

## \$2.4 billion in infrastructure over the next 10 years

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GASPÉ - Quebec plans to invest nearly \$2.4 billion over the next decade, according to the projects included in the Quebec Infrastructure Plan tabled in the 2023-2024 provincial budget.

The most important project remains the repair of the railway line between Matapédia and Gaspé. So far, Quebec has spent \$104 million on the first two sections: Matapédia to Caplan and Caplan to Port-Daniel-Gascons.

In section 1, Quebec spent \$39.2 million to upgrade the rail; \$8.2 million is planned this year and \$7 million to complete it for a total of \$54.5 million.

In section 2, \$63.9 million was invested; \$16.6 million is recorded for the year 2023-2024 and \$16.6 million for the following five years.

No date or budget has yet been announced for the section between Port-Daniel-Gascons and Gaspé, which is still in the planning phase.

Also in transportation, the Gaspé Industrial Road, a project worth \$20 million, is included even though it is practically completed.

The new Quebec Ministry of Transport (MTQ) service centre in Gaspé is not in the document since it is finished.

In culture, the Villa Frederick-James in Percé, which is being converted to become the Gaspé Peninsula's Espace Bleu, is still listed at \$20.8 million, even though the Société québécoise des infrastructures indicated in December that the project was now valued at \$25.5 million.

In research, the Grande-Rivière Fisheries and Aquaculture Innovation centre is in the document for a total project of \$31.2 million: \$2 million is planned for this year and \$19 million after 2024, in addition to the contribution of \$8.9 million from partners.

In health, the Rivière-au-Renard Seniors' Centre will be completed this spring with \$2.8 million to be injected to complete the work. The project will ultimately cost \$40.5 million rather than the \$30 million originally budgeted.

The expansion and renovation of Villa Pabos also appears there with a sum of \$60 million, including \$8 million this year for its preparation. Two million dollars was already advanced. The latest estimates value that project at \$70 million. The Quebec government and the Gaspé Peninsula Integrated Health and Social Services Centre are working to try to reduce the cost of the project.

In education, the reconstruction of New Carlisle High School is still in the planning stage. The project was announced in September 2021 at a cost of \$32 million.



*The 176-page document presenting Quebec's investment plan for the next 10 years.*