



The Children's Bridge Annual Public Report

Presented at:

The Annual General Meeting

Via Teams

November 18th, 2023

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**The Children's Bridge
Annual General Meeting
November 18, 2023**

To the Members of the Children's Bridge,

Despite some challenges this year with regards to some of The Children's Bridge (TCB) programs, our staff and international partners continued to provide TCB families with unwavering, compassionate support.

The Children's Bridge currently holds licenses for adoption programs in India, South Korea, Thailand, and The United States. During the 2023 fiscal year, TCB received 19 signed retainer agreements, which is less than previous year due to the unanticipated changes to the South Korea program. We will learn more about these changes in Q1 2024. Given the ever-changing nature of international adoption, we estimate a lower number of retainers for the upcoming year, relative to previous years, of 22 retainers. Year to date, we have a total of three newly signed retainers, with a number of families currently working on their dossiers.

Changes within the adoption agency include the Executive Director, Karyn Arnauld-Bakelaar's departure from TBC. With over 15 years of hard work and dedication to the agency, the Board would like to thank Karyn for her time spent at The Children's Bridge making a positive impact on the lives of many families. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours! In the interim, our long-standing Sr. Program Manager, Darlene Catton, will act as the Executive Director, alongside her duties as the Thailand and USA Program Manager. Darlene has been with the Children's bridge for over 24 years and has significant experience in facilitating international adoptions. As for the India program, Lenore Cork-Lemay will be filling in as India Program Manager until the Board finds a permanent India Program Manager. Lenore has been with the Children's Bridge for just over 4 years now. As the current India Program Assistant, Lenore is very familiar with the ins and outs of the program. We are grateful to all TCB staff for being team players who are able to leverage their expertise to drive the on-going success of the agency.

As for the Board of Directors, we say farewell to the following Directors; Colleen Clark and Charlene Souliere. On behalf of the Board, I thank you for your service and wish you all the best in the future. This year the agency earned a net surplus of \$36K, as all expenses remained relatively stable. Similar to last year, TCB increased staff salaries for 2024 to compensate our dedicated and knowledgeable staff appropriately. Looking to the year ahead, TCB has planned a visit to Thailand in January 2024 to meet with our in-country partners. The Board is also in the process of searching for a new Executive Director/India Program Manager. We are working with a well-recognized head-hunting company to achieve this goal in early 2024. In addition, TCB will continue to take a proactive approach in expanding our reach across Canada and developing new programs to support the needs of our existing and future families.

Thank you to everyone for contributing to the longevity of the Children's Bridge. May we continue to serve our community and work in the best interest of the children waiting to meet their families forever.

R. Souliere

Raeanne Souliere

President, The Children's Bridge Board of Directors

Staff Directory

**The Children's Bridge • 300 Greenbank Road, M062 •
Nepean, ON • K2H 0B6**

Staff Person	Mobile Number	Email Address	Hours
<i>Executive Director</i>			
Darlene Catton Sr. Program Manager <i>Thailand & USA Post-Adoption Services</i>	905-836-6776	Darlene.Catton@childrensbridge.com	Monday – Thursday 9:00am – 4:00pm
Lenore Cork-Lemay Program Manager <i>South Korea & India</i>	613-226-2112	Lenore.Cork-Lemay@childrensbridge.com	Monday – Friday 8:00am – 4:00pm
<i>Associate Program Manager</i>			

Other Contacts

Company	Contact Name	Phone	E-Mail Address
Filemaker	Dan	416-273-9011	dan@thefilemaker.com
Mosher Bookkeeping	Wendi Mosher Cam Krisciunas	613-293-4853	wendi.mosher@childrensbridge.com
Solutions			
	Beth Roberts	613-808-4881	
Windswept	General Calls Christine Chenier	613-789-7159	support@windsweptit.com christine.chenier@windsweptit.com
Lisa Trainor diNorcia Website	Lisa Trainor diNorcia Todd Shelton (Owner)	647-519-2446	ltrainor@gmail.com todd@perception.net
Contractor (Thailand)	Pathamawan Tonjunpong (Karn)		pathamawan@gmail.com
Contractor (India)	Vikram Naidu Jamal Murshed	+91 8527507542	Vnaidu39@gmail.com jamal.murshed@childrensbridge.com
Contractor (US)	Kerry Heartsent Adoptions, Inc. 1801 Oakland Blvd., Suite 110 Walnut Creek, CA 94596	925-254-8883	Kerrypodaridis@heartsent.org
Third party contractors to Heartsent	<u>ABL Adoptions</u> Tina Kinkose Kyler	+1 866-650-5683	tina@abladoptions.com
Third party contractors to Heartsent	<u>AdoptHelp</u> Jen Goldman (caseworker)	+1 800-637-7999	jeng@adopthelp.com
	Michelle Bamford (Accounting)		mbamford@adopthelp.com

Organizational Structure

