



## Francophone partnership leads to a new learning resource on health

(Richmond BC, November 3, 2008) The Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique (CSF) (British Columbia's Francophone School District, SD No 93) and RésoSanté Colombie-Britannique (BC's Francophone Health Network) are proud to celebrate the launching of the learning resource guide entitled *Mes choix, ma santé* (*My Choices, My Health*). The launching took place today, attended by teachers and health professionals. The initiative was made possible thanks to funding from Health Canada, and through Société Santé en français. The project is the result of a partnership between RésoSanté and the CSF who cooperated to produce a new teaching resource regarding health. Under the direction of the CSF, a team of educators created *Mes choix, ma santé*—a series of 50 teaching scenarios related to health and intended for grade 10 students and teachers.

In the development of learning activities, the team of educators wanted to involve secondary school students in taking a serious look at how to protect and capitalize on their health. The wide range of suggested learning scenarios appeals to varying types of intelligence and facilitates their use in the classroom. In fact, each of the 50 scenarios addresses the performance objectives prescribed by the Ministry of Education of British Columbia in the framework of the Planning 10 curriculum.

The French version of the Ministry of Health's BC Health Guide was used extensively as source material in the creation of *Mes choix, ma santé*. This will allow students to become familiar with this guide and to learn to use it to access reliable health information to maintain their precious health.

"I know that this new French-language learning resource will be an invaluable tool for health promotion and education across the province. Collaboration between education and health providers is key for the effective promotion of healthy living, and I commend you on your efforts", said the Honourable George Abbott, Minister of Health Services for British Columbia.

According to its President Ms. Doris Brisebois, RésoSanté Colombie-Britannique is proud have partnered with the Conseil scolaire francophone and to have contributed to the development of a new teaching resource on health. Ms Brisebois applauds the fact that it was produced in French, in British Columbia and by the CSF, a Francophone institution which is part of our provincial Francophone health network. "We believe it is especially important to encourage young people to talk about health and to assist them in the use of dependable sources of information at an age where they already feel responsible to make decisions regarding their health."

"This project gives me great satisfaction because it came about as a result of two partners wishing to join forces to establish new and innovative learning practices," explains CSF Chair Marie Bourgeois. "The guide provides our teachers with a pertinent teaching instrument appropriate for our milieu. Furthermore, it contributes to our students' academic success and promotes good habits for health by favouring student awareness regarding their health. Produced by teachers, this product will serve our Francophone community well."

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*RésoSanté Colombie-Britannique is a provincial Health Network that brings together health professionals and representatives from health care facilities, health authorities, governments, training institutions and the Francophone community. These partners work in concert to ensure the development, integration, and sustainability of French-language health services throughout BC.*

*Since its creation in 1995, the Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique offers educational programs and services geared towards the growth and cultural promotion of the province's Francophone learners. An active partner in the development of British Columbia's Francophone community, the Conseil has presently in its system, and distributed across 77 communities in the province, over 4,200 students and 40 schools, which includes 23 homogeneous schools.*

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