



NEWSLETTER

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Pierre Arbour 1935-2018

About the Fondation Arbour

Created in 2005

Since 2006
we have granted more than
400 scholarships

We have granted
in 2019: \$556 500
in 2018: \$614 000

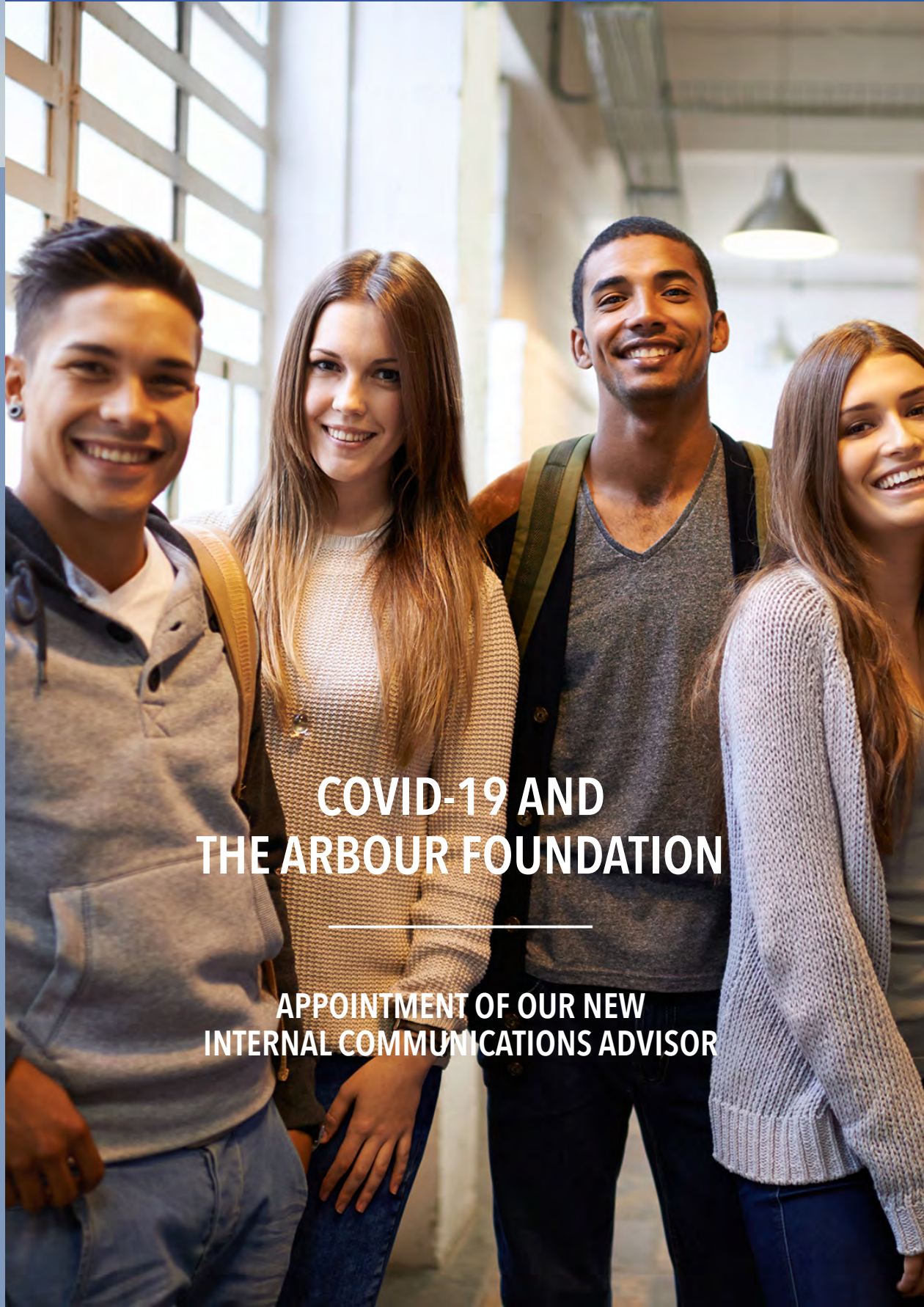
Management

Philippe Arbour
Chairman of the Board
Marine Hadengue
Chief-Executive Officer
Joëlle Dorais
Executive Assistant

Board of Directors

Philippe Arbour
Michel Brunet
Diane de Champlain
Marine Hadengue
André Laurin
André Monette

Assets end 2019
\$16 million



COVID-19 AND THE ARBOUR FOUNDATION

APPOINTMENT OF OUR NEW INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS ADVISOR

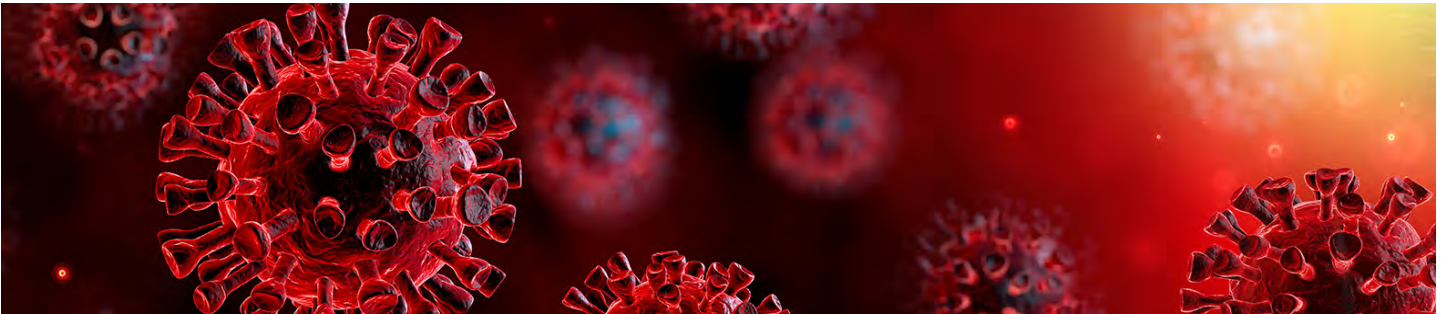
APPOINTMENT OF OUR NEW INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS ADVISOR



We are pleased to welcome, Thierno Mamoudou Diallo as our new Internal Communications Advisor. Thierno is a PhD student at Université de Sherbrooke, a visiting researcher at Centre for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (C2N) in France and Arbour scholar. Thierno completes the Arbour Foundation team and will manage our new Teams platform that will virtually bring together the entire Arbour community. In addition to reinforcing the bonds among our students, this collaborative hub will also be the place for them to share their ideas, experiences and creations. Thierno will be in contact with you shortly. Get ready!

A big heartfelt thank you to Thierno!

COVID-19 AND THE ARBOUR FOUNDATION

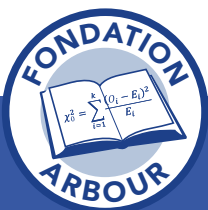


The coronavirus pandemic has left the world reeling and its impact on the higher education sector has had little or no coverage in the press.

However, our students face many challenges:

- Closed labs and libraries
- Online classes
- Critical deadlines: school papers, renewal of work or study permits, funding requests, capability to pursue their studies or research projects, possible negative impact on the value of their diplomas, etc.
- Financial worries
- Conferences, presentations and trips either cancelled or postponed
- Reduced employability or internship opportunities (businesses are closing or facing financial problems). In March 2020, the number of post-secondary working students, aged 15-29, dropped by 28% from February 2020.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/04/support-for-students-and-recent-graduates-impacted-by-covid-19.html>



These challenges increase for foreign students:

- Away from their families
- Delays in getting required documents
- Higher tuition fees and living costs.

And for everyone, stress.

Our partner universities have announced that classes will resume as scheduled in September 2020 but that they will be offered online, with some exceptions. At this time, they are working on giving back access to labs and supporting research. Student Services are available to answer your questions at your university. Offices are still closed but employees can still be reached by email. They can also help you find additional financial help.

The Arbour Foundation would like to do more for its scholars. From the onset of the pandemic, we have worked to provide timely information to our students. We have also set up a database of all the support available, whether financial or psychological.

We have stayed in touch on a regular basis. One of our scholars, Khaoula Alaoui Mamoun, a PhD student at Université de Sherbrooke, specializing in strategic HR management and organizational development, generously offered to give two talks. The first one covered stress management in time of crisis which she gave with the help of her daughter Loubna Mekki Berrada, a Ph.D. student in neuropsychology. The other talk focused on career development. Through these virtual meetings, the sense of community deepened and allowed to break the feeling of isolation arising from the crisis.

Our scholars being brilliant individuals, we have also encouraged them to bring their expertise to the table to look for and share innovative solutions to the crisis – the topic of a talk by our CEO, Marine Hadengue. We set up a database with all current funding opportunities to tackle COVID-19. Dear students, you can count on us to realize your innovative ideas!

From an administrative perspective and to overcome the difficulties of facilitating the scholarship application this year, we have simplified some requirements for applying to the Arbour scholarship for 2020-21: transcripts do not have to be official and reference letters can be sent by email (no letterhead necessary).



The Canadian Government has also put into place some support measures for students, such as:

1. Canada Emergency Response Benefit \$2000 per month until June – certain conditions apply
2. Canada Emergency Student Benefits (CESB) - \$1250 per month from May to August – certain conditions apply
3. Suspension of payments and interests until September 30, 2020 on student loans
4. Doubling of Canada Student Grant amounts (\$6,000 for full-time and \$3,600 for part-time)
5. Exemption from student and spousal contribution
6. Increasing the cap on Canada Student Loans (from \$210 to \$350)
7. New work-integrated learning opportunities from Business+Higher Education Roundtable and Co-operative Education and Work Integrated Learning Canada (CEWIL)
8. Mitacs and the Fonds de recherche du Québec new Research Training Award program for university students
9. Student work placement programs
10. Canada child benefit payment increase (certain conditions apply)
11. Increase to GST/HST credit amount (certain conditions apply)

Although Masters and Doctorate students can rely on some help from their university and the governments, it will not be school as usual any time soon. We are monitoring the situation closely and are ready to help our scholars who need help. You can count on us!

