

Collectif 8 mars

An historical meeting, handcuffed by the politics of zero deficit

In the context of International Women's Day, the representatives from the *Collectif 8 mars*, that includes the FIQ, met with the premier, Pauline Marois on March 7, as well as with the Minister for the Status of Women, Agnès Maltais, to review the advances in the right of women to equality and to present demands. A first in history!

Several demands were written by the *Collectif*, particularly regarding the diversion of support payments, the Québec Pension Plan, work-family balance, and the funding of women's groups. Although the government concurred with the proposals, very little commitment was made on their part because attaining a balanced budget is the top priority, which relegates a true fight against inequalities to second place. This political choice is rather disappointing.

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



Editorial from the OHS Committee

When money rules the health and safety of workers



Go to the Federation website without waiting any longer to read the most recent editorial written by the members of the OHS Committee on the subject of prevention and the importance of investment in order to ensure the safety of the healthcare professionals.

Ravages of Proaction in the optimization projects in home care and in health informatics

On March 6, the FIQ issued a press release in order to denounce once again, the health-care institutions using the *Proaction* firm. The contracts concluded with this firm continue to grow in number and now this firm is carving out a new niche, one they are not familiar with, health informatics.

The Federation pointed out the harmful effects of assembly line work in home care and once again called on the Minister of Health to make public the conclusions of the balance sheets that he has asked for from every CSSS on their contracts for reorganization projects.

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

The FIQ at the 57th session of the Commission on the Status of Women at the UNO



The 57th session of the Commission on the Status of Women at the UNO (CSW-UNO) started last Monday, March 4, 2013 and continues until March 15, 2013. It is under the theme of prevention of violence against women and girls and the setting up of services and measures for the victims of violence that this session brings together the representatives from the member States, the United Nations entities and ECOSOC-accredited non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from all regions of the world.

Of this number, 85 delegates from across the globe and representing four international labour federations are attending this session: Education International (EI), International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), Public Services International (PSI) and UNI Global Union.

The FIQ, represented by Michèle Boisclair, 1st Vice-President, and Sophie Baillargeon, Union Consultant for the Status of Women are participating in the work of the CSW-UNO.