

## A first for the Summit on access to health care

On May 9 last, the president, Régine Laurent, the 1st vice-president, Line Larocque and union consultants from the Federation attended the Summit on access to health care organized by the *Regroupement des omnipraticiens pour une médecine engagée* (ROME). “Even if the Minister of Health did not attend the event, the participants hope to be heard by the Government. I would like that this first meeting leads to a summit meeting on health in order to bring together all the contributors in the network to contemplate possible alternatives”, stated Ms Laurent.



### A conspiracy of silence is unacceptable

The president of the FIQ, Régine Laurent, and the APTS political officer for the Bas-Saint-Laurent, Sylvain Lirette, denounced a situation that they qualify as an abuse of power and intimidation in the *Centre de jour de Rivière-du-Loup* file on May 13 last. “A nurse and a recreation technician were suspended for a week, without pay, for having supported, assisted and accompanied users and their families in their steps to have the day centre services maintained. The health network cannot be a regime of fear where a conspiracy of silence reigns. The health workers must be able to denounce the situations that they feel are unacceptable. The Minister of Health cannot tolerate such an attitude from administrators that he himself has appointed”, stated Ms Laurent.

### Bill 42, a threat to women’s rights

At a press briefing held on May 12, the FIQ denounced Bill 42, an Act to group the *Commission de l’équité salariale* (Pay Equity Commission), the *Commission des normes du travail* (Labour Standards Commission) and the *Commission de la santé et de la sécurité du travail* (Occupational Health and Safety Commission) and to establish the Administrative Labour Tribunal as it fears that these changes will have adverse effects on workers’ rights and threaten women’s rights more specifically. “The Government’s haste to implement these changes without any broad consultation indicates a lack of democracy. The context does not justify the urgency to act other than that which guides the current government: do more with less” stated Line Larocque, 1st Vice-President of the Federation.

## The FIQ Executive Committee on the road throughout Québec



Havre-Saint-Pierre, May 7 and 8, 2015

The members of the Executive Committee of the Federation will participate in a series of meetings with the healthcare professionals in the health institutions in Québec. They will be able to discuss with them the reform of the health network, the impact of the coming cutbacks and the issues in the negotiations for the renewal of the collective agreement for the nurses, licensed practical nurses, respiratory therapists and perfusionists.



Estrie, May 7, 2015



Amqui, May 12, 2015



### The quality and safety of patient care in jeopardy

On May 4 last, the healthcare professional members of the FIQ demonstrated in front of the *Hôtel-Dieu-de-Saint-Hyacinthe* in a final attempt to influence the administration of the *CISSS Montérégie-Est* and the Government so that they take action to resolve the crisis that has existed in this institution for more than four years. “Concretely, we are demanding action from the Government to stabilize the teams, to put an end to job insecurity by reducing part-time work and to install healthcare professional-to-patient ratios”, stated Régine Laurent, President of the Federation.

As part of the Health Month activities, the president of the FIQ, Régine Laurent, launched a training tour on patient advocacy (defending and promoting the rights and interests of the patients) at the *CSSS La Pommeraie*. Remember that this accredited training session is offered free to the members of the Federation and can count towards the hours of mandatory training which the healthcare professionals have to follow. A first in Québec!



CSSS La Pommeraie proudly wear their lab coats, just delivered to the institution.