

Mutualism and Cooperation

Everything you always wanted to know about the 2003 AGM... but were afraid to ask!

Friday, April 11th, the first day we have had really nice weather since the summer of 2002! But forget about the weather because in Montreal, Chicoutimi, Hull, Rouyn-Noranda, Baie-Comeau, Vaudreuil, Sherbrooke, Trois-Rivières, Rimouski among other locations, people just like you and I are busy getting ready to drive to Quebec City to fulfill their duty as representative delegates of their region at the 2003 SSQ, Mutual Management Corporation's Annual General Meeting!

This year there is something different in the air. Yes, 2003 marks the first year in since SSQ has been holding AGMs that the meeting will be preceded by a conference for regional delegates. Because of this the AGM will be held on a Saturday.

The first half of the day is taken up with welcoming the delegates and directors of the board. Several delegates had to get right to work because this occasion is also used to hold meetings of the boards of directors of the SSQ Foundation and the SSQ, Mutual Management Corporation... not to mention the AGM for members of the SSQ Foundation.

The afternoon began with Mr. Yves Demers opening the first-ever conference for delegates of the SSQ, Mutual Management Corporation. The idea of holding a conference for regional delegates was suggested at a regional meeting in 2001. This is a perfect example of how insured members, by participating in these meetings, can become actors rather than spectators, and actually contribute to influencing and strengthening the mutual character of our organization.

The delegates' agenda:

- Ms. Nicole Côté made a presentation on corporate social responsibility and the importance of using our Social Responsibility Report as a measure of excellence.
- Réjean Lantagne and Alain Plouffe of SOCODEVI made a presentation on their organization, international development and the using cooperative formula to support international development. Delegates participated in workshops and discussed the causes and possible solutions for problems in developing countries.