DISCOVERING QUÉBEC

Sergey Ryabov*
Bedford, New Hampshire

"… Browsing the Internet, I have found that Rivier University recently celebrated its 90-year anniversary (in 1933, Rivier College was settled by a group of nuns who relocated from Quebec to New Hampshire). Last weekend, together with my family, I traveled to Quebec City and Montreal, exploring historical and cultural sites of the neighboring Canadian-French province. I was fascinated with the beauty of this land and took numerous photographs that perfectly reflected the heart and the spirit of these cities of dreams. I believe these images could be valuable for the entire Rivier University community and express the bond between the university and its heritage." – From Sergey Ryabov's letter to the editor.
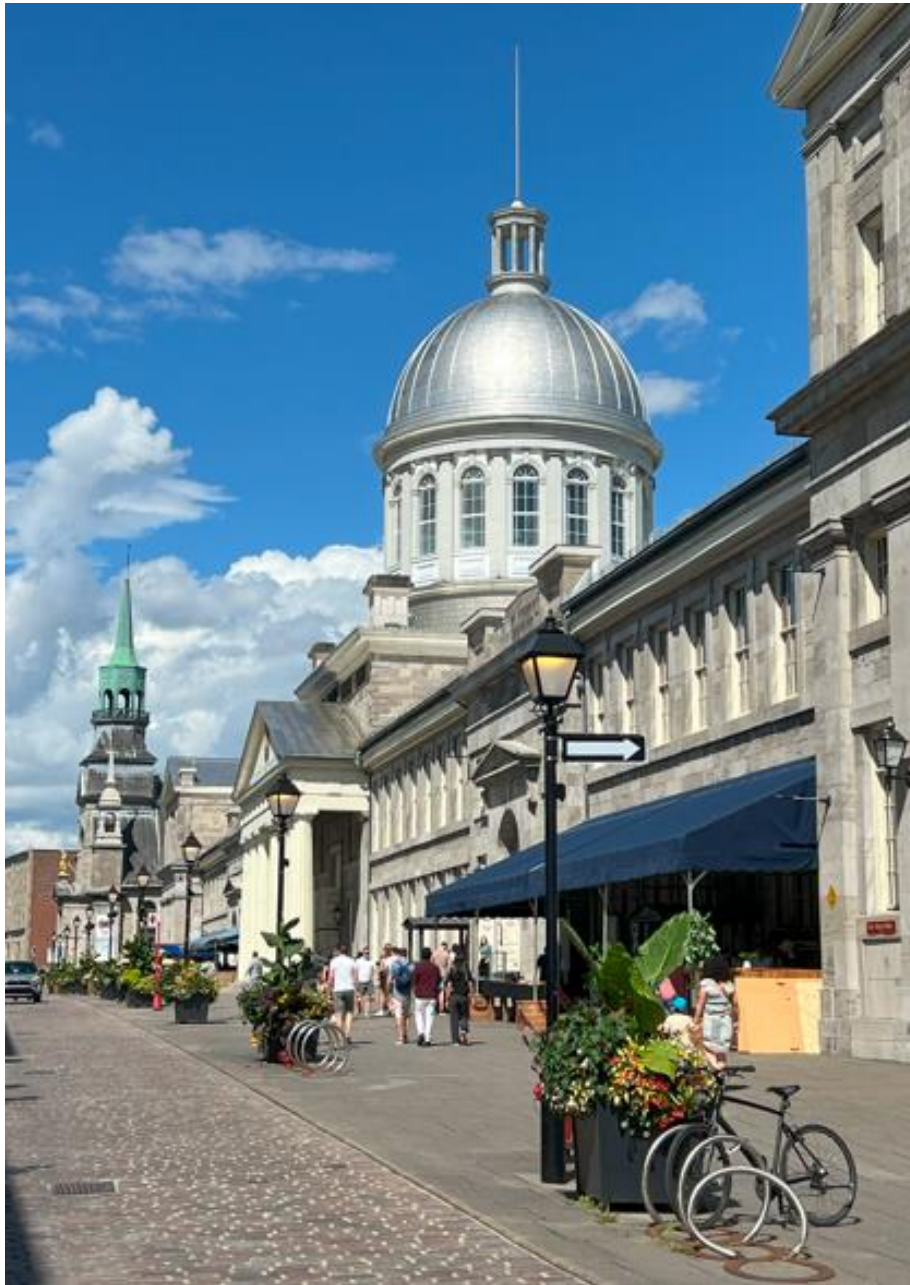
Historical Sites in Québec

Château Frontenac, Québec City

The Frontenac Castle (French: Château Frontenac), Quebec's famous luxury hotel with a rich history, offers spectacular views of the St. Lawrence River and the Old City.
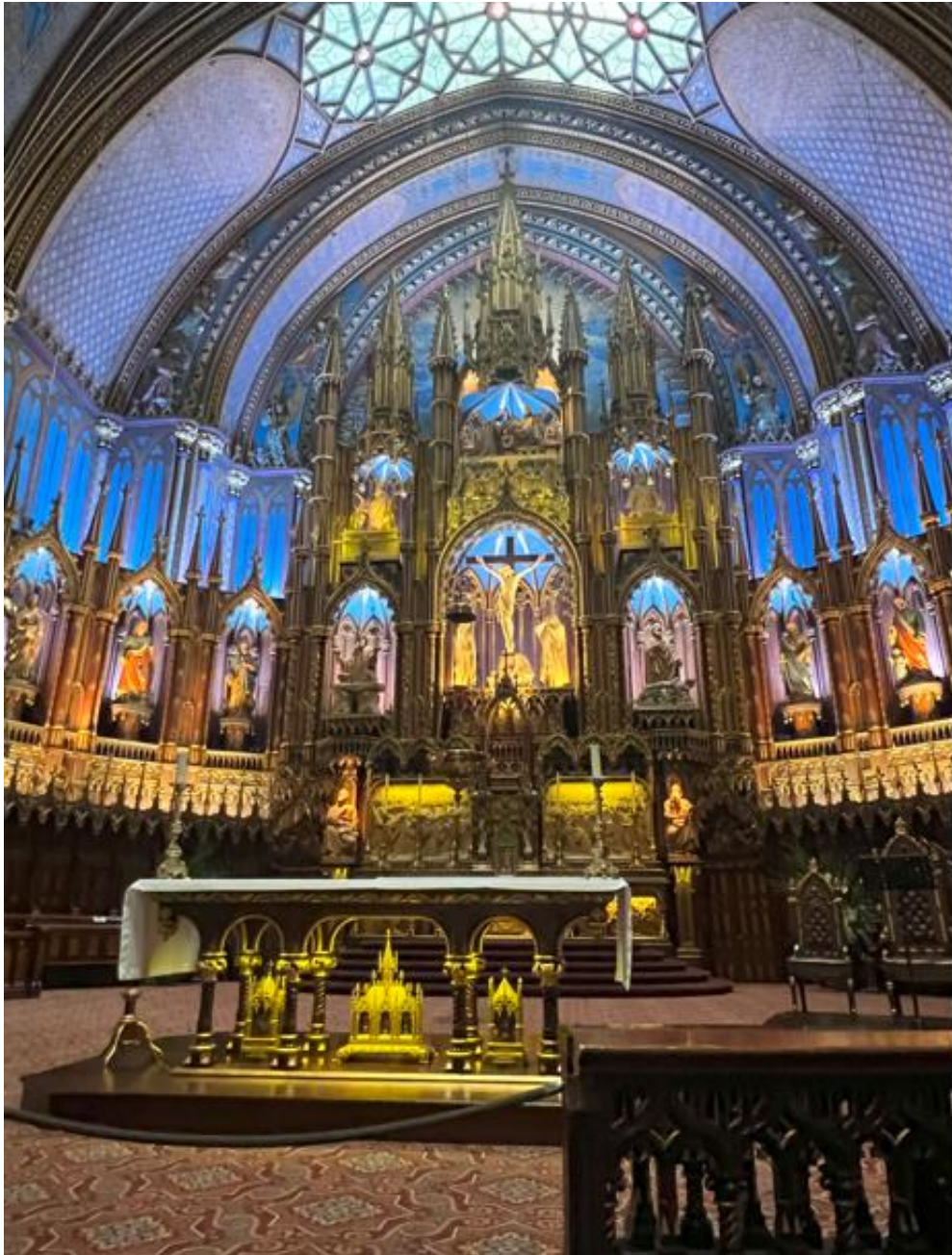
Hôtel du Parlement du Québec

The Parliament Building of Quebec (French: *Hôtel du Parlement du Québec*) is home to the National Assembly of Quebec (French: *Assemblée Nationale du Québec*) in Quebec City, Quebec, Canada. This building was designed by architect Eugène-Étienne Taché in the Second Empire style and built between 1877 and 1886. For more information, visit *https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parliament_Building_(Quebec)*.
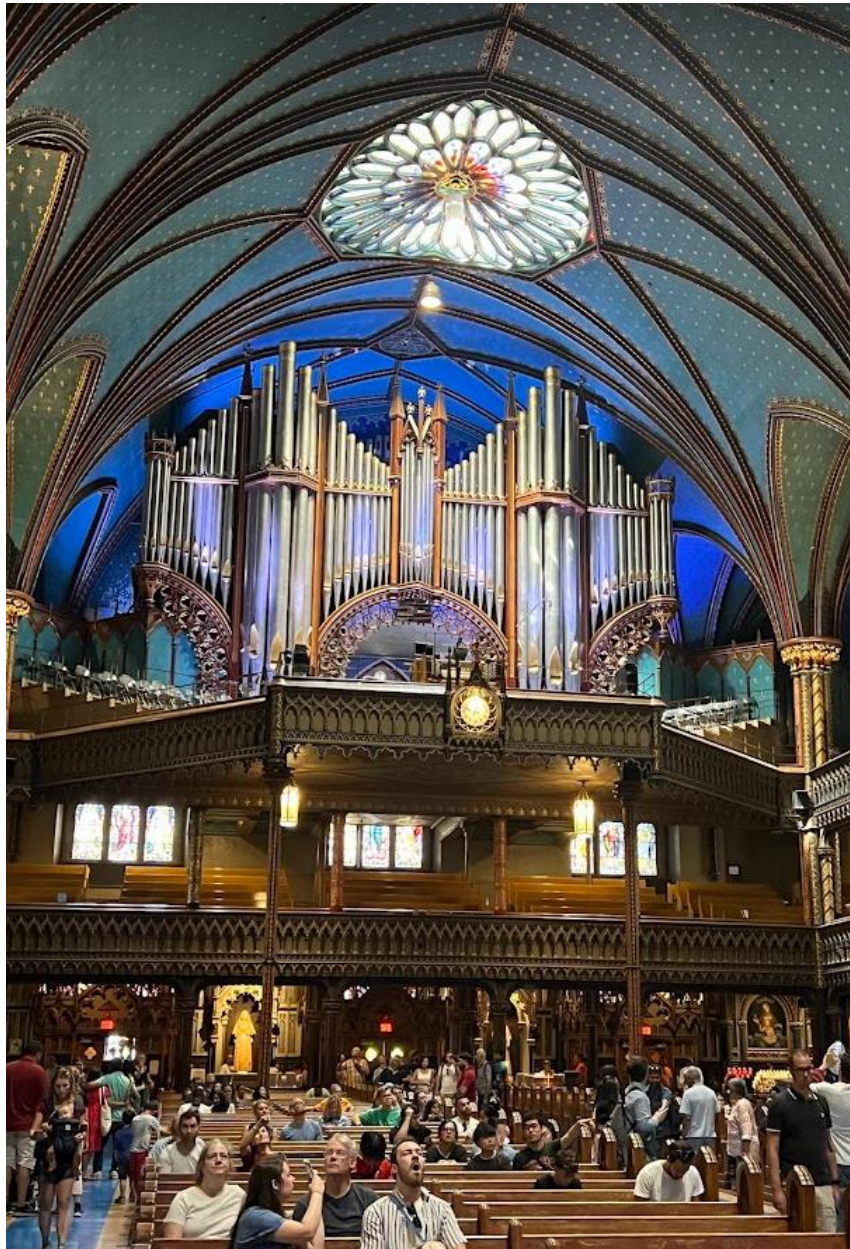
Rue Saint-Paul in Old Montreal (Vieux-Montréal). The cobblestone road to the Holy Places.

Notre-Dame Basilica, Montréal's oldest Catholic parish church, was founded in 1656.

The interior of the Notre-Dame Basilica, Montréal.

The pipe organ in the Notre-Dame Basilica. The stained glass illustrates the history of Montréal.

The sculpture of Émilie Tavernier Gamelin by Réjean Lord in the Notre-Dame de Montréal Basilica.

The Bank of Montreal building (1859), Canada's first bank, on the Place d'Armes with a monument in memory of Paul de Chomedey, founder of Montréal.
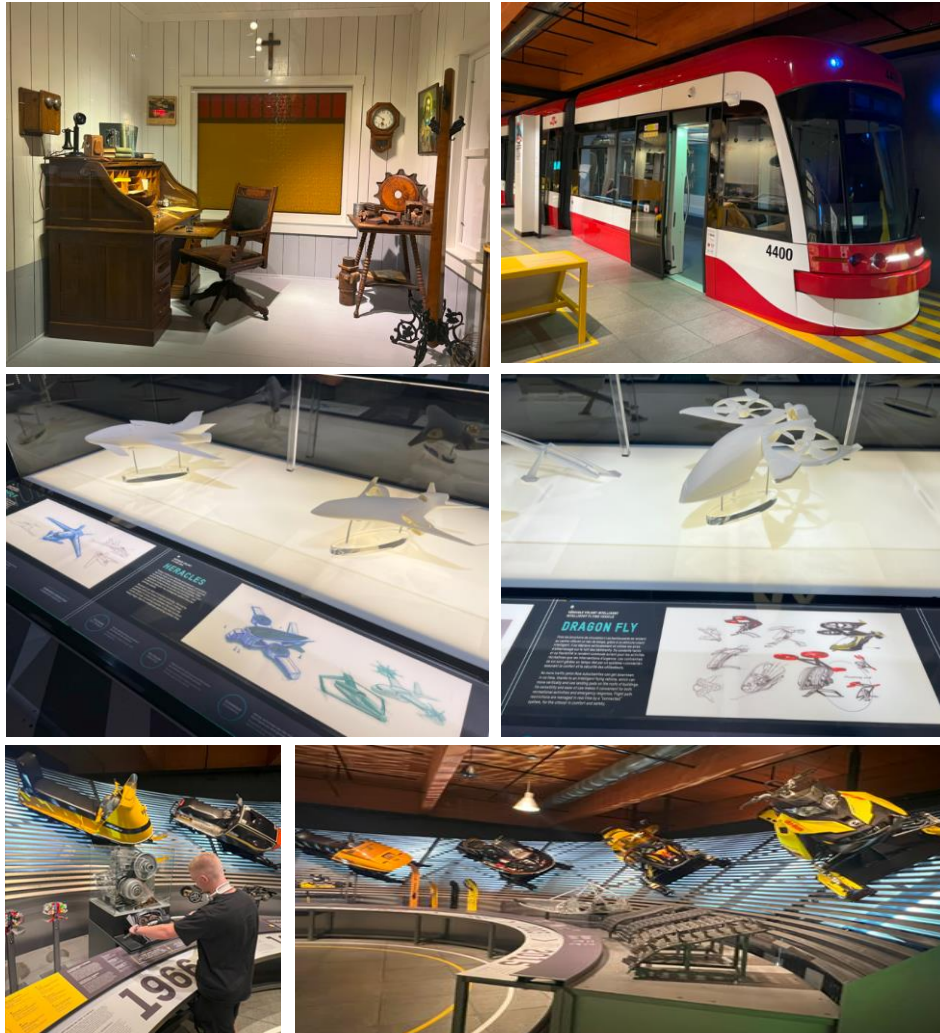
La Citadelle, Québec City

La Citadelle is the large fort built at the highest point in the Quebec area and home to the Royal 22e Regiment.

La Promenade Samuel-De Champlain, Québec City

La Promenade Samuel-De Champlain is a 2.5 km park along the St. Lawrence River gifted to the city for its 400th anniversary.

Visiting the J. Armand Bombardier Museum of Ingenuity (Valcourt, Quebec)

Bombardier's B-7 snowmobile (for 7 passengers) built in 1937

Joseph-Armand Bombardier (Apr. 16, 1907 – Feb. 18, 1964) was a Canadian inventor and businessman who was the founder of Bombardier, Inc. His most famous invention was the snowmobile. "During wintertime, he worked on developing a vehicle able to travel on snow. At that time, the Quebec government did not clear snow from secondary roads, so residents of these areas stored their cars for the winter season. The idea to build a winter vehicle came to Bombardier after a blizzard in which his young son fell ill from peritonitis and died because he could not be brought to the nearest hospital" (Wikipedia, *https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph-Armand_Bombardier*). Both the **snowmobile B-7** (*left*) and the smaller Ski-Doo, which he patented in 1937 and 1960 respectively, were conceived and manufactured in Valcourt, Quebec where Bombardier was born. Later, the business he founded became one of the world leaders in the transportation industry, including commercial jets, express coaches, double-decker buses, trains and cars for subways, and specialized vehicles for military, logging, and mining operations. The Museum of Ingenuity thoroughly preserves his legacy and encourages young inventors in their endeavors.

The Cities of Dreams

Umbrella clouds in Quebec City

The ubiquitous "Monsieur Rose" has decided to rest here as well.

Embodied by "Monsieur Rose," the emblem of Mignonism, a series of inflatable pink sculptures gently invade many places around Quebec City. It is an art by Philippe Katerine, a French singer and visual artist.

"*Mignonism, an artistic concept born from the imagination of Philippe Katerine, creates a universe that is both surprising and delicate, reflecting the personality of its creator. Inspired by poetic and eccentric influences, this movement encourages the spread of cuteness in our physical and mental environments, celebrating beauty in its simplicity with clarity.*" (*https://www.quebec-cite.com/en/what-to-do-quebec-city/events/monsieur-rose-senvole-place-a-philippe-katerine*)

The street saxophonist in Quebec City.

Street dancers in Montréal, Quebec

The street artist helps a customer select a painting on Tresor street in Quebec City.

Welcome to Old Quebec City. Dissolving in frescos.

Montmorency Falls.

Montmorency Falls are located on the boundary between the borough of Beauport and Boischatel, about 7.5 mi (12 km) from the heart of old Quebec City. The falls are at the mouth of the Montmorency River where it drops over the cliff shore into the Saint Lawrence River, opposite the western end of the Île d'Orleans. The waterfalls are 272 feet (83 m) tall, a full 99 feet (30 m) higher than Niagara Falls. For more information, visit *https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Montmorency_Falls*

The street market in Montréal.

Just a stop for lunch in Montréal.

If you have a new bright idea, just drop it here, in Montreal. ∎

* **Sergey Ryabov** is a Partner at McKinsey & Company in Boston with over 20 years of experience in the financial services industry. He specializes in digital transformations, technology strategy & organization, software engineering, and advanced analytics. As the leader of McKinsey's Core Technology and Architecture service line, Sergey leads complex technology, advanced analytics, and data transformations from client development through design and go-live implementation, across multiple regions including the US, Europe, the Middle East, Latin America, and Central Asia. A passionate traveler and photographer, Sergey shares his global experiences through social media with family, friends, and his community. Sergey currently resides with his family in New Hampshire, continuing to explore the region.