



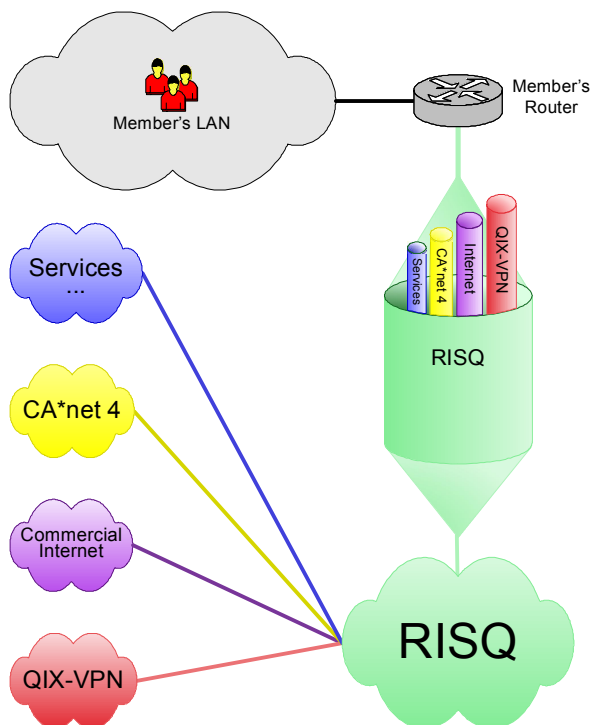
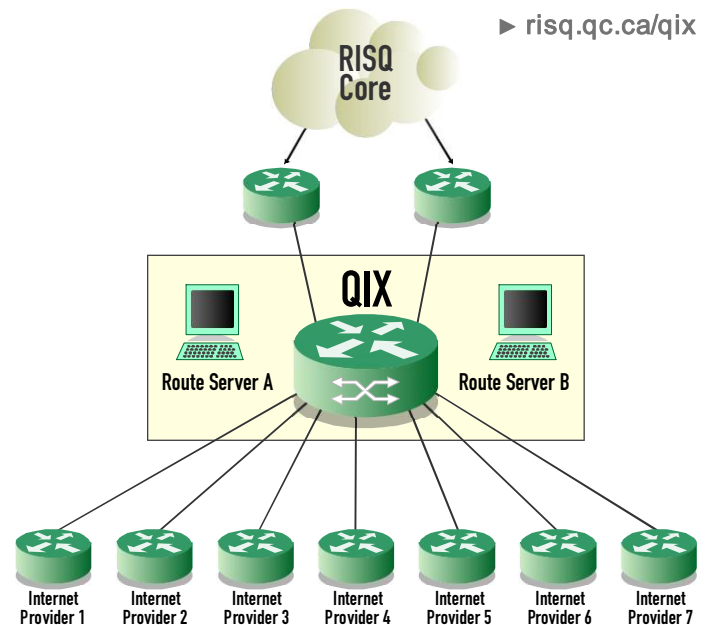
« QIX TUNNEL »

The "QIX Tunnel" service boosts RISQ members' efficiency by reducing their commercial Internet bandwidth usage and by improving communications with home-based users and partners within the province.

QIX for performance

The QIX (Quebec Internet eXchange) is **Quebec's data-exchange point**. At this neutral hub managed by RISQ, Quebec Internet service providers **share their routing tables** and traffic. The result is reduced bandwidth costs and **optimized performance** of connections within the province, since traffic no longer needs to be routed through Canada or the U.S.

The shorter the path, **the faster and more efficient** the IP traffic. RISQ members therefore benefit from the QIX by reaching Quebec-based Web servers and Quebec users of their online services more efficiently. Yet these connections remain **indistinguishable** from their commercial Internet bandwidth.



QIX value added

The QIX is a **virtual private network (VPN)** established between a RISQ member's access router and the QIX's routing servers. With this configuration, members become **equivalent to independent carriers**, transparently exchanging internal paths with carriers connected to the QIX.

By **physically separating traffic** from the rest of the Internet through these intra-Quebec exchanges, **it is automatically removed** from available commercial bandwidth. The result is a significant and appreciable reduction in commercial **bandwidth loads**.

In addition, activities such as **home-based learning**, **telecommuting** and **distance learning** benefit from improved communication performance, and institutions obtain **better cost-control**.