



Update on Québec's First Patent program

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On April 16, 2015, Mr. Jean-Francois Bédard – Industrial Research Advisor for the Québec Ministry of the Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade (MEIE) – announced that the *Premier Brevet* program (*First Patent* program) is projected to be launched in May 2015. This announcement was made in Montréal during his presentation at the International Intellectual Property Forum – Quebec (FORPIQ).

The *Premier Brevet* program was initially presented in 2013 as part of the *Politique nationale de la recherche et de l'innovation 2014-2019 (National Policy on Research and on Innovation 2014-2019)*. We first wrote about the program [here](#) (link only in French).

The *Premier Brevet* program will likely offer financial assistance and technical assistance for Québec-based small and medium enterprises (SMEs) that are filing their first patent application. One of the objectives of the program is to increase the number of patents issued to Québec-based SMEs.

No details were provided as to what changes have been made over the initial conditions of the program announced in 2013. We will continue to follow any new developments in this program.

UPDATE: An update on this development can be found [here](#) with the announcement of [Québec's First Patent Program](#).

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