



RÉSEAU des jeunes



Vol 3 | No 1 | Avril 2011
www.fiqsante.qc.ca

BULLETIN DU RÉSEAU DES JEUNES DE LA FÉDÉRATION INTERPROFESSIONNELLE DE LA SANTÉ DU QUÉBEC



A NETWORK REFLECTING INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

The fourth Youth Network, held in Quebec City on April 6 and 7, 2011, brought together young healthcare professionals from the four corners of Québec. Whether activists committed to their local team or being initiated for the very first time in a FIQ activity, the participants had the opportunity to **“learn, discuss and understand: rights here and elsewhere”**.

This theme, chosen by the members of the Youth Committee, made it possible for the Network to pursue a reflection, propose courses of action on the situation of workers' rights in the world and to become familiar with the issues resulting from relationships between the countries of the North and South. All this in a context suitable for exchanges and discussion!

In order to offer the participants an accessible and fun content, the Youth Committee called on the expertise of the team from the *Centre international de solidarité ouvrière* (CISO), a long time partner of the Federation in international solidarity. The CISO therefore shared the hosting of this Network with the members of the Youth Committee. A successful twosome! ■

LAUNCHING OF A SHIRT FOR “GENERATION FIQ” COMMITTED AND IN SOLIDARITY!

In line with the theme of this Network, the Youth Committee proposed the creation of a “Generation FIQ” T-shirt in the colours of international solidarity. Involved in the design of the logo, the members of the committee hope to be the instigators of a solidarity movement within the Federation.

With the purchase of this T-shirt at a cost of \$20 each, \$6 is given to a fund to carry out a project linked to a partnership with a country of the South. The Federation has 500 T-shirts on sale at the head office. It hopes to collect an amount of \$3,000 to support the project which will be determined based on the number of T-shirts sold.



L'AFFAIRE COCA-COLA

The Network participants watched the documentary, *L'Affaire Coca-Cola*. This film is a damning denunciation of the Coca-Cola empire which is suspected of being involved in the kidnapping, torture and murder of union leaders who were fighting to improve the working conditions of this multinational's employees in Columbia. This documentary brought to light just how far this corporation is willing to go to prevent employees from being unionized. ■



THE NETWORK WELCOMES TWO NURSES FROM THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Visiting Québec for a solidarity internship which the FIQ hosted, Odette Mwamba and Marianne Atambudu, nurses in the Ngaliema clinic of Kinshasa, attended different activities of the Network. Members of the *Ligue des infirmières/infirmiers de l'espace francophone* (LIEF) of Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Odette and Marianne have been working on the project, *Renforcement des compétences des infirmières accoucheuses* (Strengthening of nurse midwives skills) for two years now.

CHECK OUT THE YOUTH COMMITTEE'S COLOURFUL KIOSK AT THE CONVENTION!

Odette and Marianne revealed the living conditions of the people of this central African country, in particular those of Congolese women, where unfortunately, too often violence characterizes the relationships between men and women. They also gave an account of the conditions in which they practice as healthcare professionals, which do not meet their needs or those of their families. The participants were touched by the courage and conviction which these women have shown as well as by their desire to implement greater social justice, better access to health care and egalitarian relationships between men and women. ■

GAME CUBES

In order to better understand the way that social inequities are created between the countries of the North and South and how they have an impact on the economic and social development of different countries, what better way than building blocks. Using these, the participants represented four countries in the world where resources and tools are very unequal: the United States, Canada, Columbia and China.

The participants thus realized how the international players such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), a multinational corporation, or the International Labour Organization (ILO) act in a different manner depending on whether they are dealing with an “industrialized”, “emergent” or “developing” nation. Notions such as respect, justice, subordination and domination emerged from this highly dynamic workshop. ■



Departure of David Lambert, member of the Youth Committee

The members of the Committee mark the departure of their colleague, friend and dean of the committee: David Lambert. For those of you who do not know him, this photo clearly illustrates his sense of humour which so often set the tone at the meeting of the committee. Good-bye David!





INTERNSHIP IN COLOMBIA: AN ACCOUNT FROM A FIQ ACTIVIST

Jérôme Rousseau came to share his experience as an intern in Columbia in February 2011. In collaboration with the CISO, the FIQ encouraged the participation of an activist to initiate the activities linked to the New Practices in Solidarity Programme.

Jérôme informed the participants of the level of general violence that afflicts this country. This violence is strongly directed at the union activists

where the number of assassinations is the highest in the world. The situation of the young workers in the informal economy, where the precariousness and absence of social protection make their living and working conditions very difficult, was also disclosed. The participants discussed with Jérôme the ways to support their union sisters and brothers in Columbia in this very disturbing context. ■

Winners of the drawing

Congratulations to Vanessa Piette, Krystelle Jacques, Lauren Rodrigues, Sonia Létourneau, Julie Michaud and Sandra Boisclair who received either a copy of the documentary, *L'Affaire Coca-Cola* or the book, *Haïti : Pour ne pas oublier*.

A STUDY OF CASES ON WORKERS' RIGHTS

To allow participants to become familiar with international union action tools, three cases were submitted to them: the case of the Haitian healthcare workers, the case of the workers in maquiladoras¹ in Mexico and the case of domestic workers (caregivers) in Québec. The participants then enquired about the abused rights and which actions to promote to act as a union and public activist.

¹ The **maquiladoras** are factories of large multinational corporations installed in the countries of the South mainly to make clothes, as is the case in Mexico, Guatemala and Honduras. These corporation avoid taxes and take advantage of the absence or suspension of social, labour or environmental laws by principally hiring women: young, poor, single and poorly educated.

The next generation...

Workshops to warm up and loosen tongues

