

## Disclosure of the Castonguay report

On February 19, date of the disclosure of the Task Force on Health Funding, the SISP greeted Claude Castonguay at his arrival at the Quebec Convention Centre. In the afternoon, at a media scrum, union representatives commented the recommendations contained in the report. The SISP also took advantage of the opportunity to go to the office of the Premier to hand nearly 16,000 postcards, signed by members, to one of his representatives.



## Closure of the CHSLD Jacques-Viger: possibility of a moratorium

The Board of Directors of the CSSS *Jeanne-Mance* agreed to have another engineering expertise conducted. Funded in part by the *Alliance interprofessionnelle de Montréal* (AIM-FIQ), this expertise will consist in examining the transformation potential of the existing buildings and, if possible, to propose alternatives in order that the *CHSLD Jacques-Viger* may pursue its mission with people in the process of losing autonomy.



## To counter the wind of privatisation, the flyer campaign is underway

In Montreal, on February 13, the members of the organisations that make up the *Secrétariat intersyndical des services publics* (SISP) continued the distribution of flyers entitled "Public health care, I support it."

*From left to right: Michel Sawyer (SFPQ President), Dominique Verreault (APTS President), Réjean Parent (CSQ President), Lina Bonamie (FIQ President) and Gilles Dussault (SPGQ President).*

## The private sector costs more

According to the *Institut de recherche et d'informations socio-économiques* (IRIS), the greater presence of the private sector in health, will make it more costly, less efficient and less accessible. The note published this month by IRIS clearly illustrates the limits of the argument that the aging population is responsible for the rising costs of health. "One of the main reasons behind the rising health expenses is the rising cost of drugs, an evolution attributable in large part to the private sector. Indeed, the ratio of public expenses to collective wealth has been stable in the past thirty years. The share of public expenses only increases in comparison to the voluntary reduction of total government expenses."

<[http://www.iris-recherche.qc.ca/docs/Note-sante\\_2008.pdf](http://www.iris-recherche.qc.ca/docs/Note-sante_2008.pdf)>

## Coming events

**02.22**

*Il va y avoir du sport, Télé-Québec, 7 :30 p.m.*

Participation of Lina Bonamie, President of the FIQ

**02.25 to 03.07**

52<sup>nd</sup> Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women in New York

Presence of two members of the FIQ Executive Committee

## No to the Anglicisation of the last French-speaking hospital of the West Island

Demonstration in front of the McGill University Health Centre, in Montreal

*Members oppose the merger of the Hôpital de Lachine with the university health centre which includes English-speaking hospitals. At the time of putting this edition of the FIQ Express on line, no decision had yet been made public. Photo : PSSU-UHCP*

