

Press Release Invitation letter to the media

Launch of Québec City's social Economy Hub

Québec City, February 21, 2018 - The Maison de la Coopération - a group of 10 organizations dedicated to accompanying social enterprises, cooperatives and not-for-profits - wishes to formalize its service continuum and demonstrate its role as **Québec City's Social Economy Hub**.

The goal of the continuum is to offer a wide range of services to social economy stakeholders in the Quebec and Chaudière-Appalaches regions and to respond to all their needs: support with startup, financing, coaching in communication, marketing, information technology, support in organizational development, accounting, human resources, legal services, training, facilitation and engagement, room and office rental, and much more.

Between 4 pm and 6 pm, there will be a tour to meet each of the members and discover how they can support community projects.

Ms. Dianne Maltais, representative from the Caisse d'économie solidaire Desjardins, the primary financial institution specialized in social economy, will be the event spokesperson. Ms. Dominique Anglade, Quebec's Minister of Economy, Science and Innovation, will be represented by Mr. André Drolet, Member for Jean-Lesage. Mr. Régis Labeaume, Mayor of Quebec City, will also be present.

The Maison de la coopération members and close collaborators include CDEC de Québec, CEDEC, Communagir, Conseil des métiers d'art du Québec, Consortium de ressources et d'expertises cooperatives, Fonds d'emprunt Québec, Groupe Conseils DDE, Pôle des entreprises d'économie sociale de la région de la Capitale-Nationale, Sine Qua Non, regroupement d'avocats, and Solidarité Sud. Caisse d'économie solidaire will also attend the event. For more information, please see the appendix attached.

Social enterprise carries out economic activity for social outcomes, which means that it sells or exchanges goods and services not to make a profit, but to respond to the needs of its members or host community. According to Chantier de l'économie sociale, across Quebec this sector represents more than 7,000 organizations, 200,000 jobs and \$40 billion in revenue generated, which is more than the construction, aerospace and mining sectors combined.

- 30 -

For more information: Red Carpet Event February 22 - 4 pm to 6 pm 155 Blvd. Charest Est, Quebec (QC) G1K 3G6

Source:
Jacques Beaudet, MCESQ Manager
gestion@maison.coop
418-780-3275 ext. 2107

Who is part of the continuum?

1. Caisse d'économie solidaire Desjardins

Caisse d'économie Solidaire Desjardins is the leading financial institution specializing in social economy and responsible investment (RI) in Quebec. It has 14,419 members, including 3,242 cooperatives, not-for-profit organizations (NPOs), unions and socially engaged private companies, as well as 11,177 citizens. Caisse d'économie Solidaire Desjardins finances collective projects thanks to its exclusive savings product, the Social Return Investment

2. Corporation de développement économique et communautaire de Québec

For more than 20 years, CDEC de Québec has offered a local service that is efficient and adapted to the needs of community-based entrepreneurs. It plays an essential role in supporting startup as well as developing social enterprises and communities. It is an incubator for social innovation and community-based entrepreneurship for the greater Quebec City area. cdecdequebec.qc.ca/

3. Community Economic Development and Employability Corporation

CEDEC sparks economic innovation in building forward-looking, prosperous and confident communities across Quebec through sharing expertise, knowledge and building partnerships. cedec.ca/

4. Communagir

Communagir contributes to communities across Quebec so that they can achieve the changes that it deems necessary to their collective development.

communagir.org/

5. Conseil des métiers d'art du Ouébec

CMA represents the interests of all professional artists and artisans in the arts field. metiersdart.ca/

6. Consortium de ressources et d'expertises coopératives

Consortium de ressources et d'expertises coopératives regroupe les fédérations de coopératives brings together the cooperative federations that require common services in order to give them access to the resources and highly-specialized expertise that they could not otherwise obtain. leconsortium.coop/

7. Fonds d'emprunt Québec

A true centre of expertise in support and responsible financing, its mission is to rally investors to give access to credit and to offer local support to those having difficulty in accessing public and private development institutions.

fonds-emprunt.qc.ca/

8. Groupe Conseils DDE

DDE helps its clients and the community to engage differently, which is to say to innovate around common values, thereby increasing the financial, environmental and social profitability, of organizations.

groupedde.com/

9. Pôle des entreprises d'économie sociale de la région de la Capitale-Nationale Pôle represents the interests of social enterprises to public bodies and socioeconomic stakeholders. polecn.org/

10. Sine Qua Non, regroupement d'avocats

Sine Qua Non's mission is to offer legal services adapted to the needs of organizations, companies and specifically across the spectrum of law ensuring access to traditional justice all while advocating for all conflict resolution methods.

sqn-avocats.com/

11. Solidarité Sud

Solidarité Sud's mission is to create ties between Quebec volunteers and organizations that foster dialogue, sharing and recognized social actions aimed at social development, through organizing social action and international cooperation stays.

solsud.com/