



# THE FRIGONS

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FRIGONE, FREGO, FREGOE,  
FREGON, FREGONE FAMILIES

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## Annual Meeting 2011 Deschambault, August 27th A glance at the countryside

While Tropical Storm Irene was battering the east coast of the United States and heading towards Quebec, we were basking under the hot late summer sun in Deschambault. We visited this corner of Quebec where many of the structures recall a time that is dear to our hearts. Around fifty people participated in this event and several used this occasion to follow the river upstream and down to admire all of the beauty of this region.

A stop at the church, designated as a historic site, led us to discover the signed Baillargé treasures and listen to an old organ with a splendid sound quality brought forth by the talent of the organist and soprano Marie-Andrée Paré who taught us several rudiments of her art form.

As previously announced, Pierre (4) has left his administrative duties to indulge in his passion, historic research. George E. (93), after fifteen years is also leaving his duties as the keeper of the genealogical data base. Jean-René (11) will take over. Louise (83) was elected as President of the Association and will certainly fill this function with brilliance as she knows all of the dossiers. In effect, she has been a member of the administrative council almost without interruption since the

founding of the Association. We also wish to welcome Denise (121), Jeanne-Mance Plourde (265) and Raymonde (96) as new members of the Administrative Council.

The invited lecturer, Jean-Pierre Chartier, geographer, spoke about the art of locating ancestral grounds. He is the author of a census of the lands in the seigneurie of Champlain. He insists that we should not blindly trust what is found in books; always consult the original documents. That is to say, the acts of concessions or sales of land, wills, marriage contracts or donations where one can find precious information on the location of land and on the lines of titles. To save time and to keep motivated, he suggests working in a group and

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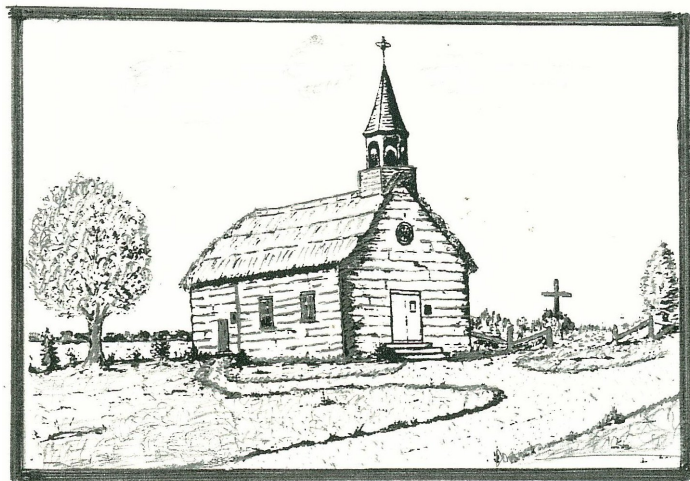
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PRINTED PAPER SURFACE

*For the due date of your membership/subscription renewal,  
please check the expiration date on the above mailing label.*

*Ed.: The following is an unpublished work of the late Robert Frigon (2). We shall periodically publish texts from the pen of this extraordinary researcher, in order to keep alive his memory.*

The Seigneurie of Batiscan belonged to the Jesuits. They wanted to keep it for the use of the “naturals”. They had thought of regrouping the Christian “sauvages”<sup>2</sup> in one organized place where they would occupy land and practise agriculture. The spot was a good one for this, with the river that penetrated the mountains of the north, a sort of natural pathway for the fur commerce. Because the Indians were not a sedentary people, the idea had to be abandoned even though numerous “squatters” already occupied sites in the deep woods that had long ago been deserted.



The first church in Batiscan. Drawing by Berthe-Irène Brunelle, taken from *Batiscan: Généalogies ascendantes*. Jean-Paul Foley. 1984.

The colonists also were familiar with this excellent soil so favourable to the growth of good grain, the quality of its forest, and the richness of the Batiscan River. These environmental conditions were very different from those of Cap-de-la-Madeleine with

its poor soil and the deforestation that its forests had undergone for the past thirty years for construction purposes. So, it was under strong pressure from their other censitaires<sup>3</sup> (taxpayers) at the Cap that the Jesuits consented to open the territory to colonization.

As far back as 1666, the occupants of the Cap availed themselves of one or even several grants of land at Saint-Éloi as well as farther east towards the river. The very first one seems to have been François Duclos who, as early as March 20, 1666, succeeded in getting two concessions of land from the Jesuit Father Jacques Frémin, one at Saint-Éloi and the other at the “Coste de Batiscan”. Let us say right away that the Île-Saint-Éloi is now part of the mainland and is the site of the “Vieux Presbytère de Batiscan” (the Old Batiscan Presbytery). A son of François Duclos would be called Carignan. The Duclos and the Carignans both spread throughout the Mauricie Region.

During the entire month of March 1666 and the months that followed, Father Jacques Frémin was very busy signing notarized deeds, for the majority of Cap settlers obtained grants of land as soon as this new territory was opened. (Among these were) the brothers Jean Lemoyne and Pierre Lemoyne, the brothers Nicolas Rivard and Robert Rivard, Jean Cusson, Michel Peltier de La Pérade<sup>4</sup> and numerous others such as Mathieu Rouillard, Nicolas Gatineau-Duplessis, Pierre Guillet, François Fafard, and Jean Moreau. More than thirty concessions were given to colonists that first year. We will not name them all. They were the pioneers of Batiscan and their posterity is widespread throughout America.

As long ago as the second-half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century,

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<sup>1</sup>Note of Gérald Frigon : « Text of the late Robert Frigon (2) dating from roughly ten years ago, taken from “Les Glanures XI”, printed for limited distribution. His nephew Gérald has always found it captivating and well written and wishes to share it with our readers.”

<sup>2</sup>Editor’s note: « *naturels, sauvages* » (naturals, savages); names that the French used at that time to signify the people who lived in nature. There was no pejorative connotation.

<sup>3</sup>Editor’s note: « censitaire » : for example, François Frigon dit Lespagnol, like all the colonists of New France, was a censitaire, that is, he payed an annual tax called “cens” for occupying the land that had been conceded to him by the seigneurs (lords) of the place, namely, the Jesuits, Seigneurs of Batiscan

<sup>4</sup>Editor’s note : Michel Peltier de Laprade.



What a wonderful day we spent at the Annual General Meeting on August 27<sup>th</sup> in Deschambault! More than 45 people came to the meeting and participated in the activities of the day held in this picturesque village, situated on Route 138 along the Saint Lawrence River. The town is noted for its lovely old ancestral homes and its superb view of the majestic river. This is a village worth exploring for those who have never done so. Many thanks to the organizers of the reunion for a job well done and a very successful day.

We also wish to express our gratitude to Pierre (4), our former president, for his commitment to the association. Since the creation of the AFF in 1994, he has been at the heart of our history. Our association would not be what it is without the generosity

of this great person, researcher of facts and documents, and excellent reporter of events.

It is important to me to highlight the work done by Georges E. (93) during all these years of research on the descendants of our Frigon and Chamois ancestors, and for his work with our genealogical database. Our friend Georges E. has decided to pass on the torch. Our sincere gratitude to you, Georges, for your involvement!

It was with pleasure that I accepted the presidency of the Association during the General Meeting. I have been a member since 1995 and have been on the Board of Directors for several years. Congratulations to all those who were also elected. I am convinced that we will be a good team for we all have the same objective: to bring our history to life.

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### Annual Meeting 2011 Deschambault, August 27th A glance at the countryside

*(Continued from page 41)*

using the courteous and competent services of the personnel at the Library and National Archives of Quebec (BANQ) in Gatineau, Montreal, Quebec, Rimouski, Saguenay, Sept-Iles, Sherbrooke and Trois-Rivieres. Especially important, is the need to coordinate the efforts so as not to duplicate the same research!

All in all, it was a welcoming meeting. We gained new historic understandings but also had a splendid

day. A rendez-vous with the first signs of autumn. A last summery glance at the countryside before the snow covers it with its white coat.

How can we thank Sylvie (27) and everyone who contributed to the success of this memorable day? Probably by simply telling them how much we have enjoyed spending this beautiful day together!



Nicole

Odette

At the end of the reunion, a draw was held, thanks to Odette Frigon's (52) gracious contribution of one of her paintings. The happy winner was Nicole Frigon of Ba-

tiscan, the sister of François Frigon (130).



Gérald

Louise

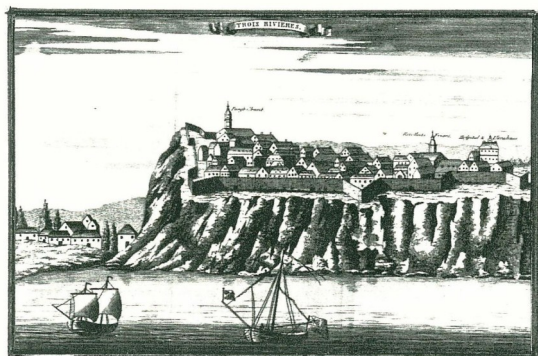
Pierre

« Three presidents,  
Gérald, (1999-2010)  
Pierre, (2010-2011)  
Louise, (2011-...) ».



(Continued from page 42)

a few hundred people occupied the Maurician territory, lodging in cabins that had most likely been hastily constructed. However, it was not long before they began to build more comfortable houses. There was no shortage of good workers. Pierre Guillet dit (also known as) Lajeunesse was not the least among these. These colonists knew and helped one another. This is evident when we consult the Catholic records or even more so the notarized documents that make numerous mention of sponsors in religious ceremonies, or again, the signatures of witnesses on notarized acts. Such a case is that of Jean Lemoyne, future seigneur of Sainte-Marie, who was a witness at the wedding of Jean Cusson and Marie Foubert, a union that was blessed on September 26, 1656, in the small church of Trois-Rivières.



The fortified town of Trois-Rivières around 1763 as seen by an English soldier who pointed out the “Parish Church” and the “Recollet Friars” as well as “L’Hospital of Ursulines”.

Batiscan very quickly became the largest village in the entire Mauricie Region, to the detriment of Cap-de-la-Madeleine, drained of its inhabitants, and Trois-Rivières, a fortified and closed town. Though its establishment as a canonical entity dates from 1684, a title that gave the village parish status, the missionaries kept the records of Saint-François-Xavier-de-Batiscan at Cap-de-la-Madeleine. Those registers covered the period from the beginning (of the settlement) to 1673 and were lost. This is unfortunate, for they must have contained precious information such as the marriage of our ancestor François Frigon with Marie Chamois<sup>5</sup>; the place of origin of François Frigon must certainly have been mentioned.

With so many hardy settlers experienced in taking over “deserted” land<sup>6</sup>, Batiscan was built at a rapid pace, and the village quickly ran out of available space. Even the eastern and western banks of the Batiscan River had already been given out. Saint-Geneviève and Saint-Prosper received the children of the pioneers and their posterity spread out, always widening the limits of cultivable land, and civilization, with the axe and clearing-fires.

<sup>5</sup>Editor’s note : : Marie-Claude Chamois.

<sup>6</sup>Editor’s note: “Désertier: to clear land that has been abandoned for a long time, full of bushes and thorns, and put it to use from now on. Those who wanted to build new homes in America would be given as much land as they could clear.” Taken from: Antoine Furetière, *Dictionnaire universel*, Vol 1, published in 1690.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

### MY MOTHER IS IN PRISON



Our cousin Sylvie Frigon once again makes the news!

You can relax; she is not the one who is in prison! Sylvie recently wrote a youth novel, *Ariane et son secret*, about the reality lived by children whose mothers are incarcerated. This sensitive little novel illustrated by Isabelle

Malenfant was published by Éditions du remue-ménage. Sylvie Frigon speaks with the voice of experience, for she is Director of the Department of

Criminology at the University of Ottawa. She has worked with incarcerated women, and has written a number of books on the subject<sup>1</sup>.

On Monday, May 30, 2011, the Ontario Government announced the names of the 20 finalists for the 24<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Literary Prize Trillium, which rewards French and English-speaking Ontarian authors. Sylvie won the prize in the children’s category<sup>2</sup>.

Sylvie comes from the line of Pierre Antoine, branch of Souleine.

<sup>1</sup><http://www.contesdefaits.com/v4/entrevue?id=54>

<sup>2</sup><http://www.streetnewsservice.org/news/2011/april/feed-274/quand-maman-est-en-prison.aspx>



**THOSE WHO WERE PRESENT FOR THE PHOTO**

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 1. Jean-René Frigon, Trois-Rivières                         | 14. Anita Frigon, Montréal-Nord                | 28. Claudette Chevrette-Naud, Montréal            |
| 2. Cécile Brunelle, Trois-Rivières                          | 15. Lise Drolet, Laval                         | 29. Pierre Frigon, Saint-Hyppolyte                |
| 3. Marie-Ange Frigon (Bordeleau), Ste-Geneviève de Batiscan | 16. Jean-Guy Frigon, Ste-Geneviève de Batiscan | 30. Hermine Trudel, Montréal                      |
| 4. Odette Frigon, Montréal                                  | 17. Maurice Ouellet, Batiscan                  | 31. Gérald Frigon, Laval                          |
| 5. François Frigon, Laval                                   | 18. Ghislain Frigon, Grand-Mère                | 32. Suzanne Trudel, Saint-Thècle                  |
| 6. Nicole Frigon, Batiscan                                  | 19. Denise Melançon, Grand-Mère                | 33. Murielle Dubois, Laval                        |
| 7. Raymonde Frigon, Saint-Jérôme                            | 20. Denise Frigon, Trois-Rivières              | 34. Fernand Beaulieu, Québec                      |
| 8. Lise Frigon-Brouillette, Ste-Geneviève de Batiscan       | 21. Nicole Guilbault, Québec                   | 35. Claude Frigon, Laval                          |
| 9. Rita Frigon, Laval                                       | 22. Claude Saint-Germain, Montréal             | 36. Bernard Naud, Laval                           |
| 10. Thérèse Frigon, Saint-Laurent                           | 23. Georgette Frigon(Cormier), Baie-Comeau     | 37. Jeanne-Mance Plourde, Laval                   |
| 11. Jeannine Vallée Boivin, Anjou                           | 24. Louise Frigon, Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pérade    | 38. Léonce Frigon, Laval                          |
| 12. Julie Ross, Forestville                                 | 25. Sylvie Frigon, Cap-Rouge                   | 39. Richard Caron, Gatineau                       |
| 13. Marie-Jeanne Frigon-Ross, Forestville                   | 26. Marcel Guillemette, Montréal-Nord          | 40. Lucie Frigon, Gatineau                        |
|   | 27. Guy Naud, Montréal                         | 41. Claude Vaillancourt, Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pérade |



It was in 1992 that three Frigons mutually agreed that there should be an association to bring together the Frigons of America. All three being avid researchers, driven by the desire to discover the origins so far unknown of their ancestor François Frigon dit Lespagnol, the idea of associating as many Frigons as possible to the promotion of this research proved to be a rallying force. For one of them, Pierre Frigon, it was the beginning of a long story of commitment, carried out with enthusiasm, generosity, competence and respect for others. His long career as a professional editor had prepared him well for the important role he would play within the organization.

Pierre, who was president of the Frigon Family Association in 2010-2011, has been part of every endeavour since the beginning. Together with the other co-founders, he proved to be indispensable to the young organization for its first administrative steps, for the recruitment of members and for establishing good management practices. Pierre has always been a member of the Executive Committee of the Association, acting as secretary during fourteen years. He never limited himself to the responsibilities of this position, accepting many other tasks such as creating forms and administrative procedures, developing a membership database, organizing Board of Director and Annual General Meetings, managing promotional articles and books sold to the members...quite a task! Pierre's strongpoint has always been his capacity for teamwork, marked by respect for the competencies of his colleagues and readiness to lend a helping hand to the different committees.

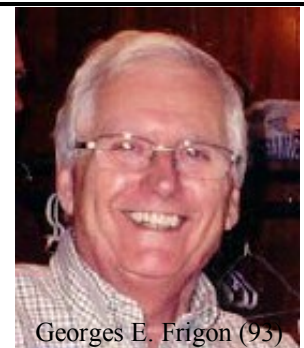
An indefatigable and passionate researcher, Pierre has contributed generously to our quarterly newsletter *The Frigons*, writing articles based on his historical discoveries about the Frigons of yore and of today, taking care to bring out the social context and the culture in which they evolved. His passion for research has been contagious and as a result several other members followed in his footsteps. Besides being the most prolific contributor to our newsletter, Pierre set up and developed the Association's Web site. He also contributed to collecting a large number of ancient documents (notarized deeds, lawsuits, etc.). He digitized a good number of these and created a database which, to this day, contains 402 documents. He also took the initiative of transcribing a good number of these documents from ancient to contemporary French so that they would be more accessible. This faithful guardian of the Association's documents made a list of the approximately 170 books in our library, of the articles and journals treating of genealogy, notarized acts and other ancient documents in view of helping research and making them accessible to everybody. Pierre is presently editing a biography of Augustin Frigon, an illustrious figure of the world of education and communications of early 20<sup>th</sup> century Quebec.

Beyond all his accomplishments, we look up to Pierre as the bearer of the spirit of brotherhood and enthusiasm for research that motivated the founders of the Association and that still characterizes this small but ever so dynamic organization. It is with one voice that we pay tribute to Pierre, our outstanding member and volunteer, and thank him with all our hearts for his long and generous contribution to the Association of Frigon Families.



Pierre Frigon (4)

**A MILLION THANKS TO PIERRE (4)  
AND GEORGES (93) FOR THE THOU-  
SANDS OF HOURS OF WORK THEY  
DID FOR THE ASSOCIATION OF FRI-  
GON FAMILIES SINCE ITS CREATION  
IN 1994.**



Georges E. Frigon (93)

**January 2011**

**Céline Ouellet**, spouse of **Camille Frigon**, died in **Dolbeau-Mistassini**, on January 13, 2011, at the age of 75 years and 11 months.

*Camille is from the line of Pierre Antoine, branch of Souleine.*

**Françoise Sénécal**, spouse of the late **André Frigon**, died in **Montreal**, on January 14, 2011, at the age of 88.

*André was from the line of Paul Joseph, branch of Joseph Paul.*

**February 2011**

**Béatrice Frigon**, spouse of **John Harmatiuk**, died in **Regina, Saskatchewan**, on February 19, 2011, at the age of 92.

*Béatrice was from the line of Pierre Antoine, branch of Hilaire.*

**Thérèse Frigon**, daughter of the late **Donat Frigon** and the late **Edmondine Desrochers**, died in **Shawinigan Sud**, on February 27, 2011, at the age of 89.

*Thérèse was from the line of Louis Augustin, branch of Hubert.*

**March 2011**

**Normand R. Bergeron**, spouse of **Thérèse Frigon**, died in **Central Falls, Rhode Island, USA**, on March 29, 2011, at the age of 83.

*Thérèse is from the line of Louis Augustin, branch of Hubert.*

**April 2011**

**Georges N. Colimon**, father of Natasha and former spouse of **Lorraine Frigon**, died in **Canape Vert, Haiti**, on April 8, 2011, at the age of 62.

*Lorraine is from the line of Louis Augustin, branch of Hubert*

**Françoise Milot**, spouse of **Jules Frigon**, died in **Shawinigan Sud**, on April 12, 2011, at the age of 85.

*Jules is from the line of Louis-Augustin, branch of Hubert.*

**Claude Pellerin**, spouse of **Lucie Bergerin**, son of **Georgette Frigon**, died in **Trois-Rivières**, on April 14, 2011, at the age of 55.

*Georgette is from the line of Olivier, branch of Olivier.*

**Jacques de la Chevrotière**, spouse of the late **Ghislaine Bengle**, son of the late **Emma Eva Frigon** and the late **Edouard de la Chevrotière**, died in **Magog**, on April 18, 2011, at the age of 90.

*Emma Frigon was from the line of Pierre Antoine, branch of Hilaire.*

**Paul A. Frigon**, spouse of **Madeleine Messier** and brother of **Sister Celine**, died in **Largo, Florida, USA**, on April 25, 2011, at the age of 86.

*Paul A. was from the line of Louis Augustin, branch of Hubert.*

**May 2011**

**Vincent Denis Frigon**, son of **Faron Frigon**, died tragically in **Camrose, Alberta**, on May 1, 2011, at the age of 18.

*We know neither the line nor the branch of Vincent's ancestors.*

**Hélène Gravel**, daughter of the late **Xavier Gravel** and the late **Léontine Frigon**, died in **Trois-Rivières**, on May 6, 2011, at the age of 91.

*Hélène was from the line of Louis-Augustin, branch of Abraham.*

**René Girouard**, spouse of the late **Rolande Frigon**, died in **Montreal**, on May 7, 2011, at the age of 86.

*Rolande was from the line of Antoine Pierre, branch of Olivier.*

**Théophile Couture**, spouse of **Ursule Frigon**, died in **Saint-Prospere-de-Champlain**, on May 9, 2011, at the age of 92.

*Ursule is from the line of Pierre Antoine, branch of Souleine.*

**André Trudel**, son of the late **Clémence Frigon** and the late **Honorat Trudel**, died in **Saint-Stanislas-de-Champlain**, on May 10, 2011, at the age of 75.

*André was from the line of Pierre Antoine, branch of Moïse.*

**Claude Frigon**, spouse of **Denise Durocher**, died in **Gatineau**, on May 13, 2011, at the age of 53.

*Claude was from the line of Pierre Antoine, branch of Souleine.*

**John F. Cahill**, spouse of **Gloria Frigon**, died in **Bedford, Texas, USA**, on May 17, 2011, at the age of 76.

*We know neither the line nor the branch of Gloria's ancestors.*

Daniel Frigon (Lionel Frigon and Marie Dubé) *Line of Pierre Antoine, branch of Souleine* is director of the Essakane Mine, in Burkina Faso. This gold mine is owned by the Canadian IAMGOLD Company, which acquired it in 2008. The mine is ISO 14001 certified.



“The gold mine at Essakane, which spreads out over 25 kilometres, is expected to be in operation

for a minimum of 12 years and a maximum of 15, with an annual production estimated at 400,000,000 dollars a year, according to its director, Daniel Fri-

gon. ‘For the present, there are no limits. We explore in the extensions. We have other satellite sites that we are trying to activate,’ affirmed the director. The 1,800 jobs created by this project made possible the extensive work achieved by IAMGOLD. All of these factors have had a positive impact on the Burkina Faso economy<sup>1</sup>.”

Ninety percent of this mine belongs to IAMGOLD and 10% to the government of Burkina Faso. Production costs: \$400-\$410 per ounce<sup>2</sup>. With the current price of gold, that is a good profit and an assured job for Daniel!

<sup>1</sup>[http://www.lepays.bf/spip.php?article4557&var\\_recherche=L%E2%80%99or%20oui%2C%20mais%20les%20populations%20d%E2%80%99abord](http://www.lepays.bf/spip.php?article4557&var_recherche=L%E2%80%99or%20oui%2C%20mais%20les%20populations%20d%E2%80%99abord)  
Journal *Le Pays*, Aimé Nabaloum, “*L’or oui, mais les populations d’abord*”, 23 février 2011.

<sup>2</sup><http://www.iamgold.com/French/Home/default.aspx>

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**Maude Boisvert-Frigon<sup>1</sup>**  
**Recipient of the Marie-Anne-Lavallée Education Grant**  
**For 2010-2011**

Marie-Maude is a social worker with a DESS, an advanced special studies diploma in territorial planning and development. She has now obtained a bursary to pursue her university studies. Maude is on the staff at the CSSS of Bordeaux-Cartierville-Saint-Laurent.

During her studies at the CEGEP du Vieux-Montréal, she made a study of militancy among contemporary youth, in collaboration with Mathieu Lapalme<sup>2</sup>.



The Marie-Anne-Lavallée grants for university studies and research have been offered by the Marie-Anne-Lavallée Foundation since 1999. These scholarships were created in view of improving the quality of the services and care dispensed to the clients of the Bordeaux-Cartierville-Saint-Laurent CSSS. Their objective is to promote research and teaching activities within the organization, to reinforce the partnership between the establishment and the university milieu, as well as encouraging the application of the knowledge acquired to the workplace, thereby creating long term benefits for the population.

This bursary program was created in memory of Sister Marie-Anne Lavallée<sup>3</sup>, founder of the Franciscan Oblates of Saint-Joseph. This religious community built Saint-Joseph de la Providence Hospital which was inaugurated in 1949, and still exists as part of the CSSS of Bordeaux-Cartierville-Saint-Laurent.

(2011-06-06/gef)

<sup>1</sup> Maude BK-11638, est de la lignée de Pierre Antoine Frigon, branche de Moïse

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.cvm.qc.ca/glaporte/metho/a02/a205/a205.htm#accueil>

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.csssbcstl.qc.ca/fileadmin/csss\\_bcs/Menu\\_du\\_haut/Publications/Enseignement\\_et\\_recherche/Bourses\\_Marie\\_Anne\\_Lavallee/Bourses\\_ma\\_lavallee\\_2010\\_2011.pdf](http://www.csssbcstl.qc.ca/fileadmin/csss_bcs/Menu_du_haut/Publications/Enseignement_et_recherche/Bourses_Marie_Anne_Lavallee/Bourses_ma_lavallee_2010_2011.pdf)