

PRESS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release
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For the second year in a row, a Desjardins Group manager is named one of Canada's top 100 most powerful women.

*Marie-Claude Boisvert, Chief Operating Officer of Desjardins Venture Capital and
Vice-President, Development Capital and Business Ownership Transfers
receives this prestigious honour again this year*

Lévis, December 2, 2011 – Desjardins Group (www.desjardins.com) is proud to announce that, for the second year in a row, Marie-Claude Boisvert, Chief Operating Officer of Desjardins Venture Capital (www.capitalregional.com) and Vice-President, Development Capital and Business Ownership Transfers, has been named one of Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100 in the Corporate Executives category.

Created nine years ago by Toronto's Women's Executive Network (WXN), this award recognizes women who have distinguished themselves during their career and who serve as role models and mentors to others. Marie-Claude was very proud to accept this award on behalf of her entire team, saying it not only recognizes the quality of women's work, but also emphasizes the career possibilities and opportunities available to women at Desjardins.

Monique F. Leroux, Chair of the Board, President and CEO of Desjardins Group, is delighted that Ms. Boisvert has won this prestigious award. "Desjardins Group recognizes the importance and advantage of assigning strategic positions to women within its organization. This contributes to the diversity and complementarity of the team at all levels. Marie-Claude Boisvert's leadership and communication skills make her an inspiration to her employees and co-workers, as well as a role model for future businesswomen."

Over the years, the names of several Desjardins managers have appeared on this prestigious list. In 2009, Sylvie Paquette, President and Chief Operating Officer of Desjardins General Insurance and Marie-Huguette Cormier, Executive Vice-President, Communications, Desjardins Group won the award; and in 2008, Louise LeBrun, Senior Vice-President, Operations and Administration, Desjardins Group was also included on the Top 100 list. As for Desjardins Group's Chair of the Board, President and CEO, a three-time honouree on the Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100 list, Monique F. Leroux now appears in the Women's Executive Network Hall of Fame.

About Desjardins Group

Awarded the coveted title “Bank of the Year 2010 – Canada” by the UK magazine *The Banker*, Desjardins Group is the leading cooperative financial group in Canada and the sixth largest in the world, with assets of nearly \$190 billion. Drawing on the strength of its caisse network in Québec and Ontario, and its subsidiaries across Canada, it offers a full range of financial products and services to its 5.8 million members and clients. Desjardins specializes in Wealth Management and Life and Health Insurance, in Property and Casualty Insurance, in Personal Services, in Business and Institutional Services. As one of the largest employers in the country and among [Canada’s Top 100 Employers for 2012](#)TM, Desjardins is supported by the skills of its 43,600 employees and the commitment of nearly 6,000 elected officers. For more information, visit www.desjardins.com.

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