

Communiqué de presse

Pour publication immédiate

Training – For new Patient Care Attendants (PAB) in residential long-term care facilities (CHSLD)

Students begin on-the-job training with the CISSS des Laurentides

Saint-Jérôme, July 24, 2020 – As part of the Quebec government's recruiting drive to train new attendants in long-term care facilities, close to 500 students have completed the first portion of their theoretical training and begun on-the-job training at our Centre intégré de santé et de services sociaux (CISSS) des Laurentides facilities.

The new vocational skills training certificate *Soutien aux soins d'assistance en établissement de santé (Health Care Facility Patient Service Support)*, announced by the government last May, officially qualifies the holder for the job of Patient Care Attendant (PAB) in a residential long-term care facility (CHSLD). This certification was created in response to a generalised shortage of PABs across the various health and social services facilities throughout the province, a shortage made all the more dire by the COVID-19 pandemic.

All the vocational training centres in the Laurentian region, including *L'Émergence* in Two-Mountains, *Performance Plus* in Lachute, *Des Sommets* in Sainte-Agathe, and the vocational training centre in Mont-Laurier, provided this short-duration, full-time training program, spread over 12 weeks, for a total of 375 hours.

Deployment

Students began three weeks of training at the vocational training centres in the week of June 15. A three-day hands-on learning experience is now offered to them at our CISSS des Laurentides facilities. Two days of theoretical distance learning complete their week. Each trainee is paired with a CISSS employee who acts as a guide and accompanies them during their hands-on training.

Students' comments regarding their guides demonstrate the professionalism and personal commitment of our CISSS staff. Trainees stress how warmly they are received, the openness of our personnel and their willingness to answer questions.

The President and Executive Director of the CISSS des Laurentides, Ms. Rosemonde Landry, is pleased at the number of trainees currently receiving on-the-job training. "The addition of these future employees will undoubtedly meet the need for PABs in our residential long-term care facilities. Starting in September, graduates will begin work alongside our teams and we will be very happy to welcome them," said Ms. Landry.

Given the new positions created due to development projects such as, among others, the opening of new residential long-term care facilities and of four senior residences (Maison des aînés), the CISSS estimates the need for new PABs at approximately 600 per year, which means hiring 3000 PABs in the next five years. The creation of this training program clearly fills a significant need in the region.

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Source : Service des communications et des relations publiques
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