

École d'entrepreneurship de Beauce

Fonds de solidarité FTQ Awards \$12,500 Bursary to Yannick Gardner of Aciers Solider

Saint-Georges-de-Beauce, January 23, 2013 – Jean Wilhelmy, Senior Vice-President, Aerospace, Construction, Services and Transportation, at the Fonds de solidarité FTQ ("Fonds") paid a visit today to the École d'entrepreneurship de Beauce to award a \$12,500 bursary to Yannick Gardner, President and CEO of Aciers Solider, a company based in Victoriaville, Québec.

"Since its creation by Louis Laberge 30 year ago, the Fonds de solidarité FTQ has been contributing to our collective wealth by forging partnerships with entrepreneurs like those that make up this cohort at the École d'entrepreneurship de Beauce," said Mr. Wilhelmy. "These entrepreneurs are helping to drive our economy and ensure the future of Québec businesses. The Fonds wants to reward their dynamism and determination by offering a scholarship of \$12,500, which this year goes Yannick Gardner of Aciers Solider."

Ensuring the longevity of local companies is a priority for Québec, and business succession is the key. The Fonds de solidarité FTQ agrees and is following suit by offering financing to facilitate ownership transfers and backing the École d'entrepreneurship de Beauce.

The scholarship is awarded to Mr. Gardner in recognition of his leadership as CEO of Aciers Solider, a growing company with over 40 years of experience in the design, production and installation of commercial, industrial and institutional steel structures.

About the Fonds de solidarité FTQ

Created in 1983, the Fonds de solidarité FTQ has been driving our economy for 30 years. With net assets of \$8.8 billion as of November 30, 2012, the Fonds is a development capital investment fund that channels the savings of Quebecers into investments in all sectors of the economy to help further Québec's economic growth. Its investments contribute to the creation and maintenance of jobs in Quebec businesses and favour economic development. The Fonds is a partner, either directly or through its network members, of more than 2,000 companies. With close to 600,000 owner-shareholders, it has helped to create, maintain and close to 170,000 jobs. For more information, visit www.FondsFTQ.com.

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