

PRESS RELEASE



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Vanier Nursing Health Promotion Fair Brings Health Services to Laurier Macdonald High School

Vanier College Nursing students will be holding a Health Promotion Fair at Laurier MacDonald High School on February 15-16, 2007, from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm in the school's gymnasium. The Fair is a new initiative which aims at raising health awareness among high school students. Vanier Nursing is one of several projects subsidized by McGill University Training and Human Resources Development Project which is funded by Health Canada. The project aims to improve access to English language health and social services in communities where healthcare institutions provide services mostly in French.

Vanier's partners in the implementation of the Fair are the CSSS de la Pointe-de-l'Île and CSSS de Saint-Léonard et Saint-Michel, which have partnered with the local Anglophone community to improve access to English language health and social services. High schools in the region requested Nursing students for health awareness activities. Laurier MacDonald High School offered to host the Vanier Nursing Health Promotion Fair which will be held over the course of two days to allow the 1000 students (Sec III, IV and V) adequate time to visit the fourteen booths.

"Through the fair our nursing students will bring valuable health promotion information to the community," says Rivka Guttman, one of the Vanier project managers. "High school students tend to avoid health professionals and are often reluctant to talk about their health concerns. We believe that presenting information during a Health Fair event is an ideal way of reaching the adolescents and exposing them to information on healthy behaviors."

The Vanier Nursing Health Promotion Fair actually kicks off on February 14 at Vanier College with a day-long exhibition of presentations on a variety of health topics. Some of the topics that will be presented include: Sleep Deprivation in College Students, Tattoos and Body Piercing, Suicide and Teens, and Risky Sexual Behavior. The Fair will take place in Jake's Mall from 10 am till 2 pm. The Fair is open to the public and everyone is welcome. See: www.vaniercollege.qc.ca/nursing/

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