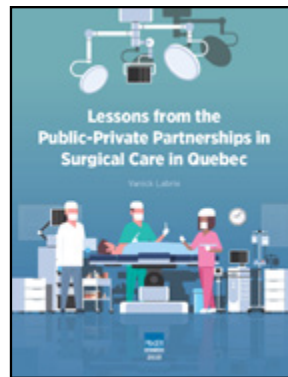


the aim of alleviating the backlog created during the COVID-19 pandemic. At the beginning of April 2023, Quebec Health Minister Christian Dubé also announced the intention of his government to continue along this path and promote public-private partnerships in the health care system in the future (Vailles, 2023b).

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More recently, many more cases of publicly-funded day surgery have been outsourced to private medical centres, with the aim of alleviating the backlog created during the COVID-19 pandemic.
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This essay documents Quebec’s relatively unique approach to health care in the Canadian landscape in order to show the compatibility—and potential benefits—of public-private partnerships within the framework of a universal health care system. After briefly describing the events surrounding the Chaoulli ruling and the subsequent government response, the report examines the factors underlying the expansion of private surgical centres in recent years. It concludes with the main lessons to be learned from the Quebec experience so far, and some conditions that would need to be met to take full advantage of the presence of entrepreneurs in this area of our health care systems.



Lessons from the Public-Private Partnerships in Surgical Care in Quebec
By Yanick Labrie

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