



News Release

For Immediate Release

Speech-Language Pathologist Julie Savoie Gives a Voice to Clients

WELLINGTON, PEI, December 9, 2016 – 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 pursue this initiative for a second year and to announce that the Étoile Santé for the month of December is speech-language pathologist Julie Savoie.

Julie Savoie has been a speech-language pathologist on Prince Edward Island since 1993, after obtaining her master’s degree in speech-language pathology from the University of Dalhousie. “I had said I would be a speech-language pathologist in my high school yearbook,” explained Julie Savoie. In order to become a speech-language pathologist, she earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology, which allowed her to pursue her studies at the master’s level in speech-language pathology.

Growing up in the Acadian Peninsula of New Brunswick, Julie was interested in languages and in the origin of words and sounds. “I always knew I wanted to work with people, especially children. And that’s what I do now; I work with children from kindergarten to grade 6 at École Pierre-Chiasson, École Évangéline and École-sur-Mer, as well as with preschool children.”

Julie Savoie works for Health PEI and provides services to the French Language School Board. She spends 60% of her time in French schools. The rest of her time is dedicated to preschool children (Anglophone or Francophone) from the Evangeline area, and to Francophone children in the western half of the province.

Julie works with several teams of providers and with parents to ensure prescribed exercises are followed and steady progress is made. “I help students pronounce and better distinguish certain sounds, but above all, I try to understand why these sounds are challenging for them.”

“When working in the field of children’s language development, it’s important for the speech-language pathologist to speak the client’s language, because the realities aren’t the same and neither are the sentence structures,” said Julie Savoie.

This health professional has certainly been contributing to the development of the French language in the Island’s Francophone community, one client at a time, for almost 25 years.

Julie Savoie’s contact information can be found in the bilingual service provider directory at www.santeipe.ca/repertoire. Individuals are encouraged to 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: Julie Savoie

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