

News from our former president Alban D'Amours



Québec Premier Jean Charest bestowed on Alban D'Amours the title of Grand Officer of the National Order of Québec, the highest distinction awarded by the Québec government. Recognized for his personable demeanour and innovative approach, as well as his outstanding achievements, Mr. D'Amours has always put people and communities first. He demonstrated this at Desjardins where, as Desjardins Group President and CEO until April 2008, he helped develop a cooperative business model that would combine assets and values to make money work for people. **D**

Desjardins Group works hard to demonstrate its cooperative difference, not only to its members but also to the international cooperative community. In 2006, Alban D'Amours, former President of Desjardins Group and Board Member of the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA), was asked to head the ICA Restructuring Working Group, made up in part of Desjardins Board Members. After 21 months of work, 95% of the Group's recommendations were approved by the delegates to the ICA Special General Assembly held in Rome in June 2008.

This extremely meaningful outcome is the product of a truly democratic and transparent consultation, and testifies to the leadership of Alban D'Amours on the international scene. Through this significant contribution to the ICA, Desjardins and its excellent reputation have become more widely known throughout the world. Cooperative leaders from the four continents represented at the ICA appreciate and recognize the quality and efficiency of the work accomplished under this delicate mandate. Furthermore, the number of hospitality requests from foreign visitors is rising, and an increasing number of ICA member organizations are taking an interest in Desjardins' Group work.



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