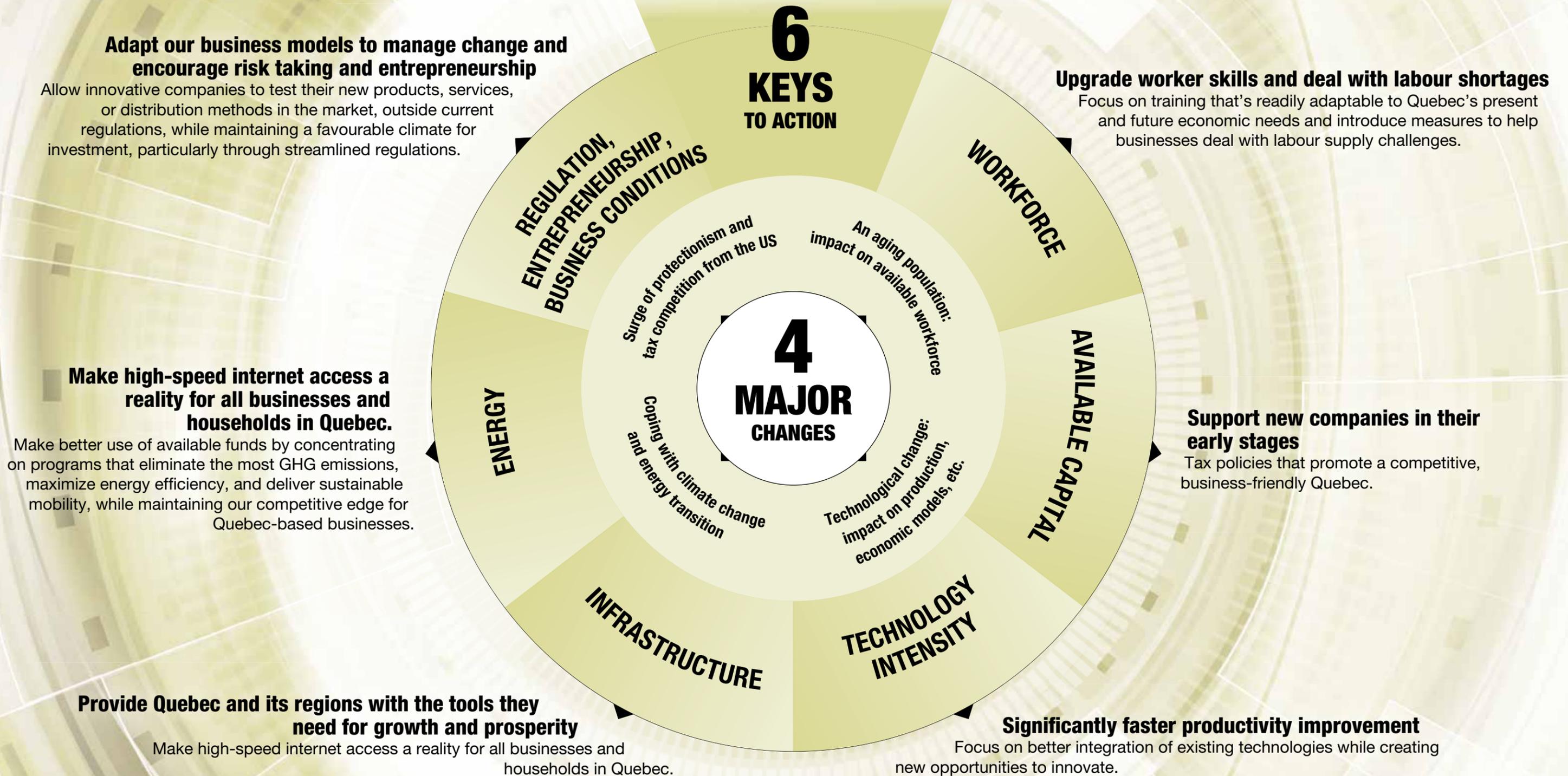


ACCELERATE THE PACE



Please see other side for recommendations

Accelerate the pace

RECOMMENDATIONS

Six keys to action

n° 1

WORKFORCE

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- Allow elementary and secondary schools more freedom to develop specific teaching projects that focus on the basic skills demanded in today's labour market.
- Adapt the elementary and secondary school curriculum by 2022 to ensure literacy, numeracy, and digital literacy among high school graduates.
- Facilitate student transitions from one educational level to the next, as part of their ongoing vocational and professional training.
- More effectively coordinate vocational and college-level training programs that are similar in nature.
- Actively promote the employment opportunities that exist in professional, college, and university programs.
- Create scholarships and other incentives favouring programs that lead to jobs in areas where labour shortages are most serious.
- Create a voluntary continuing education savings program that would replace the 1% payroll contribution to the Workforce Skills Development and Recognition Fund (mandated in the Act of the same name).

MOBILITY

- Abolish default partitioning of labour pools by region (for example, in the construction industry).
- Introduce rules that allow employees in the education and healthcare sectors geographic mobility and relocation without penalty.
- Increase the tax deduction for moving expenses.

IMMIGRATION

- Increase the number of immigrants entering Quebec by 10,000 per year.
- Allow employers to directly recruit immigration applicants who have completed a Declaration of interest.
- Implement the recommendations of the Quebec interministerial committee on the recognition of the skills of internationally trained immigrants.

RETIREMENT

- Encourage retention of experienced workers on the labour market:
 - Identify and publicize best practices.
 - Work with companies to adapt their workplace environment and work organization.
 - Enhance the Quebec Pension Plan deferred retirement incentives, plus measures that would encourage employers to organize and facilitate lighter workloads for employees who continue to work after age 65.

TAXATION

- Encourage people to work by shifting part of the tax burden from earned income to other taxable categories, such as consumption, that are less unfavourable to growth.

n° 2

AVAILABLE CAPITAL

- Make capital more readily available to companies in their early stages of growth, when they need to build production and distribution capacity.
- Regularly evaluate the effectiveness of tax and budgetary expenditures to ensure that the Quebec government has sufficient leeway for allowing a tax policy that attracts investment yet maintains a balanced budget.
- Allow full capital expenditure deductions in the year when such expenditures were incurred, particularly for the resource extraction and manufacturing sectors.

n° 3

TECHNOLOGY INTENSITY

- Redirect part of the government assistance currently earmarked for R&D to programs and tax policies allowing accelerated uptake of existing technology for significantly improved business productivity.

n° 4

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Increase the investment required to make high-speed internet connections available to all companies and households in Quebec.
- Boost internet speed in Quebec to catch up with Ontario to provide a wider selection of services available exclusively online.
- Facilitate private sector and institutional capital investment in the design, financing, construction, operation, or repair of public infrastructure, and for projects where there is a competitive market of developers qualified to assume risk for the given type of project.

n° 5

ENERGY TRANSITION

- View the energy transition as a vehicle for growth and transformation in the Quebec economy.
- Invest in sustainable mobility (transportation of people and goods):
 - Increased investment in mass transit
 - Accelerated adoption of low-emission vehicles
- Better use of Green Fund investments:
 - Target low-cost GHG reduction programs
- Improve energy efficiency programs to maintain the competitive edge of Quebec-based businesses.

n° 6

REGULATION, ENTREPRENEURSHIP, BUSINESS CONDITIONS

- Make more use of regulatory sandboxes to develop flexibility and allow innovative companies to test new products, services, and economic models in the actual market, even though these may not meet current regulations.
- Create an authentic youth entrepreneurship strategy in Quebec.
- Encourage growth of business schools and increase business education initiatives.
- Enhanced enforcement of Quebec government policy on regulatory and administrative streamlining.
- Ensure better convergence between the innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystems, particularly to promote the emergence of start-ups.
- For marketing new products, implement the 1% SME Innovation policy on calls for tenders by large companies and the public sector, and encourage development of COREX-type marketing platforms.
- Adjust tax conditions and available tools to allow more gradual transfers of ownership.
- Study the competitive position of Quebec regulations on crowdfunding and encourage use of this option.
- Allow more flexibility in approval criteria for immigrants who are investors or entrepreneurs.