

A second mandate for Francine Côté

Ottawa, May 16, 2023 - The Desjardins Ontario Credit Union is introducing its new Board of Directors, which is composed of 50% women, thus maintaining its goal of parity. Francine Côté has been given a second term as Chair of the Board. Board officers also include Valérie Doré, Vice-Chair and Louise Gervais-Guy, Secretary.

"I am very pleased to continue my mandate as Chair of Desjardins Ontario Credit Union. We have a Board of Directors made up of professionals with various and complementary skills and experience. Together, we will use our knowledge to always work in the best interest of our members. It is with commitment and diligence that our Board of Directors will pursue the credit union's mission and ensure that the well-being of our members and the vitality of our communities remain at the heart of our actions," said Francine Côté.

On April 18, Desjardins Ontario Credit Union held its Annual General Meeting. It was an opportunity for members to learn about its latest financial results and its many initiatives in the community. They then had four days to exercise their right to vote to elect the directors.

Six Board positions were up for election. The following members were elected after the April 19-22 voting period:

- **Eastern Ontario Region:**
 - Valerie Doré, Lawyer and Notary, Partner, McDonald, Duncan, Doré LLP
 - Brad Robertson, President, Menard Robertson Custom Homes & Renovations
- **Ottawa Region:**
 - Alexandre Bouffard, Manager, Government of Canada
 - Francine Côté, Corporate Administrator
- **Sudbury and Northern Ontario Region:**
 - Maxine Vincent is elected by acclamation, Research Accountant, Laurentian University
- **Toronto and Southwest Region:**
 - Alexandre Toupin, Vice President of Business Development, Pro Con Building Supplies

The Board of Directors is composed of a total of 17 elected members and one intern director. Here is the complete composition of the board for the year 2023:

France Bélanger-Houle, Alexandre Bouffard, Sylvain Charlebois, Francine Côté, Valérie Doré, Roger Gauthier, Louise Gervais-Guy, Lucie Huot, Bululu Kabatakaka, Alain Larocque, Sophie Miller, Martine Nolin-Simard, Geneviève Evelyn Patry, Brad Robertson, Sami Saïdi, Alexandre Toupin, Maxine Vincent, and Alex Hazan, a young intern director.

The Board of Directors decided to give back a total of \$11,572,660 in individual dividends. In order to continue to support the community through meaningful projects, the members voted to distribute \$2,079,224 to the Community Development Fund (CDF). This represents nearly **\$13.7 million given back to members and communities across Ontario** in 2023.

"Beyond the amounts invested, what sets us apart from other financial institutions is the credit union's deep roots in its community, as well as the commitment of its elected directors and employees to the community," said Francine Côté.

About Desjardins Ontario Credit Union

With over \$10 billion in assets, [Desjardins Ontario Credit Union](#) contributes to the economic and social development of communities and supports the financial empowerment of its 137,000 members by offering comprehensive banking services with the full range of [Desjardins Group](#) products and services. [Desjardins Ontario Credit Union](#) is one of the largest financial institutions in Ontario and has recorded the strongest growth in Canada for the third year in a row. Because of its cooperative nature and financial strength, it shares a portion of its surplus earnings with its members. Last year, the Credit Union gave over \$13 million in dividends to individuals and communities, contributing to hundreds of projects. [Desjardins Group](#) is the largest cooperative financial group in Canada and North America and has been recognized as a top corporate citizen and one of the strongest financial institutions in the world.

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For further information:

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