

EXCERPTS FROM THE AUTUMN 2024

QUOI DE NEUF

RETRAITE

INDEXATION
ADDITIONNELLE :
UN PAS DANS LA
BONNE DIRECTION

ACTION SOCIOPOLITIQUE

PROGRAMME
D'ALLOCATION
PERSONNALISÉE
EN RPA : VICTOIRE !

DOSSIER

L'INTELLIGENCE
ARTIFICIELLE :
AU SERVICE DES
PERSONNES ÂÎNÉES ?

WE'RE OFF AND RUNNING...



Year two of our 2023-2026 three-year plan is well underway thanks to our association's super players. Hats off to the ten regional presidents and their teams for their commitment and generous gift of time. Their leadership contributes to the vitality of our regions.

In every sector, activities are picking up, with new ones being added. The involvement of sector boards, supported by their collaborators, is at the heart of AREQ's vitality. I warmly salute their creativity and dedication. Moreover, I urge you to participate, in large numbers, in the activities proposed, and even to suggest new pursuits! That's an empowering way to show your appreciation to those who, working on a volunteer basis, organize these events.

Overlying our rich community life at both the sectoral and regional levels, our national mission is to be "A voice for seniors". It was with confidence in our association's future that we took our summer holidays this year. After all, we had adopted a new brand, our three-year action plan was well underway, the government had agreed to contribute its share to the additional increase in our pension index and, above all, we had the satisfaction of knowing that progress is being made on important issues for Québec seniors.

In May, with the Coalition for Seniors' Dignity, we earned our stripes by making the National Meeting on Home Support a key event. We then engaged in meaningful discussions, not only with Minister Sonia Bélanger's cabinet, but also with representatives from the opposition parties. A true dialogue has begun, and we're finally speaking the same language: recognizing the need to maintain seniors' autonomy by, among other things, improving home care and home services.

There are other issues that are of growing concern to us. Think, for example, of the anxiety over the health and education systems, medical assistance for dying, pensions that do not keep pace with rising consumer costs, or issues related to housing. Add to this the effects of climate change, forcing us to take urgent collective action and leading AREQ to advocate in conjunction with the Collectif pour la suite du monde (movement advocating for the future of the world). And let's not forget the growing role of artificial intelligence in our lives, the subject of a special feature in this magazine.

As you can see, AREQ never lets down its guard and remains present on several fronts. Without your involvement, however, it is difficult to achieve our objectives. If, like us, you want to see Québec society prosper and bequeath to future generations a just, healthy and flourishing society, I invite you to contact the AREQ in your sector. The involvement, whether large or small, of all members is vital. I am convinced that Québec needs the contribution of its seniors.

► **MICHELINE GERMAIN**
AREQ President

ADDITIONAL INDEXATION OF PENSION BENEFITS:

A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

► **JOHANNE FREIRE**
Social Security Advisor



We are proud to announce that all AREQ's efforts were not in vain. The government finally decided to pay its share of the additional indexation of our RREGOP pensions. This means that you received an additional increase on your pension this summer.

The additional indexation of pension benefits is provided for RREGOP pensioners for the years of service accumulated between 1982 and 1999, when the sound footing of the RREGOP fund allows it. It is intended to partially compensate for the lower indexation applied for those years, compared to the years of service before and after that period.

Additional indexation of 0.8%

We had already confirmed an additional indexation of 0.4% from the participants' fund, in accordance with section 77.0.1 of the RREGOP Act. The government's recent decision to contribute its share doubled the amount. In concrete terms, the additional indexation paid over the summer provides a 0.8% increase for the portion of the pension corresponding to the years of service between 1982 and 1999. This is in addition to the regular index of 1.4% paid in January 2024 for the same period.

Years contributed	Regular index paid in January 2024	Additional index paid in the summer of 2024 (participants' share + government's share)	Total index increase in 2024
Between July 1, 1982 and December 31, 1999	1.4%	0.8%	2,2%

What about the TPP, CSSP and PPCT?

More good news: because of a trailer clause introduced into the RREGOP Act in 2011, this additional indexation of 0.8% will also be applied to the TPP, CSSP and PPCT pensions, based on the same parameters. The trailer clause was in fact proposed by AREQ before being introduced as an amendment to the Act.

AREQ members mobilized

It's a win-win situation for government pensioners and for AREQ, who has been working hard for nearly 40 years to combat the loss of purchasing power of its members. Last spring, our members mobilized to ask the government to pay its share of the additional index, so that all public sector pensioners are entitled to the increase, regardless of the pension plan to which they contributed.

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