



Universitas Financial Introduces Its Stepping Stone Program

Unmatched Support to Promote School Success

Quebec (QC), February 14, 2019—Universitas Financial, an industry-leading name in the field of RESPs, highlights this year's edition of Hooked on School Days by introducing its Stepping Stone Program, a new advantage offered exclusively to its clients to encourage school success.

The Stepping Stone Program is a support service specially designed for parents with children aged 4 to 12 years who experience difficulties in their learning. These parents will benefit from a privileged access to a network of education specialists ready to offer support and coaching.

"The Stepping Stone Program reflects our commitment to giving families the support needed to help their children their full potential. We offer our clients free access to the expertise of a network of education specialists who partnered with us to create a unique service offer in our industry," says Pierre Lafontaine, Vice President, Customer Experience and Strategic Business Development.

Concrete Help to Promote Academic Success

Having made its mark in Quebec and New Brunswick by offering savings solutions accessible to families of all backgrounds, Universitas Financial is set on promoting wider access to education. Actively involved in this field, Universitas quickly realized that preparing for a child's post-secondary education starts early on, both financially and in terms of learning.

The Stepping Stone Program is in response to the needs of families seeking support in the face of various challenges including academic difficulties, ADHD, learning disabilities (dyslexia, dysphasia, etc.), giftedness, bullying, and many others. Thanks to this service, a family will benefit from six hours of free consultation per year with various specialists in the field of education.

"The factors that contribute to a student's prospects for success go beyond the school environment itself. By offering out-of-school assistance directly to parents, we are making a real difference for these families. This type of access to a centralized network of resources is scarce in the education network," says Ghislaine Nadeau, Vice-President, Human Resources and the architect behind the Stepping Stone Program.

About Universitas

Created in 1964, Universitas Financial is an RESP industry leader helping Quebec and New Brunswick families save for their children's education through investment strategies that favour access to education and academic perseverance. Universitas Financial's assets under management exceed \$1.4 billion, and the organization has paid out over \$885 million in returned savings and educational assistance payments (EAPs).

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