



## The path to equality is strewn with obstacles

Invited to the dinner of the FIQ Women's Network at the last Federal Council, Darline Raymond, coordinator of *Action travail des femmes*, came to speak on the struggle waged by seven women against *Gaz métropolitain* for the past 12 years for systemic hiring discrimination. Finally, last September 11, the *Tribunal des droits de la personne* rendered a landmark decision, ruling in favour of these women who had applied for non-traditional jobs. Apart from the financial compensation, the Tribunal required *Gaz Métropolitain* to implement an equal access to employment program involving a numerical hiring objective of 40% for women in these positions.

However, *Gaz Métropolitain* decided to appeal. *Action travail des femmes* thus invites everyone interested to put pressure on *Gaz Métropolitain* to withdraw its appeal. You can obtain the petition on the *Action travail des femmes* website:

<<http://www.atfquebec.ca/atf/2008/11/retrait-appel-gaz-metro.html>>

## World March of Women in 2010!

Last October, 136 women from 48 countries met in Galicia in preparation for the World March of Women, which will be held in 2010. The March will proceed across the world from March 8 to October 17. In Quebec, this March will be held from October 12 to 16 and will close the day after with different activities. Note it in your agenda and get out your walking shoes!



## Petitions on kilometrage expenses

At the last Federal Council, union representatives delivered petitions to Sylvie Savard, Executive Officer in charge of the Negotiation Sector, to denounce the rate used by the *Conseil du trésor* for reimbursement of kilometrage expenses. Care professionals who provide home care and the signatories who support them consider this rate insufficient. Since they are obliged to use their own vehicle, they are contesting the choice of the workplace as the departure and arrival point for the kilometrage calculation. Ms. Savard will deliver the signatures to the *Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux*.

## Happy Holidays!

May this joyful season bring you a well deserved break, surrounded by loved ones, to celebrate the year that is coming to an end.

We also wish that the holiday season and the new year bring you joy and happiness.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Drawing by:  
Emma Fauteux Giguère, 9 years old

**FIQ Express is taking a break for the Holiday period**

Your next *FIQ Express* will be posted on **Wednesday, January 7, 2009 at noon.**