



Press Release

For immediate distribution

Health activities in French during the Rendez-vous de la Francophonie
Partnership between PEI French Health Network and Health PEI

CHARLOTTETOWN, PEI, April 1, 2017 – The PEI French Health Network was pleased to work in partnership with Health PEI to celebrate the Rendez-vous de la Francophonie from March 2 to March 22, 2017, providing activities aimed at increasing access to French language health services. Every year, throughout the world, the Rendez-vous de la Francophonie are organized to promote the French language and its numerous cultural expressions.

Étoile Santé Campaign

The Étoile Santé campaign is an initiative of the PEI French Health Network, and its purpose is to promote, recruit and make people aware of health professionals who offer French language services in Prince Edward Island. From March 2 to March 22, 2017, anyone who nominated a health professional was entered to win \$500. For more information or to nominate someone for the award, go to www.santeipe.ca/campagne-etoile-sante.

Since January 2015, 15 Health PEI employees have been recognized for actively offering exceptional French language services as part of the Étoile Santé campaign, for which Karen McCaffrey of Health PEI's Quality and Safety Division is quite pleased. "It's really great to see that 15 of our employees have been nominated and recognized by the community for their commitment to providing quality French services to the Francophone community. To be able to discuss health issues in their own language ensures that the patients can express themselves well. »

For a complete list of Étoile Santé nominees, go to www.santeipe.ca/liste-des-nomines/.

Active Offer Awareness Campaign

During the month of March, information kits on the active offer of French language health services was provided to all Health PEI divisions. These kits included the *Keys to Active Offer* resource, important information to assist health professionals provide French language health services as well as instructions on how to be included in the PEI Healthcare Provider's Handbook.

"We were pleased to work with the Health Network on this initiative. It is important for our employees to have access to the resources and tools they need to provide French language health services," explained Tanya Tynski, Health PEI's director of human resources.

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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