

PRESS RELEASE

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**The new Green Homes Program by Desjardins:
A socially responsible offer with many benefits**

Lévis, March 17, 2014 – The new Green Homes Program by Desjardins has a long list of benefits: competitive rates, access to all available mortgage terms and products, up to \$2,000 in cash back, a discount on home insurance, free monthly plan fees for a year and free access to the Home Assistance Service for five years.

Available exclusively to Desjardins members, the program targets new homes and renovations of owner-occupied properties with four or fewer units certified under one of the following energy-efficiency programs: LEED® Canada for Homes (certified silver, gold and platinum), Novoclimat 2.0 (Quebec), Rénoclimat (Quebec) and ENERGYSTAR® for New Homes (Ontario).

“We wanted to give our borrowers tangible benefits—and as the largest mortgage loan provider in Quebec, when Desjardins rewards homeowners with real benefits for choosing greener homes, others are bound to follow suit,” says Pauline D’Amboise, Secretary General and Vice-President, Governance and Social Responsibility, at Desjardins.

“Members can sign up for the program at their caisse, through a mortgage representative or online,” explains Pierre Belzile, Director, Financing Offer Management and Caisse Support. “Members who choose the Green Homes Program will also benefit from a 10% refund on their mortgage insurance premiums from the CHMC and Genworth.”

“Desjardins has chosen to make fighting climate change its environmental priority, and we’re committed to developing products that encourage our members to do the same,” says D’Amboise. “The Green Homes Program is the latest addition to our line of socially responsible products, in the same vein as our Environment Funds, SocieTerra Portfolios, Priority Terra Guaranteed Investment, Ready-to-Drive Loan green option, Energy-Efficiency Loan for businesses and green discounts on home and auto insurance.”

About Desjardins Group

[Desjardins Group](#) is the leading cooperative financial group in Canada and the fifth largest cooperative financial group in the world with assets of \$212 billion. It has been rated one of Canada's top 100 employers by Mediacorp Canada. To meet the diverse needs of its members and clients, Desjardins offers a full range of products and services to individuals and businesses 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. It is considered as the fourth safest and strongest bank in North America according to *Global Finance* magazine and *Bloomberg News* respectively.

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