



Caisse de dépôt et placement
du Québec



ASSOCIATION
DES ÉCONOMISTES QUÉBÉCOIS
POUR DES CHOIX ÉCLAIRÉS



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION**

**Announcement of the winners of the
21th Economic and Financial Journalism Awards of Excellence
in partnership with the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec and Finance Montréal**

First prize ex-aequo: Martyne Bourdeau, Harvey Cashore, Kimberly Ivany and Frédéric Zalac, Radio-Canada Enquête and Marie-Maude Denis, Jacques Taschereau and Daniel Tremblay, Radio-Canada Enquête

Second prize ex-aequo: Francis Vailles, La Presse and Marc-André Sabourin, Québec Science

Third prize and the jury's *Coup de cœur* : Naël Shiab, L'actualité

Montréal, February 13, 2018 – The Association des économistes Québécois, in collaboration with its partners, the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec and Finance Montréal, announced the names of the winners of the 21th Economic and Financial Journalism Awards of Excellence during an official ceremony held yesterday evening at the Édifice Jacques-Parizeau. This prestigious competition aims to publicly recognize journalists who cover business and financial news for their role in providing information and analysis and making it understandable. Three grants totaling \$17,500 were handed out during the award ceremony.

The first prize, along with a shared \$10,000 grant, was presented ex-aequo to **Martyne Bourdeau, Harvey Cashore, Kimberly Ivany and Frédéric Zalac from Radio-Canada Enquête** for their segment [Les intouchables](#) and **Marie-Maude Denis, Jacques Taschereau and Daniel Tremblay from Radio-Canada Enquête** for their segment [Les baux cadeaux](#). The winners ex-aequo of the second prize, sharing a \$5,000 grant, are **Francis Vailles from La Presse** for his report [Un gros trou dans le budget du REM](#) and **Marc-André Sabourin from Québec Science** for his report [Klondike Spatial](#). Finally, the third prize and \$2,500 along with Coup de cœur selection by the Jury was presented to **Naël Shiab from L'actualité** for his report [Les robots sont \(presque\) meilleurs que vous](#).

Some 50 applications from close to 15 media outlets were submitted for this 21th instalment of the awards competition. Since this year, the jury has been constituted by the Fédération professionnelle des journalistes du Québec, on behalf of the Association des économistes du Québec. Chaired by **Sylvie Dillard**, former President of both the Association des économistes québécois (2010) and the Conseil de la science et de la technologie, the jury included **Monique Grégoire**, freelancer specializing in economics and politics, former economic journalist at TVA, **Kevin Dougherty**, freelancer specializing in economics and politics, former parliamentary correspondent for The Gazette in Quebec City, and **Louis Tanguay**, freelancer specializing in economics and finance and former journalist for Le Soleil.

"Today's financial journalists need to be highly adaptable in order to identify, analyze and present in simple terms the key challenges of an industry in full transformation. This rigorous and objective work helps guide the decisions of consumers and professionals in the financial services industry. We

are pleased to support this Award of Excellence, which recognizes the vital role played by economic and financial journalists. Thank you to all the candidates and congratulations to the winners," said Louis Lévesque, Executive Director of Finance Montréal.

"For over 20 years, this prize has recognized excellence in economic and financial journalism. And the climate we find ourselves in today brings us back to something even more fundamental: freedom of the press. While some try to feed us alternative facts, the search for the truths is even more complex. This award is an opportunity for la Caisse to encourage economic and financial journalists to continue their pursuit of excellence in their work, to sharpen our perspective and enhance our debates in the free and pluralist society we live in," said Michael Sabia, President and Chief Executive Officer of la Caisse.

"More than ever, journalists play an essential role in our society, in terms of information and education, and in economic and financial journalism, the popularization of increasingly complex concepts is an omnipresent issue. To relay credible and fact-based information, these journalists are extremely rigorous and highly professional. One could even say that they play a role of sentinel by exposing situations of fraud or financial malfeasance. That is why we are very proud to be able to celebrate the excellence of their work and their undeniable contribution to counteract financial illiteracy. I would like to thank the members of the jury who again this year did not have an easy task and congratulate both the finalists and the winners who have distinguished themselves as well as all those who participated and submitted a report for these awards," concluded Jean St-Gelais, president of the Association des économistes québécois.

Presentation of the awards partners

Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (CDPQ) is a long-term institutional investor that manages funds primarily for public and parapublic pension and insurance plans. As at June 30, 2017, it held CAD\$286.5 billion in net assets. As one of Canada's leading institutional fund managers, CDPQ invests globally in major financial markets, private equity, infrastructure, real estate and private debt. For more information, visit cdpq.com, follow us on Twitter [@LaCDPQ](https://twitter.com/LaCDPQ) or consult our [Facebook](#) or [LinkedIn](#) pages.

Finance Montréal, Québec's financial cluster, was created in 2010 by institutions in the financial services industry at the invitation of the Québec Government. Finance Montréal brings together 24 Governor Members, 10 Partner Members and 11 Associate Members. Its mission is to develop and promote Québec's financial services industry. The organization works to enhance Montréal's reputation as world-class financial hub and engages in international business development activities to attract foreign firms in Montréal by promoting various fiscal incentives including the IFC tax credit. Finance Montréal fosters cooperation among a vast range of institutions to stimulate the industry's growth while raising awareness of the financial specializations found in Montréal. To learn more about Finance Montréal, visit www.finance-montreal.com.

The **Association des économistes québécois**, main group of francophone economists in America is a thriving association active in various sectors: private business, public sector, unions, associations, universities. It focuses on the development and dissemination of economic knowledge, bringing light in public debates and the enhancement of the role of the economist. In keeping with its slogan "For informed choices", the Association is recognized as a credible and impartial stakeholder in economic debates. To find out more about the Association and its activities, visit the website at

www.economistesquebécois.com and social networks [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Twitter](#).

- 30 -

Media contact

Valérie Gonzalo

514 626.6976

gonzalo@videotron.ca