



Parle-moi d'amour... et d'espoir

Emergency Campaign to Maintain Les Impatients' Activities.

Goal: \$1 M by the end of 2023

**LES
IMPATIENTS** 

ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

Les Impatients helps people with mental health issues through artistic expression. We offer creative workshops and encourage exchanges with the community through the dissemination of works produced in the workshops. We are committed and we are present. We are Les Impatients.

We're changing the landscape of mental health in Quebec, one action at a time, and in four unique ways:



THE WORKSHOPS

A successful approach

Offered to people with mental health problems, the Impatients' workshops are free of charge.

Participants are accompanied by artists or art therapists in free, unrestricted workshops, with materials provided. Whether it's visual arts, comics, three-dimensional art, singing or music, the Impatients' workshops take place in more than 24 points of service located across the province, thanks to a fruitful collaboration with health institutions and community venues.

ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

THIRTY YEARS OF CHANGING THE LANDSCAPE OF MENTAL HEALTH IN QUEBEC... OUR OWN WAY!



IMPATIENT ART

A conversation between our participants and artists

The Impatients' art plays a cultural role by exploring the connections between contemporary art and unconventional art. We work in partnership with the arts community, involving artists in various projects and having them act as spokespersons.

Participants contribute to joint projects, such as exhibitions and concerts, by interweaving their work with that of people attending our workshops. This association contributes to the recognition of the art created in the workshops, enriching artistic practice and breaking down the boundaries between art forms, thus helping both artists and workshop participants to grow.



SPREADING THE WORK

Meeting and exchanging

Every year, Impatients from across Quebec organize activities to disseminate the work that emerges from the workshops: exhibitions, meetings and collaborations, performances, and much more.

This commitment is a source of pride for our participants, as well as being a powerful tool for demystifying mental health in the community. As well as representing the culmination of a personal journey, the dissemination activities open up the conversation on both mental health and art.



LES IMPATIENTS' COLLECTION

The largest collection of unconventional art in North America.

Since its founding, Les Impatients has been collecting works created in its workshops. This collection is made up of nearly 30,000 works by 150 creators, in addition to various donations and acquisitions from other unconventional art collections. This makes it one of the largest collections of its kind in North America.

With the aim of representing a community on the fringes of official art institutions, the collection sets itself apart by its scientific and artistic potential as well as its affinity with the unconventional art movement. It is an exciting proposition for society.

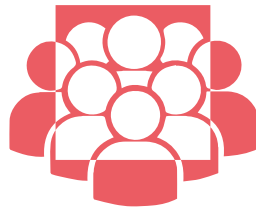
OUR EXPERTISE

Les Impatients' expertise is made evident by its partnerships with health institutions and venues across Quebec. Les Impatients offers many points of service that are essential to the development of people who struggle with mental health problems.

LES IMPATIENTS IS...



24 points of service



900 participants per week



90 workshops per week in **15** cities across Quebec



More than **50** employees



19 partner hospitals



Around a **hundred** volunteers



3 partner museums



4 partner art centres and galleries



3 partner youth centres

A TOUCHSTONE IN THE HEALTH SECTOR

Les Impatients shows that many people with a serious illness can live with it and pursue their journey. Despite their illness, they are able to create and cultivate a passion that also helps them integrate into a community and flourish.



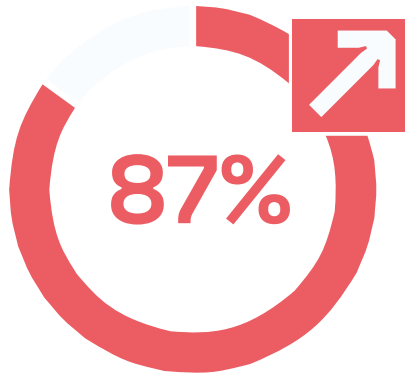
— Dr. André Delorme
Former Director, Quebec Mental Health Department

All it takes is a brief contact with one of Quebec's Impatients to understand the range of benefits that artistic expression can have on their mental health. More than observations repeated over the years, the scientific literature also tends to show that our approach has a promising future.

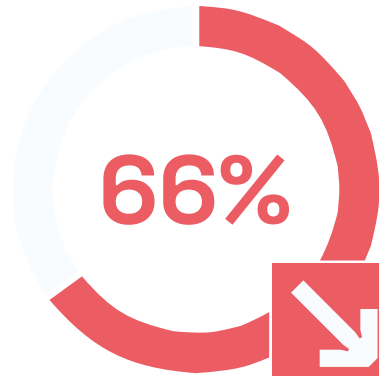
According to a 2019 scoping review of the links between arts and health by the World Health Organisation, “arts activities appear to be useful not only for promoting well-being and helping people to manage mental health conditions, but also in breaking down mental health stigma, promoting social cohesion and, crucially, engaging vulnerable groups who may be less likely to use formal health services.”



A TOUCHSTONE IN THE HEALTH SECTOR



Of Les Impatients' customers have noticed an improvement in their health.



There was a 66% reduction in the number of hospital admissions for Les Impatients' customers.

Furthermore, in 2014, research conducted under the direction of Dr. Catherine Briand of the Université de Montréal demonstrated the specific strength of Les Impatients' intervention model. The results are in line with the literature review on community art programs. It suggests that these programs promote recovery in mental health, acting on both the individual and society. These programs could reduce the stigma associated with mental health and promote integration, social support and self-confidence among participants.

Many mental health professionals trust the model developed by Les Impatients and refer their patients to the organization so that they can continue their recovery process.



In fact, practising art improves self-esteem and interpersonal relationships. I see this with my patients who attend the Impatients' workshops. For many of them, the use of art is gratifying, rewarding and normalizing.

—Dr. Marie-Claude Parent
Head of the Department of Psychiatry, CSSS Drummondville

OUR SUCCESSFUL APPROACH



Since it was founded, Les Impatients has consistently stood out in the mental health field for the uniqueness of its intervention model and its remarkable contribution to the arts. In addition to the numerous awards and distinctions bestowed on our founding members, our organization has been awarded:

Initiatives of Excellence Awardde
Schizophrenia Society of Canada

Lorraine Palardy and Céline Lamontagne are awarded a **medal from the Canadian Senate** in recognition of their contribution to making their communities, regions, provinces or territories better places to live.

1994

Honourable Mention
Association des médecins
psychiatres du Québec

2005

2013

Commendation
From the Canadian Psychiatry
Association's President

2017

2020

Prix Ella Amir received for innovation
in mental health, awarded by the
AMI-Quebec Organisation.

LES IMPATIENTS OVER THE YEARS

A UNIQUE NAME

The organization decided to call itself “Les Impatients,” asserting that the participants are not patients, but creators eager to heal, develop their art and find their place in society. They gradually expanded, offering workshops at the Chapelle du Bon-Pasteur and establishing their administrative centre and art gallery in Montreal.

1992

1999

FOUNDATION

The Fondation pour l’art thérapeutique et l’art brut au Québec was founded by Lorraine B. Palardy, Lina Dessureault, Dr. Yves Lamontagne and Lyette Racicot following the success of an art therapy pilot project carried out at the Louis-H. Lafontaine Hospital since 1989.

2009

PARTNERSHIP

Les Impatients establishes a partnership with the Douglas Mental Health University Institute, marking their first partnership with a healthcare organization, followed by other similar collaborations.

EXPANSION

Les Impatients expand outside of Montreal and open a workshop in Drummondville, marking the beginning of the expansion of their workshops in many regions of Quebec.

2011

2018

DEVELOPMENT

Les Impatients continue to diversify: workshops are opened across the province, reaching people with a wide range of problems: child psychiatry, DYP, oncopsychiatry and performance anxiety, to name but a few.

THIRTY

Just as Les Impatients are celebrating their thirtieth anniversary, the Chapelle du Bon-Pasteur in Montreal is ravaged by fire, taking the Maison des Impatients with it and putting the organization’s future at risk.

2023

BUT IN MAY 2023, THE MAISON DES IMPATIENTS BURNED DOWN



Photo: Patrick Sanfaçon, La Presse

In May 2023, we celebrated our 30th anniversary. For our anniversary, we blew out the candles... and the house burned down.

The Maison des Impatients.

We are launching this fundraising campaign in the wake of the fire at our home in Montreal.

To rebuild our Maison.

But most of all, to enable us to continue our mission across Quebec, in 90 workshops from Shawinigan to Mont-Laurier.

People come over and stay. Sometimes for an afternoon, like Marcel. Sometimes for 28 years, like Diane.

Help us so that they can continue thriving through their activities. And in their home.

A WORD FROM OUR GENERAL MANAGER



The Maison des Impatients was more than just a building to us, it was a symbol of refuge, a haven where creativity and hope could flourish. Every wall proudly displayed the work of our participants, and we opened the doors of our Maison to visitors, offering them a glimpse of the power of artistic expression as a means of recovery and transformation.

The memories of these events, although now reduced to ashes, remain engraved in our minds. Because beyond the walls that were taken from us, the very essence of our Maison remains in our hearts and in the strength of our community.

It is with unwavering determination that we choose to look to the future. We are determined to rebuild, to give life to a new space where our participants can once again thrive. We are calling on you, and on all those who share our passion and vision, to join us in this common goal of rebirth.

Together, we will write a new chapter in the history of Les Impatients, a page filled with love, art and hope that will stand the test of time. A future where Les Impatients will continue to be a beacon for recovery, a refuge for self-expression and a home for the soul.

With gratitude and hope,

Frédéric Palardy

A WORD FROM THE CAMPAIGN'S CO-PRESIDENTS

**Home is where the heart lives. Home is where the heart loves.
Home is where the heart learns, creates, plays and flourishes.
Home is where the heart is safe and free. The heart is at the centre
of the house, and the heart and its love are the house.**

Last May, a major fire burned our house down. The fire burned down our physical space, but triggered a massive explosion of love and hope in the community. The love we have received from those who have known and loved us over the past 30 years and from those who believe and have been won over by our mission since the fire has been incredible, and we are very grateful.

However, while love alone can do the most amazing things, it cannot build foundations, walls, roofs or rooms with windows to create safe spaces for creation as a means of freedom, dignity and recovery and the door to open to all those who need to lose themselves in creation to find freedom again.

That is why I'm calling for a new surge of love through this year's special edition of Parle-moi d'amour... et d'espoir, which aims to raise at least \$1 million to find us a new home. A home for our workshops and a home to pursue our mission of creating safe spaces for workshops to create and thrive throughout our province.

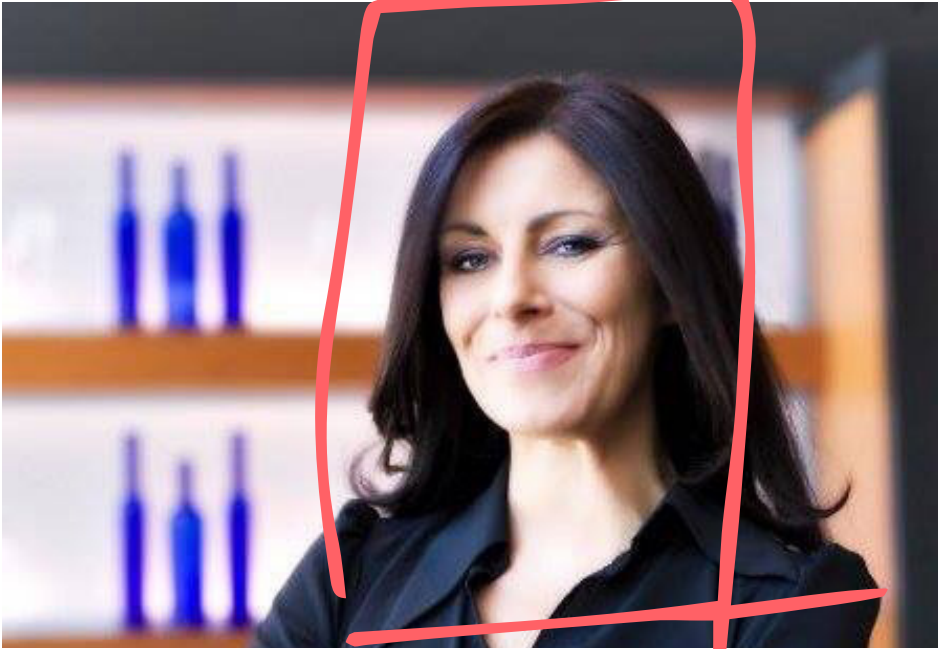
Please take a moment to consider the different ways in which you might wish to contribute. Every contribution is a building block towards our mission of providing freedom of artistic expression.

Thank you,

Dr Leon Tourian



A WORD FROM THE CAMPAIGN'S CO-PRESIDENTS



Behind every tragedy lies the strength and determination from which hope will emerge. Les Impatients has seen its house burn to the ground. But the pillars that are its extraordinary team of volunteers, participants and partners remain steadfast. Together, they stand tall, led by an immense wave of solidarity.

The campaign we are launching in support of the organization is unprecedented. Parle-moi d'amour... et d'espoir will mark an exceptional year, enabling Les Impatients to pursue its

mission throughout Quebec, rebuild its home and continue its development efforts. The need for mental health prevention and intervention continues unabated, and is inseparable from public health priorities. The impact on society and on the well-being of communities is major. And this tragedy has put immense pressure on the organization, which cannot afford to slow down.

We are therefore appealing to the generosity and social responsibility of companies, foundations and individuals to help us reach our ambitious but essential goal of raising \$1 million, which will enable Les Impatients to relocate, meet its basic needs and give the team the tools—and the impetus—it needs to pursue its activities.

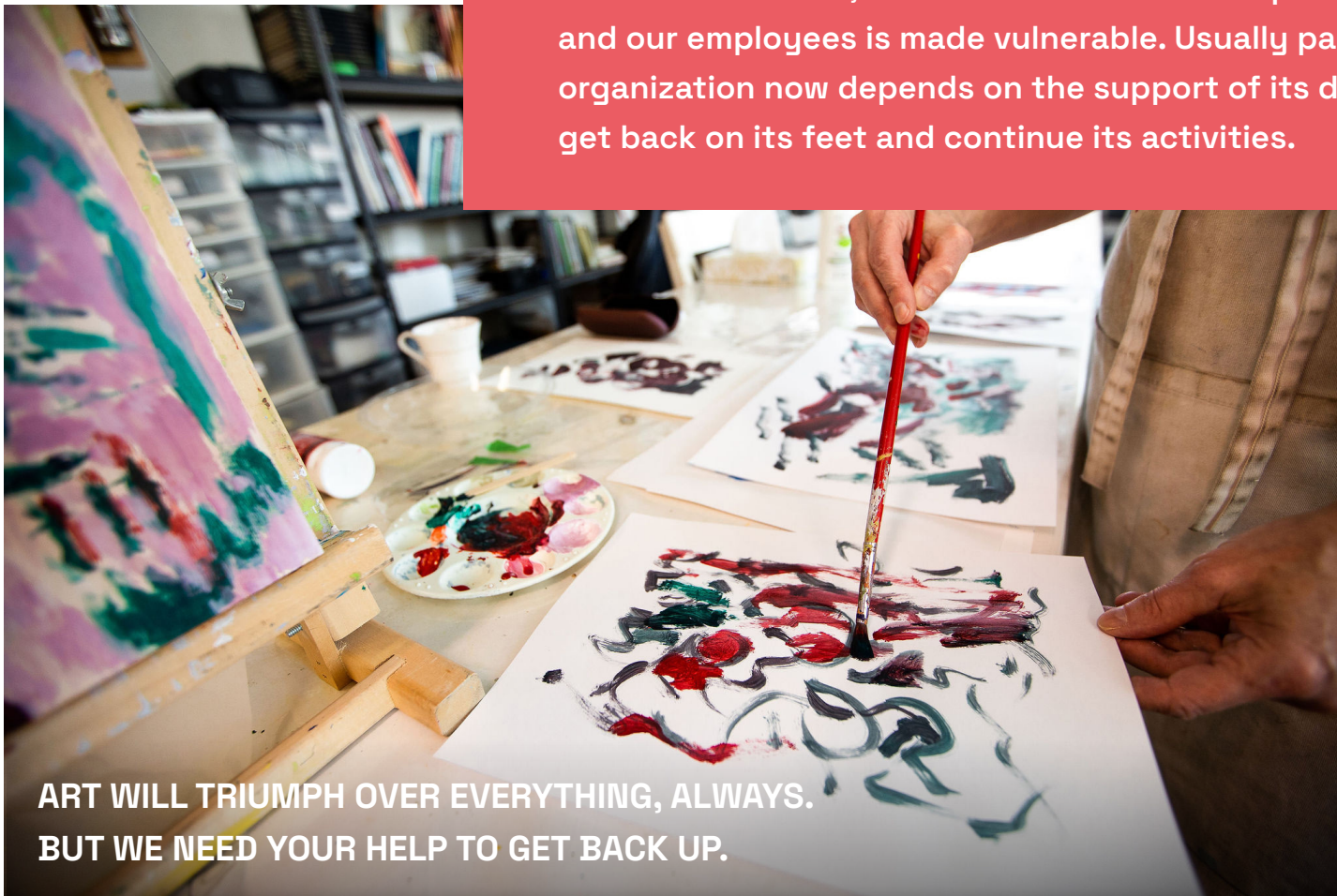
We will continue to call on you. Les Impatients is an essential public health service for the people of Quebec. We have a collective responsibility to act together. Art and artistic expression have the incredible power to bring people together and change the world.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Manon Gauthier

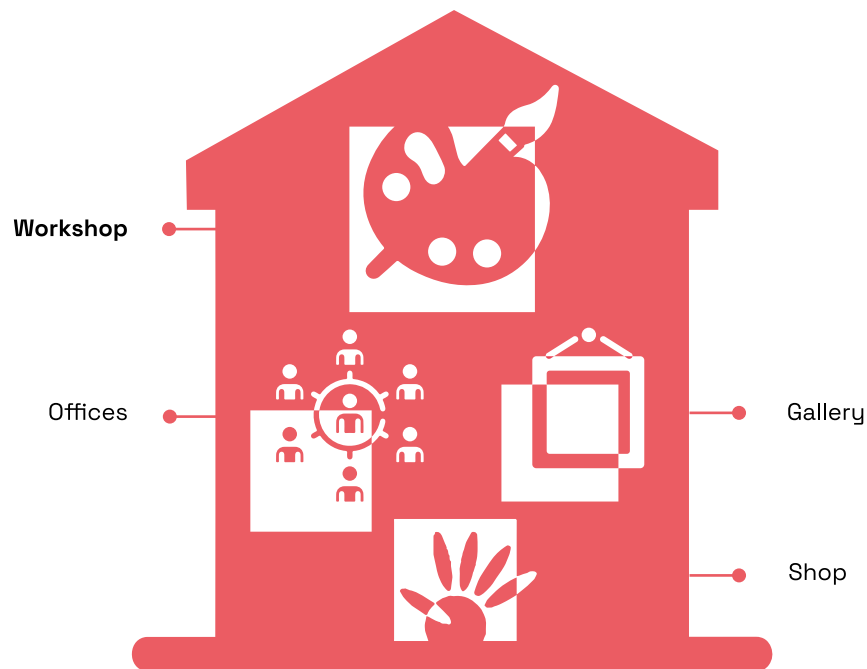
LES IMPATIENTS LAUNCH AN EMERGENCY CAMPAIGN

Since May 2023, Les Impatients has been in a race against the clock. Without a “Maison,” the connection with our participants, our community and our employees is made vulnerable. Usually partly self-financed, our organization now depends on the support of its donors and sponsors to get back on its feet and continue its activities.



**ART WILL TRIUMPH OVER EVERYTHING, ALWAYS.
BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP TO GET BACK UP.**

AN EMERGENCY CAMPAIGN TO RAISE \$1M BY THE END OF 2023



RELOCATING THE MAISON DES IMPATIENTS

The fire that ravaged the Maison des Impatients has resulted in many losses that jeopardize its future, as the Chapelle du Bon-Pasteur housed our offices, our art gallery and our shop. In other words, **our bread and butter.**

In addition, it has undermined our ability to offer workshops that are essential to our participants' quality of life, to mobilize our team and therefore to fully utilize our expertise in mental health.

Your help with this emergency campaign is essential if we are to maintain the activities of Les Impatients. It will give us wind in our sails and ensure we do not become financially dependent on our donors.

SUMMARY OF OUR FINANCIAL NEEDS

**YOUR HELP WILL ENABLE US TO PURSUE OUR MISSION ACROSS QUEBEC
BY MEETING OUR PRESSING NEEDS :**

RELOCATING OUR HOME TO A PEACEFUL LOCATION FOR OUR PARTICIPANTS

RELOCATING THE WORKSHOPS AFFECTED BY THE FIRE

- Creating inspiring workspaces for our participants
- Buying back art supplies
- Buying back musical instruments



CONTINUING TO SHOWCASE OUR PARTICIPANTS

REOPENING OUR GALLERY TO SHOWCASE THE WORK OF OUR PARTICIPANTS AND OUR COLLECTION OF UNCONVENTIONAL WORKS

- Restoring and reconstructing the gallery
- Purchasing exhibition and conservation materials
- Collecting works

REOPENING OUR SHOP

- Purchasing and creating promotional material derived from participants' works



RUNNING AND DEVELOPING NEW WORKSHOPS

CREATING PERMANENT WORKSPACES FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

- Purchasing utilities, IT equipment, etc



DONOR RECOGNITION PROGRAM

	\$50,000 and above	\$10,000 to \$49,999	\$5,000 to \$9,999	\$2,000 to \$4,999
	MAJOR PARTNER	BUILDER	FOUNDER	AMBASSADOR
Acknowledgement on Les Impatients' website, in the section dedicated to the campaign	clickable logo	clickable logo	mention	mention
Acknowledgement in Les Impatients' annual report and receipt of a copy	logo	logo	mention	mention
Acknowledgement of the donor on Les Impatients' Facebook and LinkedIn pages	portrait of the donor	logo	grouped	grouped
Silk-screened print of Romain Peuvion's work "Une maison à dessiner," the symbol of our fundraising campaign	x	x	x	x
Mention on the builders' wall, located in the new Maison des Impatients	x	x	x	x
Personalized artwork by the people we support	x	x	x	
Opportunity to have a tailor-made Les Impatients workshop in your company	x	x	x	
Mention during speeches at the 2023 and 2024 Impatients charity events	x	x		
Private tour of the new Maison des Impatients	x	x		
Opportunity to name one of the five Les Impatients workshop spaces located in Montreal in the name of the donor or their company	x			

Les Impatients is a registered charity. You will receive a tax receipt for your donation.

*Parle-moi
d'amour... et d'espoir*

**LES
IMPATIENTS** 

Emergency Campaign to Maintain Les Impatients' Activities

Goal: \$1 M by the end of 2023

Registered charity 13484-5213-RR0001

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<http://impatients.ca>

