

A distinctive space for CIBC at MNBAQ

*Observatoire CIBC to open in
the Pierre Lassonde Pavilion*

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Québec City, Monday, May 26, 2016 ✕ With just weeks to go before the opening of the Pierre Lassonde Pavilion, the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec and its Foundation are delighted to announce the naming of a new space recognizing CIBC's \$200,000 contribution to the major fundraising campaign to expand MNBAQ.

Sylvain Vinet, CIBC Regional Head and Senior Vice-President, Eastern Canada, Retail Distribution toured the new pavilion in the company of John R. Porter, Chair of the MNBAQ Foundation Board of Directors, Annie Talbot, Executive Director of the Museum Foundation, and CIBC executives as Museum teams were busy installing artwork in the new exhibition rooms ahead of the June 24 grand opening.



During the tour, CIBC representatives got a firsthand look at the space that will bear witness to their contribution. “This distinctive space is highly symbolic,” said John R. Porter. “Not only is it in the center of the Pierre Lassonde Pavilion, it’s located on the upper level of the architectural stairway whose “*Marches des Bâisseurs*”, builders steps, highlight the philanthropic contributions of numerous donors.”

“Bathed in natural light, Observatoire CIBC will be an essential part of every museum visit, with its views of the other pavilions in the MNBAQ museum complex and onto one of the exhibition halls—a very rare design feature. We’ll also use it to present very large works from time to time,” added MNBAQ director and chief curator Line Ouellet.

“CIBC is very active in the community all across Québec,” said Sylvain Vinet. “We support MNBAQ in its efforts to make art even more accessible to the public. This spectacular modern pavilion is a wonderful way to share more of our artistic and collective heritage. And the name of this space within the Pierre Lassonde Pavilion clearly conveys CIBC’s desire to be there in the heart of the action, a deeply held value of ours.”

In carrying out the most ambitious cultural philanthropy initiative in Québec City’s history, the MNBAQ Foundation is delighted by this significant gesture of support from CIBC. “The major fundraising campaign to build the Pierre Lassonde Pavilion is a first step by the community,” pointed out Annie Talbot, Executive Director of the MNBAQ Foundation. “The campaign will also play an important role in supporting the Museum’s mission to acquire works and develop new exhibitions and education programs. Support from the business community and the general public for this major project is critical to ensure the future and vitality of the Museum.”

About...

The MNBAQ Foundation

The MNBAQ Foundation’s primary mission is to spearhead the Museum’s major fundraising campaign for the construction of the Pierre Lassonde Pavilion. Over the long term, the Foundation works to enrich the Museum by soliciting funds that will go towards expanding the

Museum's collections, diversifying exhibitions, and making educational and cultural activities more accessible. [Details: fmnbaq.org](http://fmnbaq.org)

MNBAQ

With a collection of Québec art dating back 400 years, MNBAQ will become a focal point for cultural discovery and dialog when the Pierre Lassonde Pavilion opens on June 24. The world-class addition has a unique architectural design and will almost double the Museum's existing floor space. MNBAQ will use it to exhibit art and design from 1960 to the present, including contemporary, decorative, and Inuit art.

[Details: mnbaq.org](http://mnbaq.org)

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