



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

CHIOTS NORDIQUES

A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

What can be said about 2021?

For everyone, 2021 was a challenging year. It required tremendous resilience when it came to facing this feeling of helplessness we had. However, this year also allowed us to redefine the words “solidarity”, “mutual aid”, and “community”. A second year where disappointment came close to beauty, where sadness gave way to fulfilment, and where we proved all together what could be possible.

The ability to bounce back is a quality shared by many, but it was particularly strong within our team of volunteers. We were able to realize just how solid our family was, every step of the way. The on-field operations were initially held at arm’s length, while trying to achieve the impossible despite all the postponements due to the pandemic. Helping our human and canine populations in isolated areas was an almost insurmountable challenge with all the frequent changes to sanitary measures, the closing of a few communities to outsiders, and the management of accommodation and transportation made more complex. With all of this considered, we are proud to have achieved four clinics in communities despite the circumstances.

Ardor, energy, fraternity, solidarity, flexibility, adaptability, and benevolence! To go back to basics and to light, to go back to all the beauty we have created together. 2021, in the end, you were another year where Chiots Nordiques’ family managed to accomplish so much.



Daphnée Veilleux-Lemieux
- Présidente

THE TEAM

100% VOLUNTEER

Board of directors

Daphnée Veilleux-Lemieux - President, Organizational plan, and Contacts with communities

Alexandrine Baril - Treasurer and Accounting

Stéphanie Arsenault-Soucy - Administrator and Funding

Carine Bourget - Administrator and Education component

Jacinte Lafontaine - Administrator and Legal component

Laurence Veilleux-Lemieux - Administrator and Communications

Regional supervisors – Adoption component

Véronique Bélanger et Isabelle Nolin - Portneuf

Lisa Barrett - Laurentides

Jennifer Dumais et Camille Grenier-Naud - South shore of Quebec city

Marie-Laurence Morin - Arthabaska

Anouk Rémillard-Roy et Christine Sayeur - Quebec city

Maély Richard - Mauricie

Nathalie Roberge - Longueuil and surroundings



Humans with big hearts

Chiots Nordiques is a team, and its main mission is animal welfare in indigenous communities. Our activities would be impossible without these ever available and extraordinary people who have our mission tattooed on their heart. Thanks to everyone for making it possible for our mission to have such a strong impact:

- Volunteer vets, animal health technicians and on-field contacts
- About sixty fostering families

Volunteer Photographers

- Audrey-Ann Bonin - Photographer
- CAP Photographie
- Chantal Lévesque Photo
- Héléna Holton Photographie
- Michelle Prévost Photographie

Partnering vet clinics

- Clinique vétérinaire du Vieux-Limoilou
- Groupe vétérinaire Vetcom Inc.
- Clinique vétérinaire Lasalle
- Clinique vétérinaire L'Arche de Noé
- Hôpital vétérinaire Des Seigneuries
- Hôpital vétérinaire Val-Mauricie
- Clinique vétérinaire Gauvin
- Hôpital vétérinaire Ste-Rose
- Hôpital vétérinaire Chenier
- Hôpital vétérinaire des Bois-Francs

MAIN MISSION

ON-FIELD OPERATIONS

RADISSON - FEBRUARY 2021

A small clinic, but so vital to this small Nordic community, north of the 53rd parallel!
A second clinic and a second year to get to know these great human and canine populations.

Three volunteers took a plane to Radisson for an intensive 2 days of examination, vaccination and tips for dog and cat owners of this community.



WEMOTACI - MARCH AND SEPTEMBER 2021

RESCUE OPERATIONS

A HEARTFELT STORY

he ownership transfer of 4 dogs surrounded by love but lacking resources. Last March 12, Chiots Nordiques' team hit the road to the community of Wemotaci to rescue over 30 dogs in need. This on-field operation was the answer to an urgent request from the Band Council after multiple cases of children bitten by dogs.

Many dogs were without owners and wandering in the streets, but others were entrusted to us by the owners, hoping to give the best to their canine friends. This was notably the case of Jacynthe who had 5 dogs, including 3 adults and 2 puppies, in her care. This devoted woman resided in the woods, many kilometers away from the center of the community. For multiple reasons, she was forced to leave her home urgently, and had to relocate at a friend's. She couldn't keep her dogs. Therefore, on a Saturday morning, we went on the road with her to go into the woods and meet her 5 magnificent dogs. A road of several kilometers, in harsh conditions. When we got there, it became clear. Despite the lack of resources and the distance, Jacynthe was offering everything she could to her dogs. Love and complicity between them were obvious and unwavering, but her conclusion was definitive: she could not offer them the life they deserved, despite all her wishes and devotion. "These dogs saved my life, but I don't have the space to take care of them anymore..." It was in light of this difficult reflection and in a storm of emotions that we took possession of Dixie, Brandy, Roméo and his sister Rosie. Jacynthe kept her oldest companion by her side.

This moving story of dogs being transferred shows us just how important and impactful funding is for our organization. Even more importantly, it shows us its impact on animal welfare. Thanks to this rescue operation, about 30 local dogs got their second chance.

« I wish to thank Chiots Nordiques for all their help to our Atikamekw community and for the great benefits they provide to animals. I will always be thankful. »

Joane Desaulniers – Teacher and Founder of Maison Nitem



OBEDJIWAN - APRIL 2021

- ♥ **14 volunteers**
- 🚚 **20h of driving**
- 🕒 **16h on site**
- 🐾 **1200 kg of dog food given by Mondou to the community**
- 🏥 **95 animals admitted and examined in our temporary clinic (vaccination, deworming treatments and other necessary care)**
- ✅ **60 sterilizations performed by two veterinarians, with the important support of our animal health technicians**
- 🐕 **24 dogs without owners or whose ownership was transferred to us being cared for by our fostering families and partnering shelters**
- 🏠 **71 animals with tags, collars, and most importantly, loving owners**

These numbers are the result of a great collaboration between organizations working 24/24 for animal welfare. They also show the important work done by our partners in the community to make sure their dog population is controlled. Needs in term of sterilization went down considerably since 2018. The number of dogs without a collar also went down in an impressive way. In 2019, it represented around 200 transfers for that year alone.

Communities like Obedjiwan have extremely limited resources when it comes to animal welfare, but they manage to reach incredibly positive results by putting in place ethical, responsible, and rigorous measures. Such a good example of positive initiatives.






PESSAMIT - JULY 2021

AN INCREDIBLE MOBILIZATION IN THE COMMUNITY

The Band Council and the population of Pessamit were more than ready! This Innu community contacted Chiots Nordiques in the spring of 2021 to get help with their urgent need for dog transfers after multiple cases of bitten children.

In the middle of the pandemic, planning clinics was more difficult and more complex with the sanitary measures imposed by Public Health. Even so, in two weeks, a clinic took shape with the help of an enthusiastic population ready for our visit. The review of this on-field operation is high in actions: 131 animals were examined in less than 20 hours.

Fifteen volunteers hit the road to Pessamit, this Innu community on the Côte-Nord region of Quebec on Saturday, July 10. After many hours of driving and a considerable amount of time to assemble the temporary clinic, these 15 volunteers, including one from the Humane Society International/Canada, accomplished the following within 18 hours:

-  **131 dogs admitted to the clinic and examined**
-  **78 sterilizations**
-  **9 dogs without owner transferred to get the second chance they deserved**



CHISASIBI - NOVEMBER 2021

Thanks to our devoted volunteers, we are proud to announce Chiots Nordiques accomplished, within two and a half days:

 **131 admissions and examinations**

 **119 sterilizations**

 **1 transfer by air**

You need to know each massive sterilization clinic includes the assembling and dissembling of every component of the temporary clinic: a welcoming station, a place for pre-surgery examinations, a place for surgery and a temporary kennel. This step of the operation mobilizes our team of volunteers for hours and it cuts surgery hours. Moreover, our nine volunteers did not only take care of the medical aspect of the clinic. They also needed to coordinate the mission, to hold a database with the information on all the dogs we met, to take care of sterilizing and cleaning medical apparatus, and to manage the temporary kennel by keeping an eye on all animals while feeding them and cleaning the crates.

It goes without saying that without the important contribution of the Chisasibi Animal Rescue employees, who participated in every component of this temporary clinic, and without the people in the community who coordinated meals and made sure everything went fine during the mission (welcoming station, kennel and apparatus), it would have been impossible for us to report such great results.

During the sanitary crisis, the world of animal health is meeting several obstacles. Living little miracles such as this clinic makes us remember everything is possible for these dogs without a voice. We will continue to do everything we can to turn things around for them!



AT THE HEART OF CHIOTS NORDIQUES

OUR VOLUNTEERS

A testimony by Véronique Bélanger – volunteer at the kennel and welcoming station

“For me, living this experience was an incredible opportunity. You know, in my life, I have two passions.... Humans and dogs... Bingo.... this was the jackpot... I managed to get both at the same time.

Enough joking around. To experience a sterilization clinic with Chiots Nordiques is an adrenaline rush. We leave early in the morning, eyes still half opened, with people we barely know, coffee in hand. Every turn of the road (which can be quite long), every day spent together, we quickly discover that even though we are strangers, we all have several things in common. Our passion, our devotion, our engagement, our desire to do something a little different for the cause of these people and their dogs.

You call it a sterilization clinic, but I would say it is so much more than that. It is rewarding experiences with people in communities. It is sharing their experiences, their lives. It is a chance to meet incredible canine survivors, to rub shoulders with dogs of all kinds, sharing with us their beauty and sometimes even more. It is the pleasure of working, or rather volunteering, with an incredible team. It is the chance to see an environment many people will never see. In short, it is a multidimensional experience.

It means long days of hard work where tiredness can often be felt. But all of this, all these moments, we get through them together. We live them as a team, collectively, and this is our strength. THE strength of Chiots Nordiques.

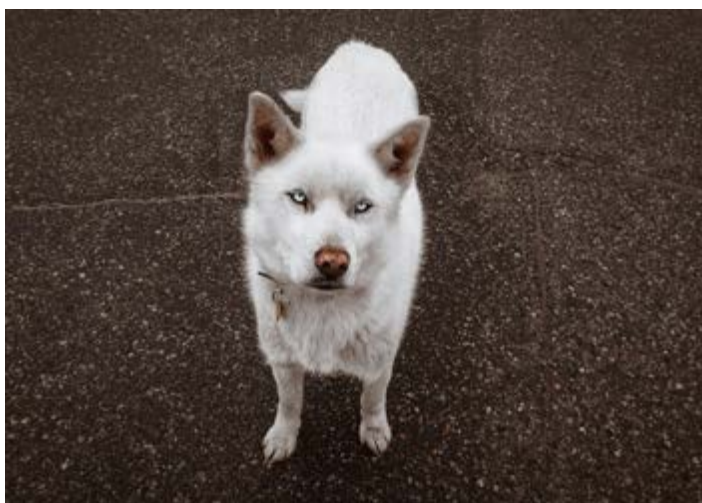
May it be Chiots Nordiques' team, people in the community or all those rescued dogs, it is together, one step at the time, that we can achieve so much. And this is what makes it so wonderful.

**Thanks to Chiots Nordiques' team for allowing me to live these unforgettable moments.
Thanks for allowing me to be a part of this big great family.”**

TRANSFERS AND ADOPTIONS

From Obedjiwan to Pessamit, from Manawan to Wemotaci, from Matimekush to Kawawachikamach, from Ivujivik to Inukjuak, from Kuujjuaq to Whapmagoostui, from Chisasibi to Kangiqsujuaq, from Puvirnituk to Uashat-Maliotenam, from Quaqtaq to Umiujaq, from Nutashkuan to Kitiganik, from Kangirsuk to Unamen Shipu: our actions are everywhere! These dogs without a collar could, thanks to our precious adopting families, find a forever family whatever their challenges and their characteristics may be.

One hundred sixty-four dogs were transferred to our temporary families and about 60 were transferred to our partnering shelters. Out of this number, many rescues left their mark in our heart and our soul with their resilience and their story. Here are some of them.



TESTIMONIES

TAO

During the summer of 2020, I dreamt I found a dog behind my house. He had the yin yang symbol on his forehead. These symbols represent the Taoism religion, and, in my dreams, I had called my dog Tao. A year later, when I saw his picture on Chiots Nordiques' Facebook page, I fell in love with him. Moreover, on his adoption notice, he was already called Tao. For me, it was a sign. I paid attention to his description, and I quickly knew he was "my dog".

Tao is very affectionate. He **ADORES** being petted. He comes to lay on the couch with me and if I don't pet him or if I stop for too long, he will turn his head towards me and growl to make me understand he wants attention. He does the same with my parents or my sister. It's almost as if he is insulted when we stop petting him. Before Tao, I wasn't very active. I'm an informatician and I work from home. Since Tao is part of my life, I do about 13 000 steps a day. He forces me to go outside. It is so good for my physical and mental health. I heard my mother once telling Tao it would have been impossible for him to be a better dog for me.

Mathieu Charette, Tao's owner



MASKO

Masko's story touched us tremendously. We knew we would be able to educate him and to give him all the time and love he deserved. Masko completes our family perfectly. It's like he has always been a part of it. He has adopted his new family so easily and appreciates it daily, including his daily walks, treats and numerous petting sessions. I can guarantee you he found his forever family.

France Paradis's family

BOOK

THESE DOGS MAKING US FEEL BETTER



A Book meant “to make us feel good”

With our mission, we have the pleasure and the privilege to collaborate with big hearted people who share the same passion as us for the relationship between humans and dogs.

In the same spirit, we have met with Sophie Allard when she was writing her book “Ces chiens qui font du bien”. As the title indicates, this project was meant to be comforting and appealing.

Now that the sanitary crisis is ongoing for almost a year, this desire to bring beauty and positivism in the life of the readers is as important as ever.

We then had the joy of sharing the powerful story of two of Chiots Nordiques rescues and their forever family (You will need to buy the book to know more about this story which is as unpredictable as it is positively intense and filled with love). However, we can tell you this story is one which forever changes the life of these dogs in need, but also the life of the human who opened his heart and realized dogs can sometimes teach us more about ourselves than any human could.



MAJOR PARTNERS

SMALL LOCAL ENTERPRISES



ELIMEDICAL

Elimedical Inc. is a Canadian company offering quality medical products. With an active participation from its employees to the “Pay it Forward” program, they offered us, for the third year in a row, a substantial amount for the continuation of our activities. We have just received \$1 220 from this more than generous team.



THUNDER'S TREASURES

Last fall, Thunder's Treasures, through its generous owner Emmanuelle, offered to us material to help with dog capture during our actions on the field. It represented a monetary gift of over \$700.

Recently, this same company gave us a gift of \$620, resulting from a \$1 back per order campaign.

This generous support offered by TT allows us not only to execute our missions on the field, but also allows us to transfer dogs to offer them a much deserved second chance.

RELAIS NORDIK

For almost 10 years, Chiots Nordiques ships dry food to indigenous communities who request it.

These shipments require a coordination with several partners, like Relais Nordik. This year, the Groupe Desgagnés subsidiary company allowed our organization to reduce shipment fees by 25% for each shipment done by the Bella Desgagnés to the lower Côte-Nord communities.

MAJOR DONATORS

MONDOU MONDON



The remoteness of indigenous communities in Quebec can be a challenge when it comes to feeding dogs on their territories... Sadly, because of this, dogs can feed off multiple things not appropriate for a healthy canine diet. Moreover, presence of stray animals also means a need to fight to survive and eat. For over 10 years, the food transfers made possible by Mondou allow thousands of dogs with or without owners to fill their stomachs appropriately.

These partnerships are essential to ensure the sustainability of our mission and to answer to the many needs for better health and animal welfare in communities.

On top of these monthly food donations, our organization has, for the first year, participated to the Mondou Mondon campaign, where \$130 000 were distributed to rescues in Quebec. Thanks to this generous company, we obtained additional funding in these difficult times!

JOHANSEN LARSEN FOUNDATION



The Johansen Larsen Foundation was created in 2008 after Marianne Larsen received a large sum of money from a family friend, Boje Johansen, a short time before his death. Boje was born in Denmark in 1935. He left the country when he was a teenager and navigated to South America, and then headed to Canada. In the 1950s, he established in Toronto where he met with Rose Atkinson, a Cree woman who ended up being his long-term partner.

The foundation was guided by their engagement towards values of learning and knowledge, equity and inclusion, partnerships and reinforcement in the community. We obtained a 3-year funding of \$7 500 annually to develop a zootherapy program, notably with a partnership with the Chisasibi Animal Rescue.

MAJOR DONATORS

PET SMART CHARITIES OF CANADA



The years 2020 and 2021 will be remembered in our collective memory, but also in the memory of the volunteers evolving in our organization. The numerous challenges came with numerous deceptions and sadness, but mostly with consolidated friendships, professional ties, and partnerships.

As such, we are proud to be able to count on quality partners whose fundings in 2020 made it possible for us to hold our on-field operations this past year. PetSmart Charities of Canada remains close to people and to funded organizations. Its support has been a cornerstone for our activities.

HUMANE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL – CANADA



Humane Society International works worldwide to promote the ties between humans and animals, to save and protect cats and dogs, to better farm animal welfare, to protect fauna and to face animal cruelty in all its forms.

Our partnership in the last few years is without a doubt essential to the pursuit of our activities. Humane Society International – Canada not only allowed us to hold one-time targeted sterilization clinics in 2021, but also helped with food transfers to communities. We will continue, hand in hand, this common mission of animal welfare for all!

PARTNERING VET CLINICS

Once again, our partnering veterinary clinics were there for us. These teams, despite being overwhelmed with major changes in their activities at the start of the year with the first confinement, still paid it forward in an unexpected way! During this different year, it would have been impossible for us to offer better care to our rescues without the help of the following clinics:

- **Clinique vétérinaire du Vieux-Limoilou**
- **Groupe vétérinaire Vetcom Inc.**
- **Clinique vétérinaire Lasalle**
- **Clinique vétérinaire L'Arche de Noé**
- **Hôpital vétérinaire Des Seigneuries**
- **Hôpital vétérinaire Val-Mauricie**
- **Clinique vétérinaire Gauvin**
- **Hôpital vétérinaire Ste-Rose**
- **Hôpital vétérinaire Chenier**
- **Hôpital vétérinaire des Bois-Francs**



OPERATING EXPENSES

- ◆ Costs for care in veterinary clinics **\$71 499**
- ◆ Veterinary supplies **\$29 467**
- ◆ Shipping expenses **\$25 301**
- ◆ Rolling stock rentals and travel expenses **\$24 170**
- ◆ Amortization **\$13 602**
- ◆ Expenses for dogs in fostering families **\$8 754**
- ◆ Other costs related to clinics **\$4 631**
- ◆ Professional services **\$3 908**
- ◆ Food for volunteers **\$1 497**
- ◆ Microchip purchases **\$1 411**
- ◆ Cell phone fees **\$1 265**
- ◆ Repairs and maintenance **\$1 084**
- ◆ Insurance **\$4 475**
- ◆ Software **\$884**
- ◆ Interest and bank charges **\$704**
- ◆ Purchase of promotional items **\$510**
- ◆ Licensing **\$105**
- ◆ Subscriptions **\$60**

193 327 \$

INCOMES

- ◆ Donations **\$137 918**
- ◆ Adoption fees **\$77 500**
- ◆ Grants from other organizations **\$30 425**
- ◆ Gain on disposal of capital asset **\$1 651**
- ◆ Reimbursement from communities **\$3 702**
- ◆ Discount and interest from Desjardins **\$335**

251 531 \$

SURPLUS
58 204 \$



chiots nordiques

Quand la santé animale rejoint la santé publique

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