



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 27 April 2016 — No. 167

**President of the National Assembly:
Mr. Jacques Chagnon**

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 9.40 o'clock a.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Mr. Habel (Sainte-Rose) made a statement to underline Brigadier-General Luis de Sousa's military career.

Mrs. Poirier (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) made a statement to underline the 25th anniversary of Regroupement de services intégrés Propulsion.

Mr. Polo (Laval-des-Rapides) made a statement to congratulate Association des joueurs de hockey Express de Laval's teams for their athletic achievements.

Mrs. Samson (Iberville) made a statement to underline the 45th anniversary of the company Constellation Brands Québec.

Mr. Giguère (Saint-Maurice) made a statement to congratulate Mrs. Myriam Lortie, journalist at the Hebdo du Saint-Maurice weekly newspaper, for winning the Michelle-Roy award.

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Mrs. David (Gouin) made a statement to underline the achievements of the alternative mental health resource Le Rebond.

Mr. Daoust (Verdun) made a statement to underline Rail Safety Week.

Mr. Surprenant (Groulx) made a statement to underline the 25th Québec Mining Week.

Mrs. Thériault (Anjou–Louis-Riel) made a statement to underline the 25th anniversary of Fondation du Sanctuaire Marie-Reine-des-Cœurs de Montréal.

Mr. Bergeron (Verchères) made a statement to underline the 40th anniversary of Association de Chasse et Pêche de Contrecoeur.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 54.1 and 54.3, Mrs. Maltais (Taschereau) made a statement to underline the 40th anniversary of L'Arche L'Étoile.

At 9.53 o'clock a.m., Mrs. Gaudreault, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

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Moment of reflection

Presenting Papers

Mrs. Charbonneau, Minister responsible for Seniors and Anti-Bullying, tabled the following:

The 2014–2015 annual report on the activities of the Caregiver Support Fund and those of the Société de gestion L'Appui national.

(Sessional Paper No. 2138-20160427)

The President tabled the following:

A letter, dated 22 April 2016, from Mr. Navdeep Bains, the federal Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, in response to the motion concerning the Bombardier CSeries project carried unanimously by the Assembly on 17 February 2016.

(Sessional Paper No. 2139-20160427)

Presenting Reports from Committees

The President tabled the reports from the parliamentary committees that examined the estimates of expenditure of the government departments for the 2016–2017 fiscal year:

The report from the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources;

(Sessional Paper No. 2140-20160427)

The report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain;

(Sessional Paper No. 2141-20160427)

The report from the Committee on Culture and Education;

(Sessional Paper No. 2142-20160427)

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The report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy;
(Sessional Paper No. 2143-20160427)

The report from the Committee on Public Finance;
(Sessional Paper No. 2144-20160427)

The report from the Committee on Institutions;
(Sessional Paper No. 2145-20160427)

The report from the Committee on Citizen Relations;
(Sessional Paper No. 2146-20160427)

The report from the Committee on Health and Social Services;
(Sessional Paper No. 2147-20160427)

The report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment.
(Sessional Paper No. 2148-20160427)

Presenting Petitions

Mrs. D'Amours (Mirabel) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition on a memorial to persons killed or injured in the workplace, signed by 43 citizens of Québec.
(Sessional Paper No. 2149-20160427)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

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Motions Without Notice

Mr. Cloutier (Lac-Saint-Jean), together with Mrs. David (Gouin), moved a motion concerning hiring young dropouts; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Bonnardel, Second Opposition Group House Leader, together with Mrs. David (Gouin), moved:

THAT the National Assembly recognize the importance of fighting compulsive gambling, especially in disadvantaged sectors;

THAT it ask the Government to seriously consider the proposal calling for the number of video lottery machines operated in Québec to be reduced from 11,620 to 10,000.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. Vien, Minister responsible for Labour, together with Mr. Bergeron (Verchères), Mr. Picard (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière) and Mrs. David (Gouin), moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the National Day of Mourning, dedicated to remembering the victims of workplace accidents, to be held tomorrow, 28 April 2016;

THAT this commemoration remind us that workers' health and safety is a priority for our society;

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THAT the National Assembly also mark International Workers' Day, to be held on Sunday, 1 May 2016.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

At the request of Mrs. Gaudreault, Second Vice-President, the Assembly observed a minute of silence.

Mrs. David (Gouin), together with Mr. Lisée (Rosemont) and Mr. Paradis (Lévis), moved a motion concerning the parents of children with severe disabilities; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. Sklavounos, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following committees:

- the Committee on Public Finance, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 74, An Act respecting mainly the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speech of 26 March 2015;
- the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, to undertake clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 83, An Act to amend various municipal-related legislative provisions concerning such matters as political financing;
- the Committee on Health and Social Services, to undertake public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 92, An Act to extend the powers of the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec and to amend various legislative provisions;

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- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 70, An Act to allow a better match between training and jobs and to facilitate labour market entry.
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ORDERS OF THE DAY

Estimates of Expenditure

Estimates of the National Assembly

On the motion moved by Mr. Sklavounos, Deputy Government House Leader, and pursuant to Standing Order 286, the Assembly resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to examine the estimates of expenditure for the National Assembly for the 2016–2017 fiscal year.

Committee of the Whole

Mr. Ouimet, Chair of the Committee of the Whole, informed the Committee that the period allotted for examination of the estimates shall not exceed two hours and that the speaking time shall be allotted as follows: 30 minutes to the President for his opening remarks; approximately 45 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government; approximately 27 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition and approximately 18 minutes to the Second Opposition Group.

The Committee of the Whole undertook examination of the estimates of expenditure for the National Assembly.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 20, the proceedings of the Committee of the Whole continued beyond 1.00 o'clock p.m.

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Examination of the estimates of expenditure for the National Assembly being concluded, Mr. Busque (Beauce-Sud), member of the Committee of the Whole, reported to the Assembly.

At 1.10 o'clock p.m., Mr. Ouimet, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 3.00 o'clock p.m.

Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition

Mr. Legault, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, moved:

THAT the National Assembly recognize the importance of school dropout prevention, particularly through interventions aimed at detecting and preventing learning delays in preschoolers;

THAT it ask the Government to develop, over a five-year period, a universal, but optional, preschool system for four-year-olds as of 2017.

Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this limited debate: 10 minutes to the mover of the motion for his reply; approximately 51 minutes 30 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Government; approximately 30 minutes 54 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; approximately 20 minutes 36 seconds to the Second Opposition Group; and 7 minutes to the independent Members, subject to a maximum of 2 minutes to the Member for Arthabaska. Within this framework, any time not used by the independent Members or by a parliamentary group shall be redistributed among the parliamentary groups in the proportions established above. Lastly, individual addresses shall not be limited.

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A debate arose thereon.

At the end of his address, Mr. Proulx, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, moved:

THAT the motion moved by Mr. Legault, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, be amended as follows:

By replacing, in the fifth and sixth lines, after the word “Government”, the words “to develop, over a five-year period, a universal, but optional, preschool system for four-year-olds as of 2017” by the words “of Québec to continue developing kindergarten classes for four-year-olds, giving precedence to children in disadvantaged sectors, starting in fall 2016”.

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly recognize the importance of school dropout prevention, particularly through interventions aimed at detecting and preventing learning delays in preschoolers;

THAT it ask the Government of Québec to continue developing kindergarten classes for four-year-olds, giving precedence to children in disadvantaged sectors, starting in fall 2016.

The debate continued on the main motion moved by Mr. Legault, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, and on the amendment motion moved by Mr. Proulx, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, subject to the permission of its author.

At the end of her address, Mrs. David (Gouin) moved:

THAT the motion moved by Mr. Legault, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, be amended as follows:

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By replacing, in the second paragraph, the words “to develop, over a five-year period, a universal, but optional, preschool system for four-year-olds as of 2017” by the words “to continue supporting the development of childcare centres, including groups for four-year-olds, while continuing to develop preschools for four-year-olds for Québec’s disadvantaged children”.

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly recognize the importance of school dropout prevention, particularly through interventions aimed at detecting and preventing learning delays in preschoolers;

THAT it ask the Government to continue supporting the development of childcare centres, including groups for four-year-olds, while continuing to develop preschools for four-year-olds for Québec’s disadvantaged children.

Pursuant to Standing Order 98.1, Mr. Legault, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, refused the amendments proposed by Mr. Proulx, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, and Mrs. David (Gouin).

The debate continued on the main motion moved by Mr. Legault, Leader of the Second Opposition Group.

At the end of her address, Mrs. Léger (Pointe-aux-Trembles) moved:

THAT the motion moved by Mr. Legault, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, be amended as follows:

By adding at the end of the second paragraph: “, giving precedence to disadvantaged sectors and then evaluating the possibility of extending the network throughout Québec based on an in-depth analysis of the results of phase one”.

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The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly recognize the importance of school dropout prevention, particularly through interventions aimed at detecting and preventing learning delays in preschoolers;

THAT it ask the Government to develop, over a five-year period, a universal, but optional, preschool system for four-year-olds as of 2017, giving precedence to disadvantaged sectors and then evaluating the possibility of extending the network throughout Québec based on an in-depth analysis of the results of phase one.

Pursuant to Standing Order 98.1, Mr. Legault, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, refused the amendment proposed by Mrs. Léger (Pointe-aux-Trembles).

The debate being concluded, the question was put on this motion, and a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

At the request of Mr. Sklavounos, Deputy Government House Leader, the division was deferred until Routine Proceedings on the next sitting day.

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mr. Leitão, Minister responsible for Government Administration and Ongoing Program Review and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, moved that Bill 94, An Act to authorize the making of collective agreements with a term of more than three years in the public and parapublic sectors, do now pass in principle.

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After debate thereon, the motion was carried, and Bill 94 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Sklavounos, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 94 be referred to the Committee on Public Finance for clause-by-clause consideration.

The motion was carried.

Mrs. de Santis, Minister responsible for Access to Information and the Reform of Democratic Institutions, moved that Bill 93, An Act to amend the Act respecting the National Assembly to reflect changes made to the delimitation of electoral divisions in accordance with the Notice of the establishment of the list of electoral divisions dated 12 October 2011, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried, and Bill 93 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Sklavounos, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 93 be referred to the Committee of the Whole for clause-by-clause consideration.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Sklavounos, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that the Assembly resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 93, An Act to amend the Act respecting the National Assembly to reflect changes made to the delimitation of electoral divisions in accordance with the Notice of the establishment of the list of electoral divisions dated 12 October 2011.

The motion was carried.

Committee of the Whole

Bill 93 was considered in the Committee of the Whole and thereupon reported.

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The report was concurred in.

Passage

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 230, Mrs. de Santis, Minister responsible for Access to Information and the Reform of Democratic Institutions, moved the passage of Bill 93, An Act to amend the Act respecting the National Assembly to reflect changes made to the delimitation of electoral divisions in accordance with the Notice of the establishment of the list of electoral divisions dated 12 October 2011.

The motion was carried and, accordingly, Bill 93 was passed.

Mr. Sklavounos, Deputy Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Thursday, 28 April 2016 at 9.40 o'clock a.m.

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, at 5.31 o'clock p.m., Mr. Ouimet, First Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 28 April 2016 at 9.40 o'clock a.m.

JACQUES CHAGNON

President