

Montreal, March 3, 2021

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TO FEESP-AFFILIATED UNION PRESIDENTS

Subject: FEESP's 28th Congress

Hello everyone,

We hereby announce that FEESP's 28th Congress will take place from June 8-11, 2021. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's congress will be held virtually on the Zoom platform. We look forward to seeing many of you and expect a big turnout as this is the federation's largest event organized every three years.

We invite you to discuss major policies with us, review financial statements and go over the budget proposal for the next mandate. This is also the time when executive committee and various federation sector and committee elections are held.

In addition to looking at activity reports from the last three years, we will also address, among others, the following topics:

- *occupational health and safety;*
- *union life and mobilization;*
- *telework;*
- *post-COVID-19 recovery.*

In conclusion, let me stress the importance of participating in the federation's congress and I invite you to pay close attention to having a proportional representation of women in your delegation.

Union greetings,



Nathalie Arguin
President

NA/al

Encl.: Secretary-General letter
Important Information

1st CONVOCAATION

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Hello,

The Executive Committee and the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, composed of André Lajoie, secretary-general, Annie Charland and Martine Moreau, members of the federal bureau, want to remind FEESP unions about the modalities of amendments to the FEESP *Constitution and Bylaws*.

Proposed amendments must be received by the federation **at least 6 weeks** prior to the opening date of the congress, so no later than April 27, 2021, as stipulated in Chapter 14 of the FEESP *Constitution and Bylaws*:

**CHAPTER 14
AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

14.02 FEDERATION CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

The *Constitution and Bylaws* may only be amended by a majority vote of the congress.

The text of any draft amendment must be sent to the federation's Secretariat-General at least six (6) weeks prior to the opening date of the congress. The Secretary-General must send a copy of any draft amendment, regardless of origin, to all affiliated unions at least thirty (30) days prior to the opening date of the congress.

Any draft amendment to the *Constitution and Bylaws* sent by an affiliated union or by a member of the federal bureau is referred to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, which shall inform the federal bureau of its position and report its recommendations to the congress.

However, the congress can approve an amendment with a two-thirds vote in the event that, in the interest of the federation, there is an urgent need to amend the *Constitution and Bylaws* without it being possible to follow the abovementioned process.

Yours truly,



André Lajoie
Secretary-General

AL/al

C.c.: Annie Charland and Martine Moreau, Constitution and Bylaws Committee members

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Information about the congress will soon be posted on the federation's website: www.feesp.csn.qc.ca. You will find included in this message relevant information about the procedure for submitting amendments to the FEESP *Constitution and Bylaws* and how to submit a resolution to the congress.

Delegation

We will send out a second convocation to **treasurers** at the beginning of April. It will include a letter of credence determining the number of official delegates to whom your union is entitled.

We take this opportunity to remind you the *Constitution and Bylaws* stipulate a delegation is only deemed to be official if the union is in good standing with CSN organizations (federation, central council and CSN).

Excerpt from the FEESP *Constitution and Bylaws*

3.06 Accreditation requirements and formalities

"[...] To be entitled to be represented by an official delegation at a regular or special congress, affiliated unions must have paid their fees and per capita to CSN organizations (and the sector, if applicable) in the second month preceding the month when the congress will be held, unless a fee and per capita payment agreement has been reached."

Please note that FEESP will not enter into a late per capita payment agreement. **Delegates to any union behind in its per capita payments will be registered as "conditional" (without speaking or voting rights).**

Thus, a union must have paid its **April 2021** fees and per capita to the CSN, its central council, FEESP and, if applicable, its sector in order to be able to have an "official" delegation (with speaking and voting rights).

Resolutions submitted by affiliated unions

We remind you that all proposals sent by affiliated unions are referred to the Resolutions Committee and must be sent to the FEESP Secretariat-General at least six (6) weeks prior to the opening date of the congress, so no later than April 27, 2021 (Article 3.09 of the FEESP *Constitution and Bylaws*).

Translation

In accordance with FEESP's translation policy, certain documents from the congress will be

translated if registrations by English-language activists are received six (6) weeks in advance. The layout may differ from the original.

Election procedure

Given the congress will be held virtually, the procedure to elect executive committee members, federal bureau and committee positions had to be adapted. A notice separate from the convocations will be sent to all unions by March 19, 2021 (by email and mail). The nomination process for candidates and the election agenda will be included in this mailing.

Optional training capsules

3 training capsules will be offered (in French only) on the morning of June 8:

- *Welcome Session for New Delegates* – from 9-10 am
- *Using Zoom* – from 10-10:30 am
- *Demystifying the Treasurer's Report* – from 10:30-11:30 am