

**French Language Health Services Network - Third meeting  
September 16, 2003  
Centre Belle-Alliance, Summerside**

**Minutes**

Present: Sylvie Plourde Farrell, Co-chair                      Henri Gallant, Co-chair  
             Robert Arsenault    Susan MacKenzie  
             Orella Arsenault    Johanne Irwin  
             Colette Aucoin     Jeannita Bernard  
             Kirsten Connor

Absent: Donald DesRoches                                        Larry Drouin  
             Robbie Thibodeau    Jean-Paul Arsenault  
             Danielle Mill    Vanessa Buote

Others: Benoit Henry, employee / observer - Provincial Health Services Authority  
             Karen Langevin, FLHSN Coordinator  
             Ghislaine Bernard, FLHSN Administrative Assistant  
             Béatrice Caillié, FLHSN Planning and Research Officer

**1. Welcome**

Co-chair Henri Gallant welcomed everyone to the third meeting of the Network.

First of all, the members of the network introduced themselves. Henri Gallant welcomed Benoit Henry, employee of the Provincial Health Services Authority who will attend the meetings of the FLHSN as an observer. The French Services Coordinators who will be hired in each health authority will also attend the meetings of the FLHSN as observers. Henri Gallant informed the members that Vanessa Buote of the Rustico area will join the FLHSN at the next meeting as youth representative. There are still two representatives missing - one for Kings and one for the PHSA.

**2. Supper**

Henri Gallant invited the members to help themselves and visit the FLHSN booth.

**3. Reading and adoption of agenda**

It was moved by Johanne Irwin and seconded by Kirsten Connor that the agenda be accepted as presented.

**- Motion carried unanimously -**

4. **Adoption and questions relating to the minutes of the meeting held on May 8, 2003**

It was moved by Susan MacKenzie and seconded by Orella Arsenault that the minutes of the meeting held on May 8, 2003 be accepted as presented.

- Motion carried unanimously -

5. **Adoption and questions relating to the minutes of the executive committee meeting held on June 16, 2003**

It was moved by Sylvie Plourde Farrell and seconded by Johanne Irwin that the minutes of the executive committee meeting held on June 16, 2003 be accepted as presented.

- Motion carried unanimously-

6. **Current research projects**

**6.1 Inventory of health services and programs**

Béatrice Caillié and Karen Langevin met with 35 individuals from the government health system. They still have a few to meet. This research will be used to determine the priorities for the strategies to be developed by the FLHSN. Henri Gallant invited the members to examine a draft of these documents on the table in the booth.

**6.2 Directory of bilingual students - summary**

Henri Gallant explained that a summary of the report on the Directory of bilingual students studying in a health-related field is included in the kit. A detailed report as well as the questionnaire and posters of this report are on the table in the booth. This project will be completed in early October. To date, there are 110 respondents. This list will be given to the recruitment officer of the Department of Health and Social Services.

**6.3 Directory of bilingual health care workers**

A draft of the directory of bilingual health care workers is on the table in the booth. Fifteen sites in the private sector offering French services will be included in the directory. The list of government workers is still being reviewed. The directory will be ready towards the end of October.

**6.4 Ado-Parlons Santé (Study with teens)**

Karen Langevin provided a short background on the *Ado-Parlons Santé* study. A first draft will be distributed in early October.

## **7. Overview of Strategic Plan - draft**

Karen Langevin explained the draft copy of the Strategic Plan and the reason why it is not bilingual. The members were asked to forward their comments to the Network office by October 3, 2003.

It was moved by Jeannita Bernard and seconded by Orella Arsenault that the Executive Committee complete the document before the end of October 2003 (2 meetings). The Committee will be supported by Network employees.

**- Motion carried unanimously -**

It was moved by Robert Arsenault and seconded by Colette Aucoin that the format of the Strategic Plan be the same as the draft.

**- Motion carried unanimously -**

## **8. Priorizing services**

### **8.1 Explanation of the process**

Karen Langevin presented the evaluation tool and explained that the object is to prioritize the services according to the criteria indicated on page 5 of the strategic plan document. Interpersonal and social relations as well as services to seniors and early childhood will be favoured.

### **8.2 Recommendation of committee members**

It was moved by Sylvie Plourde Farrell and seconded by Robert Arsenault that the priority setting exercise would be completed by a team of French services coordinators with the employees of the Network and a representative of the health system who has a good understanding of the services. The results of this exercise must be sent to the Network members and then discussed during a meeting of the FLHSN.

## **9. Work groups**

Karen Langevin explained the terms of reference of the work groups. These work groups must be formed as soon as possible. A first draft must be submitted by mid-November.

It was moved by Johanne Irwin and seconded by Jeannita Bernard that the three sectors include:

- 1) human resources
- 2) access to quality services in French
- 3) communication

**- Motion carried unanimously**

## **10. Société Santé en français - National Network**

### **10.1 Delegates at the annual meeting in Winnipeg from September 19 to 21, 2003**

Henri Gallant informed the members that the participants at the annual meeting of *Société Santé en français* in Winnipeg in September 19 to 21 2003 will be:

Jeannita Bernard - health professional representative

Benoit Henry - health establishment

Orella Arsenault - community organization

Karen Langevin - gouvernement

Colette Aucoin - training establishment

Béatrice Caillié - observer

Élise Arsenault - member of the *Société Santé en français* Board of Directors

Donald DesRoches - Acadian and Francophone Affairs representatives

### **10.2 Nominations to the Board of the Société Santé en français**

Henri Gallant indicated that there would be elections during the annual meeting. There are two seats for the Atlantic Provinces and our participants will have the right to be nominated.

### **10.3 Proposal**

Benoit Henry explained that there is a national health education and training fund that disadvantages PEI since we do not have any francophone universities. Nova Scotia receives funds to offer training programs through the *Université Sainte-Anne* and the *Collège de l'Acadie*. Given the language training problems of employees in the health system and the particularities of the work schedules of these employees, Benoit Henry suggested that an intervention be made during the AGM by the PEI delegation.

It was moved by Robert Arsenault and seconded by Orella Arsenault that Benoit Henry be designated to make an official proposal during the AGM of the *Société Santé en français* in order to ensure greater flexibility in the support programs to address the needs of provinces such as PEI.

**- Motion carried unanimously -**

**11. Other business**

None.

**12. Next meeting of the Network**

The next meeting of the Network will be held on Thursday, November 6, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. at the Carrefour de l'Isle-Saint-Jean in Charlottetown. The Executive Committee will meet at 5:00 p.m. on the same date.

**13. Adjournment**

The meeting ended at 7:25 p.m.