Family daycares vote on mandate to open later until strike day

Author: The Canadian Press

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Excerpts

Heavier pressure tactics could soon begin in family daycare, as 9,000 workers have just voted in favour of a pressure tactics mandate that calls for services to open later and later, up to and including a strike day.

The 9,000 family childcare providers in 17 regions of Quebec are members of the unions of the CSQ-affiliated Fédération des intervenantes en petite enfance (FIPEQ).

They want to put pressure on the Quebec government to make faster progress in negotiations to renew their collective agreement.

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Negotiations with Quebec have not broken down, however, as a meeting is scheduled for this week.

Grenon maintains, however, that the financial issue has not yet been addressed. Only some of the normative clauses have been discussed, such as child care and the structure of the coordinating offices.

Family daycare providers are not paid an hourly wage, and workers in childcare centres are not. Instead, they receive a subsidy from the Ministère de la Famille to cover their wages, food for the children, toys, items needed for childcare, etc.

The FIPEQ is the union organization with the largest number of members in family child care. It also has thousands of members in CPEs, although it does not have a majority there.

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