



SCRC'S NEWSLETTER

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(514) 842-4020 OR (888) 842-4020 SCRC@SCRC.QC.CA

THE YALE REPORT, RADIO-CANADA AND US

The Broadcasting and Telecommunications Legislative Review group recently tabled its report - more commonly known as the Yale report. [The document in question](#) examines the future of communications in the country in an everchanging environment, particularly due to digital. The voluminous document contains 97 recommendations, but also many very relevant questions regarding Radio-Canada. Let us note here a passage: "the mandate of the public broadcaster needs to adapt to the modern context in order to ensure that CBC/Radio-Canada keeps serving Canadians from all over the country while maintaining its existing mandate to 'inform, enlighten and entertain'. The Broadcasting Act review will explore ways to update CBC/Radio-Canada's mandate and ensure its independence and stability over the long-term". The SCRC is of course in favor of any financial support for the Crown Corporation that would allow it to fulfill its mandate properly. However, this is a fairly cumbersome document, which SCRC will continue to analyze before taking an official position. Jointly with the CSN, the union will file a brief and testify during the hearings. And of course, SCRC will keep its members informed of these developments. #obviously!

Flexibility regarding Article 47

Following the coming into effect of Article 47, several of you shared your frustration about the mechanics of availability, particularly with regard to the mechanics of short-term assignment and concerning the impossibility to give partial availability. Your managers have also noted the limits of these provisions. Unfortunately, we have noticed that colleagues have started to leave Radio-Canada, particularly because of the measures contained in said article. After several meetings, the SCRC and the Crown Corporation reached an agreement under form of a pilot project which eases the rigidity of the provisions of article 47, and hopefully, partially reduce the headaches suffered by several term employees as well as the personnel responsible for schedule management. The main measures have to do with the hours to report a non-availability, before and after the publication of timetables to give more latitude to employees. The employer sent a communication detailing the pilot project to term workers. This flexibility will come into effect on February 14. Have we resolved all the irritants noted since the signing of the collective agreement? Absolutely not. However, this breakthrough, outside the negotiation period, would not even have been possible the day after the signing of our previous collective agreement. Will this demonstrate to the employer that further flexibility is desirable? We believe that it will. Of course, the SCRC and Radio-Canada will follow up on the implementation of these changes.

Traveling on disability?

Are you on short-term disability and your doctor accepts that you are going on a trip? Know that, as long as your doctor concludes that the activity you want to do does not harm your recovery, your only obligation during a period of disability is to make yourself available on the date of the medical examination called by the employer, which in principle cannot be moved without risking your benefits being cut. The employer insists on refusing all these travel requests, so don't bother asking, you have the right to recover in your own way during your disability, if your doctor obviously agrees. You should not however exercise any activity which would be incompatible with your diagnosis or your limitations. Talk to your doctor first.