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Recognizing Specialized Workers

A Willingness to Agree to Joint Recommendations

January 19 marked the fifth meeting of the joint working group, composed of the Conseil du trésor and the Intersyndicale — the FSSS-CSN, FEESP-CSN, FTQ and SISP (CSQ, SFPQ). The meeting revealed a certain willingness on the part of the Conseil du trésor to agree to joint recommendations. The working group indicated that there was room for continued talks based on what had been accomplished to date. It was therefore agreed that three other meetings would take place before April and that talks would continue into June in the prospect of work proceeding quickly.

Also during the meeting, at the request of several union representatives, the Conseil du trésor made it clear that it would supply, to the extent possible, more details about its methodology. This would make it feasible to quantitatively analyze how the public and parapublic sectors attract and retain specialized workers. Within the framework of continued analysis and discussion, such information will allow for more effective deliberation and leave us better equipped to make decisions regarding the employment groups that fall under the all-party agreement.

Message to Employers

In addition, to increase employers' awareness of the challenges involving the attracting and retaining of specialized workers, the Intersyndicale agreed that all unions have a duty to send an unequivocal message to management. This message must clearly state that specialized workers want to be recognized across all sectors. The goal is to increase the awareness among public and parapublic employers of the difficulties that this group of workers has faced for several years now. Such solidarity between institutions is essential to the progress of the talks with the Conseil du trésor.

We remind you that the work carried out by the Intersyndicale and Conseil du trésor stems from the agreement between the Common Front and the government. The objective of this agreement is to find solutions to the unique problems encountered by specialized workers.