

Developing new markets

CAISSE DESJARDINS DES RESSOURCES NATURELLES ARRIVES IN MONTRÉAL AND QUÉBEC CITY

Montréal, November 10th, 2020 - Steeve Chapados, general manager of Caisse Desjardins des Ressources naturelles announced today the opening of two new locations to support its growing clientele in downtown Montréal and Québec City. This is an important step for this “group caisse”, which intends to build its operations across Québec.

"We are the only Caisse created by, and for, people in the mining, metallurgy, energy and forest products industries," said Chapados. "We are a national caisse and we already service the entire province. However, most of the head offices of key stakeholder groups are in large urban centers, which is why we wanted to get physically closer to them to consolidate our position and to develop new markets."

Chapados highlighted the arrival of Jonas Fadeu as Director, Development of Specialized Markets as a key step in this process. Mr. Fadeu has a bachelor's degree in political philosophy and master's degree in political science from Université de Lille 3 (France). He also holds a financial planner degree from the IQPF, professional training in finance from the Institut Coopératif Desjardins and a bachelor's degree in law from UQAM. He has held positions a Director, Financial Services and Client Development, and as a Financial Planner at Desjardins.

A unique service dedicated to professionals in the sector

Caisse Desjardins des Ressources naturelles, is led by a team with extensive mining, metallurgy, energy, and forest products sector knowledge, and it has demonstrated its unique, people-centered approach in the personalized support it has always delivered to its members.

"Our approach is centered on people," says Fadeu. "We have developed adapted solutions to support our members regardless of their financial situation or the challenges they face throughout their professional careers, such as strikes and lock-outs."

The mobile team is ready to meet members at their workplaces, consulting offices and financial centers, as well as offering virtual and telephone appointments and text-based communications.

Caisse Desjardins des Ressources naturelles' 6,500 current members consist mostly of workers, retirees and students from the mining, metallurgy, energy and forest products sectors who can leverage a vast network linked to the natural resources sector. Employers, unions, associations, governments, non-profit organizations, and educational institutions are thus able to help support members throughout their professional and personal lives.

Caisse Desjardins des Ressources naturelles is also committed to helping students who are pursuing post-secondary studies in this sector as well as recent graduates. In addition to the financial support regarding education projects and structuring initiatives that specifically target the sector, Caisse Desjardins des Ressources naturelles has also established two scholarship programs. These include ten educational scholarships worth \$10,000 in all, and three awards related to a first job in the natural resources sector worth a total of \$5,000 each year. To learn more about these programs, visit www.BoursesDesjardinsCRN.com.

About Caisse Desjardins des Ressources naturelles

Caisse Desjardins des Ressources naturelles, which was created in January 2019 following the merger of two Caisses located in Baie-Comeau and Sept-Îles, has until recently focused primarily on the North Shore region. The Caisse currently manages more than \$600 million in annual business volumes and has almost 6,500 members, consisting primarily of active workers, retirees, and members of their immediate families, from the mining, metallurgy, energy, and forest products sectors. The team includes 13 administrators, who hail mostly from the natural resources sector and 28 employees who are committed to achieving the unit's mission, which is to enrich the lives of people and communities working in the natural resources sector.

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Source:

Caisse Desjardins des Ressources naturelles | desjardins.com/crn | [Facebook](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

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CAISSE DESJARDINS DES RESSOURCES NATURELLES IN NUMBERS:

- 6,500 members, mainly from the natural resources sector.
- More than \$600 million of business volume under management.
- Approximately forty administrators, managers, and employees, including a mobile team available for people working in the sector.
- Headquarters in Sept-Îles, with business establishments in Baie-Comeau, Québec and Montréal.
- A total amount of \$15,000 awarded each year in scholarships to students and new graduates entering the labor market in Québec's natural resources sector.
- Nearly \$70,000 per year invested in structuring projects and specific initiatives related to the mining, metallurgy, energy, and forest products sectors.

EXCLUSIVE BENEFITS FOR WORKERS/PROFESSIONALS IN THE NATURAL RESOURCES SECTOR

- Personalized accompaniment by a team possessing extensive knowledge of the natural resources sector.
- Access to competitive and exclusive advantages related to insurance coverage offered by The Personal.
- Flexibility and understanding of challenges that members face during special circumstances (ex.: Payments suspended during a strike).
- Access to a team of mobile experts, as well as virtual and telephone meetings.
- Benefits available through partnerships with unions and employers in our groups.

The team pursues its daily mission of supporting members in achieving their full potential at work. The Caisse also offers them the possibility to participate in activities such as seminars, conferences and training, and offers a range of conferences given by professional experts in each business sector on themes such as:

- Life in rural regions
- The challenge of being away from family for work
- Job fulfillment
- Custom training/conferences based on the specific needs and realities of each workplace.