

HONORING OUR FOUNDER

Gilles Blondeau

(1940-2023)



One year ago, in May 2023, Optimum’s founder, Mr. Gilles Blondeau, passed away.

An actuary with creative thinking and a visionary driven by the desire to participate in local economic growth, Gilles Blondeau founded his actuarial firm in April 1969 with the ambition of creating a global financial group, characterized by its strength. Under his leadership, the firm gradually developed until he realized his dream of building the first and only life reinsurance company in Canada. To this day, Optimum is the only life reinsurer in Canada controlled by private Canadian interests.

In the following decades, Gilles Blondeau and his management team established a life insurance company in France, a life reinsurance operation in the United States, acquired general insurance companies in Canada, and then created information technology and asset management firms in Canada, the United States and in France. They valued expertise, rigour, integrity and a personalized approach.

Actively involved with leaders in Canada, the United States and in France, Mr. Blondeau was also a Board member of large-scale companies. He established lasting relationships marked by trust and had great respect for his employees, clients and partners.

55 years later, Optimum’s management team led by Anabelle Blondeau, youngest daughter of the late Gilles Blondeau, remains steadfast in pursuing our shared vision for the future. Grounded in enduring values, we are dedicated to enhancing our clients’ financial security through measured growth, ensuring our longevity and stability. We are proud to honor his memory.



“ Building the future on solid values ”

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