



IT'S TIME TO TAKE CARE OF PEOPLE WHO TAKE CARE OF PEOPLE!

On February 13, nearly 200 delegates of the CSQ's General Negotiating Council (CGN) participated in actions to remind the Legault government that public services are not an expense, but rather an investment that guarantees the quality of educational and health services to families and the population.

To support their message, members of the Centrale des syndicats du Québec (CSQ) deployed the slogan "Things have to change now!" in giant letters above Highway 20, over the Route 137 overpass, in Saint-Hyacinthe.

"Education and health workers take care of everyone. It's their day-to-day mission. In concrete terms, this means 1.2 million

students, 172,000 college students, and millions of patients who deserve to be educated, accompanied, supported, and treated with dignity. For too long, we have been asked to do more with less. What we want is to do better!" said CSQ President, Sonia Ethier.

CSQ members also demonstrated outside the office of Chantal Soucy, Coalition avenir Québec's (CAQ) member for Saint-Hyacinthe, and compelled her to hand out a leaflet to her 75 colleagues demanding urgent investments in public services.

"When we look at the government's attempts to sideline negotiations through forums, as well as the many recovery requests at sectoral tables, and the lack of mandates at these same tables, it is clear that we are facing an arrogant government. Things have to change now!" chanted Mario Beauchemin, third vice-president of the CSQ.



Parental rights

The last CGN was also an opportunity for the delegates to clarify our claim regarding parental rights:

Increase the duration of paternity leave and adoption leave from a maximum of 5 weeks to a maximum of 10 weeks and extend the payment of additional benefits up to 100% of the basic salary paid by the employer.

The purpose of this claim is to allow biological fathers and adoptive parents to benefit from a minimum number of weeks with their new child while benefiting from additional allowances.

Remember that a claim was filed with the Conseil du trésor last October to extend and improve the adoption leave and the paternity leave. The proposed claim was quantified following an analysis of several elements.



ESTABLISHMENT OF TWO WORKING COMMITTEES

The delegates of the last CGN also adopted recommendations for setting up two working committees, one that will examine living conditions in remote, isolated, and devitalized regions, and another on the indexing of the RREGOP.¹

Remote regions

The committee's objective is to highlight the socio-economic problems of the different regions related to their remoteness, isolation, or devitalization.

The first meeting of the committee will take place in March 2020. A survey in the form of a questionnaire among the representatives of the unions concerned could be conducted in the coming months. The analysis and discussions on the results of the survey should take place in the fall of 2020, with the development of possible solutions by region in the winter of 2021.

Indexation of the RREGOP

For its part, the RREGOP indexing working committee has the following mandate, in particular:

- To take stock of the current indexing rules;
- To assess whether they allow optimal protection of purchasing power;
- To identify possible solutions that can improve and protect the indexation of the annuity;
- To propose possible modifications, etc.

The duration of the work has not yet been determined, considering the assumptions to be put forward and the scope of the task.

¹ Régime de retraite des employés du gouvernement et des organismes publics (Government and Public Employees Retirement Plan)

To view the French version of this newsletter, visit the [Info-Négo](#) section of our website.

TO STAY ABREAST OF THE NEGOTIATIONS...

Follow the evolution of public and parapublic sector negotiations by visiting the [CSQ website](#) and subscribing to our [newsletter](#).



Centrale des syndicats
du Québec