



For immediate release

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **The Canadian Francophonie colleges and universities team up: a new association is created**

**Ottawa, March 31, 2015.** The heads of the Canadian Francophonie's French language or bilingual colleges and universities outside Quebec are proud to announce the creation of the new Association des collèges et universités de la francophonie canadienne (ACUFC).

Building on the success and proven track record of its predecessors, namely the Consortium national de formation en santé (CNFS) and the Association des universités de la francophonie canadienne (AUFC), the ACUFC is the strong and collective voice of Canadian Francophonie post-secondary learning institutions. In addition to almost 15 years of collaboration in post-secondary health care training, the Canadian Francophonie's colleges and universities also collaborate in other important fields such as legal training initiatives and francophone immigration.

The ACUCF will maintain the strong collaborative relationships that exist in the fields of training and research in French. It will represent the common interest of its members by partnering with national groups to ensure visibility, on both the national and international level.

According to Madame Lise Bourgeois, Co-president of the ACUFC and President of La Cité – Le Collège d'arts appliqués et de technologie, "We are convinced that this new association will strengthen existing synergies, improve access and find complementarities in post-secondary education in French throughout Canada".

Mr. Allister Surette, Co-president of the ACUFC and President and Vice-chancellor of Université Sainte-Anne, agrees, stating that the creation of this new association is "excellent news, as it will allow us to substantially increase the number of quality French-language post-secondary programs offered in Francophone minority communities and, consequently, increase the vitality of the Canadian Francophonie".

ACUFC twenty post-secondary member institutions are, from East to West: Université Sainte-Anne, Collège Acadie Î.-P.-É., Université de Moncton, Centre de formation médicale du Nouveau-Brunswick, Collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick, University of Ottawa, Saint-Paul University, Dominican University College, La Cité, Royal Military College of Canada, York University's Glendon College, Collège Boréal, Laurentian University, University of Sudbury, Université de Hearst, Université de Saint-Boniface, Institut français of University of Regina, Collège Mathieu, Campus Saint-Jean of University of Alberta, and Simon Fraser University.

For more information about the ACUFC, visit the new Web site at: [www.acufc.ca](http://www.acufc.ca)

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