



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Thursday, 22 February 2018 — No. 314

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

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 9.41 o'clock a.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Mr. Morin (Côte-du-Sud) made a statement to applaud the work of the student recycling venture Ski's récup.

Mrs. Lamarre (Taillon) made a statement to congratulate Dr. Gilles Lepage, recipient of the "Ordre du mérite vétérinaire" award.

Mrs. Gaudreault (Hull) made a statement to pay tribute to Mrs. Pierrette Froment-Savoie, musician, teacher and composer.

Mrs. Lavallée (Repentigny) made a statement to underline the 35th anniversary of the Maison des Jeunes de Repentigny.

Mrs. de Santis (Bourassa-Sauvé) made a statement to underline Black History Month.

Mrs. Jean (Chicoutimi) made a statement to underline the Sœurs du Bon-Pasteur de Chicoutimi's contribution to improving women's well-being.

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Mr. D'Amour (Rivière-du-Loup–Témiscouata) made a statement to pay tribute to Father Ronald Landry for his commitment to the community of Rivière-du-Loup.

Mr. Paradis (Lévis) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Marcel Noël, Director General of La Société Grand Village.

Mr. Billette (Huntingdon) made a statement to underline Cercle de fermières Sainte-Martine's 100th anniversary.

Mrs. Ménard (Laporte) made a statement to pay tribute to the Association de la Rive-Sud pour la déficience intellectuelle.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 54.1 and 54.3, Mr. Lelièvre (Gaspé) made a statement to underline the heroic act of five Cégep de la Gaspésie et des Îles Adventure Tourism students.

At 9.54 o'clock a.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 10.01 o'clock a.m.

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Moment of reflection

Introduction of Bills

On behalf of Mr. Poëti, Minister for Integrity in Public Procurement and for Information Resources, Mr. Arcand, Minister responsible for Government Administration and Ongoing Program Review and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following bill:

- 171 An Act to enact the Act respecting the implementation of the Canadian Free Trade Agreement and to bring measures relating to contracting by public bodies into compliance with that agreement, the Trade and Cooperation Agreement between Ontario and Québec and the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement between Canada and the European Union and its Member States

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, Bill 171 was introduced in the Assembly.

Presenting Papers

Mrs. Montpetit, Minister of Culture and Communications, tabled the following:

The 2016–2017 annual activity report of the Conservatoire de musique et d'art dramatique du Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 4087-20180222)

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Mrs. Thériault, Minister responsible for Consumer Protection and for Housing, tabled the following:

The 2017–2020 strategic plan of the Régie du logement.
(Sessional Paper No. 4088-20180222)

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Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, tabled the following:

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 28 November 2017 by Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin) on reinvesting in cultural organizations;
(Sessional Paper No. 4089-20180222)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 6 February 2018 by Mr. Jolin-Barrette (Borduas) on amalgamating the cities of Belœil, Mont-Saint-Hilaire and Otterburn Park and the municipality of McMasterville;
(Sessional Paper No. 4090-20180222)

The Government's reply to petitions tabled on 7 February 2018 by Mr. Girard (Trois-Rivières) on tax measures granted to occupants of private seniors' residences.
(Sessional Paper No. 4091-20180222)

The President issued his directive on the question raised by Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin) on 8 February 2018 concerning his address during the debate held on 7 February 2018 under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition. The Member had been interrupted on a point of order, which caused him to lose some of the speaking time allotted to him for the debate.

DIRECTIVE FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair recalls that parliamentary jurisprudence has established that the time devoted to a point of order raised during a Member's address is counted in the Member's speaking time. This practice applies to all debates and all Members, whether they belong to a parliamentary group or sit as an independent Member.

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However, as guardian of the minority's rights, the Chair must ensure that Opposition Members can express themselves. All the more so for independent Members, whose speaking time, especially during limited debates, is restricted on the basis of overall speaking time allocation, which cannot be changed.

Consequently, the Chair must be particularly vigilant when a point of order is raised during an independent Member's address. Given the limited time at the Member's disposal, the time devoted to a point of order will clearly affect the Member's speaking time considerably. This is not to say that independent Members are immune to points of order. Like any other Member, independent Members are subject to points of order if they violate the Standing Orders during their address.

In the case at hand, the point of order raised concerns use of the expression [TRANSLATION] "electoral interests...or disinterests" of the Government. Expressions of this type, which refer to electoral motives, are likely to be repeated during debates. In interpreting Standing Order 35, parliamentary jurisprudence has established that the Chair must always take into account the atmosphere in the room and the tone used.

The Chair recalls that the National Assembly is the ideal venue for debating our society's key issues and, as a political forum in which opposing views are debated, is often witness to Members disagreeing with their colleagues. Under these circumstances, points of order sometimes become tools of parliamentary strategy to interrupt a speaker's flow or rebut his or her arguments.

The President considers this to have been the situation in the case at hand.

Regarding "words deemed unparliamentary", the Chair is best placed to decide whether or not the context requires intervention. Furthermore, if a Member flouts the boundaries of what is permitted, the President will intervene on his own initiative. In grey areas, the President exercises his judgment and observes the general atmosphere before determining whether it is necessary or useful to cut off a Member to intervene on a point of order. Of course, Members and parliamentary leaders can raise points of order and the President will assess the situation, if applicable.

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Nevertheless, the Chair expects Members to avoid systematically intervening as soon as an expression bothers them, since this is not the criterion for raising a point of order. The Chair wishes to protect the Members' ability to debate as freely as possible, and raising a point of order too quickly can prevent indepth debate on an issue. In this context, it falls to the President to rapidly put an end to a debate on procedure that would, in effect, thwart Members' rights, particularly those of independent Members, who have only limited speaking time. In this regard, the Chair reiterates that one of its main roles is specifically to safeguard the minority's rights.

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

Deferred Divisions

The Assembly took the division, which had been deferred at the sitting of 21 February 2018, on the motion moved by Mrs. Vien, Minister responsible for Labour, for the passage in principle of Bill 152, An Act to amend various labour-related legislative provisions mainly to give effect to certain Charbonneau Commission recommendations.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **426** in Appendix)

Yeas: **103** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

Accordingly, Bill 152 was passed in principle.

Mr. Tanguay, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 152 be referred to the Committee on Labour and the Economy for clause-by-clause consideration.

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The motion was carried.

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Bonnardel, Second Opposition Group House Leader, together with Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque), Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques), Mr. Lelièvre (Gaspé), Mr. Surprenant (Groulx) and Mrs. Ouellet (Vachon), moved a motion on future transport projects funded by the Québec Government; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. David, Minister responsible for the Status of Women, together with Mrs. Poirier (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve), Mrs. Fournier (Marie-Victorin), Mrs. Lavallée (Repentigny), Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin), Mr. Lelièvre (Gaspé), Mr. Surprenant (Groulx) and Mrs. Ouellet (Vachon), moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark International Women's Day, which will be celebrated on 8 March 2018;

THAT it recall that gender equality is a cornerstone of Québec society and a factor in Québec's economic and social development and prosperity;

THAT it encourage Quebecers to play an active role in finding appropriate solutions to achieve de facto gender equality;

THAT it support initiatives aimed at fostering a Québec society marked by fairness, solidarity and equality;

THAT, lastly, it reiterate the importance and necessity of celebrating International Women's Day still today.

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By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. LeBel (Rimouski), together with Mr. Martel (Nicolet-Bécancour), Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie-Saint-Jacques), Mr. Lelièvre (Gaspé), Mr. Surprenant (Groulx) and Mrs. Ouellet (Vachon), moved:

THAT the National Assembly demand a complete upgrade of port infrastructures, at the expense of the Federal Government, before transferring federal ports to the Québec Government or to a municipality.

The question was put on this motion, and a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 427 in Appendix)

Yeas: **98** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

Mrs. Ouellet (Vachon), together with Mr. Bérubé, Official Opposition House Leader, Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin) and Mr. Lelièvre (Gaspé), moved a motion on Télé-Québec; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 84.1 and pursuant to Standing Order 146, Mr. Tanguay, Deputy Government House Leader, moved:

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THAT, within the framework of the consideration of Bill 128, An Act to promote the protection of persons by establishing a framework with regard to dogs, the Committee on Institutions hold special consultations and public hearings on 20, 21 and 22 March 2018;

THAT, for this purpose, the Committee hear the following:

Ordre des médecins vétérinaires du Québec
Union des municipalités du Québec
Fédération québécoise des municipalités
National Pitbull Victim Awareness
Mrs. Lise Vadnais
Association québécoise des SPA et SPCQ
Montreal SPCA
Canadian Kennel Club – Québec
Companion Animal Adoption Centres of Québec
Dog Legislation Council of Canada
Canadian Veterinary Medical Association
Chiots nordiques
Ville de Montréal
Leader of the Opposition, Ville de Montréal
Ville de Québec
Mr. Bernard Biron
Barreau du Québec;

THAT a period of 12 minutes be set aside for opening statements, allocated as follows: 6 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government, 3 minutes 30 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition, and 2 minutes 30 seconds to the Second Opposition Group;

THAT the presentation by each individual or organization last no longer than 10 minutes and the exchange with the Committee members last no longer than 35 minutes, allocated as follows: 17 minutes 30 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Government, 10 minutes 30 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition, and 7 minutes to the Second Opposition Group;

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THAT the Minister of Public Security be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 165, An Act to amend the Highway Safety Code and other provisions;
- the Committee on Health and Social Services, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 157, An Act to constitute the Société québécoise du cannabis, to enact the Cannabis Regulation Act and to amend various highway safety-related provisions;
- the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 155, An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning municipal affairs and the Société d'habitation du Québec;
- the Committee on Culture and Education, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 166, An Act to reform the school tax system;
- the Committee on Public Finance, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 141, An Act mainly to improve the regulation of the financial sector, the protection of deposits of money and the operation of financial institutions.

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And, by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 143, he convened the following committee:

- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to hold public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 162, An Act to amend the Building Act and other legislative provisions mainly to give effect to certain Charbonneau Commission recommendations.

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Mrs. Gaudreault, Second Vice-President, gave the following notices:

- the Committee on Public Finance shall hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the observations, conclusions and recommendations, if any, regarding the document on tax havens and the action plan to ensure tax fairness entitled “Paradis fiscaux : Plan d’action pour assurer l’équité fiscale”;
- the Committee on Institutions shall hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the possibility of carrying out an order of initiative.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mrs. Gaudreault, Second Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Friday, 16 March 2018, Mr. Roberge (Chambly) would question Mr. Proulx, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, during an interpellation on regional inequities brought about by the Liberal school tax lottery.

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ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mrs. Weil, Minister responsible for Access to Information and the Reform of Democratic Institutions, moved that Bill 164, An Act respecting access to certain documents held by the Conseil exécutif or intended for the Conseil exécutif, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried, and Bill 164 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, moved that Bill 164 be referred to the Committee on Institutions for clause-by-clause consideration.

The motion was carried.

At 12.08 o'clock p.m., at the request of Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, Mrs. Gaudreault, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 6.00 o'clock p.m.

Debates upon Adjournment

At 6.05 o'clock p.m., the Assembly held a debate upon adjournment on a question from Mrs. Léger (Pointe-aux-Trembles) to Mr. Fortin, Minister of Transport, Sustainable Mobility and Transport Electrification, on transportation in the Pointe-de-l'Île sector. Mr. Coiteux, Minister responsible for the Montréal region, replaced the Minister for this debate.

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At 6.16 o'clock p.m., Mr. Ouimet, First Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Tuesday, 13 March 2018 at 1.40 o'clock p.m.

ROYAL ASSENT

On Thursday, 22 February 2018 at 2.30 o'clock p.m. in the Office of the Lieutenant-Governor, in the presence of Mr. Arsenault, Director General of Parliamentary Affairs and Delegate of the Secretary General, the Honourable J. Michel Doyon, Lieutenant-Governor of Québec, was pleased to assent to the following bill:

- 149 An Act to enhance the Québec Pension Plan and to amend various retirement-related legislative provisions

JACQUES CHAGNON

President

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APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion moved by Mrs. Vien, Minister responsible for Labour:

(Division No. 426)

YEAS - 103

Anglade (<i>QLP</i>)	Drolet (<i>QLP</i>)	Lessard (<i>QLP</i>)	Rousselle (<i>QLP</i>)
Arcand (<i>QLP</i>)	Fortin (<i>QLP</i>)	Maltais (<i>PQ</i>)	Roy (<i>CAQ</i>)
Auger (<i>QLP</i>)	(<i>Pontiac</i>)	Marceau (<i>PQ</i>)	(<i>Montarville</i>)
Barrette (<i>QLP</i>)	Fournier (<i>QLP</i>)	Martel (<i>CAQ</i>)	Roy (<i>PQ</i>)
Bergeron (<i>PQ</i>)	(<i>Saint-Laurent</i>)	Massé (<i>IND</i>)	(<i>Bonaventure</i>)
Bernier (<i>QLP</i>)	Gaudreault (<i>PQ</i>)	Matte (<i>QLP</i>)	Sauvé (<i>QLP</i>)
Bérubé (<i>PQ</i>)	(<i>Jonquière</i>)	Melançon (<i>QLP</i>)	Schneeberger (<i>CAQ</i>)
Billette (<i>QLP</i>)	Giguère (<i>QLP</i>)	Ménard (<i>QLP</i>)	Simard (<i>QLP</i>)
Birnbaum (<i>QLP</i>)	Girard (<i>QLP</i>)	Merlini (<i>QLP</i>)	(<i>Dubuc</i>)
Blais (<i>QLP</i>)	Habel (<i>QLP</i>)	Montpetit (<i>QLP</i>)	Soucy (<i>CAQ</i>)
Blanchette (<i>QLP</i>)	Hardy (<i>QLP</i>)	Moreau (<i>QLP</i>)	Spénard (<i>CAQ</i>)
Bolduc (<i>QLP</i>)	Heurtel (<i>QLP</i>)	Morin (<i>QLP</i>)	St-Denis (<i>QLP</i>)
Bonnardel (<i>CAQ</i>)	Hivon (<i>PQ</i>)	Nadeau-Dubois (<i>IND</i>)	St-Pierre (<i>QLP</i>)
Boucher (<i>QLP</i>)	Huot (<i>QLP</i>)	Nichols (<i>QLP</i>)	Surprenant (<i>IND</i>)
Boulet (<i>QLP</i>)	Iracà (<i>QLP</i>)	Ouellet (<i>PQ</i>)	Tanguay (<i>QLP</i>)
Bourcier (<i>PQ</i>)	Jean (<i>PQ</i>)	(<i>René-Lévesque</i>)	Thériault (<i>QLP</i>)
Bourgeois (<i>QLP</i>)	Jolin-Barrette (<i>CAQ</i>)	Ouellet (<i>IND</i>)	Therrien (<i>PQ</i>)
Busque (<i>QLP</i>)	Kelley (<i>QLP</i>)	(<i>Vachon</i>)	Traversy (<i>PQ</i>)
Caire (<i>CAQ</i>)	Khadir (<i>IND</i>)	Ouellette (<i>QLP</i>)	Tremblay (<i>QLP</i>)
Carrière (<i>QLP</i>)	Kotto (<i>PQ</i>)	Pagé (<i>PQ</i>)	Turcotte (<i>PQ</i>)
Charette (<i>CAQ</i>)	Laframboise (<i>CAQ</i>)	Picard (<i>CAQ</i>)	Vallée (<i>QLP</i>)
Charlebois (<i>QLP</i>)	Lamarre (<i>PQ</i>)	Plante (<i>QLP</i>)	Vien (<i>QLP</i>)
Chevarie (<i>QLP</i>)	Lavallée (<i>CAQ</i>)	Poirier (<i>PQ</i>)	Villeneuve (<i>PQ</i>)
Coiteux (<i>QLP</i>)	LeBel (<i>PQ</i>)	Polo (<i>QLP</i>)	Weil (<i>QLP</i>)
Couillard (<i>QLP</i>)	Leclair (<i>PQ</i>)	Proulx (<i>QLP</i>)	
Cousineau (<i>PQ</i>)	Léger (<i>PQ</i>)	Reid (<i>QLP</i>)	
D'Amour (<i>QLP</i>)	Leitão (<i>QLP</i>)	Roberge (<i>CAQ</i>)	
David (<i>QLP</i>)	Lelièvre (<i>IND</i>)	Rochon (<i>PQ</i>)	
de Santis (<i>QLP</i>)	Lemay (<i>CAQ</i>)	Rotiroti (<i>QLP</i>)	

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On the motion moved by Mr. LeBel (Rimouski), together with Mr. Martel (Nicolet-Bécancour), Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie-Saint-Jacques), Mr. Lelièvre (Gaspé), Mr. Surprenant (Groulx) and Mrs. Ouellet (Vachon):

(Division No. 427)

YEAS - 98

Anglade (<i>QLP</i>)	de Santis (<i>QLP</i>)	Lelièvre (<i>IND</i>)	Roberge (<i>CAQ</i>)
Arcand (<i>QLP</i>)	Drolet (<i>QLP</i>)	Lemay (<i>CAQ</i>)	Rochon (<i>PQ</i>)
Auger (<i>QLP</i>)	Fortin (<i>QLP</i>)	Lessard (<i>QLP</i>)	Rotiroti (<i>QLP</i>)
Barrette (<i>QLP</i>)	(<i>Pontiac</i>)	Maltais (<i>PQ</i>)	Rousselle (<i>QLP</i>)
Bergeron (<i>PQ</i>)	Fournier (<i>QLP</i>)	Marceau (<i>PQ</i>)	Roy (<i>PQ</i>)
Bernier (<i>QLP</i>)	(<i>Saint-Laurent</i>)	Martel (<i>CAQ</i>)	(<i>Bonaventure</i>)
Bérubé (<i>PQ</i>)	Gaudreault (<i>PQ</i>)	Massé (<i>IND</i>)	Roy (<i>CAQ</i>)
Billette (<i>QLP</i>)	(<i>Jonquière</i>)	Melançon (<i>QLP</i>)	(<i>Montarville</i>)
Birnbaum (<i>QLP</i>)	Giguère (<i>QLP</i>)	Ménard (<i>QLP</i>)	Sauvé (<i>QLP</i>)
Blais (<i>QLP</i>)	Girard (<i>QLP</i>)	Merlini (<i>QLP</i>)	Simard (<i>QLP</i>)
Blanchette (<i>QLP</i>)	Habel (<i>QLP</i>)	Montpetit (<i>QLP</i>)	(<i>Dubuc</i>)
Bolduc (<i>QLP</i>)	Hardy (<i>QLP</i>)	Moreau (<i>QLP</i>)	Soucy (<i>CAQ</i>)
Boucher (<i>QLP</i>)	Heurtel (<i>QLP</i>)	Morin (<i>QLP</i>)	Spénard (<i>CAQ</i>)
Boulet (<i>QLP</i>)	Huot (<i>QLP</i>)	Nadeau-Dubois (<i>IND</i>)	St-Denis (<i>QLP</i>)
Bourcier (<i>PQ</i>)	Iracà (<i>QLP</i>)	Nichols (<i>QLP</i>)	St-Pierre (<i>QLP</i>)
Bourgeois (<i>QLP</i>)	Jean (<i>PQ</i>)	Ouellet (<i>PQ</i>)	Tanguay (<i>QLP</i>)
Busque (<i>QLP</i>)	Jolin-Barrette (<i>CAQ</i>)	(<i>René-Lévesque</i>)	Thériault (<i>QLP</i>)
Caire (<i>CAQ</i>)	Kelley (<i>QLP</i>)	Ouellet (<i>IND</i>)	Therrien (<i>PQ</i>)
Carrière (<i>QLP</i>)	Khadir (<i>IND</i>)	(<i>Vachon</i>)	Traversy (<i>PQ</i>)
Charette (<i>CAQ</i>)	Kotto (<i>PQ</i>)	Ouellette (<i>QLP</i>)	Tremblay (<i>QLP</i>)
Charlebois (<i>QLP</i>)	Laframboise (<i>CAQ</i>)	Pagé (<i>PQ</i>)	Turcotte (<i>PQ</i>)
Chevarie (<i>QLP</i>)	Lamarre (<i>PQ</i>)	Picard (<i>CAQ</i>)	Vallée (<i>QLP</i>)
Coiteux (<i>QLP</i>)	Lavallée (<i>CAQ</i>)	Plante (<i>QLP</i>)	Vien (<i>QLP</i>)
Couillard (<i>QLP</i>)	LeBel (<i>PQ</i>)	Poirier (<i>PQ</i>)	Villeneuve (<i>PQ</i>)
Cousineau (<i>PQ</i>)	Leclair (<i>PQ</i>)	Polo (<i>QLP</i>)	Weil (<i>QLP</i>)
D'Amour (<i>QLP</i>)	Léger (<i>PQ</i>)	Proulx (<i>QLP</i>)	
David (<i>QLP</i>)	Leitão (<i>QLP</i>)	Reid (<i>QLP</i>)	