Réseau Santé
en français Î.-P.-É.

Press Release   For immediate distribution

Jenna Arsenault and Émilie Maquignaz receive $1,500 bursaries from PEI French Health Network

WELLINGTON, PEI - July 21, 2016 – For the second consecutive year, the PEI French Health Network (PEIFHN) offered a $1,500 bursary to two Francophone or Francophile students of Prince Edward Island registered in a postsecondary health program.

Émilie Maquignaz, from Charlottetown, will be in her third year of the nursing program at UPEI in September. She is the recipient of the bursary for returning health students in 2016-2017.

For Émilie Maquignaz, language reflects culture and is a fundamental aspect of one's identity. "Providing French language health services allows me to personalize therapeutic objectives according to the patients' culture. The patients then feel more comfortable, creating a better relationship between them and the nurse and providing therapeutic results."

Jenna Arsenault, of Abram-Village, is the lucky winner of the 2016-2017 bursary for new students. She will be attending the Université de Moncton in September with plans of becoming a radiology technician. Jenna feels it is extremely important to provide health care services in French "because we live in a bilingual country. It's important because it improves the quality of communication."

This year, 53 students registered on our database to become eligible for the bursary. This database is provided to the Recruitment and Retention Secretariat so that it can inform students on training and employment opportunities in Prince Edward Island in hopes of keeping or bringing back youth to the Island so that they can provide health services in French to the population.

Database registration can be done on the PEIFHN Web site at www.santeipe.ca (click on *Étudiants en santé*).

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 1 : Jenna Arsenault
Photo 2 : Linda Richards, PEIFHN's treasurer and Émilie Maquignaz

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