

PRESS RELEASE

The AFPAD Supports the Creation Of a Public Quebec Sex Offender Registry

Montreal, August 30, 2016 – The AFPAD (Association of Families of Persons Assassinated or Disappeared) supports many families who's loved one was victim of sexual abuse, an incident that devastated their lives forever.

For many years, AFPAD has requested that Quebec's sex offender registry be upgraded and rendered accessible to the public. The AFPAD asks that the registry be rendered equivalent to the ones that exist in other Canadian provinces. Currently, Quebec is the only province who does not enroll in its registry sexual offenders released with a less than two years sentence, which significantly endangers potential victims. Consequently, sex offenders from other jurisdictions looking for anonymity may find themselves in Quebec territory.

The registry's objective is to protect potential victims, such as children who are too often targets of these predators. This registry is an additional instrument to be used by the different actors involved in the administration of justice. It will also serve families as prevention and an awareness-raising tool with their children and young adults who surround their environment.

"If such a registry existed in 1999, this tool would have been essential to a father who wants to protect his daughter." held Michel Surprenant, father of Julie Surprenant who has disappeared since November 1999.

About the AFPAD

The AFPAD is a non-profit organization whose main mission is to overcome the isolation experienced by the families of the victims, to develop links of solidarity between them and make it easier for them to reach the necessary resources so they can access the information and the tools they need to rebuild their life.

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