

## PRESS RELEASE

*For immediate release*

### 2020-2023 Nordic Action Plan

#### A new fund to protect and enhance Nordic wildlife

**Québec, January 27, 2021**– In a financial partnership with the Société du Plan Nord, the Fondation de la faune du Québec will be entrusted with \$1 million over a three-year period to create the *Fonds pour la faune nordique*. This new fund will serve to increase initiatives that develop and protect wildlife habitats in northern Quebec. This investment is part of the 2020-2023 Nordic Action Plan made public by the Société du Plan Nord in December 2020.

“Thanks to this fund, the Fondation will be able to triple funding of concrete action taken in northern Quebec to improve the quality and productivity of the habitats of harvested species and protect the habitats of wildlife at risk.”

- *Jean-Claude D’Amours, President and General Manager of the Fondation de la faune du Québec*

“The creation of the *Fonds pour la faune nordique* is one of 49 actions detailed in the 2020-2023 Nordic Action Plan for the territory north of the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel. It will support community initiatives to take action to protect the environment guided by principles of sustainable development. This million-dollar investment by the Société du Plan Nord will result in concrete action taken in northern Quebec to protect wildlife species and their natural environment.”

- *Jonatan Julien, Quebec’s Minister of Energy and Resources and Minister Responsible for the Côte-Nord Region*

“Northern Quebec abounds with magnificent attributes to discover and the wildlife native to the territory is a cornerstone of biodiversity in Quebec. In addition to being of particular importance to First Nations and the Inuit for cultural and subsistence purposes, the land offers a sweeping and unique range of sports and tourist activities for the entire population of Quebec. This partnership under the 2020-2023 Nordic Action Plan will help support local initiatives that will make a difference in the field.”

- *Pierre Dufour, Quebec’s Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks*

The *Fonds pour la faune nordique* will serve to finance projects north of the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel, the St. Lawrence River and the Gulf of St. Lawrence through programs such as [Aquatic Quality Habitat Improvement](#), [Imperiled Wildlife](#) and [Act for Wildlife](#). Projects initiated by Nordic organizations and communities will:

- Increase support for concrete action taken for wildlife in northern Quebec;
- Encourage the participation of Nordic communities in the protection and enhancement of wildlife habitats;
- Improve the quality and productivity of the habitats of harvested wildlife species;
- Protect the habitat of wildlife species at risk, including threatened and vulnerable wildlife in Nord-du-Québec;
- Develop new partnerships with local stakeholders and promote local sourcing of goods and services.

#### Applications for funding

Organizations and communities seeking to benefit from financial assistance from the *Fonds pour la faune nordique* must submit a project to one of the three financial assistance programs mentioned above. Projects must meet the objectives described above, in addition to program-specific objectives.

Promoters should refer to information documents on the *Fonds pour la faune nordique* before filing an application and, where necessary, contact the manager of the program of interest to them to verify eligibility criteria.

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The mission of the [Fondation de la faune du Québec](#) is to promote wildlife and wildlife habitat conservation and enhancement. Thanks to the contributions of over a million hunters, fishers and trappers in Quebec, thousands of donors and many private corporations, the Fondation has helped more than 2000 organizations across Quebec since 1987, creating a popular wildlife movement.

The [Société du Plan Nord](#) is responsible for managing the 2020-2023 Nordic Action Plan. Its mission is to contribute to the integrated and rational development of northern Quebec in accordance with guidelines determined by the government. The Société works with consultation with regional stakeholders, Aboriginal nations and the private sector.

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