

**The Fédération des chambres de commerce du Québec is pleased to present the members of its 2008–2009 Executive Board.**



**PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD**  
Roch L. Dubé  
President  
Bell Alliant, Québec and Ontario  
Montréal



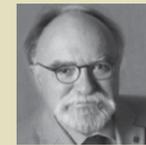
**PAST-PRESIDENT**  
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Vice President,  
Corporate Finance Division, Québec  
BMO, Bank of Montreal  
Montréal



**PRESIDENT & CEO**  
Françoise Bertrand  
Fédération des chambres  
de commerce du Québec  
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**MEMBER**  
Pierre-Marc Tremblay  
President and CEO  
Restaurants Pacini inc.  
La Prairie

**Roch L. Dubé:  
New Chair of the Board of Directors**



Left to right: Françoise Bertrand,  
Richard Côté, Roch L. Dubé

The annual meeting was also the occasion to renew the FCCQ's Board of Directors and Executive Board. In 2008, Roch L. Dubé will assume the chair of the FCCQ Board of Directors. A native of Baie-Comeau, Mr. Dubé has been president of Bell Alliant, Québec and Ontario, since January 2008. Prior to this, he held several senior management positions at Bell Alliant and the Bell Nordiq group, including that of president and CEO of Bell Nordiq Inc. from 2003 to 2007. Before joining this organization, Mr. Dubé had been president of Telecom Alliant and president and CEO of Connexim. In 2007–2008, he served as senior vice-president of the FCCQ. Richard Côté will assume the position of past-president.

**Annual General Meeting Resolutions:  
Independent workers, microbusinesses and recycling**

During the FCCQ's General Assembly, held as part of the annual meeting, participants adopted two resolutions, one dealing with independent workers and the other with the environment.

As proposed by the Chambre de commerce de Rivière-du-Loup, the General Assembly decided to examine the relevance of forming an ad hoc committee to assess the financial, legal and administrative problems facing independent workers and owners of microbusinesses, and to support the local chambers of commerce in advocating for independent workers.

Self-employment is becoming an increasingly popular choice for many workers. In terms of taxation and payment of taxes, contributions and income tax, these workers make up the least costly and most productive segment of the current economic system. The Chambre de commerce de Rivière-du-Loup believes, however, that these workers are the most discriminated against and have the least access to government programs and services as well as the least socioeconomic protection of any group.

**Ici on recycle programme**  
Centre-du-Québec is historically the most innovative region in the province when it comes to managing residual waste. This is no coincidence, as all the region's economic, political and social players are working together to make this happen.

The chambers of commerce of Centre-du-Québec believe that institutions, businesses and industries will increasingly be attracted by Québec's 1998–2008 Residual Waste Management Policy and its 3RV guiding principle (reduce–reuse–recycle and add value), which ensures a reclamation rate for each type of residual material. This will conceivably lead to an increase in the volume and quantity of materials to be recycled, resulting in the growth of the recycling, recovery and reclamation industry.

For these reasons, the General Assembly ratified the request of these chambers of commerce to allow the FCCQ to lobby government bodies to adopt measures to encourage the management of residual waste on behalf of industry. We also want to look into the possibility of having the Québec chambers of commerce network recognized as the preferred partner in implementing RECYC-QUÉBEC awareness programs in companies.

With its wide network of 162 chambers of commerce, the FCCQ represents more than 40,000 businesses and 100,000 business people involved in all sectors of the economy throughout Québec. The FCCQ strongly supports its members' interests in matters of public policy, thus promoting an innovative and competitive business environment.

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**L'Exclusif is available at all times on the Federation's Web site:**  
<http://fccq.ca/publications/bulletins-lexclusif.html>

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# l'exclusif

FCCQ Members Newsletter



**Adoption of the Declaration  
on Canadian Competitiveness**

In October 2008, during the joint annual meeting of the Fédération des chambres de commerce du Québec and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, Canada's chambers of commerce asked governments and business people to put Canada's economic productivity front and centre to ensure the growth of the Canadian economy.

According to the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, "Canada can be a leader in the global economy, but to do so, we need to act now to improve Canada's competitiveness and assure a strong and profitable economic environment that will benefit all Canadians." The declaration—a first in the history of Canadian chambers of commerce—proposes several courses of action to spur the growth of the Canadian economy. Among them:

- ▶ Canadian companies are determined to do business in an environment that fosters growth and supports competitiveness in the global market. **An open and effective Canadian market** needs to be created free of internal barriers to trade, investment and workforce mobility.
- ▶ To innovate, companies must be able to attract talent and capital. Key to this is a **competitive tax system** that has a reduced marginal effective tax rate on capital and a low personal income tax.

- ▶ Companies understand perfectly well that Canada's economic competitiveness and success are directly tied in with the strength of Canada-U.S. relations. Encouraging these relations and ensuring a **secure and competitive border** must be one of the federal government's main international priorities.

- ▶ **Citizens and their skill sets** play an important role in a country's productivity and are essential to companies' ability to grow and succeed. Canada's **immigration policies** must closely match the needs of the labour market, immigration application procedures must be reviewed and simplified, and national and international accreditation standards must be developed to assess academic and professional qualifications and foreign certificates in regulated professions.

- ▶ **Developing a talent pool and supporting innovation** within Canada are crucial. Canadian companies of all sizes face problems finding qualified workers to grow and prosper. Measures are needed to address this complex situation, including access to higher education and apprenticeship opportunities, pension benefits and workforce mobility programs, while respecting agreements with certain provinces.

- ▶ A **quality infrastructure** is vital in order to take part in global supply chains, especially their high value functions. Companies need strategic investments in our transportation system, including Canada's gateways and border crossings. This investment is crucial to our economic prosperity. It will encourage trade, investment and tourism.

- ▶ Small and medium enterprises are the backbone of the Canadian economy, with the vast majority of companies belonging to this category. Laws and programs must be adapted to both large companies and small and medium enterprises to allow them to prosper and grow nationally, as well as expand internationally. Small and medium enterprises need to be encouraged to continue to grow and benefit fully from all new business opportunities.

Economies that enjoy vibrant competition between companies are healthy and dynamic. They create good jobs for their citizens. Ultimately, by taking up the competitive challenge, Canadian companies will be able to constantly adapt to the rapidly changing global market and remain world leaders, thereby ensuring the future of Canada.

**Signed on October 5, 2008, in Québec City by:**

- Canadian Chamber of Commerce
- Fédération des chambres de commerce du Québec
- Alberta Chambers of Commerce
- Baffin Regional Chamber of Commerce
- British Columbia Chamber of Commerce
- Atlantic Provinces Chambers of Commerce
- Manitoba Chambers of Commerce
- Northwest Territories Chamber of Commerce
- Ontario Chamber of Commerce
- Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce
- Yukon Chamber of Commerce



# The annual meeting in photos

From October 3–6, Québec City was the site of the **Fédération des chambres de commerce du Québec's annual meeting**, held for the first time jointly with the **Canadian Chamber of Commerce**. More than 600 executives presidents of national, provincial, territorial and regional chambers of commerce met to take part in numerous activities and seminars.

## Saturday, October 4

### PLENARY SESSIONS, WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

Throughout the week, conference delegates took part in an array of workshops directed at their areas of interest: competition, taxation, the labour force, and the challenges facing small and medium enterprises and the manufacturing sector, to name just a few!

They also had the opportunity to hear several well-respected speakers, including David Allen (author of the best-selling book *Getting Things Done*) and Pierre Lafontaine (CEO of Swimming Canada), and to attend the political debate that was held against the backdrop of the federal elections.

**1** Conference delegates gathered in large numbers for the many workshops being offered.

**2** Mr. David Allen, speaker and author of *Getting Things Done*.

**3** The Premier of Québec addresses the chambers of commerce.

### POLITICAL DEBATE

**4** **Left to right:** Paul Crête, Bloc Québécois; Guy Charon, New Democratic Party; Jim Prentis, Conservative Party of Canada; Gilbert Lavoie, Le Soleil, moderator; John McCullen, Liberal Party of Canada; Gary Caldwell, Green Party of Canada.

### GALA CLOSING SHOW

**5** Conference delegates flocked onto the dance floor as Martin Fontaine and the Groovy Good Times Band shook the place up with rock and pop beats. Everyone grooved!

### EVENING OF CELEBRATION IN HONOUR OF THE 200<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE DE QUÉBEC

**6** On Saturday, October 4, the president of the Chambre de commerce de Québec, Christian Goulet, welcomed more than 800 guests from Québec City and the conference to the CCQ's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary bash.

**7** CCQ president, Christian Goulet

### CORRIDORS OF COMMERCE

**8** As part of the corridors of commerce workshop, a partnership agreement was formalized with New Hampshire.

**Left to right:** Raymond Marcil, MDEIE; Françoise Bertrand, FCCQ president and CEO; Jean Couture, special counsel, office of the MTQ deputy minister; France Dionne, delegate to the Quebec Delegation in Boston; Jim Roche, president of the Business and Industry Association of New Hampshire's State Chamber of Commerce; and Joseph J. Belilacqua, president and CEO of the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce.



# Closing Gala

Sunday, October 5

The FCCQ chose this occasion to honour the exceptional contribution of the staff and volunteer members of its vast network 162 chambers of commerce by presenting them with several awards:

### CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE YEAR

**9** **CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE ET D'INDUSTRIE DE LA RIVE-SUD**

This chamber of commerce has distinguished itself by its ability to diversify its activities to reach out to the greatest number of people. It developed several original activities to support the next generation of entrepreneurs and coordinated various projects to foster the introduction of young workers into the region's companies. More than 200 young people benefited from this support.  
**Left to right: Richard Côté, Lise Caza, Madeleine Sainte-Marie, Bernard Grandmont, Michel Labbé.**

### VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARD

**10** **MICHEL FECTEAU, CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE DU HAUT-RICHELIEU**

Mr. Fecteau is an active member of the Chambre de commerce du Haut-Richelieu. He has held many positions, including that of president. His tireless commitment has been a key factor in the chamber's success. He is a regular contributor to numerous charities, including a group of handicapped persons and the regional hospital foundation.  
**Left to right: Roch L. Dubé and Michel Fecteau.**

**11** **JEAN-GUY PARENT, CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE ET D'INDUSTRIE DE LA RIVE-SUD**

Mr. Parent has been with his local chamber of commerce for more than 30 years. His involvement extends into community and cultural areas. He works in numerous charitable organizations as well as with the Fondation de l'Orchestre symphonique de Longueuil, which he established. He was recently named president of the Bureau des gouverneurs of the Fondation de l'Hôpital Pierre-Boucher.  
**Left to right: Roch L. Dubé and Jean-Guy Parent**

### SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF AN ADMINISTRATOR

**12** **PATRICE SIMARD, FORMER FCCQ PRESIDENT**

This Special Recognition of an exceptional administrator within the chambers of commerce movement pays tribute to the availability, commitment and exceptional involvement in an administrative role. Mr. Simard is recognized for more than 35 years of involvement in the chambers of commerce movement. He was president of the Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal in 1995–96 and of the Chambre de commerce de Sherbrooke in 1983–84. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of the FCCQ since 2002. He is also administrator of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce.  
**Left to right: Patrick Simard and Françoise Bertrand**

**13** **SEAN FINN, FORMER CCC AND FCCQ PRESIDENT**

From 1998 to 2007, Mr. Finn was a member of the Board of Directors of the FCCQ and served as its president in 2002–2003. He was also president of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in 2006–2007. Mr. Finn is the senior vice-president of Public Affairs and chief legal officer and corporate secretary of CN. In this position, he oversees a wide range of legal, public, governmental and regulatory files. His contribution to the Canadian Chamber of Commerce has been outstanding. He is credited notably with establishing the accreditations program of the chambers of commerce.  
**Left to right: Sean Finn and Françoise Bertrand**

### PRIX JEAN-PAUL-LÉTOURNEAUX

**14** **DANIEL DESJARDINS, CEO OF THE CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE DE SAINTE-AGATHE-DES-MONTS**

This award recognizes the outstanding work of a chamber of commerce CEO. Mr. Desjardins has been at the helm of the Chambre de commerce de Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts since 2000. Active in virtually all areas of the community, he enjoys a high degree of visibility and maintains a strategic position in both political and business decision-making entities. His initiative and leadership have resulted in the creation of a regional chamber of commerce that brings together several communities.  
**Left to right: Richard Payette and Daniel Desjardins**

