



News Release

For Immediate Release

Corinne Arsenault Brightens the Lives of Alzheimer Patients

WELLINGTON, PEI, January 12, 2017 – 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 announce that the Étoile Santé for the month of January 2017 is resident care worker Corinne Arsenault.

Corinne Arsenault, who lives in Wellington, has been working at Andrews of Summerside, a seniors’ residence, for 13 years. For the past five years, she has been working in the Alzheimer’s unit. “I have a lot of fun working with these residents. I try to make a difference in their lives, and they bring much joy to my life as well.”

Devoted, generous, happy and energetic, Corinne Arsenault is a shining star that brightens the lives of individuals who sometimes need a spark. In 2016, the Alzheimer Society of PEI recognized her excellence and leadership in caring for those afflicted by Alzheimer’s.

Corinne began working in this field quite coincidentally. She had just obtained her grade 12 equivalency diploma from Collège Acadie and was preparing to begin the human services college program when her sister became ill. For three years, she cared for her sister at home while her brother-in-law was at work. It is also during this time that Corinne’s husband had a major accident. These events made her decide to take the resident care worker course.

Corinne had been working as a resident care worker at Andrews of Summerside for several years when the Alzheimer’s unit was established. People suffering from Alzheimer’s often revert to their mother tongue – communication in their language is therefore very important. “Little by little, I discovered people who needed attention and joy, and that’s what I try to give them. I feel fortunate to be able to care for Acadian residents in French.”

Corinne learned how to play guitar so that she could make music for residents. She has treasured memories of a resident with a great love of music. He particularly liked listening to Corinne play the guitar, and his family knew this. “When he was nearing the end of his life, his family asked me to play for him. I played all the songs that he liked.”

Corinne Arsenault’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: Corinne Arsenault

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