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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

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FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

## Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

**Wednesday, 8 May 2019 — No. 40**

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**President of the National Assembly:  
Mr. François Paradis**



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

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## **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

### **Statements by Members**

Mr. Lemay (Masson) made a statement to underline the holding of a blood drive at École La Mennais.

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Mrs. Thériault (Anjou–Louis-Riel) made a statement to pay tribute to Mrs. Colette Langlais for her volunteer work.

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Mrs. Blais (Abitibi-Ouest) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Michel Plourde for his 50 years of service as a volunteer firefighter.

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Mr. Kelley (Jacques-Cartier) made a statement to pay tribute to Mrs. Brenda Murphy, Coordinator of Volunteer West Island's Meals on Wheels program.

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Mrs. Lavallée (Repentigny) made a statement to underline Association culturelle en arts de Repentigny's 40th anniversary.

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Mr. Émond (Richelieu) made a statement to express solidarity with and support for Richelieu riding citizens who were spring flood victims.

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Mr. Schneeberger (Drummond–Bois-Francs) made a statement to underline the 50th anniversary of the 218 Drummondville, Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps.

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Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin) made a statement in support of Gouin riding citizens denouncing budget cuts in public schools.

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Mr. Campeau (Bourget) made a statement to pay tribute to three volunteers of the organization Le Chez-Nous de Mercier-Est.

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Mr. Roberge (Chambly) made a statement to congratulate Mrs. Édith Loualou, Council of the Federation Literacy Award winner.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 54.1 and 54.3, Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) made a statement to underline the 50th anniversary of the Université du Québec à Chicoutimi.

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

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

At the request of the President, the Assembly observed a moment of silence in memory of Mr. Georges Boyer, Mr. Camille Lepage and Mr. Roger Lefrançois, who lost their lives during the tragic events that occurred at the National Assembly on 8 May 1984.

### **Presenting Papers**

Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader, tabled the following:

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 26 March 2019 by Mr. Kelley (Jacques-Cartier) on amending Bill 2, An Act to tighten the regulation of cannabis, to include an exemption for medicinal cannabis;

(Sessional Paper No. 577-20190508)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 28 March 2019 by Mr. Lemay (Masson) on modernizing the *Pesticides Act*;

(Sessional Paper No. 578-20190508)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 2 April 2019 by Mrs. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé) on an amendment to the *Act respecting industrial accidents and occupational diseases*;

(Sessional Paper No. 579-20190508)

The reply to a written question from Mrs. Fournier (Marie-Victorin) on extending the range of situations considered to be priority situations under the *By-law respecting the allocation of dwellings in low rental housing* – Question No. 29, *Order Paper and Notices* of 2 April 2019;

(Sessional Paper No. 580-20190508)

The reply to a written question from Mrs. Fournier (Marie-Victorin) on the support-payment automatic collection program – Question No. 30, *Order Paper and Notices* of 2 April 2019;

(Sessional Paper No. 581-20190508)

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The reply to a written question from Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapedia) on funding agreements between the Ministère de la Sécurité publique and the municipalities of Sainte-Luce and Sainte-Flavie aimed at eliminating erosion- and coastal flooding-related disaster risks – Question No. 33, *Order Paper and Notices* of 2 April 2019;

(Sessional Paper No. 582-20190508)

The reply to a written question from Mrs. Fournier (Marie-Victorin) on the crucifix and the religious symbols in the National Assembly Chamber – Question No. 34, *Order Paper and Notices* of 3 April 2019.

(Sessional Paper No. 583-20190508)

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The President tabled the following:

A letter, dated 1 May 2019, he had received from Mrs. Catherine Fournier, Member for Marie-Victorin, on changes to the examination of the estimates of expenditure in committee. The letter was accompanied by the President's reply.

(Sessional Paper No. 584-20190508)

### **Presenting Petitions**

Mrs. IsaBelle (Huntingdon) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition on re-establishing a universal daily milk product intake program in elementary and secondary schools, signed by 791 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 585-20190508)

### **Oral Questions and Answers**

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 53 and 59, Mr. Ciccone (Marquette) tabled the following:

A copy of a document entitled “Prevalence of Maltreatment Among Current and Former National Team Athletes”.

(Sessional Paper No. 586-20190508)

### **Motions Without Notice**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Bérubé, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, together with Mr. Legault, Premier, Mr. Arcand, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mrs. Massé, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) and Mrs. Fournier (Marie-Victorin), moved:

THAT the National Assembly commemorate the 8 May 1984 shooting, 35 years ago, when an individual entered the National Assembly with the aim of killing its Members and, in particular, those belonging to the René Lévesque Government;

THAT it recall that, in a free and democratic society, the people’s elected representatives must be able to affirm their convictions without fear of violence;

THAT it remember the heroic courage of Sergeant-at-Arms René Jalbert, who convinced the shooter to peacefully give himself up to the police;

THAT, lastly, it observe a minute of silence in memory of the victims of this tragedy: Camille Lepage, Georges Boyer and Roger Lefrançois.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

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

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. Laforest, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, together with Mrs. Nichols (Vaudreuil), Mrs. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda-Témiscamingue), Mr. Roy (Bonaventure), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) and Mrs. Fournier (Marie-Victorin), moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the 100th anniversary of the founding, on 15 December 1919, of the Union des municipalités du Québec, the first major municipal organization to group together municipalities of all sizes and in all the regions of Québec, and whose representatives, Mr. Cusson and Mr. Savard, are present here today;

THAT it highlight the contribution of this municipal organization which, since its founding, has supported local governments in their roles and responsibilities;

THAT, in this regard, it recognize the historic role played by the Union des municipalités du Québec and municipalities in Québec's development and recall how significant their day-to-day work is in improving Quebecers' quality of life.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

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Mrs. Nichols (Vaudreuil), together with Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Mr. Roy (Bonaventure), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) and Mrs. Fournier (Marie-Victorin), moved a motion on the municipal tax exemption in favour of State-owned immovables and immovables linked to the health and education parapublic networks; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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Mrs. Dorion (Taschereau), together with Mrs. Melançon (Verdun), Mrs. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé) and Mrs. Fournier (Marie-Victorin), moved a motion on Telefilm Canada; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

### **Notices of Proceedings in Committees**

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

- the Committee on Institutions, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 21, An Act respecting the laicity of the State;
- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 17, An Act respecting remunerated passenger transportation by automobile;
- the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 16, An Act mainly to regulate building inspections and divided co-ownership, to replace the name and improve the rules of operation of the Régie du logement and to amend the Act respecting the Société d'habitation du Québec and various legislative provisions concerning municipal affairs;
- the Committee on Culture and Education, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 12, An Act to clarify the scope of the right to free education and to allow the regulation of certain financial contributions that may be required.

Mrs. Gaudreault, Third Vice-President, gave the following notice:

- the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources shall hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the organization of the order of initiative on the impact of pesticides on public health and the environment, as well as current and future innovative alternative practices in the agriculture and food sectors, in recognition of the competitiveness of Québec's agri-food sector.
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## **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

### **Business Having Precedence**

### **Estimates of Expenditure**

The Assembly entered upon the limited debate on the reports from the committees that examined the estimates of expenditure for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2020.

Mrs. Gaudreault, Third Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this limited debate: 58 minutes 30 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 35 minutes 21 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 12 minutes 11 seconds to the Second Opposition Group; 10 minutes 58 seconds to the Third Opposition Group; and 1 minute 30 seconds to each independent Member. However, if only one independent Member takes part in the debate, that Member's speaking time is 2 minutes. Within this framework, any time not used by an independent Member or by a parliamentary group shall be redistributed among the parliamentary groups in the proportions established above. Lastly, individual addresses shall not be limited.

A debate arose thereon.

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At 1.01 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Gaudreault, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

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

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The Assembly continued the limited debate on the reports from the committees that examined the estimates of expenditure for the fiscal year ending on 31 March 2020.

The debate being concluded and the Assembly having disposed of the motions stating a grievance and the motion by the Minister of Finance, that the Assembly approve the Government's budgetary policy, moved within the framework of the Budget Speech, the question was put for concurrence in the several reports together from the committees that examined the estimates of expenditure for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2020, and a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

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

### **Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition**

Mr. Leitão (Robert-Baldwin) moved:

THAT the National Assembly instruct the Committee on Public Finance to examine the report by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) on the evolution of the SAQ business model entitled "Évolution du modèle d'affaires de la SAQ", submitted to the Government on 12 September 2018, and, if necessary, make the appropriate recommendations to modernize the SAQ business model and promote Québec product sales;

THAT, within the framework of this mandate, the Committee hold special consultations and public hearings and that, for this purpose, it hear the authors of the said report, the Société des alcools du Québec, the Association des marchands dépanneurs et épiciers du Québec, Mr. Frédéric Laurin, Professor at UQTR's Finance and Economy Department, and any individuals or organizations it deems necessary to convene;

THAT the organization of the mandate be entrusted to the members of the Committee;

THAT the Committee report to the Assembly not later than 1 November 2019, unless the Committee decides otherwise;

THAT, lastly, this motion become an order of the Assembly.

Mr. Picard, First 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; 37 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 22 minutes 21 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 7 minutes 43 seconds to the Second Opposition Group; 6 minutes 56 seconds to the Third Opposition Group. Within this framework, any time not used by a parliamentary group shall be redistributed among the parliamentary groups in the proportions established above. Lastly, individual addresses shall not be limited.

A debate arose thereon.

At the end of his address, Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) moved:

THAT the motion moved by the Member for Robert-Baldwin be amended as follows:

By striking out, at the end of the first paragraph, the words “modernize the SAQ business model and”; and

By striking out the second paragraph.

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly instruct the Committee on Public Finance to examine the report by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) on the evolution of the SAQ business model entitled “Évolution du modèle d’affaires de la SAQ”, submitted to the Government on 12 September 2018, and, if necessary, make the appropriate recommendations to promote Québec product sales;

THAT the organization of the mandate be entrusted to the members of the Committee;

THAT the Committee report to the Assembly not later than 1 November 2019, unless the Committee decides otherwise;

THAT, lastly, this motion become an order of the Assembly.

The debate continued on the main motion moved by Mr. Leitão (Robert-Baldwin) and on the amendment motion moved by Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), subject to the permission of its author.

At the end of his address, Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque) moved:

THAT the motion moved by the Member for Robert-Baldwin be amended as follows:

By adding the following paragraph after the second paragraph: “THAT the SAQ privatization scenario be excluded from this mandate;”.

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly instruct the Committee on Public Finance to examine the report by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) on the evolution of the SAQ business model entitled “Évolution du modèle d’affaires de la SAQ”, submitted to the Government on 12 September 2018, and, if necessary, make the appropriate recommendations to modernize the SAQ business model and promote Québec product sales;

THAT, within the framework of this mandate, the Committee hold special consultations and public hearings and that, for this purpose, it hear the authors of the said report, the Société des alcools du Québec, the Association des marchands dépanneurs et épiciers du Québec, Mr. Frédéric Laurin, Professor at UQTR’s Finance and Economy Department, and any individuals or organizations it deems necessary to convene;

THAT the SAQ privatization scenario be excluded from this mandate;

THAT the organization of the mandate be entrusted to the members of the Committee;

THAT the Committee report to the Assembly not later than 1 November 2019, unless the Committee decides otherwise;

THAT, lastly, this motion become an order of the Assembly.

The debate continued on the main motion moved by Mr. Leitão (Robert-Baldwin) and on the amendment motions moved by Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) and Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque), subject to the permission of its author.

Pursuant to Standing Order 98.1, Mr. Leitão (Robert-Baldwin) accepted the amendment proposed by Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque) and refused the amendments proposed by Mr. Marissal (Rosemont).

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

At the request of Mr. Schneeberger, Deputy Government House Leader, the divisions on the amendment motion moved by Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque) and on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão (Robert-Baldwin) were deferred until Routine Proceedings on the next sitting day.

## **Government Bills**

### *Report Stage*

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Institutions on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 1, An Act to amend the rules governing the appointment and dismissal of the Anti-Corruption Commissioner, the Director General of the Sûreté du Québec and the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions, together with the amendments transmitted by Mr. Tanguay (LaFontaine) and Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey).

The amendments moved by Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) were declared in order.

The amendments moved by Mr. Tanguay (LaFontaine) were declared in order, except the amendments that propose adding sections 8.1 and 8.2 to the bill, which were declared out of order because they introduce new principles.

A debate arose thereon.

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At 5.58 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Soucy, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 9 May 2019 at 9.40 o'clock a.m.

**FRANÇOIS PARADIS**

*President*