CSN public sector • July 2, 2023



Sectoral bargaining

Government misses opportunity to implement solutions starting this summer

To know

Little progress
on our demands.
Government
maintains a direct
attack on our working
conditions, our
conditions of practice
and our rights

To do

On September 23rd, the Front commun will hold a giant demonstration in Montreal.



To read

WHAT'S COMING UP THIS FALL?:

http://bit.ly/3CUcbas



After 27 bargaining sessions at the health and social services sectoral table, we have little concrete progress to report. We would have liked to see the negotiations move forward, so that solutions could be put in place as early as this summer. Remember that this is what Treasury Board President Sonia Le Bel herself had said she wanted.



But as they say, it takes two to tango. And the employers and the government have chosen to stay well away from the dance floor so far. They haven't even tabled their full offers yet. It is impossible to make progress at the bargaining table when we don't even have a full picture of the employer's intentions.

At this point, all that has emerged from the employer's offers is this:

- They consist of ill-conceived temporary measures for a minority of workers
- They are a direct attack on our working conditions, our conditions of practice and our rights
- They do not address our priorities, which were discussed and adopted at general assemblies by tens of thousands of workers

Several bargaining sessions are scheduled for this summer. Our FSSS-CSN national bargaining committee continues to demand that the employer finally put its full offer on the table and give a satisfactory response to our demands.

We know that what the public system needs is better working conditions and conditions of practice. The last thing we need is an all-out attack on the rights of the people who have kept the public system afloat, day after day, for so long.



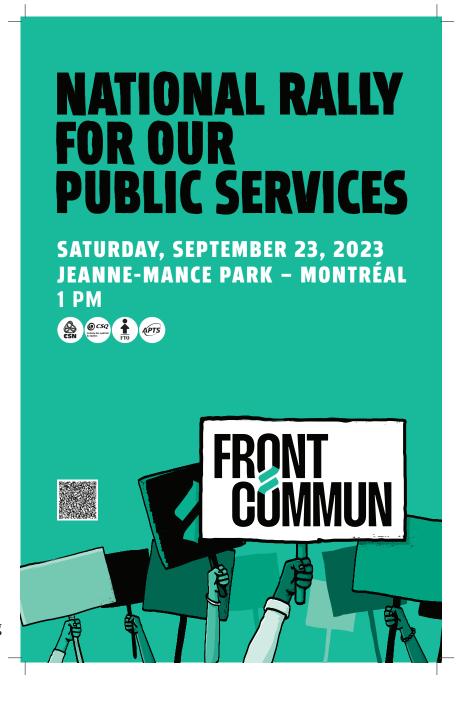


Stepping up the pressure

Over the course of the spring, the members of all the unions in the Front commun voted for mandates to intensify pressure tactics and prepare for strike action. At the FSSS-CSN, all the personnel classes voted for the mandate.

As a result, mobilizations have begun in every corner of Québec over the past few weeks. By steadily dialling up the pressure on elected officials and the administrations of our establishments, and by seizing every opportunity to raise public awareness in every forum, we are building the momentum needed to force the government to change course.

The FSSS-CSN Bargaining Committee thanks the membership for the outstanding mobilization effort. Every action we take has an impact at the bargaining table because it demonstrates that our bargaining committee speaks for 120,000 workers who care about the wellbeing of the entire population.



Bargaining in bad faith

Complaint filed with the ALT

On June 26, we appeared at a hearing before the Administrative Labour Tribunal (ALT) concerning our complaint against the government for bad-faith bargaining and hindering union activity. The FSSS-CSN filed this complaint jointly with the FP-CSN after this government, which is a repeat offender in this regard, unilaterally decided to make a one-time payment of \$900 to cover a portion of the professional dues of some members. This payment is being made only to certain professionals working in very specific departments of youth centres.

As you know, full reimbursement of the cost of permits and licences that employees are required to hold has been one of our bargaining demands since day one. It is therefore unacceptable for the government to impose its solution on us in this way and try to short-circuit the bargaining process. We don't know when the ALT will issue its decision. In August 2022, the ALT ruled in our favour, finding that the government had hindered union activity and failed to bargain in good faith by decreeing unilateral measures without discussion during the pandemic.



