Access and right to health, an international struggle

Three unionists explained to the delegates the relevancy of preserving public services publics that are threatened by the gutting of the healthcare system and the professionals working in it.

In Canada

Linda Silas, President of the Canadian Federation of Nurses Unions (CFNU) has seen that throughout Canada the working conditions are deteriorating in the same way and they suffer the same management methods. The CFNU will study, in a research project, the mechanisms of staffing with the perspective of quality of care and patient safety.

http://fcsii.ca/

In the United States

Jean Ross, Joint President of the National Nurses United, the largest nurses’ union in the United States emphasized the admiration of the American nurses for the Canadian public healthcare system. Indeed, guaranteeing the right and access to health care while in the United States, the population only has access to paid care. The American nurses decided to fight for access to health care for a population that has to deal with unemployment and poverty.

www.nationalnursesunited.org/

In the world

Mark Langevin, Secretary for the sub-region of North America for Public services International (PSI) reminded the delegates of the necessity for the unions to join together as international organizations like the PSI to fight against, among others, the privatization of health care. Among the major battles is also: combatting the free-trade agreements. These agreements contribute to the abolishment of unionization, and this, consequently attacks the working conditions and public services.

http://www.worldpsi.org/fr/home

Trust, struggle, solidarity

Gabriel Nadeau Dubois, joint spokesperson for the Coalition large de l’Association pour une Solidarité Syndicale Etudiante (CLASSE) during the student struggle of 2012, addressed the delegates in an inspired and inspiring manner. From the trust of the labour movement to a real sacred fire of solidarity that transcends clans, passing through the combativeness necessary for the labour struggle, the young activist made an impassioned plea for the courage to have collective commitment.

On the programme tomorrow

Open forum:
Participative approach

Activities report from the standing and statutory committees

Elections:
Presentation of the candidates