

MÉRITE DU FRANÇAIS DANS LA PME

THE MÉRITES DU FRANÇAIS, AWARDED BY THE OFFICE QUÉBÉCOIS DE LA LANGUE FRANÇAISE, CELEBRATE THE VITALITY OF THE FRENCH LANGUAGE IN QUEBEC COMPANIES, GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, ORGANIZATIONS, MUNICIPALITIES, AND BUSINESSES. THE OFFICE AND ITS PARTNERS RECOGNIZE "FRENCH-LANGUAGE ACHIEVEMENTS" DURING A CEREMONY HELD EACH MARCH DURING THE FRANCOFÊTE, WHICH CELEBRATES FRENCH AND THE FRENCH-SPEAKING WORLD.

THIS YEAR, THE BOARD OF TRADE OF METROPOLITAN MONTREAL JOINS THE OFFICE QUÉBÉCOIS DE LA LANGUE FRANÇAISE IN PRESENTING THE *MÉRITE DU FRANÇAIS DANS LA PME* - AN AWARD CREATED TO HONOUR SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES (SME) THAT HAVE PROMOTED THE FRENCH LANGUAGE IN THEIR WORKPLACE OR PUBLIC SERVICES.

Eligibility

The competition is open to small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) (companies, sole proprietorships, or legal entities) with fewer than fifty employees.

The application must be submitted on behalf of the company or organization. More than one organization may submit a joint application for the same achievement as long as it resulted from a partnership whose members shared the risks and benefits.

The award recognizes efforts made to promote the French language between January 1, 2009, and December 31, 2009, even if some steps were carried out prior to that time.

The organization must not have received financial assistance from the Office.

The organization must own the rights to the achievement it submits to the competition. In the case of joint accomplishments resulting from a partnership between several organizations, the organization or organizations submitting the application must first have received the necessary authorizations.

The organization must be established in Greater Montréal, i.e., have an address and employees in this region.

Exclusion criteria

- The award must be presented to a group (company or organization), not an individual;
- The members of the jury, their immediate families, and, if applicable, the companies they own or work for are ineligible;
- Employees of partners in the *Mérite du français dans la PME* award, i.e., the Board of Trade and the Office are ineligible;
- The initiative must respect the Charter of the French Language.



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COMPETITION RULES

Application

The duly completed application form must be submitted by February 1, 2010. This form is available on-line on the Web site of the Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal: www.cmmm.qc.ca. The application file must include seven (7) copies of the application form and all supporting documents.

Forward your documents to:

Mérite du français dans la PME
Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal
380 St. Antoine Street West, Suite 6000
Montréal, Quebec H2Y 3X7

There is no entry fee.

Submitted documents will not be returned.

Assessment criteria

Applications will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- Innovative, original, or exemplary nature of the achievement;
- Impact of the achievement;
- Significance of the achievement in terms of the problems to be resolved and the human, financial, and physical resources involved;
- Contribution to promoting the use of French or improving the quality of spoken French.

Jury

The winner will be chosen by a jury composed of representatives of Montréal's business community, the Office, sectoral associations, and the Working Committee of the Rendez-vous des gens d'affaires et des partenaires socioéconomiques.

Jury members must declare any conflict of interest with regard to any application(s) and withdraw from the deliberations and the vote, if applicable.

The jury members may decide not to present the *Mérite du français dans la PME* award.

The jury members reserve the right to reject any application file whose authenticity is in question.

The benefits of receiving a Mérite

The name of the winning company will be announced on the Board of Trade's Web site as well as in its weekly calendar of events, e-mailed to 40,000 people.

In addition, a photo advertorial of the winners will appear in several Quebec dailies. Articles will be published on the Web site of the Office, which is visited by 175,000 people each month and, above all, your francization efforts will be recognized and rewarded with a trophy symbolizing your achievement.





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Other terms and conditions

Applications mailed after February 1, 2010, or submitted by fax or e-mail will not be accepted. Incomplete application files will not be submitted to the jury.

The names of the winners will be announced in March 2010 during an official ceremony organized as part of the Francofête.

Participants authorize the Board of Trade and the Office to use the names of the applicants and any materials submitted in any publication related to the competition results on their Web sites, in competition promotional tools, in journalistic reports, and in any other publication and, whatever the medium used, to represent or otherwise distribute the documents contained in the application file.

For more information, contact:

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Or visit the Board of Trade's Web site: www.btmq.qc.ca



Chambre de commerce
du Montréal métropolitain
Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal