

THE CHIEF SCIENTIST AND THE FONDS DE RECHERCHE DU
QUÉBEC PRESENT THE

engage **PROGRAM**



What if a **citizen's idea** took the research community by surprise, made them see their research in a new light, and led to a discovery that could **change the world**?



WHAT IS THE ENGAGE PROGRAM?

It's all about putting citizens at the **heart of research carried out in Québec**. Since 2019, the Fonds de recherche du Québec have been drawing on the **expertise, ingenuity and experience of citizens** to innovate in the ways research is done, while democratizing the scientific process and making it accessible to everyone.

Citizens submit a question of a scientific nature based on their personal concerns and interests. Together with a researcher, they then explore their question and design a **participatory science project**. Through an initiation based on an immersive project in a research environment, citizens are able to appropriate the scientific process and stimulate the research community.

Have questions? You can reach us at engagement.gds@frq.gouv.qc.ca.

Citizen web page



<https://frq.gouv.qc.ca/en/programe-engagement-citoyens/>



Ask a question



<https://forms.gle/kbjCHegraHY3G9UY9>

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Across Québec, citizens have asked questions related to different fields of research.



What's in the air in Old Québec?

What is the indoor and outdoor air quality in Old Québec? Do we know the impact of wood heating on smog in Québec City or the pollution generated by traffic in a particular neighborhood? These questions may seem simple, but are far from it. There are very few air quality monitoring stations in the city. Large numbers of individual sensors could easily be installed across the area, but how do we manage them and how do we ensure that the data are used and shared in an ethical manner? This is the focus of the project created by Ricky Ng-Adam and researcher Patrick Hayes from Université de Montréal.



Getting help to help better: the challenge of the caregiver

Sylvie Hamon has been a caregiver for many years, and she is by no means alone. She has noticed that caregivers are often ill-prepared to fulfil this role and only seek help when they are already exhausted and very discouraged. She decided to ask a citizen question: how can we prepare to be a caregiver without sacrificing our health? What tools are in place and what works best? She then began working with researcher Nathalie Delli from Université de Sherbrooke in collaboration with caregivers and beneficiaries in the Granby area.

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