



Louise Chabot

and childcare. We have many battles to engage and many challenges to take up, but strong mobilization will carry us toward winning recognition of our work and settling our demands to secure a more equal and above all, a + JUST society!

Outright rejection of employer proposals

On February 17-18, General Negotiations Council (CGN) unanimously rejected the employer proposals presented by Martin Coiteux, Chair of the Treasury Board.

Let's recall that the employer proposals would exacerbate our loss of purchasing power by 7%, which, at minimum, would double our wage gap with regard to our colleagues in other sectors.

The answer is NO!

At the General Negotiations Council meeting held February 17-18 in Québec City, President Louise Chabot described the offers of the Treasury Board as “unworthy and contemptuous, not only with regard to CSQ members but also all public sector workers.” For this reason, she emphasized the importance of assessing the employer proposal, analyzing the current context of negotiations and developing our strategies.

The Liberal Party's wielding of power is shaped by an obsession with the zero deficit and the unprecedented implementation of austerity measures. The proposals that the Treasury Board dared to present to government employees are the mirror image of the Liberal ideology—they're outrageous!

“They are proposing nothing less than a wage freeze over the first two years of the collective agreement and then only 1% for the remaining three years,” said the President of the CSQ. “Mr. Coiteux, the Minister, must acknowledge the anger of our members in the face of proposals that date from another era!”

“At the bargaining table, we will explain our demands and we will clarify the problems we encounter while proposing solutions to resolve them,” she explained. Every round of negotiations calls up the same old song; there is no more money for government employees. Despite the fabric of austerity underpinning the employer proposal, the President emphasized the political will of Common Front members to hold the road together and make the battle for acceptable working conditions a truly successful one.

To conclude, Louise Chabot recalled the undeniable connection between our fight against austerity and the battle we are undertaking in defense of our working conditions. The vision of society that the Couillard government proposes is one of austerity: cuts in education, health

	Union demands	Government “offers”
2015	4.5%	–
2016	4.5%	–
2017	4.5%	1%
2018		1%
2019		1%
Anticipated wage gap on expiry of the agreement	0%	Would jump from 7.6% to over 14%

Regional realities swept under the rug

The government is also proposing a freeze of the total regional disparities envelope and the elimination of the 8% retention premium granted since the end of the 1960s to employees in Sept-Îles, Port-Cartier, Gallix and Rivière-Pentecôte. In so doing, it would aggravate already serious problems with attracting a work force, and at the same time deal a heavy blow to economic vitality throughout the region.



To view the video (only available in French), please visit: nego2015.org

Newsletter

NEGO 2015

+ JUST



The case of skilled workers once again on the table

At the request of the Common Front, the Treasury Board agreed to resume discussion of the attraction and retention of skilled workers in the public services. The inter-union committee on skilled workers immediately had another go at getting the government to listen to reason.



To view the video (only available in French), please visit: nego2015.org



Employer offers: an icy reception!

The 300 activists in attendance at the CGN extended an icy welcome to the government's contemptuous proposals. They expressed their anger by inviting themselves to breakfast at the Treasury Board on the morning of February 18. The mobilization was so effective that Martin Coiteux insisted on meeting with our President on the spot!

Afterwards, Louise Chabot, standing in front of a 2.5 tonne ice structure, told media that CSQ members working in the public sector will not tolerate their own impoverishment and that they will fight tooth and nail to defend services for Quebeckers.

We have a plan!

The CGN delegation voted on a communications and mobilization plan that promises to drive up temperatures this spring!



*Date of the next
General Negotiations
Council meeting:
March 12-13, 2015*



DON'T MISS ANY NEWS ABOUT THE NEGOTIATIONS

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT THE EVOLUTION OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR NEGOTIATIONS? SUBSCRIBE TO THE CSQ NEWSLETTER BY VISITING THE WEBSITE NEGO2015.ORG.

