Postsecondary Support Staff Agreement in principle for the FPSES-CSQ approved

Yesterday, the members of the CEGEP negotiating committee of the Fédération du personnel de soutien de l’enseignement supérieur (FPSES-CSQ) ratified their agreement in principle. The President, Anne Dionne, says the Federation has secured a negotiated agreement for its 4,000 members in a context that was far from favourable.

“The management negotiators had been instructed not to make any concessions and to impose significant clawbacks in terms of working conditions, particularly with regard to job security and staff movement, which would have resulted in the elimination of jobs. However, we stopped them from achieving their main objectives. Nevertheless, the employer’s strategy left a bitter aftertaste. It will certainly have repercussions for the preparation of the next bargaining round.”

Furthermore, the union leader explained that improvements to working conditions were secured, including provisions to reduce precarious employment and the establishment of parity, for all college network support staff, with regard to the employer's annual contribution to the health insurance plan. “We’re especially pleased with this last gain because it means we’ve have rectified an injustice our members have had to bear over the course of recent years,” the union leader added.

Anne Dionne expressed no doubts: the strong solidarity and mobilization shown by the members is what made the negotiation of such an agreement possible. The agreement in principle will be submitted to a vote at the general assemblies of the affiliated unions, after an agreement at the central table has been reached.