TABLE DE CONCERTATION RÉGIONALE

Haut-Saint-Laurent
Grand Montréal

Great Lakes and St-Lawrence City initiatives Conference
Montreal, Qc - June 2017
The St-Lawrence Action Plan

The Regional Concertation Tables (RCT/TCR) are governance mechanisms proposed within the St_Lawrence Action plan 2011-2026 (Canada-Quebec Agreement).

They constitute a permanent concertation structure leading to insure an integrated management of the St-Lawrence at the level of the 12 zones defined to cover the whole river area.

Globally the following objectives are to be met:

- Insure concertation between the different regional stakeholders concerned by the challenges of an integrated management plan
- Contribute to the development, the approval, the implementation and the follow-up of a regional integrated management plan to protect and rehabilitate the St-Lawrence.
The Upper St-Lawrence and Greater Montreal Zone

- The integrated managed St-Lawrence river zone is the most populated within the province of Quebec:
  - 3.5 millions inhabitants and 68 waterfront municipalities.
- Being the economical pole center of the province, the region and its water plans offer various economical uses:
  - Navigation (pleasance and commercial);
  - Various industrial areas;
  - Agriculture;
  - Hydroelectricity production;
  - Tourism;
  - ...
- This most populated integrated managed zone is located in the southern part of the Quebec province and in the heart of the Montreal archipelago. The zone witnesses a rich but fragile biodiversity.
- The Upper St-Lawrence and Greater Montreal zone offers to the population large and various accesses to the waterfront where various recreotouristical uses are practiced; it appears to be a motivating life framework.
Marina de Salaberry-de-Valleyfield
Îles de la Paix, Lac Saint-Louis/Peace islands, St-Louis Lake

© TCR Haut-Saint-Laurent – Grand Montréal
Barrage de Carillon, Rivière des Outaouais, Carillon dams
Secteur industriel de Varennes Industrial sector
Pêche blanche devant l’île Sainte-Hélène

island
Coordination is designated and delegated through the authority of the Minister (environnement and sustainable development) to the ZIP (Prioritary Intervention Zone) committees following the support of the MMC/CMM and of the CRM/MRC located off limits of the MMC/CMM.

September 22, 2015: Launching assembly and first concertation activities.
Three major institutional anchorages

- St-Lawrence action plan 2011-2026
- A bylaw confirming the collective character of the water resources and reenforcing their protection (2009)
- Legal recognition of the RCT/TCR as the governance mechanism of the water within the territory of the province of Quebec
- Maritime governmental strategy of the St-Lawrence (2015) :
  - Recognition of the RCT/TCR as the dialogue structure to implement the St-Lawrence strategy.
RCT/TCR Roles

The St-Lawrence actions plan: 3 priority stakes:
- Biodiversity conservation
- Perpetuate the uses
- Improvement of the water quality

The Upper St-Lawrence and Greater Montreal RCT/TCR has integrated more roles to its thematic and structurant action plan:
- Accesses to waterfronts and to water plans
- Conservation of natural areas and wetlands
- Improvement of the water quality
- Security in link with hazardous substances or products transportation
Principles of the CRT/TCR management

1. **Water is a collective resource** which has to be used in the general interest of all.

2. The CRT/TCR is an **autonomous, non political neither partisan** body of concertation;

3. Participation to the CRT/TCR must guarantee a **fair and equal representation** of the municipal, first nations, economical and community interests

4. The CRT/TCR coordination must guarantee the **process neutrality** in regard of the various sectors concerned and implicated.

5. The finality of the CRT/TCR works must result in a **better utilization and protection of the water** resources within the territory of action
Operational Structure

- Strategy council
- Concertation committees
- Regional Forum
Strategy council

- Presence of members representing:
  - Municipal sector: mayors delegated by MMC/CMM and CRM/MRC
  - First nations: Mohawk Council of Kahnawake
  - Economical sector: Port of Montréal, Hydro-Québec, UPA/APU, NAVARK, Conseil patronal de l’environnement du Québec, East of Montreal Industrial Association, Quebec Maritime Association, Commercial fishermen association
  - Community Sector: Montreal and Laval regional environment council, David-Suzuki Foundation, Héritage Montréal, Hunters and fishermen Quebec Federation, Public Health Montérégie Direction, GUEPE, Sherbrooke University
  - « Integrated water management» sectors: ZIP and OBV committees
- The council is chaired by municipal sector representants.
Concertation committees

- Constituted of members delegated by the strategy council and the RCT/TCR coordination
- Many partners are involved on these committees
- Concertation works on specific stakes or challenges
- Three committees are operational:
  - Accesses to shores (waterfront) and water plans
  - Water quality improvement;
  - Conservation of natural areas and wetlands.
Regional Forum

- Opened to all sector stakeholders
- Links between upstream and downstream sectors
- Sensibilization, information, large concertation
- First forum held in June 2016: 120 partners and attendants

Next forum: January 2018
  - Featuring: Water quality improvement
Links with other RCT/TCR

Presently, 5 other RCT/TCR have been created in Quebec:
- Saint-Pierre Lake
- St-Lawrence estuary
- Quebec city area Zone
- South median estuary
- Magdalenia Islands

In waiting, 6 other RCT/TCR are in process to be created. A national mechanism should also take over the St-Lawrence Forum

Establishing links between the RCT/TCR coordinators

The Upper St-Lawrence and greater Montreal will assume the leadership of organizing the 2018 regional forum.
- Insure the presence of other RCT/TCR at the forum
- Include, within the forum program, a global perspective of the St-Lawrence water quality challenges.
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