



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
PRDG1399

Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton and Desjardins Group
A Winning Collaboration

“Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton is proud to be involved in this project and to continue contributing to the development of dynamic local businesses.”

– Pierre Lapointe, Vice-President of Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton’s Québec City region

Montréal, December 16, 2013 – Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton and Desjardins Group announced today the beginning of a sustainable, structured collaborative effort to help immigrant investors wishing to live in Quebec and Canada and contribute to the country’s prosperity.

As of January 2014, AURAY Capital, a subsidiary of Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton, and Desjardins Group will work together to provide complementary, value-added services to investors. The Immigrant Investor Program’s business development activities, backed by Desjardins Group until now, will be delegated to AURAY Capital and Desjardins Group will act as a financial partner. Desjardins Group personnel involved in the Immigrant Investor Program will join AURAY Capital to help carry out its new mandate.

“We are positive that our long-term commitment will enable us to help business investors grow and contribute to the development of our economy. Such practices are entirely within our Firm’s mission, which is to help our people and organizations reach their full potential. We are also very proud to be expanding our range of services and welcoming new talent within the Firm,” said Pierre Lapointe, Vice-President of Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton’s Québec City region.

“Desjardins Group is pleased to be joining forces with a choice business that has such a strong presence in Quebec and in more than a hundred countries. This agreement will enable Desjardins to continue being involved in the Immigrant Investor Program while contributing to maintaining the benefits generated by the program,” said Stéphane Achard, Senior Vice-President and General Manager, Business and Institutional Services, and Card and Payment Services of the Desjardins Group.

About Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton

Founded in 1948, today Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton (rcgt.com) is a leader in the fields of assurance, tax, consulting services, and business recovery & reorganization. Its strength is based on a team of almost 2,400 people, including some 230 partners in more than 100 offices in Quebec, eastern Ontario and New Brunswick. For the past 30 years, Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton has been a member of Grant Thornton International Ltd, providing clients with the expertise of the member and correspondent firms in more than 100 countries.

About Desjardins Group

[Desjardins Group](#) is the fifth largest cooperative financial group in the world with assets of \$210 billion. To meet the diverse needs of its members and clients, Desjardins offers a full range of products and services through its extensive distribution network, online platforms and subsidiaries across Canada. The group has one of the highest capital ratios and [credit ratings](#) in the industry, and outranks all American banks as the fourth safest and strongest bank in North America according to *Global Finance* magazine and *Bloomberg News* respectively. In keeping with their cooperative nature, Desjardins Caisses' surplus earnings are reinvested into the communities they serve.

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