



Contributions to the pension plan

Radio-Canada gives us peanuts

While our employer is taking a holiday from contributions to our pension plan, it's giving us a tiny reduction in our contributions.

That reduction will translate into an extra \$3 on the paycheque of an employee earning \$55,000 as of July 1st, and \$6 for an employee who makes \$95,000.

In percentage terms, our contribution drops from 8.44% to 8.19% for the portion of pensionable earnings below \$64,900 and from 11.1% to 10.77% above this amount. There was nothing to prevent CBC/Radio-Canada from giving us a contribution holiday too and give us about 9% of our pay back into our pockets. The law allows the employer to do so and there's also an agreement we signed in 2009 that provides for equitable sharing (50/50) of any pension plan surplus. The purpose was precisely to ensure that any surplus would benefit plan members as much as the employer. CBC/Radio-Canada is claiming the agreement expired in 2019, which we dispute. The case is currently before an arbitrator.

Meanwhile, the cost of living continues to rise, month after month. According to the latest numbers, it increased by 7.7% between May 2021 and May 2022. Some of our members are in dire straits. And \$3 every two weeks won't improve their situation.

The employer still isn't ready to discuss monetary issues at the bargaining table on the pretext that people are on vacation, even though it has had all of our demands in its hands since January. Meanwhile, groceries, gas, and housing are going up, vacations notwithstanding.

Our monetary demands are hardly unreasonable under the circumstances. In addition to various clauses, we are demanding the following increases for all members:

- 3.8% on April 1, 2021
- 3.5% on April 1, 2022
- 2.5% on April 1, 2023
- 2.5% on April 1, 2024

