

COALITION DES CHUS SANS PPP

THE CUSM, CHUM AND CRCHUM AS P3S FINANCIAL BLACK HOLES FOR CITIZENS

If the Liberals really intended to improve public finances, they would terminate the P3 contracts for the CHUM and the MUHC, the two super-hospitals. Behind a wall of trade secrets, they are digging a black hole that will erode public finances for the next 30 years. This is why the Coalition CHUs sans PPP demands that the government put an end to these P3s.

SHORT HISTORY OF A CON JOB

The history of the university hospitals built as P3s is full of irregularities that sow doubt about the benefits of these projects.

As early as 2009, *Le Devoir* reported that Québec's Auditor General denounced the fact that the dice were loaded from the outset to favour the P3 model.

The calls for tender were classic comedy routines, with partners merrily to-ing and fro-ing and mixing it up. Everything suggests that a handful of companies divvied up the contracts and had access to confidential information.

At the MUHC, SNC-Lavalin got the contract. Thanks to more than \$22 million in bribes, SNC-Lavalin gave itself an undue advantage by obtaining its competitor's plans.

30 YEARS OF DRAINING THE PUBLIC PURSE

The P3 nightmare doesn't end once the hospitals are built. In fact, it will continue for another 30 years, since the P3 firms continue to own the buildings and will be responsible for maintaining them (electricity, heating, air conditioning, plumbing, etc.). On top of that, all the contracts are secret.

Nobody has the right to know how much the P3 firms will charge us for maintenance of the buildings – not even how much they will charge for a lightbulb.

GETTING THE CONTRACTS CANCELLED REQUIRES A BIT OF DETERMINATION

Philippe Couillard shows no lack of determination when it's time to cut back on health care, education and all the other services for the population.

The same Philippe Couillard absolutely refuses to do anything when it's time to attack powerful financial interests. If Couillard had the P3 contracts cancelled, it could save us hundreds of millions of dollars.

WHEN THE MIRACLE TURNS INTO A NIGHTMARE

The MUHC had scarcely been "delivered" and there were already more than 3,000 defects, according to the *Journal de Montréal*:

- non-compliant 15-amp electrical outlet, instead of the 20-amp outlets the *Electrical Code* requires in hospitals;
- medical equipment that can't be used because the electrical outlets aren't there;
- electric panels that have to be changed so that circuits can be added to plug in medical equipment;
- inadequate ventilation where hazardous products are unpacked;
- brand-new washbasins that have to be changed because they don't meet disinfection standards;
- sewer lines backing up to the second floor of the hospital.

PUT AN END TO THE P3 FIASCO

Mr. Couillard, you should remember what Minister Barrette said about P3s in 2009:

Gaétan Barrette rails against P3s. "You can't build a university hospital as a P3, the formula is too rigid. A bridge, OK; a road, OK. You just redo the asphalt every five years, that's all. P3s freezes things at a point in time, but a hospital moves, evolves. It's like Christ and the antichrist!"

MR. COUILLARD, being transparent begins with publicly disclosing how much the two P3 hospitals have cost so far, and how much their maintenance for the next 30 years will cost.

MR. COUILLARD, we think rigour begins with putting an end to contracts that were tainted before they were ever signed, contracts marred by corruption, fraud and collusion that have exceeded projected costs by hundreds of millions of dollars.

MR. COUILLARD, responsibility means protecting public services against budget cuts and putting an end to the P3s that are draining the public purse.



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