support entrepreneurs, its range of financial services".
- **38.** The Act is amended by inserting the following section after section 73:
- **"73.1.** The Company develops and proposes to the Minister indicators to assess whether the range of products and services it offers is complementary to that of its partners and fosters the establishment of a full financing chain.

The Minister publishes, on his or her department's website and by any other means he or she considers appropriate, the indicators he or she has retained.

The Company must monitor the indicators retained."

39. Section 74 of the Act is amended by inserting the following paragraphs after the first paragraph:

"The activity report must include, with respect to the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries,

- (1) their respective staffing numbers; and
- (2) the average remuneration, including variable remuneration and other benefits, paid to their employees and the standard deviation.

The activity report must also account for the monitoring of the indicators retained by the Minister under the second paragraph of section 73.1."

- **40.** The Act is amended by inserting the following section after section 74:
- "**74.1.** The Company must, every year, file with the Minister the financial statements of each special fund established under Division III of Chapter II in sufficient time for them to be attached to his or her department's annual management report.

The Auditor General's report on those special funds must be attached to the annual management report referred to in the first paragraph."

- **41.** Section 76 of the Act is amended by replacing "the report and financial statements of the Company" by "the financial statements referred to in section 74 and the Company's report of its activities".
- **42.** Section 77 of the Act is amended by replacing the second paragraph by the following paragraph:

"However, the audit necessary for the auditor's reports required under sections 27 and 35.11 is conducted by the external auditor appointed by the Company."

43. Section 167 of the Act is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"The same applies to an employee

- (1) who, at the time of his or her transfer to the Company under section 66 of the Act respecting mainly government organization as regards the economy and innovation (2019, chapter 29), was a permanent public servant; or
- (2) who is transferred to the Company under that section and who, on 31 December 2019, was a public servant without having obtained permanent tenure, other than a casual employee."
- **44.** Section 169 of the Act is amended by replacing the second paragraph by the following paragraphs:

"However, before being entitled to apply for a transfer, an employee referred to in subparagraph 2 of the second paragraph of section 167 who, before transferring to the Company, had not completed the probationary period required under section 13 of the Public Service Act (chapter F-3.1.1) must have successfully completed the remainder of that probation within the Company.

If an employee is transferred pursuant to the application of the first or second paragraph, the deputy minister of the department or the chief executive officer of the body assigns to the employee a classification in keeping with the assessment under the first paragraph.

However, an employee referred to in subparagraph 2 of the second paragraph of section 167 who, at the time of his or her transfer to the Company, had not completed the period of continuous employment required for the purposes of section 14 of the Public Service Act to obtain permanent tenure and who, at the time he or she is transferred to a position in the public service, still has not completed the equivalent of that period by adding the time served in the public service before transferring to the Company and that served as an employee of the Company must, before obtaining permanent tenure, complete the remainder of that period from the day of the transfer."

45. Section 170 of the Act is amended

(1) by inserting the following paragraph after the first paragraph:

"However, an employee referred to in subparagraph 2 of the second paragraph of section 167 is entitled to be placed on reserve in the public service only if, at the time some or all of the operations of the Company are discontinued, the sum of the time served in the public service before transferring to the Company and that served as an employee of the Company is equivalent to at least the period of continuous employment required under section 14 of the Public Service Act (chapter F-3.1.1).";

- (2) by replacing "the employee's classification" in the last paragraph by "the classification of an employee referred to in the first or second paragraph".
- **46.** Section 171 of the Act is amended by striking out "the first paragraph of".
- **47.** Section 182 of the Act is amended by replacing "Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade" by "Economy and Innovation".

ACT RESPECTING THE CENTRE DE RECHERCHE INDUSTRIELLE DU QUÉBEC

48. The Act respecting the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec (chapter C-8.1) is repealed.

ACT RESPECTING THE SOCIÉTÉ DU PARC INDUSTRIEL ET PORTUAIRE DE BÉCANCOUR

49. Section 5 of the Act respecting the Société du parc industriel et portuaire de Bécancour (chapter S-16.001) is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"In addition, the board of directors must include two observers designated respectively by the Minister and the Minister of Transport. The observers participate in board meetings but do not have the right to vote."

50. Section 11 of the Act is amended

- (1) by replacing "The president and general manager of the Société shall be appointed by the Government for a term" in the first paragraph by "On the recommendation of the board of directors, the Government shall appoint the president and general manager taking into account the expertise and experience profile approved by the board. The president and general manager is appointed for a term";
 - (2) by replacing the second paragraph by the following paragraph:

"If the president and general manager is absent or unable to act, the board of directors may designate a person with management responsibilities who reports directly to the president and general manager to exercise the functions of that position."

51. Section 17 of the Act is amended by adding the following paragraphs at the end:

"The second paragraph applies, with the necessary modifications, to the legal person or the partnership that is controlled by the Société.

A legal person is controlled by the Société when the Société holds, directly or through legal persons the Société controls, more than 50% of the voting rights attached to the equity securities of the legal person or when the Société can elect a majority of its directors.

A partnership is controlled by the Société when the Société holds, directly or through legal persons the Société controls, more than 50% of the equity securities. However, a limited partnership is controlled by the Société when the Société or a legal person the Société controls is the general partner of the limited partnership."

- **52.** Section 18 of the Act is amended by striking out the second paragraph.
- **53.** Section 22 of the Act is amended by replacing the introductory clause by the following introductory clause:
- **"22.** The Société may acquire by agreement or, with the authorization of the Government, by expropriation,".
- **54.** Section 24 of the Act is replaced by the following section:
- **"24.** The Société shall also carry out any other mandate entrusted to it by the Government because of the expertise developed in carrying out its mission; the costs are then borne by the Government to the extent that the latter determines.

Where the Government so provides, the Société may delegate the carrying out of such a mandate to a business corporation that the Société establishes and all of whose shares it holds. The Government may also prescribe the rules according to which the Société must form the board of directors of such a business corporation; in case of conflict, those rules take precedence over the corporation's statutes and by-laws. Section 4 applies to that business corporation, with the necessary modifications.

Such a mandate may be carried out outside the territory of activity of the Société."

INNOVATECH CORPORATIONS

55. The Act respecting Société Innovatech du Grand Montréal (chapter S-17.2.0.1), the Act respecting Société Innovatech du sud du Québec (chapter S-17.2.2), the Act respecting Société Innovatech Québec et Chaudière-Appalaches (chapter S-17.4) and the Act respecting Société Innovatech Régions ressources (chapter S-17.5) are repealed.

DIVISION II

SPECIAL TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

- §1.—Amalgamation of the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec and Investissement Québec
- **56.** The Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec is amalgamated with Investissement Québec on 1 April 2020.

As of that date, the Centre is continued within Investissement Québec and their patrimonies are joined together to form a single one.

- **57.** The administrative unit of the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec referred to as the "Bureau de normalisation du Québec" is continued as the administrative unit of the same name that Investissement Québec must maintain under section 8.2 of the Act respecting Investissement Québec (chapter I-16.0.1), enacted by section 5 of this Act.
- **58.** The term of the members of the board of directors of the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec in office on 31 March 2020 ends at the time of the amalgamation provided for in section 56, without compensation.

The end of the term of the Centre's president and general manager as a board member does not terminate his or her employment contract. For the remainder of the term of that contract, he or she assumes management responsibilities within Investissement Québec and reports to its president and chief executive officer.

- **59.** The rights and obligations of the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec become those of Investissement Québec and the latter becomes, without continuance of suit, a party to any proceedings to which the Centre was a party.
- **60.** The amalgamation involves, by operation of law, the conversion of the shares issued by the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec into shares of Investissement Québec.

The certificates for the shares thus converted are issued to the Minister of Finance without delay.

- **61.** Unless the context indicates otherwise, in any document, a reference to the Act respecting the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec (chapter C-8.1) or to any of its provisions is a reference to the Act respecting Investissement Québec or to the corresponding provision of that Act, if any.
- **62.** Unless the context indicates otherwise, in any document, a reference to the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec is a reference to Investissement Québec.
- **63.** Investissement Québec must file the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec's final activity report and final financial statements required under section 32 of the Act respecting the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec; it must attach them to its own activity report.
- **64.** Section 42 of the Act respecting the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec is to be read, for the period from 11 December 2019 to 1 April 2020, as if "Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology" were replaced by "Economy and Innovation".
- **65.** Section 60 of the Act respecting Investissement Québec, amended by section 34 of this Act, is to be read, for the period from 11 December 2019 to 31 March 2020, as if "\$5,065,000,000" and "5,065,000" in the first paragraph were replaced by "\$5,000,000,000" and "5,000,000", respectively.
- §2.—Transfer of employees, of rights and of obligations from the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation to Investissement Québec
- **66.** Subject to the employment conditions applicable to them, employees of the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation identified by the Deputy Minister of Economy and Innovation before 30 June 2020 become, from the date or dates agreed on by the Deputy Minister and the president and chief executive officer of Investissement Québec, the employees of Investissement Québec.

The same applies to employees transferred to the Ministère du Conseil exécutif or the Ministère des Relations internationales who must, at the end of their posting outside Québec, return to the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation. In such a case, the Deputy Minister and the president and chief executive officer may not agree on a date that is prior to the end date of the posting.

67. A permanent employee identified under section 66 who, in accordance with the employment conditions applicable to him or her, refuses to be transferred to Investissement Québec is temporarily assigned to the latter until the Chair of the Conseil du trésor is able to place the employee in accordance with section 100 of the Public Service Act (chapter F-3.1.1).

When it is not possible to temporarily assign an employee to Investissement Québec, that employee may, in accordance with the employment conditions applicable to him or her, be temporarily assigned elsewhere.

- **68.** The employment conditions of an employee of the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation who has been transferred to Investissement Québec under section 66 and who is not governed by a collective agreement continue to apply, with the necessary modifications, until they are modified by Investissement Québec.
- **69.** The records and other physical documents of the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation relating to the exercise of the functions determined by the Government among those assigned to the employees transferred under section 66 become those of Investissement Québec.

The Minister allows Investissement Québec to take possession of those documents on 1 October 2020 or on any earlier date the Government may set.

70. The rights and obligations of the Minister of Economy and Innovation arising from the exercise of the functions determined by the Government under the first paragraph of section 69 continue to be exercised and performed, from the date referred to in the second paragraph of that section, by Investissement Québec.

Investissement Québec becomes, without continuance of suit, a party to all proceedings to which the Minister was a party with respect to those functions.

- §3.— *Variable pay policy*
- **71.** Investissement Québec must, within the time specified by the Minister, revise any variable pay policy referred to in section 16 of the Act respecting the governance of state-owned enterprises (chapter G-1.02) in accordance with the policy directions and objectives the Minister may determine in order to, in particular, include short- and long-term performance objectives for officers.

- §4.—Dissolution of Ressources Québec inc.
- **72.** Investissement Québec must dissolve its subsidiary Ressources Québec inc. before 1 April 2020 in accordance with subdivisions 3 and 5 of Division I of Chapter XIII of the Business Corporations Act (chapter S-31.1).

Investissement Québec notifies the Minister of Economy and Innovation of the planned date of dissolution without delay.

- §5.—Liquidation of Innovatech corporations
- **73.** The rights and obligations of the corporations dissolved as a result of the Acts referred to in section 55 being repealed become, at the time those Acts are repealed, the rights and obligations of the Minister of Economy and Innovation, except debts owed to a financial institution or related to a financial instrument or contract designated by the Government, which become debts of the Minister of Finance.

The Minister of Economy and Innovation becomes, without continuance of suit, a party to any proceeding to which those corporations were parties with respect to the rights or obligations that become his or hers. The same is true of the Minister of Finance, with respect to debts, if any, that become his or hers.

Assets and liabilities related to the rights and obligations that become those of the Minister of Economy and Innovation become assets and liabilities of the Economic Development Fund.

The exercise of the rights and the performance of the obligations that become those of the Minister of Economy and Innovation are deemed to be a mandate given to Investissement Québec under section 21 of its constituting Act.

74. The debts that become debts of the Minister of Finance under the first paragraph of section 73 are debts referred to in section 10 of the Financial Administration Act (chapter A-6.001).

The Minister of Finance may transfer to the general fund, out of the sums credited to the Economic Development Fund, any sum corresponding to the sum taken out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the payment of those debts.

- §6.—Approval of expenditures and investments for the Québec Enterprise Growth Fund
- **75.** The expenditure and investment estimates for the Québec Enterprise Growth Fund, set out in Schedule I, are approved for the 2019–2020 fiscal year.

CHAPTER III

AMENDING PROVISIONS

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION ACT

76. Schedule 2 to the Financial Administration Act (chapter A-6.001) is amended by striking out "Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec".

ACT RESPECTING RESERVED DESIGNATIONS AND ADDED-VALUE CLAIMS

77. Section 49 of the Act respecting reserved designations and added-value claims (chapter A-20.03) is amended by replacing "of the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec" and "16 of the Act respecting the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec (chapter C-8.1)" in the second paragraph by "of Investissement Québec" and "8.2 of the Act respecting Investissement Québec (chapter I-16.0.1)", respectively.

ACT RESPECTING ARTISTIC, LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC COMPETITIONS

78. Section 1 of the Act respecting artistic, literary and scientific competitions (chapter C-51) is amended by replacing "Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology" in the second paragraph by "Economy and Innovation".

SOCIAL ECONOMY ACT

- **79.** Section 6 of the Social Economy Act (chapter E-1.1.1) is amended
- (1) by replacing "of Municipal Affairs, Regions and Land Occupancy" in the introductory clause by "of Economy and Innovation";
 - (2) by striking out "and the Economy" in paragraph 1.
- **80.** Section 14 of the Act is amended by replacing "Minister of Municipal Affairs, Regions and Land Occupancy" by "Minister of Economy and Innovation".

ACT RESPECTING HOURS AND DAYS OF ADMISSION TO COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS

- **81.** Sections 2 and 3 of the Act respecting hours and days of admission to commercial establishments (chapter H-2.1) are amended by replacing "14" in their respective introductory clauses by "14.1".
- **82.** Section 3.1 of the Act is amended by replacing "14" in the introductory clause of the first paragraph by "14.1".

- **83.** The Act is amended by inserting the following section after section 14:
- **"14.1.** Upon a request from the Minister of Public Security, the Minister may authorize, for the period and area he determines, that the public also be admitted, outside the legal periods of admission, to commercial establishments that he designates and that are situated in or near a disaster area or an area at risk of a disaster.

The Minister of Public Security shall give notice of the authorization by any means he considers appropriate."

84. Section 15 of the Act is amended by replacing "13 and 14" by "13, 14 and 14.1".

TAXATION ACT

- **85.** Section 737.19 of the Taxation Act (chapter I-3) is amended by replacing "Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology" in paragraph d of the definition of "foreign researcher" in the first paragraph by "Economy and Innovation".
- **86.** Section 737.22.0.0.5 of the Act is amended by replacing "Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology" in paragraph d of the definition of "foreign expert" in the first paragraph by "Economy and Innovation".
- **87.** Section 1029.8.1 of the Act is amended by replacing "Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology" in paragraph *a*.1.1 by "Economy and Innovation".
- **88.** Sections 1029.8.16.1.4 and 1029.8.16.1.5 of the Act are amended by replacing "Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology" in subparagraph b of their respective fourth paragraphs by "Economy and Innovation".
- **89.** Section 1029.8.16.1.9 of the Act is amended by replacing "Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology" by "Economy and Innovation".

PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE ACT

- **90.** The Public Infrastructure Act (chapter I-8.3) is amended by striking out "and the Economy" in the following provisions:
 - (1) the introductory clause of the first paragraph of section 7;
 - (2) the second paragraph of section 54;
 - (3) the first and third paragraphs of section 55;
 - (4) the second paragraph of section 81;

- (5) section 82;
- (6) the first paragraph of section 83;
- (7) subparagraph 2 of the first paragraph of section 86; and
- (8) the second paragraph of section 146.

ACT RESPECTING STUFFING AND UPHOLSTERED AND STUFFED ARTICLES

- **91.** Section 13 of the Act respecting stuffing and upholstered and stuffed articles (chapter M-5) is amended
 - (1) by replacing "and inspectors shall be appointed" by "shall be appointed";
 - (2) by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"In addition, the Minister may, in order to assist the chief inspector, authorize any person to act as an inspector to verify compliance with this Act."

ACT RESPECTING THE MINISTÈRE DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES

- **92.** Section 11 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales (chapter M-25.1.1) is amended
 - (1) by striking out the second paragraph;
- (2) by inserting the following subparagraph after subparagraph 1 of the third paragraph:
- "(1.1) the representative of the Government as regards economic diplomacy and soft diplomacy;".
- **93.** The Act is amended by inserting the following section after section 11:
- **"II.1.** The Minister shall, in cooperation with the departments concerned, devise an international relations policy, propose it to the Government and see to its implementation. The policy must contribute to the expansion of Québec's influence and to Québec's development, particularly in the commercial, cultural, economic, political and social spheres.

In order, in particular, to ensure the implementation of that policy, the Minister shall devise, in cooperation with the departments concerned, a multi-year deployment plan for Québec's international action. The plan determines short- and medium-term results targets as well as the means chosen for achieving them and identifies actions to be taken to support the deployment of Québec's international action. It is submitted to the Government for approval."

94. Section 12 of the Act is amended by inserting ", including the missions," after "foreign activities" in the first paragraph.

95. Section 13 of the Act is amended

- (1) by replacing "for the information of the departments and agencies, particularly as to the possibilities for exporting Québec products and services to those countries or of promoting foreign investment from them in Québec" in the first paragraph by "and shall ensure ongoing international monitoring of economic, commercial, political and geopolitical developments in connection with the international priorities of the Government for the information of the departments and agencies";
 - (2) by striking out the second paragraph.
- **96.** The Act is amended by inserting the following sections after section 18:
- **"18.1.** An international trade liaison committee is established. The committee is responsible for ensuring the cohesiveness and coordination of the action and activities carried on by the Minister, the Minister of Economy and Innovation or Investissement Québec to implement the deployment plan devised under section 12 of the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation (2019, chapter 29, section 1) or that otherwise relate to the trade agreements referred to in section 22.1, to international trade and to foreign investment.

In addition, the committee must see to it that the necessary liaison mechanisms are put in place to ensure communication and information sharing between the delegates general, the delegates, the persons in charge of any other form of representation and the other members of the staff of the Ministère, the members of the staff of the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation as well as those of the staff of Investissement Québec who take part in the action and activities referred to in the first paragraph.

The committee must also see that mechanisms are put in place to promote the coordination of the actions and activities referred to in the first paragraph with those of bodies having expertise in international trade and foreign investment prospecting.

The Deputy Minister, the Deputy Minister of the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation and the president and chief executive officer of Investissement Québec are, by virtue of office, members of the liaison committee; the deputy ministers are its co-chairs. The ministers may each designate two other committee members.

"**18.2.** The Minister shall exercise the functions and powers conferred on him by this Act in accordance with the functions and powers of the Minister of Economy and Innovation as regards international trade."

- **97.** The Act is amended by inserting the following section after section 22.6:
- **"22.6.1.** The functions and powers of the Minister provided for in sections 22.2 to 22.6 are, as regards international trade agreements, exercised jointly with the Minister of Economy and Innovation. However, the functions and powers provided for in the first paragraph of section 22.1 are, as regards such agreements, exercised by the Minister of Economy and Innovation in keeping with the Minister's function in matters of economic diplomacy and soft diplomacy and with the Minister's other functions and powers."

ACT RESPECTING THE SECTORAL PARAMETERS OF CERTAIN FISCAL MEASURES

- **98.** Section 2 of the Act respecting the sectoral parameters of certain fiscal measures (chapter P-5.1) is amended by replacing "of Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade" in paragraph 3 by "of Economy and Innovation".
- **99.** The heading of Schedule C to the Act is amended by replacing "of Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade" by "of Economy and Innovation".
- **100.** Section 1.1 of Schedule C to the Act is amended
- (1) by replacing "of Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade" in the introductory clause by "of Economy and Innovation";
 - (2) by inserting the following paragraphs after paragraph 1:
- "(1.1) the deduction in respect of a foreign researcher provided for in sections 737.19 to 737.22 of the Taxation Act:
- "(1.2) the deduction in respect of foreign experts provided for in sections 737.22.0.0.5 to 737.22.0.0.8 of the Taxation Act;";
 - (3) by inserting the following paragraphs after paragraph 4:
- "(4.1) the refundable tax credit for university research and for research carried on by a public research centre or a research consortium and the tax credit for fees and dues paid to a research consortium provided for in sections 1029.8.1 to 1029.8.7 and 1029.8.9.0.2 to 1029.8.9.0.4 of the Taxation Act;
- "(4.2) the tax credit for private partnership pre-competitive research provided for in sections 1029.8.16.1.1 to 1029.8.16.1.9 of the Taxation Act;".

101. Schedule C to the Act is amended by inserting the following after section 2.10:

"CHAPTER III

"SECTORAL PARAMETERS OF DEDUCTION IN RESPECT OF FOREIGN RESEARCHERS

"DIVISION I

"INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL

"3.1. In this chapter, unless the context indicates otherwise,

"eligible employer" means a person or partnership who declares to the Minister that the person or partnership is carrying on a business in Canada and undertaking or causing to be undertaken on the person's or partnership's behalf in Québec scientific research and experimental development related to a business of the person or partnership and that the person or partnership is neither an eligible university entity within the meaning of section 2.1 of Schedule D, nor a person exempt from tax under section 984 or 985 of the Taxation Act or that would be exempt from tax under that section 985 but for section 192 of that Act;

"foreign researcher tax holiday" means the fiscal measure provided for in Title VII.3 of Book IV of Part I of the Taxation Act, under which an individual may deduct an amount in computing the individual's taxable income for a taxation year.

"3.2. In order for an individual who works for an eligible employer to benefit from the foreign researcher tax holiday for a taxation year, the eligible employer must obtain a qualification certificate in respect of the foreign researcher (in this chapter referred to as a "researcher qualification certificate") from the Minister.

The employer must file an application for the qualification certificate before 1 March of the calendar year that follows the individual's taxation year for which he or she first claims the tax holiday.

"DIVISION II

"RESEARCHER QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATE

"3.3. A researcher qualification certificate issued to an eligible employer certifies that the individual referred to in the certificate is recognized as a researcher.

- **"3.4.** To be recognized as a researcher, an individual must
- (1) be specialized in the field of pure or applied science or a related field;
- (2) hold, or possess knowledge equivalent to the knowledge acquired by the holder of, a Master's degree recognized by a Québec university in any of the fields referred to in paragraph 1; and
- (3) have the skills required to carry out scientific research and experimental development activities.
- **"3.5.** An eligible employer to which a researcher qualification certificate is issued must promptly send a copy of the certificate to the individual concerned so that it may be attached to his or her fiscal return.

"CHAPTER IV

"SECTORAL PARAMETERS OF DEDUCTION IN RESPECT OF FOREIGN EXPERTS

"DIVISION I

"INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL

"4.1. In this chapter, unless the context indicates otherwise,

"eligible employer" means a person or partnership who declares to the Minister that the person or partnership is carrying on a business in Canada for the period in which the person or partnership undertakes or causes to be undertaken on the person's or partnership's behalf in Québec, as part of a project, scientific research and experimental development related to a business of the person or partnership, as well as for the periods preceding and following the carrying out of the project, and that the person or partnership is neither an eligible university entity within the meaning of section 2.1 of Schedule D, nor a person mentioned in section 984 or 985 of the Taxation Act;

"foreign expert tax holiday" means the fiscal measure provided for in Title VII.3.0.2 of Book IV of Part I of the Taxation Act, under which an individual may deduct an amount in computing the individual's taxable income for a taxation year.

"**4.2.** In order for an individual who works for an eligible employer to benefit from the foreign expert tax holiday for a taxation year, the eligible employer must obtain a qualification certificate in respect of the individual (in this chapter referred to as an "expert qualification certificate") from the Minister. The certificate must be obtained for each taxation year for which the individual may claim the tax holiday.

The employer must file an application for the qualification certificate before 1 March of the calendar year that follows the individual's taxation year concerned.

"DIVISION II

"EXPERT QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATE

- **"4.3.** An expert qualification certificate issued to an eligible employer certifies that the individual referred to in the certificate is recognized as an expert in respect of the employer for the taxation year for which the application for the qualification certificate was made or for the part of the year specified in it.
- "**4.4.** In order for an individual to be recognized as an expert in respect of an eligible employer, the individual must
- (1) be specialized in a field appropriate to the valorization of scientific research and experimental development results;
- (2) hold, or possess knowledge equivalent to the knowledge acquired by the holder of, a diploma recognized by a Québec university in a field referred to in paragraph 1;
- (3) have the skills required to carry out activities that consist in the valorization of the results deriving from the employer's scientific research and experimental development projects, which activities include
 - (a) the management of innovation resulting from those projects,
- (b) the commercialization and marketing of the results deriving from those projects,
 - (c) the transfer of advanced technologies resulting from those projects,
- (d) the financing of scientific research and experimental development activities; and
- (4) have duties with the employer that consist exclusively or almost exclusively, on a continuous basis, in carrying on activities that consist in the valorization of the results deriving from the employer's scientific research and experimental development projects.
- "4.5. If an individual is temporarily absent from work for reasons the Minister considers reasonable, the Minister may, for the purpose of determining whether the individual meets the conditions for recognition as an expert in respect of an eligible employer, consider that the individual continued to perform his or her duties throughout the period of absence exactly as he or she was performing them immediately before the beginning of that period.

- "**4.6.** An eligible employer to which an expert qualification certificate is issued for a taxation year must promptly send a copy of the certificate to the individual concerned so that it may be attached to his or her fiscal return for the year."
- **102.** Schedule C to the Act is amended by inserting the following after section 5.10:

"CHAPTER VI

"SECTORAL PARAMETERS OF TAX CREDIT FOR RESEARCH CARRIED ON BY RESEARCH CONSORTIUM AND OF TAX CREDIT FOR FEES AND DUES PAID TO RESEARCH CONSORTIUM

"DIVISION I

"INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL

"6.1. In this chapter, unless the context indicates otherwise,

"research consortium" means a non-profit private research centre established in Canada whose members carry on businesses in the same sector of activity or in related sectors of activity;

"tax credit for fees and dues paid to a research consortium" means the fiscal measure provided for in Division II.2.1 of Chapter III.1 of Title III of Book IX of Part I of the Taxation Act, under which a person is deemed to have paid an amount to the Minister of Revenue on account of the person's tax payable under that Part for a taxation year;

"tax credit for research carried on by a research consortium" means the fiscal measure provided for in Division II.1 of Chapter III.1 of Title III of Book IX of Part I of the Taxation Act, under which a person is deemed to have paid an amount to the Minister of Revenue on account of the person's tax payable under that Part for a taxation year.

"6.2. To be recognized as an eligible research consortium, for the purposes of the tax credit for research carried on by a research consortium and the tax credit for fees and dues paid to a research consortium, a body must obtain a certificate in its respect (in this chapter referred to as a "consortium certificate") from the Minister.

"DIVISION II

"CONSORTIUM CERTIFICATE

"6.3. A consortium certificate issued to a body certifies that the body is recognized as an eligible research consortium. Such a certificate is valid for an indeterminate period, unless otherwise specified in the certificate.

- **"6.4.** In order for a body to be recognized as an eligible research consortium, it must be a research consortium in respect of which the following conditions are met:
- (1) the number of members forming the research consortium and their financial contribution are sufficiently representative of a sector of activity;
- (2) the public or parapublic bodies operating in that sector of activity that are members of the research consortium do not constitute a majority of its members and do not provide the major part of its financing;
- (3) the association agreement of the members of the research consortium requires that a research program concerning the members' scientific and technological interests be established every year, and provides that the research results obtained will be available to all the members for use and development according to their specific needs;
- (4) the mission of the research consortium is to carry on scientific research and experimental development work in Québec that is generic in nature and is not likely to lead to readily marketable results;
- (5) the results of scientific research and experimental development work carried on by the research consortium may give rise to applications in various industrial sectors or to products that are commercially different among its members and that vary according to the use and development each may make of those results; and
- (6) the research consortium has employees who have the skills required to carry on scientific research and experimental development work and has the premises and equipment needed to carry on that work in Québec.

The condition of subparagraph 3 of the first paragraph is not considered met if the association agreement does not clearly define the manner in which the research results obtained may be used and developed by the members of the research consortium.

The Minister may recognize only one research consortium per sector of activity.

- **"6.5.** A body that holds a valid consortium certificate must file a notice of change of status with the Minister if
- (1) a change that has occurred in its human or physical resources could compromise its capacity to carry out scientific research and experimental development work;

- (2) the composition of the consortium has changed significantly; or
- (3) the association agreement of the members of the consortium or the consortium's mission has been modified.

If a body fails to fulfil its obligation to file a notice of change of status, the Minister may revoke the consortium certificate issued to it.

"CHAPTER VII

"SECTORAL PARAMETERS OF TAX CREDIT FOR PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP PRE-COMPETITIVE RESEARCH

"DIVISION I

"INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL

"7.1. In this chapter, unless the context indicates otherwise,

"research project" means a scientific research and experimental development project;

"tax credit for private partnership pre-competitive research" means the fiscal measure provided for in Division II.3.0.1 of Chapter III.1 of Title III of Book IX of Part I of the Taxation Act, under which a person is deemed to have paid an amount to the Minister on account of the person's tax payable under that Part for a taxation year.

"7.2. To benefit from the tax credit for private partnership pre-competitive research, in respect of a research project, a person or, if the person claims the tax credit as a member of a partnership, the partnership must obtain a certificate in that respect (in this chapter referred to as a "research project certificate") from the Minister. Such a certificate is valid for a maximum period of three years.

"DIVISION II

"RESEARCH PROJECT CERTIFICATE

"7.3. The Minister may not issue a research project certificate in respect of a research project provided for in a partnership agreement unless an application to that effect is filed with the Minister before the beginning of the project.

Despite the first paragraph, the Minister may issue a research project certificate to a person or a partnership in respect of a research project carried out within the scope of a partnership agreement to which the person or partnership is a party if

- (1) the application for the certificate is filed with the Minister on or before the 90th day following the day on which the research project began; or
- (2) the application for the certificate is filed with the Minister within three years following the day on which the research project began and
- (a) the application could not be filed within the time provided in subparagraph 1 for reasons beyond the control of the person or of the members of the partnership,
- (b) the application gives the reasons why it could not be filed within such time, and
- (c) the Minister considers that the reasons put forward justify the admissibility of the application.
- "7.4. A research project certificate issued to a person or a partnership certifies that the research project referred to in it is a pre-competitive research project carried out under a partnership agreement to which the person or partnership is a party. The certificate also specifies the date on which its period of validity ends.
- "7.5. In order for a research project to be considered to be a pre-competitive research project carried out under a partnership agreement to which the person or partnership filing the application for a certificate is a party, the following conditions must be met:
- (1) each party to the partnership agreement (in this section referred to as a "partner") has a scientific and technological interest in seeing the research project carried out, and the purpose of the partnership agreement coincides with the respective interests of all the partners, even if their sectors of activity differ;
- (2) the partners are on an equal footing and share responsibility for the research project, each partner assuming its own liability, without guaranteeing the liability of the other partners;
- (3) the partners pool their contributions to the research project, which contributions may be inputs of equipment, efforts, cash, knowledge or expertise;
- (4) the expected duration and the purpose of the research project are defined in the partnership agreement;
- (5) the research project affords each partner the possibility of using the results, such that each partner has an interest in seeing the project carried out in order to benefit from the results with a view to enhancing its growth;
- (6) the research project will affect the partners, whether the project is successful or not;

- (7) each partner is entitled to benefit from the research project results, the planned sharing of those results being based on the interests of each partner and having to be coherent with the pursuit of its technological development; in that respect, the partnership agreement must include the obligation to negotiate conditions relating to the rights of each of the partners to exploit the intellectual property deriving from the research project, and must govern the disclosure of information on the obtention of a patent protecting the intellectual property, if applicable;
- (8) all the partners participate in managing the research project and no partner is subordinate to another; and
- (9) each partner performs a part of the work required to carry out the research project, while participating in the overall research project.

For the purpose of determining whether the condition of subparagraph 8 of the first paragraph is met, the establishment of a management committee and the development of a decision-making or dispute settlement mechanism, which may be provided for in the partnership agreement, are indicators that the research project is managed jointly.

For the purposes of subparagraph 9 of the first paragraph, groups of researchers, developers or engineers are considered to participate in the overall research project if they separately carry out work related to various aspects of the research project and participate in study sessions and discussions to integrate their respective research results in the overall structure of the project."

- **103.** Section 1.1 of Schedule D to the Act is amended by striking out paragraphs 3 to 6.
- **104.** Chapter IV of Schedule D to the Act, comprising sections 4.1 to 4.5, Chapter V of that Schedule, comprising sections 5.1 to 5.6, Chapter VI of that Schedule, comprising sections 6.1 to 6.5, and Chapter VII of that Schedule, comprising sections 7.1 to 7.5, become, respectively, Chapter III, comprising sections 3.1 to 3.5, Chapter IV, comprising sections 4.1 to 4.6, Chapter VI, comprising sections 6.1 to 6.5, and Chapter VII, comprising sections 7.1 to 7.5, of Schedule C to that Act, subject to the necessary changes in numbering.

ACT RESPECTING THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATION OF THE COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS IN THE PUBLIC AND PARAPUBLIC SECTORS

105. Schedule C to the Act respecting the process of negotiation of the collective agreements in the public and parapublic sectors (chapter R-8.2) is amended by striking out "—The Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec".

ACT RESPECTING THE CIVIL SERVICE SUPERANNUATION PLAN

- **106.** Schedule I to the Act respecting the Civil Service Superannuation Plan (chapter R-12) is amended by striking out "the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec" in paragraph 5.
- **107.** Schedule I to the Act is amended by striking out paragraph 10.

VOLUNTARY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLANS ACT

- **108.** The Voluntary Retirement Savings Plans Act (chapter R-17.0.1) is amended by striking out "and the Economy" in the following provisions:
 - (1) the first paragraph of section 115;
 - (2) the first paragraph of section 139; and
 - (3) section 145.

ACT RESPECTING HEALTH SERVICES AND SOCIAL SERVICES

- **109.** Sections 89 and 90 of the Act respecting health services and social services (chapter S-4.2) are amended by replacing both occurrences of "Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology" by "Economy and Innovation".
- **110.** Section 436.8 of the Act is amended by inserting the following subparagraph after subparagraph 2 of the first paragraph:
- "(2.1) one representative designated by the Minister of Economy and Innovation;".

ACT RESPECTING THE SOCIÉTÉ DES ALCOOLS DU QUÉBEC

- **111.** Section 26 of the Act respecting the Société des alcools du Québec (chapter S-13) is amended
- (1) by inserting the following subparagraph after subparagraph 4 of the first paragraph:
- "(4.1) bottle, on behalf of a foreign supplier, imported spirits made by the supplier, after informing the board;";
 - (2) by replacing the second paragraph by the following paragraphs:
- "No holder of such a permit may sell the products he makes or bottles to anyone but the Société unless he ships them out of Québec.

The holder may sell to the Société, on behalf of a foreign supplier, the spirits he bottles for the supplier, in which case the holder is deemed to own them.

The holder may also sell the alcohol or spirits he makes to another distiller's permit holder for purposes of blending or bottling. In addition, the holder may sell the alcohol he makes to an industrial permit holder for purposes of blending."

- **112.** The Act is amended by inserting the following section after section 26:
- **"26.1.** Where a distiller's permit holder bottles spirits on behalf of a foreign supplier, the holder shall ensure compliance of the bottling and sale of those spirits with this Act, the regulations made under it and the conditions fixed on the issuance of the permit."
- **113.** Section 34.1 of the Act is amended by replacing "of Finance" by "of Economy and Innovation".
- **114.** Section 37 of the Act is amended
- (1) by replacing "of Finance" in the introductory clause of the first paragraph by "of Economy and Innovation";
 - (2) by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"The Minister of Finance must be consulted on any draft regulation made under the first paragraph that relates to the Société's activities."

115. Section 61 of the Act is amended by inserting ", and with the exception of the other provisions of Divisions III and IV, which come under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Economy and Innovation" at the end.

PURCHASE AND BOTTLING OF SPIRITS REGULATION

116. Section 3 of the Purchase and Bottling of Spirits Regulation (chapter S-13, r. 1) is repealed.

CHAPTER IV

FINAL PROVISIONS

- **117.** The provisions of this Act come into force on 11 December 2019, except
 - (1) sections 55, 66, 73 and 74, which come into force on 1 January 2020;
- (2) section 2, insofar as it enacts ", including technology-based measures," in the second paragraph of section 4 of the Act respecting Investissement Québec (chapter I-16.0.1), section 5, insofar as it enacts subparagraph 4 of the second paragraph of section 8.1 of that Act, the third paragraph of that section and sections 8.2 and 8.3 of that Act, and sections 48, 56 to 63, 76, 77, 105 and 106, which come into force on 1 April 2020;

- (3) section 4, insofar as it enacts section 5.2 of the Act respecting Investissement Québec, which comes into force on 1 October 2020 or any earlier date set by the Government;
- (4) section 5, insofar as it enacts section 8.6 of the Act respecting Investissement Québec and the heading before that section, which comes into force on the date of the dissolution of Ressources Québec inc.

SCHEDULE I (Section 75)

QUÉBEC ENTERPRISE GROWTH FUNDS

| | 2019–2020 |
|---|---------------|
| Revenues | 0 |
| Expenditures | 0 |
| Surplus (deficit) of the fiscal year | 0 |
| Ending cumulative surplus (deficit) | 0 |
| Investments | \$100,000,000 |
| Total borrowings or advances ¹ | \$100,000,000 |

To (from) the Financing Fund and the general fund.