

Initial training of nurses: The FIQ promotes the integrated Québec model



Régine Laurent, President of the FIQ, and Mr Jean Beauchesne, President and DG of the *Fédération des cégeps*

The FIQ publicly presented its position on the issue of the initial training of nurses on June 10. Vehemently opposed to the imposition of a mandatory bachelor degree, the FIQ is proposing instead the integrated Québec model which, while promoting the setting up of incentives for voluntarily upgrading nurses training, reaffirms that the college training in nursing must remain qualifying and that it should not be compromised. The project from the *Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec* will heighten the labour force shortage that is already very evident in the healthcare system and will jeopardize the very foundation of the Québec college system. The FIQ believes that the experience and expertise of the healthcare professionals must also be at the heart of such a project of upgrading the training. The FIQ made this announcement standing beside the *Fédération des cégeps*. For more details, read the press release on the Federation website.

Licensed practical nurses attend the OIIAQ Convention in great numbers

The licensed practical nurses turned out in large numbers for the *Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers auxiliaires du Québec* (OIIAQ) Convention on June 14 in Victoriaville in order to push for the recommendations unanimously adopted at the last FIQ Federal Council that promote the recognition and the outreach of the licensed practical nurses' professional activities. More specifically, the licensed practical nurses have asked the OIIAQ to intervene in demanding a better standardization and integration of the reserved activities linked to Bill 90, to reiterate its demand to participate in the interministerial-partners committee on the initial training of nurses and to demand the recognition of professional experience for the licensed practical nurse during union work. The first two motions were passed unanimously, while the third one passed with a strong majority. However, the OIIAQ representatives reminded the members that the Order controls the follow-up, despite the recommendations passed. The FIQ licensed practical nurses ad hoc committee will be meeting in September to follow up on this file.

The SPSICR questions the reorganization by the administration at the CSSS de La Matapédia

The healthcare professionals at the *CSSS de La Matapédia* took the opportunity to discuss the reorganization of care undertaken by their institution with the members of the FIQ Executive Committee who were visiting their region on June 7. The *CSSS de La Matapédia* is one of the top performers in the Lower St Lawrence region and therefore, at the same time, the president of the *Syndicat des professionnelles en soins infirmiers et cardiorespiratoires* (SPSICR), Pascale Annick Gignac, is asking why change a winning formula? This reorganization that includes the closure of three beds this year and probably two others next year will, without doubt, affect the quality of care offered to the public. In a small institution like *La Matapédia*, these cuts are very significant.



Members of the FIQ Executive Committee meet the healthcare professionals at the *CSSS de la Matapédia* in Amqui.

OHS Committee editorial

The safety of the triage nurses, an urgent matter!



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The Occupational Health & Safety
Committee's Page



The Emergency department is a place where anything can happen! All the more reason for the department to be appropriately designed to insure the safety of the healthcare professionals, including the triage nurses. To consult the recommendations, go to the OHS Committee page on the Federation website.

Summer period

The FIQ Express, though not taking the whole summer off, will be put online once a month, on July 17 and on August 14, 2013. It will once again be published every second Wednesday in the month of September. Have a good summer!