



**Time is up...
Now, the clock is ticking!**

Today, March 31, 2010, all across Québec, we are some 475,000 public and parapublic sector workers united together in a Common Front to let you know that we are determined to reach satisfactory duly negotiated collective agreements over the next few days.

Let's recall that we agreed to engage in a targeted bargaining initiative within a shortened time frame. Our goal was to reach satisfactory agreements on or before March 31, 2010 in order to extract ourselves, as soon as possible, from the decrees, which in addition to impoverishing us, contravened our basic right to bargain collectively.

On October 30, 2009, armed with our determination to re-establish good labour relations, to improve our working conditions that were in urgent need of attention, and with the desire to create conditions that would ensure adequate public services to all Quebeckers, we tabled our union bargaining proposals.

When we tabled our proposals, the Government reiterated its commitment to respond rapidly to us. In this regard, it has kept its word. Accordingly, on November 30, 2009, we received their reactions. Their answers were not satisfactory, but they nonetheless enabled us to embark upon the bargaining process.

Since then, several bargaining sessions have taken place with the different management bargaining committees at the various tables, as well as with the Treasury Board. At each and every one of these meetings, we have tried our very best to reach a satisfactory settlement that would resolve the many problems that we encounter day in, day out in our workplaces, that would improve our public services and that would help us escape the impoverishment created by the December 2005 decrees.

Since the very beginning, we have acted in good faith, seeking to resolve our collective agreements on or before March 31, 2010, thereby engaging in a round of bargaining free from disruptive actions. To date, the Government has not yet fully understood the opportunity that it has been given.

This week's meeting between our political representatives and Ministers Gagnon-Tremblay, Bolduc and Courchesne enabled the parties to agree to spend a little more time to reach satisfactory negotiated agreements. We are prepared to invest all the time and effort

necessary to achieve this goal. We ask you to do all that you can to ensure that your spokespeople go to the bargaining tables with the same attitude and commitment.

We are health and social services, education, public service and government agency workers.

Each and every day, we are there to provide care, teach, advise and help the citizens of Québec and we are proud of our unwavering commitment to the population.

We want decent working conditions to ensure that the quality and accessibility of public services all over Québec can be maintained for years to come.

Today, March 31, 2010, all over Québec, we are some 475,000 workers, united in a Common Front, all ready and willing to reach satisfactory agreements.

Today, March 31, 2010, we are some 475,000 workers, united in a Common Front, to say to you that our vis-à-vis must seize this opportunity to reach collective agreements in a bargaining environment that is free from disruptive actions.

Today, March 31, 2010, we are some 475,000 workers, united in a Common Front, and we will stand together in solidarity until we reach satisfactory and duly negotiated settlements!

Today and for all our tomorrows, we are...

*Together
for
Public Services*