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## **Local negotiations at the CIUSSS Montréal West Island APTS reaches a tentative agreement with the employer**

**Montréal, October 23, 2018** – [APTS Montréal West Island](#) is proud to announce that a tentative agreement was finally reached last night in local contract talks between its members and the CIUSSS Montréal West Island.

"Right from the start, the [APTS](#) was very determined to arrive at an agreement that all parties would find satisfactory," declared Josée Asselin, provincial APTS representative. "This was all the more important to us as we knew that the outcome of these talks would shape the quality and accessibility of services for the population for years to come."

"We also had an employer across from us at the bargaining table who was mindful of negotiating an agreement that would reflect both his concerns and ours," added Josée Asselin. "His attitude and the efforts he made throughout the entire process, especially in the final two weeks of intense talks, should be applauded."

That committed mindset enabled us to create a climate that, all in all, was conducive to reaching a settlement, despite the divergent points of view and sometimes turbulent discussions. "That's cause for celebration," affirmed the APTS representative, "as a stalemate would have ended in mediation or arbitration resulting in working conditions likely to cause deep dissatisfaction on both sides. By avoiding all that, we're far better off."

The negotiations may also enable us to find common ground on a number of major issues for APTS members, by creating a solid foundation for addressing work overload, preserving a joint committee on human resource development, ensuring respect for employees' professional autonomy and judgement, establishing a framework for granting professional positions, and broadening the options for leaving an assignment.

"There's cause for rejoice," concluded Josée Asselin. "We have a tentative agreement in hand that is likely to rally our members and is already endorsed by the employer. That's the best ending! In the wake of the reform, with many dark clouds looming heavily over our health system, this agreement is one of the few bright spots that offers good news to people who use the services of the CIUSSS. I can only hope for the same for my colleagues in other integrated centres (CISSS and CIUSSS)."

**The APTS**

The [APTS](#) represents 55,000 members who play an indispensable role in ensuring that our health and social service institutions run smoothly. Our members offer a wide range of services to the population as a whole: diagnostic services, rehabilitation, nutrition, psychosocial intervention, clinical support and prevention services. There are 2,059 APTS members at the CIUSSS Montréal West Island.

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