HELP ROLL UP OUR SLEEVES
The mission of the Héma-Québec Foundation is to provide financial support for the creation and development of innovative projects that will help to keep Héma-Québec at the forefront of knowledge and services in all their areas of activity and expertise, allowing them to do more, do it better and do it faster.
We thank the members of the Board of Directors for volunteering their expertise and ability in service of the Foundation. With their help, the Foundation can meet its fundraising objectives and stand out as an important force in Québec.

Executive Committee  
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Chair  
M. Philippe Rainville  
Vice-Chair  
Ms. Myriam Duguay, EEE, CPA, CA, CA-EJC  
Chair of the Audit Committee  
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Executive Director, Héma-Québec Foundation  

Audit Committee  
Ms. Myriam Duguay, EEE, CPA, CA, CA-EJC  
M. Robert Landry, CMA  
M. Miville Mercier, Engineer
A transition year

2011-2012 was a year of transition for the Foundation. The simultaneous arrival of a new President and CEO at Héma-Québec, as well as a new Chairman of the Board of Directors at the Foundation led the members of the Board to revisit the Foundation’s positioning, its funding sources and the very nature of the projects it will undertake in the five coming years.

An average yearly increase of 3% in demand for products (blood, stem cells and human tissue), as well as the extremely promising results we’ve seen for the therapeutic potential of IVIg in the treatment of Alzheimer’s, along with other prospects that would allow Héma-Québec to make increased use of its existing expertise (in particular to create a public breast milk bank with the potential to save the lives of countless premature babies), are all good reasons to keep up your support of the Foundation.

Unlike many other places in the world, in Québec, blood is not a commercial good. For that reason I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the tens of thousands of people in Québec who have given of themselves to make the invaluable gift of blood. The Héma-Québec Foundation was created to shoulder some of the load for Héma-Québec: to help them do more, do it better and do it faster. And it’s thanks to generous contributors like you that the Foundation is able to achieve this. Thank you so much for your loyal support.

Posthumously and on behalf of all the members of the Board of Directors, I would also like to thank the late Monique Lefebvre, who served as President of the Héma-Québec Foundation from 2005 to 2011. It was under her leadership that this organization truly took flight. This great advocate for the cause of blood donation left us in 2012. Having benefitted from countless transfusions during her illness, Monique Lefebvre knew firsthand how crucial it is for Québec to have a strong blood supply, and through her actions and involvement she contributed greatly to making this happen. Few people are aware of this, but our blood bank is the envy of many countries around the world. Let’s make sure it stays that way.
Laurent Benarrous
Chairman of the Board of Directors,
Héma-Québec Foundation

Laurent Benarrous
Chairman of the Board of Directors,
Héma-Québec Foundation
A word from the President of Héma-Québec

The Héma-Québec Foundation plays a crucial role in helping Héma-Québec make advancements in research and reduce the delay between the time a discovery is made and its application in a medical context, for the benefit of all.

In the past year alone, I have witnessed many successes on this front. Resources have been engaged to prepare the ground for innovative projects and investments that will take Héma-Québec even farther in its pursuit of excellence.

Very exciting among these projects is the promising potential of cellular and tissue therapy for the treatment of many diseases, as well as the institution of a public breast milk bank in Québec that will save the lives of many premature babies.

The Foundation also financially supports the Association of Blood Donation Volunteers, an essential link in the mission carried out by Héma-Québec. These volunteers make our work possible.

On behalf of Héma-Québec, I thank you for your trust and generosity. You inspire us to go farther. Héma-Québec is a leader in its field in Québec and around the world thanks to quality products and top-of-the-line laboratories and equipment... And it’s because of the support of an involved community that we’ve been able to build this great organization.

Once again, thank you for your support. Together we can accomplish even more!
Jean De Serres, M.D., M. Sc., M.B.A.
President et Chief Executive Officer,
Héma-Québec
Runner Julie Buchinger supports the Héma-Québec Foundation.
RUN TO GIVE LIFE!

Thanks to a significant sponsorship from our partners at Terumo BCT, the Run to give life was officially launched last May.

The funds we raise will allow the ABDV to continue to run awareness activities at Héma-Québec blood drive locations, and in CEGEPs and universities.

There’s no minimum fundraising requirement. Learn more about the event on our website, at http://fondation.hema-quebec.qc.ca/evenements/donnez-la-vie-en-courant/. Signing up only takes a few clicks, and an online donation form makes it easy for people to sponsor you!
Year after year, in accordance with the strategic direction of Héma-Québec, the Foundation takes responsibility for funding many projects and services, all of which have an impact on the health and well-being of the Québec population. Here are the projects that were made possible this year thanks to your donations.
TO INNOVATE
Héma-Québec has received the results of a study conducted by a committee of experts on the possibility of launching a public breast milk bank. A project of this nature would come into play in certain specific situations, including cases of extremely premature infants who cannot be breastfed by their mothers.

The primary goal of the study was to identify and confirm, using medical and scientific data, the benefits of banked milk in premature babies, and to evaluate the quantity of milk required for an eventual milk bank, as well as the number of donors that would be needed, and recruitment strategies that could be used.

Another aspect of the study consisted of identifying the risks associated with running a breast milk bank, and how it would integrate with other Héma-Québec activities. The study also needed to determine how much investment would be necessary, produce a financial model, and finally, assess whether Héma-Québec is in a position to take charge of Québec’s public breast milk bank.

The model evaluated by the study had been adapted for a Québec context, and was primarily based on the possibility of offering hospitals pasteurized, safe breast milk with recognized nutritional value. This breast milk bank would be integrated into Héma-Québec’s existing structure.

The study not only confirmed that Héma-Québec is very well positioned to take charge of the project, but also that the creation of a public breast milk bank would have a significant impact on the healthcare system by reducing the number and duration of hospitalizations related to necrotizing enterocolitis, as well as the number of surgeries and deaths. These improvements represent savings of $1.25 million annually.
ENCOURAGING RESEARCH ON THE THERAPEUTIC POTENTIAL OF IVIg

Intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIg) is a therapeutic blood product made up of human immunoglobulin extracted from the plasma of thousands of blood donors. It’s commonly used to compensate for the lack of immunoglobulin in patients with immune deficiencies. For the past thirty years, IVIg has also been used to treat a growing number of autoimmune and inflammatory diseases (immune thrombocytopenia, Kawasaki disease, Guillain–Barré syndrome…) and to prevent infection and rejection after a bone marrow transplant.

Two small-scale studies carried out on patients with Alzheimer’s disease revealed that patients who were administered IVIg for six months showed signs of stabilization by the end of treatment, and in some cases improvement was even seen. These encouraging results led to larger scale clinical trials, in order to properly measure the therapeutic effects of IVIg on Alzheimer’s disease. These trials are currently underway. The first results are expected to be revealed in the next few months.

In 2009, researchers Renée Bazin (Héma-Québec) and Frédéric Calon (Faculty of Pharmacy, Université Laval) submitted a proposal for collaboration to the Héma-Québec Foundation, to maximize the benefits of their respective and complimentary areas of expertise. The aim was to study the mechanisms by which IVIg produces its therapeutic effects, using an animal model of Alzheimer’s disease. The Héma-Québec Foundation, recognizing the importance of the issue, agreed to support the proposed research for a period of four years. In 2011-2012 the Foundation increased its financial support to $40,000.

The work carried out in 2011-2012 gave rise to presentations given in Vancouver, Boston and San Diego, among others, that generated significant interest within the scientific community. It’s therefore with great optimism that the researchers at Héma-Québec continue their work, in the hopes of being able to help more than half a million Canadians suffering from Alzheimer’s.
Chair in Transfusion Medicine

This year, Bayer and the Foundation continued to fund the Association of Blood Donation Volunteers – Héma-Québec – Bayer Chair in Transfusion Medicine, directed by Dr. Jean-François Hardy.

The chair’s priorities include preparing the next generation and acquiring new knowledge on the medical and surgical use of blood products. The treatment of major pathologies through transplantation, cardiac surgery and hematology-oncology, as well as the proper use of blood products in emergency services are also priorities.

The Chair in Transfusion Medicine once again supported the training of young physicians by putting in place a research program axed on gaining a better understanding of the modes of action of blood products, and consequently on finding better ways to use them.

Thanks to your support researchers, physicians, and scientists are not only able to make the best possible use of blood products, but they are able to improve outcomes for thousands of patients across Québec.

By the time its commitment ends in 2013, $900,000 will have been invested in the Chair in Transfusion Medicine to benefit the population of Québec. Thank you!
TO PROMOTE BLOOD DONATION
Essential support for the Association of Blood Donation Volunteers

Day after day, every time Héma-Québec holds a blood drive, volunteers from the Association of Blood Donation Volunteers (ABDV) recruit, welcome and even comfort blood donors. Without their exceptional work to promote blood donation in our universities, colleges and high schools, it would be far more challenging for Héma-Québec to meet its objectives and prepare for the future.

In 2011-2012 the Foundation continued to support the invaluable work of ABDV volunteers by spending $120,000 to promote and reinforce the role of blood donation volunteers. The work done by the ABDV has a direct impact on our community by building awareness about the importance of giving blood, and ensuring that Héma-Québec can continue to rely on growing numbers of blood donors of all ages.

This year Héma-Québec held 2,544 mobile blood drives between April 1, 2011 and March 31, 2012, and set up 90 ABO booths. ABO booths are used to determine visitors’ blood types in just a few seconds; this year 5,043 people participated. ABO booths demystify the world of blood donation, and help recruit new donors. They are also an excellent outreach tool, creating awareness about the importance of giving blood. It’s because of activities like this that the Foundation continues to support the ABDV, mainly through the memorial giving program, offered in most funeral homes in Québec.
TO ENSURE A QUALIFIED FUTURE GENERATION
Training in Erythrocytic Serology

Thanks to your generosity, Héma-Québec has been able to continue to offer state of the art training to blood bank technicians. By offering the erythrocytic serology course online, thanks to funding by the Foundation, training is more accessible and easier to promote.

Moreover, now that the online course has been accredited by the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS), Héma-Québec will be able to offer it to Americans by guaranteeing the quality of its continuing education program.

We are currently working on getting the course accredited by the Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science (CSMLS), which would allow us to offer it to medical technologists across Canada.

In total, thanks to a donation of $118,000 from GRIFOLS, 45 people completed the theoretical and practical training courses between April 1, 2011 and March 31, 2012.

Bioscience Apprenticeship

The Bioscience Apprenticeship program gives third, fourth and fifth grade students the chance to experience a week-long introduction to research in a university laboratory setting. The main objectives are to show young people what it’s really like to work in the area of scientific research, and to allow them to determine if this is something they might aspire to do later on.

Through the support of the Héma-Québec Foundation this project has so far given eight Québec youths the opportunity to discover the world of research. The program’s management team will continue to make every effort to ensure that this program is front of mind for its target audience. We hope that over the next four years twenty five young people from the Québec region will participate in this enriching experience, and that one day some of them will join our ranks!
FINACIAL INFORMATION
Results for 2011-2012

In 2011-2012 the Foundation received just over $800,000 in donations. Strong investment performance allowed us to maintain excellent results. The decrease in revenue can be explained mainly by the absence of the Ball for Life.

Lower expenses are a reflection of the Foundation’s strategic plan, and totalled $232,021 this year, compared to $246,068 last year.

After accounting for the donations allocated to Héma Québec to allow them to do more, do it better and do it faster, there was a surplus of $3,843.

Thanks to your generosity, the Foundation disbursed approximately $600,000 worth of donations for a third consecutive year!
Financial Health

The following table shows that the Foundation has amassed substantial assets, enabling it to fund major projects while maintaining good financial health.

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Our endowment funds… for today and tomorrow!

We all want to leave our mark on the world, and one way to do this is with a planned gift. That’s generally what motivates people to leave a bequest or make a gift of life insurance. In the same vein, others prefer to create a named endowment fund, like : Francine Décary, Patrick Bérard et Pauline Tremblay.

The balance of each of these tribute funds as of March 31, 2012 was $155,690, $77,624, and $17,222 respectively.

We’d like to take this opportunity to thank these individuals for their generosity.

Another fund that donors can contribute to is the Cellular and Tissue Therapy Fund, created to finance the technology used for cellular and tissue therapy. Tissue therapy, also referred to as regenerative medicine, involves replacing weak or missing cells with healthy cells.

Finally, the net assets of the Association of Blood Donation Volunteers (ABDV) Fund, launched in 2005 to finance Héma-Québec, ABDV and Foundation projects, rose to $78,552 by March 31, 2012.
Thank you to the generous members of the Foundation’s Circle of Friends. The Foundation’s Circle of Friends is comprised of individuals, private foundations and companies that have made a cumulative donation of $1,000 or more. Although there are different categories within this outstanding group, there is only one word to describe our gratitude to each and every member: thank you!

Membership in the Circle is forever. The table below lists all cumulative donations of $1,000 and more as of March 31, 2012. Donations are listed in descending order.

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<th>PLATINUM ($500,000 and more)</th>
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<td>Mouvement des Caisses Desjardins</td>
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<th>BRONZE ($50,000 to $99,999)</th>
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<td>Novo Nordisk Canada</td>
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<td>Antoine Lorent</td>
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<td>Lions Club Laval</td>
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Thank you to the generous members of the Foundation’s Circle of Friends

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<th>Donation</th>
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Help today…

There are many different avenues open to you to support the Héma-Québec Foundation. You can make an annual donation, participate in our monthly giving program, or even organize a fundraising event to benefit the Foundation. You can also make a donation to honour the memory of a loved one, or to celebrate a meaningful accomplishment. We offer the option of making your donation through a gift of shares or other publicly traded securities. Doing so can offer significant financial advantages, since you would not be required to pay taxes on the capital gain accumulated over the years. However you choose to give, the Foundation staff is here to provide support and information to all our donors.

For the future!

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