

David Bergeron Cyr
2nd Vice-President of the CSN



Candidate for 2nd Vice-President of the CSN

Place and date of birth: Montréal, February 22, 1982

Union background

- Founding member of the CSN union at the Jean Coutu distribution centre (2001)
- Various roles (steward, VP Grievances, General VP, member of the bargaining committee) in the union at the Jean Coutu distribution centre (2001-2009)
- Representative of the warehouse sector in the Federation of Commerce, member of the Federal Bureau, member of the FC-CSN delegation to the Confederal Council (2004-2009)
- Vice-President of the Fédération du Commerce (2009-2018)
 - o Responsibilities:
 - Occupational health and safety
 - Organizing
 - Inter-union and international alliances
 - Agri-food sector
- President, Fédération du commerce (2018-2021)
- 2nd Vice-President of the CSN (2021 to present)
 - o Responsibilities:
 - Occupational health and safety
 - Organizing
 - Health and social services
 - Employment Insurance

Brothers and Sisters,

I am again seeking the position of Second Vice-President of the CSN and asking for your support because I want to continue promoting combative grassroots unionism. I learned my commitment to defending workers and my belief that we must fight to increase the power of the working class from my mother as a child. I have always had a thirst for social justice and in the union movement I found the opportunity to express my values of solidarity and equity.

I began working at the Jean Coutu warehouse when I was 18. As soon as I started, I got involved with the group of workers who were organizing a CSN-affiliated union. We were very successful and that first organizing campaign was a defining experience for me. When we were negotiating our first collective agreement, the employer locked us out and then we went on strike for two months. I remember my first night on the picket line as if it were yesterday: rain, snow and even hail did not dampen our determination to fight for respect.

In 2021, after more than 20 years of union activism, first in my local union and then on the Executive of the Fédération du commerce, I was elected Second Vice-President of the CSN. The first battle we had to wage together during this term was the reform of the occupational health and safety regime in Bill 59. We came together to fight this battle. It was a challenge because the impacts of Bill 59 (setbacks for some, advances for others) could have divided us. This fight is not over but we remain united and continue to fight to protect our gains and improve prevention mechanisms.

As the officer responsible for the organizing department, I am very proud of the work our team has done. A large number of applications for certification have been filed and 60% of them involve workers who were not members of another organization. That is an important fact because we must do everything we can to stem the decline in the unionization rate in Québec. If the decrease in union membership continues, it could affect our collective bargaining power. Among our ongoing organizing efforts, I want to underscore our major unionization drive at Amazon's warehouses. This is a company that shamelessly exploits its workers, taking advantage of their vulnerability because they are immigrants, women, young or old and living in poverty.

On the Executive, I'm also responsible for the health and social services file. To stop the destruction of our public system, we launched our "Vraiment public" campaign. Quebecers who believe in the importance of an accessible, free and universal health and social services system have a tough battle ahead of them.

Thanks to all of you, the CSN is an organization with immense strength. Brothers and sisters, let us continue fighting together to change the lives of the workers we represent and to make Québec a society of greater justice, equity and solidarity.

David Bergeron-Cyr