



Press Release

For Immediate Release

Isabelle Bernard, a Welcoming and Efficient Bilingual Administrative Assistant

SUMMERSIDE, PEI, July 31, 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 July 2017 is bilingual administrative assistant Isabelle Bernard.

When visitors walk into the Summerset Manor in Summerside, they are welcomed by Isabelle’s warm smile. Along with her bilingual administrative assistant duties, she also serves as receptionist at the manor. Her role is equally essential in a facility such as the Summerset Manor, where she supports administrators, activity coordinators, the various departments, as well as residents and their families.

“After finishing high school, I decided to enroll in the bilingual administrative assistant program at Collège de l’Île. I started in September 2015, and graduated in June 2016,” explains the young lady. In July 2016, she accepted an administrative assistant position at the Summerset Manor. “At first, I was only on call. They couldn’t promise me a minimum number of hours,” recalls Isabelle. But then the administration decided to designate a bilingual administrative assistant position, because of the bilingual neighborhood established at the manor a few years ago. The position was announced in October 2016. “I applied, but I didn’t think I’d get the job because I had just started. But they called me for an interview, and I got it. I started working full-time in December 2016.”

In her workplace, Isabelle is known for her efficiency, as well as her ability to always make herself available to carry out pressing tasks. This welcoming and resourceful Étoile Santé, who is often the first point of contact for the public and families, is happy to be able to offer services in both languages. She can answer people’s questions, and direct them to the appropriate services. She knows the families of French-speaking residents, and is more than happy to speak to them in their language. “I know that it’s important for them to be greeted in French, and it can also reassure them to know that French-speaking individuals are present in their loved one’s environment.”

Isabelle Bernard’s contact information can be found in the bilingual service provider directory at www.santeipe.ca/repertoire. People 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: Isabelle Bernard

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