



Presentation of prizes for the 11th edition of the
***Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec – Merrill Lynch
Economic and Financial Journalism Award***

First Prize: Guy Gendron – Radio-Canada
Second Prize: François Normand – Les Affaires
Third Prize: David Descôteaux – Revue Commerce

Montreal, January 11, 2008 – Last evening in Montreal the prizes were presented for the 11th edition of the *Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec – Merrill Lynch Economic and Financial Journalism Award*. The awards ceremony, which celebrates **excellence** in the field of economic and financial journalism, took place at the Centre CDP Capital.

Once again this year, the competition attracted a record number of candidacies: 69. Excellence was indeed the keynote with the awarding of a \$10,000 prize in the Long Feature Story category to Guy Gendron of Radio-Canada for his story entitled *Du sable dans l'engrenage*. The second prize of \$5,000 also in the Long Feature Story category went to François Normand of Les Affaires for his story entitled *Exporter aux États-Unis*. And in the Short Feature Story category, the winner was David Descôteaux of Revue Commerce, who received a \$2,500 prize for his story entitled *Redoutables lobbys*.

The jury for this 11th edition was composed of Charles A. Carrier, General Manager of ASDEQ; Claude Masson, economist and former professor of economics at Université Laval; Pierre Bergeron, host of the program FrancOpinion and former manager of Le Droit; Claude Beauchamp, journalist and former host of the program Capital Action (RDI); and Thierry Watine, professor at the Department of Information and Communications of Université Laval.

As stated by Charles A. Carrier, General Manager of ASDEQ, "The Award grows in importance each year, not only in terms of the level of participation, but also in its visibility and credibility. The mission of the Association des économistes québécois is to promote awareness of economics in Quebec, and the Award helps us achieve this essential objective. We wish to thank our partners for their loyal support in making the *Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec – Merrill Lynch Economic and Financial Journalism Award* what it is today."

Recognizing journalistic excellence is at the core of this Award and, as noted by Guy Savard, Chairman of the Board for Merrill Lynch Canada and principal instigator of the Award, "We are indebted to all those journalists who, day after day, fulfill their duty in filing stories that are balanced, relevant and interesting. The entries we have read, watched and listened to this year attest to the great value of the content being generated by Quebec journalists in the field of finance and economics. This Award offers an ideal opportunity to acknowledge their vital contribution to the dissemination of high-quality information."

This eleventh edition of the Award marks the fifth year of collaboration between ASDEQ and the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec. Henri-Paul Rousseau, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Caisse, underlined the value of this association: "The Caisse is proud to join ASDEQ in celebrating journalistic excellence in this way. The quality of the entries submitted affirms the importance of this Award."

The Award's partners

The **Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec** is a financial institution that manages funds primarily for public and private pension and insurance plans, with net assets of \$143.5 billion dollars as of December

31, 2006. One of the leading institutional fund managers in Canada, the Caisse invests in the main financial markets as well as in private equity and real estate. For more information, visit: www.lacaisse.com.

Merrill Lynch is one of the world's leading financial management and advisory companies, with offices in 38 countries and total client assets of close to US\$1.8 trillion. It is a world leader in providing financial consulting services to companies and in capital markets. As an investment bank, the company is a leading global underwriter of debt and equity securities and strategic advisor to corporations, governments, institutions and individuals worldwide. Merrill Lynch has a stake of close to 50% in BlackRock, Inc., one of the world's largest asset management firms, with more than \$1 trillion in assets under management.

ASDEQ (Association des économistes québécois) is the principal organization for economists in Quebec and is dedicated to the professional advancement of its approximately 500 members. The Association's primary objective is to foster awareness of, and knowledge about, the field of economics. ASDEQ is a dynamic association that is open not only to economists but also to anyone interested in economic and financial issues. The association is regarded as the authority on economics in Quebec and is increasingly recognized as a vital participant in today's great economic debates.

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Useful links:

- Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec – Merrill Lynch Economic and Financial Journalism Award
www.prixdejournalisme.com
- Association des économistes québécois
www.asdeq.org
- Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec
www.lacaisse.com
- Merrill Lynch
www.ml.com