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What's new at REISA?

REISACTION

Moving North- Regional Expansion of Services

REISA has expanded services to Ville Saint Laurent, Bordeaux Cartierville and Villeray-Parc-Extension to cover the territory of the CIUSS-du-Nord-de-l'Île. The total English-speaking population of the North and East end CIUSSS is around 164,000. In addition to access to health services REISA expanded its mandate in the non-health related fields such as employability, immigrants, and community involvement across the East and North end of Montreal.



A satellite office was opened in Ahuntsic to allow access the community on this vast territory, REISA expansion is made possible by a provincial grant under the program: ERCC – Enhancing Regional Community Capacity.

Parent-Child Mother Goose Program REISA Working with 0-5 year olds



The Mother Goose Program will consist of sessions animated in the library, bringing together English-speaking and French-speaking children.

In 2019, a priority for REISA emerged after analyzing results of a focus group of young moms residing in Rivière-des-Prairies (RDP). Mothers of young children reported an absence of preschool activities in English in RDP, despite a wealth of sport, leisure and recreational activities in French.

Moreover, le *Portrait synthèse du développement des enfants à la maternelle pour le CIUSSS de l'Est-de-l'Île-de-Montréal*, developed in 2019, demonstrated that **36.7%** of children who identified their native language as English

were flagged as vulnerable, compared to **25.5%** of children who identified their native language as French.

Also, **34.5%** of children who identified their native language as one other than French or English were flagged as vulnerable. It was deduced that children from English-speaking

homes in RDP are not as prepared for kindergarten as children from French-speaking homes, and a priority for REISA emerged. After consulting relevant Francophone and Anglophone actors in Rivière-des-Prairies, including school professionals,

community organisations, politicians and library. REISA decided to pilot the Parent-Child Mother Goose Program. This is a pre-literacy program promoting parent-child interaction, language acquisition and socialization.

The program is a free group experience for parents and their babies and young children which focuses on the pleasure and power of using rhymes, songs and stories together. The sessions will be commencing in January 2020!

RDP Residents are asked to register by calling the RDP Library at (514) 872-9494

Youth Network

REISA is continuing to build its youth network by reaching out and building partnerships with French youth organizations, local municipalities, youth services and English youth organizations from the East and North island territories of Montreal. The network is increasing efforts to support the integration of English-



speaking youth with a specific focus on youth employability and challenges to recent immigrant youth. Partnerships are built with French organisations to identify and adapt services in employability for the English speaking youth.

To reach the youth network contact our Youth Coordinator at youth@reisa.ca or 438-836-3472

Éducaloi Community Mobilization Program

Have you ever wondered where you can find legal information quick? Or maybe you just do not know where to start...Éducaloi is your starting point for legal information.

Founded in 2000, Éducaloi is a registered charity organization whose main goal is to improve access to justice in Quebec. Their mission is to explain the law to Quebecers in everyday language.

Building on last year's success, we will be organizing workshops for seniors and youth on a wide range of topics including: *What is legal and what is not online; Rules in the workplace; The Legalities of Marijuana; Elder abuse; Complaints in The Health System; Right of Users; Loss of Autonomy.*



Special Needs Medical Clinic

REISA Taking the Lead

Since 2015, REISA has been working to increase and improve access to services for the English-Speaking community with Special Needs in the East End of Montreal.

In March 2017, REISA hosted a forum on access to services for persons with special needs. Community organizations, public institutions, caregivers and experts in the field were present to discuss the new MSSS Action Plan on Autism Spectrum Disorder.



As a follow up to the forum, a proposal of a multidisciplinary clinic for special needs services was presented to the CIUSSS de l'Est-de-l'Île-de-Montréal and the CIUSSS du Nord-de-l'Île-de-Montréal.

With the collaboration of both CIUSSS and CDH, a new medical clinic opened and is operating since July 2019.

This initiative will improve access by providing direct primary health care services to people with special needs within a calm, comforting environment, adapted through years of direct support to families.



Community Consultation

The Secrétariat aux relations avec les Québécois d'expression anglaise conducted a series of consultations this fall with organizations that serve the English communities. These consultations allowed the government to take the pulse of the English-Speaking communities and move forward in the development of a first ever government action plan for English-speaking Quebecers.



REISA hosted the event at the Leonardo Da Vinci Center in Saint-Leonard on October 17th. 2019.

Secrétariat aux relations
avec les Québécois
d'expression anglaise

Québec 

McGill Retention Program

The McGill Training and Retention of Health Professionals program has given many students hands on experiences with internship opportunities within community groups in Montreal's East and North end.

Students from Applied Human Sciences, Child Studies, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Community, Public Affairs and Policy Studies, Creative Arts Therapies, Dietetics and Human Nutrition, Early Childhood and Elementary Education, Educational and Counselling Psychology, Immigration Studies, Nursing, Physical and Occupational Therapy, Respiratory and Anesthesia Technology, Social Service/Social Work, Special Care Counselling, Substance Abuse Counselling and Youth and Adult Correctional Intervention by way of different universities and cegeps such as Concordia University, McGill University, Dawson College and Vanier College.

This year, 17 students will be starting internships that will allow them to use the valuable experience learned in their future job.

Due to the shortage of health professionals, the CIUSSS are prepared to offer internships to BILINGUAL students in health-related disciplines.

Dialogue
McGill

If you are interested in internship opportunities,
please contact us at info@reisa.ca



YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FAIR OCTOBER 22 & 23, 2019

Youth in the east-end of Montreal experience difficulties accessing mental health resources in English and are forced to travel to different parts of the city to receive these services.

The East Island Network for English Language Services organized its second annual Mental Health Fair for youth on October 22nd and 23rd.

The fair took place at John F Kennedy High School with several participating schools and over 1000 youth, parents, and school staff in attendance.

The goal of this event is to educate youth on the realities of mental health while providing participants with east-end mental health services, tools and resources accessible to them in their preferred language.

For Mental Health Resources,

Visit:
<http://www.emsb.qc.ca/mhrc/>

Community Health Education Program (CHEP)

Continuing on previous year's success, REISA organized a number of health education sessions in partnership with the CHSSN and the CHEP program at Almage Senior Community Centre and their two satellite centers. Each Health Education Session has covered a different topic chosen by the seniors which range from bladder health to healthy eating habits. REISA has invited different health professionals to animate the sessions and answer any questions the seniors may have related to the chosen topic. REISA has also participated in live videoconferences and invited seniors and health professionals to participate at these events which cover topics such as tissue and organ donation and diabetes. With the positive feedback from these sessions, REISA will continue to offer more sessions in the winter and upcoming year.

For more information on the CHEP Health Education Program, visit: www.chssn.org



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