

## **Jacques Létourneau**

**President of the CSN**

### **Candidate for President of the CSN**

**Place of birth: Thetford Mines**

**Date of birth: January 30, 1963**

#### **Education**

Diploma of College Studies in Social Sciences at the CEGEP de Thetford, formerly the Collège de la région de l'amiante (1981-1983)

Bachelor of Arts in History from the Université de Sherbrooke (1983-1986)

#### **Student activism**

President of the Association générale des étudiants et étudiantes du Collège de la région de l'amiante (1981-1983)

Vice-President of the Association fédérative des étudiants et étudiantes de l'Université de Sherbrooke (1983-1984)

Co-ordinator, Région de l'Estrie, Association nationale des étudiants et étudiantes du Québec-ANEEQ (1984-1986)

Member of the ANEEQ Executive (1987-1988) and General Secretary of ANEEQ (1988-1989)

#### **Union activism**

President, Syndicat des travailleuses et des travailleurs de l'hôpital Charles-Lemoyne (1991-1993)

Member, Political Action Committee, Fédération des affaires sociales-CSN (1991-1993)

General Secretary, Conseil central du Montréal métropolitain-CSN (1993-2004)

Member of the CSN Jurisdictions Committee and the CSN Working Group on Health and Social Services (1994-2004)

CSN Executive Committee assistant responsible for international relations (2004-2010)

CSN Executive Committee assistant assigned to preparations for the 63<sup>rd</sup> CSN Convention

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President of the CSN (2011-2012)

President of the CSN since 2012



To the delegates to the 66<sup>th</sup> Convention,

Every CSN convention brings its share of challenges as we set our union-action priorities for the three years to come. The CSN Executive Committee bears a considerable share of the responsibility for ensuring that these priorities are met. As we all know, the 66<sup>th</sup> convention will be taking place under especially unusual circumstances, and the issues that it addresses will be especially important for the working class in the coming years.

It can never be said too often: it is the workers, and especially the lowest-paid workers, who have been hardest hit by the catastrophic impacts of the public-health and economic crisis that we have been enduring for almost a year now. Throughout this crisis, trade unions—whose relevance some persist in questioning year after year—have shown that they are the true if not the only bulwark defending the rights and interests of workers—not only against certain greedy employers, but also against the Québec government, whose sense of how the largest employer in Québec should behave has too often gone missing in action.

In too many places, the crisis and the lockdown have significantly challenged our local unions' ability to mobilize their members. This situation is understandable in many ways, but we must support these unions so as to strengthen union life in Québec's workplaces and increase union power and influence in these highly sensitive times.

From my earliest years as a union activist, I have always felt sure that the union movement could influence Québec society for the better. We have now reached a critical turning point: we must convince our fellow citizens that Québec's public finances can be better managed, and that a post-COVID recovery based on our ideals of social and environmental justice is not only possible but more than desirable if we want our society truly to flourish.

I admit, the challenges are many, and they are sizeable. But it is nevertheless with great enthusiasm that I ask the convention delegates to place their trust in me and re-elect me as the President of the CSN.

In full solidarity,

Jacques Létourneau