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Press Release

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The Regional Improvisation Tournament held by the *Conseil scolaire public du Nord-Est de l'Ontario:* A Spotlight on Creativity and Francophone Pride!

North Bay, May 22 2009 – The *Conseil scolaire public du Nord-Est de l'Ontario* (CSDNE) will hold a Regional Improvisation Tournament at *École secondaire publique Northern*, in Sturgeon Falls, on May 26 and 27 2009. Students and teachers from CSDNE secondary schools will have a friendly artistic and cultural competition during which oral communication will be the central element.

Improvisation is a game that showcases students' abilities for quick thinking, imagination and theatrical aptitudes. The game is set to closely imitate a hockey match, complete with a "rink" surrounded by scaled-down boards, a game leader dressed as a referee, and penalties assigned to players who do not abide by the rules.

In addition to their scheduled matches, students will have an opportunity to learn from a master of improvisation, Stef Paquette, who will offer a workshop on improvisation. Students will be able to improve their game and offer a first-class show to people attending this tournament.

"Through linguistic planning projects, cultural pedagogy and various strategies implemented in our schools, we aim at maximizing French oral communication and feature opportunities for students to show their originality and their linguistic skills, while having fun at the same time" explained Nicole Robin, director of *Politique d'aménagement linguistique* at CSDNE.

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