



SCRC'S NEWSLETTER

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(514) 842-4020 OR (888) 842-4020 SCRC@SCRC.QC.CA

MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION: WHERE WE ARE

The SCRC has initiated a mediation and arbitration process with the employer. In short, it involves settling, with Radio-Canada, approximately 950 grievances filed under the old collective agreements. This process should make it possible to move forward on issues that have sometimes been at a standstill for a very long time. So far, only some 70 grievances have been resolved. Why? Because the discussions are proving difficult: Radio-Canada asks us to make concessions from the start. The categories of grievances that were scheduled to be resolved in two days were not resolved after two weeks. Also, the employer has the unacceptable position of wanting to exclude all retired employees and people no longer employed by Radio-Canada, which we have managed to fight. The mediation-arbitration process continues for a few more months.

COVID-19 continues to spread

So far, there had only been isolated cases of COVID-19 on Radio-Canada. Recently, there was an outbreak in Montreal, on the radio show Le 15-18. First, the SCRC wishes a speedy recovery to those infected. It is clear that the management on the radio side has been casual vis-à-vis the virus. While elsewhere in the same building, the measures were strict and had not relaxed since the spring, this has not been the case in this area. The return of guests and collaborators to the studio (even in limited numbers), as well as the very relative respect of the Radio-Canada sanitary guidelines, probably contributed to this first community outbreak. Stricter health measures have been put in place since this outbreak. Although corrective measures have been made, this event clearly shows the importance of maintaining our vigilance. The union met with senior management from radio générale on Tuesday morning, and the executives agreed to follow up on the situation within a month. Also, because there is still no vaccine or treatment available, being careful is the main way to prevent problems. Do not hesitate to contact your delegates if you have any concerns. And if in doubt about your state of health, notify your manager, stay home and contact your doctor or local health services. Don't panic, but let's stay vigilant.

The Tandem "thingamajig"

Recently, CBC / Radio-Canada management launched a new service, "dedicated to the creation of distinctive branded content", this new thingamajig called Tandem. Of course, the SCRC is aware that COVID has financial implications for the crown corporation, and the union also has members in the sales sector. But there are several questions to be asked. First, Radio-Canada did not consult or inform the unions before launching this new project. Second, like the Canadian Media Guild, the SCRC is concerned about the blurring of advertising, product promotion and news content. As Radio-Canada presents itself as a news benchmark and actively fights against fake news, launching an initiative that can confuse the public raises questions. In the meantime, the union remains a supporter of stable and adequate funding for the public broadcaster and its mission. But the state corporation needs to make responsible and carefully considered choices about other sources of income.

General Assembly: be there!

Your union General Assembly is this Saturday . It was supposed to be held in the spring, but there you have it, there was a global pandemic that shook our plans. So the meeting will be virtual, with the advantage of being comfortably seated in your living room while following the discussions. Lengthy menu to come, including the new name and logo of the SCRC. However, you do need to register - to help us manage traffic! You will receive all instructions by email on Friday.