

Public health care, I support it!

Following the tabling of the Castonguay report, union organisations belonging to the *Secrétariat intersyndical des services publics* (SISP) will be present throughout Québec to inform the population of the dangers of privatisation. Thus, at the beginning of February, around 200,000 flyers will be distributed. The public health system, we can't afford to go without it!

Let's be realistic!

Celebrating its 100th anniversary, the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) presents its vision of the health-care system and claims that, despite the aging of the population and the shortage of physicians, the health-care system will be better off by 2020. Thus, the CNA predicts that nurses will be an expanded role, that home care and nursing homes for the elderly will grow rapidly and the technological developments will enable health-care professionals to be more efficient.

Regarding Quebec, Lina Bonamie, President of the FIQ, believes that we should be realistic. In certain provinces, nurses already play an expanded role, but at this level Quebec is significantly behind. In order that Québec participate in this development, the government would have to begin investing massively right away. Finally, though technological advances will undoubtedly offer an invaluable contribution, they will never replace people in care-giving.

International Women's Day

The *Collectif 8 mars*, of which the FIQ is a member, has chosen the theme: "The economic autonomy of women: a collective force." Once again this year, a pin was produced and, in February, you will be able to purchase one from your local team at the cost of \$2.50 each.



Out-of-court settlement

Following the pressure tactics exercised by nurses of the Federation in 1999, a class action was filed by Claude Passaro, a patient who had his elective surgery postponed at the time of the events. This class action was filed on behalf of all individuals who suffered harm as a result of the postponement of an elective intervention, but to date only one person came forward. The parties recently agreed to an out-of-court settlement, but the Superior Court must approve it at a hearing to be held on February 15. The FIQ has budgeted \$60,000 to settle this dispute. The amount of the compensation will range from \$200 and \$750 per person depending on the length of the predicted hospital stay for the intervention.

Coming events

01.26

WSF Global Day of Action

*Preserving our collective rights,
peace and the environment*

www.appelsolidaireduquebec.org

Local negotiations

Report as of January 14, 2008

- 127 agreements signed
- 22 mediations requested
- 11 negotiations in progress