

# Portrait of our directors

EXPRESS  
INTERVIEW

With ...





**Mr. Patrick Verstraelen**

Director – Continuous education,  
business and international services  
Cégep de Saint-Jérôme

Board of Directors of  
CAE Rive-Nord since:  
**2017**

Current term:  
**Administrator**

Distinctive qualities:  
**Perseverance and creativity**

**Why did you agree to sit on the CAE Board of Directors?**

Besides being part of my mandate at the Cégep de Saint-Jérôme, I am passionate about being present at various regional organizations. I am sensitive to regional development and increasing its economic activity. As growth and business development inevitably involves training, it is with great pleasure that I'm contributing to the CAE's mission.

**Where do you see CAE in 5 years?**

Population growth in the region is soaring and this situation will continue in the coming years. Business development opportunities will follow this trend and will enable the CAE to increase its assistance and support mission. The inter-company network of the same region could become a niche supported by the CAE, making it possible to strengthen the local economy in a sustainable development approach.

**" When dealing l with companies and organizations, it is often necessary to go outside the established framework in order to develop the most appropriate training for the situation. This way of thinking has often allowed me to implement projects that wouldn't have been possible without a dose of imagination and a firm intention to find a solution."**

- Patrick Verstraelen

**ABOUT....**

The Cégep de Saint-Jérôme is an establishment of higher education which offers a living environment and quality services nearby, as well as unparalleled supervision and housing in its three teaching sites, located in the heart of the Laurentians. The continuous education, business and international services department is responsible, in particular, for ensuring the entrepreneurial aspect of the College's mission and oversees a majority of externally-oriented services, in particular companies.

