



The Sustainable Development Commissioner, Mr. Paul Lanoie, issues the conclusions of his performance audit concerning the application of the *Sustainable Development Act* for 2016 – Press Release no. 6

Québec, March 22, 2017 – Today, Ms. Guylaine Leclerc makes public the Winter 2017 Volume of the *Report of the Auditor General of Québec to the National Assembly for 2016-2017*. In **Chapter 6**, the Sustainable Development Commissioner presents the results of his audit carried out at the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques (MDDELCC).

After more than one year, the implementation of the Government Sustainable Development Strategy 2015-2020 has fallen behind. Few entities (approximately 40%) have published their sustainable development action plans according to the prescribed timeline, and one third has still not published theirs after more than nine months. Furthermore, the work of the MDDELCC and 15 partner entities is not proceeding as expected.

The MDDELCC has no comprehensive planning for the work that must be carried out to implement the Strategy. Where it has planned its own work in relation to the implementation of the Strategy, this planning was done late.

The monitoring conducted by the Department does not enable it to assess the status of deliverables related to the Strategy. Furthermore, when the MDDELCC detects problems with the status of projects, the measures it takes to improve the situation are too timid.

Meetings of the interdepartmental committees that the MDDELCC relies on to coordinate the implementation of the Strategy are not being held as they should be. At recent meetings of the Comité interministériel du développement durable, the rate of members represented by a senior level manager as expected was less than 50%. As for the Comité directeur du développement durable, there have been no meetings since the Strategy was published in November 2015.

The MDDELCC has not sufficiently adjusted its approach compared to what it did for the previous strategy. It still relies on the willingness of the entities subject to the *Sustainable Development Act* to achieve the objectives of this law.

The Highlights are available at www.vgq.qc.ca. The full report and a video summarizing the audit are available only in French.

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Source: Lucie Roy, Director of Communications
Auditor General of Québec
Tel.: 418 691-5915