



CSQ MEMBERS VOTE 73% IN FAVOUR OF A STRIKE

During a general bargaining council held last night, the Centrale des syndicats du Québec (CSQ) proudly announced that its members support a strike by 73%.

Over the past weeks, during assemblies held virtually and in compliance with public health instructions across Québec, each CSQ affiliated union had to vote on a five-day strike mandate to be exercised when deemed appropriate. On February 11 and 12, the members of the CSQ will meet to determine the terms and conditions surrounding the implementation of this mandate.

A thoughtful and measured decision

It is precisely because our 125,000 members are committed to defending services to the population, their students, and their patients that they support the strike and demand more resources.

Though members do not relish the thought of a strike, which is the ultimate pressure tactic, they find it necessary in the face of the government's lack of openness at public sector bargaining tables. The government has ignored calls for help, complaints, and cries of distress for years. Despite the promises of the Coalition avenir Québec (CAQ), which have accumulated over the years, the negotiating tables must face

the obstinacy of the François Legault government, for which, fundamentally, public services are considered expenses rather than investments.

Calling on elected officials

The CSQ continues to denounce the status quo that persists at the negotiation tables with government offers that are inflexible and do not meet the needs of schools, CEGEPs, centres, and health establishments. On the eve of the start of the parliamentary term, this voting result sends a clear message to the government and calls on all elected officials to speak out for education, higher education, and health.

Every day, CSQ members experience an unprecedented crisis in their working conditions because of the austerity of recent years, which has pushed our schools, our CEGEPs, our centres, and our health establishments to their limits. With the pandemic shedding light on the system's inability to meet needs, the government offers no structural response to the long-standing underlying problems that make people sick or provoke resignations. Workers can no longer single-handedly support their institutions for lack of resources, too often at the risk of their health.

The CSQ will continue to carry the message of our members: things have to change now!

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Centrale des syndicats
du Québec