

Partnering is Key

None of this is possible without key partnerships:

- Manitoba Agriculture and Foods
- Rat River Recreation Commission
- Senior Resource Service Coordinators
- Réseau Communautaire Sud
- South Eastman Health/Santé Sud-Est Inc.
- St. Pierre Pharmacy
- De Salaberry District Health Centre Foundation
- Partners for Healthy Living
- and numerous health associations and organizations



Partnering has also meant...

- Working with the Mobile Breast Screening Program to maximize public awareness and participation. (Breast health clinics were offered prior to the Program's visit.)
- Working with South Eastman Health in bringing the community's perspective in new research initiatives.
 - Breast feeding promotion project
 - Rural Women's Health Needs



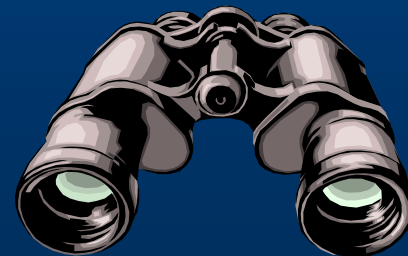
Talking about partnering ...

I'd like to ask Cécile to provide you with a bit more information on what she has been working on most recently....



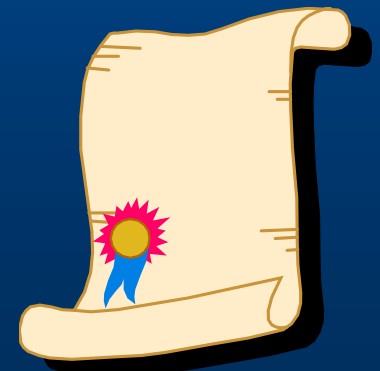
Observations....

- **The community's interest continues to be strong since The Health Corner reflects its needs and is quick to respond to requests for new information.**
- **It is a “one-stop shop” for a good inventory of resources that are very much appreciated as a central information center.**



Important Observations....

- **The Health Corner draws attention from beyond our boundaries**
 - Requests for start-up packages have come from as far away as Thompson in Manitoba and Moncton, Nova Scotia.
 - It received the Reh-Fit Centre Healthy Community Award



The two most important factors:

- 1 A committed health action committee i.e. the Rat River Health Council.**
- 2 A part-time coordinator, in this case Cécile, whose services are contracted by the committee.**

Strong Support from our RHA...

- **Initially funds for the coordinator were being paid from the facility's surplus, through South Eastman Health.**
- **Now funding is part of South Eastman Health's annual budget as a community health component.**
- **We use these funds to leverage more dollars.**

Hopes for the Future

- **That Health Corners be set up in other communities throughout South Eastman Health**
- **That more community-based coordinator positions be created**
- **That strong links be developed between communities and coordinators**

Progress has been made

- **Mini Health Corners have been integrated in the Niverville and Sprague Primary Health Care Centres.**
- **Health Corners providing resources in French were also recently established in Ste. Agathe and La Broquerie. Even though these have part-time coordinators, they are still lacking the community group (like the Rat River Health Council) that helps to direct, guide, encourage and promote it.**

Community Empowerment

The Health Corner has meant that we as a community are able to move from...

- government to grassroots initiatives**
- focusing on wellness rather than illness**
- a traditional to a creative approach to healthy living**

Rat River Health Council 2008

As this Council re-positions itself to be an important leader in health care, remember:

The Health Corner is an exemplary tool for health promotion, education and prevention – developed for the community, by the community. And that's what makes it so effective!