



**La Fédération des francophones
de la Colombie-Britannique**

Ms Danielle Arcand to receive the Napoléon Gareau Award

Vancouver, June 8, 2013 — The *Fédération des francophones de la Colombie-Britannique* (BC Francophone Federation) is happy to announce that Ms Danielle Arcand is the recipient of the Napoléon Gareau Award for 2013.

A dedicated volunteer, Ms Arcand has been sitting for four years on the Board of Directors of the *Société Maison de la francophonie de Vancouver* as well as the Board of the organization *Le français pour l'avenir* ("French for the Future"). Until very recently, she also sat on the Board of Directors of the *Théâtre la Seizième*, which she joined in 1996 and presided from 1998 to 2013.

However, her contribution to the success of the *Théâtre la Seizième* should not be assessed in her number of years serving on its Board of Directors. Indeed, it should be viewed in the light of the growing number of schools hosting the company's plays and workshops, and of the Francophone and Francophile spectators and actors who have benefitted from its help to complete their training. Under Ms Arcand leadership, the *Théâtre la Seizième* has established itself as a beacon of professional theatre in BC and in western Canada. Ms Arcand was able to lead the Board of Directors while supporting the management team.

Ms Arcand's other volunteer commitments include her participation to many Francophone committees as well as her support of the *Conseil culturel et artistique francophone de la Colombie-Britannique* (BC Cultural and Artistic Council) an organization working in a field of which she is particularly fond.

Ms Arcand is also a firm believer in youth advocacy and in education in French. In fact, she has dedicated her career to those beliefs, first as a teacher and now as Assistant Director of the *Bureau des affaires francophones et francophiles* (Office of Francophone and Francophile Affairs) of Simon Fraser University.

Over the years, she has volunteered her time and shared her expertise and her knowledge generously, diligently, and with the cheerfulness she is known for. Through her dedication, her very human side, her passion for the French language and her professionalism, Ms. Arcand has contributed to the vitality of the community. Her commitment and dedication has helped bring into focus the challenges facing French-speaking minorities in artistic, cultural and educational areas.

For all these reasons, the *Fédération des francophones de la Colombie-Britannique* is pleased to present her with the Napoléon Gareau Award, a prize that recognizes individuals or organizations who, through their volunteer efforts, have enriched the lives of the French-speaking people of BC.

The Fédération des francophones de la Colombie-Britannique dedicates itself to the advancement of an open "francophonie". Its main activities aim at expanding a Francophone environment and at building capacity for a Francophone and Francophile civil society in British Columbia.

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