

## In the midst of an election campaign

There you have it. It's done. It has already been 15 days that Québec has been in the midst of an election campaign. The call for elections right in the middle of the summer, when the summer vacation period is in full swing for many Quebecers, does not appear to be by chance. We can detect a strategy used by the Charest government which is taking advantage of the situation to turn the public's attention away from certain fundamental issues such as the "student crisis", corruption, and the exploitation of our natural resources.

These issues are certainly important, but should not supersede the other major concerns, such as healthcare, which directly affect the public. The Federation believes that it is imperative that the heads of the different parties and their candidates tackle this theme and give substantive explanations of how they intend to improve the public health-care system, knowing that electoral promises are certainly not a sign of improvement as we have seen in the past.

## Follow the president's blog throughout the campaign!



The President's Blog

Every week, the president of the Federation, Régine Laurent, publishes an article on her blog in connection with the election campaign since the beginning of the campaign!


Go to the Federation's website to read and comment on the president's words!

## The president of the FIQ wants to meet the leaders of the political parties

On August 1, day 1 of the 2012 Québec election campaign, the Federation launched an invitation, through a press release, to each one of the leaders of the main political parties – PLQ, PQ, CAQ, QS, ON, Green – up for election on September 4. She invited them to come meet the president of the FIQ to discuss their projects for improving the healthcare system and the conditions of practice for the nursing healthcare professionals.

Read the release on the Federation's website under the tab "Salle de presse".

## Healthcare must be on the agenda

Go to the Federation's website to watch the latest video clip  from the treasurer in which he explains why the FIQ wants to meet the leaders of the different political parties.



## Meeting of affiliated unions on August 7

On August 7, the Federation organized a meeting of its affiliated unions to discuss importance of the healthcare theme in the current election campaign. The FIQ must be heard more than ever over the coming weeks, be present on the public stage to share the facts that it has on the care and services provided to the people of Québec, raise the problems encountered by the healthcare professionals, ask questions about the future of the healthcare system and propose innovative solutions for the problems encountered.

## Debate on healthcare on lapresse.ca

On August 14, four parties and four physicians debated the major issues facing the province of Québec in matters of health. The participants in this debate were doctors Yves Bolduc from the Québec Liberal Party, Gaétan Barrette from *Coalition Avenir Québec*, Réjean Hébert from the *Parti Québécois* and Amir Kadhir from *Québec Solidaire*.



Watch the video clip of the debate online on the website of *La Presse* at [www.lapresse.ca](http://www.lapresse.ca) under the tab "Vidéo".

## Summer period

The FIQ Express will once again be published every second Wednesday as of September 5.

Have a good return to work!

## The SISF questions the political parties Answers to our questions!

On August 8, the *Secrétariat intersyndical des services publics* (SISF), whose primary mission involves the defence and promotion of the public services offered to the Québec people, submitted six questions to the political parties. These questions concerned health and education, but also governance, sub-contracting and taxation, subjects at the heart of the government workers' concerns.

Read the release on the Federation's website under the tab "Salle de presse".