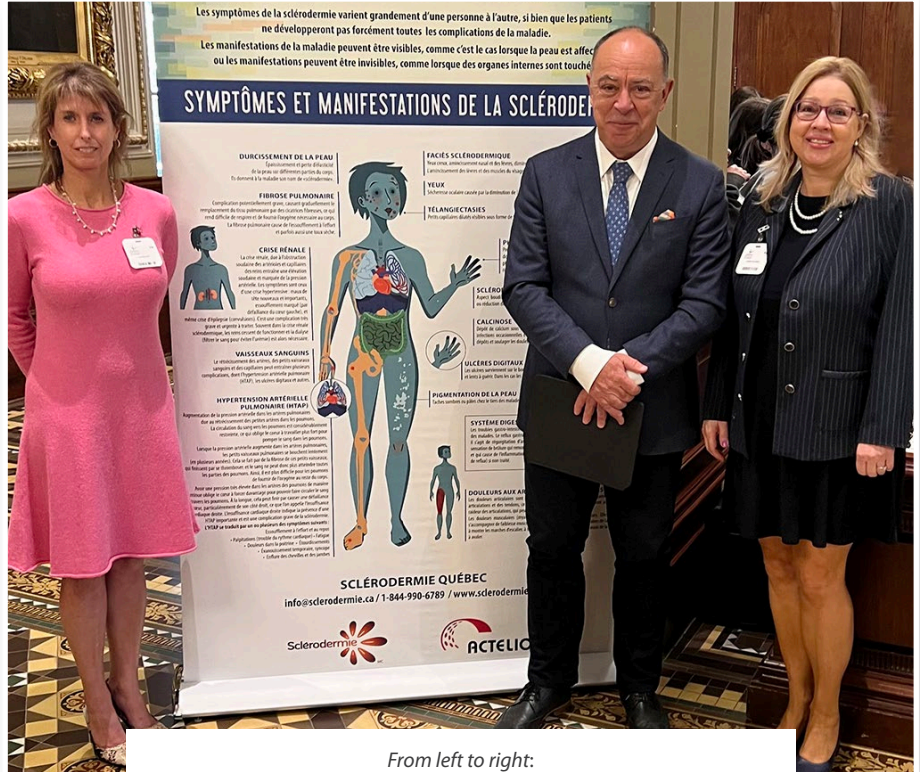


# AWARENESS DAY AT THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



Ms. Shirley Dorismond, Member of Parliament for Marie-Victorin, Coalition Avenir Québec, parliamentary assistant to the Minister responsible for Social Services, and Geneviève Guillot, patient



From left to right:  
Ms. Geneviève Guillot, patient,  
Mr. Christian Dubé, Minister of Health and  
Ms. Diane Collard, Executive Director of Scleroderma Quebec

On May 10, an Awareness day organized by Scleroderma Quebec was held at the National Assembly. The goal of this day was to raise awareness among MNAs about scleroderma and its devastating effects on health. We received very positive feedback from members holding health-related parliamentary or ministerial offices at our information booth set up for the occasion. In addition, we were privileged to welcome at our booth the **Minister of Health, Mr. Christian Dubé**, as well as the **Member for Marie-Victorin and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister Responsible for Social Services, Ms. Shirley Dorismond**. It should be noted that the offices of Scleroderma Quebec are located in the electoral division of Ms. Dorismond.

We also had the opportunity to speak at our booth with the three opposition health and social services critics: **André Fortin of the Quebec Liberal Party, Vincent Marissal of Québec solidaire and Joël Arseneau of the Parti québécois**.

Our booth attracted the interest of many other MNAs, some of whom were unaware of the existence of this complex disease. The large number of people who visited our booth is proof of the great success of this Awareness day at the National Assembly, which exceeded all our expectations.

It is worth mentioning that the **Executive Director of Scleroderma Quebec, Ms. Diane Collard**, had the opportunity to attend the statements made by MNAs, including **Mr. Youri Chassin, member for Saint-Jérôme and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health**. Mr. Chassin highlighted Scleroderma Quebec's exceptional contribution to research and support for patients suffering from this disease:



## AWARENESS DAY AT THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



June is Scleroderma Awareness Month, and this year's theme is Spreading Hope.

*This chronic and potentially fatal disease, for which there is currently no cure, is diagnosed in approximately four out of every 10,000 people. Scleroderma is a disease of unknown cause with four main abnormalities: autoimmunity, microvascular abnormalities, inflammation and fibrosis. Scleroderma, also known as the mummifying disease, is very difficult to diagnose. It is an irreversible disease, but early diagnosis can significantly improve the quality of life and life expectancy of those affected.*

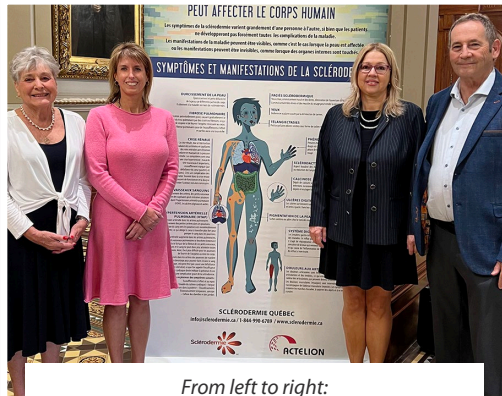
*On this Awareness day, at the National Assembly, I would like to highlight the efforts of Scleroderma Quebec, which has generously contributed for 35... 34 years, I'm sorry, to funding research and providing support and comfort to patients and their loved ones. These initiatives are inspiring examples of how we can spread hope in the fight against scleroderma.*



**Youri Chassin,  
Member for Saint-Jérôme, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health  
Statement by member, National Assembly, May 10, 2023**



**Mr. André Fortin, Member of Parliament, Liberal Party of Quebec, Official Opposition spokesperson for health and social services and Ms. Geneviève Guillot, patient**



*From left to right:*  
**Ms. Jocelyne Chagnon, volunteer, Ms. Geneviève Guillot, patient, Ms. Diane Collard, Executive Director of Scleroderma Quebec and Mr. Roch Allaire, volunteer**



**Ms. Geneviève Guillot, patient and Mr. Joël Arseneau, Member of Parliament, Parti Québécois, spokesperson for the third opposition group on health, social services, and home care**



**Ms. Céline Haytayan, Member of Parliament for Laval-des-Rapides, Coalition Avenir Québec**

*A big Thank You*



We would like to acknowledge the generous gesture of our partners Boehringer Ingelheim and Janssen Canada, who made possible, thanks to an educational grant, the realization of this awareness day.