

## First meeting between the SISP-CSN-FTQ Common Front and the President of the Conseil du trésor

With the goal of accelerating the process of negotiations, the representatives of the Common Front, in the name of the 475,000 employees in the public and parapublic sectors, met, on June 5<sup>th</sup>, with Monique Gagnon-Tremblay, President of the *Conseil du trésor* and Minister responsible for Governmental Administration. The union leaders in the Common Front deemed the meeting satisfactory and felt that several objectives were reached. Among others, they obtained a reassurance that the union leaves would be settled by June 30<sup>th</sup>, which is several months sooner than usual. The president of the *Conseil du trésor* also confirmed that the work on the retirement demand would start before June 30<sup>th</sup>. Ms Gagnon-Tremblay agreed to make sure that the management parties were available when the union party tables its demands. She also committed to seeing that the negotiation process speeded up in order that it be concluded by the time the decree expires. The union leaders will now make sure that these commitments are respected.



From left to right: Michel Arsenault, FTQ president, Réjean Parent, SISP spokesperson and Claudette Carbonneau, CSN president

## The FIQ attends the Secrétariat international des infirmières et des infirmiers de l'espace francophone Convention – SIDIEF



Representatives from the FIQ were invited to give a workshop on the consequences of the privatization of healthcare in Quebec at the IV<sup>th</sup> World Convention of francophone nurses held in Marrakech, Morocco from June 7 to 11, 2009 with the theme *Le savoir infirmier, promoteur du développement humain* (nursing knowledge, promoting human development). 1,500 nurses from 25 French countries are attending this meeting. During the workshop, our representatives explained the issues related to the drifting of the Quebec public healthcare system towards the private sector, particularly in the residential centers for the elderly who are losing their autonomy. They also briefly presented the main characteristics of the Quebec public healthcare system and the actions taken by the FIQ to counteract the privatization of residential centers for the elderly who are losing their autonomy as well as the proposed solutions to face the challenges of tomorrow. They presented the commitment of the Federation to promoting and defending the values it holds dear: justice, solidarity and equality.

### FIQ committees

The Publications Evaluation Committee, which is made up of two members from each of the following committees: status of women, youth, education-animation and occupational health and safety, will hold its first meeting on June 11 to analyze and comment on the FIQ publications that are intended for members. Régine Laurent, President, is the executive officer in charge of this committee.

## No to PPP's for the university hospitals!

Representatives of physicians, nurses, architects, technicians, professionals, workers and patients have all formed a huge coalition to contest the choice of a PPP style (public-private partnership) for the university hospital projects at the CHUM, the MUHC and the CHUQ. The *Coalition CHU sans PPP* (Coalition for UHC without PPP), in which FIQ is a member, held a press conference on June 9<sup>th</sup> to demand that Jean Charest's government re-launch these projects in the traditional style. The coalition rejects the PPP's in favour of a completely public approach, in which the government maintains its control over the work, in the interest of all, particularly the patients. In order to find out all the names of the member organizations of the Coalition, consult the news release:

<<http://www.fiqsante.qc.ca/communiqués>>

### On the agenda

June 2009

#### Consultation on the FIQ draft collective agreement

The consultation of all members continues until the end of June to define the sectorial draft collective agreement that the FIQ will table with the management party in the fall. Attend your general assembly in great numbers, it's important!

#### "Healthcare billing: talk about it"

Join the Health Solidarity Coalition campaign on healthcare and social services billing. More details on the Coalition web site (in French):

<<http://www.cssante.com/>>

