

COOPERATE TO SHAPE OUR DESTINY

For over a hundred years, cooperation has been the heart and soul of Desjardins, the largest cooperative financial group in Canada, and serving members has been its driving force. Resolutely looking towards the future, Desjardins is changing. It changes through active cooperation, maintenance of its values and drawing on every talent, to further its development.

Each day, its cooperative nature is demonstrated through the caisse model and is expressed through democratic governance, accessibility and openness to all people, regardless of their financial means, and by sharing its surplus earnings with its members and the community, as financial circumstances allow.

As always, the fundamental strength of Desjardins is found in the richness of its human capital: more than 5.8 million members, 6,299 elected officers and 42,000 employees. Its cooperative business model has enabled Desjardins to generate financial wealth that provides leverage for furthering its development and influence. It is this same vital strength that allows the organization to make further headway towards meeting the challenges of tomorrow.

As the real driving force behind Desjardins Group, the caisses, bolstered by their subsidiaries, are active participants in the organization's growth and advancement. To strengthen the entrepreneurial capacity of the cooperative network, elected officers and general managers must directly contribute to the development of Desjardins Group as a whole. Thus, for the 2010-2012 Strategic Plan, caisse general managers represent more than 50% of all participants on the task forces created to propose ways to deal with Desjardins Group's greatest issues and challenges.

This is where cooperation is at its best. This is where the ever growing collective strength of Desjardins Group drives itself to reach greater heights and to make Desjardins the most admired financial institution in Canada; as well as the most respected in terms of its mission, its cooperative values and the close ties that exist between its caisses and their communities.

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