



**missing children's
network**
Keeping hope alive

.....

2022

**Annual
Activities
Report**





TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword	4
Our Vision and our Mission	5
Our Mission	5
Our Vision	5
Our Goals	5
Our Impact	6
Search – At the Heart of our Mission, Bringing Missing Children Home	6
Support for Families Across Quebec	6
Our Actions	7
Collaboration and Networking Work	7
A Voice for Missing Children	7
The Media: Indispensable Allies	7
Social Networks: Building a Caring and Protective Virtual Community	7
Keeping Hope Alive: our Poster Partners	7
Prevention, Education and Awareness	8
SHINE: A Prevention Program for Students in Grades 5 and 6 of Primary School and 1 st Year Of Secondary School	8
SHINEforlife.org Website: Unlimited Access to our Resources	8
How I Stay Safe!	8
Workshops On Various Topics	8
Our Prevention Team in the Field	8
Joining Professionals Who Help All Young People, Without Exception	9
Key Collaborations and Partnerships – Fighting the Sexual Exploitation of Minors	10
Fundraising Events	11
The Dragon Boat Challenge	11
The 15 th Golf Classic	11
Giving Tuesday	11
Virtual Auction	11
Third-Party Fundraising Activities	12
Ozzaz	12
Lost & Faune	12
Annual Beans Day	12
Tanguay Foundation House	12
Thank You For Your Support	13
Government Assistance	13
Discretionary Funds	13
Private Donors	14
Donations in Kind	14
Members of The Board of Directors	16

Message from the Chair of the Board and the Executive Director

Dear friends of the Network,
Dear families,
Dear donors,
and
Dear partners big and small,

As Chair of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present our organization's 2022 annual report, which covers a year marked by significant changes.

Firstly, I would like to pay special tribute to our former Executive Director, Pina Arcamone, who retired in December after almost three decades of dedicated service. She worked tirelessly for the Network, and her invaluable contribution allowed us to fulfill our mission. She made the Network a major professional reference in Quebec and across Canada in everything related to the abduction and exploitation of minors. Thank you, Pina!

I am pleased to introduce our new Executive Director, Mélanie Aubut, who took over last December and will continue to support the Network's mission. We welcome her and are confident that she will be able to continue the work of her predecessor with dedication and success.

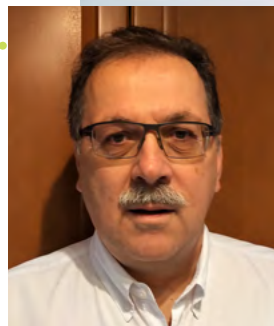
This year was a year of transition for the Network following the pandemic. The sources of funding had to be adapted to a new reality, and the challenge remains significant. We are proud of our achievements and grateful to our dedicated and seasoned team. We thank all our donors from the bottom of our hearts for their support. Our positive results are due to the help received and the solidarity shown by everyone.

We are convinced that 2023 will be a year of renewal for our organization, and we look forward to continue working with you to achieve our objectives and thus help bring more missing children home. We are also working to equip youth to prevent disappearances by offering educational workshops in schools, as well as training for educators, professionals, and families.

Thank you for your trust and support, happy reading.

Thank you again for your support,

Yves J. Beauchesne, CPA, MBA, D. Tax.
President of the Board of Directors



To all of you, dear families, partners, donors, and friends,

It is with great pleasure that I present this annual report to you as the new Executive Director of the Missing Children's Network. Since my arrival four months ago, I have been deeply moved by the exceptional work we do to help families with missing children.

Together, we have continued to advance our mission by providing support to those who need it most. Thanks to our unwavering commitment, we have also continued to educate our youth through our SHINE program to prevent disappearances and sexual exploitation.

I am proud to be part of this work we have accomplished together and I am confident that we will continue to make a positive difference in the lives of families affected by the disappearance of a child.

I would like to thank all members of our team for their dedication and hard work, as well as all our partners, donors, and supporters who have contributed to making our vital work possible.

I look forward to continue working with you in the coming months to further our support to families and advance our mission.

Sincerely,

Mélanie Aubut
Executive Director



Our Mission



The Missing Children’s Network is the only charity organization in Quebec that assists parents in the search for their missing child. In addition, we contribute to the reduction of missing children by teaching youth to protect themselves and by educating the public.

Our Vision



We dream of making our corner of the world a place where all children and youth thrive safely and know how to protect themselves.

Our Goals

Support and advise families whose child has been a victim of criminal or parental abduction, or whose child has run away.

Collaborate with law enforcement, government authorities and media to find missing children and bring them home safely.



Help prevent disappearances, aggression and exploitation of children.

Raise awareness and educate different audiences on personal safety and prevention of missing children.

Search – At the Heart of our Mission, Bringing Missing Children Home

According to statistics published by the RCMP, 4 665 children were reported missing in 2022. In Quebec, on average, 13 youth are reported missing daily (Missing Children's Network). Not only is the disappearance of children a nightmare for parents, but it is also a tragedy for the entire province.

2022

(source: RCMP)

4 665
missing children

In Quebec,

13 youth
go missing daily

(source: Missing Children's Network)

Support for Families Across Quebec

In 2022, the team at the Missing Children's Network handled a total of 188 cases including:

79

new cases of disappearance

74

runaways

2

parental
abductions

2

disappearances
under unknown
circumstances

1

adult
disappearance

108

active cases that remained open and
unsolved from previous years



This collaboration
contributed to solving

76 disappearance
cases

Our Actions

- Handling 613 phone calls related to active disappearance prevention and assistance cases
- Producing an annual poster featuring 12 unresolved disappearance cases
- Commemorating National Missing Children's Day on May 25th in-person after two years of being held virtually
- Observing the disappearance anniversaries of 35 unsolved cases
- Assisting the family of Marilyn Bergeron during a press conference held on October 28th in Hawkesbury
- Assisting the Sûreté du Québec in triggering two AMBER Alerts
- Participating in various webinars such as:
 - Conference Day: Youth and Mental Health – Réseau Connexion
 - Carrefour Aliénation parentale – Non-Violent Communication

A Voice for Missing Children

MEDIA: INDISPENSABLE ALLIES

As every year, the media have been numerous in seeking the expertise of the Missing Children's Network.

Whether in traditional and print media or on specialized platforms, 50 interviews were granted in 2022 on various subjects, notably parental abduction, sexual exploitation of minors, child safety, and the departure of the Executive Director, Pina Arcamone.

Moreover, during the National Missing Children's Day, we collaborated with Global Montreal, a long-standing partner. This partnership allowed not only to increase awareness among Quebecers about the issue of missing children but also to inform parents and educators on how to better protect children from abduction, assault, and exploitation.

Collaboration and Networking Work

Our partnership with members of the Our Missing Children program continued, as did our collaboration with the Children's Litigation section of Global Affairs Canada, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Canada Border Services Agency, the Quebec Ministry of Justice, the Batshaw Youth and Family Centres, as well as coordination officers working within various law enforcement agencies in Quebec.

We have consolidated and developed privileged relationships with several women's shelters and other community organizations, CLSCs, social workers working in Youth Centres, family law specialists in Quebec, Canada, and the United States.

We have shared information and collaborated with several organizations dedicated to searching for missing children in Canada and abroad: the Canadian Centre for Child Protection, the Missing Children Society of Canada, and the National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children in Washington.

Finally, we worked on updating the document "Revenir pour Rester" (Coming Back to Stay) with En Marge 12-17, the SPVM, and the CIUSSS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal.

KEEPING HOPE ALIVE: OUR DISPLAY PARTNERS

Sharing the photo of a missing child can make all the difference between a quick return and a prolonged search. In fact, statistics have shown that one in five missing children is located thanks to citizens who recognized them on a poster.

The Missing Children's Network is proud to be able to count on the collaboration of numerous businesses, law enforcement agencies, transportation companies, community organizations, and hundreds of volunteers who eagerly distribute our posters and missing persons alerts throughout Quebec. Their invaluable support allows the Missing Children's Network to achieve a higher success rate in its searches.

This year, thanks to the involvement of our partners, we have:

- Distributed posters of missing children with the collaboration of Total Logistics Group of Companies as our display partner
- Maintained the partnership with the Montreal Alouettes. Photos of 27 missing children were displayed on the big screen during the regular season
- Distributed the annual poster to our partners, including the Canada Border Services Agency (Montreal-Trudeau International Airport), schools, media, and the public attending our events
- Relunched unsolved missing persons cases on the Missing Children's Network's social media channels

SOCIAL MEDIA: BUILDING A CARING AND SUPPORTIVE VIRTUAL COMMUNITY



42 802
followers



1 596
followers



1 602
followers



516
followers



Prevention, Education and Awareness

At the Missing Children's Network, we strongly believe that prevention is the most effective approach to reducing the risks of child abduction, assault, or exploitation.

For this reason, we have developed various workshops in collaboration with professionals and law enforcement agencies.

SHINE: a prevention program for 5th and 6th grade elementary school and 1st year high school students

SHINE (Self-esteem – Healthy Relationships – Independence – No means no – Empowerment) aims to prevent sexual exploitation and is intended for youth aged 10 to 13. The workshops deal with self-affirmation, independence, setting boundaries, gender stereotypes, as well as the importance of building healthy and egalitarian relationships with others.

Our ultimate goal is to significantly reduce the number of youth who are victims of sexual exploitation in Quebec.

SHINEFORLIFE.ORG WEBSITE: UNLIMITED ACCESS TO OUR RESOURCES

The shineforlife.org website has become a reference site for the prevention of runaway and sexual abuse. It includes, among other things, a directory of organizations and services designed to help victims of sexual exploitation. Thanks to shineforlife.org, school teams, professionals, parents, and youth now have direct access to training, safety tips, and activities.

How I Stay Safe!

Our interactive workshops "How I Stay Safe!" are designed for children ages 5-8. They learn to recognize and avoid potentially dangerous situations.

Our prevention workshops are specifically designed to meet the needs of students and cover a range of topics, including trusting one's instincts, creating safe profiles on social media, and the importance of building healthy and egalitarian relationships.

Workshops On Various Topics

Through our prevention programs, we offer families as well as professionals working with youth diverse prevention content on safety and prevention. These workshops aim to prevent abductions, assaults, runaways, and sexual exploitation among youth by addressing various themes such as:

- Safe behaviours: during outdoor activities, on the way to school, during unsupervised moments at home, when using digital tools
- Recognizing that one's body belongs to them and their right to say NO!
- Identifying and setting emotional, physical, and virtual boundaries
- Developing healthy and egalitarian relationships
- Recognizing gender stereotypes that influence self-perception and perceptions of others
- Identifying trusted adults to turn to in difficult times
- Reporting abuse or inappropriate behaviour

Joining Professionals Who Help All Youth, Without Exception

On May 16th, during the conference “Sexual Violence and Mental Health: From One Shore to Another” organized by CALACS DES RIVIÈRES Haute-Yamaska Brome-Missisquoi, our prevention coordinator had the opportunity to meet with over 60 professionals and lead a workshop entitled “Preventing Sexual Cyber Violence and Exploitation Among Minors.”



Our Prevention Team in the Field

435

workshops conducted in schools of
23 school service centres, including
private schools

9 617

students sensitized

292

teachers sensitized

9

administrative regions of
Quebec covered

7

seminars on children's safety given
to 160 parents

2

awareness interventions for 64 profes-
sionals: Sexual Violence and Mental Health
Symposium: From One Shore to Another;
informative session on sexual exploitation
(*English-Montreal School Board*)

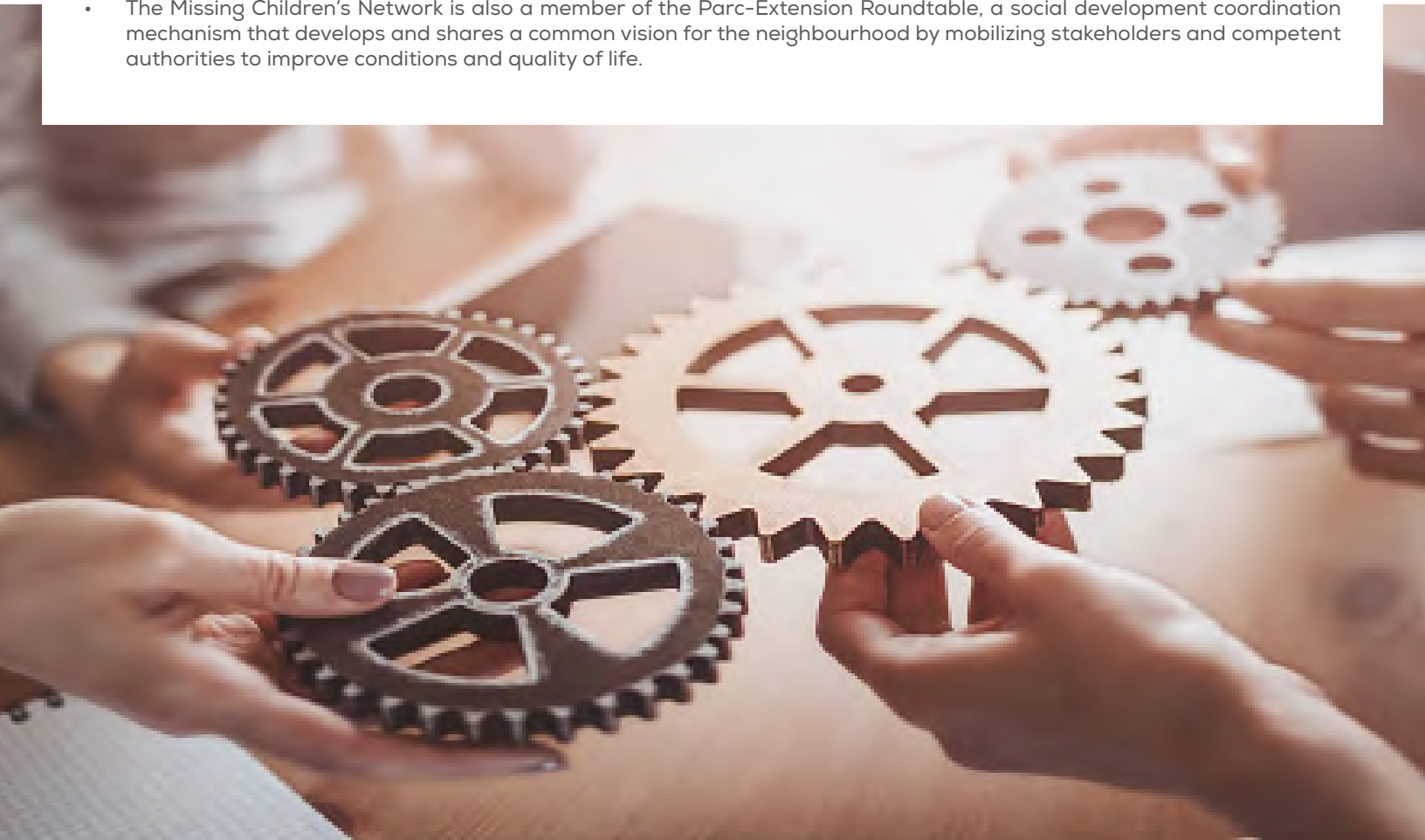
1

key community worker from the
South Asian Women's Community Centre
trained to deliver the SHINE program to their
specialized clientele thanks to our turnkey kit

Key Collaborations and Partnerships – Fighting the Sexual Exploitation of Minors

In order to increase the means of reaching youth and offering them relevant and up-to-date tools, and thus combat disappearances and sexual exploitation, our team is joining forces with key players, such as:

- In October, our Director of Operations attended the annual “Free the Slaves” forum, which brings together anti-slavery leaders from around the world to discuss best practices and develop a common action program. We had the opportunity to present our SHINE program at this high-profile event.
- On May 18th, we hosted a virtual information session in collaboration with En marge 12-17 (Parenting Section) and the SPVM – Project Les Survivantes, aimed at professionals working with families and youth. This session focused on the topic of runaways and sexual exploitation, and raised awareness among professionals about recognize the risks and warning signs among vulnerable youth.
- In addition, since December 2022, the Missing Children’s Network is proud to be a member of the Table d’action concertée montréalaise en exploitation sexuelle (TACMES), which aims to deploy a mechanism that allows all actors involved in situations of sexual exploitation in Montreal to develop concerted actions to meet the needs of people aged 12 to 35, from cultural, sexual and gender diversity. We look forward to working closely with our partners to bring concrete solutions to this critical social problem.
- White Ribbon’s “Day After Day” program highlights the exacerbation of domestic violence during the pandemic and the impacts of perpetuating toxic masculinity. The Missing Children’s Network collaborated in promoting their public service message ([t](#))
- The “Preventing Online Sexual Exploitation with Youth” project will complement White Ribbon’s sexual exploitation prevention work to intervene and prevent at-risk youth from experiencing violence online. The Missing Children’s Network is an active member of the project’s advisory committee.
- The Missing Children’s Network has been added to the national referral directory of the Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline, a resource that connects victims and survivors with emergency, transitional, and long-term services in Canadian communities.
- After two long years of pandemic isolation, we invited our partners from the SHINE program to participate in a specialized workshop at our offices. During this workshop, we had the opportunity to strengthen the bonds between partners and professionals. Together, we questioned the impacts of the pandemic on our youth and discussed the problem of the constant new progression of the sexual exploitation of minors. This workshop was facilitated by the company Percolab and the team from the Missing Children’s Network.
- The Missing Children’s Network is also a member of the Parc-Extension Roundtable, a social development coordination mechanism that develops and shares a common vision for the neighbourhood by mobilizing stakeholders and competent authorities to improve conditions and quality of life.





The Dragon Boat Challenge



After two years of absence, on Sunday, June 12th, our one hundred paddlers and numerous volunteers finally reunited on the water to paddle for a good cause. In total, \$50,000 was raised in support of our mission. A big thank you to all the participants, our partner Viva Entertainment for the animation, and Ednamation for warmly welcoming our participants.

Giving Tuesday

Thanks to your support, our #ShineALightOnYouth campaign has increased the personal safety of 2,000 students aged 8 to 13 and raised \$12,000. Since the launch of our SHINE program, we have reached over 50,000 students to significantly reduce the number of young victims of sexual exploitation in Quebec. Thank you for helping to enlighten the path of our children's lives.

Virtual Auction

We are proud to announce that the virtual auction "Hope Blooms", organized with the generous contribution and participation of dozens of partners and donors, raised \$30,000 during its May and August editions.

The 15th Annual Golf Classic



On Monday, August 29th, Todd Coleman, honorary president of our 15th annual Golf Classic, warmly welcomed 152 golfers who were getting ready to tee off on behalf of the Missing Children's Network.

Thanks to the legendary generosity of our corporate partners and all our guests, the 2022 tournament will go down in history for raising the unprecedented amount of \$120,000. We would like to acknowledge the exceptional support of our tournament co-title sponsors, eStruxture and CBRE, as well as our supporting partner, Superior Plus.

THIRD-PARTY FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES



Ozzaz

Ozzaz offers affordable all-purpose sneakers. Daniel Cohen, the brain behind this brilliant idea, has committed to naming each style after a friend, including Jesse Galganov, who went missing in 2017 while traveling in Peru. In tribute to Jesse, Daniel donated \$1,200 to the Missing Children's Network in support of the search for missing children.



Lost & Faune

On the occasion of National Missing Children's Day, the Missing Children's Network partnered with Lost & Faune to create a beautiful key necklace. This piece of jewelry symbolizes the much-hoped-for return home of missing children. For each key necklace sold, Lost & Faune donated \$10 to the Missing Children's Network. The necklaces sold like hotcakes, and the cause received \$1,000.



Annual Baked Beans Day

The Fraternité des policiers et policières de Montréal held its annual Baked Beans Day, of which we are proud to be a beneficiary. On October 21st, our partners were invited to get a delicious old-fashioned meal including a generous serving of homemade baked beans, a roll, a cake, a beverage, and utensils, all delivered by a retired police officer. At the end of this beautiful day, the Montreal Police Brotherhood donated \$1,250 to the Network!



Tanguay Foundation House

For the second year in a row, the Network has partnered with the sale of tickets for the draw of the spectacular Novoclimat Maison Fondation Maurice Tanguay worth \$500,000. This year, we sold 139 tickets and raised a lovely sum of \$1,041.



Our partners, donors, and supporters are part of a unique group of people who, like us, believe that all children deserve to grow up safely and well-protected. Once again, and despite the difficult economic context, many have joined forces with us in 2022 to ensure that we can bring missing children home and prevent new disappearances.

Government Assistance

In 2022, the Missing Children's Network:

- Received an unprecedented grant of \$100,000 per year for three years from the Ministry of Public Security to carry out our mission and provide support to families and law enforcement agencies.
- Solicited the help of the Government of Quebec and received over \$40,000 from discretionary funds, including a sum of \$20,000 from the Ministry of Education in support of the SHINE program.
- Benefited from a \$10,000 grant from Justice Canada as part of National Victims of Crime Awareness Week; this allowed us to hold an online seminar on the scourge of runaways and sexual exploitation of minors.
- Received a \$2,800 grant from the City of Montreal as part of the Aid to OBLN Tenant Organizations program.

Discretionary Funds

We would also like to thank the elected officials who have drawn on their discretionary budget to support our mission:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| • Dominique Anglade | • Claire Isabelle |
| • David Birnbaum | • Gregory Kelley |
| • Jean Boulet | • Mathieu Lacombe |
| • Lionel Carmant | • Lise Lavallée |
| • Enrico Ciccone | • Sonia Lebel |
| • Christian Dubé | • Lucie Lecours |
| • Pierre Fitzgibbon | • François Legault |
| • Andrés Fontecilla | • Richard Lorraine |
| • Émilie Foster | • Jennifer Maccarone |
| • Sylvain Gaudreault | • Samuel Poulin |
| • Eric Girard | • Caroline Proulx |
| • Lajoie Hugo | • Christopher Skeete |
| • Lafrenière Ian | • Sol Zanetti |

Private donors

Heart of Gold Partners

DONATIONS OF \$100,000 OR MORE

- Bureau d'aide aux victimes d'actes criminels
- Pathy Family Foundation
- Guardian Angels

DONATIONS OF \$25,000 OR MORE

- La Fondation Choquette-Legault
- Ministère de la Sécurité publique
- Air Canada Foundation
- Groupe Montoni
- Bearers of Hope

DONATIONS OF \$5,000 OR MORE

- Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec
- Air Canada
- Broccolini Construction
- CBRE – David Cervantes
- eStruxture Data Centres
- Fednav Ltd
- Léger Family Foundation
- Superior Plus Corp
- Power Corporation of Canada
- Penshu/La Canadienne
- Redbourne Realty Management
- Schneider Electric Secure Power Canada
- FL Fuller Landau
- Maurice Tanguay Foundation
- Fraternity of Montreal Police Officers
- Keller Williams ConneXion
- Legacy Development group
- Les Emballages Carrousel inc.
- Trillium Shipbrokers Ltd.



Donations in Kind

A

- Absolutement Decadent
- Air Canada Foundation
- Ardene

B

- Beaconsfield Golf Club

C

- Café Gourmet
- Cidrerie Michel Jodoin
- Clarins Canada
- Clement
- Canadiens Hockey Club (Canadiens Jerseys)
- Club Piscine
- Cook It
- Cult Nation – Charlotte Cardin
- Cushman & Wakefield

D

- Distribution Bellucci
- Domaine des Côtes d'Ardoise

E

- Evenko

F

- Fairmont Château Frontenac
- Fairmont Reine Elizabeth



G

- Galerie au chocolat
- Golf Hillsdale
- Green Beaver
- Groupe Montoni-Ringo Starr & His band

H

- Hillsdale Golf Club
- Hôtel Hyatt Centric

I

- Iaco-Vino Vins & Spiritueux
- IDC Dermo
- IKEA
- Imports Dragon
- International Star Registry

J

- Johnny Lodico and Station 55
- Jouez en famille
- JRC Toys

L

- La bullerie Vignoble St-Joseph-du-Lac
- Le Capitole
- Lindt Chocolates

M

- Maison Tanguay
- Manoir Saint-Sauveur
- Martin Desjardins
- Merveilles d'Abeilles
- Meubles Jeremy Fruit (Jeremy Fruit Furniture)
- Montreal AML Cruises
- Montreal Canadiens Foundation

O

- Omy Laboratoires
- Orchestre Metropolitain

P

- Parc Omega
- Playmobil
- Pozay Life (Scottish Whisky Laphroaig)

R

- Restaurant Leméac
- Rinox

S

- Saint-Raphaël Glof Club
- SimpleSpace
- SnapCakes
- Scandinave Spa Mont-Tremblant
- Stokes Stores

T

- The Unscented Company
- Travel Way Group
- Trium Mobilier de bureau
- Tru Earth

V

- Vignoble Coteau Rougemont
- Volkswagen

W

- Whitlock Golf Club



Members of The Board of Directors

President

Yves J. Beauchesne
CA, CPA, Mba, D. Tax.
Managing Partner, LBSC s.e.n.c.

Vice President

Stéfany Corey
Senior Manager,
Communications
Fednav Ltd

Secretary

Maria Andrea Vera Infante
Principal Analyst,
Investments in infrastructure
Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec

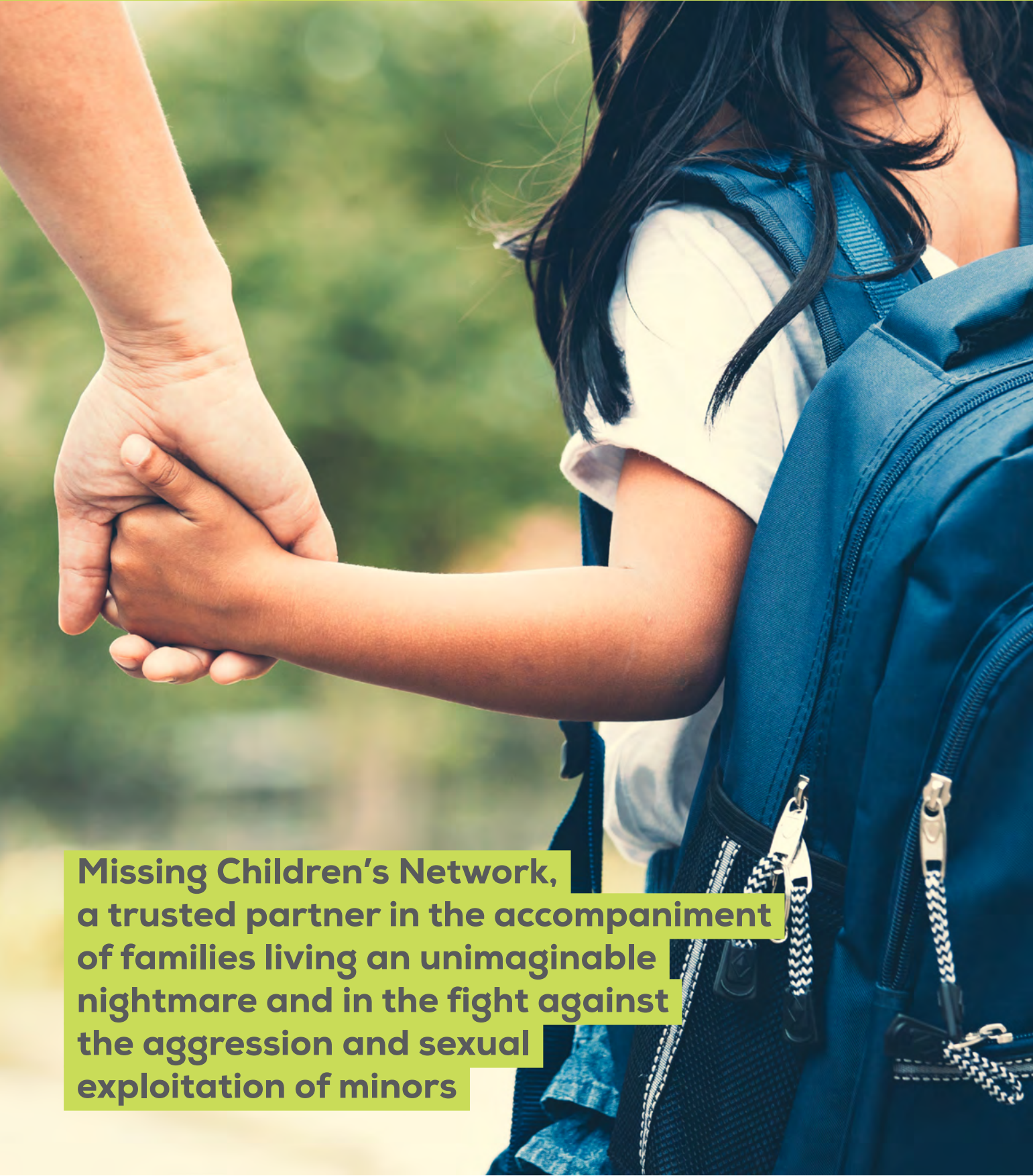
Treasurer

Geri-Lynn Kushneryk, CPA, CA
Financial Director
Pharmaceutique Searchlight inc.

Administrator

Nancy Laroche
Creativity Media Director
COGECO Média





**Missing Children's Network,
a trusted partner in the accompaniment
of families living an unimaginable
nightmare and in the fight against
the aggression and sexual
exploitation of minors**

950 Beaumont Avenue, Suite 103,
Montréal (Québec) H3N 1V5
514 843-4333
info@missingchildrensnetwork.ngo



missingchildrensnetwork.ngo
reseauenfantsretour.org