

STTRC'S NEWSLETTER

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(514) 842-4020 OR (888) 842-4020 SCRC@SCRC.QC.CA

THE BARGAINING COMMITTEE CONTINUES ITS WORK

Autumn and the start of the next negotiations are coming soon. The negotiating committee is continuing its work to refine the proposal that will be submitted to the members and voted on at the extraordinary general assembly. This document constitutes our requests to Radio-Canada to negotiate and build our next employment contract. We must report a departure and arrival within the committee. Our president, Pierre Tousignant has chosen to retire to devote himself mainly to representation, information and mobilization activities. The committee does not lose in the change, Damian Pilié, responsible for labor relations, takes his place. Damian knows the collective agreement from start to finish. The next general assembly, to be held on October 2, will be an opportunity to discuss our union demands for negotiation. Come one, come all!

Quebec station: a couple of lessons

Did the former director of the Quebec station, Véronique Lessard resign or was she pushed out the door? We'll probably never know, and it doesn't really matter. Her departure doesn't resolve the crisis that shakes the station of the Old Capital, but still marks an important step. The presentation on September 1 of the findings and recommendations of an industrial psychologist and the commitment of the Vice-President of French Services, Michel Bissonnette, to follow up on them are also a significant step. Let's summarize: at the Quebec City station, there is a toxic work climate, a climate that was established before Ms. Lessard took over as manager. The union's intervention forced the Crown Corporation to admit that this management system did not respect Radio-Canada's standards and policies. The expert's report is clear in this regard. Quebec is teaching us that forcing management to respect its own policies is already a good start to improving the work climate. Another lesson: the union is an effective tool to force the employer to put an end to the unacceptable behavior of certain members of its management staff. We hope that our interventions in Quebec will encourage other stations to denounce toxic managers, they are not only in Quebec. We will be really happy to continue to support the necessary management staff clean up in order to make Radio-Canada a better company.

Let's talk about vaccines

Many of you have called on us to find out about the union's position on the vaccine against COVID-19. You have surely noticed that we did not tell you if we were for or against, it is no coincidence. After discussing it more than once, we have come to the conclusion that the union is not a medical expert and should not have to pronounce on a public health decision and even less on a very personal decision of each of its members to be vaccinated or not. So, on the substance of the question, we will not comment. On the form, however, we are interested and vigilant. For several weeks now, we have been making representations to the employer to find out how the issue of vaccination will be treated, who may or may not request the vaccination status of an individual and how the dozens of exceptional cases that may arise in the coming weeks will be managed. Rest assured that the STTRC will defend each of its members with the same ardor, regardless of their vaccination status. As always, the tools at our disposal are the laws, the collective agreement, grievances and negotiations with the employer. We are following developments on this issue closely and have already sought their advice from our legal advisers.