



# Newsletter

February 2025



On January 19, 2026, CIRANO held a strategic panel entitled « *Souveraineté numérique, interopérabilité des données et gouvernance de l'IA : vers une architecture FPT modernisée pour le Canada* », bringing together public decision-makers, experts, researchers, and institutional partners to discuss key issues related to the digital transformation of the public sector. The event opened with welcoming remarks by **Nathalie De Marcellis-Warin**, President and CEO of CIRANO, who emphasized the importance of intergovernmental dialogue and the role of research in informing public policy choices related to data governance and artificial intelligence.

Organized in a closed format under the Chatham House Rule, the panel aimed to foster open and constructive discussions on the conditions required for shared digital sovereignty and improved data interoperability in a federal–provincial context. The discussions notably brought together **Dominic Rochon**, Deputy Minister and Chief Information Officer of Canada; **Stéphane Le Bouyonnec**, Deputy Minister and Chief Information Officer of Québec; **Marc Sirois**, Chief Statistician of Québec at the Institut de la statistique du Québec; as well as **Éric Rancourt**, Deputy Chief Statistician of Canada and Chief Data Officer at Statistics Canada.

Moderated by **Alain Dudoit**, Visiting Fellow at CIRANO, the meeting also benefited from a contribution by **Luc Gagnon**, Chief Technology Officer of the Government of Canada, and a synthesis presented by **Tony LaBillois**, former Director General of Statistics Canada and elected member of the International Statistical Institute. This panel helped strengthen a shared understanding of the challenges related to AI

governance and secure data sharing, while reaffirming CIRANO's role as a neutral platform for dialogue and knowledge production in support of public decision-makers.

[Read more](#)

## SUMMARY

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## CIRANO NEWS



### **A Japanese delegation at CIRANO to discuss the taxation of charitable donations**

On February 2, a delegation composed of three members from the tax research office of the Tokyo metropolitan government and an economist-researcher from the Mitsubishi research institute visited CIRANO. The delegation met with François Vaillancourt, Professor Emeritus at Université de Montréal and Fellow CIRANO, and Antoine Genest-Grégoire, Assistant Professor at Université de Sherbrooke and researcher at the CFPP.

→ [Read more](#)

### **L'Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec draws on CIRANO studies in its report on the maintenance of public infrastructure**

In a report released on January 29, 2026, l'Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec (OIQ) presents concrete proposals to sustainably transform the maintenance of public infrastructure, drawing on CIRANO's expertise.

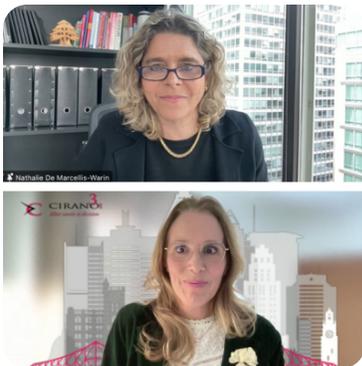
→ [Read more](#)



### **Launch of the video for CIRANO's 2025–2026 thematic year: Éducation et main-d'œuvre**

CIRANO has launched the video for its 2025–2026 thematic year, dedicated to education and workforce development. The video presents the structuring axes of the year's work focused on productivity, innovation, and the reduction of inequalities.

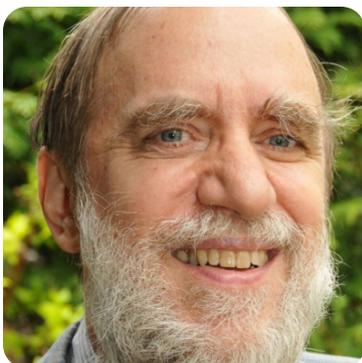
→ [Read more](#)



### **Presentation of the results of the Baromètre de la confiance des consommateurs québécois à l'égard des aliments to MAPAQ**

On January 29, 2026, Nathalie de Marcellis-Warin and Ingrid Peignier presented, as part of a training seminar for professionals and executives at MAPAQ (ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec), the key findings of the 4th edition of the Baromètre de la confiance des consommateurs québécois à l'égard des aliments.

→ [Read more](#)



### **François Vaillancourt presents a report on the private and social returns to education as part of the PRPG midi-conférences**

On January 27, 2026, as part of the PRPG midi-conférences, François Vaillancourt (Université de Montréal, CIRANO) presented his report on the private and social returns to education.

→ [Read more](#)

### **Bourstad 2026, a successful competition and launch event**



CIRANO successfully held the launch event for the Bourstad 2026 competition, officially marking the opening of registrations. The event brought together the academic and financial community around activities highlighting financial education. The competition will take place from February 9 to April 10, 2026.

→ [Read more](#)

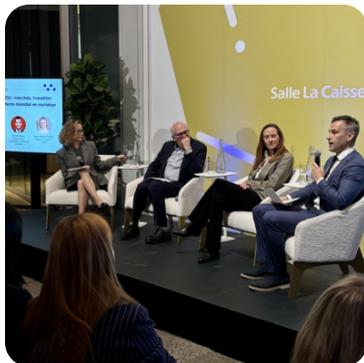


**The Laboratoire d'économie expérimentale Claude Montmarquette du CIRANO is recruiting new participants**

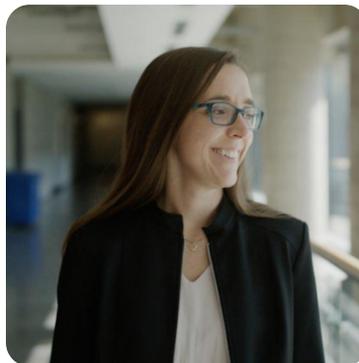
CIRANO invites the public to register in the participant pool of its Laboratoire d'économie expérimentale Claude Montmarquette. By taking part in paid experiments, participants can actively contribute to the advancement of economic research. Registration is open and may be widely shared across networks.

→ [Read more](#)

**-OUTREACH**



**Miville Tremblay, Visiting Fellow at CIRANO, takes part in the Soirée des perspectives 2026 en finance durable**



**Catherine Haec receives a Research Chair on Child and Youth Development**



**Delphine Bosson-Rieutord and Erin Strumpf publish an article in BMC Geriatrics**



**Patrick Mundler**  
**appointed Associate**  
**Correspondent of the**  
**Académie d'agriculture**  
**de France**



**Perspectives**  
**économiques 2026:**  
**CIRANO highlights the**  
**analyses of Matthieu**  
**Arseneau and Dalibor**  
**Stevanovic**



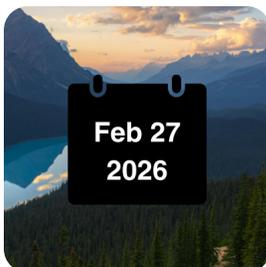
**Nathalie de Marcellis-**  
**Warin, speaker at the**  
**opening of the Journée**  
**de l'IA de confiance**

## -EVENTS CALENDAR



### **CIREQ-CIRANO-RRECQ Environmental and Natural Resource Economics Workshop**

This workshop is intended for researchers and PhD students in economics who are interested in the economics of natural resources and the environment. The workshop is led by a team of professors composed of Geir B. Asheim (University of Oslo), Hassan Benchechrone (McGill University), Sophie Bernard (Polytechnique Montréal), Etienne Billette de Villemeur (Université de Lille, UQAM), Robert Cairns (McGill University), Justin Leroux (HEC Montréal), and Charles Séguin (UQAM).



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### **From Data to Decisions: Transforming Research Into Action For Early Childhood**

As part of its thematic year, CIRANO is organizing, in collaboration with CIQSS, the Maison des affaires publiques et internationales de l'Université de Montréal, and OPES, a full day dedicated to



research on early childhood and education, bringing together researchers, decision-makers, and practitioners. The event aims to highlight recent work in early childhood and education, as well as new databases with strong potential to inform public policy.



### **The St. Lawrence-Great Lakes Corridor as an Asset for Canada's Competitiveness**

We invite you to the 4th Annual Conference of the GVCdtLab, on March 26, 2026, at CIRANO. This day, structured around panels and a keynote conference, will bring together public decision-makers, researchers, and industry experts. The digital twin tools of the GVCdtLab will help identify concrete and sustainable solutions to make the SLGL corridor a major asset in advancing Canada's strategic geopolitical and commercial priorities.



### **External activity - Pension plans: coverage trends and economic value**

On April 1, l'Institut sur la retraite et l'épargne will hold a midi-conférence with Benoit Dostie (IRE, HEC Montréal, CIRANO), co-author of a study on the value of pension plans for workers, and Bernard Morency (IRE, C.D. Howe, HEC Montréal), to present and discuss the study's findings as well as related issues. Benoit Dostie and his colleagues Pierre-Carl Michaud (HEC Montréal, CIRANO) and Todd Morris (University of Queensland) analyzed this issue using administrative data covering the entire Canadian workforce over a 20-year period. The event will bring together academics, financial industry stakeholders, decision-makers, and an informed public at the Hélène-Desmarais Pavillon of HEC Montréal, downtown, to discuss the topic in a rigorous yet accessible manner.



### **1st Montreal Workshop in Health Economics**

This conference will bring together leading researchers in health economics around theoretical and empirical academic work addressing the major challenges facing contemporary health systems. The objective is to highlight the most recent theoretical and empirical contributions that help better understand the economic dynamics of the health sector and inform the design of public policy.



### **Universal coverage of private health care: Quebecers' opinions**

*Olivier Jacques, Marion Perrot, Alexandre Prud'homme, Carole Vincent and Roxane Borgès Da Silva*

The public health insurance system in Quebec, as in other provinces, provides universal coverage for a wide range of care and services considered “medically necessary.” Since the creation of Canada’s Medical Care Act in the 1960s, certain services have always fallen outside that medically necessary category and are therefore excluded from public coverage. This has resulted in many people having to pay out of pocket or purchase supplementary private insurance to cover a variety of services. A CIRANO study (Jacques et al., 2025) examines Quebecers’ perceptions of coverage that would extend to health-care services not covered by the current system. Drawing on survey data from a representative sample of the Quebec population, the authors show Quebecers’ support for health-care coverage expansion and reveal a certain amount of self-interest and personal ideology behind that support.

ALL PERSPECTIVES

## -PUBLICATIONS

### FOR REFLECTION

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### **Public Sector Data Interoperability and Responsible Adoption of AI in Canada: Strategic Overview and Call to Action**

*Alain Dudoit, Tony Labillois and Celio Oliveira*

The public sector in Canada faces a threefold strategic imperative: to sustainably increase its productivity and efficiency in serving citizens and the common good; to strengthen its digital sovereignty and autonomous decision-making capacity; and to integrate artificial intelligence in a responsible, secure and high-impact manner. These three objectives converge on a common lever that is still under-exploited: the interoperability of public sector data at the federal, provincial, and territorial (FPT) levels.

### **Aligning Sustainability Disclosure Standards with Trustworthy AI Governance**

*Anne-Marie Hubert, Nathalie De Marcellis-Warin, Tania Saba and Thierry Warin*



This report examines the convergence between the emerging global baseline of sustainability disclosure standards for financial markets, and the need for transparent, accountable artificial intelligence (AI) governance in the workplace. It explores how the significant progress being made to improve alignment and interoperability of the sustainability disclosure landscape for financial markets can inform the development of indicators to monitor the six commitments of the “Pledge for a Trustworthy AI in the World of Work,” (The Pledge) endorsed in 2025.

All publications

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