



News Release

For Immediate Release

Over \$20,000 awarded for health promotion projects

WELLINGTON, PEI – August 19, 2017 – Further to a call for proposals for health promotion projects to build individual and collective capacities to support health and wellness in French, the PEI French Health Network (PEIFHN) is pleased to announce that eight groups and organizations in Prince Edward Island will share over \$20,000 to implement their projects in the upcoming year.

1. Centre de la petite enfance L'île enchantée: Creating a stimulating environment for our children's global health! *Because the environment conditions feelings, thoughts and behavior have a significant impact on quality of life, renovations to the outdoor surroundings of the centre will be completed to support the overall development of the child.*
2. Le Conseil Rév. S-É. Perrey inc.: Maplewood Coffee Shop *The project will provide health professionals in West Prince hospitals and long-term care facilities with the opportunity to learn and practice French so they can better communicate with patients, residents and visitors.*
3. Village des Sources l'Étoile filante: Personal and social development camp for French immersion students *Programming and presentation of two personal and social development camps will be offered to two French immersion classes from grades 6 to 12 to provide them with a bonding experience and allow them to reflect on inclusion, bullying and human relations.*
4. Cap enfants: What's cooking? *Cap enfants will help families by giving them access to healthy and affordable food as well as a place where they can find the support they need to acquire skills and develop confidence to prepare nutritious meals at home.*
5. RDÉE: Gardens for the future *With funding received from the PEIFHN in 2015, four vegetable beds were planted in each of the six early learning centres of the province. During the upcoming year, two extra beds will be planted in each area. Emphasis is placed on the importance of understanding where the vegetables that we find at the grocery store come from and increasing the interest of youth involved.*
6. Actions Femmes: Health and Wellness for women and girls *A health and wellness day for women and girls including older women, young women and girls will be organized to rebuild historic relationships and learn about traditional values and knowledge that would enrich the lives of today's young women and girls.*
7. Comité des parents de l'École François-Buote: Cycling for health! *Four Spark stationary bikes will be purchased to encourage students to be active while learning. The use of stationary bikes in the classroom will reduce sedentary time and stress levels, have a positive effect on mood and improve learning.*

8. La Coopérative d'intégration francophone de l'Î.-P.-É.: *Count and recount: personal accounts in support of mental health* *A group of individuals will be created to use therapeutic storytelling to help them express their thoughts and share their experiences with other people in similar situations. This project will allow for a better integration of the individual in the community and a better understanding of a newcomer's reality and needs as he or she arrives in a new country.*

The proposed health promotion activities must be carried out by the end of March 2018.

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: Gardens for the future

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Groups submitting a proposal were encouraged to take the following criteria into consideration:

- Target at least one of the following clientele: seniors, youth, people in remote communities with a low concentration of French-speaking Islanders, vulnerable or at-risk populations.
- Link to at least one of the following categories:
 - (1) One or more of the *PEI Wellness Strategy* pillars presented by the Department of Health and Wellness: mental health, increasing physical activity and reducing sedentary behaviour, living tobacco-free, healthy eating, and consuming alcohol responsibly.
 - (2) One or more of the four strategic directions of the SFF national strategy titled *Pour la promotion de la santé en français au Canada*¹: **influencing public policy** to create equity for Francophone minority populations and communities in Canada; **supporting action on the major health determinants** to create communities and living conditions that are conducive to health and wellness; **building communities' capacities** to support health and wellness in French; **developing the knowledge and competencies** needed to identify best practices in health promotion.
 - (3) Demonstrate the project's long-term impact potential on individual and community health.

¹<http://santefrancais.ca/wp-content/uploads/Strat-gie-nationale-de-promotion-de-la-sant--FR.pdf>