



Union suspends relations in further HR blow for local health authority

By Ruby Pratka
Local Journalism Initiative

A union representing 6,000 orderlies, tradespeople and technical employees at the Centre intégré de santé et des services sociaux de l'Estrie-Centre hospitalier universitaire de Sherbrooke (CIUSSS de l'Estrie-CHUS) announced on June 1 that it was "suspending labour relations" with the health unit. The two sides are now going through a mediation process.

The union's decision came just over a week after Dr. Annick Michaud, head of psychiatry at the CHUS, and Dr. Marie-Laure Collinge, assistant director of professional services, resigned. Dr. Benoit Heppell, head of the general medicine department at the CIUSSS de l'Estrie-CHUS, and Dr. Marie-Maud Couture, head of emergency medicine, resigned earlier last month. In an open letter sent to media outlets, Heppell said he "no longer had the room to maneuver necessary to make decisions about the quality and safety of care" and "bureaucratic heaviness has brought about inertia that blocks even the simplest changes."

In an open letter, Syndicat canadien de la fonction publique (SCFP) local 4475 president Alexandre Dumont said inertia and excessive centralization at the CIUSSS de l'Estrie-CHUS had led to massive turnover. Dumont wrote that

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Where does the time go?



COURTESY

By Mable Hastings

*"I hope the days come easy and the moments pass slow
And each road leads you where you want to go
And if you're faced with a choice, and you have to choose*

*I hope you choose the one that means the most to you
And if one door opens to another door closed
I hope you keep on walkin' 'till you find the window
If it's cold outside, show the world the warmth of your smile."* - Rascal Flatts

It's that time of year when High School graduation and prom ceremonies are in full swing. As a former Youth Director at the CAB Missisquoi North youth centre where, for some 30 years I took photos, did hair and make-up and shared in this joyous

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