



## Mediation: full speed ahead

The bargaining talks took a new turn last week with a new player at the table: Robert Dupuis, a mediator from the federal Department of Labour. He has also worked in the conciliation unit at the Québec Ministry of Labour and is well acquainted with labour relations at CBC / Radio-Canada, having facilitated the pre-arbitration talks that led last year to an agreement covering nearly 1,000 grievances and other disputes between members of our union and CBC / Radio-Canada.

Mr. Dupuis's involvement has helped clarify the state of the negotiations. All the texts that have been agreed upon, and all the demands that have been withdrawn by mutual agreement, have been extracted and will be ready to be initialed next Tuesday, in accordance with the wishes expressed yesterday by both parties.

This process also enabled us to make progress on some demands. While these were relatively minor, the pace of bargaining has been much better than what we have been accustomed to, and we were even able to obtain a reduction of the probation period from 180 to 130 days of work for all

new employees, regardless of employment status.

### Report on the General Meeting

Despite some perfectly legitimate disagreements, everyone agreed that we had a very calm and fruitful discussion last Saturday. More than 300 people attended the meeting to discuss a notice of motion to reconsider the wage demand we submitted in October 2021, given the current rate of inflation.

At a scheduled meeting with Catherine Tait and Michel Bissonnette yesterday, our union president, Pierre Tousignant, explained the outcome of our General Meeting as follows: while the members overwhelmingly supported the recommendation of the bargaining committee, the union bureau and the union council (by an 85% vote), it was with the intention of firmly defending the demands we have made, not because we would be content with the offers the Corporation has made to other bargaining units in recent months.

### **Mobilization coming up**

With the warm and sunny weather, employees at many stations have been able to hold union gatherings with food and refreshments. People got together, talked about the gradual return to normal, and the discussed the bargaining talks. Feel free to share your photos and comments about the events in our social media forums. More actions are coming up in the next few days, hopefully in the sun—and with positive news from the bargaining table.

