

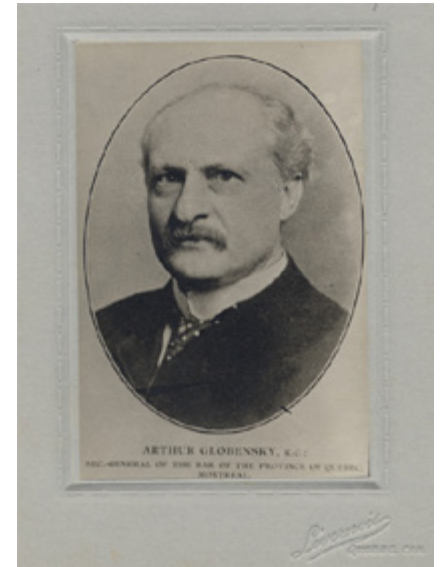


Québec's representation in Ottawa

OVER A CENTURY OF INSTITUTIONAL REPRESENTATION

Ottawa, as the federal capital, is a crossroads where various stakeholders come together to lobby the federal government and defend their interests, and the Québec government has been present in the national capital region since 1908.

The Québec Premier at the time, Lomer Gouin, appointed Arthur Globensky as the parliamentary agent for the Province of Québec in Ottawa, to establish relations with the federal government and ensure that Québec obtained its fair share of shipbuilding contracts following the creation of the Naval Service of Canada.



Picture: Fonds J. E. Livernois Ltée, BAnQ Québec P560,S2,D1,P435.

Mtre. Arthur Globensky (around 1900), Québec's parliamentary agent in Ottawa from 1909 to 1911.

A TEMPORARY MISSION, LATER EXTENDED



Picture: Fonds Gabriel Desmarais (Gaby), BAnQ Vieux-Montréal, Janvier 1959, P795,S1,D9517.

During the 1940s and 1950s, the Province of Québec's general agency in Ottawa was located at the Château Laurier, and was directed by Rosario Messier.

The mission had changed since the arrival of Québec's first representative in Ottawa, since it was now mainly to "ensure that Québec received its fair share of war contracts."¹ Although this mission was expected to be temporary, Messier remained in post until 1961.

Later, in 1966, Québec's Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs rented space from the federal Department of Public Works on Wellington Street, across from the Parliament Building. Former journalist and author Lorenzo Paré acted as Québec's representative for four years.

¹ Jean Hamelin, *Le Québec et le monde extérieur 1867-1967*.

Rosario Messier, Québec's general agent in Ottawa from 1940 to 1961.

THE QUÉBEC GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN OTTAWA ACQUIRED OFFICIAL STATUS

In 1984, this institutional presence was made official by the Québec government, and the Québec Government Office in Ottawa, as it is known today, was placed on a permanent footing. Its activities centre mainly on strategic monitoring and maintaining contact with the federal government, other political and economic stakeholders, and organizations and think-tanks based in Ottawa.

A RENEWED MANDATE

The Québec Government Office in Ottawa closed in April 2015, but its re-opening was announced by the Québec government on September 17, 2019. Québec's presence in Ottawa is today stronger than ever, and the Office's mandate now includes the promotion of Québec and its economic priorities.



Building housing the current Québec Government Office in Ottawa, on Murray Street in the ByWard Market district.



Mural at the current Québec Government Office in Ottawa, showing the Parliament Building of Québec's National Assembly.



Reception at the current Québec Government Office in Ottawa.

HEADS OF THE QUÉBEC GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN OTTAWA: FROM 1909 TO THE PRESENT

FROM	TO	NAME
1909	1911	M ^e Arthur Globensky
1911	1939	M ^e Joseph-Pierre Turcotte
1940	1961	Rosario Messier
1961	1966	Office closed
1966	1971	Lorenzo Paré
1971	1979	Office closed
1979	1982	Lorraine Lagacé
1984	1986	Jocelyne Ouellette
1986	1991	Yves Bélanger
1991	1993	Jean-Louis Desrochers
1993	1994	André Gourd
1995	1998	Robert Keating

FROM	TO	NAME
1998	2004	Jean Morin
2004	2008	André Bachand
2010	2011	Roch Cholette
2011	2013	Paul Terrien
2013	2014	Richard Yves Le Lay
2015	2019	Office closed
2020	...	Mario Lavoie

