

COUR
DU QUÉBEC



Highlights
2020
2021

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Office of the Chief Judge

The Court of Québec’s highlights for 2020–2021 cover many of the projects and activities that occupied our institution during that time, including dealing with the wide-ranging consequences of the pandemic.



This report aims to shed light on the numerous projects carried out in the three divisions of the Court of Québec, namely the Civil Division, the Criminal and Penal Division, and the Youth Division. It also includes supplementary documentation available through the links provided.

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce the 32 judges and presiding justices of the peace appointed between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2021, including an overview of their career paths. Colleagues with impressive and diverse backgrounds have replaced a number of experienced judges who have retired, although many of the latter have chosen to continue working at the Court as per diem judges.

The past two years have highlighted our institutional, professional, and personal capacity to adapt and maintain the quality of our services. “Social distancing” is one of the terms we have all gotten used to over the past two years. Paradoxically, from the outset of the pandemic, social distancing guidance resulted in closer ties among the institutions making up our legal community, including the courts, government departments, legal services, law societies, associations, and other organizations.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all the Court of Québec’s judges, presiding justices of the peace, and per diem judges for their tenacity, dedication, generosity, and flexibility. I would also like to pay tribute to the cooperation of all members of the legal community, who allowed us to hold the fort—and so much more—as the storm raged around us.

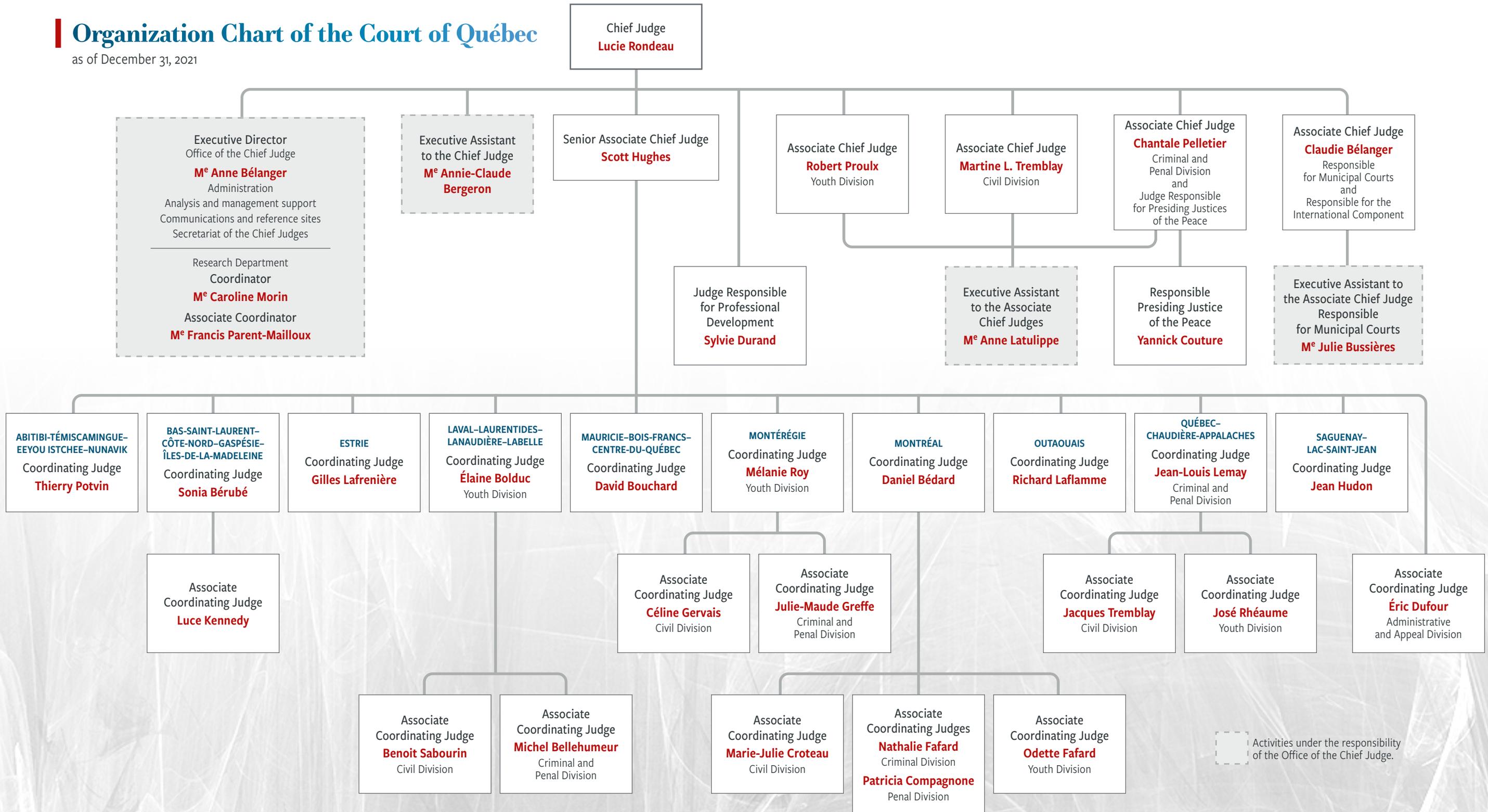
Congratulations everyone!

LUCIE RONDEAU

Chief Judge, Court of Québec

Organization Chart of the Court of Québec

as of December 31, 2021



Activities under the responsibility of the Office of the Chief Judge.

1 chief judge	1 senior associate chief judge	4 associate chief judges	308 Court of Québec judges	39 presiding justices of the peace	10 coordinating judges	12 associate coordinating judgess	1 associate chief judge responsible for the presiding justices of the peace	1 associate chief judge responsible for professional development
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Since June 5, 2020, the Court of Québec has been made up of 308 judges. The **Courts of Justice Act** was amended at that time to add **two positions** based in Amos and Val-d'Or. In so doing, Ministère de la Justice, granted the Court of Québec's request aimed at better meeting the needs of northern Indigenous communities.

The Chief Judge

Mrs. Lucie Rondeau

The Associate Chief Judge
Responsible for Municipal Courts

Mrs. Claudie Bélanger

The Associate Chief Judge
for the Youth Division

M. Robert Proulx



The Senior Associate
Chief Judge

M. Scott Hughes

The Associate Chief Judge
for the Civil Division

Mrs. Martine L. Tremblay

The Associate Chief Judge
for the Criminal and Penal Division

Mrs. Chantale Pelletier

New judges and Justices of the Peace

The [selection process](#) for Court of Québec judges and presiding justices of the peace is strictly governed by an official [regulation](#). Various criteria are set out in the *Courts of Justice Act* to assess candidates, including professional skills, integrity, ability to weigh the evidence, communication skills, and awareness of social issues.

Since January 1, 2020, 32 judges and justices of the peace have been appointed to the Court of Québec (15 women and 17 men). These individuals, with widely varying backgrounds, knowledge, and talents, together with colleagues across Québec, are dedicated to serving litigants.¹

Court of Québec members as at December 31, 2021

337
judges and
presiding justices
of the peace

171
women
(51%)

166
men
(49%)

The average age of the judges is 56 and that of the presiding justices of the peace is 53.

Judges at the Court of Québec start out as attorneys and require a great capacity for introspection to make that transition as well as throughout their judicial career.

New judges must change their approach to the law and carry out all aspects of their duties with a good dose of courage. Furthermore, these duties have evolved over time, together with litigants' needs.

When new judges are appointed, the Court of Québec undertakes to provide them with all the support they need to meet the demands of their new duties.

All new judges take part in the orientation and mentoring programs set up by the Court of Québec and [Conseil de la magistrature](#) to facilitate their transition from a legal to a judicial career. Judges also have access to the [Court of Québec's professional development program](#), which includes a wide range of seminars.

1. The career paths of these new colleagues are described on pages 22 and following of the [French version of *Faits saillants* 2020-2021](#).

In addition to these professional development opportunities, newly appointed judges can rely on their more experienced colleagues, along with judges trained to advise and act as mentors, dedicated coordinators and chief judges concerned with the quality and independence of the institution they lead.

Retired Judges

Between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2021, 28 judges and presiding justices of the peace retired. However, many of these colleagues agreed to continue working at the Court as per diem judges.

See pages 22 and following of the [French version](#) for a list of new judges and presiding justices of the peace as well as retired colleagues.

Per Diem Judges

Working on a per diem basis, some 60 judges and presiding justices of the peace support the Court of Québec's mission every year. Their level of involvement differs from that of active judges. [Per diem judges](#) are retired judges authorized to perform the judicial functions assigned to them by the Chief Judge for a period of time determined by order in council.² Per diem judges do not sit full-time; they voluntarily agree to sit as often as is convenient for them.

Per diem judges meet a variety of needs. For example, they may replace a judge on sick leave or take on extra work caused by delays in filling vacant positions or occasional caseload increases. They may also work on special projects, such as those dealing with small claims.

Per diem judges make a valuable contribution by helping the Court minimize judicial delays.

The Court of Québec is fortunate in that it can rely on retired colleagues who wish to maintain their commitment and who are recognized for their dedication, generosity, and flexibility.

2. Sections 93 and 165.1 of the *Courts of Justice Act*.

Technology

Semi-virtual courtroom hearings and civil settlement conferences

Technological solutions certainly came to the fore amid lockdowns and restrictions on movement. During the pandemic, technology-driven adaptations to judicial practices made it possible to administer justice fairly and efficiently in accordance with public health guidelines.

One of the pandemic's tangible consequences is the remarkable advance of technology, particularly the fast-tracking of semi-virtual hearings to deal with certain types of cases.

These new technologies are not meant to replace courthouse hearings. Instead, they are intended to better meet the needs of litigants and lawyers without changing the way judges carry out their professional responsibilities.

In fact, the Chief Judge issued [guidelines](#) directing judges presiding over Court of Québec hearings or settlement conferences and any clerks who assist them to be physically present at the courthouse.

That said, semi-virtual courtroom hearings are a reality that will continue beyond the pandemic. It has already been recognized that technology is useful and relevant at various stages of legal proceedings and the case management process. [In its online guidance](#), the Court of Québec lists a number of factors that may be considered by judges when determining whether technological tools should be used to conduct a hearing.

Use of technology during hearings

For the past few years, [guidelines have been in place](#) governing the use of electronic devices in the courtrooms of the Superior Court, the Court of Québec, and the municipal courts.

Amid the transition to semi-virtual hearings, these [guidelines](#) were amended on June 19, 2020, to clarify that screen captures are prohibited.

Despite the undeniable benefits of technology and the eagerness to see justice modernized, we would all do well to recognize that new technologies are merely a complement to in-person judicial services.

Prof. Hélène Piquet provides an interesting analysis of the guidance issued by the Court of Québec regarding semi-virtual hearings amid the global trend towards reflections on “virtualized” justice: [Des enjeux des audiences à distance](#)

Revue générale de droit, Vol. 51, no. 1, 2021, pp. 135-160.

The Pandemic: An Opportunity for the Legal Community to Showcase its Capacity for Engagement and Adaptation

A number of noteworthy initiatives were taken across Québec to continue to meet litigants' needs, despite the exceptional circumstances.

These included:

1

The [A COVID-19 legal clinic](#), which handled some 16,500 calls from the general public

2

Regular postings of clear information geared towards the general public, particularly on the website of Ministère de la Justice

3

Law societies' efforts to [regularly relay information](#) posted by the courts on service continuity plans, followed by the gradual resumption of regular operations

4

The efforts of defence lawyers' associations to establish a custodial service at the beginning of the pandemic, to help limit the need for travel and reduce the number of people physically present in courthouses

5

The efforts of [SOQUIJ](#) and [Centre d'accès à l'information juridique](#) to provide members of the Bar with free access to docket information to encourage teleworking while access to courthouses was limited

Amid immense upheaval and uncertainty that will long be remembered, the adaptability and efforts of all judges and presiding justices of the peace, as well as the judicial services provided by staff whose duties and responsibilities were clearly disrupted by the pandemic, should be recognized.

Judges, lawyers, assistants, and clerks are fully in touch with social realities. They are all professionals who feel passionately about carrying out their duties, espousing discretion and fulfilling the other ethical obligations incumbent upon them.

The willingness of the members of the legal community to rally together in these troubled times has been remarkable and is to be commended. While the health crisis is not yet fully behind us, it is important to learn from our recent experiences, not least from the confidence we gained from reorganizing justice services so swiftly.

Civil Matters

Jurisdictional authority

In the [Supreme Court of Canada’s June 30, 2021 decision](#), four of the seven justices concluded that the monetary jurisdiction assigned to the Court of Québec (\$85,000) was too high given the limits set out in section 96 of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, when considered in its historical and institutional context.

For different reasons, the other three justices held that the Court of Québec’s monetary competence does not infringe on the Superior Court of Québec’s own core jurisdiction and therefore does not contravene section 96 of the *Constitution Act, 1867*.

This time, the Supreme Court unanimously held that

- the Court of Québec is made up of professional and qualified judges meeting the same criteria as federally appointed judges, with their training meeting the highest standards required of the judiciary³
- Provincial courts offer the same guarantees of judicial independence and impartiality as the Superior Courts⁴
- The Court of Québec plays an important part in maintaining the rule of law⁵
- Québec’s judicial system is unique in Canada⁶

However, the Supreme Court recognizes that provincial legislatures have wide latitude to establish courts involved in maintaining the rule of law.⁷ It set out various options and perspectives that will enable Québec lawmakers not only to regularize the situation, but also to preserve and promote the Court of Québec’s important and undeniable role within Québec’s judicial system.

The Supreme Court specifically asked Québec lawmakers to exercise their right to revisit art. 35, para. 1 of the *Code of Civil Procedure* within the next 12 months in light of the contextual and multifactor analysis provided in its decision.

The Court of Québec continues to closely monitor the necessary work stemming from the Supreme Court’s decision.

3. [Reference to the Québec Code of Civil Procedure](#), art. 35, 2021 SCC 27, par. 6 and 94.

4. *Ibid*, paras. 92 and 321

5. *Ibid*, paras. 6, 52 and 154.

6. *Ibid*, para. 27.

7. *Ibid*, para. 94.

New forms adopted to better meet civil procedure objectives

One of the objectives of the 2016 civil procedure reform was to ensure the accessibility, quality, and timeliness of civil justice, as well as the fair, straightforward, proportionate, and economical application of the procedure. The case protocol and the application for setting down trial and judgment provide the framework for conducting proceedings in accordance with this principle.

Mindful of their importance and impact on the judicial process and following extensive consultations, the Court of Québec adopted [new forms](#) in 2021 so these proceedings would better meet civil procedure objectives, including litigation before the Court.

Small claims

The fundamental feature of the [Small Claims Division](#) is that the parties are neither assisted nor represented by counsel. Of particular note are the significant efforts of law societies, junior bar associations, and community justice centres to provide legal information, support, and guidance to these litigants, backed by the following initiatives:

- The Small Claims Issue Table resumed its activities. The [list of initiatives](#) undertaken by various partners throughout Québec is available on the Court's website and is regularly updated.
- Stakeholders took part in a working group set up by Ministère de la Justice to:
 - Align the department's pre-mediation pilot project with on-site mediation
 - Make on-site mediation permanent in regions where this service is offered to litigants
- Initiate a small claims management and reconciliation project in Montréal and Québec City
- Take part in the Ministère's committee working to reduce small claims delays.

Youth Matters

In the Youth Division, the Court of Québec is delighted with the roll-out of the socio-legal program on intervening with families involved in severe separation disputes in various regions of Québec. The phased roll-out takes into account the highly positive results of pilot projects conducted in the Montérégie and Québec-Chaudière-Appalaches regions. Outstanding cooperation between social and judicial stakeholders has made these services possible, for the benefit of parents and children.

The co-parenting program was presented at a hearing of the [Laurent Commission](#).

Participation in the work of the standing committee on the administration of the *Youth Protection Act* established by Ministère de la Justice.

As part its work, the committee accepted all the recommendations made by the Court of Québec's working group on judicial practices.

A number of these measures have reportedly had a major impact on reducing delays in child protection cases. However, they were not included in [Bill 15](#), which amends *the Youth Protection Act*.

Training of accredited mediators

In addition, the Court of Québec took part in training accredited mediators under Ministère de la Justice's youth protection pre-mediation project.

Criminal Matters

Services relating to detainee appearances in court were revamped.

Detainees must be brought before a judge no later than 24 hours after their arrest, every day of the year. This initial appearance pertains to detainees' constitutional right to have their situation reviewed by a judge without delay to ensure that their detention is not arbitrary.

The Court of Québec, in conjunction with other justice system stakeholders, has carried out important work relating to the appearances of detainees, both adults and adolescents, to reorganize certain judicial services for the benefit of all litigants.

Effective September 5, 2020, Court of Québec judges are on duty every day of the year, including weekends and statutory holidays, presiding over court appearances.

The purpose of reviewing the existing system of detainee appearances is to ensure that all detainees can be brought, within 24 hours of their arrest and wherever they are in Québec, before a judge who has full jurisdictional powers to end a period of detention that should not be extended, as applicable. This requirement involves assigning Court of Québec judges to carry out this judicial function, given the specific duties of presiding justices of the peace.

The reorganization of judicial services provided to detainees stems from concerted efforts by all justice system stakeholders, in accordance with the missions of the various organizations and departments in question. Such cooperation is commendable as it means that litigants' high expectations of a modern judicial system are met.

Domestic and sexual violence charges

The Court of Québec read the report [Rebâtir la confiance](#) (Rebuilding Trust) with great interest as soon as it was published on December 15, 2020. The report's authors demonstrate convincingly that complainants' needs are not merely legal in nature. They also have social and financial needs. Taking a comprehensive approach sheds light on the complex situations these individuals face and helps to provide them with proper support.

The Court of Québec fully supports the implementation of specialized services offered by government departments, organizations, and professionals, including [legal advisory services](#), [enhanced legal information available online via the JuridiQC platform](#), [financial support measures](#) and the establishment of a [multidisciplinary team at police departments](#). The Court also encourages better integration of these services for the benefit of all complainants.

For its part, the Court of Québec indicated back in April 2021, that it is committed to phasing in a division focusing on domestic and sexual violence charges (ACCES Division) with a view to organizing and planning related judicial activities differently. This measure lies within the Court's sphere of action and is fully consistent with other initiatives in place for many years in Montréal, Longueuil, and Saint-Jérôme. In this regard, specific hearing days are devoted to cases involving offences alleged to have been committed in a domestic setting.

With the support of the stakeholders concerned, the Court also took steps in other regions to adapt its operating rules to meet the different needs expressed by these stakeholders.

In Sherbrooke, Drummondville, and Granby, a special roles project for sexual offences was recently unveiled.

In addition, a bill was tabled on September 15, 2021, marking the beginning of a process that will lead Québec's National Assembly to adopt *An Act to create a court specialized in sexual violence and domestic violence* (slated for November 30, 2021), creating a division specializing in sexual and domestic violence within the Court of Québec's Criminal and Penal Division.

In fact, the specialized division has the same objectives as those of the *ACCES Division*.

The Court's more comprehensive vision of how and why this measure should be implemented is laid out in a [specific guidance document on this topic](#).

Indigenous Justice

Providing justice services to Indigenous communities is another major and timely issue that the Court of Québec feels will require urgent action on several fronts. In this regard, the Court took part in various groups and forums created by Ministère de la Justice and other organizations, including:

- Forum sociojudiciaire autochtone
- A working group on the provisions of the *Youth Protection Act* pertaining to First Nations and Inuits children and families, established by Ministère de la Justice and MSSS
- Justice in Nunavik roundtables organized by Ministère de la Justice and Barreau du Québec
- The Court's committee on youth protection in Nunavik
- Regional social justice roundtables with First Nations communities

In January 2021, the Court's Criminal and Penal Division also established specific days at the Maniwaki courthouse to serve the Algonquin community of Rapid Lake.

There are also “lunch-and-learn” sessions to provide information on the main First Nations groups.

Fire at the Roberval Courthouse

In May 2021, a major fire destroyed the Roberval courthouse. Fortunately, no one was injured.

Working closely with Ministère de la Justice, the Court took [swift steps to reorganize its judicial activities](#) and to mitigate the impact of this disaster on litigants.

For example, a service counter was set up for filing proceedings and obtaining information about judicial activities. Hearings previously scheduled for the Roberval courthouse are being held online or at the Alma courthouse on a temporary basis.

Communications

With Ministère de la Justice's support, the Court of Québec launched a brand-new [website](#) in December 2020 geared towards members of the legal community and the general public. The Court included specific sections on judges' [roles and responsibilities](#), with a view to contributing to legal education efforts. There is also a section on [small claims](#). Quebecers can learn more about the training and professional development of Court of Québec judges and presiding justices of the peace by reading the [explanatory document](#) published on the topic.

A [list of useful resources for the general public can also be found on the Court's website](#).



twitter.com/cour_du_quebec

The Court of Québec has been on Twitter (French only) since 2012 and has approximately 3,500 followers. Its publications on this platform are intended not only to inform the public about Court of Québec news, but also to provide updates on publications of interest by other justice system stakeholders (e.g., Ministère de la Justice, Éducaloi, community justice centres, law societies, youth bar associations, and the Canadian Bar Association).

In this regard, the Court of Québec shared the following:

- The Canadian Bar Association's [educational video](#) on judicial independence
- Of the launch of [JuridiQC](#), a new “one-stop shop” for legal information geared towards the general public and designed by SOQUIJ
- [Éducaloi's](#) legal education activities

- An overview of the services offered and tools developed by [community justice centres](#)
- [A guide to best practices in civil matters published by Barreau du Québec](#)
- [A guide to alternative dispute settlement solutions published by Fondation du Barreau du Québec](#)
- [The small claims guide developed by Jeune Barreau de Montréal](#)

Other projects

Documentary series: *Les coulisses du palais*

Court of Québec judges took part in a documentary series filmed at the Québec City courthouse and broadcast in the fall of 2018. This series was so popular that a [second season](#) was produced focusing on the Montréal courthouse.

The Court of Québec agreed to participate in this wonderful project to increase public understanding of the workings of the justice system. It is based on real-life situations and includes comments by various stakeholders, including judges, on their roles and responsibilities.

The Court is always on the lookout for new ways to communicate with the public and promote its mission more effectively.

Intranet

On March 31, 2021, the Court of Québec launched its new intranet for judges and presiding justices of the peace. Our colleagues now have access to a modern, user-friendly intranet platform designed to make it easier for them to retrieve useful documentation in line with their duties.

Professional Development

The [Court of Québec](#) and [Conseil de la magistrature](#) organize professional development activities to maintain judges' expertise. This program, which is regularly updated, is not limited to legal knowledge. It also addresses the maintenance and development of professional skills (writing judgments, case management), as well as awareness of various social issues and phenomena.

A document describing the general application and organization of training activities for judges and presiding justices of the peace is [available online](#).

The pandemic clearly had an impact on training activities, particularly in terms of how they were delivered.

Our colleagues also had access to a range of online training activities that have grown significantly and are relevant to their role.

Writing judgments

Members of the public have legitimately high expectations of a judge's ability to communicate, both during the proceedings and at the crucial stage of issuing judgments, which is a vitally important aspect of communication.

To meet these expectations, judges must have excellent oral and written communication skills, particularly at the trial level, as is the case for Court of Québec judges and presiding justices of the peace.

In this regard, [Conseil de la magistrature du Québec](#) undertook an ambitious project to train all judges in one of the fundamental aspects of their work, i.e., writing judgments. A team of Court of Québec judges designed a program reflecting the Court's areas of jurisdiction, in cooperation with the [Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice](#). This program consists of a series of three-day seminars (the online format follows a two-day schedule). Seven of these seminars were held in 2020–2021.

Teaching Activities

Needless to say, many teaching activities were put on hold or delivered in a different format in 2020 and 2021. Judges followed through on their commitment as much as possible by participating in various activities whenever it was necessary to adapt. They included:

- [Presenting the judge's role and expectations in the Small Claims Division](#)
- Hosting a panel [marking the 50th anniversary of the Consumer Protection Act](#)
- Taking part in meetings in conjunction with the 40th anniversary of Québec's paralegal services for Indigenous people

The number of days devoted to training and teaching is the equivalent of the work performed by 10 full-time judges in one year.

In 2020, 24 seminars were held, 15 of them online.

In 2021, an equally diverse array of seminars was offered focusing on tax law, communication and courtroom conduct, hearings into alleged sexual crimes (pitfalls to avoid and suggested best practices), and fundamental rights (including social vulnerabilities among LGBTQ youth and young adults).

The initial training program for newly appointed judges was also maintained.

Access to justice also means ensuring that litigants have a better understanding of the judgments issued.

- Attending a training session on technological evidence
- Participating in Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice podcasts on [the art of writing judgments](#) and [the role of sexual assault victims within the justice system](#)
- Participating in a podcast on adapting courthouses to the pandemic, organized by [LexisNexis](#)
- Participating in webinars by UNICEF and the International Association of Youth and Family Judges on organizing youth-related judicial services during the pandemic.

Agreements with Universities

The Court of Québec has also maintained its special relationship with Québec universities and the University of Ottawa by renewing various [partnership agreements](#).

Students have the opportunity to meet with judges and lawyers, attend hearings or visit court facilities. These agreements also provide for judges' participation in school courts and moot court competitions.

Under these agreements, the Court of Québec pledges to facilitate academic work in areas of the law falling within its purview. For their part, the universities agree to facilitate judges' access to their teaching- and research-related academic resources.

Awards and Promotional Activities

VIP visitors

[The justices of the Supreme Court of Canada will be in Québec City from September 12 to 16, 2022](#). For only the second time in its history, the Supreme Court will sit outside Ottawa.

Presided over by the [Chief Judge of Québec](#), the Honourable Manon Savard, Québec's courts are already getting ready to welcome the Supreme Court and are planning activities to help the public better understand our judicial system. For example, the Court of Québec is heading up the committee responsible for planning the Supreme Court justices' visit to various high schools in the Québec City area.

Lieutenant Governor's Medal for Outstanding Merit

On [October 19, 2021](#), the Lieutenant Governor of Québec, the Honourable J. Michel Doyon, presented Albert Gobeil⁸ and Huguette St-Louis with medals for outstanding merit.

Mr. Gobeil was the [first Chief Judge of the Court of Québec](#). From the time the Court came into being on August 31, 1988, until its seventh anniversary, Chief Judge Gobeil and his team took on the daunting challenge of fostering collegiality among the members of three courts – the Youth Court, the Provincial Court and the Court of the Sessions of the Peace – that merged to create a new institution.

Ms. Huguette St-Louis, [the first woman to hold the position of Chief Judge](#), led the Court of Québec beginning in 1996. She put heavy emphasis on giving voice to the Court's needs.

Today, the Court of Québec reflects the efforts of the previous management teams (the chief judge, associate chief judges, assistant chief judges, and coordinating and assistant coordinating judges) and of each of the judges and justices of the peace who, at any given time, contributed to its mission.

Now celebrating its 33rd anniversary, the Court of Québec has the institutional maturity to deal with multiple issues and meet numerous challenges. Indeed, it has come to terms with its identity while upholding its core values.

The awarding of the Lieutenant Governor's Medal for Exceptional Merit was an opportunity to remember and pay tangible tribute to the hard work performed with such generosity, passion and determination by those who shaped the Court of Québec while imbuing it with the strong values that characterize it today. Those women and men paved the way for a Court that not only enjoys credibility but has also become a source of stimulation for its experienced judges. Reaffirming its independence, it is proud to take on its wide-ranging responsibilities that directly affect people's lives.

Visez Droit Award (legal component)

[Barreau de Montréal awarded the Visez Droit prize \(legal component\) to Associate Chief Judge Martine L. Tremblay on April 12, 2021](#). This award is given to individuals who help the Barreau fulfill its mission by participating in activities aimed at informing the general public of their rights while demystifying the law, its practices and procedures, and the work of its professionals.

8. Mr. Gobeil unfortunately passed away on April 12, 2022 at the age of 90.

Médaille au mérite Michael H. Cain

Richard P. Daoust, a Court of Québec judge in Saguenay/Lac-Saint-Jean, received the Barreau du Saguenay/Lac-Saint-Jean Médaille au mérite Michael H. Cain for 2021. This award highlights the contribution of a current or former member who has achieved distinction for courtesy, integrity, humility, and human qualities.

Médaille du Barreau de Montréal and the President's Award from the Canadian Bar Association

On September 9, 2021, Barreau de Montréal presented Juanita Westmoreland-Traoré, a retired Court of Québec judge, [with a medal recognizing her contribution to the cause of justice](#).

Ms. Westmoreland-Traoré also received [the President's Award from the Canadian Bar Association](#). The award recognizes the significant contribution of a Canadian jurist to the legal profession, the Canadian Bar Association, or to the public life of Canada.

Prix Ginette Piché

Barreau de Laval awarded the Prix Ginette-Piché to Micheline Dufour, a retired Court of Québec judge, in recognition of her commitment to women's role within our justice system.

New Prix Dominique Larochelle

Justice Dominique Larochelle created a [\\$1,000 prize](#) to reward a student's work at Clinique internationale de défense des droits humains de la Faculté de science politique et de droit, Université du Québec à Montréal.



COUR DU QUÉBEC



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