

## ESSENTIAL SERVICES AND THE RIGHT TO STRIKE



### IN BRIEF

The Labour Code amendments concerning maintenance of essential services in public services have heavily impacted the way we exercise our right to strike. They have changed the longstanding procedures in our sector and made the maintenance of essential services contingent on a single criterion, i.e. *ensuring public health and safety*.

That is why Local Unions affiliated with CUPE must now begin local bargaining regarding essential services.

#### OVERVIEW OF STEPS

Negotiations

Local bargaining regarding essential services to maintain in the event of a strike

TAT's approval of these essential services

Strike vote by members

Strike mandate obtained

Strike/No strike

### WHY NOW?

Throughout the summer, your union, SCFP-FTQ, has held discussions with the Comité patronal de négociation du secteur de la santé et des services sociaux (CPNSSS). Although these discussions have allowed us to present our positions on a variety of issues, progress has been slow.

If discussions keep dragging on or we don't come to a satisfactory agreement, we will need everyone's support to make our voices heard. We will have to mobilize and use every means at our disposal. The right to strike is one of our main levers.

*To make this possible, we must be prepared!*

Whether or not we come to an agreement, the Tribunal administratif du travail (TAT), in the event of a strike, must approve our list of essential services within 120 days. *We will gain our right to strike only after this approval.*

If striking is necessary, you will be invited to a general assembly to vote on a strike mandate that will be implemented at an appropriate time.

This is how we will obtain our right to strike.

Stay tuned for information on the next steps. We will need everyone's support to ensure that we get the outcome we deserve!

***Together, we can do it!***

