



Le Réseau de l'Est de l'Île
pour les services en anglais
The East Island Network for
English Language Services

ANNUAL REPORT

2023-2024



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REISA

**Le Réseau de l'Est de l'Île pour les services en anglais
The East Island Network for English Language Services**

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MINUTES OF THE 2023 AGM

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of
The East Island Network for English Language Services
At the Centre des loisirs, Saint-Laurent
On Thursday, August 24, 2023**

1. Opening of the Annual General Meeting and reading of the Notice of Convocation

- Meeting opens at 10:00am.

2. Appointment of the Chairperson and the Secretary of the Meeting

- M. Maiolo is appointed as Chairperson, proposed by F. Sorrentino and seconded by D. D'Abate.
- C. Maiolo is appointed as Secretary, proposed by G. Tullio and seconded by H. Nadler.

3. Approval of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of September 15, 2022

- H. Nadler proposed, seconded by D. D'Abate and approved unanimously.

4. Presentation of the Annual Report for the year ended March 31st, 2023

- A powerpoint is presented by F. Guemiri;
- Félix: CJE St Laurent is fully bilingual now, thanks to REISA;
- Christopher: PACT de Rue; translation Eng to French? FG: there could be funding for this, REISA does not have the budget; we are investigating new possibilities and looking into the Ministry of francisation;

5. Presentation and Acceptance of the Financial Statements for the financial year ended March 31st, 2023

- G. Tullio, Board Treasurer, presents Michael Orlando, REISA auditor;
- M. Orlando presents the financial statements;
- This year, le registraire des entreprises has become stricter; in the past, C. Maiolo helped with the updates; he suggests having a lawyer do the changes this year;
- Financial statements:
 - o Page 5; balance sheet;
 - o Page 6; revenues and expenses; \$54,956 is revenues – expenses;
 - o Page 13; revenues by program;
- Acceptance of the financial statements: G. Tullio motions, seconded by D. D'Abate; all are in favor and the statements are approved.

6. Appointment of the Auditor for the current financial year 2023-2024

- G. Tullio nominates Orlando Fazzari CPA, seconded by H. Nadler and approved unanimously.

7. Election of Board of Directors

- C. Maiolo explains bylaws for election of board of directors;
- M. Maiolo asks board members who are present if they accept to continue for another term; the board members agree unanimously, thus the board members present are reconducted for 2023-2024: D. D’Abate, N. Garofalo, R. Francis, M. Maiolo, H. Nadler, F. Sorrentino, G. Tullio.
- The 3 board members who are not present will give their answers at a later date: E. Amir, J. Primiani and T. Vecera.
- C. Maiolo explains bylaws for election of executive committee; the Board of Directors will meet with all board members present to elect the officers of the officers/executive committee.

8. Question and Answer Period

- There are no questions at this time.

9. Closing of the Annual General Meeting

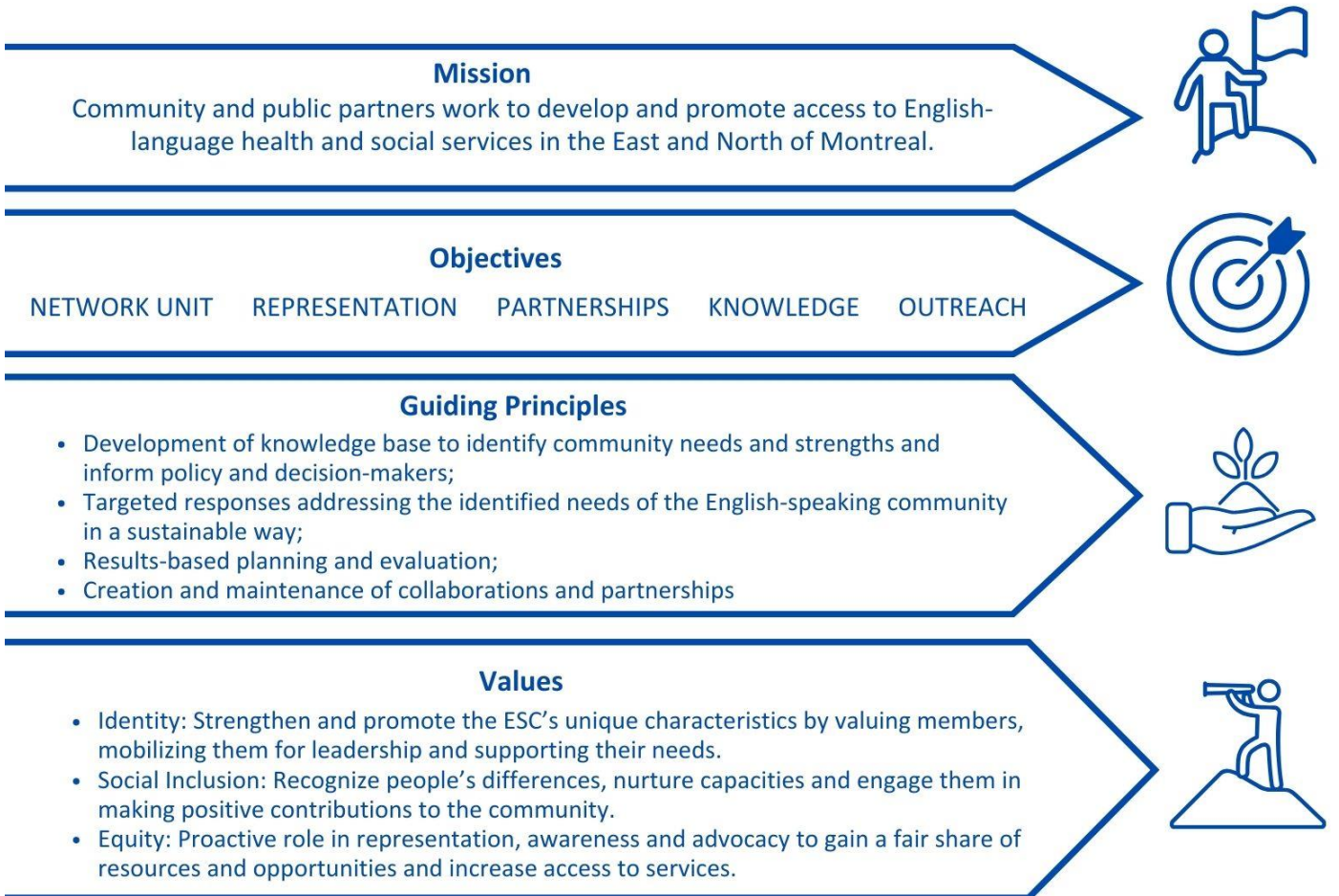
- G. Tullio motions to close the meeting; M. Maiolo closes the meeting at 11:06am.

Attendees

Name	Organisation
Board of Directors	
Castrechini, Mirella	Almage Senior Centre
Francis, Raeanne	Black Community Resource Centre
Garofalo, Nadia	YMCA Cartierville
Maiolo, Maria	Italian-Canadian Community Services of Quebec
Nadler, Howard	Expert
Sorrentino, Frank	Scalabrini Centre
Tullio, Gerry	English Montreal School Board
Guests	
Bérubé, Ève	CIUSSS de l’Est
Boucher, Julie	CIUSSS du Nord
Byron, Peter	Saint-Laurent Adult Education Centre
Cooke, Jennifer	CHSSN
Gabriel, Alysia	Mental Health Commission of Canada
Lagacé, Éric	Ville de Saint-Laurent
Lapierre, Anne	Centraide
Lavoie, Anne-Marie	Éducaloi
Lewis, Christophe	Pact de Rue

Orlando, Michael	Orlando Fazzari CPA
Pathak, Sheetal	CIUSSS du Nord
Pereira, Rosemarie	CJE Rivière-des-Prairies
Poisson, Félix	CJE Saint-Laurent
Sbrollini, Jonathan	LIFT
Tchitacov, Aki	YES Montreal
Staff	
Gatre Guemiri, Fatiha	REISA
Maiolo, Claudia	REISA
Thomas, Caitlin	REISA
Thomas, Karlee	REISA

RESULTS-BASED MODEL



Human Resources

Fatiha Gatre Guemiri
Executive Director

Claudia Maiolo
Programs Director

Caitlin Thomas
Projects Manager

Pamela Morrone
Youth Network Coordinator

Maria Comito
Communications and Outreach Coordinator



Board of Directors

Amir, Ella
Castrechini, Mirella
D'Abate, Dominic
Francis, Raeanne
Garofalo, Nadia - Treasurer
Maiolo, Maria - Vice-President

Nadler, Howard
Primiani, Josephine - President
Sorrentino, Frank
Tullio, Germain
Vecera, Theo

PROGRAMS AND FUNDERS

PROGRAMS

FUNDERS

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Networking and Partnership Initiative | CHSSN – Health Canada |
| • Healthy Early Years | CHSSN – Health Canada |
| • Bright Beginnings | CHSSN – Fondation Chagnon |
| • Youth Mental Health Initiative | CHSSN – Fondation Chagnon, Secrétariat à la jeunesse |
| • Supporting and Promoting Mental Health | CHSSN – Health Canada |
| • Senior Wellness Initiative | CHSSN - Secrétariat aux relations avec les Québécois d'expression anglaise |
| • Enhancing Regional Community Capacity | Secrétariat aux relations avec les Québécois d'expression anglaise |
| • McGill Dialogue | McGill University |
| • Community Mobilization Project | Éducaloi |
| • Community Outreach and Development | Centraide du Grand Montréal |

REPORT ON RESULTS

NETWORKING AND PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE (NPI)

NETWORK UNIT

- 6 board and partners meetings and 1 AGM attended by community and public partners: representatives of the CIUSSS du Nord, CIUSSS de l'Est as well as elected officials.
- 2 days strategic planning meetings with Board and team with an external consultant.
- A draft of REISA's 2023-2028 strategic plan has been prepared by the consultant and will be reviewed in April 2024.
- A community forum on the topic of Mental Health was held on February 28th. 45 people attended, representing public and educational institutions as well as community organisations.
- The CIUSSS de l'Est and CIUSSS du Nord presented their mental health services available in English, and community organisations shared innovative mental health programs.

REPRESENTATION

- REISA is represented on tables de quartier in 6 Montreal boroughs: REISA participates in 39 meetings with tables de quartiers and their corresponding subcommittees (senior, youth and young families).
- REISA animates 3 presentations on REISA's mandate and services to tables de quartier members.
- REISA co-develops a resource guide for the RDP-PAT community.
- Participation in 16 forums/webinars: themes included success in education with Réseau Réussite Montréal, visiting and accompanying seniors with the SPVM, and other events hosted by AMI-Québec, the CHSSN, Apathy is Boring, SSF, la Semaine Québécoise pour la paternité, McGill University, the CIUSSS de l'Est, WIN Intergenerational Network and UIBE.

KNOWLEDGE

- 11 new knowledge products created and shared including flyers for early childhood virtual workshops, mental health initiatives, REISA's annual report 2022-2023 and REISA's Annual Youth Forum Report.
- REISA was introduced to the new mapping database created by the CHSSN. REISA participated in a meeting to provide feedback on the tool with the design team.
- REISA presents statistics on the ESC during the Youth Network Forum (30 participants) and the Mental Health Forum (45 participants).
- Needs assessment: REISA conducted two senior focus groups (25 seniors) to assess needs and accessibility of public health services.
- REISA participated in 17 best-practice, training, coaching and knowledge-exchange events with the CHSSN and Éducaloi.

PARTNERSHIPS

- REISA participates in three meetings with the CIUSSS de l'Est comité d'accès pour services en langue anglaise. Discussions are around translation, Lunch and Learn sessions, mental health forum speakers and access to REISA website on their intranet.
- Attendance at le Plan de rétablissement et de résilience event by the CIUSSS de l'Est in October.
- Attendance at the Open House of the Aire Ouverte in Pointe-aux-Trembles in November.
- **Lunch and Learn initiative:**
 - REISA animated 36 lunch and learn sessions at the CLSC de Rivière-des-Prairies and the CLSC Saint-Laurent.

- The sessions consist of conversing with staff of the CIUSSS du Nord and CIUSSS de l'Est, who wish to improve their oral communication in their area of intervention.
- An average of 5 health professionals participated in the weekly sessions.
- Future sessions will be available virtually starting in Fall 2024.
- English Montreal School Board:
 - Planning meetings for the annual Headstrong Summit, student-led initiatives and Mental Health Fair with the school board and East-end high schools.
 - Discussion around transition programs and the sustainability of REISA's pilot program in partnership with OMETZ.
 - REISA invited three experts to meetings, on the themes of sexual education and trauma awareness.

OUTREACH

- Created a comprehensive list of 70+ organizations of the community and public sectors, across the 9 boroughs in the CIUSSS du Nord and CIUSSS de l'Est; 60 of which were new to REISA.
- Communicated with the organizations and institutions regarding possible future partnerships and furthering current partnerships
- Hosted 8 meetings with new organizations to raise awareness of REISA and create partnerships
- Participated in meetings with 6 tables de concertation. Official membership 3 tables de concertation
- REISA's online resource guide is frequently updated.
- 1 REISA newsletter is published in December 2023.
- Social media:
 - Attained 529 Facebook followers and 183 instagram followers.
 - Published over 500 FB posts (including post shares of partner organisations).
 - Published 57 instagram posts.
- Provided 53 referrals to members of the community. The ESC was most often seeking services and information on housing, senior fraud, senior abuse, mental health and English programming for children.
- REISA met with 8 new partners including ALS Québec, Naos jeunesse, P10 and Experience Bébé. REISA shared demographic information related to the ESC and exchanged on potential collaboration.
- REISA collaborated on initiatives with 10 partners including Hay Doun, 123 GO! RDP, the DBYLC, Almage, One Voice-SAQ, ELAN, the Mental Health Commission of Canada, the Montreal School of Performing Arts, Minibiblioplus and COCo.

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE

- REISA maintained partnerships with 7 high schools, the English Montreal School Board, 2 Aire-Ouvertes, Cégep Vanier, and the Don Bosco Youth Leadership Centre.
- Alongside the English Montreal School Board and the Direction Régionale de Santé Publique, REISA sat on the planning committee for the **JFK Mental Health Fair**:
 - 7 schools were invited to participate in the fair.
 - Invited 47 mental health partners of which 25 were present, this included health institutions and community organizations who animated workshops and booths for students to visit and ask questions.
- REISA co-organized a virtual **Headstrong Summit** with the EMSB where 7 high schools within REISA's territory were invited to participate.
- Following the Headstrong Summit, REISA invited student leaders from the 7 schools to participate in **student-led initiatives**. Groups of 5-7 students per school contributed to filling out a workplan and coming up with their very own mental health initiatives at their respective schools.
- In partnership with the Mental Health Commission of Canada, REISA offered the **Mental Health First Aid Training** to the Don Bosco Youth Leadership Centre. Their training is planned for June 2024, to coincide with their camp animators' training.

SUPPORTING AND PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH

- **Improv Theater for Mental Health**: Workshops were held in-person with a total of 7 different groups.
- REISA offered this program to adults, newcomers, individuals with special needs, and seniors, equipping them with essential skills and tools for managing mental health challenges and fostering connections to mitigate isolation.
- **Mental Health Forum**: the forum was held virtually and had a total of 45 participants.
- 2 presentations by the CIUSSS du Nord and CIUSSS de l'Est were given to the larger group.
- 5 breakout rooms were created (youth, adults, seniors, special needs, and early childhood and young families).
- 2-3 guest speakers from different organizations were invited to give presentations in their assigned breakout room.
- The following organisations presented: YMCA; Project 10; ELAN English Language Arts Network; Mental Health Commission of Canada; AMI-Quebec; McGill Centre for Studies in Aging; WIN Intergenerational Network; Giant Steps; Centre for Dreams and Hopes; OMETZ.
- The forum provided an opportunity to share knowledge and better equip our partners and community with mental health resources and initiatives.

SENIOR WELLNESS INITIATIVE

- REISA developed two community partnerships in Saint-Laurent; one with a senior residence, Demeures Sainte-Croix, and the other with a community organization, Hay Doun.
- REISA planned and executed 13 senior wellness activities at these two partner locations. These activities included: Improv for Mental Health; Nutrition; Diabetes; Legal Information; Focus Group.
- REISA established a partnership with home care nurses at the CLSC Saint-Laurent through the Lunch and Learn Initiative. By engaging in discussions with the nurses, REISA gained a deeper understanding of the realities faced by isolated seniors living in Saint-Laurent.
- REISA discovered new senior residents, particularly among the large English-speaking population in the borough.
- REISA conducted a focus group with the English-speaking seniors at Demeures Sainte-Croix to gain insight into their needs and to plan activities that would benefit them.

HEALTHY EARLY YEARS (HEY)

LIBRARY PROGRAM

- REISA partnered with Experience Bebe to offer summer sessions of their sensory development program for babies ages 0 to 12 months.
- Two sessions animated at the Saint-Laurent library, there 16 mothers and tots participated.
- One session animated at the Saint-Léonard library, where 12 mothers and tots participated.
- Experience Bebe has become a partner of REISA, sharing pertinent information with their large database of parents living in the Greater Montreal Area.

PARENTS AND TOTS WORKSHOPS

- CIUSSS de l'Est health professionals volunteered their time to create and present custom presentations on health topics that were selected by the English-speaking community, through surveys. They were in collaboration with the Don Bosco Youth Leadership Center (DBYLC) and presented at REISA's satellite office in Rivière-des-Prairies.
- Themes included: Nutrition & healthy eating; Transition to elementary school; Self-esteem, anxiety and social skills.

MINIBIBLIOPUS WEBINAR

- Development of a new partnership with MinibiblioPLUS, increasing REISA's capacity to do outreach and offer free resources to parents, including workshops, books and other material.
- Early Literacy and Storytime Animation Workshop, developed by MinibiblioPLUS and presented on March 12, served as a guide to early literacy. The workshop was primarily designed for parents and caregivers. However, the information provided was helpful for educators, daycare workers, or anyone else who works with children.
- The workshop included free materials and resources that were provided to the 20 participants.

TRANSLATION

- REISA translated 4 powerpoint presentations - prenatal courses offered to the community by the CIUSSS du Nord-de-l'Île-de-Montréal, on the topics of pregnancy, delivery, newborn care, returning home with baby and breastfeeding.

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

TRANSITION 2

- REISA has two planning meetings with Cedarcrest (North) and Nesbitt (East) elementary schools to plan the transition to high school sessions.
- OMETZ animates the 8-week transition program in the two elementary schools for six, grade 6 classes in total.

COMMUNITY LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

- 4 Walk the Talk sessions are held virtually January-April 2023
- 14 families benefitted from the Walk the Talk sessions
- Community organisations serving young families are aware of the programming offered by REISA and have the instinct to refer families

MINIBIBLIOPUS

- A list of English-speaking families is created for dissemination of resources and relevant REISA programming.
- Several meetings are held with Minibiblioplus to organise the reading corner.
- REISA meets with two Minibiblioplus volunteers for future reading corner sessions.
- An agreement is formed with the Don Bosco Youth Leadership Centre in Rivière-des-Prairies to install a mini-library in its building, right outside of the REISA office.
- A strong partnership has developed between REISA and Minibiblioplus. REISA is helping them get to know the ESC in the North and East ends of Montreal.

PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- REISA participates regularly in meetings of les comités petite enfance Rivière-des-Prairies, Saint-Léonard and Saint-Laurent. REISA shares the realities of the ESC with the partners around the table.
- REISA partook in a subcommittee of le comité petite enfance RDP to create a survey that would understand the needs and realities of young families in the borough.
- REISA is a valued partner and often consulted for insight on the ESC. The committees have the instinct to call upon REISA with anything regarding the ESC.

ENHANCING REGIONAL COMMUNITY CAPACITY (ERCC)

NETWORKING AND REPRESENTATION

- REISA is recognized as a non-profit organization by the borough of Saint-Laurent in April 2023.
- 8 new partnerships developed in Saint-Laurent.
- 11 meetings with new youth organisations in Saint-Laurent and Saint-Léonard.
- 13 meetings with partners in employability in Saint-Laurent, Saint-Michel and Rivière-des-Prairies.
- 2 planning meetings with the French department at Vanier College to organize a future internship project planned for 2025.
- 4 meetings with Tables jeunesse in Rivière-des-Prairies and Saint-Laurent, including strategic planning meetings.
- 4 meetings with la Table petite enfance in Saint-Laurent.

EMPLOYABILITY

- REISA updates promotional material for youth and employability and distributes material during events such as career fairs and forums.
- REISA is active member of PERT – Provincial Employability Roundtable.
- REISA animated a kiosk at two McGill Career Fairs.
- REISA is a member of the planning committee for the Saint-Michel Career Fair in partnership with the CJE Centre-Nord. The committee meets 7 times and REISA animates a booth during two days.
- 8 meetings to plan activities for seniors in Saint-Laurent, in partnership with Les Demeures Saint-Croix. 3 senior wellness activities are held.
- REISA participates in the UP 23 Conference, 'Unlocking Potential'
- Facilitation of a partnership between the CJE Saint-Laurent and Lauren Hill Academy to promote access to employability services to English-speaking high school students.
- Facilitation of a collaboration between the CJE Rivière-des-Prairies and the Don Bosco Youth Leadership Centre.
- **REISA Youth Forum:** addressing the issues of marginalized English-speaking communities in Quebec. 30 partners participated. REISA collaborated with regional partners to develop strategies in respecting the needs of the diverse and intersectional English-speaking community.

MCGILL DIALOGUE

PROMOTION

- **22 fieldwork coordination partners contacted** from McGill University, Concordia University, Vanier College and Dawson College.
- Partnership with internship coordinators at McGill Schools and Departments (Social Work, Nursing, Human Nutrition, Physical and Occupational Therapy, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Educational & Counselling).
- Partnerships maintained with Concordia Schools and Departments (Education, Creative Arts Therapies, School of Community and Public Affairs, Applied Human Sciences incl. Recreational Therapy).
- Established new partnership with Vanier College French department to discuss offering community internship placements for the upcoming year.
- Produced 2 infographics for the CIUSSS du Nord to disseminate to Health and Social Service professionals to

enroll in Lunch and Learn sessions.

- Maintained correspondence with the CIUSSS de l'Est de l'Île and CIUSSSS Nord de l'Île to plan English conversation sessions at the CLSC beginning in September 2023.
- **Continued advocacy** for expanding fieldwork placements from English-language institutions with CIUSSS policymakers (Est de l'Île, Nord de l'Île).
- **Promotional documents** revised: *Careers in Health and Social Science 2024-2025, English an Asset!; Working in East & North Montreal; East Island Community Sector Internship Opportunities 2023-2024.*
- **Community job opportunities** disseminated through online platforms, including with: Almage, Habitations Nouvelles Avenues (HNA), CJE Saint-Laurent.
- In partnership with the Carrefour Jeunesse Emploi Centre Nord, REISA had a booth at the Saint-Michel Training and Employment fair and promoted community internship opportunities and Careers in Health and Social Services.

CAREER FAIRS

- Participation in the McGill Non-Profit/NGO Career Fair: 38 students visited the booth, and 14 CVS were received.
- Participation in the McGill Health and Social Services Career Fair: 25 students visited the booth, and 6 CVS were received.

INTERNSHIPS/PLACEMENTS

- Student Data bank comprised of 78 students, includes students who have participated in internships with REISA partners, who have applied to REISA job postings, and/or have sent REISA their CVs during a career fair or by email.
- Seven REISA partner site organisations contacted regarding known and anticipated internship needs and capacities for 2023/24.

LEGAL INFORMATION

- Participation in 4 webinars hosted by Educaloi.
- Published 18 facebook posts and 5 instagram posts on various topics related to legal education.
- Shared legal information and Educaloi resources at multiple fairs including the McGill NGO and Health and Social Services Fairs.
- Organised 5 legal information workshops between January and April 2024:
 - Workshop themes included Educaloi services and website; legal resources for seniors;
 - 75 participants in total.



Early Literacy Workshop



Sensory play workshops



Lunch & Learn



REISA Team

2023-2024 ACTIVITIES SNAPSHOT



Mental Health Fair



Youth Network Forum



Mental Health Forum



Youth Network Forum



Parents & Tots Workshop



THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS AND PARTNERS!



Health Canada
Santé Canada



Secrétariat aux relations
avec les Québécois
d'expression anglaise
Québec



Centre intégré
universitaire de santé
et de services sociaux
du Nord-de-
l'Île-de-Montréal

Québec

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