

A Widespread Operation to Locate Marilyn Bergeron Missing Since 2008

Montreal, February 14, 2013 – On February 17, 2008, Marilyn Bergeron left her house around 11:15 a.m. telling her mother that she would be running errands and returning home later in the day. Video surveillance cameras captured the young woman at the Caisse Desjardins in Loretteville trying to withdraw money from the ATM and later a credit card transaction revealed that Marilyn had stopped at the Café Dépôt located in Saint-Romuald to purchase a cup of coffee. Marilyn never returned home and has never been seen nor heard from since that fateful day.

In commemoration of Marilyn's 5th year of disappearance, the **Missing Children's Network**, in collaboration with Marilyn's family and Quebec City Police have launched a widespread poster campaign across the province. Beginning today, Valentine's Day, and through next week, over 5,000 posters of the young woman will be distributed at all the 66 **Café Dépôt** locations in Quebec. In addition, clients of the **Caisse Desjardins** in Loretteville will see Marilyn's face on a giant screen installed at the entrance of the financial institution. A team of volunteers will also distribute posters in highly-trafficked areas in **Hochelaga-Maisonneuve**, the district where she lived for three years before her disappearance.

As well, in collaboration with the **Canadian Centre for Child Protection**, several national initiatives will also be put into place. On February 19th, Marilyn's photo will be published on the *Peak of the Market* weekly recipe that will be distributed to 50,000 Canadian households. In the coming weeks, both **Rogers** and the **CIBC** will print Marilyn's picture on the backs of envelopes of their monthly statements that will be mailed to over 900,000 customers across Canada.

Sun Youth has also extended their offer of a reward and will give up to \$10,000 to anyone who has pertinent information that would help find this young woman. It is important to mention that Marilyn Bergeron has a very distinct characteristic ... a tattoo of a pegasus on the right side of her chest.

A mysterious story

Marilyn had just returned from Quebec City when she mysteriously disappeared. On February 10, 2008, a tearful and agitated Marilyn contacted her mother and asked if she could move back home with her parents. "Marilyn told me that she was afraid, but she did not say why", said her mother, Mrs. Andrée Béchar. "On Friday, February 15, we drove to Montreal to help her pack. She spent the evening with friends and the following day we returned to Quebec City together", stated Ms. Béchar. Two days later, Marilyn suddenly vanished without leaving a trace.

For the past five years, Marilyn's family has worked tirelessly in the hope of finding their daughter. They have organized many major operations, granted hundreds of interviews to the press, as well as created a website www.trouvermarilyn.com which they encourage the public to consult.

To mark this somber anniversary, the Missing Children's Network is soliciting the collaboration of both the media and the public in order to disseminate pertinent information regarding Marilyn, in the hopes of generating new information that will lead us to her whereabouts. "Five years is a very long time for a family to be without a daughter", says Pina Arcamone, Director General of the Missing Children's Network. "The time for answers is now. Once again, we are appealing to the public for their help and are hopeful that someone will do the right thing by coming forward with pertinent information so that Marilyn's family can finally bring her home where she belongs."

The Missing Children's Network urges all those who have any pertinent information concerning Marilyn's whereabouts to please contact either le Service de Police de la Ville de Québec at 1 888 641.2447, or the Missing Children's Network at 1-888-692-4673. All calls are confidential.

About the Missing Children's Network:

Founded in 1985, the Missing Children's Network is the only non-profit organization in Quebec that provides front-line services to families who are searching for their missing child.

Our staff accompanies, supports and counsels these families by working collaboratively with law enforcement agencies, other child search organizations, as well as the media. In addition, the Missing Children's Network offers comprehensive educational and prevention programs designed especially for children, parents and professionals.

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