

SODES, THE VOICE OF THE MARITIME COMMUNITY

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.

ITS VISION: to be a key player in promotion and responsible maritime economic development.

PRIORITY FILES:

- **Anchor the marine industry in government policies**

The Québec government and marine industry have, over many years, developed a productive relationship based on mutual trust and have committed to developing a sustainable maritime economy in the St. Lawrence – Great Lakes Trade Corridor.

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

SODES also participated in developing the Québec government's **Sustainable Mobility Policy** by making recommendations on the measures proposed at each stage.

Regardless of the government in place, SODES is the "**voice of the maritime community**" and, as such, ensures that government policies take its members' realities into account.

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

Since 2014, SODES has launched a promotional campaign designed to make Québeckers aware of the important role the marine industry plays in their everyday lives.

SODES has won the Association québécoise des transports' Prix coup de cœur du jury (jury's choice) award for the campaign's original, innovative nature.



SODES uses the campaign to communicate messages and implement actions that serve the entire maritime community's interests on themes that include:

- The environment
- The marine industry's economic contribution
- Jobs and training

The campaign's slogan, *Brought to you by ship – My river, my provider!* is a reminder that, worldwide, most of the products people use are brought to them by ship.

[Learn more about the promotional campaign](#)

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

SODES plays a leadership role with regard to the St. Lawrence – Great Lakes Trade Corridor, North America's 4th ranking economic area and Canada's biggest, most heavily used multimodal corridor. In recent years, SODES updated the study initially conducted in 2008, identifying the actions required to maintain the Trade Corridor's competitiveness so as to reach a consensus among users in order to ensure the St. Lawrence – Great Lakes system's development.

[Learn more about the 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.

It participates, on an ongoing basis, in various forums and sits on numerous committees targeting regulations, the environment, research, human resources, mobility, etc.

- CargoM
- Community relations committee
- Green Marine and the St. Lawrence environment advisory committee
- Institut France-Québec maritime (IFQM)
- Québec maritime network (RQM)
- Marine industry forum
- National marine advisory board (NMAB)
- Navigation coordination committee (NCC) and subcommittees
- North Atlantic right whale working group
- Regional marine advisory council
- Regional roundtable on integrated management of the St. Lawrence, Québec city region
- Sustainable mobility policy development advisory committee

[Learn more about the committees](#)

- **Publication of reports, studies and briefs**

SODES regularly writes briefs and reports to share the marine industry's position on various political issues that impact the sector. It also produces studies to support the St. Lawrence's economic development.

[Learn more about the reports, studies and briefs](#)

- **Events organization**

SODES organizes many events, giving members an opportunity to network and learn about issues that affect them directly.

- **Québec marine day:** The marine industry's annual rendez-vous with elected officials and senior public servants
- **Sodes Rendez-Vous:** an annual event on the latest key issue
- **Four (4) luncheon conferences** a year
- **Grande fête maritime familiale** (Maritime family fiesta): an annual event for the general public designed to heighten awareness of the Québec marine industry

WHY BECOME A SODES MEMBER?

"Alone we go faster, together we go further."

African proverb

Becoming a SODES member means participating fully in a preferred information, expertise and actions network that brings together companies, organizations and institutions from all marine and industrial sectors linked to the St. Lawrence. SODES is proud of its diverse membership, which represents all maritime community stakeholders.

Being a SODES member means adding your voice to the marine community's to **speak as one and be better heard.**

SODES OFFERS ITS MEMBERS MANY SERVICES, INCLUDING:

- **Representation and consensus-building:**
 - **To speak with one voice and be better heard**
 - ✓ Participation in numerous committees that work on issues concerning members (marine regulations, the environment, development, etc.)
 - ✓ Organization of Québec Marine Day
 - **To benefit from analyses that support marine industry development**
 - ✓ Drafting of briefs and positions on political issues
 - ✓ Production of studies
- **Communications and events:**
 - **To track marine-related files**
 - ✓ Publication of SODES NewsFlashes, short updates on the main files SODES is working on
 - **To offer new business opportunities**
 - ✓ Organization of four (4) luncheon conferences a year. Preferred access to Québec marine industry player
 - **To enhance public awareness**
 - ✓ Implementation of the marine industry promotional campaign
 - ✓ Publication of the "Interview of the Month", a written interview spotlighting a maritime community personality or person of interest for the community and the general public
 - ✓ Organization of the *Grande fête maritime familiale* (Maritime family fiesta)

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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SCFP 375

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Isabelle Viau

Operations Manager
Port of Valleyfield

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PwC

Marie-Gabrielle Boudreau

Senior Director, Legal Affairs
and Corporate Secretary
Société des traversiers du Québec

Rafika Lassel

Director, Technical Expertise and Events
Association québécoise des transports
(AQTR)

Denis Simard

Director
Ministère des Transports du Québec

2020 MEMBERSHIP

CARRIERS

Canadian National
Canfornav
Canada Steamship Lines (CSL)
Fednav Ltd.
Groupe Desgagnés
NEAS Inc.
Océan
Société du port ferroviaire de Baie-Comeau

MARINE SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS

Concept Naval
Corporation des pilotes du Bas Saint-Laurent
Corporation des pilotes du Saint-Laurent central
CPCS
ECRC ~ SIMEC
Énergir
GPL-Gallagher
H2V Énergies Inc.
Krech Ojard & Associates
Langlois
Logistro Consulting International
Marsh Canada Limited
Osborn & Lange
PwC
Solutions ISPS Inc.

ELEVATORS AND TERMINALS

Empire Stevedoring Co. Ltd.
GNL Québec
G3 Canada Limited
Logistec Corporation
Montreal Gateway Terminals Partnership
Quebec Stevedoring
Somavrac
Valport Maritime Services

SHIPPERS

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

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

Centre d'expertise en gestion des risques d'incidents maritimes
Laurentian Pilotage Authority
Ministère des Transports du Québec
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 Rimouski
City of Sept-Îles
City of Sorel-Tracy
Promotion Saguenay

PORTS

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

Amundsen Science Inc.
Association québécoise des transports
CargoM
Chambre de commerce et d'industrie de Québec
Conseil du patronat du Québec
Fonds de solidarité FTQ
Innovation maritime
Institut maritime du Québec
Société de promotion économique de Rimouski (SOPER)
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Technopole Maritime du Québec
The Canadian Merchant Service Guild