

Press Release

*For immediate release*

## **Launch of the Francophone Community Table on Health – Durham Region**

OSHAWA, ON (April 30, 2015) – The Central East Local Health Integration Network (Central East LHIN) and Entité 4, together with health service providers and community partners in the LHIN's Durham Cluster, are proud to launch the Francophone Community Table on Health – Durham Region.

Through active engagement of the community members and health service providers, the Table's mandate is to advise Entité 4 on health care challenges and priorities for the Francophone community of Durham Region. This new initiative adds to the list of successful projects made possible by the financial support of the Central East LHIN pursuant to the advice of Entité 4, such as the creation of an Adult Day Program in Oshawa, and the start of a Coalition for Healthy Francophone Communities in Scarborough.

*"It will be thanks to the contribution of each Table participant that Entité 4 will be able to collect data, information and suggestions on how to improve access to health services in French for Francophones in Durham Region."* – Estelle Duchon, Executive Director of Entité 4.

*"This focus on supporting the health and wellness of Francophone residents in our Durham cluster is again totally aligned with our Community First strategic aim – where the goal is to help Central East LHIN residents spend more time in their homes and in their communities."* – Amorell Saunders N'Daw, Board Member at the Central East LHIN.

The Chair, Marcelle Jomphe, gave an eloquent speech about her experiences and involvement in Ontario's Francophone community and her expectations of the Table.

*"Today my dream is closer to reality because we just took a step forward by launching the Francophone Community Table on Health – Durham Region."* – Marcelle Jomphe, Chair of the Francophone Community Table on Health – Durham Region.

The event attracted more than 50 members of the Francophone community and was honored by the presence of Mr. Marc Despatie, Chief of French language services for the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.

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Entité 4 is mandated to advise the Central, Central East and North Simcoe Muskoka Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) on improving access to health services in French for the francophone communities of the region.

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