



TO: To all local representatives of professional and technical personnel of the CPS and the APTMQ

FROM: Dominique Verreault and Denis Côté, copresidents

OBJET: APTS at the Parliamentary Commission

DATE: December 17th, 2004

Hello,

Last November 10th, the APTS presented a brief as part of the public hearings of the Committee on Public Finance regarding the tabling of Bill 61, *An Act respecting the Agence des partenariats public-privé du Québec*, by the Charest government.

We began by clearly stating the APTS' position: we are against Bill 61. We defended this viewpoint by asserting that the APTS, through its seven founding unions, has always been involved in the defence of high-quality public services that are free and accessible to the entire population. We illustrated our position with examples that demonstrate, without the shadow of a doubt, the perverse effects of privatization in health care. Privatization that, among other things, affects food services, rehabilitation, laboratories and radiology.

We also took advantage of this opportunity to address the Parliamentary Commission to point out the many flaws contained in this bill. It was demonstrated, moreover, that its implementation would have serious consequences on the current health system, which is meant to be public, universal, and free.

We recognize that the health and social services system is in a phase of manifest turmoil and transition, but we believe that we must seek solutions that will rely more on local stakeholders, professionals, employee associations, and the various government departments concerned. Our concern, here, is to avoid partnerships with private businesses whose primary objective is to make a profit.

Special Information on RREGOP

The Commission administrative des régimes de retraite et d'assurances du gouvernement du Québec (CARRA) announces an adjustment to the contribution rate to the RREGOP.

Pursuant to a government decision, employees in the public and para-public sectors may, come January 2005, find themselves paying a higher contribution rate. The government will, at that time, issue a decree amending the Act respecting the Government and Public Employees Retirement Plan (RREGOP). The contribution rate could go from 5.35% to 7.06%. As an example, in 2004, for an annual salary of \$40,000, the contribution to the RREGOP was \$1,381.64. In 2005, participation in this plan could cost \$1,823.24.

For more details: www.carra.gouv.qc.ca