

- Official club name: **The Friendship Force of Sherbrooke region (La Force de l'Amitié de la région de Sherbrooke FARS).**
- Closest major airport: YUL Pierre Elliot Trudeau also BTV Burlington (VT).
- Closest regional/ local airport: Sherbrooke (no commercial flight services).
- Cost of transportation between the airport and our city (based on 20 people)
 - By bus: From YUL, about 50\$ public transport; bus rental: ask ED for prices.
 - From BTV, bus rental only By Train: None available.
- Maximum number of Ambassadors our club can host: 20
- About the club:
 - Our club, founded in May 2001, was the third Friendship Force club to be formed in Quebec after the Québec Region established one in 1997 and the Montréal one in the fall of 2000. We are a club with mostly French speaking members who also speak English and/or Spanish at various levels. The members are mostly retired from education, nursing or other professions. We presently have twenty-seven members. We usually have one inbound and one outbound exchange per year. We also occasionally have domestic exchanges. You may visit our web site: www.forceamitieregionsherbrooke.com
- About the region:
 - The Sherbrooke region, a community of more than 150,000 inhabitants, is located at less than one hour and a half drive East of Montreal and at less than one half hour drive from the Canada (Quebec)-USA (Vermont) border.
 - In addition to being a centre of industrial importance in high technology, transport, textile and others, the Sherbrooke region benefits from two universities (one French speaking and the other English speaking) which are well known for their dynamic role at home, in Canada and abroad. Their presence favours the emergence of new business and activities as well as the industrial and cultural growth of the region. The quality of life of the people of the Eastern Townships is important. Its proximity to large urban centers and its long standing tradition of the French and English cultures provides the Sherbrooke region with numerous cultural manifestations such as art exhibitions, theatrical performances, concerts, festivals and other events all year long. The landscape of the Sherbrooke region, rich in lakes, rivers and mountains is very

much an attraction to the local and international tourist. In fact, it offers a good number of facilities for the visitors wanting to enjoy the practice of their favorite sport depending on the season such as hockey, golf, snowmobile, downhill and cross-country skiing, skating, cycling, swimming, sailing, etc.

- About a typical exchange:
 - Club members appreciate hosting visitors from other countries or regions. As hosts of ambassadors from the Friendship Force in our household for five to seven days, we share our daily life and our community's attractions. We guide them into exploring our culture and way of life. In addition to participating to the activities organized by our club, our guests may well like to explore the region or the country by themselves. Typically, the club members will organize outings in our town (city hall, mills and dams, murals, museums, etc.) and area (Bombardier's original shop and museum, attractions, mountains, gorges, lakes). A tour of members garden and house is sometimes scheduled. There are one day or two free days. When a host is unavailable, day hosts accompany the ambassadors. All of this is done in a climate that favours the development of personal ties between people from different origins or areas.