

EDITORIAL

At last, school and school respites!

These few weeks between the end of camp and summer activities and the beginning of school always felt like an eternity to me. And, to make matters worse, back to school often starts with half-days only. Nothing to make life easier for us!

The problem is the same for all parents of young children, but imagine when you are the parent of an autistic child whose favourite sport is to run away or an autistic young man of 18, built like a linebacker, who has fixations on the most unusual things... It is obviously not grandma or the little neighbourhood babysitter who can come to the rescue in this case, particularly since the little babysitter is at school all day herself.

What sustains us is to know that after this floating period, school will start for good and we will be entitled to our first school respite. Just knowing that life will be a little less complicated makes us feel a lot better already. We'll find our second wind.

It also helps to see things from a different perspective. Even if we are glad that our child is returning to school at last, we do not want school to be just a daycare; its role is to prepare our child to lead a life as autonomous as possible. We must therefore team up with the school and, if it doesn't work, go into action.

The respite is also not a daycare. It is a privileged period where the autistic child or adult learns about life while having fun with his friends. Games are to be taken seriously! It is also the ideal environment to discover others. What games do your kids like to play? Talk to us about them. Team up with us so that their respites become like a celebration between friends.

You can attend the meetings of the Board of Directors as an observer. You will then discover all the efforts made by Emergo to provide you with as much respite as possible. You might even be tempted to join the Board another year... You can also send us a little note by mail or by e-mail to let us know your ideas and your comments. We would be pleased to welcome you among the collaborators of EmergInfo!

So, don't be shy! And don't forget that Emergo's motto is... **parents helping parents.**

Louise Riel



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Prints : 515 copies

ISSN : 1703-2954

Honorary Committee

Special congratulations to all our members of the Honorary Committee for the success of the 2003 fundraising campaign which enabled us to raise \$178,841.

Michel Béland, RBC Investments Financial Planning, Investment & Retirement Planner

Roger Carle, Bombardier Inc., Corporate Secretary

Jacques Chartrand, Gestion de Portefeuille Natcan, Vice-President of the Board

Georges Danis, Bureau d'expertises des assureurs ltée, Director of Personnel

Pierre Guertin, Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal, Director of Human Resources

Alain Lapointe, Computershare Canada, Vice-President, Quebec Region

Claude Lockhead, Groupe-conseil Aon inc., First Vice-President

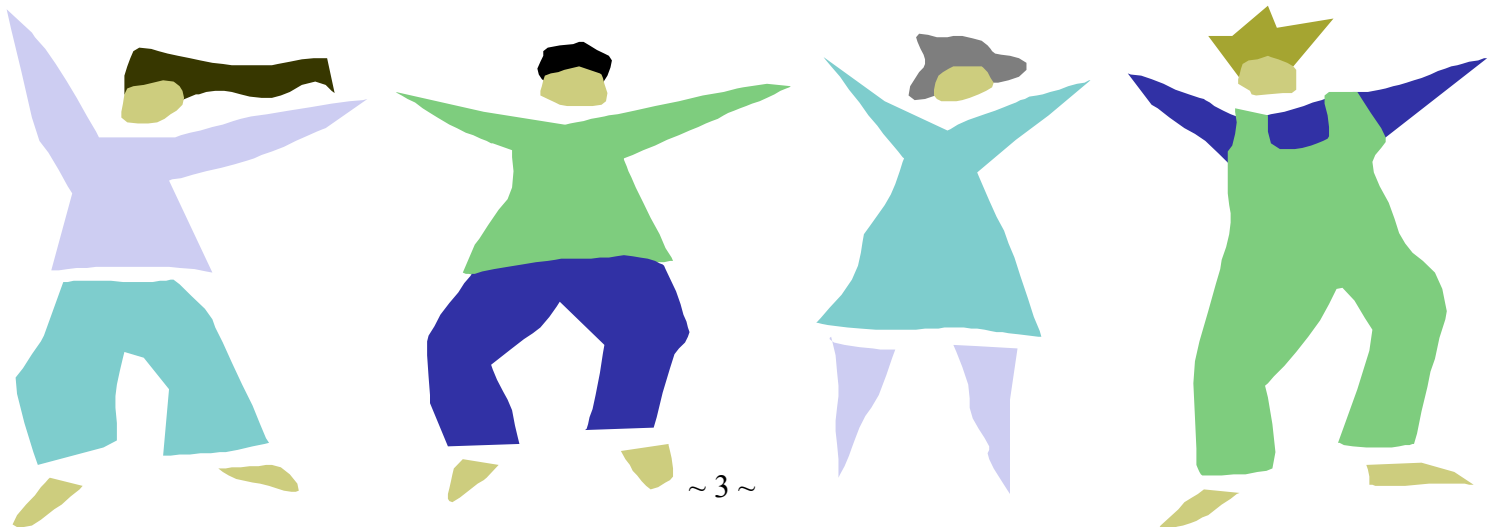
Mark Lovell, 126 201 Canada Inc., President

All activities taken into account, we reached and even slightly exceeded our objective of \$150,000.

Bravo!

1. general donations	\$72,729
2. material	\$11,151
3. sponsor	\$26,500
4. racecourse soiree	\$25,156
5. support to families	\$ 7,340
6. integration program	\$ 5,000
7. autonomy program	\$23,600
8. promotional items	\$ 7,363

Bravo!



Thank you

What better way to promote sports, psychomotor activities and others, than with partners who do not hesitate to make a commitment to us for the well-being of our campers.

On behalf of the youngsters, we wish to thank:

The **Fondation Yvon Deschamps** for the donation of sports equipment for the autonomy program regrouping young adults and adults presenting Asperger syndrome or a high level of functioning

The **Fondation Jacques Francœur** for its donation of recreational material for the regular program, adults and young adults section

The **Fondation des employés de BMO Groupe financier, BMO Fontaine d'espoir**, for the funding of learning material for our younger children

The **Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation** for the improvement of our psychomotor and socialization section

The **social clubs, the friends of Emergo, and all the other organizations** who offered us donations to fund our children's stays and a well deserved respite for our families:

A very warm **THANK YOU** to all!

The great Emergo family



DONATIONS IN MEMORIAM

On the death of a loved one, we all like to express our condolences and sympathy to the stricken family. A donation to Emergo Respite Services – Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorders is well intentioned and will be accepted with appreciation. A letter of condolences will be sent to the stricken family and a receipt for income tax purposes will be sent to the donor expressing our gratitude.

Emergo Respite Services are looking for volunteers for their various activities. You are the ideal candidate if you have a generous heart, a bit of free time and the willingness to help and have fun at the same time. Simply give us a call at (514) 931-2882, and leave us your name and phone number. It's easy... and helpful!

For you, friends and parents of Emergo

Sitting quietly listening to this beautiful music directed by an expert band leader, the flamboyant woodpecker, accompanied by his musicians, the goldfinches, the blue jays, and the swallows, I am carried away by the memories and the wonderful people I met in the summer of 2003.

I cannot make you live these two enchanting months in just a few words. I will, however, tell you that I met...

human wealth
tolerance
patience
smiles
anxiety
fear
concern

from all these youngsters who accompanied your children with respect and who regarded their commitment as a great challenge to be met.

For more than 15 years I have admired these youngsters and I have the greatest respect for them. I bow to their strength of character; and you really need to be strong. We know only too well, we, the parents of every day, whereas they have the choice to do it or not to do it.

And they come back when the leaves fall and they carry on.

Hats off to you all! And thank you for having given to the families some time to return to sources and to get reacquainted. You make all the difference!

Thank you for your warm welcome.

Thank you to the teams of the three campuses for having welcomed me with a lot of tenderness and smiles.

You gave me energy for the year, you gave me the strength to carry on and to fight so that Emergo Respite Services remains a leader!

Hugs and kisses and, "See you soon, I hope".

Manon alias Timbit



The Marie-Nature Bakery sells products intended for a clientele suffering from allergies or food intolerances. For example, it offers close to 600 products for autistic children who cannot eat bovine protein, gluten or drink milk.

MARIE-NATURE BAKERY
6660 Samson Street
Laval



Essential Ingredients to a Successful Summer

To sum up my summer of 2003, I decided to prepare the following word game. You just have to find the word which corresponds to the definition. Good luck!

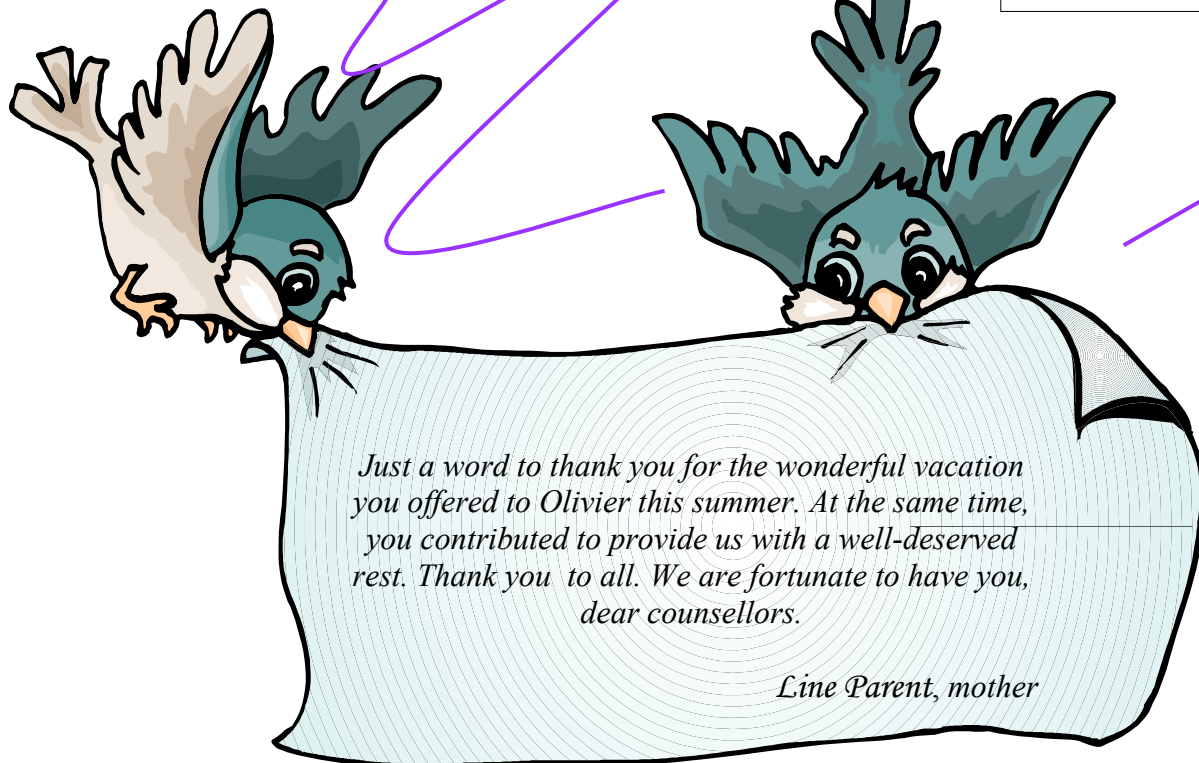


- E _ _ _ _ _ Necessary fuel for everyone to get through the summer.
- M _ _ _ _ Takes form between Emergo staff and the campers.
- E _ _ _ _ _ One of Emergo's main values, it enables the team to exist.
- R _ _ _ _ _ At the heart of everything, in order to better understand each other and to live together.
- G _ _ _ _ _ To give yourself to the cause, body and soul.
- _ _ _ _ _ O Much more than a place, this universe is unique and essential for many.

Thanks to all Emergo 2003 staff members for your involvement which rose beyond expectations!

Simon Poirier alias Ronado
Director of Operations

Answers: energy, magic, enthusiasm, respect, generosity, emergo.



Thank you



Our most sincere thanks to our governmental partners for their financial support and the confidence they demonstrated in this great adventure that is Emergo.

The Ministry of Human Resources Development of Canada and the Honourable Jane Stewart

The Deputy of Westmount-Ville-Marie and President of the Treasury Board, the Honourable Lucienne Robillard

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Sports and Recreation and the Honourable Jean-Marc Fournier

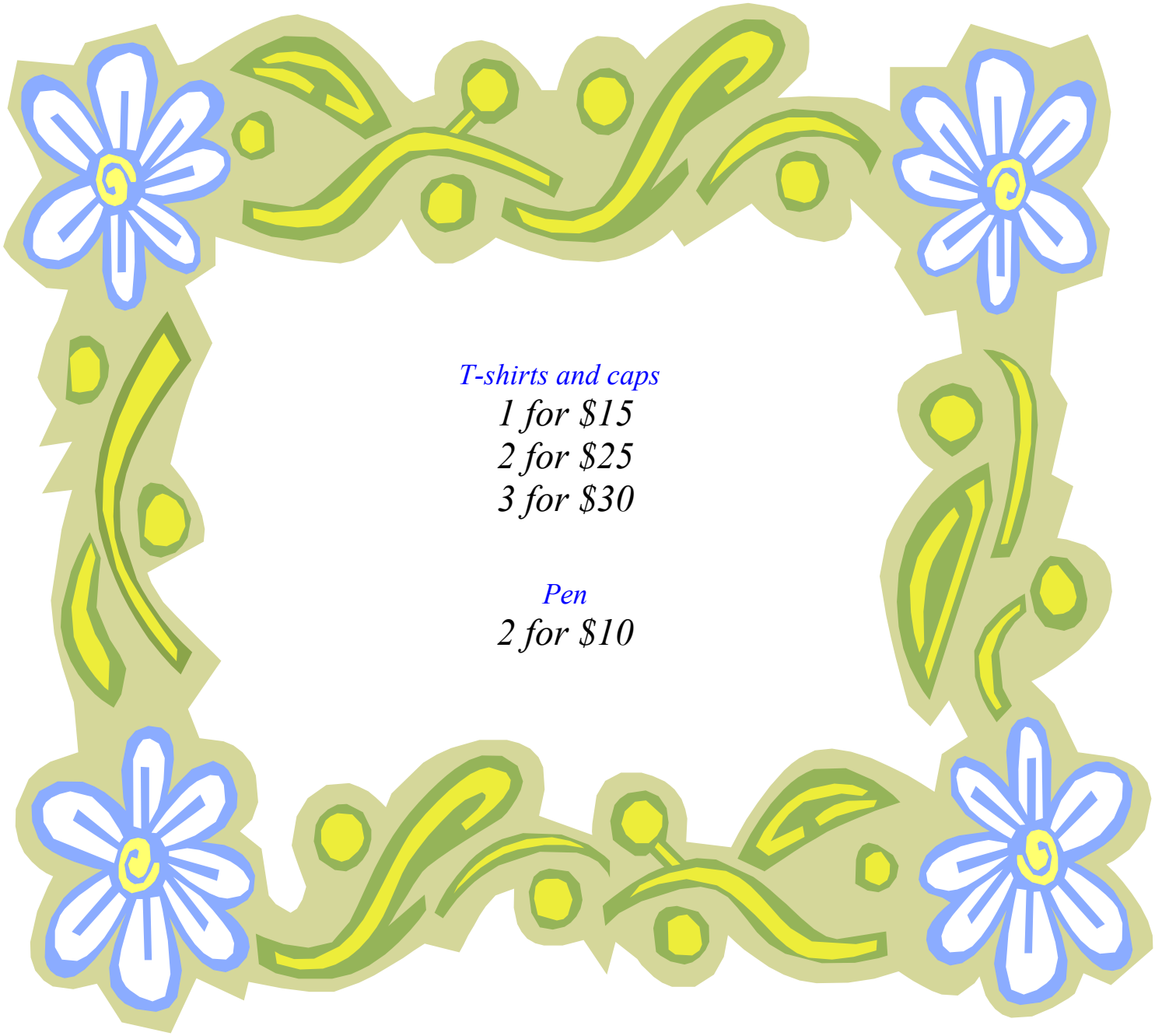
The Quebec Ministry of Health and Social Services and the Honourable Philippe Couillard

The Ministry of National Health and Well-fare Canada and the Program for the Advancement of Childhood Education

The “Centre de la protection de l’enfance et de la jeunesse de Montréal”

The “Association des parents d’enfants en difficulté de la Rive-Sud de Montréal”

Clearance Sale



T-shirts and caps

1 for \$15

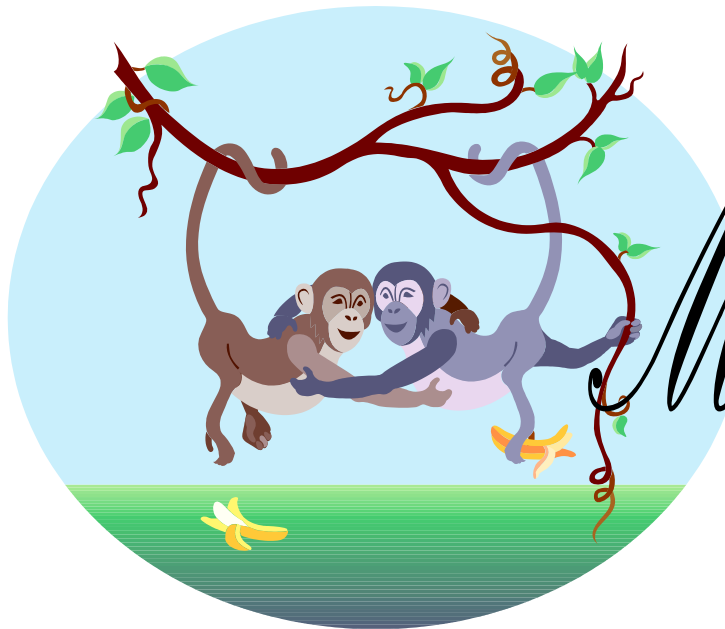
2 for \$25

3 for \$30

Pen

2 for \$10

Quantities limited, hurry!
To order, call Karine at (514) 931-2882.



Monkey Golf

Come and have fun with us!

*The Monkey Golf is a golf tournament organized in order
to raise funds for these two good causes :*

***Emergo Respite Services – Autism and P.D.D. Inc.
&
Kahnawaga Minor Sports***

Price : \$ 20,00 per person including a meal

Date : October 4, 2003

Where : Caughnawaga Golf Club

Kahnawake

(450) 632-7163

*To purchase tickets, please call at our head office
at (514) 931-2882 and reserve your places.*

Don't forget, it is the Monkey Golf... You have to play with two golf clubs only!

Looking forward to see you there!



Francis' Vacation

Our son Francis has pervasive developmental disorder (PDD) with autistic traits; he is a 16 year old teenager, very impulsive, full of energy, with a particular taste for everything that is music, speed, physical efforts and freedom. Our big boy, whose physical growth up until last year seemed a bit too slow, rapidly reached 125 pounds and 5' 2", the exact same height as his mother. Since his operation at the Sainte-Justine Hospital to correct a palatine fissure and after numerous rehabilitation sessions, Francis improved his confidence and enlarged his vocabulary. He makes more requests and his sentences are better understood by the people around him, although he still has a severe communication problem (apraxy). It is now August 6, 2003 at the heart of the summer. Behind us are two wonderful memories: one of Camp Emergo 2003, and the other, a family open-air camp. At present, Francis is attending the RockCampBol Day Camp organized by ATEDM.

Camp Emergo

From June 25, to July 6, Francis went to Camp Emergo. He was well surrounded; not only was he in the wonderful Papillon site in Saint-Alphonse which offers all the space to move around, but he also benefited from the security, the attention, the affection and the patience of a young and dynamic team. The children had all sorts of activities: the rowboat which Francis likes a lot, swimming where he excels, picnics, gatherings with friends to sing and play games. This year, our children benefited from a mega inflatable game (42'x32'x17'), a gift from the Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation

To live in the country with our youngsters for 12 days non-stop, far from their home, is an experience and a great challenge.

It is also an opportunity to prepare them for a future where they will have to face all sorts of new situations.

To prepare the schedule of the day with them while respecting and favouring the realization of the objectives of relaxation, socialization, sports, eating all together and making sure that they sleep well, keep in shape and have a great vacation, requires on the caregiver's part a very good training and a character made for great missions.

We take pleasure in reading Francis' journal and looking at the picture of his little group. It is probably "Saumon" who took the picture and who wrote the journal. "Saumon", we found you so full of enthusiasm! You were a big brother to Francis. He would like to have your picture. Thank you to Golfi, Pinson, Limonade and to the whole team. Special thanks to Simon Poirier, the camp's Director of Operations, to Manon Dagenais without whom the camp would not exist, to the whole Board of Directors and its President, Marc Meunier.

Camp Emergo is great for the parents; we feel confident and we have peace of mind. It gives us a respite and the opportunity to undertake renovations, to travel or to get reacquainted with friends and family.

Family open-air camp

On July 11, five days after Francis returned from camp, we all left to spend a week at Orford in the Eastern Townships in a superb open-air camp. The place was extraordinary, very wild, and the lake superb. All sorts of activities were available and the personnel organized the animation for the children and the adults; however, in our case, Francis could not be integrated with the other children and we had to be with him

constantly. The personnel and the other families seemed to understand our situation and were very tolerant of Francis' behaviour which was at times a bit too exuberant. We still enjoyed many fun activities: rowboat, pedalo, kayaking, hiking and most of all long walks in the forest. We ate in a very nice cafeteria, and sometimes we all went out together. Meals were excellent, we could eat whatever we wanted and Francis took advantage of the opportunity to choose his favourites; it was exciting for him. We were well lodged, we had comfortable beds and we had very kind neighbours. Francis was very happy to be travelling with mom and dad. However, it is clear that if there were, in these open-air camps, specialized caregivers who could take over and relieve the parents once in a while, it would be a great improvement.

RockCampBol Day Camp

Francis has been attending an excellent day camp, Camp RockCampBol (ATEDM) since July 28, for a period of 4 weeks. It is his first time at this camp; previously, he went for many years to Camp Bergamote (also organized by ATEDM for the younger children).

Francis will have had a well filled very enriching summer and, at the same time, we, his parents, have had the opportunity to enjoy a calmer style of living. Thanks again to all of you for your support!

*Micheline Charbonneau
and Pierre Morin, parents*

RECOGNITION 2003

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

Scholarships

A first at Emergo

*The selection committee did not have an easy task considering the exceptional quality of the team. Finally, **Josée Filion** and **Martine Synnott** were chosen as “ex-æquo recipients” of the “EMERGO – 2003 SUMMER RESPITE” scholarship.*

Josée and Martine will share the amount of \$250 to complete their studies in September 2003.

To be eligible to the scholarship, the candidates must possess extraordinary qualities and have demonstrated that they have exceptional potential which will enable them to bring a major contribution to our youngsters and to their families.

The 2003 Selection Committee



Souvenir Plaque

This recognition plaque is awarded to the employee:

who realized a particular project, in an exceptional way, within the framework of his/her duties

or

who contributed to improving the team spirit or the work climate within the organization

or

who took an initiative which proved to be most profitable for the campers

or

who maintained a high quality level in his/her work and achieved sustained performance.

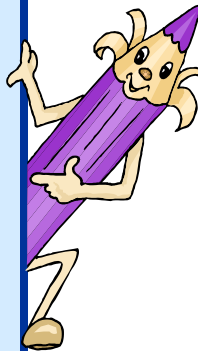
The winners are:

***Geneviève Bergeron
Marie-Ève Brossoit
Caroline Cossette
Christine Danault***



Jean-Coutu, more than a friend!

We wish to extend our sincere thanks to Mr. Louis Legault, owner of the **Jean-Coutu** pharmacy located in Dollard-des-Ormeaux. Each year, Mr. Legault supports our cause by generously giving us a discount on the purchase of pharmaceutical material.

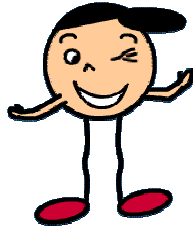


A Juice OASIS!

Thanks to a generous donation from A. Lassonde Inc., Emergo campers and counsellors were able to quench their thirst throughout the summer.

We were fortunate to receive 6,000 OAS fruit juices. Thank you!

Souvenir T-shirt



This souvenir is given to all employees of the summer respite in recognition for their devotion and implication in our cause.



Marie-Michèle Allaire
Tamarah Banks
Mélanie Bazin
Sophie Beauregard
Geneviève Bergeron
Julia Bevan
Stéphanie Boudreault
Annie Bourgeois
Maude Boutet
Martin Brisson
Marie-Eve Brossoit
Josée Caron
Caroline Cossette
Kevin Courtois
Fanny Cyr
Christine Danault
Sylvain Denoual
Cindy Dumais
André Dumont
Sophie Durocher Hébert
Josée Filion

Véronique Fraser
Nathalie Frigon
Marc-Carol Gagné
Elena Galchinsky
Marilyne Gauthier
Maria Golfinopoulos
Elissa Gratton
Duncan Hart
Cameron
Julie Houle-Durocher
Simon Ip
Noémie Jacques
Valérie Jean
Annie Lafrenière
Valérie LeBlanc
Danna Lemieux
Olivier Lepage
Suzie L'Italien
Julie Loiselle
Pierre Losier-Côté
Jasmin Maheux

Kim Michaud
Geneviève Moineau
Josiane Paradis
Jennifer Paradis
Anouk Pellerin
Damien Pichereau
Marie-Claude Pineault
Karine Pion
Denis Pouliot-Morneau
Catherine Sauvé
Pascal Seguel Reynolds
Julie Simard
Mathieu St-Onge
Valérie St-Pierre
Martine Synnott
Geneviève Théberge-Roy
Mélanie Thériault Racine
Geneviève Thibault
Arielle Tremblay
Émilie Vallières



Our mission and our values

Emergo Respite Services provides a range of services to autistic individuals and to individuals with pervasive developmental disorders in order to allow them to benefit from stays in the country and to offer a respite to their families and close relatives.

Emergo pursues the following objectives:

- 1- To provide a service adapted to the needs of its clients and to foster the development of their communication and socialization skills as well as their functional autonomy by creating appropriate partnerships.
- 2- To maintain a high level of excellence in its services and interventions.
- 3- To achieve its mission with the constant reminder of fulfilling the needs of its users, to improve the quality of the services it offers and to develop the competence of its staff.

Emergo Respite Services promotes the following values:

- Users' satisfaction
- The importance of human resources, the empathy and respect of individuals
- To make the staff aware of their responsibilities
- The quality, the rigor, and the performance of its management

INVITATION TO ALL MEMBERS

All members, donors and friends of Emergo Respite Services – Autism and P.D.D. are invited to contribute to our newsletter

EMERGINFO

You are able to share your experiences that may be of some help to other parents...
You have discovered ways to simplify your day to day chores...
You have photographs or drawings of your child that you would like to have published in our newsletter...

Do not hesitate, send us your texts, photos and all to:

EMERGINFO

2 300 René-Lévesque Blvd. West
Montréal (QC) H3H 2R5
repit-emergo@bellnet.ca

Deadline

We invite you to submit your letters or comments by November 28th 2003, deadline of our next issue. All letters received are perused by our writing team who reserve the right to condense them although great care is taken to preserve the core of the writer's argument. The authors retain the entire responsibility of their texts which do not in any way engage Emergo Respite Services Autism and P.D.D.





Happy Birthday!

SEPTEMBER

Julie A. Therrien
Mario Ayotte
Marvin Cédric Baptiste
Sébastien Beauchemin
Guillaume Boivin
Marie Bouchard Corriveau
Nazim Boudjenoun
Maude Brazeau
Benoit Deslieries
Olivier Drolet

Mélanie Gratton
Paul Jenjenian
Jean-Philippe Joly
François Lacasse-Paradis
Valérie Lahaie
Alexandre Leduc
Philippe Legault
Josué Louissaint
Nadia Marcone
Adam Mcilwaine

Jean-Philippe Millette
Gabriel Piccoli
Clément Pilon-Boudreault
Luc Potvin
Vanessa Ranger
Stewart Spencer
Dominic Thériault
Mher Tokatlian
Julien Vuillaume
Sami Wassef

OCTOBER

Aronhahente Beauvais
Mennad Benyoucef
Philippe-Étienne Breton
Robert Chapdeleine
Sylvain Chevalier
Christophe Couture
Cathy Dalamagas
Mathieu Doucet-Noé
Maxime Dumas

Jean-Sébastien Du Paul
Pierre Fradet
Michaël Hanffou
Félix Lahaie
Louis-Pierre Lamoureux
Francis Leclerc-Hamelin
Nicole Losier
Paul Mikulec
Richard Mosel

Alex Poirier
Isabelle Pontbriand
Kévin Provencher-Manes
Nicholas Quenneville
Stéphane Quenneville
Laurence Richer-Paquin
Suzanne Santerre
Antoine Vidal

NOVEMBER

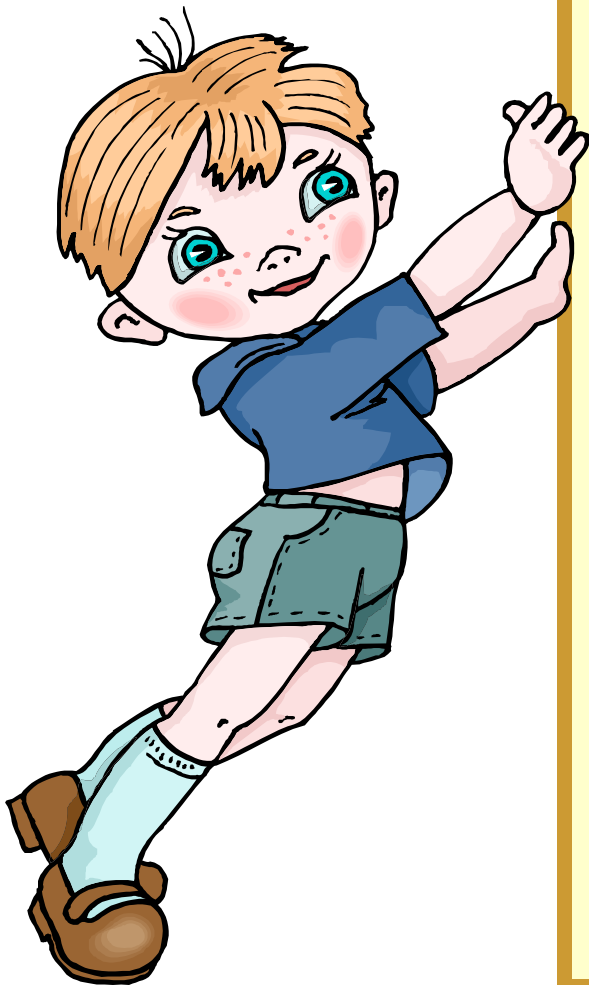
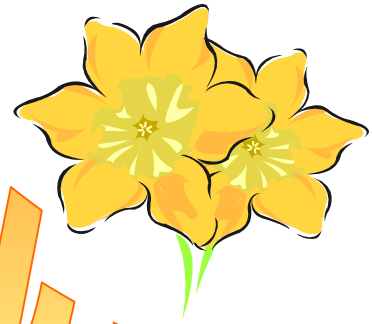
François-Patrick Arteau
Fabian-Daniel Benjanin-Burgos
Jérôme Bisson
Jocelyne Blueboy
Olivier Boivin St-Jean
Jérémie Bourdeau
Simon Bourgois-Chassé
Jean-François Chartrand
Mario Chevalier
David Crystal
Pierre-Luc Delisle

Gregory Desrosiers
Natacha Falcone
Sylvain Fontaine
Ombeline Fournel
Pablo Iturra
Félix Jean
Philippe Jeanton
Ritza Koutsogianis
Jean-Marc Lantin
Louis Masseau

Richard Morin
Louis Pierre Pauzé
Philippe Raymond
Alexandre Robert
Julie Schmidt
Richard St-Arnault
Clément Tessier Enokpae
Patrice Thériault
Gabrielle Tremblay Robitaille
Yannick Vachon



Thank you!



*Emergo NEED\$ your help...
Emergo NEED\$ your financial help...*

I wish to make a donation to

Emergo Respite Services
Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorders

\$100

\$75

\$50

\$35

other \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Province: _____

Postal code: _____

Telephone : _____

A receipt will be issued for income tax purposes.