

# BRANCH REPORT

## QC57 | Quebec Branch

### CONTACT US

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**President:** Jean-Marc Demers

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president :** Micheline Lefrançois

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-president:** René Grenier

**Secretary:** Mariette R. Grant

**Director of Finance & Treasurer:**  
Roland Langevin

**Director for Bas-St-Laurent-  
Gaspésie:** Bruno Beaulieu

**Director:** Germain Boivin

**Director:** Pierre Landry

**Director:** Nicole Laveau

**Director for Saguenay-Lac-Saint-  
Jean:** Ghislain Lavoie

**Director:** John Le Garignon

**Past President and National Board  
Member:** James D. Nicholson

**Adviser:** Serge Boisseau, 2017  
National Collaboration Award

**Adviser:** Yves Bouchard, 2019 Claude-  
Edwards National Leadership Award  
2019 House of Commons Recognition  
2020 Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers

**Adviser:** Gilles Chevalier, 2017 Medal  
of the Lieutenant Governor of Quebec

### President's message

We are facing a 2020 summer of a different kind! The Branch has adapted to strict health regulations making sure you are kept well informed!

On June 2nd, we offered a Virtual Conference on how to "Take advantage of the situation in times of insecurity" by Guy Lefebvre who shared information on how to live better and healthier in times of confinement.

Last June 18th, two senior Board members Serge Boisseau and Gilles Chevalier decided not to stand for re-election. René Grenier and Germain Boivin were appointed in their stead. Micheline Lefrançois and Ghislain Lavoie are continuing until the next general meeting and will seek re-election.

My friends, we say goodbye to an 18-year board veteran: Gilles Chevalier, treasurer who also held other jobs before. This is the retirement of a pioneer... a proud 2017 medallist from the Lieutenant Governor of Quebec.

We are also saying goodbye to Serge Boisseau, 1st vice-president for the past year and vice-president for 6 years, recruiter extraordinaire, master of ceremonies for our meetings, volunteer on recruitment in the national office, 2017 Association National Prize for collaboration. We owe Serge the spark that ignited the idea of setting up our highly successful closed door 2016 Conference by Me Jean-Pierre Ménard on Medical Assistance in dying.

Gilles, Serge and Yves Bouchard are joining the Board as special advisers. I invite you to consult this link to get to know all members of the Board of Directors.

### Branch's activities

Based on the public health advice that is being given at the moment, the national board of directors has reluctantly concluded that we should not be organizing any in-person membership events until the beginning of 2021.

As a result, there will not be a General Information Meeting like we used to have in October.



Sincerely,

**Jean-Marc Demers**  
Branch President



Refer a member to Federal Retirees for  
a chance to win terrific prizes.

Fill out a ballot at [federalretirees.ca/mrd](http://federalretirees.ca/mrd)  
for a chance to win.



**JOHNSON**  
INSURANCE





## We need you!

The activities of our Branch are mainly based on the work of our volunteers. We are fortunate to have excellent volunteers in different spheres of activity.

The Quebec Branch needs volunteers for the following positions:

### AUDITOR – CRITERIA

- Trained as an accountant;
- Member of the Branch;
- Interested in knowing about our branch, its mission, and its functioning.

The job of Auditor does not require long hours of volunteer work. In addition, transition times are planned with the current auditor.

### SECRETARY OF THE BRANCH AND MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Be a member of the Branch;
- Be able to draft documents;
- Participate and prepare reports;

The Secretary of the Board of Directors works in close collaboration with the President and other members of the Board in mutual support. He or she will be well informed!

### CHIEF EDITOR OF THE NEWSLETTER

- Be a member of the Branch;
- Draft articles and make corrections in French;
- Comfortable in teaming with members of the Communications Committee and the Board of Directors;
- Publish 6 newsletters per year with the support of collaborators.

If you have any interest or have questions regarding these 3 volunteer positions, please contact Jean-Marc Demers, Branch President at: [anrf@bellnet.ca](mailto:anrf@bellnet.ca)



AGENCE  
**JULIE LABBÉ**

## SENIOR LIVING ADVISORS FOR RETIREMENT HOME

You are looking for a residence for seniors?  
You do not know how to manage?

Our personalized services will simplify the process to find the right residence that suits you.

Our services are free and meet the requirements of an autonomous, semi-autonomous or diminishing autonomy and long-term care senior.

For more information, get in touch with:  
Julie Labbé

418 580-3793 - [julielabbe@agencejl.ca](mailto:julielabbe@agencejl.ca)

Web site: [www.agencejulielabbe.ca](http://www.agencejulielabbe.ca)



## Thank you very much Edna, for your precious collaboration!



Our coordinator Edna Richer has worked hard to maintain the transparency of office services for the past three months. Our office located in a building where there was a COVID-19 outbreak, became impossible to access. Like many others, the confinement turned her work upside down.

Edna has made the best out of the situation and has moved our branch activities to her residence: during that time she handled all call transfers, mail forwarding, organization of numerous Zoom meetings, forwarding of documents to our doors and much more. All the while using the speed of the Internet rather than using Canada Post!

Edna was available seven days a week regardless of her regular schedule. With this flexibility and the addition of Zoom technology, Edna was able to keep up with branch meetings, assemblies, board and executive meetings, emails, and phones calls.

With these great tools and Edna at the controlling end, members who provided us with an email address did not feel any decrease in the communications process; On June 2 we had a café conference, June 18 board of directors meetings, general working meetings, and on July 2 we had a virtual violin concert.

Thank you very much, Edna, for your continued support and dedication to the branch since 2011!



### Coffee Conference June 02, 2020

On June 2, 2020, in an effort to stay on the lookout with the needs of its members, the Branch offered a French videoconference entitled “Tirez avantage de la situation en période d’insécurité” (“Take advantage of the situation in times of insecurity”) presented by Guy Lefebvre, Founder of the Institute of Retirement Planning (IPR), of which 34 members



### Concert – Videoconference on July 2, 2020

In this period of confinement, the Branch set up a cultural activity of interest to all those who appreciated classical music. A virtual concert with ZOOM was offered to members who provided an internet address. We had the privilege of seeing and hearing Ms. Caroline Bécard of the Quebec Symphony Orchestra's first violin group for a very pleasant hour of great music. With 75 registrations and family members, we had our maximum of 100 interested people, considering those who attended the concert with their spouse. Thank you for your time with us Caroline, thanks to the OSQ and good luck!



### Save 25% on Your Annual Membership Dues

For a limited time only, we offer a one-time discount of 25% on the annual membership fee of each member and new member who sign up for deduction at source (DDS) payment option.

The DDS payment option is the easiest and most convenient way to pay your dues and automatically renew it each year. The DDS option allows you to deduct your membership fees directly from your pension each month (current fees are \$4.19 per month for a single membership, or \$5.43 per month for a double membership).



In Quebec, the Association collaborates with the Forget Group, audio prosthetists, to offer hearing health services to its members. These services differ slightly from those in other parts of Canada due to provincial legislation. To identify a clinic closest to your home and to make an appointment for a free hearing test, visit <https://www.legroupeforget.com/en> or call 1-888-ENTENDRE (368-3637)

- Free hearing screening
- 25% off the price of batteries
- 50% off on batteries for holders of a Groupe Forget privilege card
- 25% off on purchases of the Groupe Forget Privilege Card (or renewal)
- 10% off the price of accessories and repairs

**Other “Groupe Forget” advantages**

- A \$ 150 or \$ 225 discount on a maintenance kit
- First consultation free of charge
- Our 30-day money back guarantee

**For more information on benefits and conditions, call the Forget Group or visit their website (contact details above).**

**Meeting of Members by Video Conference on June 18, 2020**

Due to health regulations of the recent months, the Branch held a Virtual Meeting of Members on June 18, 2020, by video conference (46 members registered). A short survey was completed by participants who showed a high rate of satisfaction with this new way of meeting members virtually considering the situation of the pandemic. At the end of the meeting, we held three draws for those registered for the conference: Benoît Morrisette (STROM Spa Bath Package); Jocelyne Ladry (Tim Hortons gift card) and Monique Trudel (STROM Spa Bath package).

**Board of Directors Meeting**

Also, on June 18, having taken note of the resignations of Serge Boisseau and Gilles Chevalier who decided not to seek re-election, the Board appointed René Grenier and Germain Boivin as successors. As Micheline Lefrançois and Ghislain Lavoie have filed their intention since April to apply for a renewal, they maintain their voluntary support until the next general meeting.

**Board of Directors 2020-2021 - Quebec Branch Section (left to right)**



*Executive Committee: Jean-Marc Demers, President; Micheline Lefrançois, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president; René Grenier, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-president; Roland Langevin, Finance Director and Treasurer, Mariette R. Grant, Secretary*



*The Directors: Bruno Beaulieu, Bas-St-Laurent-Gaspésie; Germain Boivin, Pierre Landry, Nicole Laveau; Ghislain Lavoie, Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean; John Le Garignon*



*The Advisers: James D. Nicholson, Past President, Serge Boisseau and Yves Bouchard former Vice-Presidents, and Gilles Chevalier, former Treasurer*

