

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

PORT  TROIS-RIVIÈRES



FOLLOW-UP ON THE
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
ACTION PLAN
2020 SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The Port of Trois-Rivières, located in the city bearing the same name, extends over 2.7 km of harbour frontage along the St. Lawrence River. As one of the 17 Canadian Port Authorities, the Port of Trois-Rivières offers a wide range of facilities and services to the maritime industry throughout the year. Its various terminals can handle dry bulk and general cargo, both inside and outside, as well as liquid bulk.

The Port of Trois-Rivières is an important player in regional, national and international economic development for major industrial sectors such as aluminum, forestry and agri-food. A true intermodal platform with its rail and road connections, the Port of Trois-Rivières is an essential link in the supply chains connecting many Quebec and Canadian companies to their overseas markets. The 250 vessels that call the Port each year serve some 125 ports in 50 countries, while 11,000 railcars and 55,000 trucks use its facilities each year.

In collaboration with its stevedores, the Trois-Rivières Port Authority (TRPA) has implemented numerous actions aimed at continuous improvement and sustainable development. The Port of Trois-Rivières and its sustainable development is an approach at the core of the efforts undertaken over the past several years to ensure harmonious and coherent development with its surroundings.

A sustainable port seeks the right balance between the economic, social and environmental spheres in its development. As an urban port, we face challenges on a daily basis that motivate our port community to continuously improve.

The Board of Directors and Management are committed to fulfilling TRPA's mission to maximize the economic, social and environmental benefits of its activities through sound governance guided by a sustainable vision. This section outlines the TRPA's commitment to consistent and sustainable approaches within a framework of sustainable guiding principles.

A sustainable port brings economic prosperity through trade and market positioning, interacts in an engaged and active community and maintains environmental integrity to thrive in a healthy environment.

Our sustainable commitment includes various actions grouped around six themes for 2020.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

As part of the *On Course for 2030* plan, one of the TRPA's strategic priorities is the continuous improvement of the environmental, social and economic performance of its port activities. The TRPA has chosen to focus on strategies that will strengthen the foundations of a progressive and participatory approach to sustainable development that meets the challenges of today and will help future generations meet the challenges of tomorrow!

This progress report outlines the actions taken during 2020, but it obviously does not stop there. Further steps towards sustainable development will be published in 2021.

Here are a few examples of the day-to-day integration of sustainable development principles at the Port:

- Transparency of the Port's activities;
- Financial autonomy to ensure infrastructure sustainability;
- Optimal utilization of facilities to support exporters and importers and maximize economic benefits;
- A collaborative approach among Port users to ensure continuous improvement in environmental performance;
- Conducting robust and rigorous environmental assessments to minimize the environmental impacts of projects;
- Efficient use of Port assets to meet social and economic needs while maintaining a minimal environmental footprint.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS CARRIED OUT IN 2020

01

CONTINUE TO IMPROVE ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE
TO ENSURE CLEAN AND SAFE AIR QUALITY

02

ENSURE A STIMULATING AND SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR
PORT EMPLOYEES AND USERS

03

PROMOTE ECO-RESPONSIBLE AND ENVIRONMENT-
FRIENDLY CONSUMPTION AND WASTE REDUCTION

04

PROMOTE THE PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT THROUGH EXAMPLE

05

CONTRIBUTE TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND
ECONOMIC DIMENSIONS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
BY SUPPORTING PORT AND URBAN COMMUNITIES

06

ACQUIRE MODERN INFRASTRUCTURE AND REDUCE
ENERGY COSTS

01

Continue to improve environmental performance to ensure clean and safe air quality

The TRPA has deployed a network of environmental monitoring tools (air quality, noise, vibrations and weather). The network consists of four nephelometers (dust monitors), three sound level meters (noise monitors), a triaxial geophone (vibration monitor) and three weather stations. The data collected by the monitors are thus synchronized with meteorological indicators (e.g. temperature, relative humidity, atmospheric pressure, wind speed, rainfall, etc.) allowing hypotheses on the origin of emissions. This network of monitors is deployed at the limits of the port zone, i.e. at the intersection of the port site and the surrounding community.

These tools allow the port community to gain a better understanding of the measures generated, to complete an effective preventive monitoring process and to initiate rapid interventions when necessary. They also allow us to work in collaboration with our stevedores to identify indicators and agree on a continuous improvement action plan in order to close the gaps between the identified situation and the target situation.



Location of the Port's tracking monitors

02 Ensure a stimulating and safe environment for Port employees and users

In order to strengthen regulatory compliance within the Port, new guidelines were implemented throughout the year to ensure a safe environment for Port users.

The TRPA has implemented **Practices and Procedures guidelines** that apply to all vessels in the Port of Trois-Rivières waters. These practices and procedures have been prepared to promote safe, secure and efficient navigation and environmental protection within the Port's territorial waters.

The TRPA has established the **Impact Assessment Act (IAA) Procedure** to ensure that the environmental and social aspects of new projects, activities or types of operations, including the handling of new products, meet IAA requirements. The rules outlined in this Act and its regulations are essential to protecting our environment and our communities, while ensuring that sustainable projects can be implemented.

To support Port users, the TRPA has created an **Environmental Emergency Declaration Procedure**. This procedure provides assistance in determining environmental emergencies and reported spills and when they are likely to result in significant environmental impacts.

The **Guide to Good Environmental and Operational Practices** encourages the port community to apply sustainable practices to manage usage conflicts. Reconciling industrial activities with the adjacent urban environment is a primary and daily challenge. To manage usage conflicts and further harmonize them in an urban Port, the TRPA advocates the application of good environmental and operational practices to reduce disturbances. The aim is to disseminate, promote and encourage the application of good practices, as well as to encourage the implementation of voluntary initiatives to harmonize uses.

03 Promote eco-responsible and environment-friendly consumption and waste reduction

This year, the TRPA installed two electric charging stations in the parking lot of its administrative building. Accessible to employees, clients and partners visiting the TRPA, these stations encourage the use of electric or hybrid vehicles that have a reduced impact on the environment.

The health crisis combined with the resilience of our organization has also resulted in changes and adjustments that are reducing the climate change impacts of natural and human systems. Telecommuting for the majority of TRPA employees is definitely reducing the carbon footprint by reducing office energy use, paper consumption and gas emissions from work-related travel.



04 Promote the principles of sustainable development through example

The TRPA wishes to demonstrate its involvement and promote best practices that support the principles of a more sustainable development for the Port. Thus, in 2020, the Port adhered to the orientations of the 2030 Agenda of the International Association of Cities and Ports (IACP). This is the first global initiative that adapts the United Nations (UN) sustainable development goals to the specific context of City-Port relations. The IACP's 2030 Agenda places these global governance goals in the context of port cities in order to help urban and port stakeholders develop projects and action plans that help promote sustainable development and city-port relations. Through its membership, the TRPA aims to mobilize and develop in accordance with the global principles of sustainable development.



05

Contribute to the environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainable development by supporting port and urban communities

An urban Port such as ours must imperatively participate in improving the capacity of our society to ensure the well-being of all. This is why the TRPA contributes to the reduction of social inequalities by supporting foundations and organizations dedicated to this cause, and even by carrying out projects directly. Several members of the team also volunteer their time to various causes and they are all encouraged to get involved.

With the pandemic situation that prevailed in 2020 and the added pressure it brought for people in need, the TRPA allocated a special budget to support agencies located in the first neighbourhoods and offering front-line assistance.

Another means of ensuring that the local community benefits from the Port's presence is specified in the TRPA's purchasing policy. This policy states that the purchase and use of local expertise must be encouraged, and that preference must be given to fair trade products.

Relations with First Nations communities are also important to the Port and strong relationships, based on mutual trust, have been established. Not only are these communities consulted in the development of the Port, but they have also become partners in project realizations.

From an economic standpoint, the Port supports more than 2,000 direct, indirect and induced jobs and its annual economic impact represents nearly \$220 million. In 2020, 3.3 million metric tonnes of goods transited through the port, representing an estimated \$3.6 billion in trade.

The Port maintains maritime connections with some 125 ports in 50 countries and serves companies in several regions of Quebec (76% of total tonnage), Ontario (20%), Western Canada (2%) and elsewhere in North America (2%). The Port meets the needs of many key sectors of the Canadian economy, including manufacturing (43% of total tonnage), agri-food (26%), mining (25%) and energy (6%).

Unfortunately, the Port of Trois-Rivières is not spared the labour shortage that prevails in Quebec and the port community has continued its recruitment efforts over the past year. However, this problem is directly linked to a very positive situation, namely the considerable growth in activities experienced by our stevedoring partners.

06 Acquire modern infrastructure and reduce energy costs

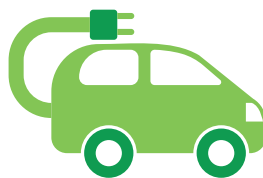
The fight against climate change goes far beyond government mandates. It involves everyone. This is why the Port of Trois-Rivières has chosen to act to protect the climate, but also to carve out a place for itself in the market for clean and energy-efficient economic growth.

The world recognizes the inevitability of the shift to clean energy and reduced energy costs, resulting in a migration of markets to lower carbon economies. To remain competitive, the TRPA must provide strong leadership to encourage Port users and customers to make sound energy choices, reducing waste and investing in energy renewal.

By integrating its carbon neutrality strategy into its *On Course for 2030* strategic plan, the TRPA aims to take concrete actions to reduce the contribution of port activities to GHG emissions and achieve the target objective of being a carbon neutral port.

Actions taken to achieve carbon neutrality will inevitably stimulate investments in innovation, as many changes will be driven by technological innovations such as electric cars, new or renewable energies, sustainable buildings, as well as artificial intelligence that will assist energy management.

Our Innovation and Environment investment funds, announced in 2019, are already actions that are in line with the carbon neutrality strategy.





CONCLUSION

The TRPA is constantly working to improve its sustainable management practices. Conscious of its responsibilities in terms of environmental protection and sustainable development, the Port ensures that all activities are carried out with the goal of a sustainable Port that is constantly improving its performance. These are concrete actions that the Port, with the help of its community, has taken in order to create a sustainable economy, protect the environment and improve the well-being of citizens, workers and users.

As part of the *On Course for 2030* strategic plan, the TRPA is committed to carrying out projects that must respect the principles of sustainable development, be avant-garde, reflect the urban dimension of the Port and be economically viable to ensure its sustainability. It is entirely possible to effectively and innovatively integrate the environmental, social and economic aspects of sustainable development into new projects, while ensuring financial self-sufficiency.