

SODES, A KEY MARITIME COMMUNITY PLAYER

The St. Lawrence Economic Development Council (SODES) is a non-profit organization, founded in 1985, that protects and promotes the economic interests of the St. Lawrence River. SODES represents the St. Lawrence maritime community, which includes stakeholders from the private and public sectors whose activities affect the St. Lawrence's economy directly or indirectly in all Québec regions. SODES strives to be the marine sector's voice vis-à-vis governments on matters related to St. Lawrence economic activity and development, including cargo and passenger transportation, regional development and the environment.

PRIORITY FILES:

- **Maritime Strategy**

SODES was actively involved in the Québec Maritime Strategy's development through ongoing lobbying and by participating in the consultations, among other things. It continues to be involved in the Strategy's implementation, especially within the Marine Industry Forum, which it co-chairs with the Minister for Maritime Affairs.

- **Marine industry promotional campaign (*Brought to you by ship – My river, my provider!*)**

In October 2014, SODES launched a promotional campaign designed to make Quebeckers aware of the important role the marine industry plays in their lives. The campaign's slogan, *Brought to you by ship – My river, my provider!* is a reminder that, worldwide, 90% of the products people use are brought to them by ship.

Initiatives and target audiences:

- Youngsters: free educational video game [Brought to You by Ship](#) available online
- General public: billboard and poster campaigns
- Elected officials and the media: [Maritime Information Bureau \(MIB\)](#)



[Learn more about the promotional campaign](#)

- **St. Lawrence—Great Lakes Trade Corridor**

The St. Lawrence—Great Lakes Trade Corridor file has been a priority for SODES for many years. *The St. Lawrence and Great Lakes Trade Corridor Study* (2008) and its 2013 update seek to guide investments in the Corridor to maintain its competitiveness. In the context of the Maritime Strategy, the *Canada Transportation Act review* and federal government infrastructure investment programs, the St. Lawrence—Great Lakes Trade Corridor file is more topical than ever.

[See Brochure on St. Lawrence—Great Lakes Trade Corridor](#)

- **Lobbying governments**

SODES rallies the maritime community to arrive at a common position on the key issues affecting the St. Lawrence River's economic development. In addition to the Marine Industry Forum (provincial), SODES coordinates the Marine Advisory Board for the Québec region (federal). The Marine Advisory Board is composed of representatives from the St. Lawrence marine industry and the Canadian Coast Guard. SODES is actively involved in a series of forums and sits on numerous committees relating to regulations, the environment, etc.

[Learn more about the committees](#)

- **Events organization**

SODES organizes various events like [Québec Marine Day](#), workshops, the *SODES Rendez-vous* and four annual luncheon conferences. It also publishes a newsletter to keep its members informed of headway made on its files.

WHY BECOME A SODES MEMBER?

Becoming a SODES member means becoming a full-fledged participant in a network offering information, expertise and action and involving companies and organizations from all marine and industrial sectors linked to the St. Lawrence. SODES is proud of its diverse membership, which represents all maritime community stakeholders.

SODES OFFERS ITS MEMBERS MANY SERVICES, INCLUDING:

- St. Lawrence EXPRESS, a **newsletter** informing them of the main files SODES is involved in
- Four annual **luncheon conferences** (two in Montréal, one in Québec City and one in another region) and workshops reserved for members
- Representation on various **committees** working on issues of concern to our members (marine regulations, the environment, etc.)
- Various major projects such as:
 - Marine industry **promotional campaign**
 - **Marine Industry Forum** (Maritime Strategy)
 - **St. Lawrence—Great Lakes Trade Corridor**

SODES also has a management team able to answer requests for information and for representation. SODES welcomes new members and enables them to make their voices heard. Organizations and companies with the St. Lawrence's economy and development at heart can become members of SODES. If you wish to join our organization, please [complete the form](#) and a member of the management team will get in touch with you. The team can be reached at 418-648-4572 or sodes@st-laurent.org.

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Chairman of the Board: Michel Tosini, Executive Vice-President, Federal Marine Terminals

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Vice-President: Mario Girard, President and Chief Executive Officer, Quebec Port Authority

Secretary: Alain Pilotte, Vice-President, Strategic Initiatives, Logistec Corporation

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Jean-Philippe Brunet, Executive Vice President - Corporate and Legal Affairs, Ocean Group

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Bas Saint-Laurent

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Canada s.e.n.c.

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Syndicat des débardeurs de Montréal
SCFP, section locale 375

Pierre Vallée

President
Corporation des Pilotes du
Saint-Laurent Central

OBSERVERS

Line Rousseau

Director, Technical Programs
Association québécoise des transports
(AQTR)

Denis Simard

Director
Ministère des Transports, de la Mobilité
durable et de l'Électrification
des transports

2017 MEMBERSHIP

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Canadian National
Canadian Pacific
Canfornav
Canada Steamship Lines (CSL)
Fednav Ltd.
Groupe Desgagnés
McKeil Marine Limited.
NEAS Inc.
Océan

MARINE SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS

Aon Reed Stenhouse
Canadian International Bureau of Shipping
Concept Naval
Corporation des pilotes du Bas Saint-Laurent
Corporation des pilotes du Saint-Laurent central
CPCS
ECRC ~ SIMEC
Gaston Déry inc.
Gaz Metro
Groupe Bellemare
Krech Ojard & Associates
Langlois
Norton Rose Fulbright
Osborn & Lange
Pesca Environnement
PwC
Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton
Stikeman Elliot
Valport Maritime Services

ELEVATORS AND TERMINALS

CanEst
Empire Stevedoring Co. Ltd.
GNL Québec
Logistec Corporation
Montreal Gateway Terminals Partnership
Somavrac

SHIPPERS

Aluminerie Alouette
Arcelor Mittal Exploitation Minière Canada
Energy Valero
K+S Windsor Salt Ltd.
Rio Tinto

MARINE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS

Canadian Marine Pilots' Association
Chamber of Shipping of British Columbia
Green Marine
Human Resources Sectorial Committee of the Maritime Industry
Maritime Employers Association
St. Lawrence Shipoperators

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

Laurentian Pilotage Authority
Ministère des Transports, de la Mobilité durable et de l'Électrification des transports
Société des traversiers du Québec

MUNICIPAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNEMENTS

Communauté métropolitaine de Québec
City of Contrecoeur
City of Gaspé
City of Matane
City of Port-Cartier
City of Sept-Îles
Escale Tadoussac Haute-Côte-Nord/ Municipalité de Tadoussac
Promotion Saguenay

PORTS

Commission régional du port de Gros-Cacouna
Corporation de gestion du port de Baie-Comeau
Montréal Port Authority
Québec Port Authority
Port of Valleyfield
Saguenay Port Authority
Sept-Îles Port Authority
Société du parc industriel et portuaire de Bécancour
Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation
The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation
Trois-Rivières Port Authority

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Association québécoise des transports
CargoM
Chambre de commerce et d'industrie de Québec
Fonds de solidarité FTQ
Innovation maritime
Institut maritime du Québec
Montreal International Fuel Facilities Corporation (MIFFC)
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Technopole Maritime
The Canadian Merchant Service Guild