

Citizens march to save the CHSLD Jacques-Viger

On November 13, a citizens' march was organized jointly by the *Alliance interprofessionnelle de Montréal* (AIM-FIQ) and the *Syndicat des travailleuses et travailleurs du CSSS Jeanne-Mance* (CSN). Thus, union and community organizations, residents and citizens mobilized for the safeguard of the *CHSLD Jacques-Viger*. As certain union leaders pointed out on this occasion, it is a battle which is far more than a union struggle; it is a question of respect for the elderly and it raises serious concerns about the tragic consequences of relocating people who are fragile like the users of this long-term care centre.



Public solutions to improve access to health care

On November 15, the President of the FIQ, Lina Bonamie, participated in an interdisciplinary conference on public solutions to improve access to health care. This conference, organized at the initiative of young physicians, brought together more than 150 people at *Hôpital Maisonneuve-Rosemont* in Montreal. The main objective of the event was to present the most promising reorganization models for care units, from front-line care to specialized care. This reorganization would reduce waiting times, without requiring major investments.

Signature campaign to oppose privatization

The *Secrétariat intersyndical des services publics* (SISP), of which the FIQ is a member, has organized an action to demonstrate to the government that the population of Quebec wants public solutions to health-care funding. Since the Castonguay report is scheduled to be tabled in December, it is important to quickly denounce government actions. Thus, the five union organizations which compose the SISP invite their members to sign the postcard attached to the pamphlet. Your local team is currently distributing this pamphlet and will collect the signed postcards. It is important that this signature campaign be a large-scale one: the stakes are no less than the safeguard of the public health system!

The Women's network

At the time of putting this edition of *FIQ Express* on line, the meeting of the 2007 Women's network was winding up. Indeed, the activity was held on November 20 and 21, at the Hotel Classic in Québec City, on the theme the "Antifeminist undertow: assertion of women's gains." Among others, Francine Descarries, sociologist and professor at UQAM, spoke to the union activists on the evolution of the women's movement, Jeanne Maranda, President of the *Meute MédiAction*, spoke about advertising codes and Martin Dufresne, from the *Collectif masculin contre le sexisme*, and Johanne Fontaine, actress, feminist and animator at the *Centre Rayons de femmes*, presented a conference on the antifeminist undertow and strategies to stop it. Union activists also participated in a workshop on building alliances between women and men in this context of undertow.

Coming events

12.2

20th anniversary of the FIQ

12.4-5-6

Federal Council meeting

12.6

National Day of Action against Violence Against Women

