

## Call to mobilize against the increase in school tuition



On November 6, Régine Laurent took part in a press conference to denounce the increase in school tuition announced by the Charest government and invited the population to join the student demonstration in great numbers on November 10 in Montréal. The *Coalition opposée à la tarification et à la privatisation des services publics*, which the FIQ is a part of, includes more than 130 social groups.

“Why doesn’t the government choose to get the money from the right pockets?” – Régine Laurent

## Outaouais

### Agreement unanimously ratified

On November 15, the nursing and cardio-respiratory healthcare professionals in Outaouais unanimously approved the agreement on the specific status. The FIQ and its affiliated unions in the Outaouais region are pleased with the results. Among the gains that can be mentioned are the maintaining of the increase in the evening and night premiums and an incentive premium for 12-hour shifts. To note, this agreement applies to all the institutions in the Outaouais region and its terms will continue until the renewal of the national provisions of the 2011-2015 collective agreement.

### Reminder of events

A key file at the Federation for several weeks, the abolition of the healthcare professionals’ premiums in the Outaouais region, created discontent throughout this region. Furthermore, the mobilization secured the support of the MP caucus for the Outaouais region as well as that of many citizens.

Discussions have been held between the representatives of the Québec government and the Federation since November 3. Since this was taking too long to produce results, the FIQ Executive Committee met its members on November 8, in order to review the situation and to discuss a mobilization plan. On November 12, the FIQ and its affiliated unions in the Outaouais region finally reached an agreement.



## Women and the environment on the agenda of the Women’s Network

On November 9 and 10, the participants in the Women’s Network met in Quebec City with the goal of discussing the aspects on which the healthcare professionals are questioned as women. This time, it was under the theme, “Women and the environment” in which the participants pursued their exchanges.

Two speakers took part in this Network which gathered nearly one hundred women. Lise Parent, Biologist,



who spoke about the daily exposure to substances whose toxicity is unknown, gave advice on making enlightened choices to protect one’s health and that of one’s loved ones. Fiona Hanley, Professor of nursing sciences at Dawson College in Montréal, for her part, tackled the issue of the working environment of healthcare professionals from a feminist and environmental point of view.

## FIQ Youth Network – Reminder

The Youth Network is being held on November 16 and 17 in Montréal. At that time, more than 80 healthcare professionals age 30 and younger will meet to discuss the issues linked to their profession. The FIQ Express team promises you will see some photos from this event in its next issue.

## Citizen reception on public health-care services for seniors

A sad anniversary, the opening of the *CHSLD Saint-Lambert-sur-le-Golf*, the first carried out as a PPP in Québec.

The *Coalition Montérégie sans PPP*, now the *Coalition pour des CHSLD publics*, took the opportunity to invite about a hundred people (representatives of organizations, unions and community groups, MPs) to sign a manifesto demanding that the government suspend the process of attributing the contracts for four other CHSLD projects as PPPs scheduled for the *Montérégie* and in Laval, and resume control of the *CHSLD Saint-Lambert-sur-le-Golf*.



On the left: Michèle Boisclair, Vice-President of the FIQ.  
 On the right: Brigitte Doyon, FIQ Union Consultant