

2015 Negotiations: ready for a union battle that's necessary?

Workers are getting poorer

Workers in the FSSS-CSN haven't gotten any richer in recent years, since their income has stagnated. We're in the same boat as more than 80% of the population: year after year, our raise in pay never seems to do more than keep up with the increase in the cost of living.

What explains the fact that we have gotten poorer even though there have been many periods of economic growth in the past four decades?

How can we be constantly asked to do more with less? Isn't it time we turned things around and began to think about a genuine redistribution of wealth?

Given all the problems the public system is having with attracting and retaining personnel, wouldn't better pay help improve the situation?

The FSSS wants to hear from you!

In the past few months, the FSSS as a whole has begun giving serious thought to next round of bargaining. We think that the time has come for better living conditions for health and social services workers.

We also think that this union battle must be fought together with all our members – members working in the public sector and members working in the private sectors. Thousands of workers in childcare centres, private

nursing homes and community organizations, as well as home childcare providers, intermediate and family-type resources and paramedics, are all confronted with the same situation as workers in the public sector. Furthermore, most of these workers have never had a chance to negotiate their rates of pay, because raises in the private sectors are tied to what happens in the public sector. Can the solidarity of all our members help us wage this battle? We think so.



JEFF BEGLEY,
PRESIDENT
OF THE FÉDÉRATION
DE LA SANTÉ
ET DES SERVICES
SOCIAUX

At our June 2013 meeting, delegates from FSSS unions voted to make pay the Federation's bargaining priority in both the public and private sectors, and for the Federation to work at building the broadest possible solidarity and unity around working to achieve this goal.

But before beginning this major battle, we first want to make sure that you agree with what we've said and that you, too, think you've done enough belt-tightening!

Is it acceptable for our purchasing power to shrink year after year?

As individuals, can we change things?

Together, can we make a difference?

At the FSSS, we are persuaded that yes, we can make a difference, and we want to hear from you on this.

