

Health and social services... public solutions!

Over 200 people, from community groups and union organisations met at CEGEP Maisonneuve, in Montreal on March 15.

During this forum initiated by the *Coalition Solidarité Santé*, various subjects were on the agenda: the Castonguay report, the funding of the health system, new management approaches, waiting lists, privatisation of CHSLDs, the shortage of labour force and many others. Among the participants, there were guest speakers from university campuses, union presidents and leaders of various organisations, etc.

It is clear that everyone would like to do something and especially mobilise to protect health and social services from growing privatisation. Thus, the coordinating committee of the *Coalition Solidarité Santé* invited participants to attend a large Quebec-wide demonstration on Saturday, May 3 in Montreal.



IWD in institutions



On International Women's Day, various activities were organized in the health-care institutions represented by the Federation.

Poverty, precarious employment and difficult living conditions: various expressions of inequality are too often experienced by women

On March 7, in Quebec City, the member organisations of the *Collectif 8 mars* (including the FIQ), which represents more than one million women throughout Quebec, met the Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, Christine Saint-Pierre, to obtain a clear commitment on behalf of the current government to improve the economic autonomy of women.



Paving the way for health-care privatisation

As part of its talking point series, the FIQ presents a new booklet explaining the way in which privatisation is being introduced in the health and social services network. *Paving the way for health-care privatisation*, in the form of talking points, presents the evolution of this process in a chronological order. This 2nd talking point booklet will be available on line at: <www.fiqsante.qc.ca> as of March 20.



Also online:
Talking points CHSLD - *To counter desinstitutionalisation*

Coming events

03.18 to 03.20

Federal Council,
Saint-Hyacinthe

05.03

Large Quebec-wide
demonstration in
Montreal

Initiative of the *Coalition
Solidarité Santé*

Local negotiations

Report as of
March 14, 2008

119 agreements signed

16 mediations-arbitrations
requested

12 negotiations in
progress

Editor's note: Please note that an unfortunate error slipped into the report on the local negotiations in the January 23 edition of FIQ Express. The data presented above correspond to the current situation.