



Press Release

For immediate release

### **Lucie Arsenault, a star in the eyes of young Francophone families**

**WELLINGTON, PEI, May 4, 2015** – The PEI French Health Network (PEIFHN) has a new campaign, Étoile Santé, whose purpose is to promote, recruit and make people aware of health professionals who offer French-language health services in Prince Edward Island. The PEIFHN is pleased to announce that the Étoile Santé for the month of April is being awarded to public health nurse Lucie Arsenault, from Wellington.

Finding French-language health professionals and accessing the services they offer remains a challenge in increasing French-language health services here in Prince Edward Island. It is crucial to make French-language professionals more accessible and visible in the community. It's the raison d'être of the Étoile Santé campaign.

Lucie Arsenault is a public health nurse who provides services to clients in the Tyne Valley, Wellington and Belmont areas, where she has a chance to work with babies and their families.

She is a member of the Evangeline Health Centre team, located in Wellington. Her colleagues nominated her for the Étoile Santé campaign. "Lucie is so warm with clients that mothers don't hesitate to call her when they're worried about their children. She is well-known in the community for her dedication and knowledge of child development. Being bilingual, Lucie is able to communicate with young children in French or in English when evaluating their development during public health assessments."

Even after 26 years, Lucie still loves her work: "I'm privileged, because I can really develop a relationship of trust and a great relationship with families. I can easily follow a child's development curve during the most important years of their life."

Her work is very diverse, but vaccines make up an important part of Lucie's schedule: "I administer vaccines at 2, 4, 6, 12 and 18 months as well as 4 years, and every time I see a baby, I make a point of speaking to the accompanying parent, whether it's the mother or father. We talk about the child's development, and I answer their questions. It's all done naturally, in a climate of trust."

She is also very present in schools, especially École Évangéline, but also École Pierre-Chiasson in DeBlois and École-sur-Mer in Summerside. She holds eye screening clinics, administers recommended vaccines, and monitors contagious diseases.

"Health promotion in the community is an important job – for both Francophones and Anglophones in the service area. Besides the Evangeline area, the territory includes Ellerslie, Tyne Valley, Grand River, Lot 16 and St. Nicholas. I also have clients from Summerside and other areas who come see me to be served in French, or because they know me", explained Ms. Arsenault.

Lucie Arsenault's contact information can be found in the directory of bilingual service providers at [www.santeipe.ca/repertoire](http://www.santeipe.ca/repertoire).

People are encouraged to nominate health professionals who actively offer French-language health services in Prince Edward Island. 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:** Lucie Arsenault

**Media contact:**

Tina Robichaud

Tel.: 902-314-3332