

PRESS RELEASE For immediate release

Réseau en immigration francophone de la Saskatchewan **Francophone Area at Heritage Festival of Saskatoon**

Regina, January 15, 2019 - The Saskatchewan Francophone Immigration Network (RIF-SK) is proud to announce the presence an original Francophone area at the Heritage Festival of Saskatoon.

The festival takes place on Sunday, February 3, 2019, from noon to 5 P.M., at the Western Development Museum, in Saskatoon. Every year, it welcomes more than 3,000 spectators who will have the chance to discover or rediscover the way Francophones have contributed to Saskatchewan's heritage.

To achieve this, three sectors regrouping various members and partners of the Network will highlight three aspects of Francophone contributions, with a focus on immigration, education and Franco-Métis culture. The latter sector will benefit from the exceptional participation of the Gabriel Dumont Institute.

All visitors will be invited to pick up a French passport as soon as they enter the museum and follow the wearers of sash belts throughout the museum. They will be able to validate their passage in each sector and have the chance to win a gift basket with a French flavor.

The festival offers an opening parade and all kinds of activities for kids and adults, in French and in English. Two performances by French musician Daniel Gervais will also take place on the main stage and on the family stage of the festival. The event is free and open to all.

This initiative is part of the work of promotion and public awareness regarding the contribution of Francophones in Saskatchewan. It also promotes the collaborative work of Network member organizations.

The Réseau en Immigration Francophone (RIF-SK) is the Francophone Immigration Network. It is a platform for its members, partners and service providers aiming at offering efficient services in French to the francophone newcomers. One of the RIF-SK's duties is to facilitate the development of services and resources fostering immigration and the retention of newcomers and immigrants in the Fransaskois community. It is administered by the Conseil économique et coopératif de la Saskatchewan (CÉCS).

- 30-

Source: Marie Galophe, RIF-SK Coordinator Phone : (306) 566-6000 ext.116 Email: <u>marie.galophe@rif-sk.ca</u>