



leadership beyond finance

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate distribution

2018 Aces of Finance competition – Quebec Chapter of FEI Canada launches call for candidacies

MONTREAL, November 22, 2017 – [The Quebec Chapter of FEI Canada](#), an all-industry professional membership association for senior financial executives, is inviting all Quebec financial executives to submit their nominations for the **Aces of Finance** competition, now in its **eighth year**. This prestigious competition aims to recognize the professional achievements and community involvement of outstanding Quebec financial executives. The competition also shines a spotlight on the key role they play in organizations while inspiring others in their profession.

Jury

As in past years, an independent jury, comprising five high-profile professionals who have distinguished themselves throughout their careers and possess many years of experience in the financial and business community, has been selected.

Key information and dates

- The competition is open to both members and non-members of FEI Canada and aimed at financial executives working in Quebec.
- Nominations can be submitted in one of the three following categories: ***Financial executive of a large corporation, Financial executive of a small or medium-sized enterprise and Emerging financial executive***
- The deadline for submitting nomination forms is **February 8, 2018**.
- The names of the finalists will be announced on **April 9, 2018**.
- The names of the winners will be revealed at a gala event to be held on **May 9, 2018** in Montreal.

Honorary chairperson

The honorary chairperson of this year's competition will be **Mr. Michael Denham, President and CEO of BDC**. Mr. Denham was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of BDC in 2015, following a long career in the private sector heading up large pan-Canadian organizations, such as Accenture and AquaTerra. Prior to this, he held senior executive roles at CGI and Bombardier. Holder of a Bachelor of Arts from Princeton University and a Master of Science in Economics with distinction from the London School of Economics, he began his career with McKinsey. He currently manages a team of 2,200 people at BDC, which offers financial, venture capital and consulting services to nearly 50,000 SME owners across Canada.

“Financial executives are at the heart of key decision-making in companies; they must demonstrate leadership abilities and possess skills that go way beyond a knowledge of numbers and finance. Our competition aims to showcase the scope of their work as well as to inspire the entire financial community and serve as a catalyst for emerging executives who, like us, must adapt and excel in a constantly evolving environment,” said Mr. Louis Marcotte, President of the Quebec Chapter of FEI Canada.

2018 Homage Award

The Quebec Chapter of FEI Canada will also be presenting its **Aces of Finance Homage Award** to a financial executive who has demonstrated excellence throughout his or her career. **The 2018 recipient of this prestigious award is Mr. Robert Blain**, FCPA, outgoing CFO at Cirque du Soleil and now Co-President of Groupe Lune Rouge. Mr. Blain has contributed to the growth of Cirque du Soleil as its Chief Financial Officer. For over 20 years, he has cultivated relationships with many prominent companies, such as MGM, Disney and Apple Corps (Beatles), as well as with the trustees of the Michael Jackson and Elvis Presley estates. His numerous distinctions acquired over the years make him an exceptional person.

The name of the winner of the 2018 Homage Award will be announced today at the Financial Executive Forum taking place at Théâtre St-James in Montreal, before more than 220 members and guests.

At the close of the competition, **Mr. Blain** will be officially honoured at the gala evening along with the winners of the Aces of Finance competition on May 9, 2018.

The recipient of the **Homage Award** is named by the Board of Directors of the Quebec Chapter of FEI Canada and the members of the competition's organizing committee, which is made up of:

- *President*: Marc Godin, MBA, CFA, Managing Director, Cheverny Capital
- Catherine Beauchemin, M.Sc., CFA, Director, Investments, Private Equity, Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec
- Dany Lehoux, MBA, Senior Director, Business Development, PwC
- Martin Lebeau, MBA, CPA, CA, Chief Financial Officer, Accedian Networks
- Murielle Lortie, CPA, CA, Chief Financial Officer
- Normand Lebeau, President, Mandrake Vézina Lebeau
- Stéphane Lefebvre, CPA, CA, Chief Financial Officer, Cirque du Soleil
- Monica Rocheleau, Events Manager and Coordinator, Quebec Chapter of FEI Canada

About Financial Executives International Canada (FEI Canada)

Financial Executives International Canada (FEI Canada) or Dirigeants financiers internationaux du Canada (DFI Canada) is an all-industry professional association for senior financial executives. With 11 chapters across Canada, FEI Canada provides professional development, thought leadership and advocacy services to its members.

The Quebec Chapter currently has nearly 200 members. The association's membership, which consists of chief financial officers, audit committee directors and senior financial executives, controllers, treasurers and tax advisors, represents a significant number of Canada's leading and most influential corporations. Further information can be found at www.feicanada.org/quebec.

– 30 –

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