
For a decade now, Quebec has been working to develop its wind energy sector with the goal of providing the province with a potential 4,000 MW of clean and renewable energy. The development of the sector has led to $10 billion in investments across Quebec as well as generated significant spin-off economic benefits and new job creation. In 2010, the Canadian Wind Energy Association (CanWEA) commissioned the consulting firm Hatch, and economist Jean-Claude Thibodeau, to measure the impact of the sector in Quebec. The key findings follow:

**TOTAL JOBS CREATED**

More than 37,000 jobs will be created during the construction phases from 2005 to 2015 and more than 1,380 jobs will be created during the operation of these wind farms in 2015. There is an opportunity to create up to 91,000 jobs during construction phases between 2016 and 2025 as well as more than 4,580 jobs during the operation phases in 2025.

**ECONOMIC BENEFITS**

The economic benefits from royalties and rents paid to landowners and municipalities where wind farms are located will climb from a few thousand dollars in 2005 to $25 million annually in 2015 – and could reach up to $95 million in 2025.1

Added to this is the development of research and training in universities and research centres such as the Wind Energy TechnoCentre, Groupe Collegia in the Gaspé, ÉTS, École Polytechnique Montréal and IREQ.

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1 Estimate from WindVision 2025: A Strategy for Quebec, in which the Canadian Wind Energy Association proposes developing an additional 8,000 MW in wind energy in Quebec between 2016 and 2025.