



LE RÉSEAU DU MIEUX-ÊTRE
FRANCOPHONE
DU NORD DE L'ONTARIO

Press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

8th General Assembly of the Réseau and Recipients of Recognition Awards

Thunder Bay – May 31, 2018 - The Réseau du mieux-être francophone du Nord de l'Ontario (Réseau) held its 8th Annual General Meeting on May 30th in Thunder Bay. Several people from across Northern Ontario were able to participate in the meeting via video and audio conferencing. A reality of working in the North!

The year 2017-2018 was marked by the Réseau's contributions to improving French language health services through our planning approach, our community engagement and our collaboration with our partners.

The launch of the online interactive training course " *The active offer of French-language health services : why and how to put it into practice* " was a great success and was adapted for the province as a whole.



Diane Quintas, Executive Director of the Réseau

We worked with long-term care homes and the North East and North West LHINs to conduct a study to address the challenges faced by Francophone minority residents in long-term care homes.

As stated by Diane Quintas, Executive Director of the Réseau, " *We are proud to be a part of the mobilizing projects and actions that have helped make a difference for Francophones in Northern Ontario, and also for the entire province* ".

As part of the AGM, our guests Dr. Jean Bartkowiak, President and CEO of the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Center, and Mrs. Donna Jeanpierre, Volunteer Services Manager shared with us the hospital's efforts for the implementation of the active offer of French languages health services.

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Finally, the Réseau awarded the 2018 Recognition Awards to two winners. These awards recognize the contribution of health service providers, community organizations and individuals to improving access and equity in French language health services. The recognition award for a health service provider was

awarded to Maison McCulloch Hospice. An organization that continuously strives to improve their offer and quality of French language services. The organizational culture is perfectly bilingual, which demonstrates their commitment to the satisfaction of their clients and their families.



Léo Therrien, Executive Director of McCulloch Hospice; Monique Lapalme, Member of the Greater Sudbury community; Léo Lefebvre, Board of Directors Member

The community recognition award was awarded to Monique Lapalme, a member of the Sudbury community. Monique has worked for several years with the Francophone community. She is a highly respected person with organizations,

Francophone communities, and health service providers in the Northeast. She always believed in equitable access to health services in French and continued throughout her career to find innovative ways of encouraging providers to respond to the needs of their Francophone clients.

For more information on the 2017-2018 results and activities, please consult the **2017-2018 Annual Report** on the Réseau website.

The Réseau, in collaboration with its partners, plans, networks and engages with communities to improve access and equity to French language health services.

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