



# SCRC'S NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 25TH 2019

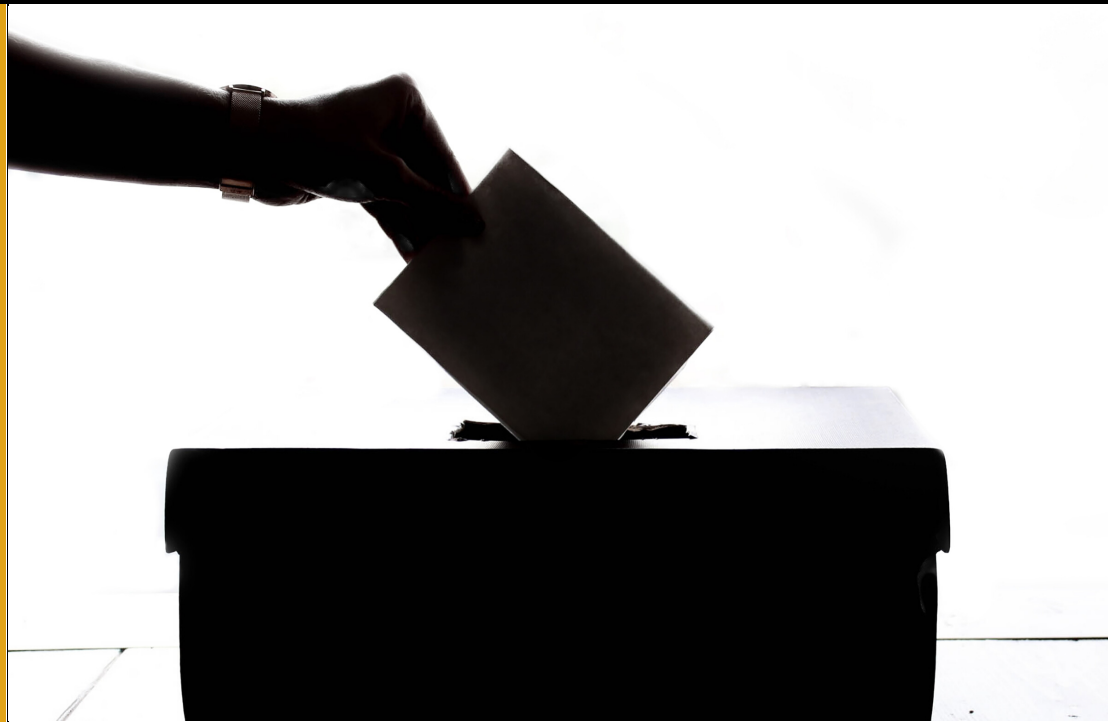
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## WEB EDITORS' COMMITTEE

The committee has resumed its work (at last!) Our employer has made a number of proposals including permanent positions that should be assigned. You'll recall that our collective agreement stipulates that 25 per cent of new positions among the web editors will be considered permanent (page 193). The committee, made up of Pierre Tousignant, Kamel Bouzeboudjen and Catherine Contant, will study these proposals. The next meeting is scheduled for October 29.

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## Federal elections: now what?

The votes have been counted and Justin Trudeau is now leading a minority government in Ottawa, flanked by the NDP, which supports reinvesting in the public broadcaster. For the Crown Corporation that means that its funding is assured, at least for now. But as the organization The Friends of Canadian Broadcasting pointed out, the Liberal platform leaves several questions unanswered. The party has not committed to increasing funding for CBC or renewing the investment voted on in 2016. This means that after 2021 CBC / Radio-Canada would return to the funding levels of the Harper era. Next year will also be key since we will be discussing the renewal of CBC / Radio-Canada's license. The SCRC along with its partners and allies will advocate for adequate funding so that the public broadcaster can maintain the quality of its services - and preserve jobs - for the benefit of our audiences.

# DELEGATES, AT THE HEART OF UNION ACTION

Over the next few months, we will be building on our union's strength through the work of our delegates. That's why two important activities have been organized for them: first, two days of training about complaints and litigation, then a three-day summit at the end of November. The goal of these activities is to give each delegate the tools they need to do their job and to work on a plan to prepare for the next round of negotiations. In the new year, there will also be local meetings on labour relations and work organization. Delegates will meet with their superiors to discuss topics related to their respective departments. It will also help provide the union executive with a better understanding of working conditions. The union will never hesitate to denounce abuse from an employer that still believes anything is allowed. But, we can also be actors for change and the delegates will be on the front lines. Being proactive is possible and better than constantly being in reaction mode. The union is more than a complaints office, and for 2020 our challenge is to help bring that change.

## "I support my newspaper" campaign

Regional sources of news are important. Our colleagues at Le Droit, Le Soleil, La Voix de l'Est, La Tribune, Le Nouvelliste and Le Quotidien have announced their plan to present an offer to buy their newspapers which are facing bankruptcy. The campaign «I support my newspaper», with the support it generated in the population, reminds of the campaign The Friends of Canadian Broadcasting. It's reassuring to see that in this time of 'fake news' so many people are fighting to protect the right to quality sources of news. The SCRC will be called on to support the offer made by the employees of Groupe Capitales Médias and we'll talk about it again.

## THE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FUND MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU

The Special Assistance Fund (SAF) was created in 2001, following a decision by the Advisory Committee on Benefits. The fund is used to reimburse health care costs that are not covered by our various insurance plans or by the various levels of government. All employees and retirees of CBC / Radio-Canada, regardless of their employment status, may apply to the SAF for themselves, their spouses or minor children. What is covered? Several expenses: medical devices, mobility aids, fertility treatments and medical marijuana applications, to name but a few. In some exceptional cases, the difference is paid even if the insurance covers a part of the expense, for example for hearing aids. Dentist's fees and home care are not covered. The SAF does not provide cash advances. Claims must be a minimum of \$ 200 and the request made to the Fund no later than 15 months after the date on the receipt. You must send your documents electronically to a representative of the committee. The representative of SCRC to whom you can send your request is Marie-Andrée Charron ([marie-andree.charron@radio-canada.ca](mailto:marie-andree.charron@radio-canada.ca)), you can also write to her if you have any questions about the Fund. The information sent to your representative is confidential. The committee meets four times a year (March, June, September, December) to process applications.