



Press Release

For immediate release

### **Radiation therapist Élis St-Cœur provides support and hope**

**CHARLOTTETOWN, PEI, February 10, 2017** – The purpose of the PEI French Health Network’s Étoile Santé campaign is to promote, recruit and make people aware of health professionals who offer French-language services on Prince Edward Island. The Health Network is pleased to announce that radiation therapist Élis St-Cœur is the recipient of the Étoile Santé award for February 2017.

Élis St-Cœur, originally from Néguaç, New Brunswick has been working as a radiation therapist at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Cancer Treatment Centre in Charlottetown since 2007.

Radiation therapy is a continuously evolving specialty area, providing therapeutic cancer treatment using radiation. Radiation therapy training is not offered in the Maritime Provinces. Élis received her training at the Cégep de Sainte-Foy in Quebec. “It was a very intensive three-year program, including internships, but I am proud of my pathway and especially proud to be working in Charlottetown.”

Élis St-Cœur is very attentive to the needs of her patients, particularly their need to communicate in French. When Élis sees a French name on a file, she actively offers to speak French with the patient. “Sometimes I discover that my patients speak French by hearing them speak with someone else. Then I start speaking French to them and I can see that they really appreciate it, explained Élis St-Cœur. In Charlottetown, we provide a treatment that is not available in New Brunswick. We therefore get patients from that province and several are Francophones. Some can’t speak any English. Sometimes I have to call those clients for their appointments and accompany them throughout their treatment process.”

In her work environment, Élis St-Cœur has colleagues who really appreciate her presence and ability to communicate with patients in both official languages. In fact, she was nominated by a colleague for the Prince Edward Island Étoile Santé award.

« My work is very gratifying. I accompany my patients for several weeks and I share their hopes of getting better. We talk about the future and the projects they have. I feel that I can help many patients in their wellness process, especially the Francophone patients. It’s a privilege to be able to accompany them,” explains the empathetic therapist.

Élis St-Cœur’s contact information can be found in the bilingual service provider directory at [www.santeipe.ca/repertoire](http://www.santeipe.ca/repertoire). Anyone can nominate health professionals who actively offer French language health services in Prince Edward Island for a chance to win \$500. For more information on the Étoile Santé campaign or to nominate someone directly on the PEIFHN’s Web site, go to [www.santeipe.ca](http://www.santeipe.ca).

*The PEI French Health Network is a non-profit organization that collaborates with various partners in order to improve access to quality French-language health services and programs for Prince Edward Island's Acadian and Francophone population. The organization brings together representatives from target community groups, educational facilities, health professionals, health service managers and the provincial government. It is also one of 16 networks that make up the Société Santé en français. The PEI French Health Network is funded by Health Canada within the framework of the Roadmap for Canada's Official Languages 2013–2018: Education, Immigration, Communities.*

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**Photo:** Éliisa St-Cœur

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