



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Tuesday, 17 March 2020 — No. 108

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

The Assembly was called to order at 9.00 o'clock a.m.

Moment of reflection

ORDERS OF THE DAY

The President tabled the following:

A letter, dated 14 March 2020, he had received from Mr. François Legault, Premier, asking that the President take the necessary measures for the National Assembly to meet, beginning at 9.00 o'clock a.m. on this Tuesday, 17 March 2020, according to the calendar and timetable to be determined by the Assembly.

(Sessional Paper No. 1490-20200317)

Mr. Dubé, Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, transmitted the following message from the Honourable Lieutenant-Governor of Québec to the President, who communicated it to the Assembly:

OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

In accordance with the provisions of section 54 of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, I hereby transmit a modification to the Supplementary Estimates No. 1 for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2020 to the National Assembly and recommend the said estimates to it for consideration.

Québec City, 17 March 2020

J. Michel Doyon

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mr. Dubé, Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, tabled the following:

An addendum to the Supplementary Estimates for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2020 – 2019–2020 Expenditure Budget (French and English versions).
(Sessional Paper No. 1491-20200317)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Ms. Guillemette (Roberval), Committee member, tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on Health and Social Services, which met on 11, 12, 13 and 18 February 2020 and on 10, 11 and 12 March 2020 for clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 43, An Act to amend the Nurses Act and other provisions in order to facilitate access to health services. The report contains amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 1492-20200317)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, the President tabled the following:

The amendments proposed by Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, to Bill 41, An Act respecting mainly the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speeches of 17 March 2016, 28 March 2017, 27 March 2018 and 21 March 2019;

(Sessional Paper No. 1493-20200317)

The amendment proposed by Mr. Fortin (Pontiac) to Bill 43, An Act to amend the Nurses Act and other provisions in order to facilitate access to health services.

(Sessional Paper No. 1494-20200317)

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At 9.10 o'clock a.m., the President suspended the proceedings.

The proceedings resumed at 9.25 o'clock a.m.

Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the Assembly approve its summoning for an ordinary sitting today, beginning at 9.00 o'clock a.m.;

THAT it take only the Orders of the Day that are provided for in this motion during this sitting;

THAT, as soon as this motion is carried, the House leaders of the parliamentary groups take the floor for a period of 2 minutes each in the following order: the Government House Leader, the Official Opposition House Leader, the House Leader of the Second Opposition Group, and the House Leader of the Third Opposition Group;

THAT the Supplementary Estimates for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2020 be deemed to have been considered in the Committee of the Whole and the question to have been put on them after this motion is carried;

THAT the question be put on the report of the Committee of the Whole after this motion is carried;

THAT Bill 58, Appropriation Act No. 3, 2019–2020, be deemed to have been introduced and that the question be put on its passage in principle and passage after this motion is carried;

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THAT, despite concurrence in the Supplementary Estimates, a three-hour debate be held before the Committee on Public Finance to allow Members in Opposition to discuss those estimates with the ministers concerned, and that the allocation of speaking time be as follows: 1 hour 30 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 53 minutes 37 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 19 minutes 9 seconds to the Second Opposition Group, and 17 minutes 14 seconds to the Third Opposition Group;

THAT this debate take place after the parliamentary committees have concluded consideration of the main estimates for 2020–2021 and that no question be put in Committee or before the Assembly;

THAT, once this debate is concluded, the Committee on Public Finance report to the Assembly;

THAT the first 13-hour 30-minute part of the debate on the Budget Speech be deemed concluded;

THAT the second 10-hour part of the debate on the Budget Speech held before the Committee on Public Finance be deemed concluded, then reported to the Assembly;

THAT the comments of the Official Opposition's representative, lasting for up to thirty minutes, and the Minister of Finance's reply, lasting for up to one hour, following the debate on the Budget Speech be deemed to have been made;

THAT the motions stating a grievance by the Member for Robert-Baldwin, the Member for Jean-Lesage and the Member for Rimouski be deemed to have been negated;

THAT the question be put on the motion moved by the Minister of Finance, that the Assembly approve the budgetary policy of the Government, after this motion is carried;

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THAT, should the Government introduce an economic update before the introduction of the next budget, the update be preceded by a meeting in camera for the Members in Opposition;

THAT a debate arise on the economic update, in the Assembly, for a period of 4 hours 21 minutes and 15 seconds, allocated as follows: 1 hour to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 1 hour 56 minutes and 26 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 47 minutes 9 seconds to the Second Opposition Group; and 37 minutes 40 seconds to the Third Opposition Group;

THAT, subject to the provisions of Standing Order 97, this debate be given priority and that no question be put;

THAT, no later than the sitting day following the conclusion of the debate in the Assembly on the economic update, the Committee on Public Finance hold a 5-hour debate on this matter, and that the allocation of speaking time be as follows: 2 hours 30 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 1 hour 40 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 25 minutes to the Second Opposition Group; and 25 minutes to the Third Opposition Group;

THAT the Minister of Finance be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference;

THAT no question be put, either in Committee or before the Assembly, following the debate;

THAT, once the debate is concluded, the Committee on Public Finance report to the Assembly;

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THAT the report from the Committee on Public Finance on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 41, An Act respecting mainly the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speeches of 17 March 2016, 28 March 2017, 27 March 2018 and 21 March 2019, be deemed tabled;

THAT the amendments by the Minister of Finance to the report from the Committee on Public Finance on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 41, An Act respecting mainly the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speeches of 17 March 2016, 28 March 2017, 27 March 2018 and 21 March 2019, just tabled during this sitting, be deemed to have been delivered in accordance with the procedure provided for in the Standing Orders;

THAT the question be put severally on the amendments by the Minister of Finance to the report from the Committee on Public Finance on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 41, An Act respecting mainly the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speeches of 17 March 2016, 28 March 2017, 27 March 2018 and 21 March 2019, without reading them beforehand, after this motion is carried; that the question be put on the report from the Committee on Public Finance after this motion is carried; and that the question be put on the bill after this motion is carried;

THAT, after this motion is carried, a first 30-minute limited debate be held on both the Government's budgetary policy and Bill 41, An Act respecting mainly the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speeches of 17 March 2016, 28 March 2017, 27 March 2018 and 21 March 2019; that, following the debate, no question be put before the Assembly; and that the allocation of speaking time for this limited debate be as follows: 10 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 10 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 5 minutes to the Second Opposition Group; and 5 minutes to the Third Opposition Group;

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THAT Bill 31, An Act to amend mainly the Pharmacy Act for the purpose of facilitating access to certain services and to authorize the communication of personal information concerning certain missing or deceased Aboriginal children to their families, be deemed to have been referred to the Committee of the Whole when it was passed; that the Committee of the Whole be deemed to have withdrawn by amendments the heading preceding section 5.1, sections 5.1 to 5.6 and paragraph 2 of section 6 of the bill and to have amended the amended title of the bill so that it reads “An Act to amend mainly the Pharmacy Act for the purpose of facilitating access to certain services”; that the question be put on the report from the Committee of the Whole after this motion is carried; and that the question be put on the bill after this motion is carried;

THAT the Government pledge to introduce a separate bill providing for the communication of personal information concerning certain missing or deceased Aboriginal children to their families;

THAT the amendment proposed by the Member for Pontiac to the report from the Committee on Health and Social Services, on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 43, An Act to amend the Nurses Act and other provisions in order to facilitate access to health services, just introduced during this sitting, be deemed to have been delivered in accordance with the procedure provided for in the Standing Orders;

THAT the question be put on the amendment proposed by the Member for Pontiac to the report from the Committee on Health and Social Services on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 43, An Act to amend the Nurses Act and other provisions in order to facilitate access to health services, without reading it beforehand, after this motion is carried; that the question be put on the report from the Committee on Health and Social Services after this motion is carried; and that the question be put on the bill after this motion is carried;

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THAT, after this motion is carried, a second 30-minute limited debate be held on both Bill 31, An Act to amend mainly the Pharmacy Act for the purpose of facilitating access to certain services, and Bill 43, An Act to amend the Nurses Act and other provisions in order to facilitate access to health services; that, after the debate, no question be put before the Assembly; and that the speaking time for this limited debate be allocated as follows: 10 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 10 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 5 minutes to the Second Opposition Group; and 5 minutes to the Third Opposition Group;

THAT the question be put on the report from the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 48, An Act mainly to control the cost of the farm property tax and to simplify access to the farm property tax credit, after this motion is carried; and that the question be put on Bill 48 after this motion is carried;

THAT the time limits prescribed by Standing Orders 64.1, 64.8 and 176 be suspended from immediately after this motion is carried until the resumption of ordinary parliamentary proceedings;

THAT, in order to optimize communications, optimize our 125 parliamentarians' help in disseminating government information reliably and maximize the effective implementation of official measures, the Government establish measures that foster regional cooperation between Government Members and elected officials from all political groups;

THAT, while the Assembly's proceedings are suspended, the Premier or a representative of the Government communicate frequently with the leaders of the other parliamentary groups to inform them of changes in the situation;

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THAT all convening of parliamentary commissions under Standing Orders 147 and 148 be rescinded;

THAT, after the debates to be held after this motion is carried, the Assembly adjourn its proceedings until Tuesday, 21 April 2020 at 1.40 o'clock p.m.;

THAT if, while the Assembly is suspended, the President receives notice from the leaders of the four parliamentary groups that it is in the public interest that the Assembly's proceedings remain adjourned until a later date or until further notice is given to the President by the leaders of the four parliamentary groups, the Assembly's proceedings accordingly remain adjourned;

THAT the President take the measures enabling the Assembly to sit on the date so determined;

THAT each vote provided for in this motion be taken by a show of hands;

THAT this motion take precedence over any incompatible provisions of the Standing Orders.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

In accordance with the motion carried during this sitting, Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader, Mr. Tanguay, Official Opposition House Leader, Mr. Nadeau-Dubois, House Leader of the Second Opposition Group, and Mr. Ouellet, House Leader of the Third Opposition Group, commented.

In accordance with the motion carried during this sitting, the question was first put on the Supplementary Estimates for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2020.

The Supplementary Estimates for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2020 were granted.

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The question was then put on the report from the Committee of the Whole on its consideration of the Supplementary Estimates for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2020.

The report was concurred in.

The question was then put on the motion moved by Mr. Dubé, Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, for the passage of Bill 58, Appropriation Act No. 3, 2019–2020.

The motion was carried and, accordingly, Bill 58 was passed.

The question was then put on the motion moved by Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, that the Assembly approve the Government's budgetary policy.

The motion was carried on division.

The question was then put severally on the amendments proposed by Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, to Bill 41, An Act respecting mainly the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speeches of 17 March 2016, 28 March 2017, 27 March 2018 and 21 March 2019.

The amendments were carried on division.

The question was then put on the report from the Committee on Public Finance on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 41, An Act respecting mainly the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speeches of 17 March 2016, 28 March 2017, 27 March 2018 and 21 March 2019.

The report was concurred in on division.

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The question was then put on the motion moved by Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, for the passage of Bill 41, An Act respecting mainly the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speeches of 17 March 2016, 28 March 2017, 27 March 2018 and 21 March 2019.

The motion was carried on division and, accordingly, Bill 41 was passed.

In accordance with the motion carried during this sitting, the Assembly entered upon the limited debate on the Government's budgetary policy and on Bill 41, An Act respecting mainly the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speeches of 17 March 2016, 28 March 2017, 27 March 2018 and 21 March 2019.

The President informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time with respect to this limited debate: 10 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 10 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 5 minutes to the Second Opposition Group; and 5 minutes to the Third Opposition Group. Lastly, individual addresses shall not be limited.

A debate arose thereon.

The debate expired and, pursuant to the motion carried during this sitting, no question was put before the Assembly.

In accordance with the motion carried during this sitting, the question was first put on the report from the Committee of the Whole having examined Bill 31, An Act to amend mainly the Pharmacy Act for the purpose of facilitating access to certain services and to authorize the communication of personal information concerning certain missing or deceased Aboriginal children to their families (*modified title*).

The report was concurred in.

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The question was then put on the motion moved by Ms. McCann, Minister of Health and Social Services, for the passage of Bill 31, An Act to amend mainly the Pharmacy Act for the purpose of facilitating access to certain services (*title modified a second time*).

The motion was carried on division and, accordingly, Bill 31 was passed.

The question was then put on the amendment proposed by Mr. Fortin (Pontiac) to Bill 43, An Act to amend the Nurses Act and other provisions in order to facilitate access to health services.

The amendment was negatived.

The question was then put on the report from the Committee on Health and Social Services on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 43, An Act to amend the Nurses Act and other provisions in order to facilitate access to health services.

The report was concurred in.

The question was then put on the motion moved by Ms. McCann, Minister of Health and Social Services, for the passage of Bill 43, An Act to amend the Nurses Act and other provisions in order to facilitate access to health services.

The motion was carried and, accordingly, Bill 43 was passed.

In accordance with the motion carried during this sitting, the Assembly entered upon the limited debate on Bill 31, An Act to amend mainly the Pharmacy Act for the purpose of facilitating access to certain services (*modified title*), and on Bill 43, An Act to amend the Nurses Act and other provisions in order to facilitate access to health services.

The President informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time with respect to this limited debate: 10 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 10 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 5 minutes to the Second Opposition Group; and 5 minutes to the Third Opposition Group. Lastly, individual addresses shall not be limited.

A debate arose thereon.

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The debate expired and, pursuant to the motion carried during this sitting, no question was put before the Assembly.

In accordance with the motion carried during this sitting, the question was then put on the report from the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 48, An Act mainly to control the cost of the farm property tax and to simplify access to the farm property tax credit.

The report from the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources was concurred in.

Lastly, the question was put on the motion moved by Mr. Lamontagne, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, for the passage of Bill 48, An Act mainly to control the cost of the farm property tax and to simplify access to the farm property tax credit.

The motion was carried and, accordingly, Bill 48 was passed.

At 11.43 o'clock a.m., in accordance with the special order motion carried at this sitting, the President adjourned the Assembly until Tuesday, 21 April 2020 at 1.40 o'clock p.m.

FRANÇOIS PARADIS

President