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Press Clippings for the period of October 21-27, 2011  
Revue de presse pour la période du 21 au 27 octobre 2011

### English Media

October 27

#### **Ohio referendum on public-sector collective bargaining: The MEI reports**

Ohioans will be called upon this November 8 to vote in a referendum on a reform that would limit collective bargaining in the public sector. This reform would also remove the right to strike from 300,000 municipal and school employees. The *Viewpoint* published today by the Montreal Economic Institute (MEI) provides an overview of the situation to help people better understand the issues involved.

<http://www.digitaljournal.com/pr/468153>

#### **Salary gains expected in 2012**

The economy may be uncertain, but it looks like Canadian workers can still expect their salaries to increase—albeit, at a modest rate.

Salaries are predicted to rise by an average of 3.1% in 2012, the Conference Board of Canada announced at its Compensation Outlook conference, held in Toronto on Oct. 25.

<http://www.benefitscanada.com/news/salary-gains-expected-in-2012-22123>

#### **Defined pension plans threatened**

Among the casualties of the recent financial crisis and the "Great Recession" that followed in its wake are the retirement plans of millions of baby boomers. Most vulnerable are people nearing retirement who lack the security provided by defined-benefit pension plans.

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/opinion/westview/defined-pension-plans-threatened-132680013.html>

## **Salutin: Drawing inspiration from the strike that wasn't**

My mind keeps drifting back to the recent Air Canada flight attendants' strike that never happened, as a result of threats from the Harper government. I know it's already mouldy in news-cycle terms but its significance, its potential as a teachable moment, only became clear with the spread of the Occupy movements and their demand for some genuine democratic experience, versus the sham versions we now get in most elections.

<http://www.thestar.com/opinion/editorialopinion/article/1077289--salutin-drawing-inspiration-from-the-strike-that-wasn-t>

October 26
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## **After a decade of growth, public-sector hiring flatlines**

The decade-long expansion of the federal public service ended last year and is expected to begin a downward trajectory as the government shaves its work force to meet deficit-reduction targets.

A new report of the Public Service Commission says 14.3-per-cent fewer people were hired as federal employees in 2010-11 than in the year before. The biggest decline was in the signing of full-time, permanent staff.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/after-a-decade-of-growth-public-sector-hiring-flatlines/article2213350/>

## **Veterans Affairs confirms plan for 500 job cuts**

Canada's Veterans Affairs Department is expected to get smaller by 500 jobs over the next few years, a House of Commons committee was told Tuesday as senior officials defended \$226 million in planned budget cuts.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/story/2011/10/26/pol-veterans-job-cuts.html>

## **Harper's crime bill needs cost-effective prevention**

The Harper government has promised to fight for victims of crime. Canadians will get a lot more expensive reaction, but how about cost-effective prevention as well? Parliament should add a Crime Reduction Board to the government's omnibus crime bill.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/opinions/opinion/harpers-crime-bill-needs-cost-effective-prevention/article2209906/>

## **Salaries expected to rise faster than inflation next year**

Non-unionized workers in Canada are expected to receive average pay hikes of 3.1 per cent next year, but will they really be any further ahead once inflation raises the cost of their groceries and their day-to-day living expenses?

<http://www.vancouversun.com/business/Salaries+expected+rise+faster+than+inflation+next+year/5601954/story.html>

## **Tory bill off the mark, researchers say**

Key elements of the federal government's "tough on crime" package have proven costly and ineffective in other countries and will discriminate against first nations and the mentally ill, an analysis by Vancouver researchers has found.

Alana Cook and Ronald Roesch of Simon Fraser University's psychology department looked at data from other jurisdictions that have already implemented some of the policies Canada is now pursuing in terms of cost, effect on crime rates and impact on vulnerable populations. Much of the data came from the United States.

<http://www.vancouversun.com/news/Tory+bill+mark+researchers/5601074/story.html>

## **Postal union claims victory in arbitrator challenge**

The union representing Canada's postal workers says it has won a "significant victory" in its battle with the federal government.

A Federal Court judge is agreeing to delay arbitration proceedings for three months until the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) can challenge the government's choice of arbitrator in January 2012.

<http://www.labour-reporter.com/articleview?articleid=11539&headline=postal-union-claims-victory-in-arbitrator-challenge>

## **Walker's plan gives Wis. state workers no raises**

Wisconsin state workers will not receive salary increases during the next two years, but they also won't see major changes in other benefits under the first pay plan that Gov. Scott Walker's administration put forward under a law that essentially did away with public employees' collective bargaining rights.

<http://www.canadianbusiness.com/article/53129--apnewsbreak-wisconsin-state-workers-get-no-raises>

## **Economists to give Jim Flaherty bad news**

Private-sector economists will deliver some bad – although not unexpected – news when they meet with federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty on Tuesday: The government's numbers are too rosy, and some are questioning whether Ottawa will meet its timeline for erasing the deficit.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/economy/economists-to-give-jim-flaherty-bad-news/article2212089/>

**October 24**

## **We don't have to surrender to public-sector unions**

In the Great Depression, Franklin Roosevelt declared categorically that he would not give government workers the right to strike. "A strike of public employees manifests nothing less than an intention on their part to obstruct the operation of government until their demands are satisfied," he said.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/opinions/opinion/we-dont-have-to-surrender-to-public-sector-unions/article2209954/>

## **New military justice manual aims for change**

Authors of a new "wall-to-wall" manual outlining the Canadian military justice system are hoping their 1,900-page tome will spark a discussion about ways to improve it.

Military Justice in Action: National Defence Legislation Annotated, written by military legal expert and professor Col. Michel Drapeau and Federal Court Justice Gilles Letourneau, will be launched Tuesday at the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa.

<http://www.torontosun.com/2011/10/24/new-military-justice-manual-aims-for-change>

**October 23**

## **Attrition alone won't meet feds' reduction targets, says staffing watchdog**

Canada's staffing watchdog warns that federal departments can't simply count on attrition to manage job losses if they face large spending cuts to meet the government's targets.

Maria Barrados, president of the Public Service Commission, said attrition can work for small reductions, but the bigger the spending cuts the more difficult it becomes to manage by attrition alone. The government has an attrition rate of five per cent — and about three per cent

of that is due to retirement. Among executives, where retirements are highest, attrition is closer to nine per cent.

<http://www.vancouversun.com/business/Attrition+alone+meet+feds+reduction+targets+says+saffing+watchdog/5599644/story.html>

## Médias francophones

**26 Octobre**

### Gare aux coupes dans la fonction publique fédérale

La Commission de la fonction publique du Canada a appelé hier les autorités à la prudence, leur enjoignant de ne pas faire plus de mal que de bien en sabrant le personnel.

La CFP a souligné que le nombre de fonctionnaires était demeuré «pratiquement inchangé» en 2010-2011 par rapport à l'exercice précédent.

<http://www.ledevoir.com/politique/canada/334484/gare-aux-coupes-dans-la-fonction-publique-federale>

**21 Octobre**

### Mise en garde des procureurs: C-10 causera trop de procès

Les procureurs de la Couronne ont mis en garde le gouvernement conservateur hier que leur projet de loi omnibus en matière de justice pourrait avoir un effet pervers: la remise en liberté d'accusés parce qu'ils n'ont pas été jugés en temps opportun.

L'Association canadienne des juristes de l'État a comparu en comité parlementaire pour donner son avis sur le projet de loi C-10 resserrant la justice criminelle. Selon ce regroupement des avocats du gouvernement fédéral, et des provinces et territoires, le projet de loi risque d'accroître leur charge de travail de manière «critique» parce qu'il multipliera le nombre de procès.

<http://www.ledevoir.com/politique/canada/334123/mise-en-garde-des-procureurs-c-10-causera-trop-de-proces>