



Press Release

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Primary care nurse Nancy Richard provides French health services in the community

SUMMERSIDE, PEI, May 18, 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 May 2017 is primary care nurse, Nancy Richard.

Primary care services are usually the first point of contact with the health system and include a wide range of services. The primary care nurse is an integral part of the team of professionals who provide these services.

Recently, these nursing services have been offered in French by Nancy Richard, a registered nurse who is part of the Summerside Harbourfront Health Centre team. Also, once every two weeks, she sees patients in a walk-in or appointment clinic at the Evangeline Health Centre in Wellington. "Because I speak French, I was assigned to the Evangeline Area. I am very happy because I can practise my French at work. I have always been proud of being able to speak French, helping out when I can," explained Nancy Richard.

Some of the chronic diseases that this friendly and attentive nurse treats are diabetes, high blood pressure and a variety of chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases such as emphysema. "Our responsibilities in primary care include health promotion, disease prevention and support for patients with chronic diseases, helping them to live as comfortably as possible. We do a considerable amount of education with our clients, so communication is very important."

Nancy (Mokler) Richard is originally from Saint-Louis, in the West Prince area. She received her degree in 1998 and since that time has acquired skills in various sectors. After spending two years in obstetrics in Fredericton, she returned to Prince Edward Island to work at the Prince County Hospital. She worked on the medical-surgical floor for about seven years and then became a member of a float team. She also worked in intensive care for about a year before returning to the float team in a designated bilingual position. She has been working at the Harbourside Health Centre since September.

Nancy Richard'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: Nancy Richard

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