

Montréal, January 14, 2008

**TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN
UNIONS REPRESENTING CLASS 2**

re: \$14 million budget for continuing education for beneficiary attendants

Hello,

At the Sectoral Federal Council held on November 29-30, 2007, we gave a verbal report on the status of the work regarding Letter of Agreement No. 32 in the National Provisions on training for beneficiary attendants. Here is the gist of that report.

How is the training budget obtained?

To obtain the training budget, institutions must demonstrate that they are going through a process of organizational change (living environment concept). As well, the training programme must be planned jointly with the union and adopted by the institution's board of directors. The plan must then be submitted to the regional agency.

To whom will the training be offered?

The first year, the training will be offered only to attendants working in long-term care in a living environment context. The second year, it will be given to those working with the aged in hospitals where a geriatric approach is used. After that, all attendants will receive the training, including those who already have the vocational studies diploma.

Who will give the training?

The training will be given by one or more beneficiary attendants designated by each institution. Each manager will decide how many trainers are needed, given requirements and particularly taking into account the number of sites and distances to be travelled.

What's the timetable?

The new training programme was supposed to begin early in 2007, but it's still not under way. The MSSS intends to begin training the trainers in April 2008, but we still don't know when this training will be offered to attendants. The programme was supposed to last four years, ending in 2011, but this has now been pushed back another year.

What about the content of the training?

The training will be divided into four modules.

User module

- Acting to maintain and improve independence: communicating and the helping relationship with the user.
- Acting to protect: cognitive disorders and acute care, behavioural disorders and crisis situations.
- Acting to provide a presence and support: palliative and end-of-life care.

Team module

- Acting to collaborate: the team's role and contribution.
- Acting to give a sense of security: relevant observation and situations.

Family and close friends module

-Acting to accompany and support; communicating and relations with family and friends.

Case worker module

- Acting to prevent: respecting rights and dignity and preventing negligence and abuse.

So far, the committee is still working on the various training modules. There have been significant discussions, and these have held up the process somewhat. However, our members on the committee assure us that the training should be satisfactory for both beneficiary attendants and clients.

We hope that this information answers your questions. At the next Sectoral Federal Council, you will receive an exhaustive presentation on the content of the training.

Yours in solidarity,

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Vice-president responsible for paratechnical personnel
and auxiliary services and trades personnel