

**Desjardins Group to provide aid for Syrian refugees**  
*The cooperative announces a \$50,000 donation to the Red Cross*

**Lévis, December 21, 2015** – Desjardins Group is partnering with the Canadian Red Cross to welcome Syrian refugees by making a \$50,000 donation to help ensure that their basic needs are met.

Desjardins is also encouraging employees and the public to use BONUSDOLLARS to support the refugees through donations through its online AccèsD service or by phone, or at Desjardins caisses in Ontario and Quebec.

Desjardins Group has a long history of cooperative values and wants to play an active role in welcoming Syrian refugees to Canada. It has reached out to agencies chosen by the Quebec Government to sponsor refugees or help them once they arrive in the province. These partnerships will give Desjardins an opportunity to reach out to the newcomers and help them set up their first bank accounts in their new country.

“I’m particularly proud to see how our teams have come together to welcome the refugees and help them start over in a new country. Once again, Desjardins has shown its commitment to the economic and social well-being of those in need,” said Monique F. Leroux, President and CEO of Desjardins Group.

**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 \$251 billion. It has been rated one of the 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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