

Info

Héma-Québec



BULLETIN FOR HÉMA-QUÉBEC PARTNERS, VOLUNTEERS AND BLOOD DONORS

Vol. 7 No. 2 – DECEMBER 2004



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The past year, together with members of the Board of Directors, I have been touring the province and holding regional public meetings, about twenty of them. The Board's objective has been to meet and communicate with Quebecers, thereby applying its policy of openness. To that end, we took

advantage of the fact that, for several years now, we organize meetings with blood drive organizing committees throughout Quebec.

These events, which were open to the public, have given us an opportunity to renew ties with long-standing partners and to become acquainted with new collaborators—a most pleasant task. We presented our organization, and gave an overview of our 2003-2004 activities as well as of our main projects. We also revealed the decision process underlying the introduction of blood donation awareness campaigns. Finally, we spoke about the conditions that must be met to organize a successful blood drive.

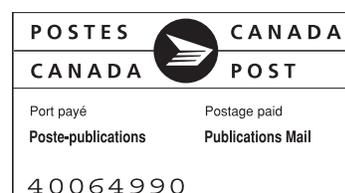
We took advantage of these occasions to share the rostrum with the individuals for whom we work for: blood product recipients. Thus, we listened to recipients of all ages speak from their hearts about the importance of donating blood. The Association des bénévoles du don de sang, represented by its president, Ms. Hélène Darby, was also part of this tour. I would like to stress that Ms. Darby also acts as a representative of donors on the Héma-Québec Board of Directors.

Each of us, in his or her own way, stressed the necessity of preparing for tomorrow, from training the members of future organizing committees to maintaining an awareness of our mission among donors in an aging population.

Did you know that since Héma-Québec was created in September 1998, more than 1,500,000 people have donated blood at 10,000 blood drives that have been held in every area of Québec? Each year we deliver an average of 400,000 blood products to hospitals to meet the needs of approximately 80,000 patients.

There is no substitute for blood, and every 80 seconds someone needs a transfusion. This means that each of us, individually and collectively, has a role to play in maintaining an adequate supply of blood products for the people of Québec. To all donors, volunteers and partners, I would like to say "thank you" for the energy you devote to this unique cause, and I encourage you, on behalf of all recipients, to continue your efforts in this direction.

In concluding this last message of the year 2004, I would like to extend to you my best wishes for the holiday season. On behalf of the entire staff of Héma-Québec, I wish you happiness, prosperity and, above all, health. I look forward to continuing to work with you in 2005 towards fulfilling our great and noble mission.



During the holiday season,
Share a unique gift...

This is the theme of Héma-Québec's holiday campaign. From December 2, 2004 to January 9, 2005, 33,000 blood donors are expected to turn out for some 175 blood drives organized with community partners throughout Québec.

It should be noted that one blood donation can help save up to four lives. Patients who need blood transfusions don't take vacation. They are counting on the generosity of donors. During this holiday period, health is the best gift you can give.

A DISTINGUISHED CAREER AS A BLOOD DONOR

Germain Dupuis, 107 donations



PHOTO: MARC COUTURE

The essential thing about Germain Dupuis is his vitality. This 72-year-old retiree describes himself as “a person in very good health, and who loves life and lives it to the fullest.” Generous with his time and attentive to the well-being of others, Mr. Dupuis is also active in his community as a volunteer, accompanying elderly people to the hospital and helping them with their shopping.

With such altruistic values, it is not surprising that Mr. Dupuis has had a distinguished career as a blood donor. It all started 53 years ago

when he was 17. The company he was working for at the time responded to a call from the Arthabaska hospital, in the Victoriaville area. Following the example of “the older ones,” as he likes to say, he donated blood for the first time. It was the beginning of a long career: “Personally, I didn’t need blood, but it seemed to me that giving blood, and saving someone’s life, was the most beautiful gift I could give them,” he explained humbly.

Germain Dupuis made his 107th, and what he was sure would be his last, blood donation in October 2002. He stopped giving because he had reached the age limit that was in effect at the time. Upon learning that as of this past October 31 there is no longer any upper age limit for donating blood as long as all requirements are met, Mr. Dupuis’ reaction was swift: “If I’m eligible now, I will most certainly become a blood donor again.”

We look forward to seeing you again soon, Mr. Dupuis!

ELLYN DELOVITCH, TWO-TIME BONE MARROW DONOR

More than 36,500 names are listed in the Québec Unrelated Bone Marrow Donor Registry. Finding an unrelated donor who is compatible with a particular patient can be very difficult, even—sad to say—impossible: the chances range between 1 in 450 to more than 1 in 750,000.

Ms. Ellyn Delovitch, however, is a member of a select group of about five people who have made two bone marrow donations. Astounded at being identified as compatible with two different recipients, this 46-year-old mother of two took the opportunity to help both patients in need of her bone marrow in a remarkable outpouring of generosity. The first recipient underwent a bone marrow transplant in 1995, when the Registry was managed by the Red Cross.

The second recipient, Tal Kotler, a 26-year-old Israeli, received a transplant of Ms. Delovitch’s bone marrow in November of 2001 as treatment for acute leukemia. Afterwards, the young man contacted Ms. Delovitch by e-mail to thank her for saving his life. Ms. Delovitch subsequently travelled to Israel to appear in a television broadcast together with her young recipient. Since then, this donor-recipient pair has stayed in touch.

A visit to Héma-Québec!



On September 8, 2004, Héma-Québec had the pleasure of welcoming Ellyn Delovitch, accompanied by Tal Kotler and his family from Israel, for a visit.

They visited the laboratories and spoke with the team that had guided them throughout their journey, from the time their compatibility was discovered to the bone marrow transplant.

The gratitude on the faces of Tal, his brother and sister and their parents could not go unnoticed. This very happy and moving occasion should inspire Héma-Québec staff, donors and volunteers to continue in their work, which is of inestimable benefit to society.

Thank you, Ms. Delovitch, for your superb example of commitment!

BLOOD TYPE COMPATIBILITY

For example, if you are a donor whose blood group is O-, you are a universal donor. All blood groups are compatible with your blood. However, as a recipient, you can only receive O- blood.

| | | DONORS | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|--------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| | | O- | O+ | B- | B+ | A- | A+ | AB- | AB+ |
| RECIPIENTS | AB+ | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| | AB- | ● | | ● | | ● | | ● | |
| | A+ | ● | ● | | | ● | ● | | |
| | A- | ● | | | | ● | | | |
| | B+ | ● | | ● | ● | | | | |
| | B- | ● | | ● | | | | | |
| | O+ | ● | ● | | | | | | |
| | O- | ● | | | | | | | |

CUSTOMER SERVICE: NEW HOURS INFORMATION FOR DONORS

We will be happy to answer any questions you may have about giving blood: 1 800 847-2525

Monday to Friday: 8:30 am to 7:30 pm
 Saturday: 9 am to 4 pm
 Sunday: 9:30 am to 1:30 pm

GREAT HONOURS FOR GREAT DONORS

Some people are exemplary, even exceptional, in the way they go about exercising the privilege of giving blood. To pay tribute to their great generosity and their inestimable contribution to society, Héma-Québec held seven Honours Galas this fall to acknowledge those who have made 100 donations and more. The events were held between October 6 and December 8 in several cities across Québec: Sainte-Foy, Joliette, Sherbrooke, Longueuil, Laval, Montréal and Trois-Rivières.

On these occasions, donors of whole blood, plasma and platelets received a token of recognition bearing the number of donations they have made. Thus, seven individuals who have made 600 donations and more were notably recognized: Jacques Chouinard, James Lambert, Michel Thérien, Henri Ménard, Marc Boucher, Larry Tanguay and Jacques Paquin.



PHOTO : MARC COUTURE

The group of individuals who have made 600 donations and more, along with Dr. Francine Décary and Charles Beaulieu (center), recipient.

In addition, the fourth annual Honours Gala for Unrelated Bone Marrow Donors was held on September 25. This Gala was an opportunity to acknowledge the extraordinary generosity and altruism of the seven people who made a bone marrow donation in 2003.



PHOTO : MARC COUTURE

From left to right: Éric Beauchesne, Chantal Legault, Pierre Comtois, Marie Leblanc, Sylvie Bégin (recipient), Danielle Parenteau, Luc Bernier and Dr. Francine Décary. Elias Bakomichalis does not appear in this picture.

Two recipients, Ms. Sylvie Bégin and Mr. Daniel Tremblay, took advantage of the occasion to meet the donors. They spoke of how much it meant to them to be given a second chance, and to regain their health through a bone marrow transplant. Many of those present were deeply moved by these proceedings.

Thanks to the dedication and great generosity of these donors, many patients are able to recover their health and enjoy life to the fullest. Please accept our heartfelt thanks on their behalf.

FROM MOTHER TO SON...

This past September, a mother dedicated to donating blood sent this message to the Héma-Québec team to announce her son's first blood donation. Jonathan Fontaine is a source of inspiration for tomorrow's donors.

Hello everyone,

I have been donating blood since I came of age. At first I gave only once a year at the blood drive in the town where I live (Richmond, in the Eastern Townships), but for several years now I have been trying to give every time I can, even if it means making a special trip to do so. I have just about reached 40 donations. That may not sound like very much compared to the donors sometimes listed in your magazine, but I am still very proud of myself as I am only 42 years old.



My two children have accompanied me on several occasions to various blood drives, often rather unwillingly. For example, if we were going shopping and on the way I

saw a blood drive, I would go out of my way to stop at it. I believe I have inculcated in my children the importance of giving blood, and this is why I promised a very special gift to my son Jonathan for his 18th birthday.

I told him that wherever he happened to be on the day of his birthday, I would come to meet him, and together we would go to donate blood. It has already been at least eight years since I promised him this, and now the time has come. So this Thursday, September 16, I will leave work in the early afternoon, head out of Richmond and pick up my 15-year-old daughter at school along the way, and together we will go to meet my son in Longueuil. From there we will head for the Globule Blood Donor Centre at Place Versailles to start celebrating his 18th birthday with HIS FIRST GIFT OF LIFE!

This may sound like something ordinary to you, but to me it's very special and I wanted to share it with you.

Thank you for taking a few minutes of your precious time to read this. I am really looking forward to Thursday!

A mom who will be very proud of her son,

Jocelyne Morel

HÉMA-QUÉBEC INAUGURATES ITS **NEW BUILDING** ON THE UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL CAMPUS



PHOTO : MARC COUTURE

From left to right: Michel Pigeon, Laval University rector, Dr. André Lebrun, president of Héma-Québec board of directors, Minister Sam Hamad, Dr. Francine Décary, Jean-Pierre Bégin of Merlin Pomerleau and Margaret F. Delisle, National Assembly of Québec member for Jean-Talon.

On September 29, Héma-Québec inaugurated its new building located on the Université Laval campus at 1009 Du Vallon Road in Sainte-Foy. The Honourable Sam Hamad, representing the *Ministre de la Santé et des Services sociaux*, was present to celebrate this event and pay tribute to all Héma-Québec employees.

You will recall that under the terms of a 30-year emphyteutic lease, Université Laval turned over a 7,300-square-metre area of land located southwest of the Ferdinand-Vandry pavilion to the Merlin-Pomerleau consortium. Héma-Québec became tenant of the 2,370-square-metre building for the same term. In order to supply hospital blood banks in Québec City and Eastern Québec, the new facility has a total of 6,200 square metres of usable space.

Some 410 employees work in the new three-storey building. In addition to accommodating the various Héma-Québec operations teams, the facility brings together research and development and the Histo-Québec human tissues division.

In fact, one novelty of the building at 1009 Du Vallon Road for Héma-Québec is its set of clean rooms—facilities specially designed for collecting and processing human tissues. Thus, the official inauguration ceremony was also marked by the unveiling of a plaque in honour of Drs. Paul Cartier and Alain Cloutier, both of whom were trailblazers in the field of collecting and processing human tissues in Québec. These cofounders of the Centre de Conservation de Tissus Humains du Québec unfortunately are no longer with us and are sincerely missed by the Héma-Québec team. The plaque was placed at the entrance to the Histo-Québec division facilities.

The environment at 1009 Du Vallon Road will allow for increased efficiency in Héma-Québec's overall operations. These world-class facilities will enable the organization to sustain its development and fulfil its mission of saving and improving patients' lives.

UPPER AGE LIMIT FOR DONATING BLOOD ELIMINATED

Since October 31, 2004, Héma-Québec has modified its criteria concerning donor age, and there is no more upper age limit for donating blood in Québec. The erosion of the bank of blood donors, specifically as a result of the aging of the population, has added to the organization's recruiting challenge. This modification in age criteria will help to ensure a more adequate supply of blood products, since the career of a healthy blood donor will be extended to a significant degree.

Nevertheless, in order to ensure the safety of blood donors, specific criteria concerning age will have to be respected. Donors between the ages of 67 and 70, inclusively, who have not given blood in the last two years, as well as new donors 61 and older will have to provide a letter from their physician certifying that they are in good health and can give blood. Moreover, donors 71 and older will have to provide a letter each year from their physician, certifying that they are in good health and can give blood.

Those individuals affected by these criteria can obtain a form letter on the Héma-Québec Web site at www.hema-quebec.qc.ca, at blood drives, at Globule blood donor centres, or by calling 1 800 847-2525.

In addition to medical approval, it should be noted that qualification criteria apply to anyone who wishes to give blood. In order to ensure the safety of blood transfusion recipients, anyone who goes to a blood drive must complete a health questionnaire in order to confirm that he/she satisfies the Héma-Québec eligibility criteria.

In fact, the evaluation of the ability to donate blood, which is Héma-Québec's responsibility, is based on the health questionnaire as well as on hemoglobin level and vital signs.

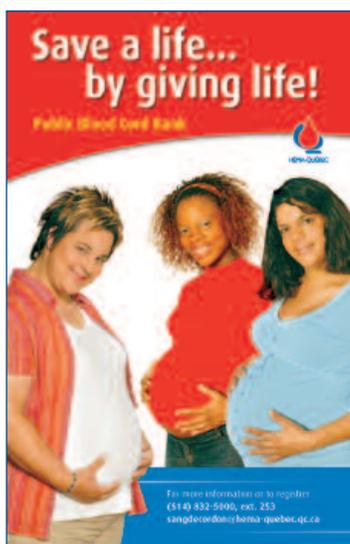
It should be noted that the minimum age for donating blood is 18. For information about other blood donation eligibility criteria, visit the Héma-Québec Web site at www.hema-quebec.qc.ca or call 1 800 847-2525.

NEWS FROM THE PUBLIC CORD BLOOD BANK

Since its official launch, the Public Cord Blood Bank, which is managed by Héma-Québec, has been growing steadily. To date, about 15 pregnant women who plan to give birth at one of the two partner hospitals—St. Mary's Hospital Centre and CHU mère-enfant Sainte-Justine—have registered for the Bank. You may recall that cord blood donations have been collected since July 20, 2004.

Moreover, Héma-Québec has initiated a recruitment program in several cultural communities to collect diversified samples reflecting Québec's ethnic multiplicity, which will make it easier to find the cells required for patients who belong to a cultural community. During the first stage of this program, about 10 associations and community centres have been approached.

In addition, brochures and information are currently available in doctors' offices as well as obstetrics and radiology clinics associated with partner hospitals.



Hematopoietic stem cells

Héma-Québec's Public Cord Blood Bank will provide access to a source of hematopoietic stem cells other than bone marrow. These cells, which are responsible for the production of red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets, are necessary for treating patients with terminal illnesses such as leukemia. Héma-Québec intends to use these stem cells derived from cord blood as a community resource, providing an optimal quality supply of them to patients waiting to undergo a stem cell transplant.

Cord blood is an advantageous therapeutic option for individuals weighing less than 50 kg who need a bone marrow transplant. Moreover, compared to bone marrow, cord blood allows for rapid access to product, from identification to transplantation, since it has already been collected and processed. The Public Cord Blood Bank is, therefore, complementary to the Unrelated Bone Marrow Donor Registry, also managed by Héma-Québec.

Don't forget that the Bank will be the only one of its kind in Québec. It is the second public cord blood bank in Canada, and one of about 40 worldwide. Héma-Québec's objective is to establish a bank of 5,000 bags of cord blood. Depending on the Bank's needs and status, Héma-Québec could develop partnerships with other hospitals.

Pregnant women giving birth at one of the two partner hospitals (St. Mary's Hospital Centre and CHU mère-enfant Sainte-Justine) can register for the Public Cord Blood Bank by calling (514) 832-5000, ext. 253, or sending an e-mail to: sangdecordon@hema-quebec.qc.ca

FRANCINE DÉCARY, GUEST SPEAKER AT THE ARMAND-FRAPPIER MUSEUM

On October 12, Dr. Francine Décary, Chief Executive Officer of Héma-Québec, gave a lecture entitled "When Life Depends on 3%" to an audience of about a hundred people, as part of a series of lectures organized by the Armand-Frappier Museum to make scientific knowledge accessible to all.

During her presentation, Dr. Décary discussed the characteristics of blood, the necessity for donating it and the use to which it is put, as well as Héma-Québec's activities, with particular reference to the following problem:

"Only 3% of the approximately 5,200,000 Quebecers who are eligible to donate blood contribute to the collective blood reserve managed by Héma-Québec for Québec hospitals and their patients."

In addition, Dr. Décary took special care to explain that the incredible challenge facing Héma-Québec of maintaining the blood supply is one requiring daily effort. Videos and statements from individuals designed to increase public awareness and to present blood donation as a civic duty brought the presentation to a close.



PHOTO: ÉTIENNE RICHER

globule
CENTRE DES DONNEURS DE SANG



TAKE THE TIME TO STOP BY

On September 22, Héma-Québec launched its first television campaign promoting its three Globule Blood Donor Centres situated in the Montréal and Québec City areas.

This campaign, whose theme is “Take the time to stop by, so that life... can continue.” is aimed at making the public more aware of the Globule Centres, introducing their boutique concept and making their hours of operation known. The 30-second television ad also promotes the Info-Drive hotlines.

INFO-DRIVE

To find out where and when blood drives will take place in the Montréal Area and Western Québec
(514) 832-0873 or 1-800-343-7264

To find out where and when blood drives will take place in the Québec City Area and Eastern Québec
(418) 780-7264 or 1-800-761-6610

Blood drive schedules and results are also posted on our Web site at: www.hema-quebec.qc.ca

Keep in mind that two blood donor centres, Globule Côte-Vertu and Globule Place Versailles, have been welcoming Greater Montréal area donors since the winter of 2001, and a third, Globule Place Laurier, opened in November 2003 to serve donors in the Québec City area. These permanent centres, located in cities with high population density and operating on schedules adapted to donor availability, are specially designed to simplify the process of donating blood.

Héma-Québec will use the new commercial simultaneously with its “Give blood. Give life.” blood donation awareness campaign.

CHANGES AND NEW OPERATING HOURS FOR GLOBULE CÔTE-VERTU

After a trial period and a survey that was conducted among donors, the Globule Côte-Vertu Blood Donor Centre, which originally accepted special donations only, has opened its doors to all donors. This new change in status took effect on September 13.



This means it will now accept allogeneic donations with or without an appointment, as well as donations of platelets by apheresis with an appointment and special donations such as autologous donations. In addition, Globule Côte-Vertu is now open weekday evenings and Saturdays, to better accommodate donor availability.

The staff and volunteers of Globule Côte-Vertu, located at 4045 Côte-Vertu Boulevard, are happy to receive donors according to the following schedule:

GLOBULE CÔTE-VERTU

TO MAKE A BLOOD DONATION: (514) 832-5000, ext. 185

| | By appointment only | Without an appointment |
|-----------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Monday | 1 pm to 3:45 pm | 9 am to 5 pm |
| Tuesday | 7:30 am to 3:15 pm | 8 am to 5 pm |
| Wednesday | 7:30 am to 2 pm | 7:30 am to 5 pm |
| Thursday | 7:30 am to 5 pm | 7:30 am to 4 pm |
| Friday | 7:30 am to 3:45 pm | 7:30 am to 4 pm |
| Saturday | 8 am to 2 pm | 8 am to 2:30 pm |

TO MAKE A PLATELET DONATION: (514) 832-5000, ext. 408

| | By appointment only | Without an appointment |
|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Monday and Tuesday | 7:45 am to 5:45 pm | - |
| Wednesday | 7:45 am to 5:15 pm | - |
| Thursday and Friday | 7:45 am to 4:15 pm | - |
| Saturday | 8 am to 2:15 pm | - |

For the address and schedules of Globule Place Versailles and Globule Place Laurier, visit: www.hema-quebec.qc.ca.

BLOOD: FROM DONOR TO RECIPIENT

A blood donation is precious. This is why Héma-Québec staff processes it with great care, following the most stringent quality standards. Before it is delivered to hospitals, the blood that Héma-Québec collects is processed to produce its various components. Time is a key factor in blood collection and processing.

The process, step by step

Blood processing is subject to rigorous standards established by Health Canada that constitute Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP). The Transport Department brings the blood that has been collected to one of Héma-Québec's blood processing laboratories. Héma-Québec operates two such laboratories; one located in Montréal, and the other, in Quebec City.

Upon arrival at the lab, the precious load along with a form indicating the number of delivered boxes is taken care of without delay. Each box is opened to check that the temperature within is in compliance with standards established to ensure adequate preservation of the blood bags.

The blood donation files comprising data regarding each donor's contribution are then verified to determine whether the amount of donation files matches that of blood bags delivered.

The blood bags are registered in the PROGESA system, a blood management software application, and weighed. The software generates a work report, which is referred to and used by laboratory personnel throughout blood processing. The blood bag is also examined for the presence of stains or clots. The latter would indicate that the blood donation is in breach of safety standards and cannot proceed to the next step.



Blood Processing

Whole blood is first centrifuged to separate red blood cells from plasma. During the first centrifuge, the red blood cells are deposited at the bottom of the bag while the plasma and platelets remain in suspension. The platelet-rich plasma is then extracted into a satellite bag, in a closed circuit.

This bag full of platelet-rich plasma is then centrifuged to extract the platelets. The platelets must be produced within eight hours following blood donation to be in compliance with safety standards.

After this centrifuge step, the platelet bags are kept at room temperature for two hours, with no overlapping, to avoid formation of clots. The platelet bags will be stored at a controlled temperature and in such a way as to be shaken regularly.

Nothing remains in the original bag but the red blood cells to which will be added a nutrient solution, creating what is referred to as packed red blood cells. All products are stored in a quarantine area until a full set of analyses is completed.

Qualifying Blood

While the Blood Processing department prepares the blood components, another crucial task is undertaken at Héma-Québec laboratories, that of blood testing and analysis. All blood donations, without exception, are systematically subjected to a battery of rigorous tests.



Each test step is controlled and monitored to ensure quality results. Results are registered in the PROGESA computer system, which will link them to the appropriate blood donation information.

Labelling

Product labelling is undertaken once the blood components are produced and placed in quarantine, all tests and analyses are done, and results are registered in PROGESA. The platelet bags are labelled first since they have the shortest lifespan, followed by red blood cells and plasma bags.



A scanner device reads the bar code on each bag. Depending on the bar code information, the device either prints a label indicating that the product meets safety standards or a biohazard label. If a blood component does not meet safety standards, a biohazard label is printed. The substandard product is then destroyed.

Orders and dispatching

As soon as a safe product is labelled as such, it is ready to be distributed to Québec hospitals.

Operating on a 24-hour basis, seven days a week, the Orders and Dispatching Department takes orders from hospitals and prepares blood products for delivery.

DOING MORE, DOING IT BETTER AND DOING IT FASTER

Created in 1999, the Héma-Québec Foundation is a non-profit organization whose mission is to financially support the design and development of innovative projects to help keep Héma-Québec at the forefront of knowledge and services related to the supply of blood, stem cells (bone marrow and umbilical cord blood) and human tissues.

The Foundation can solicit and receive donations, legacies and other contributions in the form of currency, securities or real estate, and organize fundraising campaigns to support Héma-Québec's mission. For example, it can help finance special projects, such as the acquisition of specialized equipment or the establishment of programs for training the next generation of transfusion medicine specialists.

Thus, with the aid of the Foundation and of all the men and women who support it, Héma-Québec *will be able to do more, do it better and do it faster.*

Management

The Héma-Québec Foundation's Board of Directors comprises six members of the scientific, professional and business communities. On March 26, 2004, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. Claude Pichette as Director General of the Foundation.

You may recall that Mr. Pichette served as Chairman of Héma-Québec's Board of Directors from the organization's inception in 1998 to December 17, 2003. He brings with him a broad range of experience acquired in the public, semipublic and private sectors, particularly in his former capacity of Director General of the Armand-Frappier Foundation.

THE FOUNDATION'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Dr. Francine Décary, Chief Executive Officer of Héma-Québec

DIRECTOR GENERAL

Mr. Claude Pichette, former Chairman of the Héma-Québec Board of Directors

OTHER MEMBERS

Mr. Robert Bédard, consultant and former member of the Héma-Québec Board of Directors

Mr. Patrick Bérard, consultant

Mr. Miville Mercier, Eng., entrepreneur and Vice-President of the Board of the Association des bénévoles du don de sang

Mr. André Voyer, consultant

Current project

At its meeting of September 21, 2004, the Foundation's Board of Directors decided to contribute to the project for acquiring a mobile blood collection unit. Héma-Québec has developed a design for a mobile unit, a vehicle in which blood donations can be collected.

This method of collection will be notably used to reach a pool of potential donors working in industrial parks, where businesses lack the space necessary to set up a traditional blood drive. The eventual marketing of this mobile unit lies within the scope of Héma-Québec's five-year blood supply strategy.

The Association des bénévoles du don de sang Fund

The Association des bénévoles du don de sang (ABDS) has recently joined together with the Héma-Québec Foundation to form the Association des bénévoles du don de sang Fund. This partnership and fund structure will make it possible to finance the mobile unit project over a period of five years.



From left to right: Dr. Francine Décary, Héléne Darby, ABDS president and Claude Pichette, Director General of the Héma-Québec Foundation, along with Héma-Québec and ABDS representatives.

TO REACH THE HÉMA-QUÉBEC FOUNDATION

4045 Côte-Vertu Boulevard
Saint-Laurent, Québec H4R 2W7
Telephone: (514) 832-5000, ext. 372, or 1 888 666-HÉMA, ext. 372
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fondation@hema-quebec.qc.ca

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