



Press Release

For immediate distribution

## **PEIFLHN launches *Santé Bonjour!* campaign to increase access to French language health services in PEI**

**WELLINGTON, PEI – May 2, 2014** – To increase access to French language health services in Prince Edward Island, the PEI French Health Network (PEIFHN) is launching a campaign to encourage workers who are able to provide services in French to get their name listed in the Network's health service directory. They will receive a free shirt with the *Bonjour!* logo, promoting the active offer of services among their clientele.

Bilingual workers can register on the PEIFHN website at [www.santeipe.ca/repertoire](http://www.santeipe.ca/repertoire). The Francophone community is in turn invited to refer to the directory which already has over 100 entries, to see which services are available and in which areas they can be found.

The PEIFHN recently signed a partnership agreement with three professional health bodies to help the Francophone population of Prince Edward Island find Francophone health providers who can address their needs. In signing these agreements, those bodies expressed their commitment to providing quality health care to French speaking Islanders.

It is also through these agreements that each professional body commits to communicating with its members to determine their ability to offer French language services and encourage them to be listed in the directory. The PEIFHN anticipates signing more agreements with other professional bodies in the upcoming months.

If you know people who speak French and who work in health care, please let them know about this directory and encourage them to add their name to it. For more information on how to register or use the directory, please contact Patricia Richard at 902-854-7444 or at [info@santeipe.ca](mailto:info@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.

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### **For more information:**

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**Picture:** Photo (L.-R.): Each proudly wearing their new shirt, bilingual workers: Manon Gallant, Occupational Therapist, Queen Elizabeth Hospital; Patricia Richard, Assistant Director, PEI French Health Network; Gabriel Arsenault, Prosthetist, Queen Elizabeth Hospital; Melva O'Connor-Rafuse, Social Worker, Queen Elizabeth Hospital; Alanna Saulnier, Physiotherapist, Queen Elizabeth Hospital.