

Emergo Respite Services

Autism and other Pervasive Development Disorders

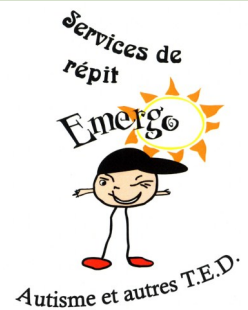
Our values

- Customer Satisfaction
- Respect
- Pursuit of excellence
- Transparency
- Integrity
- Loyalty
- Privacy

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EmergInfo



Autism gives no respite... Emergo does!

2014 Edition

A Word from our Chairperson

Dear Friends,

I hope you had a wonderful summer and that you had the chance to take good advantage of the sunshine.

At Emergo, as usual, the summer was very busy. We welcomed 206 campers at our three camp sites. The relocation of the *Un rêve à réaliser* program to the Camp Mariste site in Rawdon, where the *Adaptatou* program is offered, proved to be a great success. Both the participants and the counsellors enjoyed their experience very much and Charles-Antoine, who takes pleasure in very seriously rating our services, rated his stay 9.5/10!

This summer was also our new Principal Director's "test of fire". Many of you had the chance to meet Pierre Ricard upon your arrival at Les Bosquets, when bringing your child there. Well supported by Eric, our Assistant Director, Respites, Pierre survived the daily problems and concerns of his first summer respites with a smile and a lot of admiration for the work done by our young counsellors.

During that time, the members of Emergo's Board of Directors didn't twiddle their thumbs. In June, we held our general meeting and the election of the Board members. All former Board members agreed to continue their term of office for another year and two new people joined them: Quoc Luong Ngu, a parent who uses our services, and Marie-Christine Tremblay, a co-

opted member. We welcome them both and thank them for coming to help us steer Emergo's ship.

A number of Board members also took part last June in the traditional golf and cycling event organized by the Emergo Foundation — an event that proved to be a great success once again. We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to the Foundation and to its President, Jacques Chartrand, for their constant and generous support.

These past few months, we were also very busy searching for a new site for the Émergence and iDÉFlx programs. As you already know, the Quebec Society for Disabled Children has not renewed our lease, which expires in February of next year. It nevertheless agreed to extend it to September. The programs will therefore be held again at the Les Bosquets site next summer; however, we must find a new site for the school respites and for our summer respites starting next fall.

Believe me, it is no easy task to find a site that can accommodate 80 people in the summer. A Relocation Committee, made up of members of Emergo's Board of Directors and its Foundation's Board along with architectural specialists and the Principal Director met a number of times to evaluate our needs in terms of space and buildings.

We also went to visit several potential sites, a few of which were very interesting. Unfortu-



nately, once we entered into discussions with the owners, we encountered all kinds of stumbling blocks, and especially zoning problems. But we are forging ahead. We have new sites in view and the Committee is working very hard for everything to be ready for our participants next fall.

In closing, I would like to welcome back Josée Filion, who returned in September from her maternity leave, full of energy to carry out her new responsibilities as Assistant Director, Communications and Finance. And I want to express my heartfelt thanks to our regular staff and to our team in the field for their dedication and their excellent work, to our faithful volunteers who are always ready to lend a hand and to all our generous donors without whom we couldn't pursue our mission.

Marie-Claire Michoud

2014 Annual Meeting



**“Emergo is...
a respite service that
offers an
extraordinary
experience both for
the campers and for
their counsellors. It's
another world, where
each person is valued
and appreciated
very directly.”**

A counsellor

It's always very enjoyable for the members of the Board of Directors and our Management staff to welcome those parents who regularly take the trouble to join us at our annual meeting in order to come and express their support for the Emergo team and reflect with us on how we could improve our services. We thank you for your presence and your participation. It's very motivating!

We also had the wonderful surprise and immense pleasure of getting to know Eva, Josée's baby girl, who came to attend her first Emergo meeting in her mother's arms.

And then Marie-Claire Michoud, our Chairperson, opened the meeting by reviewing the highlights of the year: (1) the hiring of a full-time Principal Director – Pierre Ricard – in accordance with the recommendations of the organizational diagnostic report adopted in June 2013, (2) the addition of a school break respite in order to better meet families' needs within the development of services and (3) the relocation efforts for respites in 2015-2016.

Marie-Claire also warmly thanked the Emergo Foundation and its Chairman, Jacques Chartrand, for the immense fund-raising efforts aimed at ensuring Emergo's sustainability and also the members of the 2013-2014 Board of Directors for their active participation, in addition to Manon Carle Dagenais for having generously served as interim Principal Director. Marie-Claire also expressed warm thanks to Emergo's staff for the excellent work they had accomplished during this transition year.

Pierre then presented Emergo's activity report since he joined the team as Principal Director and took the opportunity to thank the staff members who supported him from his very beginnings, thereby making it easier for him to quickly integrate the team.

Taking Emergo's future and sustainability to heart, Pierre clearly defined the principles that must guide us to successfully carry out our mission — that is, permanent interaction with the families, prompting us to constantly re-evaluate the quality of our services in order to ensure the satisfaction of our clientele; efficient and effective management of operations and resources based on continuous improvements to our operating methods as well as an ongoing search for financing in order to meet our objectives and ensure that we offer the number of respites corresponding to the needs of the families living with autism on a daily basis.

Next, Andrée Robert, our Treasurer, presented the financial report and pointed out that while the results indicate a deficit of \$7,949 for the 2013-2014 fiscal year, as compared to a surplus of \$16,722 for 2012-2013, due in large part to payroll increases, these results are very decent, given the fact that the deficit forecasted at the beginning of the fiscal year was \$67,696. We managed this real feat thanks to the enormous fund-raising efforts of our Foundation and our donors as well as by maintaining the assistance of the various levels of government and by strictly controlling our operations.

We then proceeded to elect the new Board of Directors, whose members for 2014-2015 consist of the following parent-members who use Emergo's services:

Henriette Angers
André Beaulieu
Sylvie Cataford Blais
Natalie Hamel Roy
Johanne Houde (Advisor)
Michelle Lizotte (Vice-Chair)
Marc Meunier
Pierre Martin
Richard Ménard
Marie-Claire Michoud (Chairperson)
Quoc Luong Ngu
Louise Riel (Secretary)
Andrée Robert (Treasurer)

and two co-opted members: Philippe Dagenais and Marie-Christine Tremblay.

The meeting came to a close after defining the priorities that Emergo will have to examine during the year, and namely, the relocation of *Émergence* and *iDÉFlx* programs, the restructuring of summer respites and the development of services for autistic persons age 21 and over during the summer season when the daytime activities are not available.

The Board members then held a private meeting to elect their Executive.

A year has ended, and another one is beginning...



Front: Louise Riel, Marie-Claire Michoud, Andrée Robert and Michelle Lizotte; back: Quoc Luong Ngu, Pierre Ricard, Pierre Martin, Marc Meunier, Natalie Hamel Roy, Johanne Houde, Sylvie Cataford Blais, Marie-Christine Tremblay and Philippe Dagenais

The first Time...

Word from our Principal Director

I joined Emergo less than a year ago and in some circumstances, I still feel as though I am taking my first steps. A bit like when we arrive in a foreign country: each gesture, each glance, each word is new and needs to be invented. But I don't feel like a stranger. Emergo's culture, history and organization offer support where those first experiences are not daunting, where those first times come within the realm of continuity.

My first summer welcome experience is still nevertheless a special moment in my mind: I saw the looks on the faces of the counsellors, feverishly awaiting their first encounter with a participant. I had the opportunity to observe their first determined efforts to do the right thing. I also felt the parents' emotions, the campers' pleasure and the pains taken by the whole team to make these respites magical moments.

Pierre Ricard

Word from our Assistant Director, Communications and Finance

Those Very First Times!

Those very first times at Emergo, I experienced more than one of them! My first respite (it was in October 2001 – I will never forget it!), my first contact with autistic people, my first sleepless nights in a row, my first position in Management, and then as Director... The "first time" that I prefer the most is undoubtedly welcoming a parent and child about to experience Emergo for the first time. There is all that feverishness, that excitement that comes with that moment.

And it's a bit like that, that I feel right now! When I got back from my maternity leave last September, a brand new position was waiting for me! From now on, I will be taking on the responsibilities of Assistant Director, Communications and Finance. It represents new challenges and new experiences (more "first times!") that I find stimulating and that are motivating me to pursue my involvement with Emergo, its members and its participants.

What a pleasure to be with you all again!

Josée Filion

Word from our Assistant Director, Respites

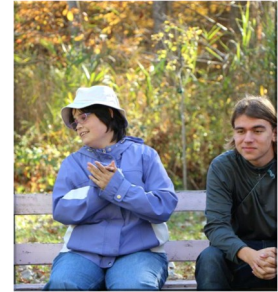
It was June 25, 2004...

The day before, my friends who were working at Emergo had succeeded in convincing me to phone Léa, the camp leader at the time, in order to replace a camp counsellor. I thought I was well informed about autism and knew what to expect. I had seen a few documentaries, had recently read *Le bizarre incident du chien pendant la nuit* and I had listened to my counsellor-friends' incredible anecdotes...

My first day at Emergo completely fascinated me. I didn't understand my participants' behaviour at all, especially those who were non-verbal. How do you move from one activity to the other, find out what their needs are or merely eat a meal at the cafeteria? Fortunately, I met wonderful people who were focused on the needs of autistic people and were ready to help, listen and have fun.

On going to bed that evening, I was exhausted but knew that the next day would be a good one.

Eric Andrade

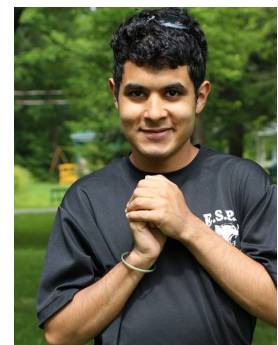


**“Emergo is...
a place where the
autistic
participants are
on vacation and
where they make
friends, both
among the other
participants and
among the
counsellors.”**

A counsellor

Would you like to help Emergo while doing your share for the environment?

Give us your email address and we will send you our publications by email. In so doing, you will be contributing toward cutting down on the cost of printing documents and mailing them as well as reducing Emergo's ecological footprint. It's a small gesture that costs nothing but pays off big! As a bonus, early next year, you will receive the new e-newsletter written exclusively for parent-members of Emergo.



The first Time...

The first time that my son went to camp, I didn't even dare go away on vacation. I was sure the counsellors would find him too difficult and that I would get a call to come and take him home. My heart skipped a beat each time the phone rang.

Well, I didn't get a call! I even managed not to feel too guilty

in finding life so easy in his absence.

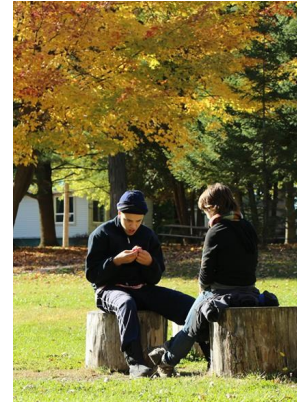
When we went to pick him up a week later, he didn't want to leave! His counsellor had survived and had even found ways of getting him to emerge from his "bubble". My son, who played only with the sun, played with other children. A giant step!

I promised myself to take better advantage of my respite the following year.

Thirty-one years later, my son still looks so much forward to getting together with his friends at Emergo again.

Thank you, Emergo!

Louise (parent)



It's quite fascinating, in fact... It was a Christmas respite. I remember I was terrified during that first evening with the campers, being with an incredible, but unpredictable clientele. Despite the fact that I found that respite difficult, it went well. So I signed up for the summer respites and just loved them!

Looking back today, I remember the campers who impressed me the most during that first respite of mine... And for all of them, I was their counsellor! I had a lot of pleasure discovering them and I miss them today, now that I no longer work at camp. Emergo gave me an opportunity to have a special job that oriented my career path. I now work at a CRDITED and my daily routine consists of helping youngsters like those I had the chance to get to know at Emergo.

*Catherine
(former counsellor)*

I remember that first time in particular, because in leaving my son there for 4 days, I must have cried all the way home. I kept my cellphone on, day and night, throughout the entire respite: I wondered whether the counsellors would be able to understand him, comfort him and look after him well. I was so anxious to go and bring him home.

Much to my surprise, everything went very smoothly. When I went to pick him up at camp, he was happy to see me and I was told that he had done well there and acted like a grown-up. I was given a daily log with the activities that he had participated in, how he had slept and what he ate. As we got ready to leave for home, the counsellors came and said good-bye to him in such a touching way, much to Jason's delight and to mine, too, of course. What a welcome, what an atmosphere and what a feeling of security... so soothing: It was like: "Go and take some time for yourself; we will look after your son so well that you will want to bring him back again next year."

And that's what has happened and is still happening for about 7 years now, and for 8 nights and 9 days at a time!

A mother

My first time at Emergo... I really wondered where I had just landed! It was my first contact with autism and it hasn't been easy for me to adapt and feel at ease with it! Nearly 5 years later, I couldn't do without it! At Emergo, I have found such wonderful people who intrigue you, amuse you, make you feel real and with whom you develop unique relations that are bound to last and last over the years. Which goes to show that sometimes, you have to dig around a bit to discover all the magic in a place or in people.

Patricia (counsellor)

**"Emergo is...
a working
environment where
you can learn a lot
about yourself as a
practitioner, but
also as a person. A
place that makes it
possible for us to
have special
relations with an
autistic clientele."**

A counsellor



News from the Emergo Foundation

Golf or Bike for Emergo

"My work prompts me to take part in a number of golf tournaments during the year. However, Emergo's is the most outstanding. It is totally different from the other ones. It's human and you can feel the parents' deep involvement."

- A participant

Thank-you to our players and the very many volunteers who made our event so successful and who enabled us to surpass our objective. We recorded net profits of \$90,242!

Thank-you to the Organizing Committee: Henriette Angers, André Beaulieu, Manon Carle Dagenais, Jacques Chartrand, Natalie Hamel Roy, Josée Massicotte, Robert Roy and Andrée Robert.

A round of thanks, as well, to our two Honorary Co-Patrons: Michel Simard of Industries Lassonde and Claude Robert of Groupe Robert, for their loyal patronage.



Special thanks to Louise Déry Auger of Industries Lassonde for her extensive involvement.

Our Sponsors

Automobiles Popular Inc.
Jean Baulne
Jacques Dorais, Notary

And lastly, **big thanks** to our extraordinary young pro and his coach (his Dad!) – Charles and Paul Saint-Germain, to our touching and very convincing young guest speaker Elie Bertrand as well as to our very efficient master auctioneer, Patrick Gagnon.

We are flinging you a CHALLENGE for next year: To sell the 36 foursomes and have as many cyclists. We're counting on you! Thanks to you, families will benefit from vital respite to recharge their batteries while their children enjoy magical moments at Emergo.

We look forward to a large turnout among you to play, pedal away or merely join us for supper and the auction. We hope to see you there!

**2015 Golf Tournament
and Bike Tour
Wednesday, June 10
at Club de golf St-Jean**



EMERGO FOUNDATION

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman

Jacques Chartrand, Gestion de portefeuille Selexia

Vice-Chair

Manon Carle Dagenais, Parent

Treasurer

André Beaulieu, Différence Plus

Secretary

Sylvie Cataford Blais, Galerie Simon Blais

Henriette Angers, Parent

Roger Carle, Retired

Francine Langan, Friend of Emergo

Josée Massicotte, Jmcommunications

Élyse Messier, Friend of Emergo

Robert Roy, Retired

Andrée Robert, Parent

HONORARY MEMBERS

Philippe Angers

Public Affairs Consultant

Luc Bertrand

National Bank of Canada

Jennifer Damiani

Labatt Breweries of Canada

Steven W. Foley

Royal Bank of Canada

Patrick Gagnon

GMP

Looking for Prizes to Auction Off

The traditional auction held at the golf tournament is still very popular and greatly contributes to the financial success of the day. Do you have any prizes to donate that could bring in a lot of money for our organization or do you know anyone who would be interested in taking part in Emergo? Don't hesitate to contact us! By phone at 514 931-2882 or by email at josee@repitemergo.com.

News from the Fundraising Campaign

Efficiently lead by the members of the Emergo Foundation's Board of Directors with the support of all honorary members, the 2014 Fundraising Campaign that ended in September raised \$ 417,612, exceeding the original goal of \$350,000.

A heartfelt thanks to the honorary members who, year after year, devote their time and efforts to raise as much money as possible. We also want to thank all our generous contributors. Your actions make a real difference in the lives of our families.

2014-2015 Fundraising Campaign

Done! The Emergo Foundation's 2014-2015 fundraising campaign has now been launched! Created in 2011 and still very young, the Foundation has done its utmost to fulfill its mission of ensuring the sustainability of Emergo Respite Services.

For parents of autistic and PDD children, Emergo has represented a genuine breath of fresh air for over 35 years – an indispensable solution for keeping their family in balance. But it is also one of the rare places where autistic children, teens and adults can spend weekends and summer vacations with their friends, in a safe, stimulating, outdoor play environment where they just can't wait to go back year after year.

Last year, the words of Charles-Antoine, a young autistic adult who has been coming to Camp Emergo for the past fifteen years to spend real vacation time "for himself alone", without his parents, tugged at all our donors' heart strings. This year, it is his mother who wants to tell you how very vital Emergo Respite Services are to parents:

"Our very lovable Charles-Antoine is a real music and poetry lover, unrelenting in discussing his favourite vocalists... or mad when someone talks about those he doesn't like as much. In short, an unusual character!"

But he also occupies a very large part of our daily lives, often so worried that he becomes disorganized and is no longer the calm and reliable grown-up young man that he is most of the time. During those very intense moments, he can be very tiring, demanding so much of our energy that we start dreaming of the next Emergo respite!

Our Charles-Antoine is not a difficult case, but he demands more of our attention than an "ordinary" adult with whom we would normally share our lives. In fact, who among you lives with a young adult at home, and does so, until an advanced age? That is why the assistance provided by Emergo Respite Services becomes our lifesaver.

Our youngsters benefit from these services just as much as we parents do. Our youngsters adore those times when they get together again with their friends, surrounded by wonderful camp counsellors, who become their friends, too. Our Charles-Antoine is always anxious to return to Emergo and share his passion for music—whether the others want to or not! Thank you for your continued support. We are very grateful to you."

For its fundraising campaign this year, the Foundation has set an objective of \$400,000. We strive to keep our costs as low as possible, while constantly welcoming more and more participants. Please help us continue our mission, give a gift of joy and happiness to Charles-Antoine and his friends and make a real difference in the life of their family!

To make a donation

By Phone: 514 931-2882

By Mail: 2300, boul. René-Lévesque Ouest, Montréal (Québec) H3H 2R5

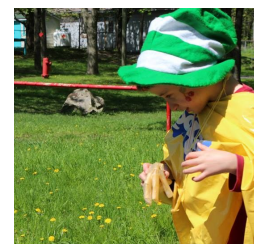
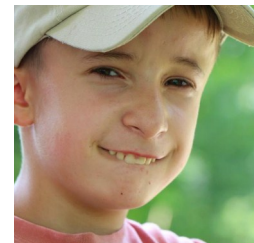
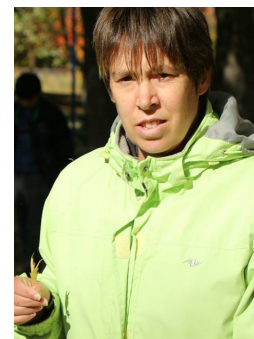
On the Web: www.repitemergo.com

Thanks from the bottom of our hearts

Tribute to Andrée Robert and Jacques Chartrand

At its annual lunch on November 14, the Quebec chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals paid tribute to Andrée Robert, Emergo Treasurer, and Jacques Chartrand, Emergo Foundation President, by awarding them Outstanding Volunteer of the Year awards.

A well-deserved tribute to Andrée and Jacques, who spare no effort in supporting a number of causes, and Emergo's in particular.



Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) Major Changes for Our Children



At Emergo's annual meeting in June 2012, I talked to you about our children's financial future and, in particular, about welfare payments, RDSPs and will planning by means of a discretionary trust for the benefit of a disabled child.

Even though the RDSP was very attractive, with its Canadian Disability Savings Grants (CDSGs) (up to \$3500 annually) and its Canadian Disability Savings Bonds (CDSBs) (\$1,000 per year), I had reservations about its use, as the amounts received when withdrawing from the Plan would reduce the amount of our children's social welfare benefits.

When the RDSPs were created in 2008, the Individual and Family Assistance Regulation allowed individuals to receive up to \$300 income per month without affecting their social welfare benefits. In order to help the disabled accumulate funds for their retirement, the Quebec government – in 2013 – increased to \$950/month the amount of RDSP benefits ex-

empted in calculating social solidarity benefits.

If a parent is considering setting up an RDSP for his child, it is important to know that as soon as the account is opened in 2014, the Federal government will deposit \$7,000 in CDSBs, or \$1,000 for each year, since 2008, that contributions were not made (if the person was entitled to the disability tax credit since that date). Moreover, parents can contribute up to \$4500 in the first year to qualify for the \$10,500 (maximum deferral of 3 years) annual maximum grant from the Canadian government. All in all, grants and bonds of \$17,500 will be added to the parents' contribution of \$4500, for a total amount of \$22,000 in the RDSP.

Don't forget that CDSBs are limited to a lifetime amount of \$20,000 and CDSGs to a lifetime total of \$70,000. CDSG rates are based on the income of the disabled child when he becomes an adult and amount to 300% on the first \$500 of the

annual contribution (or \$1500 and 200% on the following \$1,000 (or \$2,000), for a potential CDSG of \$3,500 annually.

And lastly, bear in mind that withdrawals from an RDSP must begin before the end of the year during which the disabled person reaches the age of 60 and that CDSBs as well as CDSGs must remain in the plan for 10 years, so we can contribute up until our child reaches the age of 49. Thanks to these amendments to social welfare benefit rules, it is now very advantageous to set up an RDSP for our disabled child.

Financial institutions are still not very familiar with RDSPs. If you have any difficulties in opening an account for your child, we can give you the names of people who can help you in this regard.

Andrée Robert
Treasurer

**“Emergo is...
a place where
simple things
may become
magical.”**

A counsellor



Respite in Facts and Figures!

- ◆ Four programs to choose from according to the level of autonomy and the integration capacity of participants: Émergence, Adaptatou, iDÉFlx and Un rêve à réaliser
- ◆ Two camp sites: Colonie Les Bosquets in Otterburn Park and Camp Mariste in Rawdon
- ◆ 206 participants aged 4-60 years, all programs combined, representing 1660 nights or 39,840 hours of respite provided to our families during the summer
- ◆ 129 participants over 21 weekends, representing 951 nights or 21,875 hours of respite during the school year
- ◆ 11 families with two or three children presenting autism spectrum disorders
- ◆ 85 employees hired, of which 21 were coming back for a second year or more



Since 2013, Emergo has been certified by the Association des camps du Québec for its programs at Les Bosquets!



The 2014 summer respite team: a beautiful group of highly motivated, dynamic youths ready to do everything to offer the participants the time of their life!

Emergo was there...

The Big Bosquets Clean-Up Operation

April 26 was the big annual Bosquets Clean-Up Operation.

Our Principal Director Pierre, along with our Board's Chairperson Marie-Claire and Secretary Louise, both parents, as well as a solid team of enthusiastic coordinators and counsellors – Flamèche (Laurence Cousineau-Robin), Confetti (Cassandra Préfontaine), Zazou (Virginie Taillefert), Robin (Amélie Duchesne-Hamelin), Hibiscus (Marie Gagnon), Shiva (Héloïse Baril-Nadeau), Rafiki (Joelle Quintin), Capuchon (Jonathan Pethel), Aquarelle (Marie-Christine Doré), Étincelle (Jeanne Vachon-Laberge) and Magoo (Marc-André Fortin) – showed up in the wee hours of the morning to lend a big hand to the many volunteers who were already busy carrying out a vast spring clean-up at Les Bosquets. With lots of sweeping, rags, soap and disinfectant, we spruced up the little dorm rooms and took the opportunity to get to know one another better around the table at the traditional spaghetti lunch.

A big THANK YOU to all our coordinators and counsellors who generously gave their invaluable time in the middle of their year-end exam period. Much appreciated!



The Autism ASD Resource Fair

The first edition of the Autism ASD resource fair in Quebec was held October 3-5 at the Cosmodôme in Laval. According to reports, this resource fair attracted 99 organizations and over 5,000 visitors – a great success! Emergo set up a booth there, giving us a chance to come in direct contact with hundreds of families and practitioners from all over Quebec. A number of them knew us already, but others, not at all! We received wonderful comments that we would like to share with you here:

- ◆ *You're the No. 1 service that we refer to all our families!* (a practitioner)
- ◆ *How lucky we are that you are here for us!* (a number of parents)
- ◆ *What memories! I will never forget my work at Emergo!* (a former counsellor)
- ◆ *You have been in existence over 35 years! It's amazing... In my region, specialized services were developed 7 or 8 years ago.* (a practitioner)
- ◆ *Wherever I go, I hear about Emergo: my babysitter, the teacher at school, the CLSC. I'll have to sign up!* (a mother)
- ◆ *You're still there... I have known Emergo a long time!* (a mother who benefits from our services)
- ◆ *Emergo has changed my life so much! That was the deciding factor in my career choice!* (a former counsellor)
- ◆ *I never considered sending my son to a respite camp... But you convinced me!* (a father)
- ◆ *It really did me a lot of good to talk to other parents... I feel less guilty!* (a number of mothers)

That's what makes Emergo what it is: an organization trusted by parents and offering essential respite!

We wish to thank the volunteers and members of Management who helped represent Emergo at this wonderful event!

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| ◆ André Beaulieu | ◆ Eric Andrade |
| ◆ Manon Carle Dagenais | ◆ Josée Filion |
| ◆ Sylvie Cataford Blais | ◆ Pierre Ricard |
| ◆ Valérie Coombs | |
| ◆ Maude Gadouas | |
| ◆ Natalie Hamel Roy | |
| ◆ Michelle Lizotte | |
| ◆ Pierre Martin | |
| ◆ Marie-Claire Michoud | |
| ◆ Andrée Robert | |



Emergo will be there...

Emergo will take part in the Scotiabank Charity Challenge! Come run or walk with us on April 26, 2015. **More details to come.**



Emergo: Parents Helping Parents

Emergo is mainly – and always has been – “parents helping parents” get second strength and recharge their batteries.

Privileges of Emergo's member-parents

- ◆ To be part of an organization established and run by parents of autistic children in order to provide respite to families living with a person who is autistic or has another pervasive development disorder (PDD).
- ◆ To have access to respite services that they can trust, where their children will be able to have fun and make friends in a safe, stimulating outdoor environment.
- ◆ To have their children benefit from a supervision ratio of one to three participants per well-trained, experienced counsellor.
- ◆ To register their children in one of Emergo's four programs that best meets their needs: *Émergence* (socialization), *iDÉFlx* (personalized supervision), *Adaptatou* (integration) or *Un rêve à réaliser* (autonomy).
- ◆ To obtain registration forms in good time in order to be able to plan their free time and activities as a couple or family – plans that are complicated or impossible when living with an autistic child.
- ◆ To receive the newsletter by email in order to be sure to always have full relevant information on hand quickly.
- ◆ To attend the annual meeting, exercise one's right to vote, ask questions, submit ideas and discuss with other parents as well as members of the Board of Directors and Management.

NEW



Involvement of Emergo's member-parents

- ◆ Regularly pay their dues to maintain their membership entitlement to respite services.
- ◆ Carefully fill out the registration forms and sign all consent forms so that their children's file is complete and up to date, and pay for the respite period.
- ◆ Provide all supplies necessary to ensure that their child's respite runs smoothly (medication and corresponding prescriptions, clothes suited for the season, food for those on a special diet, etc.)
- ◆ Provide their email address to cut down on mailing costs and Emergo's environmental footprint.
- ◆ Take part if possible in volunteer tasks, in the annual clean-up operation, in promotional events and fund-raising activities to support Emergo and thus develop ties with the other parents and staff as well as a feeling of belonging.
- ◆ Contribute to Emergo's development by getting involved in a working committee or by running for election to the Board of Directors at the annual meeting.



In this way, Emergo's parent-members become helpes-helpers and strengthen the chain of solidarity that must unite all parents in Emergo in order to ensure the sustainability of respite services .

Emergo Respite Services

Autism and other Pervasive
Development Disorders

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**IN MEMORIAM
JASON PANAGIOTIS GRIVAS
JANUARY 21, 1980 – NOVEMBER 8, 2011**



*We will love you forever.
We miss you so much.*

Mom, Dad and your whole family

Offer Emergo as a gift!

Did you know that you can give Emergo as a gift? In fact, more and more Emergo supporters are inviting members of their family, their friends and their loved ones to replace the gift that they were planning on giving them for their birthday with a donation to the Emergo Foundation. It's a gesture that makes the person celebrating a birthday very happy and that helps support Emergo in continuing its work.

And why not think about making a donation to the Emergo Foundation when a loved one passes away? It's a significant way of perpetuating the memory of a lost loved one.

Don't hesitate to contact us to obtain donation forms, either by phoning us at 514 931-2882 or by emailing us at info@repitemergo.com



OUR BEST WISHES TO YOU

*Members of the Board of Directors,
Management and all Emergo employees
offer you their best wishes for the New Year.*

*May 2015 bring you all Peace, Joy and Love
as well as wonderful moments to share with your loved ones!*

Happy New Year 2015!