

ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE DIRECTORS OF YOUTH PROTECTION / PROVINCIAL DIRECTORS: 40 YEARS OF EXPERTISE TO BUILD THE FUTURE

Baie-Comeau, September 25th, 2019 – As part of their 16th annual report, the Directors of youth protection of Québec, also Provincial Directors (DPJ-DP), take this opportunity to mark the 40 years of the Youth Protection Act by looking forward.

These past 40 years have witnessed the conviction and the perseverance of thousands of people from various backgrounds, rich and fruitful partnerships being continuously renewed, and a close complicity between researchers and people in the field. This journey was marked by several great success stories, but also by some unfortunate setbacks which, every time, led to a close examination of our practices and a reflection on the possible improvement actions.

Despite the giant steps forward over time and regardless of the thousands of children who were able to enjoy the benefits of the Youth Protection Act, the number of children subject to a reporting and in need of protection continues to increase. This situation is of great concern to the DYPs throughout Québec, whose challenge for the future is to reverse this tendency and to offer a better world to our children.

The tragic events of the spring 2019 remind us that despite the hard work of thousands of intervenors dedicated to the protection of all children in Québec, we are not immune to such a situation. Youth protection is a team effort in which everyone's contribution is essential. When a situation falls through the cracks, the whole society must question itself.

The upcoming Special Commission on the Rights of the Child and Youth Protection is a real opportunity for DYPs to provide a constructive update on the protection, the rights and the well-being of children with all society actors. It is also an opportunity to reassert the social consensus on youth protection and to redefine the mandates entrusted to DYPs, but also to all actors involved in the well-being of vulnerable children and families.

Provincial statistics for 2018-2019

- 105 644 reports handled in Québec. It represents an increase of 10% compared to last year.
- 41 530 reports retained.
- 289 children situations reported per day, which is 26 more situations per day than last year.
- 61.9% of children taken care of by the DYP remained in their family environment or with a significant third person.
- 9 879 teenagers received services as part of the Youth Criminal Justice Act (YCJA), which represents a decrease of 6.5% compared to last year.

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Regional statistics for 2018-2019

- 3 540 reports handled on the North Shore. It is an increase of 11.7% compared to last year.
- 1 032 reports retained.
- 9.6 children situations reported per day, which is 0.6 more situation per day than last year.
- 71.8% of children taken care of by the DYP remained in their family environment or with a significant third person.
- 207 teenagers received services as part of the Youth Criminal Justice Act (YCJA), compared to 186 last year.

To consult the 2018-2019 report:

<http://www.ciass-cotenord.gouv.qc.ca/documentation/rapports/rapports-du-dpj/>

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