Press Release   For immediate release

Gregory MacAdam and Alexandre Cuffley-Hebert are the recipients of $1,500 bursaries from the PEI French Health Network

Wellington, P.E.I., June 23 2015 – The PEI French Health Network (PEIFHN) announced several months ago that it was offering bursaries valued at $1,500 each to Francophone or Francophile students in Prince Edward Island who are enrolled in a postsecondary health care program for the 2015-2016 academic year. The Network is pleased to announce that the two recipients of the bursaries are Gregory MacAdam of Morrell and Alexandre Cuffley-Hebert of Charlottetown.

This is the first time the PEIFHN has offered these bursaries. To be eligible to win $1,500 to help offset their tuition fees, all students had to do was add their names to the PEIFHN health student database. This enabled the Network to provide them with information about training and employment opportunities in Prince Edward Island, in the hope of retaining our young people or bringing them back to the Island so they can provide Islanders with health care services in French. The winners were chosen at random at the last meeting of the PEIFHN, on June 3.

Gregory MacAdam, the winner of the $1,500 entrance bursary, will be starting his studies in paramedics at Holland College in September. It is very important to him to be able to offer health care services in French: "I love the language and I am careful not to lose it. When people need health care, the ability of providers to communicate in French gives them reassurance."

"I think everyone should have access to services in both of Canada's official languages," said Alexandre Cuffley-Hebert, winner of the $1,500 health care student bursary. He will be starting his third year of kinesiology studies at Université de Moncton in September with the goal of becoming a physiotherapist.

The PEIFHN plans to award these bursaries again next year. If you are a student who is a native of Prince Edward Island and you are currently studying in a health care program, and you have not yet added your name to our database, we invite you to register on the PEIFHN website at www.santeipe.ca (by clicking the "Étudiants en santé" button) to receive information about training and employment opportunities in Prince Edward Island.

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: Gregory MacAdam and Alexandre Cuffley-Hebert, recipients of the two bursaries, with Patricia Richard, Assistant Director of the PEI French Health Network.

Media resource person:
Tina Robichaud
Tel.: 902-314-3332