



Greater North Central Francophone Education Region No.2
301, 8627 Marie-Anne-Gaboury St.
Edmonton, AB T6C 3N1

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

EXCELLENCE IN INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AWARD FOR ÉCOLE SAINTE-JEANNE-D'ARC

EDMONTON, June 8, 2009 – The Autism Society of Edmonton Area (ASEA) has awarded its *Excellence in Inclusive Education 2009* to École Sainte-Jeanne-d'Arc, one of the 14 francophone schools under the authority of the *Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord* (Greater North Central Francophone Education Region No.2). This esteemed award will be presented at the ASEA Annual General Meeting to be held in Edmonton next Tuesday, June 16, 2009.

Each year, the ASEA celebrates educational professionals who have used their training, talent, skill and experience to create positive, enriching experiences for people on the autism spectrum. These are individuals or teams who have gone out of their way to create excellence in their service to people with autism and their families.

This year, École Sainte-Jeanne-d'Arc has been chosen as a team to receive this distinction. ASEA received the school's nomination on behalf of Patricia and Julien Plamondon and their son André. The past and present staff members to be honored are Liza Bégin-Cossette, Sylvie Bergevin, Paulette Bérubé, Lucille Damer, Pauline Delwel, Élise Dubé, Guylaine Gosselin, Rita Hébert, Rachel Jean, Julie Lafrance, Nicole Létourneau, Lise Nepton, Yolande Proulx, Patricia Rijavec, Kathleen Stevens and Chantal Viens.

Henri Lemire, superintendent of the *Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord*, comments on the benefits of inclusion: "All those who have worked closely with André or who have known him have grown in their understanding and appreciation of special needs students".

The *Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord* congratulates Rita Hébert, principal, and staff at École Sainte-Jeanne-d'Arc for their dedicated work towards excellence in their service to children on the autism spectrum and their families. This recognition from the ASEA highlights the school's commitment towards the principals and practices of inclusion of all special needs students.

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For further information, please contact:

Mr. Henri Lemire, Superintendent
Tel. 780 468-6440/ 1 800 248-6886