

THE CSN, A FORCE FOR OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY



OCTOBER 16 – 22, 2016
NATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY WEEK

“The problem of mold in schools is now something the public knows about. To get a good grip on what was at stake here, we turned to the CSN’s specialized services to understand the expert opinions and to discuss solutions jointly and with other unions. The CSN’s assistance was crucial to being present and making our voice heard in this.”

Association professionnelle du personnel administratif, Association des concierges des écoles du district de Montréal and Syndicat national des employées et employés de la Commission scolaire de Montréal (FEESP-CSN)

AT THE CSN, WORKERS’ HEALTH AND SAFETY IS A FUNDAMENTAL VALUE

SEMAINESST.ORG

“We wanted to show our employer that our physical workload was demanding and that we had to find solutions so that our health wouldn’t deteriorate. Thanks to the CSN, we were able to convince our employer to work with us to improve and preserve our health. The support of the CSN staffer gave us credibility and useful references for our negotiations.”

STT du Centre d’insémination artificielle
du Québec (FC-CSN)

**EVER SINCE IT WAS
FOUNDED IN 1921,**

the Confédération des syndicats nationaux (CSN) has fought for working conditions that respect workers’ physical and psychological integrity. The history of the labour movement has been marked by many actions, one of the most memorable certainly being the Asbestos and Thetford Mines miners’ strike in 1949.

WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS,

the CSN forced the government to pass the *Act respecting occupational health and safety*, aimed at eliminating hazards at the source. Collective bargaining has also helped achieve progress in many workplaces.

“The employer introduced a procedure that exposed the operator to very high temperatures. Since the task didn’t last long, the employer didn’t think that it necessary to change the exposure to intense heat. But we knew that exposure to these high temperatures, even for a short period of time, could trigger health problems. So we turned to the CSN’s services, and with their participation we were able to convince the employer to hire an expert consulting firm, whose study confirmed our fears and proposed practical solutions.”

STT Bridgestone Joliette (FIM-CSN)

**WORKERS PUT A LOT OF
THEMSELVES INTO THEIR WORK,**

and many lose their health or physical or psychological integrity in the process, because there are still workplaces and working conditions today that make workers sick or cause injuries, mutilation and even death. This is why the CSN continues to fight

for healthy workplaces and to defend the workers it represents, thanks to specialized staffers and lawyers who stand up for those who are injured on the job or who suffer an occupational disease.

**INDUSTRIAL
HYGIENISTS,
ENGINEERS,
ERGONOMISTS,
INDUSTRIAL
PSYCHOLOGISTS,
LAWYERS AND
EXPERT STAFFERS:
SPECIALIZED
RESOURCES
WORKING
FOR YOU**

“The media landscape is changing, and sometimes adapting to this new landscape comes at the expense of our health. We asked the CSN to help us denounce the situation and come up with potential solutions for improving people’s psychological health in a context of growing workloads.”

Syndicat de l’information de Transcontinental (FNC-CSN)

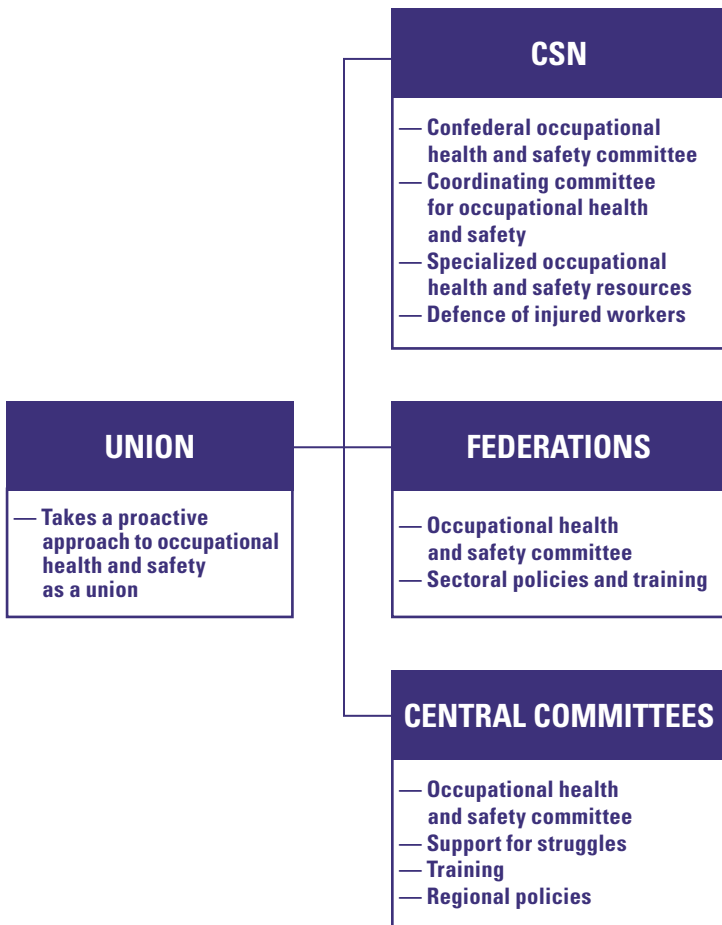
**OCCUPATIONAL
HEALTH
AND SAFETY:
A MATTER
OF TEAMWORK
AT THE CSN**

AT THE CSN, CENTRAL COUNCILS AND FEDERATIONS HAVE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEES AND CAN HELP YOU ENGAGE ON THESE ISSUES.

They organize various health and safety events and training to meet the needs of unions and regions with respect to occupational health and safety.

THE CSN'S CONFEDERAL OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE plays an advisory role with the Executive Committee on policy, actions and intervention strategies on occupational health and safety. It is this committee that is responsible for analysing occupational health and safety legislation and regulations.

A COORDINATING COMMITTEE composed of the health and safety officers for the federations and central councils plus the members of the confederal committee coordinates the movement's activities on occupational health and safety.



WOMEN'S OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

WOMEN'S WORKING AND LIVING CONDITION

are characterized by precarious employment, income disparities and the fact that are still mostly responsible for balancing the demands of families and work.

They are also confronted with specific occupational health and safety issues, and the CSN pays special attention to this, notably by defending the *For a Safe Maternity Experience* program wherever it can.

“To inform its members about occupational health and safety and raise awareness, the federation produced wallet cards on various topics: psychological harassment, work accidents, right to refuse unsafe work, etc. It makes the relevant information very handy!”

CSN-Construction

MAJOR EVENTS

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF EVENTS ON THE CSN CALENDAR DEALING WITH OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY.



NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY WEEK

An entire week dedicated to preventive work on health and safety in all workplaces. Substantial budgets are earmarked for organizing regional and local activities.

“In the framework of a safety campaign by the Commission des normes, de l'équité, de la santé et de la sécurité du travail on hazards in occupational and technical teaching, the FNEEQ got involved to ensure that the union viewpoint was taken into account. Teachers' expertise and teaching make them good channels for prevention work. It's important to defend our members' rights by obliging employers to shoulder their responsibilities and legal duties.”

Regroupement privé, FNEEQ-CSN



OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY REVIEW AND PROSPECTS

Once every three years, more than 400 union occupational health and safety officers meet for discussions with researchers on health and safety issues.



APRIL 28

The International Day of Mourning for Workers Killed or Injured in the Workplace is a day when CSN unions are invited to hold a minute of silence. Posters, visibility materials and information documents are provided to make it easier for unions to organize activities.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING: A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH!

CLOSE TO A HUNDRED OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY TRAINING SESSIONS

given by experienced members are offered by the federations and central councils each year. The occupational health and safety training program is aimed at helping unions take a more proactive approach so as to prevent and eliminate hazards at the source and get the employer to discuss these questions.

Various themes are tackled, such as occupational health and safety regulations, work-related accidents and occupational diseases, union active on prevention, asbestos and hazardous products, ergonomics and musculoskeletal disorders, psychological health, etc. Visit our training program on the CSN's web site.

THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY TRAINING PORTAL

This portal is designed to provide you with all the tools you need to support the action of members and unions. There is a wealth of information on the role of occupational health and safety officers in unions as well as on various topics related to occupational health and safety.

**VISIT IT AT
FORMATIONSST.CSN.INFO**

SOME OF THE CSN'S DEMANDS

- Application of the legislative provisions on priority groups for everyone;
- Continuation of the *For a Safe Maternity Experience* program;
- The use of temporary assignments to promote genuine rehabilitation of workers;
- Employers' involvement in preserving workers' psychological health;
- Employers' action on risk factors for musculoskeletal disorders present in the workplace.