

# Candidates for board positions

Caisse Desjardins de l'Éducation



Every January, Caisse Desjardins de l'Éducation puts out a call for nominations for the vacant seats on its board of directors, based on the board's group profile. The board is specifically looking for candidates with the skills and perspectives needed to round out the existing team and to reflect the diversity of the community the caisse serves.

This year, the board is looking for candidates who meet the following criteria:

### Skills in at least one of the following areas

- member/client experience
- cooperatives
- financial management
- enterprise management
- accounting
- governance

### Other representation needs

- early childhood sector
- support staff
- professional staff
- managers
- students
- retirees
- unions

### Member representation

#### Gender to maintain gender parity on the board

- Women: 4
- Men: 3

#### Age groups

- Ages 18-34: 3
- Ages 35-49: 1
- Ages 50-64: 0
- Age 65 and up: 3

At this year's annual general meeting (AGM), which will be held on April 22, 2026, there are 7 seats to be filled. At the end of the call for applications period, the caisse received 7 applications submitted for election. The nomination period is now closed.

	<b>Group 1 : Central and Southern sector</b>	<b>Group 2 : Eastern sector</b>	<b>Group 3 : North and West sector</b>
<b>Number of seats to be filled</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Number of candidates</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>Elected by Defferred voting</b>	<b>Elected by acclamation</b>	<b>Elected by acclamation</b>

Please read each candidate's profile to get to know them better. A summary table of candidates is included at the end of the document. It shows how each candidate meets a target profile for the board of directors.

Note that these profiles only highlight the skills the board is looking for in 2026.

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## Candidate for a position on the board of directors<sup>1</sup>

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GROUP 1: Central and Southern sector



### Olivier FAURE

**Occupation:** student

**Gender:** Man

**Age group:** 35-49

**Skills that match the board's criteria for 2026:** member/client experience, financial management, enterprise management, accounting, governance.

### Reasons for running

Hello,

I am writing to express my interest in serving on the Board of Directors of Caisse Desjardins de l'Éducation and contributing to its mission of supporting and strengthening Quebec's educational community. The Board's mandate to represent members, ensure sound governance and contribute to the community's long-term development reflects the values that have guided my professional and community engagement throughout my career. I am confident that my experience in governance, financial management and community development aligns closely with this mission and with the responsibilities of the Board.

For more than 20 years, I have been actively involved in Quebec's educational, community and sports environments. As a Community Development Advisor for a major Quebec nonprofit organization, I contributed to the rollout of financial literacy programs that reached more than 8,000 children. I also developed partnerships aimed at promoting school retention and supported the implementation of structured community initiatives.

Alongside this work, my involvement as president of sports organizations and as financial manager has provided me with hands-on governance experience, including budget oversight and stakeholder representation. Across these roles, I have supervised large teams, overseen significant budgets, coordinated emergency initiatives and built strong relationships with institutional partners. These experiences reinforced the importance of listening to members, fostering constructive dialogue and working collaboratively to support sound collective decisions.

In parallel with my professional experience, I am currently completing an MBA at HEC Montréal. This program has strengthened my expertise in finance, strategy, governance and decision-making while reinforcing my commitment to responsible and ethical management. It has also sharpened my ability to analyze complex situations, assess risks effectively and interpret financial information to support sound decision-making.

Recognized for my collaborative leadership, strong ethics and ability to bring people together, I would be honored to contribute to the work of the Board of Directors of Caisse Desjardins de l'Éducation, whether on the board or through its committees. I fully understand the responsibilities, confidentiality and commitment required by this role and would be proud to contribute to the long-term success of the cooperative and the members it serves. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss how my experience could support the work of the Board.

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## Candidate for a position on the board of directors<sup>1</sup>

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### GROUP 1: Central and Southern sector



## Célestine KAMTCHOU

**Occupation:** French teacher

**Gender:** Woman

**Age group:** prefers not to answer

**Skills that match the board's criteria for 2026:** member/client experience, cooperatives, financial management, enterprise management, accounting.

## Reasons for running

I seek to contribute my skills and experience to the Board of Directors in support of the rigorous, responsible and sustainable governance of the caisse. My commitment is guided by a strong spirit of collaboration, accountability and service to members.

My professional and civic background has enabled me to develop sound judgment, strong analytical abilities and practical experience in financial management, group leadership and decision-making within structured and complex environments. For many years, I have responsibly managed collective financial resources within a framework grounded in transparency, discipline, accountability and the careful stewardship of commitments made to members.

As the founding entrepreneur and leader of my own hospitality establishment, Kathleen Palace & Suites, I have also gained a practical understanding of the challenges related to financial sustainability, risk management, strategic planning and the prudent use of resources. My experience in education, combined with my Graduate Diploma in Management (DESS), has also enabled me to develop a collaborative leadership style, strong listening skills and the ability to contribute constructively to structured and respectful discussions, even in complex or high-stakes situations.

My civic and volunteer engagement, particularly through the HUMANIA | CSH initiative recently founded in support of social and humanitarian causes, reflects my commitment to contributing to the common good with rigor, dignity and a strong sense of responsibility. The values of cooperation, equity, social responsibility and community engagement embodied by the Desjardins Movement closely align with my personal values, my professional background and my motivations.

As a director, I would seek to contribute with independence of judgment, strong ethical standards and rigor, supporting thoughtful deliberations and strategic decisions that serve the interests of members, the financial strength of the organization and its essential role within the community.

Thank you for your consideration of my application.

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## Candidate for a board position<sup>1</sup>

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GROUP 1: Central and Southern sector

### Nancy MARRELLI

**Occupation:** Retired university archivist

**Gender:** Woman

**Age group:** 65 and up

**Skills that match the board's criteria for 2026:** member/client experience, cooperatives, financial management, enterprise management, governance.

## Reasons for running

I am a very long-term and active member of the Caisse de l'Éducation and its predecessor, the Strathcona Credit Union. I have used the services of these institutions exclusively throughout my adult life as I have a strong commitment to community-centred organizations in general and in particular to cooperative user-owned financial institutions. I have been a member of the Board of Directors of the Caisse de l'Éducation since 2023.

I have a long history of community involvement both personally and professionally and I believe it is important to be active in community service. My extensive experience on boards and committees of various kinds have provided me with the skills and knowledge to make a positive contribution as a director on the board of my Caisse. My many years on the Board of St-Mary's Hospital (Montreal) and on various committees of the Board (including HR and Governance) have equipped me with the skills required to participate in the governance of a large and complex organization that offers important community services. There is a steep learning curve for the role of Board member of the Caisse, and I believe the experience I have acquired over the past three years on the Board of the Caisse de l'Éducation has strengthened my ability to contribute to the sound operation and continuity of the Board at this time when there has been considerable change in its composition and leadership.

I have used, and continue to use, a wide variety of services of the Caisse over many decades: savings, loans, savings bonds, mortgage, international transfers, online services, financial advisor services, and most recently financial management. I am fully committed to the client-based services of the Caisse. I firmly believe that user input into the governance of the Caisse is at the heart of its mandate and mission.

As a bilingual senior retired from a long career in the university sector as Director of Archives dealing with many levels of information technology, Archivist Emerita of Concordia University, with three years of experience on the board of our Caisse, and as part of the Italian Canadian community of Montreal, I believe I meet the needs being sought for new Directors.

I look forward to continuing my contribution to the Board of Directors of the Caisse de l'Éducation.

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## Candidate for a position on the board of directors<sup>1</sup>

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GROUP 1: Central and Southern sector

### Stéphanie TURCOT

**Occupation:** Vice-president of a union

**Gender:** Woman

**Age group:** 35-49

**Skills that match the board's criteria for 2026:** member/client experience, cooperatives, enterprise management, accounting, governance.

### Reasons for running

Having served on the Board of Directors since May 2023, I would like to submit my candidacy for another term. Through my past experiences on the Board and the Cooperation Council, I have built a relationship of trust and influence with the other Board members. My role at the Caisse is proactive and innovative, always keeping in mind its vision and the interests of its members. My 23 years of experience as a teacher and 5 years as vice-president of my local teachers' union have given me a clear understanding of the real issues in education.

I therefore believe that my expertise in the field makes me an important asset to the board. I am familiar with the realities of teachers' lives and I know how important mental health, recognition, and training are in education. We must therefore continue to believe in projects that highlight these issues, as they address many of the needs of the Caisse de l'Éducation's members.

My years in the union have allowed me to meet many people, and the relationships I have built over the years can be beneficial to the Caisse. In fact, for my next term, I would like to work with the Caisse to carry out certain projects that will showcase our young teachers. They are the members of the future, and we must listen to them. My participation on the Board of Directors is therefore intended to be active through my involvement and positive leadership. My integrity and work ethic are in line with Desjardins' core values, and my commitment to the Board of Directors allows me to develop new ideas that will meet the common needs of our members.

My voice will be heard, for you, for them, the artisans of the educational community who deserve a financial institution that understands their reality and offers them services that are relevant to their daily lives. We are educators working for educators. I am one of them, so vote for me!

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## Candidate for a position on the board of directors<sup>1</sup>

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GROUP 2: Eastern sector

### Hélène DOUCET

**Occupation:** Retired school administrator

**Gender:** Woman

**Age group:** 50-64

**Skills that match the board's criteria for 2026:** member/client experience, cooperatives, financial management, enterprise management, accounting, governance.

### Reasons for running

Hello,

I am an active administrator on the Board of director and the Audit and Ethics Committee.

Having made a career as an administrative manager, I believe that my financial knowledge is a complementary contribution to the group.

As you can see, I am precise and concise in my approaches.

I wish to continue growing within the board of directors of the Caisse Desjardins of education.

Thank you

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## Candidate for a position on the board of directors<sup>1</sup>

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GROUP 3: North and West sector

### Caroline COUTURIER

**Occupation:** School Technician

**Gender:** Woman

**Age group:** 35-49

**Skills that match the board's criteria for 2026:** member/client experience, cooperatives, financial management, accounting, governance.

### Reasons for running

Hello,

As a board member since January 2025, filling in for an outgoing member, I have had the privilege of gaining experience and becoming familiar with computer tools. My participation in board meetings and my involvement in the Mandate and Cooperation Committee make me a strong candidate to continue the work already begun. I have dedicated myself to completing my mandatory training and serving as a jury member for awarding scholarships to undergraduate education students.

I represent support staff in education, but thanks to my background in early childhood education, I have extensive knowledge of the daycare (CPE) and private daycare sectors. I haven't yet had the opportunity to develop this aspect of my work during my first year as a replacement, which is why I am eager to continue what I have started.

My professional experience makes me a qualified individual to meet the expectations of a board member. Currently, I am responsible for a school-based childcare service, where I hold significant responsibilities in human resources, equipment, and finances.

I have over 15 years of experience in Human Resources and payroll administration for both the public and private sectors. Furthermore, with my over 20 years of experience in customer service, I am able to identify the needs of members and clients to ensure a pleasant and satisfying experience, thereby guaranteeing the continuity of services.

I own a house and an income property, which facilitates my understanding of various concepts and allows me to be sensitive to the needs of members and clients.

I am pleased to submit my application for the next term.

Thank you, and I look forward to representing you.

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## Candidate for a position on the board of directors<sup>1</sup>

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GROUP 3: North and West sector

### Geneviève HEROUX

**Occupation:** Early Childhood Educator

**Gender:** Woman

**Age group:** 35-49

**Skills that match the board's criteria for 2026:** member/client experience, financial management, accounting, governance.

### Reasons for running

Hello,

I would like to become involved with the Caisse Desjardins de l'Éducation primarily to contribute to its development and to help make it better known to a wider audience.

I come from the early childhood sector, where the Caisse Desjardins de l'Éducation is unfortunately not very well known. By getting involved, I hope to contribute to its growth and help introduce it to stakeholders in the early childhood field. I sincerely believe that being a member of the Caisse Desjardins de l'Éducation is beneficial, and that the advantages of membership should be better known so that more people can benefit from them.

I have been an educator for more than 20 years. I started in family childcare and have now been working in a CPE for 17 years. I began getting involved in my local union in 2014. I first served as treasurer, and later became president in 2021. In October 2024, I was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Fédération des intervenantes en petite enfance du Québec affiliated with the CSQ.

Although my career has evolved into a passion for working with young children, my love for numbers and financial management has remained strong. I believe that my experience in early childhood education and union treasury work is an asset for a position on the Board of Directors. My background allows me to bring a unique perspective.

I am confident that my contribution to the Board of Directors of the Caisse Desjardins de l'Éducation would be positive through the ideas and perspective I can bring.

Thank you for your support.

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## Summary table of candidates for the board of directors

Board of directors group profile Target criteria		COUTURIER, Caroline	DOUCET, Hélène	FAURE, Olivier	HEROUX, Geneviève	KAMTCHOUJ, Célestine	MARRELLI, Nancy	TURCOT, Stéphanie
<b>Skills that match the board's criteria for 2026</b>	<b>Target number</b>							
member/client experience	3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
cooperatives	3	X	X			X	X	X
financial management	1	X	X	X	X	X	X	
enterprise management	2		X	X		X	X	X
accounting	2	X	X	X	X	X		X
governance	1	X	X	X	X		X	X
<b>Gender</b>								
Men	3			X				
Women	4	X	X		X	X	X	X
Other gender identity or prefers not to answer								
<b>Age group</b>								
18-34	3							
35-49	1	X		X	X	prefers not to answer		X
50-64	0		X					
65 and +	3						X	
<b>Ethnic and cultural diversity</b>								
						prefers not to answer	Italo-canadienne	
<b>Geographical representativeness</b>								
Group 1 : Central and Southern sector	2			X		X	X	X
Group 2 : Eastern sector	3		X					
Group 3 : North and West sector	2	X			X			
<b>Economic activity sector</b>								
early childhood sector	1				X			
support staff	1	X						
professional staff	1							
managers	1							
students	1			X				
Retirees	1		X				X	
Unions	1							X
<b>Governance continuity</b>								
These people are currently board members of the caisse or intern directors.		X	X				X	X