

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

**BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES \$250,000 GIFT FROM
DESJARDINS GROUP****Sherbrooke, August 28th, 2015**

Bishop's University is pleased to announce that Desjardins Group, has made a \$250,000 donation to establish the Desjardins Scholarship Program that will support Bishop's students and local entrepreneurs.

"This generous gift to our *Leading the Way* Campaign will allow Bishop's to provide real-world work experiences for our students", says Bishop's University Principal and Vice-Chancellor Michael Goldbloom. "This ongoing investment in our scholarship program will help Bishop's to continue to attract highly qualified students. We are very grateful for the support of, and our partnership with, Desjardins Group."

In speaking of this gift, Monique F. Leroux, President and Chief Executive Officer of Desjardins, emphasized that this is an example of Desjardins' commitment to higher education and the success of youth. "We look forward to work in close collaboration with Bishop's to support entrepreneurs and the University's very best students as they work to become leaders in the community and in their chosen fields."

As of 2016, this gift will create an opportunity for eight Bishop's University students to work in four regional enterprises each year to the benefit of both the students and the businesses. A portion of the donation will also support Desjardins members who are registered as full time students at Bishop's with a 1 000 \$ rebate on their tuition fees.

One of the main goals of the University's ambitious \$30 million *Leading the Way* Campaign is to enhance collaboration between the Williams School of Business and the Dobson-Lagassé Entrepreneurship Centre. This gift will support Bishop's in bringing together students, entrepreneurs and experienced business mentors to create a powerful hub for business innovation.

About Bishop's University

Bishop's at a Glance

Bishop's University, which was founded in 1843, is a predominantly residential, undergraduate university in Sherbrooke, Quebec. It provides a high quality education in the humanities, natural sciences, social sciences, business, and education. Its small size (2,300 full time students) allows students to develop close relationships with their professors and each other.

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 close to \$251 billion. It has been rated one of the 50 Best Employers in Canada by Aon Hewitt. 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. Considered North America's strongest bank according to Bloomberg News, Desjardins has one of the highest capital ratios and credit ratings in the industry.

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