

FIVE TEAMS - ONE HUNDRED PADDLERS - ONE CAUSE! Rowing to Bring Missing Children Safely Home!

What a great sensation to be back on the water after a two-year hiatus! On Sunday, June 12th, bright sunny skies and smiling faces of our enthusiastic volunteers awaited our eager paddlers as they gathered at the Saint-Paul Locks for the 14th Edition of our Dragon Boat Challenge!

We could not have hoped for a more perfect and festive day along the Lachine Canal! Sunny skies ... mild weather ... motivated competitors... ideal racing conditions ... professional guidance of 22Dragons and lively animation by Viva Entertainment! The incomparable and vivacious, **Ednamation** warmly welcomed our participants and jump-started the day with an interactive and playful icebreaker that had participants hunt for letters that spelled the word ESPOIR (hope), a reminder of the very essence of our critical mission.

Despite the difficult economic context, our team captains and their members worked relentlessly for months to raise awareness about the plight of missing children and collect funds in support of our continuing quest to bring these children home. Their perseverance, determination and devotion to our cause is to be commended! Thank you to all our teams for rising to the challenge and inspiring us to never give up: **Boomerang; One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish; Bronx, Rowaways and AsherYéNoir** - you have honoured missing children and brought a glimmer of hope into the lives of our searching families!

Here are some highlights of our day:

- Bragging rights belong to Team Bronx, crowned overall champions of the 14th Annual Dragon Boat Challenge, followed closely by One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish and Rowaways who took home the bronze medal.
- Team One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish raised an astonishing \$23,733!
- Andria Mallozzi was declared Top Fundraiser, raising \$8,561.
- An emotional Anna Chan (team One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish) will be flying to a destination of her choice, courtesy of the Air Canada Foundation.

A total of \$50,000 was raised in support of our mission!

To all those who contributed to the success of our Dragon Boat Challenge, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Because of caring and compassionate friends such as yourself, our world is a much better place today.

To view our photo gallery, please click on the following link: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/dFfkzFu64sDBGHnC6>

Till next year, have yourself a safe and sunny summer!