

Express

DE LA NÉGO



Number 15 – Octobre 31st, 2005

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The FSSS has its strike mandate!

The strike votes taken by FSSS unions have given the federation the dual majority it needs by a comfortable margin: more than half of the bargaining units of its public-sector unions and more than half of the membership have voted in favour of strike action.

As of October 28, more than 90% of the unions that have held votes had voted in favour of strike action. There will be more general meetings in the next few days as the remaining unions join the hundreds that already have their mandates to strike.

The results of the votes demonstrate the determination of FSSS members to force the government to sit down at the bargaining table and negotiate in good faith. Congratulations to the union officers who have done a great job in difficult circumstances!

The other CSN federations and the FTQ unions have also obtained strike mandates. CSN president Claudette Carbonneau and FTQ president Henri Massé announced the news to the 15,000 participants at the big demonstration in Montréal last Saturday.

The handful of unions that have not yet obtained their strike mandate are strongly urged to conduct votes to rally to the majority decision as soon as possible and to inform the federation of the results so that the legally required advance strike notice can be given for them, in accordance with the Labour Code.

Strike preparations are under way...

Starting on November 10, there will be rotating strikes in health and social services and education across Québec, involving all CSN and FTQ members in the public sector – a total of more than 200,000 people.

The walkouts will be conducted region by region. Each day, one or more regions will be on strike. You will be receiving the strike calendar and strike notices from your regional FSSS team very soon so that you can prepare.

We recommend that you draw up your strike schedule now, in collaboration with your employer.

If you don't yet have a mandate for strike action, or if you can't exercise your right to strike because of essential services restrictions, organize symbolic picket lines to show your support for the workers on strike on your region.

Make yourselves visible, using posters, sign and buttons. We have to make the public realize that we are conducting pressure tactics aimed at achieving a contract settlement.

Each FSSS union has to do its best to be part of this historic event. We are entering the crucial phase of this lengthy round of bargaining. It's time to do your part to make the Charest government change its position and to achieve a good settlement.

See you on the picket line!