

JCCTRP Policy Brief 2019-3

Summary of the 2019 Quebec Climate and Transport Policy Workshop of the JCCTRP

Improving Quebec Stakeholder Engagement in the Transition to Low-Carbon Transport in Quebec, California and Beyond

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IQCARBONE, MONTREAL



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ABOUT THE JCCTRP

The Joint Clean Climate Transport Research Partnership (JCCTRP) is a new interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research partnership focusing on issues related to transport and climate policy in Quebec, California, Ontario and Vermont. The ultimate goal of the JCCTRP is to identify technical, economic and political factors shaping the potential for environmentally effective, economically efficient, and politically viable low-carbon transport and climate mitigation policy, and understand their implications for emissions trading. The JCCTRP Secretariat is located at the École des sciences de la gestion at the Université du Québec à Montréal (ESG-UQÀM).

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FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

The JCCTRP is supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) as well as the National Center for Sustainable Transportation (NCST), a University Transportation Centers (UTC) program of the US Department of Transportation. We would like to thank our sponsors of the Quebec JCCTRP workshop, the Government of Quebec and Énergir, whose financial support greatly contributed to the workshop's success. Énergir also generously purchased carbon offsets to compensate for emissions generated by participant travel to and from the workshop.



Social Sciences and Humanities
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Canada 



National Center
for Sustainable
Transportation

Québec  

OBJECTIVES OF THE QUEBEC JCCTRP WORKSHOP

There is an opportunity to more fully integrate the transport sector into concerted climate action in North America. California and Quebec have played a leadership role in climate policy through the establishment of an emissions trading system operating under the aegis of the Western Climate Initiative (WCI). Yet despite the importance of carbon pricing as a policy instrument for combating emissions, it is not the only instrument for reducing emissions. Other important policy instruments include low-carbon fuel standards (which employ a price on carbon associated with emissions per unit of fuel energy), zero emission vehicle (ZEV) mandates as well as public transportation and urban planning efforts. Recently, in late 2018, almost all northeastern and mid-Atlantic US states, including Vermont, announced the development of a framework “for a regional program to address greenhouse gas emissions in the transportation sector” under the auspices of the Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI). Interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research collaborations across jurisdictions involved in efforts to reduce emissions—particularly those linked by emissions trading systems—promise to shed light on many questions facing governments, business and other policy actors.

In order to seize this opportunity, experts from California, Quebec, Ontario and Vermont have, since 2017, established the Joint Clean Climate Transport Research Partnership (JCCTRP). The JCCTRP is a new interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research partnership focusing on issues related to transport and climate policy in these four jurisdictions and beyond. The ultimate goal of the JCCTRP is to identify technical, economic and political factors shaping the potential for environmentally effective, economically efficient, and politically viable low-carbon transport and climate mitigation policy, and understand their implications for emissions trading.

Having completed a successful California JCCTRP workshop in February 2019 at UC Davis, there was interest in drawing the attention of Quebec stakeholders involved in the transition to low-carbon development—including the private sector, civil society and municipalities—to the research partnership. The Quebec JCCTRP workshop was held in downtown Montreal at Ouranos offices where the Quebec Carbon Institute (IQCarbone) is based, one of the founding partners of the JCCTRP. More than fifty professionals (and a few students) participated in a day of collaboration and reflection. Organized in a hybrid format with three expert panels and two facilitated dialogues, the workshop allowed a range of stakeholders—mostly from Quebec though a few from elsewhere—to report on their social, economic, policy and technical efforts in the transport and energy sectors.

WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

The workshop was introduced by Sarah Heiberg and Carolyn Hatch of IQCarbone, while thanking the sponsors and participants for their support. Subsequently, in order to properly situate low-carbon transport issues within existing regulatory frameworks, Jean-Louis Tedone and Marilou Gosselin of the Quebec Ministry of Environment and the Fight against Climate Change (MELCC) and Martin Hotte of the Quebec Ministry of Transport (Min Transport) introduced various climate and transport initiatives of the Quebec government. Their presentations were aimed to provide policy context for the rest of the day’s deliberations.



Jean-Louis Tedone and Marilou Gosselin (MELCC) during their introductory presentation.

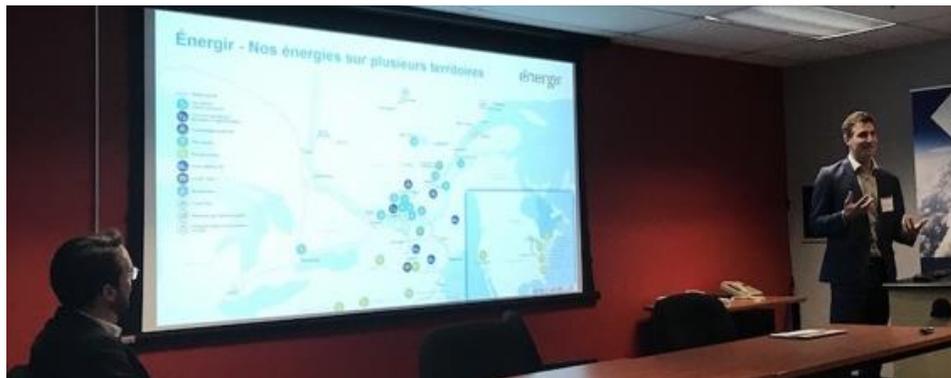
The next panel included speakers from the JCCTRP. The first speaker on this panel was Mark Purdon, of ESG-UQÀM and IQCarbone. He gave a presentation entitled *Transport and Climate Policy Update from Quebec, California and beyond* which consisted of an overview of various policy efforts underway in other JCCTRP jurisdictions, especially California and Vermont. California is linked with Quebec via the carbon market, but has also been introducing various other policies in the transport sector including a ZEV mandate, low-carbon fuel standard as well as the *Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act*. Vermont is also part of the TCI, which is developing a regional program to address emission in the transport sector of almost all northeastern and mid-Atlantic US states, with a detailed policy proposal scheduled to be presented in late 2019. This update on activities in California and Vermont set the stage for Jessie Pelchat of Équiterre, whose presentation provided further analysis of Quebec climate and transport policy. Joining via teleconference, Jonathan Dowds of the University of Vermont subsequently outlined the advancements with a novel energy and transport modeling effort to understand the implications of a potential increase in electric vehicles on emissions associated with energy production amongst a number of northeastern US states.

After a short break, the workshop continued with the second panel, *Managing Change and Embracing Opportunities in Quebec's Transport Sector*. Sarah Houde, from Propulsion Québec, highlighted the need for collaboration between companies involved in sustainable transportation, and the possibility of positioning Quebec as a leader in electric and intelligent transportation systems. This intervention was followed by a presentation by Ian Dessureault, an engineer with the City of Laval, a municipality of the *Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (CMM)*. His presentation highlighted the work being done on mobility and related emissions in Laval, whose transport issues are attracting increasing attention. Closing the second panel was André Porlier from *Société de transports de Montréal (STM)*. His presentation addressed challenges of urban and metropolitan transport while emphasizing the environmental gains—including emissions reductions—made possible by public transport infrastructure.

After lunch, the workshop resumed again with three afternoon sessions. The first was a facilitated dialogue chaired by Carolyn Hatch of IQCarbone entitled *Low-Carbon Business and Innovation Opportunities in the Transport Sector*. This session included a presentation by VIA Rail's Sean Schofield, who brought concepts such as the circular economy and customer experiences to the

discussion of transport. The next presentation was made by Cécile Bertin of *Le Pôle d'excellence québécois en matière terrestre*. She highlighted environmental compliance challenges for small and medium transport companies and identified a number of opportunities. There was ample time for discussion with members of the audience.

The second facilitated dialogue, *Synergies between the Quebec Transport and Energy Sectors*, which was chaired by Mark Purdon of ESG-UQÀM and IQCarbone, featured representatives of two key energy players: Hydro-Québec and Énergir. The interventions of France Lampron and Thierry Salem, respectively, focused on various concrete measures taken by these organizations to further integrate low-carbon energy into the transport sector. The speakers also entered into a dialogue with audience members about energy transitions, generating animated discussion.



Thierry Salem (Énergir) and Mark Purdon (UQAM/IQCarbone) during one of the facilitated dialogue sessions.

The last panel *Research Opportunities - the future of mobility in Quebec and beyond* began with the teleconference presentation by Yunshi Wang from UC Davis in California. He provided a review and update on the *California-China-EU ZEV Policy Lab*, an exciting new international research partnership to which Quebec has been invited to join. Yunshi Wang was followed by Ahmed El-Geneidy from McGill University whose presentation *Can we cut our energy use in transport? Lessons from the past* highlighted the importance of integrating low-carbon transportation planning efforts into broader land use and urban planning. His presentation was a reminder of the need to link the transport sector to a better understanding of people's activity patterns in order to generate better policies. The final presentation of this session was given by two representatives of CIRAIG, Professor Cécile Bulle (ESG-UQÀM) and Pierre-Olivier Roy (Polytechnique Montréal). They highlighted the importance of life-cycle evaluation methods and presented recent results relevant to transport and energy.

A brief closing plenary was led by Mark Purdon of ESG-UQÀM & IQCarbone. He highlighted a number of upcoming funding opportunities that will allow the JCCTRP to continue to expand its work, including research grants through the Canadian federal government and Quebec provincial government. There was considerable interest from those present, as significant funding opportunities appear feasible, especially for multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary research like that summarized here. Please contact the JCCTRP Secretariat (secretariat@jcctrp.org) for additional information.

Finally, we would like once again to thank our partners, the Government of Quebec and Énergir, for their much-appreciated collaboration. IQCarbone would also like to reiterate our thanks to everyone for participating in the workshop and making for a successful day.

ANNEX : WORKSHOP PROGRAM

8:30 – 9:00 am	Coffee & Light Breakfast
9:00 – 9:45 am	<p><u>Introductory Remarks: New Perspectives on Low-Carbon Transport Futures</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sarah Heiberg & Carolyn Hatch, IQCarbone - Quebec Ministry of Environment and the Fight against Climate Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Jean-Louis Tedone, Climate Change Advisor - Quebec Ministry of Transport <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Martin Hotte, Direction générale de la politique de mobilité durable et de l'électrification
9:45 – 10:45 am	<p><u>Panel 1: Transport and Climate Policy Update from Quebec, California and beyond</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mark Purdon, ESG-UQÀM & IQCarbone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *The use of modeling for climate and transport policy in California and Northeastern US states - Jessie Pelchat, Équiterre <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Update on Quebec transport and climate policy - Jonathan Dowds, UVermont - Transportation Research Center <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Modeling clean energy and transport policy
10:45 – 11:00 am	Health Break
11:00 – 12:00 pm	<p><u>Panel 2: Managing Change and Embracing Opportunity in the Quebec Transport Sector</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sarah Houde, Propulsion Québec - Ian Dessureault, Ville de Laval - André Porlier, Société de transport de Montréal (STM)
12:00 – 12:45 pm	Lunch Break
12:45 – 1:45 pm	<p><u>Facilitated Dialogue 1: Low-Carbon Business and Innovation Opportunities in the Transport Sector</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sean Schofield, Via Rail - Cécile Bertin, Le Pôle d'excellence québécois en matière terrestre - Carolyn Hatch, IQCarbone (moderator)
1:45 – 2:45 pm	<p><u>Facilitated Dialogue 2: Synergies between the Quebec Transport and Energy Sectors</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - France Lampron, Hydro Québec - Thierry Salem, Énergir - Mark Purdon, ESG-UQÀM/IQCarbone (moderator)
2:45 – 3:00 pm	Health Break
3:00 – 3:45 pm	<p><u>Panel 3: Research Opportunities - Future of Mobility in Quebec and Beyond</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - California-China-EU Zero Emissions Vehicle (ZEV) Policy Lab <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Yunshi Wang and Lew Fulton, UC Davis Institute of Transportation Studies - McGill University, School of Urban Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Ahmed El-Geneidy - International Reference Centre for the Life Cycle of Products, Processes and Services (CIRAIG) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Cécile Bulle & Pierre-Olivier Roy, ESG-UQÀM & CIRAIG
3:45 – 4:00 pm	Closing Plenary