CEGEP teachers secure agreement in principle

An agreement in principle was concluded, early on Monday, at the sectoral bargaining table of the Alliance des syndicats des professeures et des professeurs de cégep (ASPPC). All CEGEP teachers are covered by this agreement in principle because the Alliance includes both the Fédération des enseignantes et enseignants de cégep (FEC-CSQ) and the Fédération nationale des enseignantes et des enseignants du Québec (FNEEQ-CSN).

Satisfactory gains

“This agreement in principle, which is satisfactory for both parties, is the outcome of a long process. We secured significant gains for precarious status teachers, excessive workload, recognition of CEGEP teachers as belonging to the postsecondary education system and support for students with disabilities,” explained Pierre Girouard, President of the FEC-CSQ.

The union leader recalled that the number of students with disabilities has practically quadrupled since 2007, rising to 7,500 students in 2014. This situation has resulted in heavier workloads associated with the accommodations provided to these students. Pierre Girouard also pointed out that over 50% of CEGEP teachers have precarious status and that many must wait for several years before securing tenure, which deprives them of job security as well as a number of fringe benefits.

A great mobilization

In his view, the large-scale mobilization of members over the past two years made it possible to counter the attacks on the working conditions of teaching staff, defeat the government’s plans for work reorganization and make significant gains.

Upcoming consultation

The agreement in principle will be presented on Thursday to the delegations of the FEC-CSQ and the FNEEQ-CSN. It will then be submitted to the general assemblies of all affiliated unions.