



Press Release

For immediate release

Natalie Arsenault makes people feel good at home

WELLINGTON, PEI, March 9, 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 the Étoile Santé for March 2017 is home support worker, Natalie Arsenault.

Natalie Arsenault has been working as a home support worker for 25 years. Through the years, she has held various types of positions, including in a long term care facility in Summerside as well as at Le Chez-Nous in Wellington. She started working in the field of home care in 1996. She now goes to her clients' home and provides basic care.

As she does her work, she chats about all kinds of things with her clients. "When I work with seniors, I try to imagine them when they were my age and I ask them questions about their life. Sometimes, we exchange recipes or cooking secrets. It's a privilege for me to hear their stories. I think it does me just as much good as it does them."

This simple and profoundly human contact that Natalie Arsenault has with her clients is appreciated as much by her clients than by the members of their families, as evidenced in this message provided by the daughter of one of her clients. "Nathalie was so kind to my mother. She took her time, talked about things that were of interest to my mother and made her feel special. When my mother spoke about Natalie, she always had a smile on her face."

In her work, Natalie not only helps her clients, but their families as well who must adapt to their loved ones' loss of independence. The daughter of another client who greatly appreciated the services provided said: "Natalie is almost part of the family! We know that she not only ensures the well-being of the client, but of the family as well."

Natalie Arsenault's office is located in Wellington and the majority of her clientele is in the Evangeline area. This dedicated health professional of Acadian descent estimates that almost half of her clientele speaks French.

Natalie Arsenault's contact information can be found in the bilingual service provider directory at 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.

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: Natalie Arsenault

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