

The Government of Quebec renews its support for CIRANO and the "En avant math." initiative

CIRANO welcomes the renewal of government support for its research and knowledge transfer activities for the next three years, as announced in the 2026-2027 budget presented by Finance Minister Eric Girard. In Section 3.2, dedicated to support for university research, the government reaffirms the central role of research funding in addressing major societal challenges and stimulating innovation in Québec, highlighting the importance of the work of organizations such as CIRANO, whose research influences the Québec economy, particularly in taxation, productivity, and policy.

The budget also allocates CAD 1.5 million for 2026-2029 to the "En avant math" initiative, in partnership with the Centre de recherches mathématiques (CRM) at the Université de Montréal. This project aims to sustainably strengthen the role of mathematics in education, research, and innovation by supporting the next generation of researchers and fostering connections between the academic community and policymakers.

This announcement is excellent news for the entire CIRANO community and reflects the government's confidence in the quality and impact of its work. CIRANO highlights the collective efforts that made this renewal possible, notably through showcasing its recent achievements and the concrete contributions of its research to public policy.

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SUMMARY

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CIRANO NEWS



CIRANO study on the well-being of Quebec family physicians attracts strong interest

A CIRANO study by Nadia Sourial (ESPLUM) and her colleagues reveals that 62.5% of Quebec family physicians were at risk of distress. Satisfaction with work-life balance and fulfillment in the role of family physician are key factors associated with their well-being. Co-authored with Géraldine Laperle (Université de Montréal), Erin Strump (McGill University), Maude Laberge (Université Laval), and Roxane Borges Da Silva (ESPLUM), the study has generated strong interest, notably from Profession Santé and the Bibliothèque de l'Assemblée nationale du Québec. It was also widely shared by the FMOQ on social media, reaching a broad community of healthcare professionals as well as a wider audience through policy newsletters.

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Access to and funding of assisted reproduction: a timely issue highlighted by a CIRANO study

In a CIRANO study, Marie-Louise Leroux (ESG UQAM) analyzes public policy issues related to the funding and organization of fertility services in Québec. Sonia Theriault, Minister responsible for Seniors and Health (contextually), was called upon to address this topic during Question Period at the Assemblée nationale du Québec. Exchanges between the minister and Marie-Louise Leroux focused on the affordability and accessibility of medically assisted reproduction (MAR) treatments in Québec, as well as the lack of access to Québec-specific data for research purposes—an issue highlighted in Marie-Louise Leroux's study.

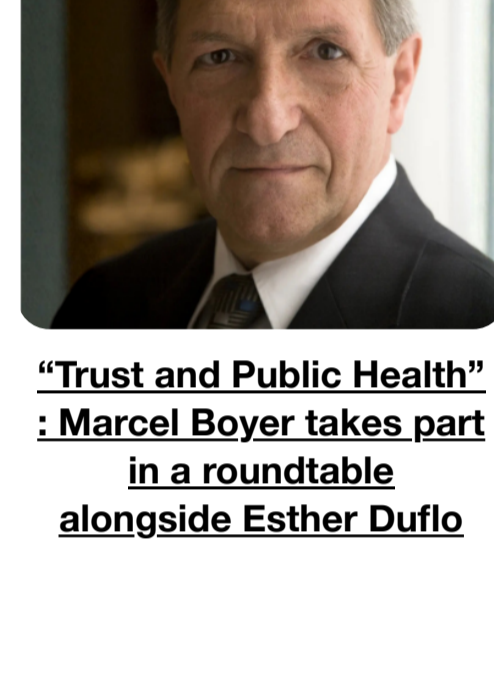
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Early childhood and education: mobilizing data and research to inform public action

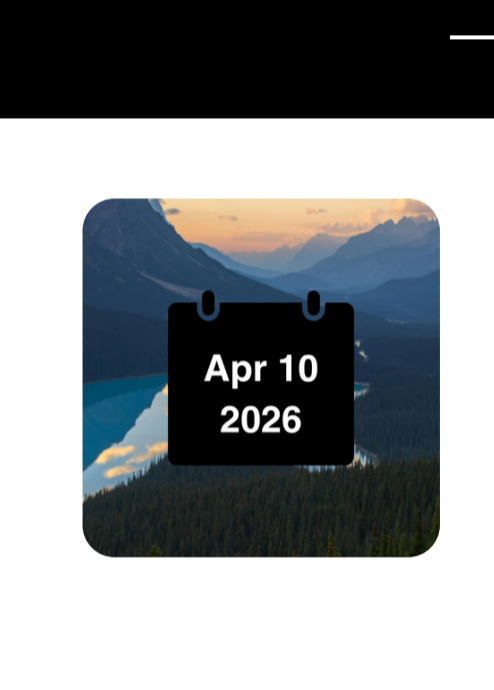
Organized with the Québec Interuniversity Centre for Social Statistics, the Université de Montréal's Maison des affaires publiques et internationales, and the Observatory for Children's Education and Health, this event highlighted research projects and datasets useful for analysis and public action. Presentations addressed ADHD, school readiness, the family environment, and socio-emotional skills, emphasizing the importance of early intervention, particularly for children from multicultural backgrounds, as well as the key role of scientific collaboration in supporting public policy and professional practice.

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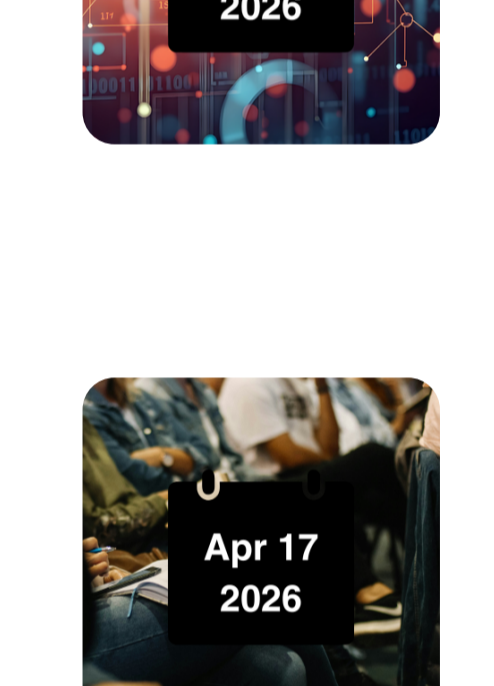
Francophonie play as a space for economic development? Nathalie de Marcellis-Warlin took part in a COBIM luncheon discussion on this important question.

Nathalie de Marcellis-Warlin, Ph.D., from the Department of Social Sciences at Doshisha University in Japan, to CIRANO.



Trust and Public Health: Marcel Boyer takes part in a roundtable alongside Esther Duflo

Ingrid Peignier leads a roundtable at the 2nd Rendez-vous annuel du Pôle bioalimentaire 2026



Results of an evaluation of the socio-economic costs of underground infrastructure breaks presented at the Info-Excavation 2026 Conference

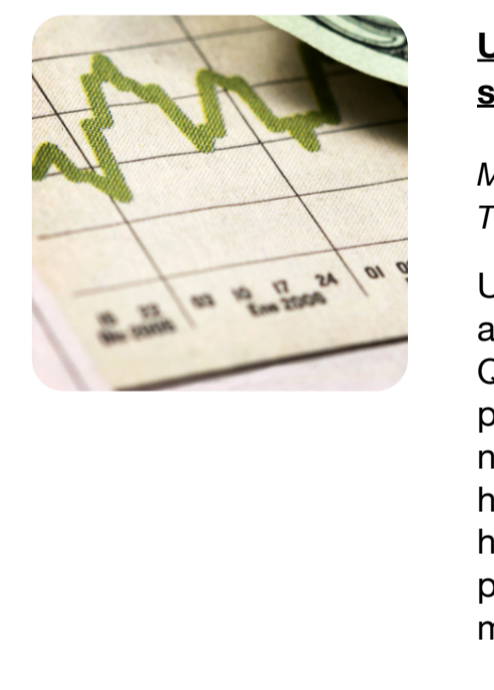
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OUTREACH



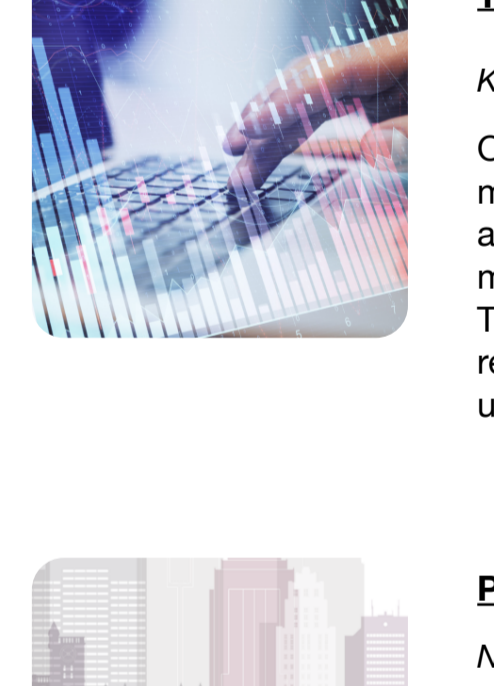
What role can the Francophonie play as a space for economic development? Nathalie de Marcellis-Warlin took part in a COBIM luncheon discussion on this important question.

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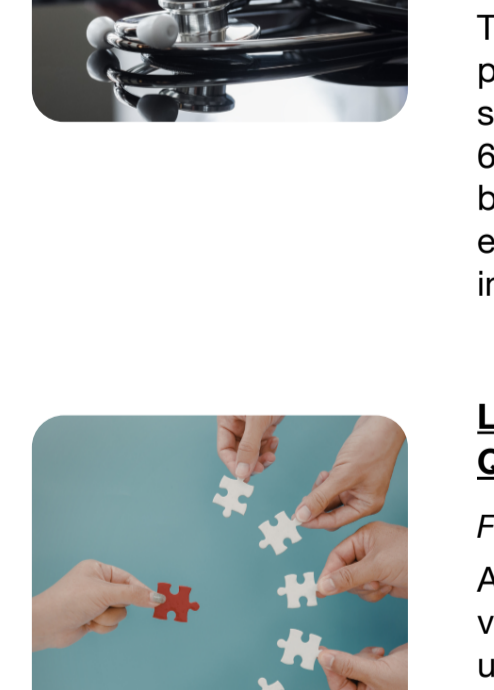
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EVENTS CALENDAR



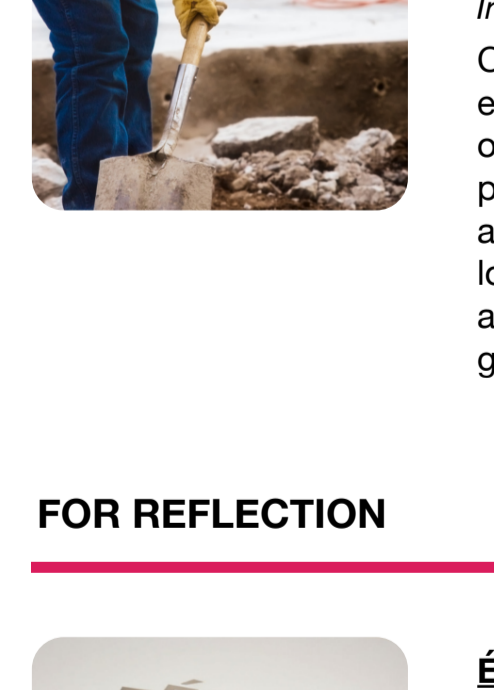
CIREQ-CIRANO-RBECQ Workshop on Environmental and Natural Resource Economics on the topic: Agriculture and food

This workshop is aimed at researchers and PhD students in economics who are interested in natural resource and environmental economics. The workshop will be led by Geir B. Asheim (University of Oslo), Hassan Benchechrout (McGill University), Sophie Bernard (Polytechnique Montréal), Etienne Bilette de Villeneuve (University of Laval, UQAM), Robert Cairns (McGill University), Justin Leroux (HEC Montréal), and Charles Séguin (UQAM). This session will feature Raphaël Janarij, a PhD student at the Université de Montréal, and Philippe Kabore (UQAR).



Recent Developments in Asset Valuation and Machine Learning

CIRANO will host Guillaume Coqueret, Professor of Finance at EMLYON Business School, for a workshop on recent developments in asset valuation and machine learning. Topics will include overparameterized models, uncertainty, predictability, demand-based approaches, and large language models. Organized by David Asida (HEC Montréal), in collaboration with Quantact and HEC Montréal, the event will be conducted in English.



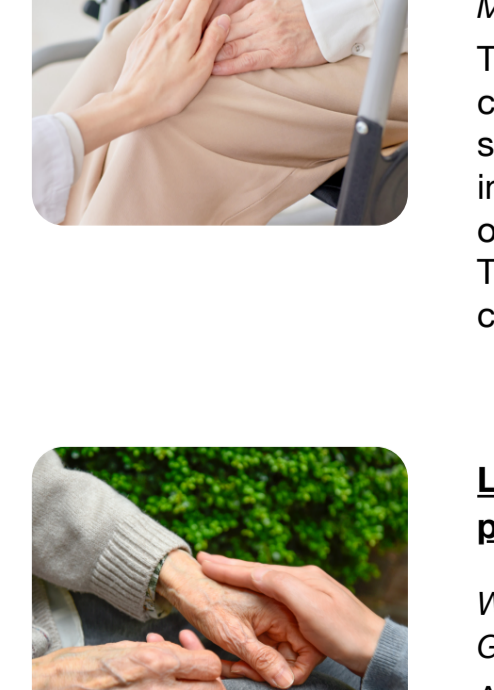
Annual Conference of the Canadian Labour Economics Forum (CLEF)

The second annual conference of the Canadian Labour Economics Forum will take place in Montréal on April 17-18, 2026, organized by CIRANO and the Department of Economics at the Université du Québec à Montréal. The keynote speaker will be Iyana Kusnetso (Princeton University), who also contributed to the development of the Affordable Care Act. This event is part of CIRANO's 2025-2026 thematic year: "Education and the Workforce: Towards a More Productive and Equitable Society."



Le Québec des bâtisseurs

CIRANO invites you to the second conference of the "Le Québec des bâtisseurs" initiative, dedicated to entrepreneurship in Québec's economy. Researchers, experts, and decision-makers will discuss, among other topics, the history of major Québec entrepreneurs, the role of education, and the place of Francophones in Québec's economic ecosystem. Norma Kozhaya, Pierre Lortie, François Vallancourt (with Anisèle Simès), Mario Fortin, Alain Piquet, as well as Raquel Fonseca, Nicholas-James Clavet, and Loïc Courtemanche will be speaking.

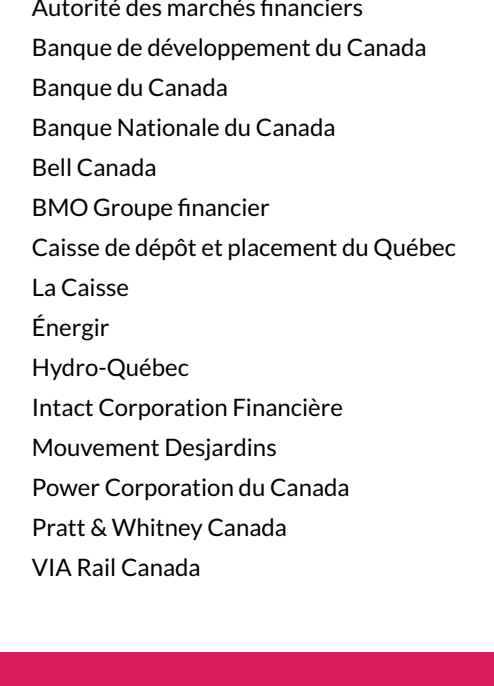


Workshop in Health Economics

This conference will bring together leading health economics researchers to present theoretical and empirical work on major issues in contemporary healthcare systems. Topics will include the organization and governance of care, payment models and their effects, access and equity, pharmaceutical markets, as well as aging and long-term care. Organized by Marie-Louise Leroux (UQAM, CIRANO) and Pierre-Carl Michaud (HEC Montréal, CIRANO), the workshop aims to inform public policy design.

PERSPECTIVES

— A journal for the dissemination and valorization of research at CIRANO —



Une minorité de Québécois mobilise la majorité des ressources en santé.

Maude Laberge, Elie Yecouba Djedou, Anahé Lacasse, Catherine Hudon and Thomas G. Polder Using longitudinal medico-administrative data from the TorSaDE cohort, the authors analyze the utilization profiles of high users of healthcare services in Québec. Their findings call for a rethinking of current strategies and for prioritizing personalized approaches that make it possible to anticipate needs, better support individuals, and improve the efficiency of the healthcare system. This study represents a highly strategic tool for healthcare planning in Québec. The early identification of at-risk trajectory profiles makes it possible to intervene upstream by proposing targeted measures before overuse becomes established.



The effect of macroeconomic uncertainty on public finance.

Kevin Moran and Dalbor Stavanovic Over the past decades, the Canadian economy has faced a succession of macroeconomic shocks of varying origins and nature. In this study, the authors provide an empirical assessment of the effects of a series of macroeconomic shocks on Canada's main economic and fiscal aggregates. Their analyses highlight the need for a fiscal management strategy that is responsive to external macroeconomic conditions and sources of uncertainty.

Perspectives - Revue Semi-Annuelle 2025 Volume 2, No. 2

Nathalie de Marcellis-Warlin and Carole Vincent Twice a year, CIRANO publishes a collection of articles in PERSPECTIVES. Its research dissemination and knowledge mobilization journal. Written in an accessible style, these articles highlight the work and expertise of CIRANO's research community. The articles published within the thematic year Efficiency at the Heart of Québec's Health and Care System are compiled in the special edition of PERSPECTIVES released in November 2025.

Training for the Bioeconomy of Tomorrow

Bryan Campbell, Michel Magnan, Robert Normand, Genevieve Dufour, Mollivan Piarot and Félix-Antoine Johnson The bioeconomy has emerged as a key driver of transformation in advanced economies. Ensuring alignment between the skills of graduates from educational institutions and the needs of the labour market in this sector has therefore become a critical issue. In their study, the authors assess and analyse based on job postings in the United States, Canada, and Québec in order to outline current and potential trends in labour market demand related to the emerging bioeconomy.

[All PERSPECTIVES](#)

PUBLICATIONS

PROJECT REPORTS

État du mieux-être et de la satisfaction des médecins de famille au Québec

Nadia Sourial, Géraldine Laperle, Erin C. Strumpf, Maude Laberge, Roxane Borges Da Silva, Emmanuelle Britton, Réal Barrette, Joghiloy Kiambati, Marielle Yapi, Alexandre Tremblay, and Elise Develay The well-being of family physicians is a crucial element not only for the practice of family medicine but also for the performance of the healthcare system. Based on a survey of 1,292 respondents, this study shows that 62.5% were at risk of distress and highlights the importance of work-life balance, professional fulfillment, working conditions (including exposure to excessive expectations or verbal abuse), and support resources in improving their well-being.

L'inadéquation entre l'offre et la demande sur le marché du travail au Québec

Fabian Lange, Brennan McLachlan and Markus Poschke A CIRANO report analyzes the mismatch between job seekers and vacancies in Québec from 2016 to 2025, in a context where the unemployment rate reached 6.3% in June 2025. The results show an increase in mismatch, mainly due to growing vacancies in the health and social services sector, while the number of job seekers did not keep pace. However, this increase remains relatively small compared to the overall evolution of the unemployment rate.

Assessment of the socio-economic costs of damages to underground infrastructure in Canada

Ingrid Peignier and Nathalie de Marcellis-Warlin CIRANO presents the 2026 version of its tool for estimating the socio-economic costs of damage to underground infrastructures in Canada, originally developed in 2015. This revision extends coverage to all provinces, adds four new cost categories, refines existing methodologies, and allows calculations at the level of census subdivisions (about 4,000 local areas). Applied to Québec data from 2023 to 2025, the tool estimates annual indirect costs of CAD 36-47 million, providing useful benchmarks to guide prevention strategies and decision-making.

FOR REFLECTION

Étudier, c'est savant... mais pas facile de choisir : formation, choix de carrière et marché du travail

Nicolas Charette and Geneviève Dufour This discussion paper follows the December 4, 2025, CIRANO event, where the authors explored links between education, career choices, and the labor market in Québec. Bringing together researchers, policymakers, and institutional actors, the event highlighted Québec's potential in educational data and scientific expertise. The paper synthesizes these findings around one conclusion: investing in education remains profitable, but individuals make choices in a context of fragmented information, complex pathways, and uncertainty about career outcomes.

WORKING PAPERS

A spectral framework for non-gaussian SVARs

André Kummern, Etienne Lalé and Julien Martin This article develops a spectral framework for identification and inference in non-Gaussian Structural Vector Autoregressive (SVAR) models using higher-order cumulants. The method relies on the orthogonal decomposition of cumulant tensors to identify structural shocks and measure identification strength. The authors derive asymptotic distributions for estimators based on tensor SVD and show how to compute identified subsystems using structural restrictions. Monte Carlo experiments and empirical applications confirm the method's relevance and robustness.

The Impact of Informal Caregiving on the Well-being of Older Adults in Europe

Mohib Drabo, Raquel Fonseca and Marie-Louise Leroux This article examines the impact of informal, home-based care on parents' well-being, using seven waves (2004-2022) of the SHARE survey across 27 countries. Results show that providing regular care increases depressive symptoms by approximately 25% and reduces quality of life by 6%, with stronger effects for spouses and long-term caregiving. These findings highlight the importance of long-term care policies that consider the psychological burden on family caregivers.

Les déterminants socio-démographiques de la prise en charge des personnes âgées en situation de perte d'autonomie

Witnie Compère, Bertrand Achu, Philippe De Donder, Raquel Fonseca, Franca Glenzer, Miryoon Lee and Marie-Louise Leroux A CIRANO study analyzes socio-economic and demographic factors influencing decisions to provide long-term care to parents, based on a 2023 survey of 2,000 individuals in Québec and Ontario. Results show that the choice of beneficiary and type of care depends on organizational constraints and anticipated burden, while the intensity of care is influenced by gender norms, time constraints, perceived health of the relative, and family relationship. These findings underscore the complexity and heterogeneity of family caregiving decisions.

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