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Special Convention  
of May 27, 2010

# EN ACTION

FÉDÉRATION INTERPROFESSIONNELLE DE LA SANTÉ DU QUÉBEC | [www.fiqsante.qc.ca](http://www.fiqsante.qc.ca)

## THERE IS NO PRICE ON DIGNITY



Strong through its multiple actions and considerable visibility, the Federation is enjoying unprecedented support from the Quebec population. A population that is ready to spend \$385 million to improve the working conditions of care professionals, in spite of the effects of the economic crisis and the propaganda on the supposed precariousness of public finances.

It is necessary that everyone realize the significance of this vote of confidence. Thus, care professionals cannot abandon or refuse to continue their fight. They must give themselves the means for their ambitions, the means for their own survival, the means to rekindle their dignity. And dignity has no price! Therefore, the battle must be waged to the end, because it is about the future of the professions in the health sector and the public network.

During the local negotiations, the care professionals made the choice to work twice as hard in order to be successful. This success would never have been possible if all the necessary resources had not been devoted to it. Today, the issues is just as important, if not more important.

Despite the pitfalls and deceptions, the care professionals must never lose sight of their willingness to improve their lot,

that of their colleagues, that of their friends. This challenge is attainable. They must therefore, not undermine their capacity for action, nor their capacity to influence.

### PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE

All the struggles led by the Federation since its creation, have shown great solidarity among its members. We need only think of the 1989 and 1999 strikes which were difficult financially, but which brought about significant gains. Thus, during the Special Convention, the delegates discussed the importance of providing for the impacts of such situations, of the need to give themselves the means to prepare for the future. Is it not reassuring to know that if the care professionals choose to resort to stronger pressure tactics, they will be paid an allowance at the same time that the action takes place. They therefore decided to bail out the Negotiation Reserve with \$5 million

through an additional assessment, in order to maintain the pace of activities and, in the event of a positive referendum vote on carrying out strong pressure tactics, to collect a sum of \$9 million to reimburse the benefits linked to the hours of strike.

Members with the same goal, even if their perceptions are different, make up the strength of a community. The strength of a community is also measured by their capacity to come to mutual aid. The Federation shows true great strength because, in spite of the differences between the members' workplaces, it has always managed to put the improvement of their working conditions at the core of its priorities.

The strength of the FIQ is truly the strength of the solidarity of the members that it represents! ■



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