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Home

<https://www.asf-quebec.org/en/>

This site has been created entirely for educational purposes.
Visit the official website of Architecture sans frontières Québec

About us

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A planning catalog dedicated to homelessness

Consult the "Architecture + itinérance : pratiques inclusives pour une ville solidaire" planning catalog, a resource designed to stimulate innovation in projects for people experiencing homelessness.

[See more](#)

In 2023, ASFQ celebrates its 15th anniversary!

In addition to a logo and slogan specially designed for the occasion, the organization will mark this important anniversary with various activities throughout the year.

[See more](#)

Architecture out of the ordinary...

Human, equitable and sustainable development is impossible without architecture. That's why ASFQ has been working with

communities since 2007, as the official humanitarian arm of the Ordre des architectes du Québec.

[See more](#)

Our services

International cooperation

Architectural expertise for the international cooperation projects of Canadian NGOs and their partners in developing countries

[See more](#)

Urban solidarity

Support for community development projects aimed at urban equity, social inclusion and helping the homeless in Montreal.

[See more](#)

Native habitat

Architecture to support infrastructure projects, build capacity and alleviate the housing crisis in First Nations and Inuit communities

[See more](#)

Climate resilience

Preventive action to adapt Quebec to flooding and assistance in the event of disaster

[See more](#)

Circular economy

Ecological and inclusive architecture through the recovery, redistribution and reuse of building materials.

[See more](#)

Volunteer work

Opportunities for local and international volunteer action with Architecture sans frontières Québec and its partners.

[See more](#)

Architectural education

Learning and development activities to train practitioners in the bold social architecture the world needs.

[See more](#)

Our news

[Check out our latest news!](#)

PARTICIPATE: Survey to improve building flood adaptation

August 28, 2023

Are you concerned or worried about the adaptation of buildings to flooding? Do you have an opinion to share?

School in Tanzania: work in progress!

August 27, 2023

The design of the elementary school for the Massai community of Enguserosambu has been completed and construction is about to begin. The team from [...]

Homelessness and flood resilience: CMHC supports 2 ASFQ projects

July 20, 2023

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) recently unveiled the ten winners of its Research and Development Fund, [...] ASFQ

Our testimonials

Clothilde Duverger

"This experience with Eco-Réno has been all the more stimulating, because ASFQ enables our daily work to have a significant impact."

You too can help populations affected by crises, natural disasters or social inequalities by making a donation to our organization!

[Make a donation](#)

514 868 1767

[\[info@asf-quebec.org\]](mailto:info@asf-quebec.org)

201 rue Sainte-Catherine Est,
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Official Canadian charity number: 83106712RR0001

Make a donation

Our proud founding partner

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News hub

[Actualités - Architecture sans frontières Québec \(asf-quebec.org\)](https://asf-quebec.org/actualites)

Our news

Following our news is also a form of commitment

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Designing a school in Tanzania: the sketch stage is complete!

July 10, 2023

Since their mission to Tanzania last April, our volunteer cooperant Étienne Bernier, an architect associated with the [...]

Launch of WEB-RECYC and the campaign "A brick, a gesture and an impact!"

June 19, 2023

Montreal, June 19, 2023 - In order to enable Montrealers to participate simply and economically in the [...]

Business mission to document circular economy best practices!

May 18, 2023

During the month of April, ASFQ carried out two business missions, in Europe and on the West Coast of the USA, to document [...]

Architects Étienne Bernier and Maude Ledoux return to Tanzania

May 18, 2023

After two weeks in Tanzania, the team of architects Étienne Bernier, volunteer cooperant, and Maude Ledoux, project coordinator at ASFQ, are back in the [...]

ASFQ presents Lafond Côté Architectes with the OAQ Social Commitment 2023 Award

May 18, 2023

At the OAQ 2023 Gala on April 21, ASFQ President Christian Samman proudly presented the Social Commitment Award to Lafond Côté [...]

Call for candidates - Four positions open on the board of Architecte sans frontières Québec

May 13, 2023

ASFQ is calling for applications for positions on its Board of Directors. In particular, the organization is looking for professionals [...]

"Habitations + Inondations": an essential new tool for home adaptation

April 03, 2023

ASFQ announces the publication of Habitations + Inondations : mesures d'adaptation résidentielle, a collection of practical fact sheets designed to guide homeowners [...]

Free replay of Architecture + Itinérance 2022 conference!

March 23, 2023

In 2022, ASFQ organized the first edition of the Architecture + Itinerancy symposium, an unprecedented interdisciplinary gathering where nearly 200 [...]

News detail

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<https://www.asf-quebec.org/revoyez-le-colloque-architecture-itinerance-2022-en-libre-rediffusion/>

PARTICIPATE: Survey to improve building flood adaptation

August 28, 2023|[[News](#)]

Are you concerned or worried about the adaptation of buildings to flooding? Do you have a point of view to share as a citizen, professional or representative of a body grappling with this issue? ASFQ and its collaborators at the Ministry of the Environment and INRS invite you to complete this short survey, which will help us improve existing adaptation tools and guidelines. Share it with your networks!

This survey conducted by ASFQ is part of a reflection process initiated by the Ministry of the Environment in connection with the future permanent management framework for riverbanks, coastlines, flood-prone areas and mobility zones. Through this new regulatory framework, focused on risk management for people and property and on environmental impacts, the Ministry envisages an approach favoring better adaptation of activities in the face of flooding. This framework could be supported by a tool accessible to a wide audience, such as a reference guide for adapting buildings to flooding.

The survey data will also be used to inform the proposal for a project being carried out in partnership with the Centre Eau-Terre-Environnement of the Institut national de recherche scientifique (INRS). This project, funded by [CMHC], aims to develop the technical specifications required to implement residential resilience measures.

The survey lasts approximately 20 to 30 minutes. Before taking the survey, it is essential to open and consult the document [[HABITATIONS + FLOODING : Residential adaptation measures](#)].

[>>> [Take the survey](#)]

School in Tanzania: the construction site is getting ready!

August 27, 2023| [[News](#)]

The design of the elementary school for the Massai community of Enguserosambu is complete, and construction is about to begin. The team of volunteers from ITs Programme du regroupement étudiants pour la coopération internationale (PRÉCI) is now taking over the construction site in Tanzania.

Our cooperating architect, Étienne Bernier of Agence Spatiale, and our project coordinating architect, Maude Ledoux, are proud of the work accomplished over the summer to complete the school's design. Supported by the Agence Spatiale team, the work was carried out in close collaboration with [\[PRÉCI\]](#) and the [\[Tanzanien Heritage Foundation\]](#) (THF), the project's local partner.

With their plans in hand, the five PRÉCI volunteers arrived in Tanzania on August 27, for a four-month stay. They joined THF, who were waiting for them to start the construction work. The new school will be built in the heart of the village of Enguserosambu, with the assistance of the Maasai people who will benefit from the project. The work will be carried out by local workers, the PRÉCI team and the support of our partner. It will also benefit from the support of the Space Agency and ASFQ throughout construction, which will be completed at the end of December. We wish all our partners a successful start to the project, an inspiring integration into the Maasai community and an unforgettable experience!

Photo: Jesse Maisonneuve, Arpakwa Ole Sikorei (local partner representative), Sophie Desfonds Leroux, Orfane Bergeret, Edouard Lafont, Jérémy Emond-Lapierre.

Homelessness and flood resilience: CMHC supports 2 ASFQ projects

July 20, 2023|[\[News\]](#)

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) recently announced the ten winners of its Research and Planning Fund for the year 2023, as well as the twenty-six projects shortlisted for the fourth cycle of the Housing Supply Challenge - Building for the Future. ASFQ is proud to be part of both lists, with a research program on homelessness and a project on adapting buildings to flooding!

The funding obtained thanks to a Research and Planning Fund (\$250,000) is part of the National Housing Strategy. It will enable us to implement a two-year research program entitled *Pratiques d'aménagement solidaires et inclusives envers les personnes en situation d'itinérance*, in partnership with Professor Carolyn Grimard of the École de travail social de l'Université de Montréal. The program aims to :

- improve and share knowledge on inclusive planning practices that contribute to the well-being of people experiencing or at risk of homelessness;
- develop a better understanding of the unique needs of occupants of shelters and permanent supportive or transitional housing;
- the identification of key design practices and strategies that meet the needs of users in the design of ISP projects.

To discover the 10 selected projects, [[click here](#)].

Following a CMHC call for projects entitled Housing Supply Challenge - Building for the Future, ASFQ has been awarded \$150,00 to develop a project entitled Référentiel des équipements résidentiels et des assemblages architecturaux pour faire face à l'inondation. In partnership with Professor Jacob Stolle of the Institut national de recherche scientifique's Centre Eau Terre Environnement, ASFQ hopes this project will help accelerate the adaptation of housing to urban and open-water flooding, while keeping costs low in the long term. The project could involve developing technical specifications and testing equipment and architectural assemblies in the Environmental Hydraulics Laboratory.

To view other projects supported under this call, [[click here](#)].

ANNOUNCEMENT: Éco-Réno recycled materials center moves to 10,000 sq. ft. space in Montreal!
July 20, 2023[[News](#)]

To mark the 20-year impact of its Éco-Réno business, Architecture Sans Frontières Québec (ASFQ) is moving this flagship of the circular materials economy into a large warehouse at 9399 Saint-Laurent.

In 2020, ASFQ took over the reins of [[Éco-Réno](#)], the only business specializing in the reuse of construction materials in Montreal. In 2023, this social economy enterprise will have been diverting useful building components from landfill for 20 years, preserving irreplaceable architectural heritage and fostering community resilience. A unique public-interest mission, which today helps sustain the impact of ASFQ's projects. All made possible by donations and purchases from businesses, professionals and citizens concerned with sustainable development.

10,000 square feet: growing to serve you better!

After 20 years on Papineau Street, in a small 2,000-square-foot space, Éco-Réno will soon have the means to fully realize its mission. ASFQ will soon be relocating to 9399 Saint-Laurent, corner Chabanel, in the heart of the vibrant Central District. The relocation and fit-out of the new space has been underway since last April. The project has the support of several partners, including the City of Montreal, the Quebec government and Ivanhoe Cambridge.

The former location on Papineau Street will close its doors for good on July 23. Activities will resume at the new address on August 9, and the store's inventory will be expanded to include other construction products that can be diverted from waste: used materials, site surplus, vintage decor, bricks, lighting, tools, etc. To better communicate this inventory, Éco-Réno will also make available to customers a brand-new, detailed digital catalog, to be announced shortly.

How can you follow the Éco-Réno adventure?

Stay tuned for upcoming announcements, including activities surrounding the official opening and inauguration of the new premises. [[Sign up for the Éco-Réno newsletter](#)], which will keep you up to date with company news and the wide variety of new materials arriving every week.

When can I visit the new Éco-Réno warehouse?

Éco-Réno will be located at 9399 Saint-Laurent as of August 9. Until then, take advantage of special discounts of up to 80% on everything in our current boutique at 6615 Papineau, before it closes on July 23. It's a great opportunity to drop by the old store before discovering our new address!

How to donate materials?

To make a donation, contact Éco-Réno when it reopens on August 9. Whether you're a homeowner, a professional or a business, consider reuse in your projects. Your donations could qualify for a tax-deductible charitable receipt.

Want to lend a hand?

Éco-Réno regularly renews its bank of volunteers! Do you have time to give, are you handy, physically fit and passionate about materials? [[Contact the Éco-Réno team](#)] to express your interest.

ASFQ visits the Venice Biennale!

July 20, 2023[[News](#)]

Our colleague Olivia Daigneault Deschênes, architect and urban solidarity project manager at ASFQ, was at the Venice Architecture Biennale on June 15 for a memorable meeting with the Canadian pavilion team: Architects Against Housing Alienation.

As part of a research-creation residency at the British school in Rome, in collaboration with the Conseil des arts du Québec, Olivia visited the team at the Biennale's Canadian pavilion, transformed by the [AAHA] (Architects Against Housing Alienation) collective into the headquarters of an activist campaign. There, she met 15 architecture, landscape architecture and environmental design students from the University of British Columbia, who are researching the collective's 10 demands.

The AAHA collective was formed to initiate a community-based architectural movement aimed at ending housing alienation. Through the exhibition and the Not For Sale! campaign, the collective hopes to inspire architects, activists and spokespeople to join this growing movement to make housing more equitable and accessible. This advocacy campaign brings together ten strong demands linked to the themes of housing and dispossession, such as "restorative architecture", "intentional communities for the homeless" and "a tax on gentrification", to name but three.

During her visit to the pavilion, Olivia had the pleasure of leading a sticker-making workshop, inspired by "sticker art". The students and their teacher Matthew Soules created slogans and visuals addressing demands and issues related to Canada's housing crisis and the right to the city. The workshop concluded with a "show and stick" session, with the creations now scattered around the pavilion.

"I congratulate the AAHA team for taking such a radical stance on the issue of housing in Canada. In a truly transdisciplinary approach, their work contributes to the debate on the role of architecture for social justice and

the potential of architecture as a tool for activism. This echoes ASFQ's mission to defend fundamental rights related to the built environment, such as access to safe, decent housing. It was all these ambitions that led to the making of the stickers, one afternoon in June in a bonenfant atmosphere, because like design, activism often comes from a place of joy and pleasure."

The entire ASFQ team salutes the groundbreaking and important work of the AAHA collective, in a context where the housing crisis is spreading across Canada, widening the gap between those who can enjoy quality architecture and those who cannot.

Find out more about the Pavillon and the AAHA collective:

[\[aaha.ca/en/\]](http://aaha.ca/en/)

[\[conseilidesarts.ca/initiatives/biennale-de-venise\]](http://conseilidesarts.ca/initiatives/biennale-de-venise)

Designing a school in Tanzania: the sketch stage is complete!

July 10, 2023|[\[News\]](#)

Since their mission to Tanzania last April, our volunteer cooperant Étienne Bernier, associate architect at Agence Spatiale, and our project coordinating architect, Maude Ledoux, have been working together to design the plans for an elementary school for the Massai community of Enguserosambo.

The design is well under way! The sketch phase has been shared with the project partners, and coordination of the preliminary plans is underway. The architectural proposal comprises 2 buildings with 3 classrooms, 1 office and 1 bedroom for the teachers, a kitchen with dining area and several covered outdoor spaces for learning and sharing activities.

Close to these two buildings, sanitary blocks are also planned, as well as an outdoor layout incorporating market gardens and sports areas. The proposal reflects the socio-cultural habits of the Maasai communities encountered on site. The design work will continue until the end of August, when our partner PRÉCI (ÉTS's international cooperation program) will leave to support the project until the end of December.

Launch of WEB-RECYC and the "One brick, one gesture, one impact!" campaign.

June 19, 2023|[\[News\]](#)

Montreal, June 19, 2023 - To enable Montrealers to participate simply and economically in efforts to decarbonize buildings, Architecture Sans Frontières Québec (ASFQ) and BRIQUE RECYC today launched the [[A brick, a gesture, an impact!](#)] campaign, as well as the [[WEB-RECYC](#)] platform enabling the recovery and reuse of bricks in the metropolis's many residential and industrial renovation sites. This platform is a first in Quebec, and is part of a circular economy approach to construction! This new platform fills a gap in the market by connecting supply and demand for used bricks. On the one hand, it makes it possible to donate bricks during demolition instead of throwing them away. On the other hand, it makes it possible to buy back quality bricks at a good price.

An eco-responsible, economical and supportive masonry option

Financially supported by the Quebec government through the Fonds d'initiative et de rayonnement de la métropole (FIRM), this circular economy initiative is made possible by an innovative process developed by BRIQUE RECYC. Brick donors receive a turnkey service from the company. This now makes it possible to recover used bricks using unique crates invented and developed specifically for dismantling operations and transporting them to a high-volume cleaning site for reuse. This alternative service is both ecologically advantageous, as the bricks do not end up in landfill, and economical, as the donor obtains a charitable receipt as a tax incentive.

A simple gesture for the environment

Considering that the construction, renovation and demolition (CRD) sector produces 41% of the residual materials generated in Quebec, WEB-RECYC will help reduce the environmental impact of this sector by keeping thousands of bricks out of landfill every year. Thanks to the impact calculator integrated into the user experience, every donor and buyer will be able to measure the environmental impact of their actions. Simple and effective for eco-responsible masonry and renovation, WEB-RECYC will also help preserve the value of bricks, building heritage and authenticity.

How the *A brick, a gesture, an impact!* campaign works :

- The WEB-RECYC application connects people looking to dispose of their bricks after renovation work with those who need them for their own renovation projects.
- Homeowners can propose a brick donation on the platform before they've even started work.
- This brick donation campaign is economically advantageous, because for each donation of \$500 or more offered to ASFQ, a charitable receipt will be issued to homeowners for tax purposes. They will thus be compensated for part of the costs associated with dismantling, recovering and transporting the bricks.

Quotes

"ASFQ is proud to launch the *A brick, a gesture, an impact!* campaign, along with the WEB-RECYC platform, designed to become a true matchmaker for used bricks! Such innovation would not have been possible without an innovative company like BRIQUE RECYC, with which ASFQ combines the charitable component of its activities. Unprecedented in the construction industry, such a partnership will mitigate the ecological impact of demolition while helping to finance ASFQ's social mission. It's a perfect model of the circular economy and solidarity!

- Bruno Demers, Executive Director of Architectures Sans Frontières Québec

"The City of Montreal is delighted to support Architecture Sans Frontières and Brique Recyc, whose partnership is a concrete example of the innovation that can result from strong collaboration. The Web-Recyc application is helping to make Montreal an avant-garde city in terms of the circular economy and ecological transition, since it will enable Montrealers to maximize the reuse of bricks during renovation work. This is a great step forward, and we're very proud to be the first city in Quebec and Canada to benefit from this service, which we hope will soon inspire other cities."

- Marie-Andrée Mauger, responsible for ecological transition and the environment on the executive committee of the Ville de Montréal

"Thanks to the vision, creativity and leadership of BRIQUE RECYC and Architecture Sans Frontières Québec, Montrealers will be able to access materials that are still viable and affordable, while making an eco-responsible choice. Our visions are directly aligned, and our goals of reduction and innovation are the same. Ultimately, the new WEB-RECYC platform will make it possible to avoid landfill and facilitate reuse, as well as taking another step towards a real circular economy - it's exceptional."

- Emmanuelle Géhin, CEO of RECYC-QUÉBEC

"WEB-RECYC represents a major step forward in terms of material circularity. Thanks to the collection boxes combined with BRIQUE RECYC's technology, around 90% of bricks can be reused rather than sent to landfill if the brick is in good condition. By expanding access to the program through WEB-RECYC, we're proud to be able to help reduce construction waste and preserve our built heritage."

- Tommy Bouillon, President of BRIQUE RECYC

Find out more:

Check out the [[A brick, a gesture, an impact!](#)] campaign.

You can find [[here](#)] a video explaining how the platform works.

See the project datasheet [[here](#)].

About Architecture Without Borders Quebec

Architecture Sans Frontières Québec (ASFQ) is an organization specializing in sustainable architecture and assistance to vulnerable communities. Created in 2008 by the Ordre des architectes du Québec, it develops programs in climate resilience, aboriginal habitat, international cooperation, urban solidarity and the circular economy. The organization's members include the province's 4,500 architects, for whom it bears social responsibility.

To find out more about ASFQ: [asf-quebec.org].

To find out more about its circular economy program, visit [[here](#)].

About Maçonnerie Gratton and BRIQUE RECYC

Maçonnerie Gratton is the largest employer in residential masonry restoration in Quebec. The company has been operating since 2007 on more than 500 jobsites annually. In 2021, the organization launched its BRIQUE RECYC machine, which cleans bricks in less than 10 seconds, an innovation that allows bricks to be reused on construction sites, thus preventing them from being sent to landfill. Used throughout Quebec, BRIQUE RECYC's technology prevents the emission of around 5.9 tonnes of carbon dioxide per 1,000 sq. ft. wall (90m²), and considerably reduces construction waste.

Business missions to document circular economy best practices!

May 18, 2023|[\[News\]](#)

During the month of April, ASFQ undertook two business missions, to Europe and the American West Coast, to document best practices in the field of building materials recovery and reuse. A double visit that couldn't be more relevant as ASFQ prepares this year to open a major materials reuse center and related services capable of accelerating the practice of circular architecture.

It is thanks to the support of the Société d'habitation du Québec and the Caisse d'économie solidaire Desjardins that such missions have been made possible. Four ASFQ members, including two colleagues from its Éco-Réno center, took part in the adventure. Visiting Lyon, Paris and Brussels, as well as Vancouver, Seattle and Portland, these trips enabled us to visit a number of reused building materials centers, while meeting with deconstructors and specialists from various design offices working on the development of materials reuse practices. Two members of the ASFQ team were able to take part in specialized training in the reuse of pre-demolition architectural components in Marseille, with the Raedificare design office. The training was accompanied by the learning of a digital tool to facilitate the development, at Éco-Réno, of a new consulting service component, in support of deconstruction.

We'd like to thank all the companies who welcomed our team warmly as we passed through, helping us to get to grips with these new ways of working in architectural practices and on construction sites. In Europe, thanks to R-Aedificare, Recycle-Avenir, R+éveil, Mineka, Bobi Réemploi,

Encore Heureux et Remix, Cycle-up, Réavie, Bâticycle, Rotor, BatiTerre, Sonian Wood and Safety in Circularity. On the West Coast, thanks to Habitat pour l'Humanité, Unbuilders, The RE Store, Second Use, The Rebuilding Center, BRING, Lovett Deconstruction, Reuse Consulting, Earthwise, Ballard Reuse and Reclamation Administration.

We'd also like to thank all our counterparts in the ASF international network family (ASF Marseille, ASF Lyon, ASF Oregon and ASF Seattle), who made themselves available to sit down for a meal as we passed by and discuss our shared realities!

To see some of the companies and encounters that punctuated these two trips, consult the project's [souvenir album](#).

Thanks to our financial partners

Architects Étienne Bernier and Maude Ledoux return from Tanzania

May 18, 2023| [\[News\]](#)

After two weeks in Tanzania, the team of architects Étienne Bernier, volunteer cooperant, and Maude Ledoux, project coordinator at ASFQ, have returned from their mission with valuable information for the design of the elementary school for the children of the Enguserosambu Maasai community.

During this mission, designed to carry out the project's pre-conceptual studies, the team was able to meet this emblematic East African community and gain a better understanding of its culture, needs and the challenges associated with the future project's location in Maasai territory. The team made several trips, notably between the towns of Arusha, Karatu and Wasso, to meet local suppliers, craftsmen and professionals. The on-site mission was made possible thanks to the support of Arpakwa M. Ole Sikoerei, director of the NGO Tanzania Heritage Foundation, the project's local partner. The team also had the opportunity to visit inspiring schools built in the region, and to enjoy the magnificent landscapes, flora and fauna of the East African plateau.

The village of Enguserosambu is located to the north of Tanzania and the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, close to the Kenyan border. Local materials

will be used to facilitate implementation and transport to remote areas. Meetings with the village chief, councilors and the beneficiary population enabled the team to choose the site for the future school, which will be built on land close to several villages. Since returning from the mission, a design charrette has already taken place in May with the team, project collaborators and PRÉCI, ÉTS's international cooperation program. Project design will take place over the next 4 months, and construction of the school will take place between September and December.

ASFQ presents Lafond Côté Architectes with the OAQ Social Commitment 2023 Award

May 18, 2023|[\[News\]](#)

At the OAQ 2023 Gala on April 21, ASFQ President Christian Samman proudly presented the Prix Engagement social 2023 to Lafond Côté Architectes.

As Mr. Samman was keen to point out, "this award recognizes a group whose architectural practice is focused on social equity and environmental balance", which couldn't be more in keeping with the work of Lafond Côté Architectes. Based in Quebec City and headed since 1993 by partners Anne Côté and Mario Lafond, the firm has distinguished itself through its contribution over the past 30 years to more than 3,000 collective dwellings for people in vulnerable situations. This well-deserved distinction was awarded to a committed and innovative Quebec firm, for whom architectural projects represent a social mission.

The work of Lafond Côté Architectes had already been honored on November 22 at the ASFQ symposium entitled *Architecture + itinérance : conversations pour une ville solidaire et inclusive*. Anne Côté and her colleague Élodie Simard presented one of the office's recent achievements: the Centre d'hébergement d'urgence Lauberivière in Quebec City.

Anne Côté will be speaking again on June 5 at ASFQ's Grand Annual Conference 2023, alongside other local and international leaders. [\[Visit the event page to attend\]](#).

Watch here the short video produced by the OAQ about the firm:

Call for applications - Four positions open on the Board of Architecture sans frontières Québec

May 13, 2023|[[News](#)]

ASFQ is calling for applications for positions on its Board of Directors. In particular, the organization is looking for distinct professional profiles to complete the current Board of Directors: 1) Architecture and project management; 2) Philanthropy and financing; 3) International cooperation; 4) Aboriginal habitat. Applications from youth and diversity are welcome! Spread the word in your networks.

Organization name: Architecture Sans Frontières Québec

Sectors: Architecture, humanitarian, cooperation, sustainable development

Organization description :

Architecture Sans Frontières Québec (ASFQ) is an organization that helps populations affected by crises, natural disasters or social inequalities. It works with communities to strengthen their capacities through the involvement of various architectural players. ASFQ works overseas, with other Canadian international cooperation organizations, and in Quebec, in urban environments and with aboriginal peoples. Founded in 2008 by the Ordre des architectes du Québec (OAQ), ASFQ is the official humanitarian arm of the architectural profession. Its membership includes the province's 4,500 architects, whose social responsibility and involvement in its activities it promotes. Thanks to this unique relationship among professional associations, ASFQ also benefits from the commitment of other trades and numerous partners in the implementation of its programs.

Mission: To empower vulnerable communities by engaging the architectural sector.

Vision: A world where all populations have access to a quality built environment.

Website: [<https://www.asf-quebec.org/>]

Number of vacancies: 4 positions.

Profiles sought and prerequisites if applicable:

ASFQ is seeking applications to fill 3 professional profiles that are lacking in relation to its mission, strategic planning and membership policy:

- Architecture and project management: As the humanitarian arm of the OAQ and a registered architectural firm, ASFQ is looking for an architect with social awareness and project management experience, to chair its project management committee and advise on actions to help disadvantaged populations.
- Philanthropy and fundraising: ASFQ is looking for a person qualified in fundraising, philanthropy and/or NPO financing to support its fundraising strategies, philanthropic development and chair its fundraising committee.
- International cooperation: Given ASFQ's international involvement in projects involving ethical issues, risks and high standards, we are looking for someone who is familiar with the ecosystem, project management and realities of ICOs, NGOs, donors and other humanitarian and international development bodies.
- Native Habitat: An organization that has been involved with Native communities since its foundation, ASFQ is looking for someone to play an internal advisory role, to support the strategic development of its partnerships and actions with First Nations and Inuit.

Other qualities sought:

In addition to the skills profiles sought, ASFQ is looking for people with other skills and experience, notably in business, governance, strategy and NPO management. The organization also values professional integrity, enlightened leadership, independence of mind, active participation, the ability to influence and team spirit in its directors. Candidates need not be architects, but must have at least an interest in the field and a sensitivity to the organization's mission. The Board of Directors is also interested in people who can mobilize their business networks to support the organization's development.

Diversity of Quebec society:

ASFQ wishes to ensure the fairest possible representation of the diversity of Quebec society on its Board of Directors and adheres to the principles of equity, diversity and inclusion.

Possible terms of office :

- 3 years if elected (renewable 2 times)
- 1 year if co-opted (renewable annually)

Expectations and involvement :

- 6 Board meetings;
- 2 to 5 committee meetings per year;
- Attendance at members' general meeting;
- Support for annual fundraising efforts (donations and sponsorships);
- Representation of the organization at various industry events.

Meeting location :

201 Sainte-Catherine East, Montreal (Berri-UQAM metro) or videoconference.

Compensation: none.

Working language: French.

Documents to be submitted: letter of interest and curriculum vitae.

Start date :

At the Annual General Meeting on June 27 OR at a later date by co-option/nomination.

Deadline for applications:

There is no deadline. Nominations received before Tuesday June 20 may be subject to election at the AGM, but the Board may also proceed with co-optations/nominations after this date.

For information and to apply: info@asf-quebec.org

"Habitations + Inondations": an essential new tool for home adaptation

April 03, 2023|[\[News\]](#)

ASFQ announces the publication of Habitations + Inondations : mesures d'adaptation résidentielle, a collection of practical fact sheets designed to guide homeowners and other industry players in increasing building resilience.

A first in both Quebec and Canada, this new tool was unveiled on March 29 at a [\[conference\]](#) in Montreal, organized in partnership with the Maison du développement durable, and attended by 130 industry representatives. The collection of fact sheets is designed to help homeowners, building professionals and other stakeholders prepare for preventive work or reconstruction following a water-related disaster. Based on a review of local and international best adaptation practices, each of the 19 fact sheets is designed to be easily understood by the public. They are also a resource for local governments wishing to promote complementary strategies or alternatives to existing flood zone protection initiatives or the relocation of buildings at risk from urban, ice jam or open-water flooding.

For practical fact sheets and further information, [\[click here\]](#).

The event was also an opportunity for the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Andrée Laforest, to deliver an opening address in which she announced that, within the next few weeks, the government will be presenting concrete, structuring actions that will enable the realization of a strategic and ambitious vision of a Quebec that achieves the highest standards in architecture and land-use planning. She also pointed out that calls for projects under the Programme de résilience et d'adaptation face aux inondations (PRAFI) are currently open, with more to follow this fall. PRAFI provides for a total investment of \$345 million to increase the safety of people and the protection of property in the face of flood risks.

A long-awaited reference tool

The result of two years' work, this publication is part of a research project [\[Architecture résiliente aux inondations : développement d'expertise et transfert de connaissances\]](#), in partnership with the [\[ARIAction\]](#) research group of the Université de Montréal's Faculty of Planning, and with the

support of Concordia University, the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (CMM), the Société québécoise des infrastructures (SQI) and the Société d'habitation du Québec (SHQ).

For Bruno Demers, General Manager of ASFQ, "such a tool fills a glaring gap, as no reliable reference was available to date in Quebec to guide the adaptation of residential buildings. For ASFQ, which has been involved in the issue since its first emergency interventions during the Richelieu crisis in 2011, this publication is an important milestone. As the humanitarian arm of the Ordre des architectes du Québec, it is also a source of great pride to be able to contribute in this way to the protection of the public and the promotion of architectural quality in the housing sector."

For Isabelle Thomas, professor at the Université de Montréal's Faculté d'aménagement and lead academic partner in the research project, "following the floods of 2017 and 2019, it became essential to provide concrete strategies for adapting the built environment to flooding for the Quebec context." The result of a collaboration between the ASFQ and ARIAction teams, in which three Master of Architecture students were actively involved, "the innovative and significant results of this project mark a fundamental step forward for architectural, urban planning and land development practices. It's thanks to this kind of collaborative approach and training for the next generation, insists Ms. Thomas, that resilience can be strengthened in Quebec".

It's worth noting that the fact sheets meet real needs that have been duly identified both in the field and at local, provincial and national government levels. In particular, their dissemination could contribute to achieving certain targets of *Canada's National Adaptation Strategy*, published in the fall of 2022, including the one stipulating that by 2025, 50% of Canadians will have taken steps to respond to the climate change risks facing their homes. By facilitating the dissemination of the knowledge required for the climate transition, the fact sheets also contribute to the Quebec government's *Plan de la mise en oeuvre 2022-2027 - Plan pour une économie verte 2030*. What's more, the work that led to the creation of the fact sheets is in tune with the *Politique nationale de l'architecture et de l'aménagement du territoire*, also published in 2022, which aims, among other objectives, to develop "quality living environments that meet the needs of the population". Such fact sheets are also directly consistent with other adaptation tools developed in recent years, such as those of the [[Intact Climate Adaptation Centre](#)] or the [[Residential Diagnosis of Flood](#)

[Resilience Capacity \(CAPRI\)](#)], developed by ARIAction in partnership with the Ministry of Public Safety.

This project was made possible by a contribution from the Fonds de recherche du Québec (FRQ), through the Réseau Inondations InterSectoriel du Québec (RIISQ), and the Mitacs Accélération program. The project was supported by an interdisciplinary advisory committee of forty experts from various fields, and by several research collaborators. ASFQ salutes their essential contribution to the project's success.

For all information related to this announcement :

Élène Levasseur
Director of Research and Education
Architecture Sans Frontières Québec
elevasseur@asf-quebec.org

Watch the complete recording of the event here:

Replay the Architecture + Itinérance 2022 symposium!

March 23, 2023|[\[News\]](#)

In 2022, ASFQ organized the first edition of the Architecture + Itinérance colloquium, an unprecedented interdisciplinary meeting where nearly 200 people were able to reflect on the positive contribution that design can make to the conception of a more united and inclusive city. The symposium also provided an opportunity to unveil a brand-new catalog of innovative local and international practices in this field.

For those who were unable to attend, the event is now available [[here for free replay](#)].

To view the full program and speaker slideshows, [[visit the event page here](#)].

Service hub

<https://www.asf-quebec.org/en/our-programs/>

Our services

Synergies for a High Impact Architecture

International cooperation

Architectural expertise for the international cooperation projects of Canadian NGOs and their partners in developing countries

[See more](#)

Urban solidarity

Support for community development projects aimed at urban equity, social inclusion and helping the homeless in Montreal.

[See more](#)

Native habitat

Architecture to support infrastructure projects, build capacity and alleviate the housing crisis in First Nations and Inuit communities

[See more](#)

Climate resilience

Preventive action to adapt Quebec to flooding and assistance in the event of disaster

[See more](#)

Circular economy

Ecological and inclusive architecture through the recovery, redistribution and reuse of building materials.

[See more](#)

Volunteer work

Opportunities for local and international volunteer action with Architecture sans frontières Québec and its partners.

[See more](#)

Architectural education

Learning and development activities to train practitioners in the bold social architecture the world needs.

[See more](#)

Service detail

[Coopération internationale - Architecture sans frontières Québec \(asf-quebec.org\)](https://asf-quebec.org)

Architectural expertise for the international cooperation projects of Canadian NGOs and their partners in developing countries

The challenge

Uneven sustainable development

More than ever, we live in a globalized and interconnected world, where the challenges of sustainable development continue to be numerous and borderless. In many countries of the South, for a variety of reasons, millions of people live in inadequate or dilapidated buildings. Poverty and lack of resources are not the only causes. Unsuitable building solutions, often imported from the North, are also part of the problem - a bias that persists even in highly laudable development projects, which unfortunately forget that architecture is not just a technical means of protecting human life, but an integral part of the cultural identity of communities, and in this respect an end in itself. It was to bring the expertise of its members to bear on the complex issue of development that the OAQ decided to create ASFQ in 2007: architects cannot remain mere observers of injustice elsewhere in the world.

An architecture of cooperation

ASFQ's international cooperation program is aligned with Quebec's and Canada's traditions in this field, with the conviction that architecture is an essential skill for ending global poverty, promoting social justice, human dignity and the well-being of all. Social progress depends on a well-designed built environment, and only a participatory design process that values local knowledge, vernacular traditions and a careful understanding of each context can provide culturally-appropriate solutions to the challenges facing the countries of the South. As the only Quebec-based organization specializing in humanitarian architecture, ASFQ collaborates with international and Canadian partners wishing to undertake exemplary actions through architecture focused on sustainable and human development.

Program focus

Support for international cooperation projects

ASFQ's expertise is offered to make essential infrastructure possible where none exists before. Our support varies according to the type and stage of the project, from preliminary studies to delivery. Whether for housing, schools, clinics or other community buildings, ASFQ seeks to optimize resources and increase the impact, quality and sustainability of the project. By identifying the right local partners and using a participatory approach, we ensure that social acceptability and the development of local skills are always at the forefront.

ASFQ focuses on long-term projects for disadvantaged populations in French-speaking Africa, Latin America and the French West Indies. We also intervene elsewhere in response to humanitarian crises and the priorities of our partners. In areas at risk of natural disasters, attention is paid to para-seismic and para-cyclonic standards and to the technical know-how that can be applied.

When needed, ASFQ mobilizes volunteer cooperants from among its members, who include the province's 4150 architects. Any organization seeking the support of a volunteer architect can call on ASFQ to ensure recruitment and supervision in accordance with cooperative standards. As a member of ASF International, the humanitarian arm of the OAQ and an architectural firm in its own right, ASFQ aims for the highest ethical standards. Thanks to 12 years of project experience, our team offers diligent management of the risks, insurance, legislation and other professional liability issues inherent in any international project.

Emergency humanitarian aid

ASFQ provides technical assistance in the event of disasters in developing countries, whenever possible and necessary. In the event of natural disasters or humanitarian crises, architectural expertise facilitates the auditing and securing of damaged buildings, the development of spaces for affected populations and the planning of reconstruction to improved standards. Such emergency services have notably been offered in Haiti, following the 2010 earthquake and Hurricane Matthew in 2017, as well as in Nepal, following the 2015 earthquakes.

Our affiliation

ASFQ is a member of the [[Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale](#)] (AQOCI), which brings together nearly 70 organizations committed, here and abroad, to the implementation of sustainable and humane development. Over the years, ASFQ has continued to make itself available as an architectural partner to AQOCI members, to collaborate in eradicating the causes of poverty and building a world that is just, inclusive and respectful of human rights.

Are you an industry partner seeking our support? Contact us or consult our project selection process.

Team

<https://www.asf-quebec.org/en/about-us/our-team/>

Our team

Architects of a better world

The management team

Bruno Demers

General Manager

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Élène Levasseur

PhD, Research and Education Director

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Elise Benghozi

Director of Finance and Partnerships

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Maude Ledoux

Architect, Project Coordinator

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Olivia Daigneault Deschênes

Architect, Project Manager - Urban Solidarity

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Sonia Blank

Architect, Research Officer - Urban Solidarity

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Maira Gonzalez

Project Manager - Urban Solidarity

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Caroline Thomasset-Laperrière

Development Officer - Circular Economy

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Delphine Ducharme

Associate Researcher - Flood resilience

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Collaborators

Faten Kikano

Delegate to ASF International, PhD in planning and researcher at CERSÉ

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Veronic Lapalme

Research Associate - Urban Solidarity

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Sarahlou Wagner

Research associate - Solidarité urbaine

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Elizabeth Prince

Research associate - Solidarité urbaine

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Board of Directors

Christian Samman

President, Architect in private practice

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Guillaume Lévesque

Vice-President, Architect in private practice

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Marilène Blain-Sabourin

Secretary, Architect in private practice

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Bernard McNamara

Founding President, Architect and expert witness

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Georges-Marie Dehaut

Treasurer, Accountant and Director of Internal Audit, Ivanohé Cambridge

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Luc Gauvin

Director, Architect, Nativ Architecture

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Johanne Mallette

Director, Corporate Governance and Furniture Development

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André Dudemaine

Director, Director and Founder, Land InSights

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Carolyne Fontaine

Director and OAQ representative, Architect, Partner and Director EVOQ Architecture

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About us

<https://www.asf-quebec.org/en/about-us/>

About us

The humanitarian arm of Quebec architecture

Our organization

Architecture Sans Frontières Québec (ASFQ) is an organization that helps populations affected by crises, natural disasters or social inequalities. It works with communities to strengthen

their capacities through the involvement of various architectural players. ASFQ works overseas, with other Canadian international cooperation organizations, and in Quebec, in urban environments and with aboriginal peoples.

Created in 2008 by the Ordre des architectes du Québec (OAQ), ASFQ is the official humanitarian arm of the architectural profession. Its members include the province's 4,500 architects, whose social responsibility and involvement in its activities it promotes. Thanks to this unique relationship among professional associations, ASFQ also benefits from the commitment of other trades and numerous partners in the implementation of its programs.

Our purpose

Far from a luxury, architecture is essential to human fulfillment, sustainable development and community autonomy. It implies rights as fundamental as housing, health, education, equality and security. These depend on adequate infrastructure, which requires quality architecture. Yet, due to hazards and injustices, most of the world's inhabitants live in poorly built environments, lacking the capacity to create safe, healthy and ecological living environments. This situation persists all the more as urbanization, migration and climate change accelerate, further deteriorating the habitat of vulnerable people. That's why, more than ever, we need high-quality, inclusive architecture to find the best solutions to the challenges facing humanity.

Our network

Architecture sans frontières international (ASF International) is a network of some thirty independent organizations on five continents. Its members are united by the [[Hasselt Charter](#)], a common declaration of principles that promotes architecture

that is equitable, socially responsible, respectful of cultural diversity, preserving heritage and based on cooperation and respect for human rights.

The network and its members collaborate on various local and international initiatives, including educating professionals and lobbying major design and development bodies, including the United Nations. In fact, ASFQ and ASF International jointly contributed to the drafting of the [[Montreal Design Declaration](#)], adopted in 2017 at the conclusion of the World Design Summit.

Our mission

Empowering vulnerable communities by engaging the architectural sector.

Our Vision

A world where all people have access to a quality built environment.

Our values

Justice

The importance of fundamental rights, to the defense of which architecture can contribute.

Solidarity

The duty to provide assistance in a context of local and international interdependence.

Commitment

The desire of building professionals to work towards a better world.

Respect

The utmost consideration for the needs, differences and dignity of all stakeholders.

Our expertise

Architecture is the art of designing buildings and creating spaces that are functional, resistant, comfortable and harmonious. Prior to any construction, it is a design process attentive to future occupants and to the solutions best suited to each cultural, geographical and regulatory context. This is the expertise we offer our project partners, with support at every stage, from the initial definition of needs to preliminary studies, sketches and plans, right through to delivery. Whether it's a school, a clinic, a community center or a home, our design practice is centered on people and is mindful of its social impact. We ensure architectural quality, because well-designed infrastructure is the pride of a community and provides services that change lives.

Our approach

Our approach seeks to rethink boundaries, including those of conventional architecture. We serve not customers, but communities. We cultivate collaboration between our partners, beneficiaries and volunteers. We respond to needs and issues to which the industry offers too few answers and too few resources. Our team must think outside the box and cultivate an attitude focused on solving complex problems.

In addition to designing buildings and managing projects, research, consulting and innovation are part of the expertise we offer. And often, the solutions we find to end the status quo don't lie in construction, but in training or advocacy. That's why we also develop professional development activities and take a public stance on issues related to our mission.

Our competencies

- Research
- Innovation
- Consulting
- Design
- Project management
- Training
- Advocacy

Our intervention principles

As the humanitarian arm of the Ordre des architectes du Québec, ethics are at the heart of our approach. In addition to our values, the codes governing our profession and the charter of our international federation, key principles guide the projects we undertake with our partners:

- Relevance and sustainability of interventions
- Integrity, efficiency and transparency of those involved
- Inclusion of differences and marginalized people
- Impartiality, independence and neutrality in the help we provide
- Quality assurance and professional responsibility in every project

Our impact

Our programs target some of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals, to which all responsible architecture should contribute: the fight against poverty, access to health care, quality education, decent jobs, gender equality, resilient infrastructure, sustainable cities, reduced inequality, responsible consumption, climate action and strong partnerships.

Every year, ASFQ makes possible a number of projects that change lives in Quebec and around the world. In addition, we organize various awareness-raising activities for our members and supporters, helping to train a new generation of committed professionals and set the humanitarian architecture movement in motion.

Proud member of the 1%!

1% for the Planet is a global movement that encourages companies and individuals to support ecological solutions through membership and daily actions. Private companies that are members of the movement commit each year, in a variety of ways, to donating 1% of their gross revenues to accredited environmental organizations. As an accredited organization since 2018, ASFQ invites all committed companies to join the movement and invest in its humanitarian programs, all of which aim to increase the social and environmental resilience of communities here and abroad.

History

[Historique – ASF France : Architectes Sans Frontières](#)

Architectes Sans Frontières was founded in 1979 by architect Pierre Allard.

Its first action was to provide emergency assistance to Chadians who had fled the conflicts in their country to take refuge in Northern Cameroon.

Subsequently, during the 1980s, the association expanded and embarked on a number of programs focusing primarily on housing: slum clearance (Douala, Cameroon), urban housing

improvement (Fortaleza, Brazil) and rural housing improvement (Bouilly, Mauritania).

After ten years of activity, Architectes Sans Frontières is now present in countries such as Iranian Kurdistan, Vietnam, Brazil, Cameroon and Mozambique.

At the beginning of the 1990s, despite growth and a permanent structure, the association was not spared internal debates and an increasingly difficult professional context, which led to the suspension of its activities in 1996.

However, the association continued to expand in Europe, with the creation of ASF Spain and ASF Belgium.

In 2002, a group of architecture students from Strasbourg decided to resume the association's activities, and invited the "old hands" to take part in the relaunch. This is how the association's Board of Directors came to unite the founders and younger members around a spirit close to the original one, and the determination to become operational again as quickly as possible.

Today, Architectes Sans Frontières is developing its projects in conjunction with other partners in the international solidarity movement, as well as in France. It relies on a decentralized network of regional delegations to mobilize skills and energies.

In a global context undergoing profound change, Architectes Sans Frontières participated in the creation of Architecture Sans Frontières International in 2007. ASF-Int is an international network of architectural associations and NGOs that have adopted the Hasselt Charter defining their ethical principles. They pool their thoughts and actions to "build a world of solidarity".

In 2008, Architecture Sans Frontières Québec was created.

Frequently asked questions (FAQ)

<https://www.asf-quebec.org/economie-circulaire-asfq-ouvrira-un-centre-de-reemploi-de-materiaux-de-10-000-pi2-a-montreal/>

Do you provide services outside Quebec?

Yes, our organization has an international network. It's called [[Architecture Sans Frontières International](#)].

How can I keep up with Éco-Réno?

Stay tuned for upcoming announcements, including activities surrounding the official opening and inauguration of the new premises. [[Sign up for the Éco-Réno newsletter](#)], which will keep you up to date with company news and new arrivals of a wide variety of materials every week.

When can you visit the new Éco-Réno warehouse?

Éco-Réno will be located at 9399 Saint-Laurent as of August 9. Until then, take advantage of special discounts of up to 80% on everything in our current boutique at 6615 Papineau, before it closes on July 23. It's a great opportunity to visit the old store before discovering our new address!

How to donate materials?

To make a donation, contact Éco-Réno when it reopens on August 9. Whether you're a homeowner, a professional or a

business, think about reuse in your projects. Your donations could qualify for a tax-deductible charitable receipt.

Want to lend a hand?

Éco-Réno regularly renews its bank of volunteers! Do you have time to give, are you handy, physically fit and passionate about materials? [[Contact the Éco-Réno team](#)] to express your interest.

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