



RÉSEAU jeunes



Vol 3 | No 2 | November 2011
www.fiqsante.qc.ca

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



DEMYSTIFYING CERTAIN BIASES IN FAVOUR OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Explaining why the private sector is more a part of the problem rather than the solution to the problem.

In this fifth edition of the Youth Network and as the holiday period approaches, the Youth Committee wanted to take the opportunity to try and demystify certain biases in favour of the private sector's role in the public health-care system.

All healthcare professionals have among their loved ones, their circle of friends, their colleagues or in their family people who are convinced that a greater role given to the private sector will result in many of the problems in the system being resolved. Even if this concept is completely false, it is sometimes hard to find arguments to explain in depth why the private sector is more a part of the problem rather than the solution to the problem.

It was therefore, with this view that the last Network, entitled *La santé sans se priver*, took place in Montréal, on November 16 and 17, 2011. In order to be up to such an ambitious and stimulating task, the Youth Committee chose to show originality by providing the participants with solid arguments in different ways. ■

The next generation...



DEEPEN UNDERSTANDING... THANKS TO GUEST SPEAKERS

A few guest speakers came to speak to the young members on the issues raised by the privatization of health care.



Damian Contandriopoulos, Professor in the nursing faculty at the Université de Montréal

THE DISPARITIES BETWEEN THE TWO POSITIONS

In opening, Damian Contandriopoulos, Professor in the nursing faculty at the *Université de Montréal*, succeeded superbly in making the audience aware of the disparity between the position of those who support privatization and the scientific facts which demonstrate that this should not be considered if one is seeking to reduce the costs and to increase efficiency. With the help of clear graphics and numerous concrete examples, Mr. Contandriopoulos was able to captivate the participants who are now better equipped to answer to the annual surges of a big sale of health care to the private sector.

Following this conference of general ideas, the young participants were able to explore the different facets of privatization of public services thanks to other interesting presentations.



Nesrine Bessaih from the *R des centres de femmes du Québec*

WOMEN AFFECTED BY PRIVATIZATION

Privatization of health care mainly affects women because they are the first users of the public system, stated Nesrine Bessaih from the *R des centres de femmes du Québec*. In fact, women use health care services for themselves more regularly (contraception, pregnancy, delivery, breast and cervical cancer screening, etc.) and for their children.

THE DANGERS OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

Marc Thibault-Bellerose, Union Consultant in the Sociopolitical Sector at the FIQ, presented an overview of the dangers of using the public-private partnership format. The latter serves as an extremely attractive source of revenue for the corporations concerned, to the detriment however, of the quality of the services and an efficient use of public resources.

THE ISSUES OF FEES FOR PUBLIC SERVICES

Brigitte Doyon, Union Consultant in the Sociopolitical Sector at the Federation, presented a very interesting overview of the issues linked to fees for public services. In particular, she demonstrated how such fees ensure that it is now the less fortunate who insure the financing of public services rather than the more fortunate. It is completely backwards!

Marc Thibault-Bellerose and Brigitte Doyon, Union Consultants in the Sociopolitical Sector at the Federation





Élisabeth Gibeau, from the *Union des consommateurs du Québec* and Lucie Mercier, Union Consultant in the Sociopolitical Sector at the FIQ

THE PURCHASE AND CONSUMPTION OF MEDICATIONS IN QUÉBEC

Élisabeth Gibeau, from the *Union des consommateurs du Québec*, came to assess the situation regarding the purchase and the consumption of medications in Québec. The situation is of particular concern when we notice that enormous amounts of money are allocated for the pharmaceutical industry, while solutions that are a lot more economical exist.

THE PROFESSIONALS FROM THE PRIVATE HEALTHCARE PLACEMENT AGENCIES

Lucie Mercier, Union Consultant in the Sociopolitical Sector at the FIQ, for her part, outlined the issues surrounding the use of healthcare professionals from the private placement agencies in the public health-care system. Backed by numbers, Ms Mercier was able to get the participants to recognize the negative consequences of using independent labour on the daily lives of the healthcare professionals and also on public finances. ■

The next generation...

DEEPEN UNDERSTANDING... THANKS TO JEUNIALES EN HERBE

The Youth Committee has adapted a well-known formula to FIQ conventioners, that of *Géniales en herbe*, and thus proposed the first edition of the game, *Jeuniales en herbe*. Furthermore, the committee was privileged to have been able to count on the presence of the president, Régine Laurent, to award the trophy to the winning team, the *Extraordinaires*. ■



Generation



PUTTING PROFITS BEFORE HUMAN LIFE?

In order to rouse drowsy minds, what better than coffee, popcorn and a good film? The participants at the Youth Network together watched the shock-documentary *Sicko*, from film maker Michael Moore, which very boldly tackles the consequences of a system which puts profits before human life. A look at the American health-care system which sends chills down one's spine. ■

CREATING SCENES OF PRIVATIZATION

Four participants at the Youth Network had a chance to respectively win a DVD set of Michael Moore films, a DVD of the documentary series, *Manifestes*, by Hugo Latulippe, a FIQ watch and a Generation FIQ T-shirt.



DENOUNCING INEQUALITIES

Lastly, the Youth network would not be complete without a practical exercise in citizen mobilization. To this end, the committee chose to take advantage of the proximity of Victoria Square to go and occupy Montréal over lunch time.

