

# Cultiver notre identité

## CULTIVATING OUR IDENTITY





**A word from our president**  
**CULTIVATING OUR IDENTITY**

2012 was proclaimed International Year of cooperatives by the General Assembly of the United Nations. By this decision, the UN wants to pay tribute to the contribution of associations like ours to reduce poverty, to create jobs and social integration.

As we approach the year that will put our cooperatives in the limelight, the board of directors of FECHIMM invites all the member-residents of the 445 housing co-ops that make up our Federation, to cultivate their cooperative identity within the big annual event that is the annual general assembly of the Montreal Metropolitan housing cooperatives.

In choosing this theme for the 2011 AGA, FECHIMM asserts its pride in belonging to a Movement which, to carry out its actions, relies on values and principles that place the welfare of its members well beyond the search for profits. Coming out of a global financial crisis caused by the excessive greed of speculators, we can be proud of our cooperative formula and of the work accomplished to maintain and develop our businesses.

This regional network of nearly 11,000 housing cooperatives is not anything. The Housing Cooperative formula is not just for affordable housing. The mutual aid and solidarity values used to spark most of our projects and which continue to guide our environments certainly deserve to be valued and celebrated.

With the proposed program, the 2011 AGA will also provide an opportunity to carry on the reflection and the discussions initiated last November at FECHIMM's Orientation Symposium. Delegates from cooperatives members of the Federation will be invited to discuss and debate the guidelines that will help protect and strengthen the housing cooperative formula.

Our pride should certainly not blind us to the challenges we face. The defence of our cooperative formula, the pursuit of its development and the sustainability of our cooperatives requires twice the efforts.

Achieving these goals will also require creativity and the sense of innovation needed to conceive the housing cooperative of the future and continue to connect existing cooperatives to the new realities.

In order to do this, the Federation must be able to rely on the the strength of its network. To this end, the delegates of the cooperatives at FECHIMM's AGA have a responsibility to make the best choices by electing their representatives to various bodies of the Federation and the Movement.

Hoping to see you in large numbers at the FECHIMM's AGA on April 29th and 30th, I thank you on behalf of the Board of Directors for the work you do every day in your respective cooperatives and for your interest in the future of our association and of the housing cooperative formula.

Claude Turcot  
President

Please note that all the activities at the 2011 FECHIMM's AGA are in French.  
For more details on this event, please consult the French version of the Participant's kit.

**CONVOCAATION NOTICE**

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
FÉDÉRATION DES COOPÉRATIVES D'HABITATION  
INTERMUNICIPALE DU MONTRÉAL MÉTROPOLITAIN (FECHIMM)  
INVITES ITS MEMBERS TO THE 2011 ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ON FRIDAY, APRIL 29th, 2011  
From 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

and

ON SATURDAY, APRIL 30 th, 2011  
From 8 :00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

AT DOWNTOWN'S HYATT REGENCY HOTEL  
ALFRED ROULEAU HALL  
1255, Jeanne-Mance street in Montreal  
Place-des-Arts Metro station (Complexe Desjardins)

## **AGENDA**

Annual general assembly of the Fédération des coopératives d'habitation  
intermunicipale du Montréal métropolitain (FECHIMM)

Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
At the Downtown Hyatt Regency Hotel

ALFRED ROULEAU HALL  
1255, Jeanne-Mance street in Montréal  
Place-des-Arts Metro station (Complexe Desjardins)

### **AGENDA – FRIDAY, APRIL 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

6 :00 p.m. Reception and registration  
Workshop on the procedures of an assembly the convocation

#### **1. 7 :00 p.m. Opening of the assembly**

Introduction of the guests  
Presentation of the AGA  
Introduction of the AGA's partners

#### **2. Nomination of a president and of a secretary**

#### **3. Adoption of the agenda**

#### **4. Reading and adoption of the minutes and the follow-ups to the proposals of the 2010 AGA**

#### **5. 2010 annual activity report**

Questions on the activity report

#### **6. Auditor's report**

Questions on the auditor's report  
Appropriation of the surplus  
Budget estimates  
Nomination of the auditor

#### **7. Adjournment and reminder of tomorrow's activities**

Wine  
End of the evening

## **AGENDA – SATURDAY, APRIL 30th, 2011**

8:00 a.m. Reception, registration, coffee/brioche  
Workshop on the procedures of an assembly the convocation

9 :00 Word of welcome  
Introduction of attending guests  
Reminder of the day's activities and information on:  
Election to the Board of directors and nomination period  
Election to the Credit Commission  
The role of the CQCH  
Election of the delegates to CQCH's AGA  
CQCH's three-year congress

### **9 :10 8. Resumption of last night's annual assembly**

### **9. Follow-up on last general assembly's resolutions**

### **10. The floor is yours**

### **11. Report on the actions taken after the 2010 Orientation Symposium and Future Prospects**

### **12. Conference with Henri Lamoureux, ethicist and community action specialist**

12 h Cold buffet served on the spot  
Opening of the partners' and FECHIMM's services booths  
Private consultation clinics  
Opening of the Board of directors' table for submission of proposals

### **1:30 p.m. 13. Presentation of the tool for the end of the operating agreements from the CQCH**

### **14. Processing the proposals from the assembly**

### **15. Elections**

Information on the election and nomination procedure (president, secretary, scrutineers)  
Election to the board of directors  
Nominations and presentation of the candidates to the Board of Directors  
Voting and tallying the ballots  
Election to the Credit commission  
Nominations and presentation of the candidates to the Credit Commission  
Voting and tallying the ballots  
Election of the delegates for CQCH's AGA  
Nominations and presentation of the candidates for the AGA of the CQCH  
Voting and tallying the ballots

### **16. Adjournment**

Co-op Quiz and drawings  
Thanks

## **PROGRAM FOR THE 2011 AGA**

### **2010 Annual report**

The delegates will be invited to read the 2010 Annual Report by attending a multimedia presentation summarizing the main activities conducted by the Federation in order to meet its mission and the mandates entrusted to it by its members. A question period will then allow delegates to have deeper discussions on the cooperative subjects of their choice.

### **Follow-up to the resolutions of the general assembly**

The Board of Directors of FECHIMM will present to the attending delegates and observers a report of the actions taken during the year to defend the positions adopted by the General Assembly.

### **Cooperatives, the floor is yours**

At the request of its members, FECHIMM has included this activity in the agenda of its AGA since 2009, to enable participating cooperatives to share information on topics of common interest at the time of the plenary.

### **Report of the actions taken following the 2010 Orientation symposium**

Exchange of ideas, prioritization, statements to various levels of authority of the movement ... FECHIMM's 2010 Orientation Symposium helped identify courses of action to continue to develop the housing cooperative movement. The follow-up report to the symposium held last November will present the guidelines that the Board intends to focus on following this consultation exercise.

### **Conference with Henri Lamoureux**

#### **Ethicist and acknowledged specialist in community action.**

In an essay published recently in the University of Quebec Press under the title «The practice of independent community action », the ethicist and specialist in community action, Henri Lamoureux, shows the evolution of Quebec community groups, both organizationally and in ethical and political terms.

Noticing that over time, many community groups have gone from an approach centered on the struggle for social change to one that favours problem management, the author invites the actors from the community to reflect on their ability to fulfill the mission entrusted to them

His presentation at the 2011 AGA will be an opportunity to continue the questioning started at the 2010 Orientation symposium on the role FECHIMM should play in order to meet the needs of its members and the commitments included in its mission.

### **Elections of the officers and the delegates**

Delegates at the 2011 AGA will be called upon to elect their representatives to various bodies of the Federation. Cooperative members, who would like to get involved in the mission of the Federation, are invited to submit their applications for one of the vacancies.

Vacancies to fill

- \* Board of directors (4 vacancies)
- \* Credit Commission (3 commissioners)
- \* FECHIMM's delegation to the CQCH's annual congress (6 delegates)

## **At lunch time!**

One hour and a half (1h 30) is provided for dinner, on Saturday, April 30th. Cooperative members may use this time to get more information on a variety of topics of interest.

### **\* Stands for our Partners**

Cooperative members will be invited to meet with FECHIMM's partners, who will present their products and services and answer their questions.

### **\* Consultation clinic**

Participants at the AGA may seek private consultations with FECHIMM's partners, notably on legal matters.

### **Information on our services**

Staff members will be available to answer questions from the participants on any of the services of the Federation.

### **Board of directors' table**

The 2011 AGA delegates may hand in their proposals at the Board of directors' table where it will also be possible to talk with the current administrators.

### **CQCH Stand**

To better inform members of FECHIMM of its role and the important Triennial Orientation Symposium to be held in the fall, the Confédération québécoise des coopératives d'habitation will be on hand to answer questions from the members.

### **Tool for the end of the operating agreement**

In order to support the increasing number of co-ops reaching the end of their operating agreement, CQCH has developed a tool for planning and sound management to be presented to the participants at the 2011 AGA.

### **Co-op Quizz**

The 2011 AGA will conclude with the presentation of the Co-op Quiz. A quiz that tests the knowledge of the delegates on cooperative housing, Co-op Quiz provides an opportunity for participants to win prizes and learn while having fun.

### **Drawing of 4 netbooks**

In collaboration with the social enterprise Insertech Angus, the Federation will also draw four netbooks. Delegates who choose to register for the 2011 AGA with the online form at [www.fechimm.coop](http://www.fechimm.coop) will have a chance to win the first netbook.

Cooperatives present at the assembly and who have paid their membership contributions before January 5, 2011 also have a chance to win a netbook. Cooperatives that took part in the information update of their cooperative at [www.fechimm.coop](http://www.fechimm.coop) under the tab Members, will also be eligible to win one of two other netbooks.

**TO BE DELEGATED BY YOUR COOPERATIVE FOR FECHIMM'S ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Example of an extract of the minutes of your cooperative  
(to fill out and present, duly completed and signed, at the annual general assembly)

Extract of the minutes of a meeting of the Board of Directors or of the General Assembly of the \_\_\_\_\_ housing cooperative, held on \_\_\_\_\_ 2011 at \_\_\_\_\_ which there was quorum.

Seeing that the cooperative is a member in good standing of FECHIMM, " it was resolved that \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ will represent the cooperative as delegates to the annual general assembly of the Fédération des coopératives d'habitation intermunicipale du Montréal métropolitain (FECHIMM), on April 29th and 30th".

Signature of the secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 2011

**Delegated members (maximum 2)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Observers**

Please note that, in order to allow the largest possible number of delegates to participate, observer registrations can't be confirmed before April 25th.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

If a co-op reserved for its members and those members do not show up at the AGA, a \$60 fee per person will be charged. You have until April 26th, 2011 at noon to cancel your registration without charge.

## **TO REGISTER TO THE 2011 AGA**

### **Register online and you can win a netbook !**

You can register online to the 2011 AGA at [www.fechimm.coop](http://www.fechimm.coop). In doing so, you will contribute to the efforts of our movement to reduce paper use and get a chance to win an ASUS netbook worth \$359.

### **Register by fax or by phone**

It is possible to register for the AGA by calling us at 514-843-6929, extension 246. You can also fax us a copy of the extract of the minutes of your cooperative naming their delegates and observers at 514-843-5241.

You can find more information on the French version of the 2011 AGA kit given included in this invoice. For more information and to register, you can also visit the Federation's website at [www.fechimm.coop](http://www.fechimm.coop).

### **TRAINING FOR APPLICANTS FOR THE POST OF ADMINISTRATOR AT FECHIMM**

You wish to submit your application for a post of director of the Federation at the 2011 AGA or you simply want to know more about it? FECHIMM invites you to a free training on the role and responsibilities of the board of directors of a federation and its operations.

This activity, organized in collaboration with the Confédération québécoise des coopératives d'habitation (CQCH), will be held at FECHIMM's offices, at 3155, Hochelaga, on April 16, 2011, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please note that lunch will be served at the noon break.

#### **TO REGISTER**

Members of housing co-operatives wishing to register for this free training should contact FECHIMM at 514-843-6929, extension 243, before Wednesday, April 13, 2011.