



RÉSEAU jeunes



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A SECOND ISSUE, A POLITICAL NETWORK!

Strong from a first success in the fall of 2009, the bar has been set high for the second issue of the Youth Network of the FIQ, which was held on June 8 in Montreal. In spite of a difficult context, marked by the continuation of the pressure tactics for the negotiations and the beginning of the summer vacation period, the Youth Committee couldn't be happier with the participation of more than fifty young professionals from the four corners of Quebec.

In order to meet the longstanding wish expressed by the members of the Youth Committee and by the participants at the first Network, this second issue is being published with a political tone. In fact, as the popular saying goes, *If you don't take care of your own political needs, someone else will.* So, in order to be able to be involved one must know its movements, subtleties and its daily and concrete expressions. Because it seems that Quebec healthcare professionals are being hounded by politics more than ever, the Youth Committee considered it timely to tackle the issue in this second issue entitled "PoliFIQ-toi!, L'ABC de la politique". ■

TO BREAK THE ICE... ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN AURA

The young participants were invited to form a political party in small groups, and to develop the three priorities that they would concentrate on once carried into power. If one fact emerged, it was that the young healthcare professionals are not lacking in audacity or creativity and the political future of Quebec seems to be in good hands...

A PARTNERSHIP FOR POLITICIZING...

In order to succeed with this task which is as stimulating as it is ambitious, the FIQ Youth Committee has joined in a collaborative effort with a well-known and respected community group in the field, the *Mouvement d'éducation populaire et d'action communautaire du Québec* (MÉPACQ). The MÉPACQ has built a solid reputation throughout Quebec since the beginning of the 1980's in animating workshops aimed at demystifying the wheels of Quebec democracy, the opposing

players and the issues that separate them. Thus, several meetings were held between the Youth Committee and the MÉPACQ in order to identify the subjects to explore and the content to adapt to the reality of young healthcare professionals as well as the conditions for the joint animation of the workshops by the members of the Youth Committee and the animators from the MÉPACQ. ■

The next generation...



IN THE WORKSHOPS! THE ALLEGORICAL TRAIN

The day unfolded in the form of workshops, a formula that promotes discussion and exchange. The main objective of the first workshop, entitled “*Le train de la société dans laquelle on vit*” (The train in which we live), was to realize where the distribution of wealth and power in our current society is, through a dynamic and symbolic game. Thus, the participants were given a social position with different pre-defined characteristics attached to it. In different scenarios, the conductor distributed coupons if the participants met the conditions that he/she had determined. At the end of the workshop, the number of coupons received determined the seat occupied on the train. The result, true to the distribution of resources in Quebec society, was unequivocal: one person sat in the first car, while several others shared the seats in the middle cars and the back of the train. At the same time, nearly half the participants had to be content to remain on the platform...

Theme song of the Network

PoliFIQ-toi! (to the tune of YMCA)

Comprendre
Comment marche le système
Puis démêler
La gauche de la droite
Et puis apprendre
Un peu de politique
Vous allez voir qu’il y en a dans la FIQ

S’exprimer
Librement sans contrainte
Et partager ses idées pour se développer
Ensemble
Nous avons un devoir
Celui de prendre notre place en politique
(Celui de prendre notre place dans la FIQ)

(REFRAIN)
Pour un deuxième Réseau
PO-LI-FIQ -TOI
À notre deuxième Réseau
PO-LI-FIQ -TOI
Il y a l’implication, la recherche
d’informations
Solidarité solution clé

Pour un deuxième Réseau
PO-LI-FIQ -TOI
À notre deuxième Réseau
PO-LI-FIQ -TOI
La démocratie et l’égalité
Pour des conditions bien méritées

A POLITICAL COMPASS

To navigate through troubled waters, one must know the difference between the port and the starboard. So, the goal for the rest of the day was to encourage a better comprehension of the two opposing views of “families” politics, the Right and the Left. Therefore, the participants had to identify the values associated with the Left and the Right, to then see how these values are embodied in today’s different political affirmations and positions with the help of concrete examples. Of course, these workshops provoked heated discussions which certainly contributed to reaching the objectives set by the Youth Committee and thus enabled the participants to be better equipped to take their place in the political concourse.

“PRACTICAL TRAINING”: CAMPING IN FRONT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Not backing down from any challenge, the participants at the second Youth Network volunteered by a strong majority to go “camping” for a night in front of the National Assembly, in order to make the Charest government understand that the healthcare professionals have had enough of their disdain. Without any preparation, 83% of the participants agreed to make the trip from Montreal to Quebec City. In the words of several of them, their arrival on the steps of Parliament instilled a good boost of festive energy to those members already there! In short, the spirit and enthusiasm of the younger generation, tireless throughout the long, cold night turned out to be contagious! Several of them spent more than 24 hours awake at the camp site! ■

