

***The Government of Canada commits \$69,2 million to post-secondary healthcare education programs offered in French by 11 colleges and universities outside Quebec***

**Ottawa, May 30, 2014** – Thanks to renewed federal government funding of \$69,2 million over the next four years, seven Canadian universities and four Canadian colleges, members of the Consortium national de formation en santé (CNFS), will be able to maintain and enhance close to 100 French-language post-secondary healthcare and social services programs. Since the founding of the CNFS in 2003, these training programs have produced more than 4200 bilingual professionals who now offer quality health and social services in French in Francophone communities across the country.

This funding, provided through the *Roadmap for Canada's Official Languages 2013-2018*, unveiled in March 2013, will enable the CNFS, our member institutions and our regional partners to continue to carry out our effective initiatives that contribute to the well-being and the growth of these communities.

"By providing funding for the next four years, we are very pleased that Health Canada recognizes the results we have achieved to date with the French-language post-secondary healthcare education our member institutions provide in their communities," says Lise Bourgeois, CNFS Co-Chair and President of La Cité.

"Thanks to Health Canada's financial support and ongoing collaboration, we can continue to carry out with enthusiasm and conviction the work we have been doing since our organization was founded. In this way, by training highly qualified Francophone and bilingual professionals, we can expand the active offer of quality French-language health and social services throughout Canada," says Allister Surette, CNFS Co-Chair and President of Université Sainte-Anne.

*The CNFS is a pan-Canadian group of [eleven colleges and universities](#) outside Quebec that offer French-language education in various healthcare disciplines. [Six regional partners](#) support the CNFS and its members and facilitate access to these training programs across the country. The CNFS also has a [National Secretariat](#) in Ottawa, which plays a leadership and coordination role. This strategic alliance is well positioned to increase the presence and support of bilingual healthcare professionals and researchers in order to offer quality French-language health and social services that are adapted to the needs of Francophone minority communities throughout the country. For more information on the CNFS, please visit [www.cnfs.net](http://www.cnfs.net).*

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