

The Road Home

Fall 2009



The Search Continues ...

A Somber Day in Quebec



Original Photo
At the age of
8 years-old (1984)

Tuesday, November 1, 1984 marked a very somber day in Quebec history and the shocking and tragic incidents that followed motivated Susan Armstrong and Marcèle Lamarche to create the Missing Children's Network. On that day, three young boys went missing from East-End, Montreal. In the early morning hours, 4-year-old Maurice Viens was lured by a man who offered the youngster candy. Then later that evening, eight-year-old Sébastien Métivier and twelve year-old Wilton Lubin disappeared from the Hochelaga-Maisonneuve area following their weekly hobby workshop that they attended in their church

basement. Tragically, Maurice and Wilton's young bodies were found shortly after they went missing, while Sébastien's disappearance remains a complete mystery to this day.

On the eve of this sad anniversary, the Missing Children's Network will take the opportunity to circulate an age-enhanced photograph of Sébastien at 33 years-old. Over the years, despite the thousands of posters and search notices that were distributed worldwide, including displaying Sébastien's photo on milk cartons, we remain without any news of the youngster.

We know that pictures are effective. Statistically, one child in five is recovered as a direct result of someone in the general public recognizing the child's photo and immediately notifying authorities. Once again, we are enlisting the public's assistance in helping put an end to the Sirois-Métivier families on-going nightmare. In a recent meeting with the mother, she mentioned that not knowing what has happened to one's child is the absolute worst thing that could ever happen to a mother.

Twenty-five years later, Christiane Sirois remains undeterred and continues to keep hope in her heart. Her resolve and determination to find her son are just as strong today as the day he went missing. "Sébastien's age-enhanced photograph will be featured on the Missing Children's Network's 2010 Annual Poster of missing children, as well as on their website. This gesture has given my family the gift of hope ... a feeling that Sébastien is not forgotten after all these years," says Christiane Sirois with gratitude.

An Evening With Friends Turns Tragic for the Boisvert Family



Original Photo
At the age of
18 years-old (1979)

Age enhanced to
35 years-old

On November 6, 1979, eighteen-year-old Danielle Boisvert and her boyfriend left their apartment in Montreal North to join friends at a local brasserie located on Lacordaire Boulevard. On their way to the brasserie, the couple had an argument and Danielle's boyfriend returned home, while Danielle decided to meet up with her friends as planned. Around 11 o'clock, the bartender

saw Danielle say good-bye to her friends and leave the establishment. She has not been seen since that fateful night.

Missing but Never Forgotten

Jolène Riendeau



Original Photo
At the age of
10 years-old (1999)

Age enhanced to
12 years-old
by the NCMEC

Julie Surprenant



Original Photo
At the age of
16 years-old (1999)

In 1999, we were shocked and moved to action when two young girls from our community went missing ... ten-year-old Jolène Riendeau disappeared on April 12th and sixteen year-old Julie Surprenant was last seen on November 16th getting off bus 25A in Terrebonne. Through the years, both of these unexplained disappearances generated hundreds of leads but police are no closer to solving the mystery surrounding either of these incidents.

Last April, the Missing Children's Network commemorated the sad anniversary of Jolène's disappearance by organizing a walk in Point St. Charles where we retraced the path that she had taken on that fateful night when she was last seen. The walk was marked with three meaningful stops: the first occurred in front of Jolène's home on Montmorency Street, the second was by the dépanneur where she stopped to buy a bag of chips and the third stop was at St. Gabriel Park. It was here that the family released 10 green balloons, one for every year of her disappearance - each one symbolizing their hope that Jolène will soon be home.

Since Julie's disappearance, her father Michel Surprenant has become a public figure, staunchly defending children's rights and lobbying the government to implement stiffer sentences for convicted sex offenders. Not only is Michel a founding member of the Murdered or Missing Persons' Families Association (MMPFA) but he is a recognizable face with our organization and can often be seen chatting with families during our numerous child identification clinics.

Ten long and painful years have passed since that fateful day back on November 16th, when Julie failed to return home after an evening spent at a youth community centre located on Boulevard Haute-Ville. Her family continues to cling to the hope that Julie will soon be back home with them.

**Thank you for helping us keep hope alive for
Jolène, Julie and their families.**

Montreal Police conducted both a land and helicopter search of the area but were unable to uncover any leads or information that may explain how and why Danielle vanished.

Thirty long and anguishing years later, Danielle's family still clings to the hope that one day she will be home. Her mother has made an emotional appeal asking that anyone who has any information regarding her daughter's whereabouts, to please contact the Missing Children's Network. No family should ever have to live through such unbearable grief.

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ENFANT-RETOUR
Québec

Every Parent's Worst Nightmare

No parent wants to think his child could ever go missing; however last year in Quebec, there were 8,196 reports of missing children signalled to law enforcement agencies. On average, this is the equivalent of seventeen children reported missing every day in our province alone.

Fortunately, there is a recovery rate of over ninety percent, thanks in part to the combined efforts of law enforcement agencies and organizations like the Missing Children's Network. Since its creation in 1985, the vision of the Missing Children's Network has been that of a world where children are protected against exploitation and abduction. We are convinced that this is possible by building on our current successes and simultaneously finding and deploying new technologies that can completely defeat those who would commit such heinous crimes.

Your generous donations help ensure that the Missing Children's Network continues to be a reassuring presence in our community. For over two decades, we have been delivering quality education programs which teach children of all ages comprehensive personal safety skills. Please continue to give generously and help us keep our children safe!

Make Safety an Every Day Habit

During times of crisis we are often reminded about the importance of teaching children about personal safety. As adults, we often hesitate discussing the risks of abuse and abduction with our children, feeling that we may frighten them or destroy their sense of joy of the world. Safety education helps build a child's confidence and critical thinking skills and prepares them for dangerous situations that they may encounter when home alone, surfing the Net, traveling to-and-from school or getting lost in public places. Adults need to empower children with age-appropriate information without inciting panic or fear. It is important to re-establish a child's sense of security.



Operation Vigilance: Guidelines for parents of children from newborns to adolescence can be downloaded by visiting our website at www.enfant-retourquebec.ca

The Missing Children's Network ... A Reassuring Presence in Our Community

The Missing Children's Network believes that every child deserves a safe childhood. For over twenty-four years we have been at the forefront of the fight to keep our children safe from abduction and exploitation. In all our work, we collaborate closely with law enforcement and provide invaluable resources to help recover and protect children. Our goals are as follows:

- to help prevent the abduction and aggression of children, as well as reduce the occurrence of runaways;
- to support and counsel families whose child has either been abducted by a stranger, a family member, or has run away from home;
- to sensitize and educate the public about children's personal safety and the prevention of their disappearances;
- to collaborate with law enforcement and government agencies in order to locate and recover missing children.

Our Case Management team is available year-round to support parents and police forces in the search for missing children. We intervene in all types of disappearances that include parental and/or criminal abductions, as well as runaways. With every new case that we register, our work includes the following tasks:

- meeting with the parents to reassure them and at the same time obtaining all relevant information pertaining to their missing child;
- stimulating the investigation by searching for clues, gathering pertinent information and ensuring the proper follow-ups;
- providing families with advice and emotional support, as well as facilitating the reunification process;
- developing and implementing investigative strategies in the search for the missing child(ren);
- acting as a liaison between the parents and the police;
- producing posters and search notices that include a current photo and description of the missing child;
- distributing our search notices throughout our vast network of partners, at the local, national and international levels;
- partnering with the Montreal Police Service, the Sûreté du Québec and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, as well as collaborating with our media contacts upon the issuance of an AMBER Alert.

To report a missing child, please contact our offices 514.843.4333.

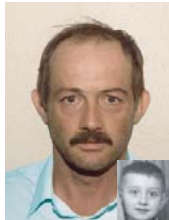
Lend Your Eyes ... Be the Vision for Missing Children



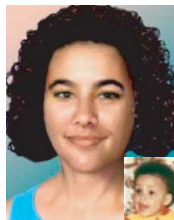
Clifford Edward
Sherwood
Missing: October 21, 1954



Diane Carrier
Missing: September 27, 1963



René Bessette
Missing: December 18, 1972



Yohanna Cyr
Missing: August 15, 1978



Mélina Martin
Missing: January 23, 2005



Tiffany Morrison
Missing: June 18, 2006

If you have any information about any of these missing children, please contact our offices at 514.843.4333.
All calls are confidential.

Join Our Family of Volunteers

Volunteering with the Missing Children's Network is a great opportunity to make a difference in your community, be part of a team, share your experience and expertise, learn new skills and develop lasting friendships. We are a volunteer-based organization and without you, we would be unable to protect our most precious treasures ... our children!

In this past year, we have seen a significant increase in the demands for our child identification clinics. In order to adequately respond to the needs of our community, we are currently looking to recruit and train dynamic and passionate individuals to help staff them. Running a clinic entails some of the following tasks:

- taking digital photographs of the children;
- processing the photos on the spot;
- interacting with children, families and law enforcement agencies;
- sharing vital safety tips with the families;
- working well within a team.

For more information, please call: 514.843.4333 or visit our website at www.enfant-retourquebec.ca

**We look forward to welcoming you on our team!
Together, we can make a difference!**



Your Dollars Really Do Make A Difference!

Since the Missing Children's Network was established back in 1985, we have led a coordinated province-wide battle on behalf of our children. We have established a broad team of partners who share the common commitment to help protect our nation's most vulnerable individuals from those who seek to harm them. We are proud of our many accomplishments ... yet despite our progress, the victimization of children continues. We see the details behind the statistics and they are deeply disturbing. **We must do more. We must do better. Our children deserve no less.**

Sadly, children go missing every day. At the Missing Children's Network, we are dedicated to finding these children and preventing other youngsters from becoming victims. **But we cannot do it alone.** We need your help. Your donations have and will support our ongoing involvement in the search for missing children and will help us continue our community education programs that keep families together and their children safe.

To make your tax-deductible donations, please call 514.843.4333 or donate on-line at www.enfant-retourquebec.ca



Reunited with their families!



Ashley Tara
Bravo Gonis
April 2009



Kareem Malcolm
Moumen
June 2009



Martha-Sarahi
Gray-Betancourth
July 2009



Sinah Baechen
August 2009



Julie Bernard
August 2009



Aleksandra Ljubojevic
September 2009

Thank you for supporting the *only* non-profit organization in Quebec dedicated to recovering missing children and to the prevention of their disappearances.

Community Calendar

Child Identification Clinics

Saturday, October 24th

4 Fashion Centres

10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Locations:

- Le Carrefour Laval
3003 Le Carrefour Boulevard
Laval
- Le Centre Fairview Pointe Claire
6801 Trans Canada Highway
Pointe-Claire
- Les Galeries d'Anjou
7999 Galeries d'Anjou Boulevard
Anjou
- Les Promenades Saint-Bruno
1 Promenades Boulevard
St-Bruno de Montarville

Saturday, October 24th

Galleries de Granby

9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Location: 40 Evangeline Street in Granby

Saturday, November 7th

Scotia Bank

10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Location: 3070 De la Gare Boulevard, Vaudreuil-Dorion, QC J7V 0H1

- ➔ Come have your child's ID booklet updated or pick up one for free.
- ➔ Have your child's fingerprints taken by local police.
- ➔ Receive invaluable safety advice.

Special Events

Saturday, October 24th

Fall Call Campaign (from Telus downtown offices)

10 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Volunteers of the Network will be making their annual calls to our donors - Your financial contribution to our Fall Campaign is 100% tax deductible and will help us to reunite families, as well as educate and empower our most precious treasures ... our children!

Sunday, November 22nd

Skate Your Heart Out!

1 p.m. until 6 p.m.

Fans of all ages can enjoy a one-hour skate at the Bell Centre, meet some of their favourite Habs, and have the chance to win a pair of tickets, valid for travel to any North American destination thanks to Air Canada Kids' Horizons!

Tickets are \$50 each and can be purchased by calling our offices at 514.843.4333 or on-line at www.enfant-retourquebec.ca

First week of December
until Christmas Eve

Christmas Tree Sale

Location: Parking lot of Les 4 Saisons (corner Greene Avenue and Maisonneuve)

For every Christmas tree sold, a donation will be made in aid of the Missing Children's Network

December 20-27

Friends in Need

The Hilton Montréal Bonaventure will donate \$10 for every night spent at their hotel in aid of missing children.

Take a break from the hustle and bustle of the Holiday Season and enjoy the full comforts of that special home-away-from home feeling, while at the same time bringing the gift of hope to families of missing children.

Reservations: 514.878.2332 or 1 800 267.2575

Information: 514.843.4333 or www.enfant-retourquebec.ca