



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Greetings to everyone,



2005-2006 was a pivotal year for Héma-Québec, with the drafting of a brand new vision that will guide all our activities over the next five years. While continuing to focus on our products and services, we will give more emphasis to

the fundamental importance of human capital. In fact, the excellence of our products and services depends on the quality of the day-to-day work by employees in all sectors of the organization.

Our initial vision from 1998 to 2005 consisted in securing Héma-Québec as the leader in its field. Now that we have reached the end of our timeline, we feel it's time to reassess our first years of existence. One cannot help but notice that we succeeded in innovating and standing out on several occasions on the Canadian, North American and international stages. We are very proud of our achievements, and also the fact that in such a short time we have become an organization that offers Québécois a reliable service and safe products.

This time, Héma-Québec intends to focus more on the invaluable contribution of its employees and partners, who figure prominently in our Vision 2005-2010: "Héma-Québec is driven by the commitment, support and recognition of its employees as well as the trust of its partners to remain the standard of quality and innovation with respect to the safe procurement of blood products, human tissues and stem cells." I am also proud to say that several employees had input in drafting this vision, in keeping with our new approach based on commitment, support and recognition of employees. In short, we hope that the organization will keep up its momentum by listening to our skilled employees and encouraging their initiatives.

Héma-Québec was not created in a vacuum; several partners had a hand in its growth and continue to play an essential role in the activities related to our three product lines: Blood products, stem cells and human tissues. Donors, volunteers, families, hospitals, government agencies, associations, companies, suppliers, universities or the media: Together, they form an impressive network of partners. Their invaluable contribution has helped us achieve our mission; Vision 2005-2010 illustrates this long-standing trust. This year, we had several opportunities to honour them. In the following pages, you will find articles about the various recognition evenings, and information about the regional public meetings tour that has taken us all over Québec to discuss issues with blood drive organizing committees, the media and the public.

Through the Héma-Québec Foundation, we have established a new partnership with the university milieu. With its Association of Blood Donation Volunteers Fund, the Foundation, along with Bayer and the CHUM Foundation, has created the Chair in Transfusion Medicine at Université de Montréal—an excellent means of contributing to the training of future hematologists. You can read more about the Foundation's activities in this issue.

On a more serious note, I will conclude by reminding you that the threat of an influenza pandemic still looms large. To minimize as much as possible the impact of such an event on the delivery of our services, we have developed a contingency plan. We have also updated our Business Continuity Plan and developed specific action plans for employees and communications management in the event of a crisis. Rest assured that we are already preparing to jump into action to guarantee an adequate supply of blood products to the population.



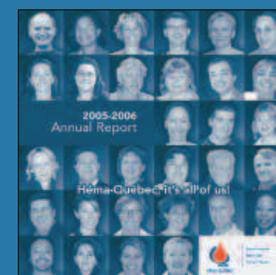
Dr. Francine Décary



2005-2006 ANNUAL REPORT

A FEW STATISTICS

Inside...



GO SHORT-SLEEVED THIS SUMMER GIVE BLOOD. GIVE LIFE.

It is on this sunny theme that Héma-Québec launched its 2006 summer campaign to encourage Québécois to donate blood, even in summer, even on vacation. Several tens of thousands of donors visited blood drives, GLOBULE centres and the mobile blood collection unit. Volunteers and dedicated organizing committees supported our teams in their work.

During this target period, a call to action strategy to donate blood and an outdoor poster campaign were set in motion. The campaign was marked by the unveiling of a new red T-shirt with an unusual design, i.e., two different sleeves—one long and one short. The left arm, which is uncovered, refers to the act of donating blood—an original way to represent and identify donors. In time, this item of clothing could become a trademark for the act of donating blood in Québec.

Some celebrities agreed to lend their voices and faces to the cause: Television host Guy Mongrain, Alouettes player Ed Phillion, actress Hélène Bourgeois-Leclerc, former member of the Montréal Canadiens Stéphane Quintal, and singer Mélanie Renaud.

Many honoured donors and several recipients also participated in press events, especially in the third edition of World Blood Donor Day, which took place on June 14. A special information booklet on the act of donating blood was also published in the *Journal de Montréal* and the *Journal de Québec*.



THE NEXT CAMPAIGN TO PROMOTE BLOOD DONATION

This fall will be as busy as ever in terms of raising awareness. As the summer draws to an end, Héma-Québec will launch its new advertising campaign, aimed essentially at persuading potential donors to give blood. According to statistics, this target audience, which represents approximately 25% of the eligible population, has expressed an intention to donate blood next year.

On a more encouraging tone, Héma-Québec is presenting the motivating factors and changes in attitude that lead to donating blood.

As has come to be expected, Héma-Québec's ads spotlight active blood donors who talk about their pride in helping to save lives.

As such, a 15-second video clip campaign will present donors addressing the public, in their everyday lives, on various topics and reasons for donating blood. Outdoor posters and Internet reminders will be used to support this campaign.

Although original and different, the campaign is in keeping with the previous "It's my pleasure!" campaign.

SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN PLASMA: CONSENSUS FORUM REPORT

A few months ago, with authorization from the Board of Directors, Héma-Québec Management organized a consultation on the management of plasma used for preparing stable products. This consensus forum, entitled "Self-sufficiency in plasma in Québec" attracted over 125 participants, including several Québec, Canadian, U.S., and international clients and partners.

The discussions focused on the sufficiency of the supply of intravenous immunoglobulins obtained from the plasma of Québec donors. At the end of the consultation, a consensus was reached on self-sufficiency for the needs of immunoglobulin-deficient patients, the outcome of which was to require the organization to increase its plasma collections.

You will find more details on this important event in the section of the Web site intended for hospitals. In addition to presentations by guest experts, you will find the eight issues addressed by participants, as well as reports of various workshops. This page also presents the three questions submitted to a vote and the results.

Web site (French only):
<http://www.hema-quebec.qc.ca/francais/hopitaux/forumplasma.htm>



DONOR QUALIFICATION

A CHECKLIST BEFORE HEADING OFF TO A SUNNY DESTINATION...

With the arrival of fall and the cold weather, many of you will be surely tempted to fly off in search of sun and warmth. Before planning your trip, you should be aware that Héma-Québec has identified some 100 tropical and subtropical countries (in some cases, only a few areas in these countries) as malaria risk zones.



To find out the eligibility criteria and the sun destinations that could lead to a temporary or a permanent blood donation exclusion, you can call Donor Services at 1-800-847-2525, from Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

REDUCTION IN THE EXCLUSION TIME FOR CERTAIN CRITERIA

Héma-Québec maintains an epidemiological watch on the many technological advances in the field of screening for blood-borne diseases. Based on the latest medical research and in keeping with CSA (Canadian Standards Association) standards on blood and blood products, the temporary exclusion period for blood donation has been reduced from 12 to 6 months in the following cases:

- Acupuncture
- Injury by a contaminated needle
- Contact with blood
- Cocaine use (through the nose)
- Electrolysis
- Body piercing
- Sexual relations with a partner whose sexual past is unknown or who has received coagulation factors
- Tattoo

If you are currently temporarily excluded for one of these criteria, you MUST call 1-800-847-2525 BEFORE visiting a blood drive. Héma-Québec representatives will assess your eligibility for giving blood based on the revised criteria.

For more information on blood donation qualification criteria, go to the Héma-Québec Web site at www.hema-quebec.qc.ca.

WE VALUE YOUR COMMENTS

We would like to know your opinion of the contents of *Info Héma-Québec*. Please send your comments and suggestions to the following address: info@hema-quebec.qc.ca

APPOINTMENTS TO HÉMA-QUÉBEC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Héma-Québec Board of Directors comprises representatives from the entire transfusion chain. Note that there have been several changes in its members. On December 14, 2005, the interim Chair, Cheryl Campbell Steer, President of Campbell Steer & Associés, was officially appointed as Chair of the Board of Directors. A new Vice-chair was also appointed—Dr. Lucie Poitras, Assistant Executive Director, University and Medical Affairs, Sainte-Justine Hospital.

The Executive Committee is now made up of Cheryl Campbell Steer, Hélène Darby, Dr. Francine Décary, Dr. Lucie Poitras and Christian Gendron.

Also, on April 26 and June 28, 2006 the Québec government appointed two new directors by decree:



Dr. Martin A. Champagne, Director of the hematopoietic transplant program and blood bank of Sainte-Justine Hospital



Dr. William K. Li Pi Shan, anesthesiologist at McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) – Royal Victoria Hospital and assistant professor in the Department of Anesthesia, McGill Faculty of Medicine

They were chosen from among the individuals recommended by the Federation of Medical Specialists of Québec to represent transfusion physicians.

We thank them for their commitment to the blood donation cause.

TISSUE DONATION, IT'S THE HUMAN THING TO DO

THE DONATION OF ORGANS AND TISSUES IS AN ACT OF TREMENDOUS GENEROSITY BY THE DONOR AND A SHOW OF CONSIDERABLE COURAGE BY THE FAMILY. IT MAY SEEM FAR OFF WHEN YOU ARE ALIVE AND WELL, BUT IT IS SO IMPORTANT TO SAVE A LIFE OR IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF SOMEONE AWAITING A TRANSPLANT.

Authorized healthcare professionals will soon be able to check online, 24/7, 365 days a year, for people who have consented to donate their organs or tissues after death.

Since May 1, 2006, they have been granted access to a registry of organ and tissue donation consent gradually, according to the implementation plan. This registry was recently created at the initiative of the Chambre des notaires du Québec, in collaboration with Québec-Transplant and Héma-Québec, the respective organizations responsible for organs and human tissues. Its goal is to record the consent given by people who use a notary to draft a will or a power of attorney. Note that every year notaries meet with about 4% of Québec's adult population for the purpose of drawing up wills and powers of attorney.

The new online registry makes it possible to quickly check whether a person has consented to organ and human tissue donation, thereby assuring the consenting individuals that their final wishes will be respected. The registry also assures the family that the consent was given voluntarily, before a witness, by someone in full possession of his or her intellectual faculties.

This registry works in tandem with the organ donor card system (sticker affixed to the back of the health insurance card).

There is a growing need for organs and human tissues, specifically because of the aging population. However, the registry should have a significant impact in the coming years, giving more hope to patients awaiting a transplant.

For more information on human tissue donation, click the Human Tissues tab on the Héma-Québec Web site at www.hema-quebec.qc.ca or call 1-800-267-9711, ext. 2237.

HOSPITALS: INVALUABLE PARTNERS

Every month, the Hospital Relations and Inventory department, logs up 12,000 incoming and outgoing calls, in addition to receiving 4,800 orders from hospitals, comprising 4,100 orders for labile products and 700 for stable products. This makes a grand total of 32,000 products delivered. To keep our hospital partners well informed, Héma-Québec prepares and distributes on average 10 information circulars on available products, activities and news; these circulars are also published on the Web site (www.hema-quebec.qc.ca). In other words, Héma-Québec maintains close ties and has frequent and varied discussions with its hospital customers.



Furthermore, on May 25, 2006, some one hundred hospital blood bank employees toured our facilities in Québec City. They were welcomed by the Hospital Relations and Inventory department, which had put together a dynamic team of volunteers for the occasion to ensure things went smoothly. The visitors were given an extensive tour, lasting over three hours, during which they saw how blood drives are prepared and visited the following departments: Transportation, Processing, Labelling, Customer/Hospital Services, Shipping, Quality Control and Erythrocyte Reference Laboratory, as well as the Research and Development and Human Tissues facilities. They said they were delighted with their experience and surprised at the diversity of the work done.

On this occasion, the hospitals represented were located in the greater Québec City area and Eastern Québec:

- CSSS de Rimouski-Neigette
- CSSS D'Arthabaska-Érable
- CSSS Beauce
- CSSS Baie-des-Chaleurs
- CHR Trois-Rivières
- CSSS Montmagny-L'Islet
- CH St-Joseph de la Malbaie
- CHUQ (Université Laval Hospital)
- Hôtel-Dieu de Lévis
- CSSS Manicouagan
- CSSS de Rivière-du-Loup
- CSSS de Kamouraska
- CHA Hôpital de l'Enfant-Jésus
- Hôpital Laval
- CSSS de Matane
- CSSS de Québec-Nord
- Hôpital St-François d'Assise



Once again this fall, several members of Héma-Québec management are meeting with partners in many regions of Québec during the regional public meetings. The 2006 itinerary features some 10 new cities in order to complete the tour that was launched last year.



From left to right: Dr. Francine Décary, Héma-Québec's Chief Executive Officer, and Ms. Andrée Telles, recipient, at a public meeting in Longueuil.

The purpose of these meetings is to thank the members of the blood drive organizing committees and discuss subjects of interest to them.

Accordingly, Héma-Québec representatives update participants on the activities accomplished during the year and the organization's projects. It is also an opportunity to talk about blood donation awareness measures and the conditions for a successful blood drive.

An excellent opportunity to inform community partners of Héma-Québec's accomplishments. Consider this an invitation!

2006 REGIONAL PUBLIC MEETINGS

Date	City	Place	Time
October 11	Joliette	Château Joliette	7 pm
October 16	New Richmond	Le Francis Hotel	7 pm
October 17	Rimouski	Rimouski Hotel	7 pm
October 30	Montréal-Ouest	Four Points Hotel	7 pm
November 1	Gatineau	Clarion Hotel	7 pm
November 7	St-Georges	Le Georgesville Hotel	7 pm
November 22	Rouyn-Noranda	Gouverneur Hotel	7 pm
November 29	Laval	Château Royal	7 pm

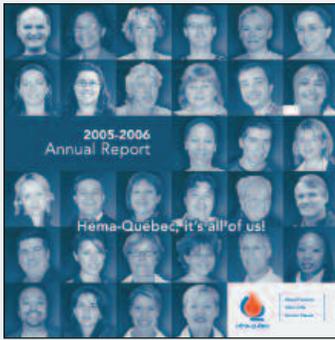
HÉMA-QUÉBEC SHINES BRIGHT!

Although taking part is really important, it's still nice to come out the winner! Again this year, Héma-Québec managed to earn several awards and distinctions on the Québec, Canadian and even international stages. These awards recognize both personal and corporate achievements. Héma-Québec is proud to share these highlights with you, presented here in chronological order:

- Top 100 Competition (*print, video and Web communications*), League of American Communications Professionals, ranked 52nd among over 850 Web sites entered, September 2005.
- Spotlight Awards 2005 (*Web/Intranet site*), League of American Communications Professionals, Platinum award (first place), September 2005. On average, 9,910 Internet surfers (separate computers) visited the Héma-Québec Web site each month. The schedule of blood drives for the week, in French and English, is viewed more than 79,000 times per year.
- 15th edition of the FLÈCHE D'OR competition 2005, Association du marketing relationnel, Flèche d'argent in the category *Fundraising/INPO* for the marketing of the GLOBULE Blood Donor Centre Loyalty program, November 2, 2005.
- Prix du Québec, Armand-Frappier award 2005, to Dr. Francine Décary, Québec City, November 8, 2005.
- 4th edition of the competition Pleins feux sur l'innovation dans le secteur de la santé (Spotlight on innovation in the health sector), Association paritaire pour la santé et la sécurité du travail du secteur affaires sociales (ASSTSAS), jury prize in the category *Solution d'une problématique santé et sécurité au projet ERGO TAN (Solution of a health and safety problem in the ERGO NAT project)*, May 2006.
- Prix Équinoxes competition 2006, Société des relationnistes du Québec, Prix Équinoxe, category *Internal public relations program*, "Héma-Québec, Mieux connaître et mieux faire", May 2006.
- Awards of Excellence 2006, The Canadian Public Relations Society, Award of Merit, category *Internal communications*, "Héma-Québec, Mieux connaître et mieux faire", June 2006.
- Prix de la Santé, Fondation Armand-Frappier, awarded to Dr. Francine Décary in recognition of the success of a company working in the human health, animal health, environment or agri-food sectors, and the role it plays in its field, June 2006.
- Prix Laurier 2006, Assemblée annuelle des marchands de Place Laurier, Laurier d'argent, Place Laurier GLOBULE Blood Donor Centre, June 19, 2006.



In addition to this prestigious list, we should mention the research and travel grants awarded to our researchers. An impressive outreach that confirms our company's position in its field!

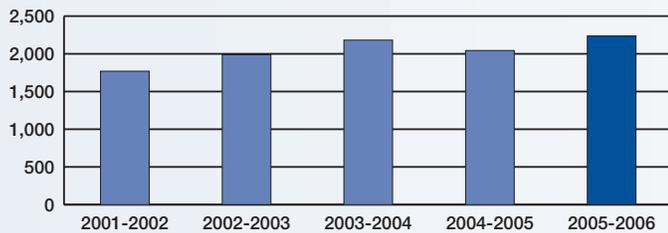


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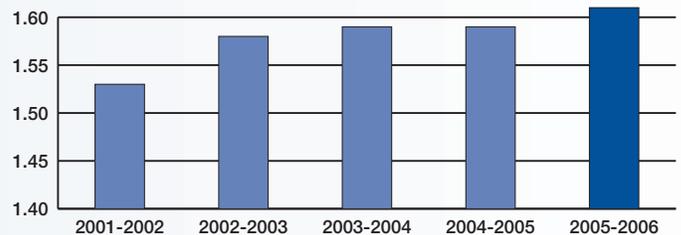
Fulfilling Héma-Québec's mission is a constant challenge. Efficiently providing Québec hospitals with a safe supply of blood products, stem cells and human tissues is made possible through the invaluable support of numerous partners, including donors and volunteers. The following tables and charts are taken from the 2005-2006 annual report for the three product lines.

Number of days of blood drives



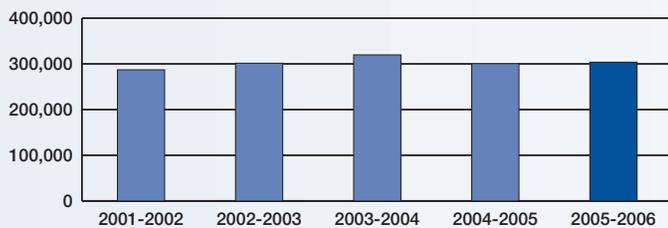
The number of days of blood drives across Québec rose from 2,044 last year to 2,236 this year.

Average number of donations per blood donor



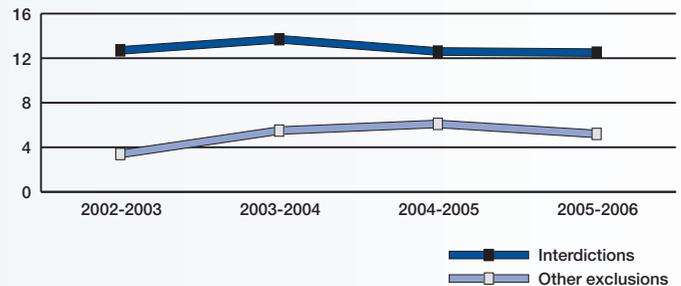
The average number of donations per donor increased slightly this year, as did the total number of blood donations collected, to reach 1.61. This represents a 1.1% increase.

Number of registered blood donors (whole blood)



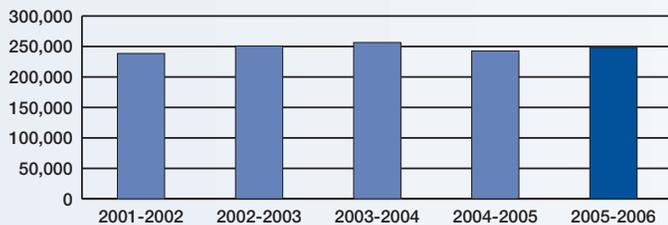
In 2005-2006, the number of registered blood donors increased slightly due to recruitment efforts made in the Québec City area. A total of 304,026 people registered to give blood, compared with 300,364 last year.

Proportion (%) of donors who could not make a donation



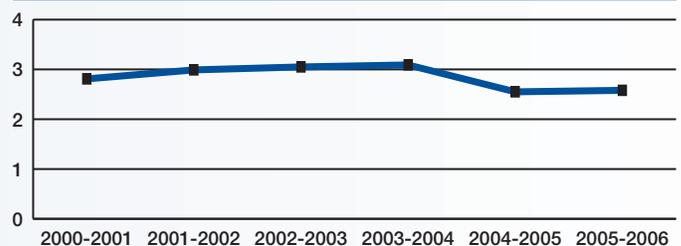
The proportion of excluded donors decreased in comparison with last year. As such, 12.5% of registered donors in 2005-2006 could not make a donation because of regulatory restrictions. In addition, 5.2% of registered donors were unable to make a donation in 2005-2006 for various reasons such as discomfort or simply leaving the blood drive site.

Number of donations collected (whole blood)



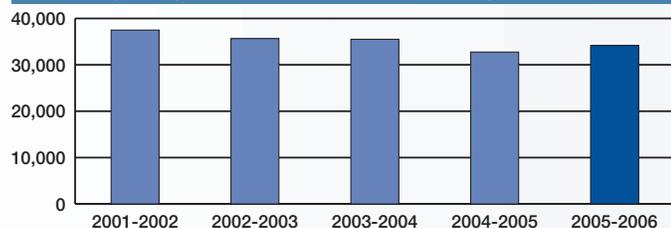
In 2005-2006, a total of 248,386 blood donations were collected, corresponding to an increase of 2.3% compared with the previous year. The Greater Montréal area experienced a decrease in the number of collections, but this was offset by an increase in the volume of collections in the Québec City area.

Proportion (%) of people who gave blood among all people age 18 and over in Québec



The proportion of blood donors among the population rose slightly to 2.58% in 2005-2006. The number of people old enough to give blood increased, following the removal of the upper age limit for blood donors in Québec. Furthermore, data previously used on the Québec population dated back to 2001 and were updated by the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux du Québec.

Number of new registered whole-blood donors (including designated donations, but excluding directed ones)



In 2005-2006, the number of new blood donors climbed to 34,136, an increase of 4% compared with 2004-2005. New donors represent 11.2% of the total number of blood donors. This year, the number of new directed donors who gave blood is excluded from the graph, but not the number of new excluded designated donors. This creates a very slight overestimation of the number of new donors in the graph.

Labile blood products delivered to hospitals

PRODUCTS	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006
Packed red cells	211,901	221,659	223,723	220,215	221,256
Platelets from whole blood	114,305	107,612	98,114	71,284	55,295
Equivalent-platelets by apheresis*	9,600	21,170	33,875	58,950	80,945
Total platelets	123,905	128,782	131,989	130,234	136,240
Plasma from whole blood	33,481	39,324	46,090	46,999	45,535
Equivalent-plasma by apheresis*	13,978	16,400	16,462	14,340	14,998
Total plasma	47,459	55,724	62,552	61,339	60,533
Cryoprecipitate	12,102	12,685	12,888	11,568	13,451
Cryoprecipitate supernatants	6,714	6,593	10,866	8,768	8,910
Total	402,081	425,443	442,018	432,124	440,390

* One bag of platelets by apheresis is equivalent to the quantity of platelets derived from five bags of whole blood. One bag of plasma by apheresis is equivalent to the quantity of plasma from two bags of whole blood.

The organization delivered 440,390 labile blood products, including 221,256 units of packed red cells to meet hospital needs. This represents an increase of 8,266 products compared with the previous year.

Annual proportion (%) of donations confirmed positive for each virology marker

MARKERS	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006
HIV	0.0004%	0.0008%	0.0004%	0.002%	0.000%
HCV	0.0119%	0.009%	0.0160%	0.011%	0.005%
HBV	0.0123%	0.0082%	0.01%	0.015%	0.009%
HTLV	0.0008%	0.0016%	0.0039%	0.001%	0.001%
Syphilis	0.011%	0.0094%	0.0105%	0.010%	0.009%
Total number of donations tested	238,532	250,861	256,518	242,720	269,939

The prevalence of markers of infection in donors has remained stable through the years. Apparent fluctuations are not statistically significant. The rate for the HIV marker, after having increased slightly last year, is back to zero almost (0.0004%) since only one case has been reported this year. The 2005-2006 annual rates include thrombapheresis and plasmapheresis donations, whereas in previous years, the rates only took into account packed red cells.

Number of registrations in the Stem Cell Donor Registry

	2002	2003	2004	2005
Québec	36,867	36,445	35,227	34,547
Canada	223,430	218,500	217,521	221,836
Worldwide	8,500,000	9,000,000	9,600,000	10,300,000

The number of registered donors in the Québec Registry decreased somewhat compared with the previous calendar year, even though 692 new donors were added. This decrease is due mainly to a dip in the active recruitment of new donors and to the removal of registered donors over age 60, the age limit after which they can no longer belong to the Registry.

Public Cord Blood Bank

ACTIVITIES FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAM UNTIL MARCH 31, 2006

Registrations	1158
Qualified parturients	868
Cords collected	626
Cords treated	153

The difference between the number of qualifications, eligible future mothers registered, and the number of cords collected can be explained by various factors at the time of delivery.

The difference between the number of cords collected and the number of cords stored:

- Insufficient volume collected (< 120 mL, including the anticoagulant solution);
- Insufficient number of nucleated cells (< 1.0×10^9 , according to the international standard).

Number of tissue donors collected on

83 human tissue donors	32 bone tissue donors
	22 heart tissue donors
	29 donors of both types of tissue

A total of 243 bone grafts were distributed this year, compared with 67 last year; of this number, there were 128 grafts of morcelized bone, a new product that was offered this year in response to a demand from surgeons.

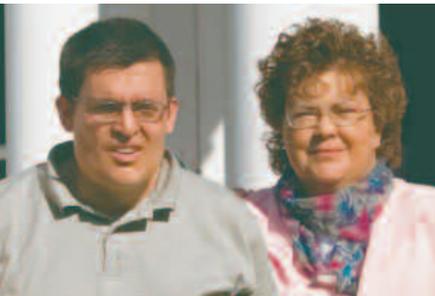
Number of bone grafts distributed to hospitals

	2004-2005	2005-2006
Morcelized bone	N/A	128
Head of femur	24	55
Other	43	60
Total	67	243

We encourage you to read the complete annual report for 2005-2006 on our Web site at www.hema-quebec.qc.ca

TURNING ADVERSITY INTO INSPIRATION

Last May, Lise Soucy-Décary wrote this letter about her son's experience as a blood donor. This 25-year-old's motivations and commitment are a true source of inspiration, particularly for the next generation of blood donors.



Hello,

I'm writing because I would like to tell you my story, as well as that of my son.

On Christmas Day 1999, I had a silent myocardial infarction. At the time, my children were 18, 15 and 8 years old. As a result of several serious complications, I spent an entire year in the hospital (from December 25, 1999 to December 8, 2000). I had three

cardiac surgeries, including a nine-hour open heart surgery. I also received several transfusions of blood, albumin and plasma because my entire system had practically shut down. I had some 20 blood transfusions—and that's not counting the ones I received during my open-heart surgery. It was a very difficult time for the whole family, but we made it through.

After this experience, my son Éric, who was 18 at the time, started giving blood. He's been a regular donor ever since, and will make his 25th blood donation in June.

A while ago, I asked him: "What are you going to do when you reach 25 donations?" He smiled and said: "Well, Mom, I'll just keep going until I hit 50 donations." How wonderful to hear this from a young person!

For me, it's an expression of gratitude. I'm so proud of him. I'm inspired by the fact that a young man of 25 has already made 25 blood donations. What a touching display of courage and selflessness.

Thank you for your time. Keep up your excellent work.

Ms. Lise Soucy-Décary

BLOOD TYPE COMPATIBILITY

		DONOR							
		O-	O+	B-	B+	A-	A+	AB-	AB+
RECIPIENT	AB+	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	AB-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	A+	✓	✓			✓	✓		
	A-	✓				✓			
	B+	✓	✓	✓	✓				
	B-	✓		✓					
	O+	✓	✓						
	O-	✓							

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.

INFO-DRIVE

In the Montréal Area and Western Québec

514-832-0873 or
1-800-343-SANG (7264)

In the Québec City Area and Eastern Québec

418-780-SANG (7264)
or 1-800-761-6610

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

NEW OPENING HOURS FOR GLOBULE CÔTE-VERTU

4045 Côte-Vertu Blvd.
Saint-Laurent

Open 7 days a week

With or without an appointment

514-832-5000, ext. 185
or 1-888-666-4362, ext. 185



Taking its cue from the other GLOBULE Blood Donor Centres located in shopping malls in Place Laurier in Québec City and Place Versailles in Montréal, Héma-Québec's Blood Donor Centre at 4045 Côte-Vertu Boulevard in Saint-Laurent has been open to blood donors seven days a week, since August 7. To better accommodate donors' schedules, the team is pleased to welcome donors with or without an appointment for blood or platelet donations.

FOR BLOOD DONATION

	By appointment	Without appointment
Monday	7:45 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm
Tuesday	7:45 am to 7:30 pm	8 am to 6 pm
Wednesday	7:45 am to 7:30 pm	8 am to 6 pm
Thursday	7:45 am to 5:15 pm	8 am to 4 pm
Friday	7:45 am to 4:45 pm	8 am to 4 pm
Saturday	8:15 am to 2:30 pm	8:30 am to 2 pm
Sunday	8:30 am to 1:15 pm	9 am to 12 pm

FOR PLATELETS DONATION

By appointment only

Monday	7 am to 6 pm
Tuesday and Wednesday	7 am to 7:30 pm
Thursday and Friday	7 am to 4 pm
Saturday	7 am to 2:45 pm
Sunday	7:30 am to 2 pm

TRIBUTE TO OUR PARTNERS



VOLUNTEERS' INVALUABLE SUPPORT FOR THE BLOOD SUPPLY

Under the "Partner for Life" recognition program, Héma-Québec annually showcases the commitment and importance of its volunteers. Last April, as part of National Volunteer Week, 18 award winners were honoured during four recognition evenings held in Montréal and Québec City.

These award winners, chosen from among a group of particularly illustrious 2005 finalists, had all made an exceptional contribution to Héma-Québec's mission as volunteers (young volunteers, volunteers, regional volunteers and blood donation promotion volunteers) or as members of various blood drive organizing committees (community, corporate, government, school, cultural communities and media, members of the Association of Blood Donor Volunteers, blood recipients acting as spokespersons or honorary president).

MONTRÉAL AND WESTERN QUÉBEC AWARD WINNERS

Volunteers



From left to right: Mr. Miville C. Mercier, Volunteer – Blood Donation Promotion, Mr. André Roch, Héma-Québec's Vice-President, Public Affairs, Ms. Mireille Biage, Volunteer, Mr. Yvan Charbonneau, Héma-Québec's Vice-president, Operations, Ms. Gilberte Sarrazin, Regional Volunteer, Ms. Zoé Yamani, Young Volunteer with Dr. Francine Décary, Héma-Québec's Chief Executive Officer.

Blood drive organizing committees



From left to right: Ms. Denise Charron from Centre communautaire de Verchères, Mr. Norman Girard from Ville de Laval, Mr. Mohinder Gulati from Hindu Mandir, Mr. Guy Lefrançois from Pensionnat des Sacrés-Cœurs, Ms. Diane Lauzon from Centre de services Sears, Dr. Francine Décary, Héma-Québec's Chief Executive Officer and Mr. Sébastien Michaud from Boom FM 105,3 Énergie 92,1.

QUÉBEC CITY AND EASTERN QUÉBEC AWARD WINNERS

Volunteers



From left to right: Mr. Guimond Breton, Volunteer – Blood Donation Promotion, Ms. Noëlla Turgeon, Regional Volunteer, Mr. François Olivier, Young Volunteer, Ms. Alvyne Gendron, Volunteer with Dr. Francine Décary, Héma-Québec's Chief Executive Officer.

Blood drive organizing committees



From left to right: Mr. Marc Breton from Faucons du Cégep Lévis-Lauzon, Mr. Raymond Croteau from Daveluyville Knights of Columbus, Council 7890, Ms. Liliane Laverdière from Mouvement Desjardins, Dr. Francine Décary, Héma-Québec's Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Steeve Fortin from La Sûreté du Québec, MRC Lotbinière and Mr. Steve Hayes from TQS Québec.

DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS

GREAT BLOOD DONATION AMBASSADOR



Mr. Louis-Georges Proulx, a blood donor from Châteauguay, passed the 300-donation mark in 2005. He has been honoured for his commitment at the Longueuil recognition evening.

In Québec, some 2,563 blood donors have exceeded the 100-donation mark and earned the title of “Great Blood Donation Ambassador.” Every year, Héma-Québec organizes activities to showcase the exceptional contribution of these anonymous heroes who have made giving blood their civic duty.

This year, 672 donors from all corners of Québec were honoured during recognition evenings held in Trois-Rivières, Montréal, Laval, Québec City and Longueuil. Dr. Francine Décary, President and Chief Executive Officer of Héma-Québec, was very pleased and proud to present a recognition certificate to the stars of these events. Congratulations to all honoured donors!

RECOGNITION FOR UNRELATED STEM CELL DONORS

Every year, individuals are honoured by Héma-Québec for having made an allogenic stem cell donation. This recognition evening is an opportunity for donors, recipients and Héma-Québec employees to meet and discuss their feelings about their experience with the stem cell transplant process.

An event hosting some dozen donors was also attended by Leïlani Piette, a young stem cell transplant recipient, and Julie W. Ouimette, a cord blood transplant recipient. They thanked all the donors present personally, and on behalf of all transplant patients, and presented them with a souvenir plaque as a token of their generosity.

Anyone interested in joining the Stem Cell Donor Registry or wishing to obtain an information kit can call the Héma-Québec coordinator at: 1-800-565-6635, ext. 279 or 280.



From left to right: Mr. Andy Mak, Ms. Sarah Pilon-Savoie, Ms. Tania-Marie Iacourto, Ms. Andrée Barbeau Audet, Ms. Jocelyne Béliveau, Mr. Pierre Duguas, Ms. Leïlani Piette (recipient, bone marrow), Mr. Serge Boudreau, Ms. Julie W. Ouimette (recipient, cord blood), Mr. Marc Dumouchel, Dr. Francine Décary, Héma-Québec's Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Geneviève Gareau (donor, cord blood) and Ms. Lucie Godère.

TESTIMONIAL ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE STEM CELL DONOR REGISTRY

I got up on the morning of March 26, 2004, and, like in a nightmare where you don't wake up, I was told the terrible news. Leïlani, you have leukemia! From that moment on, my life became completely meaningless. My life as a young 24-year-old communications student, of assignments to be handed in the next day, of research to be done, of outings and playing pool suddenly ceased to exist. My world had caved in! I had been propelled into a parallel universe, one of chemotherapy, isolation, transfusions, scanners, x-rays. A medical universe which, for most people, exists only in the movies.

I quickly had to learn to overcome my fear, even the fear that never lets you forget your condition, even for a second. The little voice that too often reminded me that I might perhaps leave this world, without ever again experiencing the thrill of love at first sight, without ever again feeling that someone found me beautiful and desirable, without ever having the opportunity to watch a baby grow up and call me mo

After eight months of chemotherapy, my doctor told me that someone with a blood makeup very similar to mine was willing to give me his bone marrow, which would significantly increase my chances of survival. Since my sister and I weren't a close enough match, I received an unrelated bone marrow transplant, which so far has been a success.

Someone with a heart as big as the Earth gave me a donation that I'll never forget. And we're lucky enough this evening to be joined by several of these people with a heart of gold who, with the help of an exceptional medical staff—in this case that of Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital and Héma-Québec—make miracles happen. On behalf of everyone like me who has benefited from your generosity, I say a thousand thanks, even though “thank you” doesn't come close to my true feelings toward you. Unfortunately, this feeling is far larger than what words can express.

Last week, I went to Maisonneuve-Rosemont to visit a friend who had just given birth to an adorable little baby, and while I was watching Félix, asleep in my arms, I realized that this hospital is not just a place where lives come to an end—there are also many that begin here, like mine.

Leïlani Piette

By Claude Pichette, Director General

In 2005-2006, the Foundation's regular revenues increased by over 50% and the number of donors rose significantly, making it increasingly well positioned to play a significant role. Over the years, the Foundation has received large amounts of funding, allowing it to build up substantial assets and support two major projects: the GLOBULE mobile blood donation unit, and the Chair in Transfusion Medicine at Université de Montréal. Specifically, it gave \$220,000 to fund these two major endeavours undertaken in partnership with the Association of Blood Donation Volunteers (ABDV) Fund, as well as Bayer and the Fondation du Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal (CHUM). These projects are major innovations for both Héma-Québec and transfusion medicine in general. They are also a most eloquent demonstration of how the Foundation is fulfilling its mission by helping Héma-Québec TO DO MORE, TO DO IT BETTER and DO IT FASTER.



Mr. Patrick Bérard receiving a sculpture in recognition of the creation of the fund that bears his name with Ms. Monique Lefebvre, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Héma-Québec Foundation, and Dr. Francine Décary, Héma-Québec's Chief Executive Officer.

For the first time, a named endowment fund was created for the Foundation. Patrick Bérard, a member of the Foundation's Board of Directors, created the Patrick Bérard Fund in recognition of the Héma-Québec donors who contributed to the 300 transfusions which saved his life several years ago. To kick off his fund, Patrick—with the help of friends and the Foundation—organized a terrific event that raised over \$50,000. This event was particularly important since it was the Foundation's first public activity. The Patrick Bérard Fund joins ranks with the Foundation's two other existing funds: The Association of Blood Donation Volunteers Fund and the Stem Cell Fund.

In 2005-2006, the Foundation also launched its planned giving program, via life insurance contracts purchased by its first participants. Under this program, individuals purchase life insurance policies and designate the Foundation as the beneficiary. In return, these individuals receive a tax receipt for the premiums paid during the year. Legacy donations are the other component of the planned giving program.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to the generosity of the many companies and people who give donations, the Foundation is able to work towards achieving Héma-Québec's mission. Our warmest thanks to them!

2006-2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At its 6th meeting, held on May 30, 2006, members elected the following individuals to sit on the Foundation's Board of Directors for the 2006-2007 fiscal year:

- Robert Bédard, Co-founder of the Association of Blood Donation Volunteers, SSQ Vie retiree
- Laurent Benarrous, Vice-president, Jones Lang LaSalle
- Patrick Bérard, Management Consultant
- Dr. Francine Décary, Chief Executive Officer of Héma-Québec, Vice-chair of the Foundation's Board
- Gilles Gauthier, FCA, Gauthier Canuel Comptables agréés
- Mtre. Pierre Gauthier, Lawyer, Cain Lamarre Casgrain Wells
- Monique Lefebvre, Company Director and Business Coaching Consultant, Chair of the Foundation's Board
- Miville Mercier, Engineer
- Claude Pichette, Director General of the Foundation
- Anne-Marie Sicard, Chartered Accountant, KPMG

For further information, visit: www.hema-quebec.qc.ca



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