

**Charles Sirois**

Chairman of the Board, Telesystem

Founding Partner, Tandem Expansion Fund Chairman of the Board, Enablis Entrepreneurial Network

Chairman of the Board, Fondation de l'entrepreneurship

Chairman and co-Founder, Pangea Agriculture Group

Born in Chicoutimi, Quebec, Charles Sirois is a leading figure in the Canadian communications industry. He is the founder, controlling shareholder and chair of Telesystem, a company that has been the driving force behind some of the country's most compelling entrepreneurship success stories.

Mr. Sirois is the founder of Tandem Expansion Fund, a private investment fund focused on growth capital, as well as founding partner and Chairman of the Board of Enablis Entrepreneurial Network, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to empowering entrepreneurship in Africa and Argentina. He is the Founding President of the QG100 Network, a private group of chief executive officers from Quebec-based global growth companies. He is also co-Founder and Chairman of the Board of Pangea Agriculture Group.

In addition Mr. Sirois chairs the Fondation de l'entrepreneurship, and he sits on the board of Rogers Communications.

Charles Sirois launched his business career in 1978, as the head of a family-run paging company. He quickly established himself as a leader in the Canadian paging industry through National Pagette and National Mobile Radiocommunications. In 1987, the two companies merged with Bell Cellular to form BCE Mobile Communications, of which Mr. Sirois was Chairman and CEO from 1988 to 1990. From 1992 to 2000, Mr. Sirois was Chairman and CEO of Teleglobe.

Mr. Sirois founded Telesystem International Wireless Corporation N.V. in 1994 and was the Chairman of the Board until the beginning of 1997, when the company became Telesystem International Wireless Inc. (TIW). He chaired TIW until 2004. In 1995, he founded Microcell Telecommunications Inc. During his eight years as Chairman of the Board, Microcell launched Fido, the first carrier in Canada to operate a GSM-based network.

In addition Mr. Sirois was a director of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC) from 1997 to 2015, and from 2009 to 2015 he was the first Quebecer to assume the chairmanship of this bank.

Mr. Sirois holds a bachelor's degree in finance from the Université de Sherbrooke, a master's degree in finance from Université Laval and honorary doctorates from the Université du Québec à Montréal, the University of Ottawa, Concordia University, Université Laval and the École de technologie supérieure.

Charles Sirois received the Order of Canada in 1994 and was appointed knight of the Ordre national du Québec in 1998. In 2010, he was inducted into Canada's Telecommunications Hall of Fame. He is also a recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.

Mr. Sirois has published two books: *The Medium and the Muse* (1995) and *Organic Management: Creating a Culture of Innovation* (2000).