

# NEW BRUNSWICK COALITION FOR PAY EQUITY Newsletter August - September 2017

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### ***1. Political Meetings***

The Coalition has been busy this summer!

On July 13<sup>th</sup>, we met with [Jennifer McKenzie](#), now the leader of [New Democratic Party of New Brunswick](#). She confirmed the NDP's support for pay equity legislation in the private sector.

On August 11<sup>th</sup>, we attended the community BBQ hosted by the Honourable [Ginette Petitpas Taylor](#), Member of Parliament for Moncton-Riverview-Dieppe and Minister of Health. We talked about the urgent need for federal legislation. We are concerned that the government won't be able to meet its deadline—by the end of 2018—with federal elections expected in 2019.

On August 28<sup>th</sup>, we attended a town hall meeting hosted by the [Green Party of New Brunswick](#). [Elizabeth May](#), the Leader of the [Green Party of Canada](#) and Member of Parliament for Saanich-Gulf Islands, confirmed that she would vote in favor of federal pay equity legislation and [David Coon](#), Provincial Leader and Member of Parliament for Fredericton South, said that he would file a motion in favor of pay equity at the opening of the [Legislative Assembly](#).

On August 31, the Coalition met with the Honourable [Maryam Monsef](#), Minister of [Status of Women Canada](#). We talked about our projects, the salaries of female workers in the care sector, and our hopes for federal pay equity legislation.

### ***2. Opening on the Board of Directors***

The Coalition is looking for a Northeast Representative (Restigouche, Chaleur and Acadian Peninsula regions) on its [Board of Directors](#). All interested persons must submit their name, contact information and a short biography of approximately 150 words by October 15<sup>th</sup> at [info@equite-equity.com](mailto:info@equite-equity.com).

### ***3. Gender Equality Network Canada***

The Coalition is one of 150 Canadian leaders asked to participate in a national gender equality network to advance gender equality in Canada. The first meeting was held in Toronto on

September 18, 19 and 20. Our participation to this committee is funded by [Status of Women Canada](#).

#### **4. Investment in Early Learning and Child Care**

Following the [announcement](#) by the federal and provincial governments of a \$71 million investment in early learning and child care, the Coalition issued a [press release](#) congratulating the two levels of government while underlining the importance of fair wages for workers in the sector.

#### **5. Fundraising Campaign 2017-2018**

Our [8<sup>th</sup> fundraising campaign](#) will be launched in October. The next provincial election are less than a year away and this campaign will allow us to intensify our political actions while ensuring the stability of the Coalition. We are looking for volunteers to solicit funds. Do not hesitate to contact us!

#### **6. Please sign!**

If it reaches 500 signatures, a petition calling on the federal government to pass pay equity legislation will be tabled this fall in the [House of Commons](#). Sign it by clicking [here](#), before October 11<sup>th</sup>. We want to have as many New Brunswick signatures as possible!

#### **7. Community Mobilization**

On August 26<sup>th</sup>, we walked in Moncton's pride parade alongside several of our member organizations, including the [Greater Moncton River of Pride](#).

In September, we met with Melissa Langlais, President of the [Midwives Association of New Brunswick](#). Since there are few midwives in New Brunswick, unfortunately the [Pay Equity Act, 2009](#) does not apply to them. The law applies only to workplaces of ten or more employees.

On September 12<sup>th</sup> we organized a focus group as part of our Community Action Project with female workers in the Woodstock area to get their opinion on pay equity.

On September 15<sup>th</sup> we participated in a networking event of the [École de travail social](#) of the *l'Université de Moncton*.

#### **8. Internship**

The Coalition is pleased to have Émilie Savoie-Légère as an intern until December. Originally from Caraquet, she is a 3<sup>rd</sup> year student in criminology and psychology at the *Université de Moncton*.

#### **9. Lobbying Workshops**

The Coalition is organizing lobbying workshops across the province to prepare for the upcoming provincial election and to make pay equity a priority. They will be held in Moncton, Fredericton, Saint John, Bathurst and Edmundston. You can register here: <https://goo.gl/forms/xtdmZAHKC5WlzbbF3> or by contacting our office.

