Loto 5/49: the CSQ unveils the winning bargaining ticket and calls for a boycott of Loto-Québec

It was in front of the head offices of Loto-Québec that a CSQ delegation unveiled, in the early hours of October 30, the gigantic winning bargaining ticket. Louise Chabot also called on the public to boycott the state-owned corporation from November 1 to November 8, to put pressure on the government in connection with public-sector negotiations. She hopes that discussions will quickly overcome the stalemate and result in a satisfactory negotiated settlement.

“The combination that the government is offering us, 0-0-1-1-1, is a losing one. We will never accept such salary offers, no more than we will allow gambling with services for the public. The funding of public services must be based on something else besides user fees and the profits of state-owned corporations,” she explained.

Louise Chabot also emphasized that cutting public services significantly undermines the distribution of wealth in Québec. “Soon, the only possible social elevator will be a winning lottery ticket, and this is not the model of society that we want.”
Historic rotating strikes

The rotating strikes held from October 26 to 29 were marked by extraordinary mobilization. All throughout Québec, we denounced the slow pace of negotiations, and called for a satisfactory negotiated work contract.

We also sent a very clear message to the government: we will not allow the public services to be dismantled, no more than we will agree to the government’s current offers that will adversely affect our working conditions and lead to impoverishment. Our determination was palpable.

“Mr. Coiteux states that investing in large businesses is important for prosperity and jobs. We are reminding him that investing in the public services is also important because it is an investment in society and the common good. He must listen to the serious message from the 400,000 education, health, social services and public service workers who took to the streets to stand up for their rights and the recognition of their working conditions. He must give a clear mandate to his negotiators so that we can reach a satisfactory agreement,” stated Louise Chabot, President of the CSQ.

After the four days of job action, the Common Front spokespersons asked the government to formulate new offers that would make it possible to secure a negotiated settlement. They recalled that we do not want to go back to the picket lines. However, if Mr. Coiteux does not give us a choice, we won’t hesitate to do so, as early as November 9.

To view the photo and video gallery, visit our Web site!