

**FIQ participation in the Coalition opposée à la tarification et à la privatisation des services publics (Coalition opposed to pricing and privatization of public services)**

Last January, the FIQ and about forty community, student, labour, feminist and ecological organizations announced the creation of a coalition whose objective is to make the government retreat in its intention to promote the pricing of public services in order to respond to the current budget impasse.

Various activities are scheduled throughout the year, in particular a letter campaign to the Minister of Finance which is currently taking place and a Quebec Day of Action scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup>.

The FIQ invites its affiliated unions to participate in these activities in great numbers in order to indicate their profound disagreement with a government which brandishes the spectre of the precariousness of public finances in order to once again go even further in its merchant logic for public services.

For more information, see the FIQ's website at the following address:

<<http://www.fiqsante.qc.ca/operation-fax-ture>>



**Procedure to make a donation: reminder**

Following the earthquake in Haïti, the Federation launched a challenge to its affiliated unions in order to collect donations to help the people of Haïti. Those members interested in making a donation are asked to speak to their union. The latter will send a cheque in the name of "FIQ Haïti" to the Federation for all the money collected. The FIQ will submit the total amount collected to organizations such as Oxfam - Québec and the Canadian Red-Cross.

To date, more than 24 unions have sent cheques to the Federation totalling almost \$30,000.

**The Maison d'Haïti of Montreal needs volunteers**

The *Maison d'Haïti* is looking for volunteers to help the permanent team in its work in welcoming the people affected by the disaster. To offer help, you can call 514 326-3022.

Members can regularly consult the heading, "*Solidarité Haïti*" accessible through the home page on the FIQ web site to find out all the details on the various measures taken by the Federation to support the Haitian people.

**Another victory before the Commission des relations de travail**

The *Commission des relations de travail (CRT)* recently rendered a decision with regard to the motion filed by the *Syndicat régional des professionnelles en soins du Québec* in August, 2008, to the effect that, a nurse working for the Synervie Agency, and working at the *Centre le Cardinal* is included in the bargaining unit. The Union has finally won.

Indeed, it was decided that the nurse was an employee and included in the bargaining unit of the *Syndicat régional des professionnelles en soins du Québec*.

There are harmful effects caused by the presence of private healthcare employment agency personnel in public institutions, in particular at the level of accountability.



**Mobilization Calendar**

**February**

Wear the stickers on the priorities of negotiations

**February 12, Operation St-Valentine's by the Common Front**

Distribution of a bookmark to the public with the theme: "Public service workers: At the heart of your daily lives!"

**February 22, Convention Center in Quebec City**

Special Federal Council on negotiations. A large rally of the negotiation decision-making bodies from all the labour organizations making up the Common Front and a demonstration in front of the Parliament building is planned during the lunch break.