COVID-19: a pandemic that opens up opportunities for change in today's world. The case of Canada and Quebec.

The current situation of Covid-19 in Canada is relatively under control with 48,500 cases of which nearly 40,000 are concentrated in Ontario and Quebec which are the 2 most populous provinces and their very dense metropolises that are Toronto and Montreal. The total number of deaths in Canada (June 2020) is 7,800, including 4,978 in Quebec alone.

It should be noted that the Canadian governments of each province, including the Quebec government, have implemented daily, transparent, evolving communication strategies and economic and social support strategies that have ensured public support for the various strategies implemented. Our governments have been very responsible and made themselves credible bearers. It can clearly be said that the strategies put in place by Canada are effective and that it is necessary to dig into what is happening in the provinces most affected.

This article focuses on the case of Quebec and the opportunities that this pandemic opens for the future and the behavioral changes that we are already observing and which will henceforth be the basis of the new reality of Quebec after the pandemic.

The case of Quebec.

The management of the Covid-19 crisis in Quebec was no different from the Canadian situation, but it clearly highlighted the strengths and weaknesses of the current societal model.

Quebec's statistics to date are misleading because they are biased by a phenomenon that had been completely downplayed by decision-makers and public health experts. In Quebec, retirement homes represent an important component of housing for an ever growing and vulnerable population in our society. The organization of these dwellings, whether private or under public jurisdiction, have the same characteristics: people mostly over the age of 70 with poor health or representing significant functional limitations whether cognitive or physical, sensory or other....

When we look at the curve of deaths in Quebec we note that at the start of the pandemic 66% of these deaths (in April, 68% at the end of May) are people who resided in a residence or a CHSLD (Centre hospitalier de Soins long term).

When we look at the geographic place of residence of the deceased, we see that 83% of deaths are in the greater Montreal region, the territory of the Metropolitan Community.

Finally, it should be noted that 72% of the deceased persons were over 60 years of age.

Some conclusions are already pointing to the future with regard to the elderly;

A) A review of the organization of the reception structure for elderly dependents,

B) The construction of a House for the elderly integrating a more convivial environment,

C) Reflection to promote greater autonomy for the elderly in order to encourage them to stay in their homes as long as possible.

D) A reallocation of budgetary priorities to keep seniors in their homes.

E) Promote the jobs in these care and living environments: review the salary structure and the organization of care. In fact, the essential positions of these institutions are among the
lowest paid in Quebec. Colossal work must be done in partnership with residents, managers, unions and employees.

**Promising avenues for influencing the world of tomorrow at the end of this pandemic.**

The compulsory confinement induced by the arrival of the Covid-19 has made it possible to put into practice several actions that should influence the world of tomorrow.

1- Teleworking concept, long cited as an example to reduce congestion, pollution, etc. has proven to be successful with supporting measures.

2- There has been a significant reduction in pollution and smog episodes, air quality measured in clear improvement having a direct impact on the population. The spread of the peak period combined with the establishment of relay work premises outside the city center for those who had to move shows that productivity has increased since transport time has decreased.

It is a safe bet that the future organization of work will be reviewed and that the impacts already observed may be partially maintained.

The big questions that will arise will be: should we continue to have as many clerical activities in the city center of large metropolises? Should we continue to build office towers with exorbitant rents? Do we have to build as much infrastructure to move commuters?

3- With regard to education, distance education for all levels has proven that it is possible to do better than at present by targeting the clientele and the levels of learning well. Once again, there will be reason to question our current ways of doing things.

4- The theme most strongly put forward by our governments is the SELF-GOVERNMENT in the majority of economic fields.

The pandemic has put forward the great dependence of states, a consequence of globalization. For example, several pharmaceuticals have found themselves in short supply as China and India have suddenly found themselves unable to supply raw materials used in the manufacture of essential medicines for the care of the coronavirus and for healing. individual protection measures (masks, gowns, gloves, etc.).

On the other hand, the United States has, despite existing agreements with its partners, demanded from some of its manufacturers not to honor existing contracts to divert all the goods manufactured to their advantage.

5- The Quebec government strongly encourages the population to buy local products to stimulate the local economy and wishes to greatly increase the autonomy of the province, particularly food autonomy, by implementing programs promoting the expansion of this sector.

The first conclusion of this pandemic is that the current model is outdated and that societies that want to develop will have to learn from this terrible period and develop new ways of doing things. It is clear that these new ways of doing things will go far beyond the points listed above and that INTA could play an advisory role to decision-makers by putting its great expertise at the service of stakeholders.

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