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Professional Addresses in Quebec: Laws and Privacy

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Executive summary

The balance between **transparency** and **privacy** is central to debates surrounding the use of personal and professional addresses in Quebec. Since 2023, Quebec regulations have required businesses to declare the address **of a natural person** (director, officer, partner, etc.) to the Enterprise Registrar (REQ) (www.quebec.ca). However, to protect entrepreneurs' privacy, the law now allows a "professional address" (the main place of work) to be substituted for a personal home address if someone wishes to conceal their home location (www.quebec.ca) (edilex.com). This measure also involves a risk: public exposure of a home address can jeopardize a person's physical safety, assets and psychological well-being (www.bitdefender.com) (www.quebechabitation.ca). To mitigate these risks, self-employed workers and executives use various **business address solutions** (private mailboxes, **virtual offices**, **coworking spaces**, etc.) that offer a separate business address without having to rent a permanent office (2727coworking.com) (nuage-b.com).

This in-depth study reviews Quebec's historical and legal context (particularly recent reforms, including Bill 78 on transparency), the implications for individuals' privacy (risks of identity theft, harassment, mail fraud, etc.), and practical commercial address options. It draws on quantitative data (telework statistics, opinion polls), expert opinions and real-world examples (banking case studies, lawyers' recommendations) to provide a comprehensive analysis. In conclusion, we identify future issues (telework, the digital evolution of correspondence, strengthening Law 25 on information protection) and make recommendations to minimize tensions between privacy and legal obligations.

Introduction and context

Under Quebec law, as in many jurisdictions, a business's **head office** must be specified when it **registers with the Quebec Enterprise Registrar (REQ)**. This business domicile corresponds to its administrative address or head office, which may be separate from its places of business. Traditionally, a sole proprietor or a natural person in business would often provide their personal address (private residence) to register their business. However, this practice raises growing concerns about privacy protection: a private address made public can be exploited for doxing, harassment or other malicious activities.

More recently, Quebec adopted major reforms aimed at combating fraud and strengthening business transparency. Bill no. 78 (known as the "Transparency Act"), amending the Act respecting the legal publicity of enterprises (Act P-44.1), which came into force on March 31, 2023, requires businesses subject to the Act to provide the date of birth and home address of each natural person involved in the company (directors, shareholders, beneficial owners, etc.) (www.fasken.com) (edilex.com). This publicly accessible register is intended to deter money laundering and tax evasion. Yet the requirement to include a private address in a public register has triggered serious concerns about privacy and individual safety.

Aware of these issues, Quebec's legislature introduced a pragmatic mechanism: if an executive can prove they have a separate professional address (for example, the office from which they operate), they can declare it in place of their personal home address (www.quebec.ca) (edilex.com). The professional address, defined as the "main place of work or business", then replaces the home address in public documents (www.quebec.ca)

(edilex.com). Under these provisions, the personal address remains confidential (unpublished) if a valid professional address exists; conversely, any delay in updating the professional address will result in the personal address being published by default (www.fasken.com) (fodago.ca).

This new regulatory landscape (supplemented by the REQ search tools introduced in 2024) directly affects businesses' choice of registered address and calls for a thorough examination of the risks and solutions. Below, we will detail the definitions of the two types of address, their legal treatment, potential privacy infringements, and the practical alternatives ([commercial mailbox](https://commercialmailbox.com), virtual offices, business address services, etc.) available to Quebec entrepreneurs.

Legal and regulatory framework in Quebec

Act respecting the legal publicity of enterprises (Act P-44.1) and Transparency Act

The Act respecting the legal publicity of enterprises (Act P-44.1) defines the information to be submitted to the REQ at registration and in subsequent updates. Since the 2021 reform (which came into force on March 31, 2023), every business subject to the Act must declare the date of birth and home address of the natural persons it identifies (directors, officers, principal shareholders, beneficial owners, etc.) (www.fasken.com) (edilex.com). This recent transparency legislation aims to combat fraud and tax evasion by making opaque corporate structures more difficult to establish.

However, in the interest of balance, the Act allows natural persons to declare an alternative professional address instead of their personal address. The legal definition of a professional address is explicitly the person's "main place of work or business" (edilex.com). A post office box ("PO box") can never be considered such an address (www.quebec.ca) (www.astrelegal.com). Furthermore, a natural person may have only **one professional address** in the register, regardless of the number of companies in which they are involved (www.quebec.ca) (edilex.com). In practice, this means that if an individual serves in several businesses, they must choose a single professional address (for example, the head office of one of them) to declare in every case (www.quebec.ca) (edilex.com).

Once declared, this professional address takes precedence over the home address in public records. Thus, as long as the professional address remains valid and up to date, it is the address that will be **published in the enterprise register, instead of the personal address** (fodago.ca). However, if it is not updated within the statutory time limit (30 days) after it ceases to be usable, the personal address is then published by default (www.fasken.com) (fodago.ca). In short, the natural person remains required to provide their home address to the REQ, but it stays "confidential" (not available to the public) as long as a valid professional address is registered (www.fasken.com) (fodago.ca).

It should also be noted that the Act allows a person whose safety would be threatened to ask the Registrar simply not to publish their personal information (including their address). The Registrar then examines the request according to strict criteria (withholding disclosure and urgency) (www.quebec.ca). This exceptional exemption mechanism is intended to protect vulnerable workers (police officers, victims of domestic violence, etc.).

Finally, a small revolution took place in July 2024: the REQ activated a tool for **searching by a natural person's first and last name** (incorporationquebec.net). This search, without a date-of-birth filter, instantly reveals all entities (companies, non-profit organizations, trusts, etc.) linked to a name. The collateral effect is telling: if two people have the same first and last name, they can only be distinguished in the results by their declared residential address (unless one has opted for a professional address) (incorporationquebec.net) (incorporationquebec.net). In other words, the address becomes one of the few distinguishing elements in the register – which reinforces the importance of controlling what appears there (incorporationquebec.net) (incorporationquebec.net).

Quebec personal information protection law (Law 25)

Meanwhile, **Law 25** (the Act to modernize legislative provisions as regards the protection of personal information, modernizing private-sector privacy protection and inspired by the GDPR) came into force gradually beginning in 2022. Its provisions emphasize that a person's **civil domicile** is sensitive personal information. For example, Quebec lawyers stress that consent to the collection of “personal information”, such as a first name, last name or street address, must be freely given and informed (www.quebechabitation.ca). In other words, an individual's personal (street) address is considered PII (personally identifiable information) and cannot be disclosed or used without their expressed authorization (www.quebechabitation.ca).

In practice, this means that every commercial business must limit the collection and disclosure of its employees', clients' or directors' personal addresses, unless there are compelling legal reasons. Nevertheless, the inclusion of a personal address in the REQ stems from the Transparency Act, which partially overrides confidentiality for public safety purposes. This tension highlights the importance of the professional address option: it protects the private address (considered protected personal information) while meeting legal transparency obligations.

International comparisons

To better understand the issues, we can briefly compare other practices. In the United Kingdom, for example, **Companies House** requires directors to maintain a “service address” (contact address) separate from their home address. Individuals must provide **two** addresses: a public service address and their usual residential address. The second is kept confidential and does not appear in the register accessible to third parties (www.gov.uk). Thus, a British director can use their company's or a law firm's address as a service address, avoiding publication of their home location (www.gov.uk). In Quebec, the system has arrived at a similar principle (declaring a professional address to protect the private home address (www.fasken.com) (www.gov.uk)), but without creating a separate private register: the personal address is still recorded by the REQ, although it is not disclosed.

Personal and professional addresses: definitions and uses

Personal address (private residence)

An individual's **personal address** or “civil domicile” is generally the place where they legally reside (house or apartment). It is the Cartesian expression of their usual place of residence. In civil law, this concept is important (e.g. the Civil Code of Québec defines domicile as a person's principal establishment). In practical terms, this address appears on many official documents (licences, insurance policies, etc.) and serves as proof of residence.

In the business context, the personal address used to appear when the business used it as its head office or when executives were registered at their home address. For example, a person operating a sole proprietorship (a self-employed worker without an incorporated company) generally lists their personal address as their business address. Similarly, in a small business corporation, a sole director might use their home address to incorporate the company. In the absence of an alternative, this was standard practice.

Professional address (business domicile)

By contrast, a **professional address** means the location where an individual primarily carries out their professional or commercial activities (www.quebec.ca) (www.astrelegal.com). Under Quebec's legal definition, it must be a *physical workplace*, not a PO box (www.astrelegal.com) (edilex.com). In other words, the professional address often corresponds to the offices, commercial premises or head office of a business where the person works. For example, if a lawyer practises in a firm located at 123, rue Sainte-Catherine, that address counts as their professional address. This address may belong to the business itself or to a business address service provider (virtual office, coworking space) offering mail reception services.

The new legislation explicitly recognizes the concept of a professional address. Since 2023, **any natural person identified as a business director/officer may declare a professional address** to the REQ *in addition to* their home address (fodago.ca). This professional address will then be published in the register in place of the personal address. The only requirement is that it be fixed, real and unique: an individual may declare only one professional address, even if they are involved in several companies (www.quebec.ca) (edilex.com), and it must remain identical for all their businesses (it is, in a sense, their personal “professional head office”).

Commercial domicile and entrepreneurial immigration

The choice of a professional address also matters for non-resident entrepreneurs. Every company registered in Quebec must provide a **head office address** as soon as it is formed (2727coworking.com). A foreign business promoter therefore cannot incorporate in Quebec without providing a Quebec domicile address or appointing a local representative (2727coworking.com). Specifically, the legislature has just provided for an explicit obligation, starting in April 2026, to designate a *representative for service* in Quebec if the company

does not have a Quebec address for its head office (2727coworking.com). In practice, many foreign entrepreneurs use specialized services (“virtual offices” or “domiciliation facilities”) to comply with these rules: these providers supply an actual street address in Quebec that is acceptable for the company’s legal registration (2727coworking.com). Quebec authorities do indeed allow the use of these real addresses for incorporation, provided they are authentic and the provider is reputable (2727coworking.com).

Risks associated with exposing a personal address

Publishing a home address in a public register involves several concrete dangers. Many sources specializing in digital security and privacy warn of the potential consequences of a residential address leak. Several categories of risk can be identified:

- **Identity theft and banking / mail fraud.** Cybercriminals who know your address can combine it with other data to commit fraud. For example, they can steal your physical mail (bank statements, pay stubs, medical bills) to obtain sensitive information (account numbers, date of birth, etc.) (www.bitdefender.com). Equipped with this information, they can open accounts in your name, take out loans or make fraudulent purchases using your identity. In addition, scammers can carry out a **fraudulent change of address**: they ask the post office to forward your mail to another address (www.bitdefender.com). Every statement and bill concerning you would then be diverted, multiplying the opportunities to exploit your financial or personal information.
- **False complaints or reports.** A malicious individual can use your address to make false reports. Bitdefender’s blog explains that a harasser could have you wrongly accused of an offence by anonymously submitting a false report to your local police (www.bitdefender.com). This can trigger investigations at your home, create fear among loved ones or draw unwanted attention from authorities, neighbours, etc. This “criminal disinformation” technique demonstrates that an address is a potentially dangerous tool if it falls into the wrong hands.
- **Fake leases and abusive rentals.** Fraudsters can create fake rental listings online using your address as the location of the apartment for rent (www.bitdefender.com). Gullible people arriving at your home to sign a fictitious lease may then move illegally into your house in your absence, or extort money from you on the promise of rent. Furthermore, subsequent tenants who discover the deception could hold you responsible for abandoning the dwelling.
- **Harassment and physical intrusion.** Knowing where you live makes stalking easier. A determined harasser can physically come to your home at any time (www.bitdefender.com). Worse still, several experts even mention the risk of a targeted break-in: if you go on vacation, a burglar with your address could let themselves into your home while you are away (www.bitdefender.com). Access to the address therefore increases the concrete risk to your safety and that of your family.
- **General loss of privacy.** Your personal address is sensitive information protected by personal information laws (www.quebechabitation.ca). Public disclosure infringes on your privacy: you may receive unwanted solicitations (commercial mail, targeted advertising) and lose control of your personal

information. In a world where data is increasingly linked online (social networks, public databases, data brokers), knowing an address often makes it possible to find other information about you. One article warns that “your privacy is jeopardized, and your physical and financial security is highly exposed” if your address is leaked (www.phonandroid.com) (www.bitdefender.com).

In summary, as a European security study explains, data such as an address can be used to “exploit victims” for the purpose of causing financial and physical harm (www.bitdefender.com). This is why publicly disclosing one’s home address is now considered a major vulnerability in terms of cybersecurity and personal protection.

Testimonials and incidents involving addresses

Although it is difficult to find widely reported cases in the press of people victimized specifically because their address was published in the register, several indicators already demonstrate the importance of the problem:

- **Banking obstacles.** Legal experts note that banks and other Quebec financial institutions have become very strict about proof of a business’s residence. Lex Agency reports that founders have had their bank accounts frozen or their account applications rejected when their only proof of presence in Quebec was a shared mailbox (lex-lawyers.com). Indeed, banks now require a commercial lease or property tax bills at the address provided (lex-lawyers.com). This phenomenon has also been observed in Canada generally since the Digital Identity Act (2021): proof-of-address rules have been tightened to combat fraud, making simple PO boxes insufficient (lex-lawyers.com) (lex-lawyers.com). This provides concrete evidence that a purely virtual business domicile can pose problems when faced with regulatory requirements (banks, KYC checks, etc.).
- **Name searches and people with identical names.** The activation of first/last name searches at the REQ (July 31, 2024) immediately raised concerns. Without a date-of-birth filter, an entrepreneur with a very common name could have *all* their professional activities discovered through their address. The *Incorporez votre entreprise* blog article noted very clearly that, when two people have the same name, they can now be distinguished only by their declared address (incorporationquebec.net). In practical terms, two hypothetical twin consultants named “Jean Tremblay” would now be identifiable only through their addresses – requiring each to carefully choose a shared professional address or conceal their private home address.
- **Advice from experience.** Professionals observe that many people now prefer to rent a business address to separate their business image from their home. For example, business address service provider Nuage B **strongly advises against** using one’s home as a business address (nuage-b.com). It gives three reasons: first, receiving clients in one’s personal residence undermines the business’s credibility; second, it mixes personal and professional life (affecting privacy); and third, it creates a constant flow of people coming and going at home, posing security risks (nuage-b.com). Such professional advice illustrates that, in practical terms, it is preferable to avoid displaying one’s home address as a head office.

Example of a concrete case (hypothetical): a self-employed IT consultant, based at home in a condo, discovers that a police investigation has been launched against an individual with the same name living in the same city (false identity). Concerned that his personal information could be mixed up, he chooses to declare the address of a downtown virtual office as his professional address. This strategy keeps his private home address out of public registers and prevents the police incident from affecting him. This example illustrates how, in practice, a commercial business address protects against certain identified risks.

Business address solutions and alternatives

To reduce the risks associated with exposing a personal address and meet the new legal requirements, Quebec entrepreneurs can choose various **professional business address solutions**. These provide a real or virtual address for correspondence and registration, separate from their place of residence. Below, we describe the main options, comparing their advantages and disadvantages and their typical costs.

Address type / Solution	Examples	Approximate cost	Accepted for administrative purposes	Advantages	Disadvantages
Personal address (home)	Private residence	~ \$0 (already included)	Yes (sole proprietorship) (www.quebec.ca)	No expense, convenience.	Public disclosure, infringes on privacy, risk of harassment, weaker professional image.
PO box (Canada Post)	Municipal PO box	~\$15–40/month (2727coworking.com)	No (not recognized by the REQ) (2727coworking.com)	Low cost, mail security.	Not legally valid for registration (2727coworking.com); perceived as unprofessional.
Private mailbox	“Mailbox service” (e.g. UPS Store)	~\$20–50/month	Yes (street address used) (2727coworking.com)	Provides a credible physical address; moderate price; services (mail reception).	Shared address (several businesses have the same address); less prestigious than actual premises.
Virtual office / Commercial business address	Virtual office, coworking space with office services	~\$50–300/month (2727coworking.com)	Yes (actual branch office) (2727coworking.com) (2727coworking.com)	Prestigious address possible (downtown); comprehensive services (mail management, optional secretarial services) (2727coworking.com); possible tax deduction (2727coworking.com).	Higher cost; no assigned space; sometimes a perceived reputational issue (shared address).
Traditional physical office	Commercial premises or rented office	Several hundred to thousands of \$/month	Yes (street address)	Strong professional image; full control; dedicated workspace.	Substantial rent + additional expenses; less flexibility; major commitment.

**The costs shown are only approximate and vary by location and provider. The figures come in particular from specialized reports (2727coworking.com) (2727coworking.com).*

Comments: Non-traditional business address options (PO box, virtual office) primarily offer an affordable solution for replacing a personal address, but their validity for registration depends on the presence of an actual street address (2727coworking.com) (2727coworking.com). For example, a Canada Post PO box has no “street” component and cannot be used on its own for the register (2727coworking.com). By contrast, private mailbox services (UPS Store, etc.) provide an actual commercial premises address, allowing them to be accepted as a business’s legal address (2727coworking.com). **Virtual offices and business address services** (sometimes promoted as a “virtual head office”) are subject to the same conditions for legality: as long as they provide a physical address (rather than just a mailbox) and meet REQ requirements, they can be used as a company’s domicile (2727coworking.com) (2727coworking.com).

Similarly, subscribing to a coworking space does not formally create a business address unless one pays for a dedicated mail service, but these spaces often offer associated business address services. Finally, renting an actual office remains the “clearest” legal solution (since the premises are for exclusive use), but it is inherently expensive and often disproportionate for many independent workers and micro-entrepreneurs.

Data analysis and evidence-based arguments

Several studies and surveys provide contextual insight into changing work practices and professional address needs:

- **Telework and hybrid work (Quebec and Canada):** The rise of remote work increases the need to separate one’s place of residence from one’s business address. According to the Institut de la statistique du Québec, approximately **35%** of Quebec’s workforce engaged in telework in 2022 (mostly in a hybrid format) (statistique.quebec.ca). In addition, an Angus Reid poll from July 2025 reveals that **59%** of Canadian workers would prefer to spend most of their working time at home (when they have the opportunity) (angusreid.org). This phenomenon indicates that more and more professionals are only partially office-bound, increasing the appeal of flexible business address solutions (virtual office, coworking, etc.) that free their homes from business obligations.
- **Post-pandemic preferences:** An RBC/PwC Centre survey (2022) already noted that 70% of Canadian SMEs were considering offering telework over the long term. In Quebec’s private sector, these trends often mean working from home, but for businesses that need an official head office, this involves a shift towards other office arrangements. For example, **42% of Quebec’s coworking spaces were located in Montreal in 2023** (compared with 57% in 2016), according to UQAM’s Observatoire de la vie urbaine (nouvelles.esg.uqam.ca). This distribution highlights the development of shared spaces (often equipped with business address services) in Greater Montreal and the regions, demonstrating how urban infrastructure is adapting to these new needs.

- **Case studies and migration evidence:** Concrete cases illustrate the impact of a business domicile. For example, a Montreal start-up reportedly had to secure an actual commercial lease to open a business bank account, without which its application had been rejected (2727coworking.com). This account (provided in a specialized report) highlights that some organizations (banks, landlords, etc.) continue to require tangible proof of presence (lease, municipal tax) to validate an activity, even though the law legally accepts a virtual office. This underscores that, in practice, virtual addresses must be used with caution: it is sometimes necessary to maintain a physical commitment to satisfy certain third parties (landlords, financial institutions).
- **Expert opinions and legal consultations:** Lawyers and business consultants emphasize the need to separate private and professional life. For example, a business lawyers' bulletin observed in 2023 that the new obligation to declare an address (home or professional) to the REQ means that a director will no longer "simply" have their home address published online: they can now conceal it behind the business's or a virtual office's address (2727coworking.com). Similarly, business address experts note that this development encourages the growth of dedicated services – to the point that providers (such as CollabSpace) explain that a non-resident entrepreneur can incorporate in Quebec using their professional address without a local director (2727coworking.com). Ultimately, the arguments put forward by legal commentary and providers converge: using a professional address both protects privacy and supports credibility and legal compliance.

In summary, the available factual evidence (telework statistics, surveys of worker preferences, coworking market analyses, entrepreneurs' testimonials) shows a context in which **nomadic work** and administrative transparency requirements make the old practice of using a residential address increasingly unsuitable. Quebec businesses (and their financial partners) are adjusting accordingly: hybrid work plans naturally lead towards commercial business addresses for registration and image needs, which aligns with the advice of legal and business address professionals (nuage-b.com) (statistique.quebec.ca).

Case studies and concrete examples

Business bank account blockage

One concrete case is the one mentioned by Lex Agency: several business founders have **bank accounts frozen** when their only proof of existence in Quebec is a shared mailbox (lex-lawyers.com). For example, an immigrant creating a start-up used a PO box address as their only business domicile. When the bank asks for a commercial lease or municipal tax bill to confirm their legal address, they can provide only the PO box rental. The bank then refuses to open the account, considering this insufficient. This incident highlights that, despite legal permission, some parties (HERE, banks) do not readily recognize a purely virtual or postal business domicile.

Using virtual offices to maintain privacy

Another example (municipalized) is a self-employed entrepreneur who wanted to launch his online business without revealing his private address. Rather than declaring his home address, he used a commercial business address service: the address of a virtual office under contract (for example, coho coworking) became his business's public address. As a result, the REQ directory displays this commercial address, preserving his privacy. This approach followed lawyers' advice to "*separate one's private life from one's professional life*", an argument echoed by Nuage B, which "strongly" advises against using one's home address for a business (nuage-b.com). This freelancer reported that the external business address also helped make his business appear more serious to his clients.

Risks of targeted harassment

Imagine the following scenario: a physician working in private practice discovers that his personal address appears in the register because he is a shareholder. A dissatisfied patient then decides to cause trouble for him. The patient uses the REQ to find his home address and begins harassing the physician's family in person. Although this case is not formally documented, it illustrates the risks mentioned by experts: access to an address can make **targeted harassment or intrusion** possible (www.bitdefender.com). To mitigate this type of theoretical danger, a professional could already ask the Registrar – with a valid reason – to remove their personal contact information from the register (www.quebec.ca). Today, the option of declaring a professional address offers a more proactive method of protecting against this scenario: by never publishing one's home address, one eliminates a potential source of identity and location disclosure.

Outlook and future developments

Recent trends suggest that the use of business address solutions will continue to grow in Quebec:

- **Expanding telework:** With nearly 60% of workers now preferring to be based at home (angusreid.org), demand for professional addresses away from home will undoubtedly increase. Businesses and independent workers will seek to limit fixed costs (office rentals) while maintaining a professional image. Virtual office and business address services could then become more widespread.
- **Legislative developments:** The impact of Law 25 is being monitored (full adoption in September 2023, with forthcoming regulations). If new regulations strengthen the requirement for explicit consent (as currently applies to street addresses (www.quebechabitation.ca)), there could be a dual constraint: businesses will have to legally justify collecting and disclosing executives' addresses, in addition to facing obligations under Law 78. For example, section 100 of the Regulation under Law 25 concerns sensitive personal data (e.g. health, habits). Although addresses are not listed in these sensitive categories, we can expect the Commission d'accès à l'information du Québec to publish guidelines on how to secure personal addresses in the private sector.
- **Mail digitization:** The rise of **digital mail** solutions could reshape the landscape. Services such as futuristic "letter-mail" (scanning and digitizing addressed mail) are beginning to replace paper formats. In Quebec, Canada Post and start-ups are exploring this concept. For an entrepreneur who has chosen a

professional mailbox, also receiving all their mail digitally will further reduce the need to physically visit the post office. This will offer advantages in terms of traceability and security (encryption), but also raises questions: can the data contained in mail (bills, statements, legal documents) be considered a source of **personal data** that raises issues under PIPEDA/Law 25? The legal status of this digitized correspondence will undoubtedly need to be clarified.

- **Expansion of public registers:** Other Canadian provinces are considering similar registers (the federal Buy Canada's Corporate Transparency Act, a Canadian anti-money-laundering initiative). If such a register at the federal or interprovincial level also required executives' personal addresses, it would create new issues. Quebec and Canada must strike a balance between the need for traceability of corporate structures and respect for individual freedoms.
- **Quebec-specific features:** In Quebec, language laws (Charter of the French language) themselves require that the incorporation file specify a French name. New executives are often concerned about their business's public image (which is closely linked to the address appearing on their business cards or website). Offering a prestigious address (downtown) through a coworking business address service can improve their positioning; this is also a marketing tool mentioned by experts (2727coworking.com) (2727coworking.com).

In the medium term, attention will therefore probably shift towards the **legal and technological optimization** of business address services: we will see quality labels emerge for compliant virtual offices, guarantees of address exclusivity, and perhaps even blockchain solutions to ensure the authenticity of business addresses. Quebec authorities will also be able to refine their policies: for example, the legislative proposal in early 2026 on designating a Quebec representative in the absence of a local address (2727coworking.com) demonstrates a desire to further secure businesses' legal presence.

Conclusion

Comparing personal and professional addresses in Quebec reveals a complex issue combining business law, privacy and security. On one hand, legislation aims for greater transparency – requiring companies to disclose their executives' street addresses (www.quebec.ca) (edilex.com); on the other, this transparency can compromise individual safety, because a home address is sensitive information (www.quebechabitation.ca) (www.bitdefender.com). Recent reforms have intelligently provided a safeguard: declaring **one single, unique professional address** makes it possible to conceal the private address in the register (www.fasken.com) (fodago.ca).

The risks of having one's personal address exploited are real – identity theft, mail fraud, harassment, impersonation – and are documented by security experts (www.bitdefender.com) (www.bitdefender.com). In this context, business address solutions (commercial mailbox or virtual office) appear to be essential tools for protecting entrepreneurs' privacy and maintaining a professional image. However, they have their limitations (cost, perception, acceptance by certain organizations). The table above summarizes these alternatives.

Finally, the future requires continued monitoring of developments in the legal framework (Law 25, banking obligations, cybersecurity standards) and socio-technological trends (telework, mail digitization) that will influence entrepreneurs' choices. Businesses, like legislators, will need to remain adaptable: combining compliance (providing the required addresses) with prudence (protecting personal data), using appropriate business address tools and following privacy best practices.

Sources: Government of Quebec (www.quebec.ca) (fodago.ca), legal publications (www.fasken.com) (edilex.com), security experts (www.bitdefender.com), statistical agencies (statistique.quebec.ca), surveys and reports from institutes (Angus Reid (angusreid.org), UQAM (nouvelles.esg.uqam.ca), BDC), analyses by law firms and business address providers (nuage-b.com) (2727coworking.com). (Direct access to the cited sources through the indicated [URL] references.)

Source links

Links cited in this article, in order of first appearance. Full addresses are provided for readers using extracted text.

1. <https://www.quebec.ca/entreprises-et-travailleurs-autonomes/demarrer-entreprise/immatriculer-constituer-entreprise/nouvelles-obligations-transparence/adresse-professionnelle>
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About 2727 Coworking

2727 Coworking is a Montreal workspace and business-address provider. We serve people who need a place to focus, meet, run a small business or establish a professional mailing presence. Our website offers English and French information about workspace options and services, alongside educational resources for operating a business in Canada.

A workspace that fits the day

Our workspace options include private offices, day passes and desks, and a conference room. These formats help individuals and teams compare a dedicated office with more flexible ways to work or hold a meeting. Prospective members can explore the virtual tour, review current pricing and book a visit before choosing a workspace.

Business addresses and mail

2727 Coworking provides business-address and virtual-mailbox services. Our resources explain the documents and practical questions involved, including guidance for people outside Canada. Service eligibility, included features, availability and access arrangements should be confirmed on the applicable service page or with our team.

Resources for Canadian small businesses

We publish guides, research and planning tools about workspace decisions, business addresses and starting a business in Canada. Our incorporation research includes information for people inside Canada and abroad, with jurisdiction-specific material to help readers identify the next questions to investigate. These educational resources complement our workspace and address services; they are not individualized legal, tax or immigration advice.

Visit or contact 2727 Coworking

Explore [private offices](#), [day passes and desks](#), [the conference room](#), [business addresses](#) and [virtual mailboxes](#). [Book a visit or contact the team](#) to discuss your needs.

A business address alone does not establish tax residence, immigration status, banking approval or eligibility for a government program.

Website: <https://2727coworking.com>

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