

« CAPITAL FLIGHT OF \$100 MILLION TO THE UNITED STATES! »

Quebec de	pes not allow Quebec companies to buy
	local carbon credits!
	Open Letter
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Will Solutions, a Quebec-based company specializing in carbon credits since 2007, questions the Quebec government's refusal to allow Quebec companies subject to the capand-trade system to purchase carbon credits available in Quebec to offset their excess GHG emissions, and to allow Quebec SMEs to receive money to offset their daily reduction efforts.

This situation results in an annual capital flight of some \$100 million, since companies with GHG emission caps to meet buy over 97% of their credits - according to government data - in the USA. For several years now, Will Solutions President Martin Clermont has been proposing that these companies should have access to carbon credits, verified under recognized programs, produced and available in Quebec on the voluntary carbon market, which is, as its name suggests, open to all.

This leads to some rather absurd situations. For example, Rio Tinto, which buys carbon credits on the U.S. market, cannot buy those generated by the Église Notre-Dame de Laterrière, a stone's throw from the Rio Tinto complex in Laterrière, or by Boisaco, a Saguenay timber cooperative located some 100 km from Arvida.

For the president of Will Solutions, it's important that the Quebec government allow Quebec companies to purchase locally available carbon credits. This would reduce capital flight to the United States and make GHG emission reduction initiatives by Quebec SMEs more robust and faster. It is also essential to raise companies' awareness of the importance of reducing their GHG emissions and offsetting their carbon footprint. Large companies emitting more than 25,000 tonnes of GHG annually should have access to local carbon credits available on voluntary markets.

As Jean Nolet, CEO of Coop Carbone, wrote, "[while no one] questions the need to ensure the integrity of the carbon market...the most experienced players point out that a tonne of GHG reduced is a tonne reduced, whatever the technology used and wherever the reduction takes place, and that in the end, that's what counts in the context of the climate emergency we're facing."



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