SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN THE PONTIAC IN 2019

Where We Stand

A CDC Pontiac and TDSP Partnership

CDC PONTIAC
CORPORATION DE DÉVELOPPEMENT COMMUNAUTAIRE

Table de développement social du Pontiac

CDC PONTIAC
CORPORATION DE DÉVELOPPEMENT COMMUNAUTAIRE

The **CDC Pontiac**'s mission is to :

- **Bring together community organisations** and provide support, coaching, reference, and representation services;
- Ensure grassroots and community participation in the socio-economic development of the sector;
- **Encourage engagement and citizen participation**.

Table de développement social du Pontiac

The **TDSP**'s mission is to :

- **Bring together all community stakeholders** with social development as the objective;
- Promote and support the implementation of initiatives through collaboration;
- **Mobilize and encourage citizen participation**;
- Influence municipal government policy decisions and directions.

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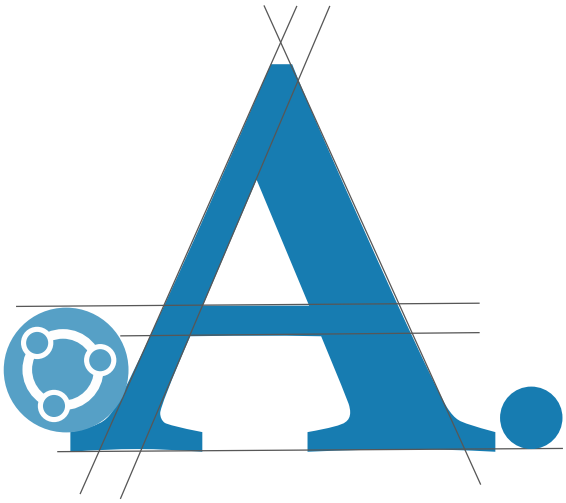


THE UNIQUE AND VITAL CONTRIBUTION OF THE COMMUNITY SECTOR TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Social Economy in Quebec

"Quebec's social economy comprises more than 11,200 collective enterprises with overall sales exceeding $ 47.8 billion, or more than the construction, aerospace, and mining industries combined. Over 220,000 people work in the social economy every day, in all sectors of activity from retail to emerging technologies."[1]

[1]Source : Chantier de l'économie sociale

The unique and vital contribution of the community sector to community development

Characteristically, COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS are **non-profit entities, rooted in the community**, which **maintain an associative and democratic life**, and are **free to determine their mission, approaches, practices, and orientations.**[2]

The community sector acts in the best interest of the public and implements services that are adapted to the needs of individuals. Its sphere of action extends to promoting gender equality and fighting poverty, exclusion, discrimination, and economic and social inequities.

The community sector plays an important social and economic role in our communities. Economic? Yes, of course, as in '*collective entrepreneurship*', or '*social economy enterprise*'. This type of business, which is a significant economic driver in Quebec, often stems from social and community need.

Community organisations provide services to all citizens while playing a fundamental role in the lives of the most vulnerable people. This is the foundation of the CDCP and TDSP campaign, 'Someone Locally is Taking Care of It' on social and community development, which will continue in 2019.

The community sector must juggle with financial constraints while addressing major issues in our communities: education, physical and mental health, poverty, exclusion, violence, support for those in need, respite and housing, etc. In other words, we entrust the support of the most vulnerable individuals in our society to our most fragile organisations. Without the help of dedicated workers and fewer, often fatigued, volunteers, it would be unthinkable for many essential organisations to the social and economic balance of the community to fulfill their mission.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT is defined as "the set of processes by which a country's inhabitants join forces with public authorities in order to improve the economic, social, and cultural situation of communities, to involve these communities in the life of the nation, and allow them to contribute unreservedly to the progress of the country."

Definition from the Thésaurus de l'activité gouvernementale

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Ability to improve the economic, social, and cultural situation of communities.

[2] These 4 characteristics were defined by the Réseau québécois de l'action communautaire autonome (RQ-ACA)

The unique and vital contribution of the community sector to community development

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT is a "change process by which different social stakeholders address various social problems in a given society, such as: poverty, unemployment, exclusion and discrimination, and work at strengthening the cohesiveness of the society to improve the quality of life of its inhabitants."

Definition from the Thésaurus de l'activité gouvernementale

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

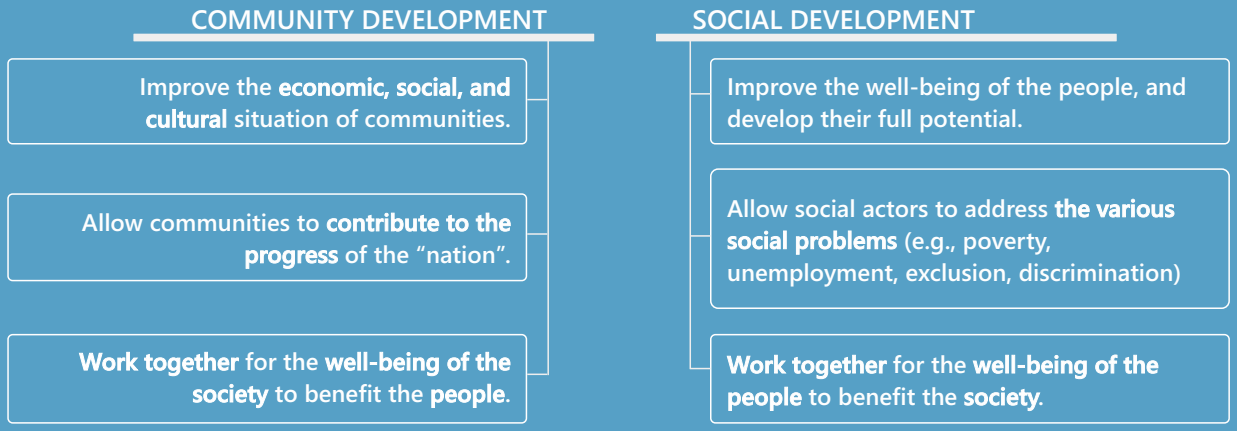
Ability to improve the well-being of people and develop their full potential.

In the summer of 2017, the ***Pontiac Community Development Corporation*** (CDC Pontiac) in partnership with the ***Pontiac Social Development Table*** (TDSP) engaged in a strategic planning exercise for social and community development in the Pontiac. The exercise culminated in the 2018 Forum on Social and Community Development held on November 16, 2018.

The 2018-2023 Action Plan, which was presented at the forum, contains social and community development actions grouped under 5 action areas. The theme of the day focused on collaboration between the community and the municipal sector. The objective was to determine ways to work together in the best interest of citizens. In that vein, Denis Marion delivered an address on the *Prendre soin de notre monde* (*Taking Care of Our People*) initiative, and we moderated a conference activity on collaborating with elected officials.

Community Development and Social Development: How to Work Together

By joining forces for the 2018 Forum, the CDC Pontiac and the TDSP developped a constructive and complementary approach to working together and taking action for the Pontiac.



B. THE TWO SOCIO-ECONOMIC REALITIES OF THE PONTIAC

The Pontiac: Two Socio-economic Realities

For the CDCP and the TDSP, the Pontiac includes the MRC Pontiac and the Municipality of Pontiac in the MRC des Collines-de-l'Outaouais. On the one hand, we have a regional administration that ranks 101st out of 104 in terms of economic vitality, and on the other, a municipality located in a MRC that ranks 5th out of 104 on the same index, has a more educated population, and a lower unemployment rate.

[3] Source: Quebec Statistical Institute, MRC ranking according to the economic vitality index, Québec, 2002-2014 et 2016

Territory Characteristics[4]

MRC DE PONTIAC

The Regional County Municipality (MRC) of Pontiac is located in the western part of the Outaouais administrative region, northwest of the city of Gatineau. It covers an area of 13 848,26 sq. km.

The MRC Pontiac is comprised of 18 municipalities and one (1) unorganized territory. Most of the municipalities are located in the south part of the territory, along the Ottawa River. The entire municipal territory covers an area of 4,008 sq. km.

MUNICIPALITY OF PONTIAC

The municipality of Pontiac is the result of the 1975 amalgamation of the former localities of Onslow-South, Onslow-North, Quyon, and Eardly. It is primarily a farming community. Neighbouring the City of Gatineau (Aylmer sector) and at 20 minutes from downtown Ottawa, this municipality located in the MRC Collines-de-l'Outaouais is experiencing a significant increase in the number of residents who want to live in a rural area while continuing to enjoy access to urban amenities.

Population[5]

	MRC Pontiac	Mun. of Pontiac
Total Population, 2016	14,062	5,850
Total Population, 2006	14,769	5,238
Variation 2006-2016	- 4.8 %	+11.8 %
Anglophones, 2016	56.9 %	40.0 %
Francophones, 2016	40.3 %	57.0 %

Housing, 2016

	MRC Pontiac	Mun. of Pontiac
Homeowners	78.7 %	87.5 %
Tenants	21.3 %	12.5 %

[4] Data compiled from statistics available at the Quebec Statistical Institute, Statistics Canada, and the Emploi-Québec Regional Office. (Where available, these statistics include those of the Municipality of Pontiac.

[5] Between 2006 and 2016, the MRC Pontiac population dropped from 4.3 % to 3.6 % of the total regional population. This downward trend continues.

Regional Demographic Weight by Territory between 2001 and 2016[6]

Population[7]	2006	SHARE %	2016	SHARE %
MRC de Papineau	21,987	6.4	23,356	6.0
Gatineau	244,868	71.0	281,392	72.3
MRC des Collines-de-l'Outaouais	42,470	12.3	49,722	12.8
MRC de la Vallée-de-la-Gatineau	20,933	6.1	20,607	5.3
MRC Pontiac	**14,769**	**4.3**	**14,062**	**3.6**
Municipality of Pontiac	**5,238**	**1.52**	**5,850**	**1.51**
Outaouais	345,027	100.0	389,139	100.0
Quebec Province	7,631,873	—	8,007,656	—

Education, 2016

Diploma	MRC Pontiac	Mun. of Pontiac	Outaouais
None	25.1 %	18.0 %	13.0 %
High School	23.8 %	26.0 %	17.7 %
Professional	18.6 %	15.0 %	13.6 %
College/CEGEP	22.5 %	22.0 %	22.6 %
University	10.0 %	20.0 %	33.0 %

Employment[7]

	MRC Pontiac	Mun. of Pontiac	Quebec
Unemployment Rate	10.5 %	5.1 %	7.2 %
Men	13.7 %	6.5 %	8.0 %
Women	6.9 %	3.4 %	6.3 %
Participation Rate	52.5 %	67.4 %	64.1 %
Men	56.3 %	69.3 %	67.9 %
Women	48.7 %	65.5 %	60.5 %
Employment Rate	47.0 %	64.0 %	59.5 %
Men	48.7 %	65.0 %	62.5 %
Women	45.3 %	63.1 %	56.7 %

[6] Source: Quebec Statistical Institute, Bulletin statistique régional 2017, Outaouais
[7] Source: Statistics Canada, Census Profile, 2016

Regional Demographic Weight by Territory between 2001 and 2016[6]

Number, Rate, and Median Income from Employment of Workers aged 25 - 64

	Number of Workers	% of Workers	Median Empl. Income
MRC Pontiac	**4,352**	**63.3 %**	**$ 32,556**
Men	2,218	64.4 %	$ 36,004
Women	2,134	62.3 %	$ 29,203
Outaouais	**154,018**	**75.8 %**	**$ 44,595**
Men	76,726	76.9 %	$ 48,071
Women	77,292	74.5 %	$ 41,449
Quebec Province	**3,331,883**	**76.1 %**	**$ 39,332**
Men	1,710,104	78.0 %	$ 44,288
Women	1,621,779	74.1 %	$ 34,932

C. COLLABORATION, ENGAGEMENT, CONSENSUS, PLANNING AND ACTION

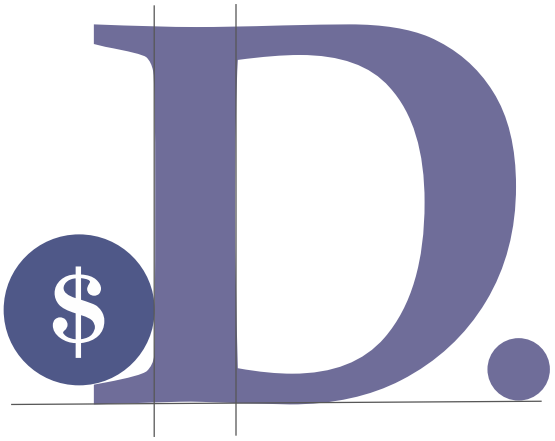
The Pontiac has a long and rich tradition (over 25 years) of collaboration between social, health, educational, community, and political stakeholders around the *Pontiac Social Development Table* (TDSP). The resulting community engagement and consensus on priorities over the years laid the foundation for the 2018-2023 Action Plan for Social and Community Development and its five (5) action areas.

The plan is gradually being rolled out. We are monitoring project implementation and periodically communicating milestones to local and regional partners. The plan's five (5) action areas will also be priorities in the MRC Pontiac's *Local Action Plan* (PAL) 2019-2013 on the fight against poverty. To achieve our goals, a new source of financing will be made available by the *Alliance for Solidarity in the Outaouais*, which was implemented by the Conference des préfets de l'Outaouais (CPO), trustee of the fund, in partnership with their local agents, the Association of Social Development Tables in Outaouais (ATDSO).

Action Plan 2018-2013

- Healthy Lifestyles
- Education
- Community Life
- Housing
- Transportation and Economic Development

[8] An administrative agreement on the management of the Quebec Social Initiatives Fund (FQIS) as part of the Alliances for Solidarity between the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity (MTESS) and the *Conférence des préfets de l'Outaouais* (CPO), was signed in December 2018.



D. FINANCING: THE CRUX OF THE MATTER

Let's be honest: financing is the crux of the matter. Community organisations are always on the lookout for one-time or non-recurring funding sources to make ends meet and ensure that the human, material, and financial resources necessary to fully assume their missions are available. In this sense, the arrival of FQIS is good news. However, financial support for the overall mission of organisations is imperative, and one of the demands in the ***Engagez-vous pour le communautaire*** (*Commit to your Community*) campaign. But beware, with few exceptions, this type of funding is not indexed and often results in stagnant wages for community workers.

In this context, retaining skilled and competent human resources is a challenge. If the community sector offers vital services to citizens, it also creates jobs.

Financing

In 2018, the CDCP conducted a human resource survey among its 22 member organisations. The 14 organisations that responded employ 123 people (including a few seasonal and part-time workers). A study on the socio-economic impact of Pontiac community organisations would highlight the significant direct and indirect economic contribution of this sector for the Pontiac.

The Community Organisation Support Program (PSOC)

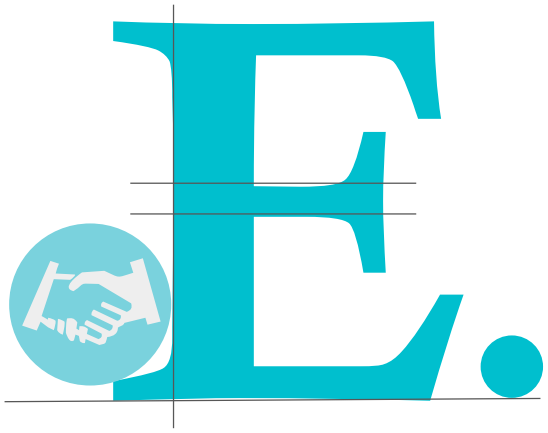
The PSOC, "*created in 1973 by the Department of Health and Social Services, will become one of the channels through which will transit institutionalised innovations brought about by the practices of community health and social services organisations. This financing program will in itself be an innovation by its allocation method and conditions for granting monies.*"

In the Outaouais, the PSOC is managed by the CISSS de l'Outaouais, which provides financial support for the overall mission of recognised organisations. Among objectives are to recognise local community organisations for their special and original contribution and help maintain activities that meet community-defined needs.

This is an important funding program for Pontiac organisations. In 2018-2019, the CISSS de l'Outaouais granted $ 28,156,134 to 133 Outaouais organisations. This amount included a 1.60% indexation compared to 2017-2018. The Pontiac's fifteen (15) recognised organisations received a total of $ 1,853,360, or 6.58% of the financial contribution for a population that represents 5.12% of the total Outaouais population. This amounts to $ 93 per person compared to $ 72 for the Outaouais.

[9] Jetté, Christian, *The Community Organisations' Support Program (PSOC), an Innovative public financing policy,* École de travail social Université du Québec in Montréal LAREPPS/UQAM, December 2007, 28p.

[10] The overall population (19,912) includes the MRC Pontiac (14,062) and the Municipality of Pontiac (5,850).



E. THE PARTNERS

At least 40 people are closely or indirectly associated with the TDSP. Ten (10) annual meetings and various committee meetings bring together the Pontiac's community stakeholders across all sectors: health, education (schools and school boards), NPO, MRC, workforce, and economic development. The topics covered are just as numerous and diverse. Solutions to concrete community problems are often identified, but all are not implemented. Additional human resources, for example a development officer within the CDCP and TDSP, would no doubt help advance several important files, such as: housing, social and professional integration, student retention, municipal sector collaboration, collective entrepreneurship development, etc.

[11] Healthy Lifestyles Committee (SHV), 0-5years Committee, Housing Committee, Food Security Committee, Education/Pontiac Education Table.

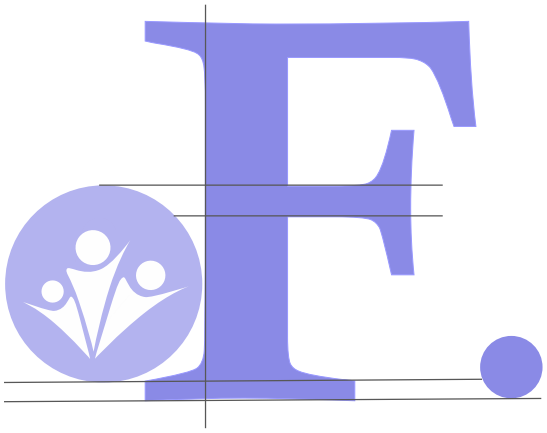
The Partners

The Vital Collaboration with Municipal Elected Officials

This topic was widely discussed at the November 16, 2018 Forum, but it is useful to reiterate the importance of collaboration between the community and municipal sectors. After all, we're all working towards a common cause: the citizen.

Municipalities are involved in community development, if in no other manner than in their support of recreational associations. When solicited, they don't hesitate to help community organisations. However, the important contribution of the social and community sector is not fully recognised by the MRC Pontiac, and as such, it doesn't always translate into concrete and sustained collaborations. Communication is a challenge that we can easily overcome by increasing opportunities to work together. The FQIS will be one such opportunity. In the same way, we could work on the creation of a "welcome agent" position at the MRC Pontiac. The community has been calling for it for a long time, and the idea received strong support at the 2018 Forum.

It goes without saying that economic development is important for the Pontiac. Our chances of success will be far greater if we have educated, welcoming, and well-organised communities that offer adequate and healthy housing, diverse social, cultural, sports and leisure activities, and where the social fabric is consistent with our aspirations.



A SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Several cities and MRCs have a social development policy. Such a project for the Pontiac would bring together the community sector and the MRC Pontiac. The policy would have to include a study of the socio-economic impact of the community sector in the Pontiac. It would lay the foundation for the collaboration of all sector stake-holders in the economic development of the territory.

Successful economic development takes into account social issues, the quality of life of all citizens, youth and their parents, seniors and families.

We should all be engaged in the search for solutions to make our living environments more attractive.

[12] Examples: Ville de Gatineau, MRC de l'Érable, MRC Vaudreuil-Soulanges, MRC de La Vallée-de-l'or.

G. AND NOW, OUR CHALLENGES

There is much to be done in the five development areas of the Action Plan presented at the 2018 Forum. But let's be realistic, all cannot be accomplished overnight. That's normal. Yes, housing is important. The creation of the Pontiac Regional Housing Office (ORH) scheduled for January 2020 is a step in the right direction. Yes, transportation is important, as is community life and the quality of life and health of our youths, families, and seniors. Yes, economic development is important, but education is the challenge we should tackle as a priority.

The ENFORME Study – Outaouais 2018 collected data from youth on physical activity, nutrition, self-esteem and academic achievement. The data is very interesting and useful. Also, as this study was conducted in 2015, we can compare results over time. We learn, among other things, that in 2018, 95% (compared to 91% in 2015) of young people believe that it is important to their parents that they succeed in school. On the other hand, 44% (versus 40% in 2015) say that if they dropped out of school they could get a job and earn money. In addition, about 30% believe that finding a job is easy or very easy if they drop out of school.[13]

[13] *Portrait of physical activity and youth nutrition from the Table de concertation – Pontiac Social Development Table*, 34p. p. 31

And Now, Our Challenges

During the 2018 Forum work, the creation of a *Pontiac Education Table* was recommended. The table's objective is to bring together the territory's stakeholders around a common vision. We must prioritize the success of our young people, value education, and make sure we are consistent in our approaches, from early childhood to vocational training and post-secondary studies. This is mentionned in the *TDSP's Action Plan for School Retention and Educational Success* adopted in April 2019:

"If education and vocational training can meet the needs of employers, it must first and foremost shape responsible citizens who will contribute positively to the well-being of their community. We must create the optimal economic, social and family conditions to support training and socio-professional integration, and perseverance among young people."

The Pontiac's education data doesn't look good. We must acknowledge this situation and take action. For secondary studies, the Outaouais oscillates between the 13th and 14th position out of 17 regions in Quebec in terms of high school graduation rate.

For the 2010 cohort (followed until 2014-2015) 62.4% of Outaouais high school students graduated. The CSHBO and WQSB rates are 47.4% and 68.1% respectively. It can be argued that the rate is higher when a cohort is followed over a 7-year period. And that would be true. For the 2008 group, for example, followed until 2014-2015, the CSHBO rate is 61.7% and the WQSB rate is 74.3%.

Other interesting data over a 7-year period (2008-2015): girls do better than boys.

2008 Cohort Followed Until 2014-2015 (7 years)

	TOTAL	GARÇONS	FILLES
CSHBO	61.7 %	53.7 %	69,7 %
WQSB	74.3 %	71.1 %	77,9 %
Outaouais	72.4 %	69.6 %	75,7 %
Québec	78.8 %	73.8 %	83,9 %

[14] Source: Department of Education and Higher Education, *High School Graduation Rate and Qualifications by School Board*, 2016 publication, 23 pages (p. 12)

And Now, Our Challenges

The data collected in the 2017 Quebec survey of child development in kingergarten (EQDEM) is also worrysome. The objective of this study was to measure the overall state of development of children in kindergarten 5 years throughout Quebec. The children's vulnerability was assessed by measuring five (5) areas of development:

- Physical health and well-being
- Social skills
- Emotional maturity
- Cognitive and language development
- Communication abilities and general knowledge

The CISSS Outaouais Public Health Department presented the Outaouais and Pontiac results on March 11, 2019 to dozens of education stakeholders: schools, CPE, etc. Whether compiled by school board, region, or local service networks (RLS), all these data tend towards the same results: our children are more vulnerable than those of the Outaouais, or of all of Quebec in at least one area of development. This is an upward trend: 43.3% in 2017 compared to 33.4% in 2012, or 10% more in five years.

Development Area	Pontiac RLS EQDEM 2012	Pontiac RLS EQDEM 2017	MRC Pontiac
Physical health and well-being	13.5 % (<30)	25.3 % (+) (50)	26.5 % (<30)
Social Skills	14.2 % (<30)	19.2 % (+) (40)	16.5 % (<30)
Emotional Maturity	11.3 % (<30)	15.2 % (30)	18.7 % (<30)
Cognitive and Language Development	12.4 % (<30)	13.8 % (<30)	16.6 % (<30)
Communication Abilities and General Knowledge	17.0 % (+) (30)	18.2 % (+) (40)	21.0 % (<30)
Vulnerable in at least one area of development	33.4 % (+) (60)	43.3 % (+) (90)	47.7 % (70)

Source: Public Health Department, CISSS de l'Outaouais

And Now, Our Challenges

One more fact: boys are more vulnerable than girls..

Attributes	Pontiac RLS	Outaouais Region	Quebec Province
Age Groups			
Under 6 years' old	44.3 % (50)	36.2 % (840)	31.7 %
6 years' old and over	42.2 % (40)	30.3 % (610)	23.5 %
Gender			
Male	60.1 % (60)	41.5 % (900)	35.0 %
Female	29.3 % (30)	25.4 % (550)	20.3 %

Source: Public Health Department, CISSS de l'Outaouais

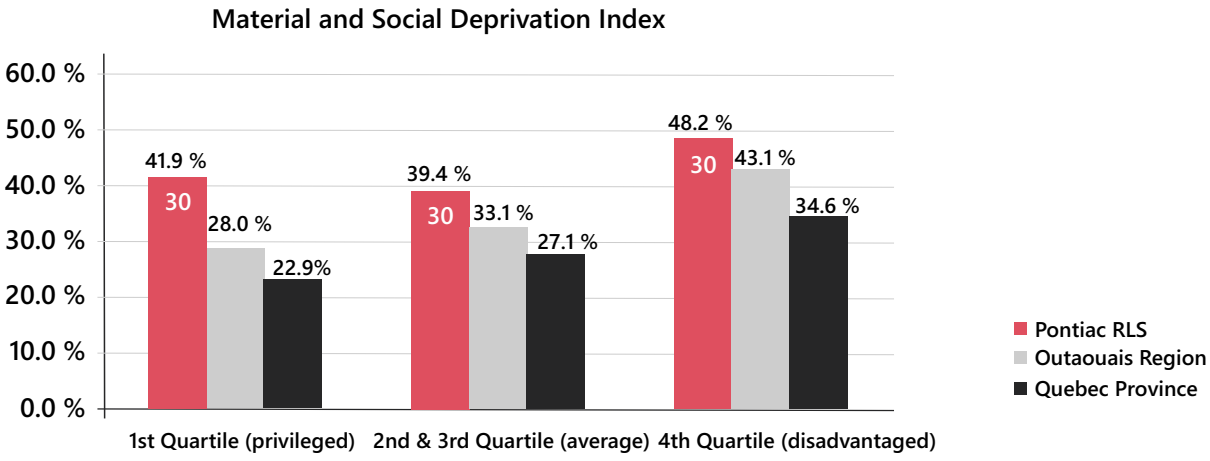
Vulnerability results in two or three areas follow the same trend:

Vulnerability Area	Pontiac RLS	Outaouais Region	Quebec Province
None	56.7 %	66.5 %	72.6 %
At least one area	43.3 % (90)	33.5 % (1440)	27.7 %
At least two areas	23.0 % (50)	17.7 % (760)	14.2 %
At least three areas	14,7 % (30)	9,7 % (420)	7.4 %

Source: Public Health Department, CISSS de l'Outaouais

Interestingly, we learn from other data that Anglophones are more vulnerable than Francophones in at least one area of development (48.1% against 36.4%). Another surprising fact is that, contrary to the trend observed elsewhere in Quebec where young people from privileged backgrounds have a lower index of material and social disadvantage than those from underprivileged backgrounds, both are comparable in the Pontiac. This index is even higher than that of the so-called "average" sector.

And Now, Our Challenges



Source: Public Health Department, CISSS de l'Outaouais

In the coming months, it is critical that we tackle education issues. We must analyze, understand, and find solutions urgently. To accomplish this, we need the human and material resources that will help us improve our education record. Places for sharing ideas, such as Agir tôt will be useful. Let's not forget that the EQDEM 2022 is already in motion and that it is now necessary to act. Let's do it in a long-term perspective where we understand that actions in early childhood have an impact along our youths' academic and professional pathway.

PSOC - Distribution of the Overall Mission Fund to Pontiac Community Organisations

ANNEXE 1

Note: In 2018-2019, the renewed amounts were indexed by 1.60%.

TABLE 1: SUMMARY

	Allocated	Renewed	Indexation	Adjustment	Total
15 Organisations, TOTAL	$ 1,759,980	$ 1,759,980	$ 27,380	$ 66,000	$ 1,853,360
7 CDC Pontiac Member Organisations, TOTAL	$ 1,198,571	$ 1,198,571	$ 18,398	$ 46,000	$ 1,262,969
Total Outaouais *(note 1)	$ 26,933,773	$ 26,933,773	$ 415,261	$ 807,100	$ 28,156,134
Outaouais Population 2016	389,139	389,139	389,139	389,139	389,139
Pontiac Population 2016 *(note 2)	19,912	19,912	19,912	19,912	19,912
Per capita Outaouais	$ 69	$ 69	$ 1	$ 2	$ 72
Per Capita Pontiac	$ 88	$ 88	$ 1	$ 3	$ 93

'(Note 1) Total Allocated Outaouais	$ 27,349,034
Adjustment 2018-2019	$ 807,100
Total	$ 28,156,134
*(Note 2) Population MRC Pontiac 2016	14,062
Population Municipality of Pontiac 2016	5,850
Total	**19,912**

TABLE 2: DEMOGRAPHIC WEIGHT OF PONTIAC VS ALLOCATED AMOUNTS

Outaouais Population 2016	389,139	389,139	389,139	389,139	389,139
Pontiac Population 2016 *(note 2)	19,912	19,912	19,912	19,912	19,912
% Pontiac Population	5.12%	5.12%	5.12%	5.12%	5.12%
% Allocated Amount	6.53%	6.53%	6.59%	8.18%	6.58%
% Allocated to 7 CDC Pontiac Members vs Pontiac Total	68%	68%	67%	70%	68%

✔ TDSP and ✔ CDCP Member List

ANNEXE 2

Association Mont O'Brien ✔
AutonHomme ✔✔
Avenir d'enfants ✔
Bouffe Pontiac ✔✔
Carrefour Jeunesse Emploi / Sortir du Bois ✔✔
CAVAC ✔
CDC Pontiac ✔
CENTRAIDE Outaouais ✔
Centre d'artisanat d'Otter Lake ✔
Centre Local d'Emploi ✔
CHIP FM ✔
CHSBO ✔
CISSS de l'Outaouais ✔
Comité 0-5 ans ✔
Comptoir Saint-Pierre de Fort-Coulonge ✔
CPE 123 Picabou ✔
CPE L'Univers des Bambinos ✔✔
École primaire St John ✔
École secondaire Sieur-de-Coulonge ESSC ✔
Établissements primaires des Petits Ponts ✔
Formation pour adultes WQSB ✔
La Voix du Pontiac ✔
Le Jardin Éducatif ✔✔
Le Mont d'Or ✔
L'EntourElle ✔✔
Le Patro Fort-Coulonge / Mansfield ✔✔
Les Amis du Sault-des-Chats ✔
Maison de la Famille de Quyon ✔✔
Maison de la Famille du Pontiac ✔
Maison des Jeunes Pontiac ✔✔
MRC de Pontiac ✔
Résidence Meilleur du Haut Pontiac ✔
Table de Développement Social du Pontiac (TDSP) ✔
Tables des aînés et retraités du Pontiac ✔✔
TransporAction ✔✔
Pontiac Connect (WPC) ✔
Western Quebec Literacy Council ✔✔