

Get The Facts and Get Involved

This is the first edition of the FNEEQ Info-Négo newsletter. You will receive this information bulletin regularly to keep you up-to-date on the progress of negotiations. It will also outline the results of consultations with general assemblies about the strategic framework for negotiations as well as the actions required to attain our objectives.

An Historic Common Front for Successful Negotiations

The Charest government demonstrated a completely unjustified attitude during the last round of negotiations. Remember that they abruptly ended all negotiations and left us to choose between a “forced agreement” or a decree containing unknown content. The government couldn’t even be bothered to participate in central table negotiations.

Faced with this contempt, public and parapublic sector union groups have decided to form a Common Front in 2009, the largest since the first Common Front in 1972.

After consulting general assemblies last spring, the Common Front has been tackling the upcoming negotiations with a bold strategic framework in order to conclude an agreement by March 31, 2010. The focus is on targeted objectives. The resulting framework that has now been submitted to general assemblies is a result of the work done by the FNEEQ Negotiation and Mobilization Committee and the *Regroupement cégep*.

This fall, representatives from organizations that make up the Common Front will head out on a tour of all regions of Quebec to host public meetings, visit workplaces and meet with the press.

For detailed info on the negotiations

<http://www.csn.qc.ca/web/secteurpublic/negofneeq>
<http://secteurpublic.info>



There are several objectives: make this Common Front a concrete reality for its workers from all regions of Quebec, give union members affiliated with different organizations a chance to mingle, remind people that the Common Front represents unprecedented union solidarity that the Charest government will have to deal with in the next round of negotiations.

We invite you to come out in large numbers when the tour stops in your region.



Show your colours on October 5, World Teachers' Day!

It's the Members Turn Now

After last semester's tour of unions, the Negotiation and Mobilization committee worked through the summer on a list of sectoral demands. This list was submitted to the *Regroupement cégep* and it is now up to each member to review its content. Targets are clear: a reduced workload through additional resources, finding a solution to the underfunding of many programs with low student numbers, improving wages to reflect the level of higher education offered, improving job security, improving working conditions and wages of continuing education teachers, and agreeing on better policies to address the family-work balance.

Members will be consulted during general assemblies taking place before the October 15 and 16 meeting of the *Regroupement cégep*. The list of sectoral demands will be presented to employers on October 30, along with the central table demands.

Mobilization Activities

The *Regroupement cégep* adopted a calendar of mobilization activities to take place over the coming months.

It's essential for our mobilization efforts that as many members as possible participate in their general assemblies. We have to show CEGEP administrators that we are determined to obtain substantial improvements to the collective agreement. Maintaining this pressure throughout the negotiations is one of the most effective actions we can take.

Reinforcing local inter-union relations and meetings with student associations will also take place during this period of mobilization. Support material will be available in all union offices.

Finally, a demonstration will take place on October 29 at the *Centre sportif de l'Université de Montréal* (CEPSUM) to mark the end of the Common Front consultation tour and the start of negotiations. We are counting on a large turnout of members from the Montreal region and surrounding areas to mark this event.

On October 30, a demonstration will be held in front of the Treasury Board in Québec City to coincide with the presentation of central table demands. Local union members will converge there to participate in this event.

As for the tabling of our sectoral demands, the list will be given to employers' *Comité patronal de négociation des collèges* (CPNC) on October 30.

Stay tuned for info on local activities!

The CSN is making movies!

The CSN has joined the rising wave of new media and social networks appearing everywhere on the Internet with the launch of a bold new contest.

The recently launched video contest [re:public] is a project to promote public services and the people who provide them through the creation and broadcast of videos on the Web.

Animation, documentaries, fiction, art; submit your 30-second to 5-minute-long film before February 7, 2010. Talk about the role of public services in the development of a more fair and democratic society! Films made in the last year and

those filmed using basic means, such as with a cell phone, are accepted. English-language entries are welcome, but must be subtitled in French.

The public will be able to vote online for their favourite video starting in February, 2010. A jury composed of personalities such as filmmakers Hugo Latulippe, Carole Poliquin and writer and journalist Gil Courtemanche will select 10 finalists. They will be honoured at a special evening during the Montreal Human Rights Film Festival (MHRFF) on March 16, 2010.

There are amazing prizes to be won, including a chance to participate in the

2011 World Social Forum in Dakar, Senegal, as part of the official CSN delegation, a grant from the CSN and gift certificates to rent film equipment or to enrol in specialised courses on film and video production.



Consult the website

<http://www.concoursrepublic.net>

for more details and happy viewing!