



## NEWS RELEASE

### **New association of Canadian Francophone colleges and universities to be formed as of April 1, 2015**

**Ottawa, April 24, 2014** – At a joint meeting held on March 26, the Boards of Directors of the Consortium national de formation en santé (CNFS) and the Association des universités de la francophonie canadienne (AUFC) agreed to form a new association made up of the current CNFS and AUFC members: colleges and universities located in Francophone communities. The new association will be called the *Association des collèges et des universités de la francophonie canadienne (ACUFC)* and will be officially created as of April 1, 2015.

Mr. Allan Rock, Chair of the AUFC and President of the University of Ottawa, said, “This new association will give our universities and colleges a single, strong voice for French-language post-secondary education in Canada and around the world.”

The CNFS will be a part of the new Association, but will maintain its own autonomy and operations. “We believe that this association will improve the synergy of French-language education throughout the country and make it more accessible, complementary and comprehensive,” said Lise Bourgeois, Co-Chair of the CNFS and President of La Cité.

“This is great news,” said Mr. Allister Surette, Co-Chair of the CNFS and President of Université Sainte-Anne, “because it will help us to improve the offer of quality post-secondary education in French in Francophone minority communities and to contribute to the vitality of Canadian Francophone culture.”

*The AUFC is made up of 14 Francophone and bilingual universities located in seven provinces outside of Quebec. It aims to improve the quality and the development of university education, teaching and research in French, by coordinating its members and promoting their common interests in Canada and around the world.*

*The CNFS is a pan-Canadian group of eleven colleges and universities, six regional partners and a National Secretariat. Through these, the CNFS works to increase the active offer of French-language health and social services in Francophone minority communities by training Francophone and bilingual professionals and by supporting research related to this training and to the health needs of these communities.*

For more information on the CNFS and the AUFC, please visit: [www.cnfs.net](http://www.cnfs.net) and [www.aufc.ca](http://www.aufc.ca).

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