Order Paper and Notices

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 3 June 2020 — No. 114
Nine forty a.m.

President of the National Assembly:
Mr. François Paradis
Part 1

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

- The Member for Saint-Jean on the following subject: Thanking the media.

- The Member for Jacques-Cartier on the following subject: Tribute to the citizens of Jacques-Cartier riding who had to fight the COVID-19 virus.

- The Member for Chauveau on the following subject: The 100th anniversary of Club de golf de Lorette

- The Member for Nelligan on the following subject: Every day is a good day – Sammy Cavallaro named among the top 20 young entrepreneurs of the year.

- The Member for Lotbinière-Frontenac on the following subject: Tribute to the citizens, entrepreneurs and those involved in municipal affairs in Lotbinière-Frontenac riding.

- The Member for Gaspé on the following subject: Journée de la Gaspésie.

- The Member for Granby on the following subject: Tribute to the employees of Granby’s health care network.

- The Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on the following subject: Hochelaga-Maisonneuve and its solidarity network during COVID-19 crisis.

- The Member for Lac Saint-Jean on the following subject: Tribute to community organizations.

- The Member for Bourget on the following subject: Underline the many acts of generosity in Bourget riding during the crisis.
STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

PRESENTING
a) Papers
b) Reports from committees
c) Petitions

ORAL ANSWERS TO PETITIONS

COMPLAINTS OF BREACH OF PRIVILEGE OR CONTEMPT AND PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

DEFERRED DIVISIONS

MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

NOTICES OF PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEES

INFORMATION ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY
ORDERS OF THE DAY

BUSINESS HAVING PRECEDENCE

URGENT DEBATES

DEBATES ON REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

OTHER BUSINESS

I. Government Bills

Passage in Principle

1. Bill 30
   An Act to recover amounts owed to the State
   Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on 14 June 2019

2. Bill 35
   An Act to modernize certain rules relating to land registration and to facilitate the dissemination of geospatial information
   Introduced by the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources on 19 September 2019

3. Bill 39
   An Act to establish a new electoral system
   Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Democratic Institutions, Electoral Reform and Access to Information on 25 September 2019
   Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on 11 February 2020

4. Bill 45
   An Act concerning mainly the appointment and the terms of office of coroners and of the Chief Coroner
   Introduced by the Minister of Public Security on 30 October 2019
(5) Bill 46
An Act to amend the Natural Heritage Conservation Act and other provisions
Introduced by the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change on 14 November 2019

(6) Bill 49
An Act to amend the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities, the Municipal Ethics and Good Conduct Act and various legislative provisions
Introduced by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on 13 November 2019

(7) Bill 50
An Act respecting the leasing of part of the water power of the Shipshaw River
Introduced by the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources on 6 February 2020

(8) Bill 51
An Act mainly to improve the flexibility of the parental insurance plan in order to promote family-work balance
Introduced by the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity on 28 November 2019

(9) Bill 52
An Act to strengthen the complaint examination process of the health and social services network, in particular for users receiving services from private institutions
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Seniors and Informal Caregivers on 3 December 2019
Report from the Committee on Health and Social Services (consultations) tabled on 10 March 2020

(10) Bill 53
Credit Assessment Agents Act
Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 5 December 2019
Committee Stage

(11) Bill 23
An Act respecting the names and responsibilities of certain ministers and government departments and to enact the Act respecting the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs
 Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on 18 April 2019
 Passed in principle on 19 September 2019, and
 Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

(12) Bill 29
An Act to amend the Professional Code and other provisions in particular in the oral health and the applied sciences sectors
 Introduced by the Minister of Justice on 5 June 2019
 Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on 17 September 2019
 Passed in principle on 24 September 2019, and
 Referred to the Committee on Institutions

(13) Bill 32
An Act mainly to promote the efficiency of penal justice and to establish the terms governing the intervention of the Court of Québec with respect to applications for appeal
 Introduced by the Minister of Justice on 13 June 2019
 Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on 31 October 2019
 Passed in principle on 6 November 2019, and
 Report from the Committee on Institutions tabled on 26 May 2020, and
 Referred to a Committee of the Whole

(14) Bill 42
An Act to give effect to fiscal measures announced in the Budget Speech delivered on 21 March 2019 and to various other measures
 Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 7 November 2019
 Passed in principle on 19 November 2019, and
 Referred to the Committee on Public Finance
(15) Bill 44
An Act mainly to ensure effective governance of the fight against climate change and to promote electrification
Introduced by the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change on 31 October 2019
Report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment (consultations) tabled on 6 February 2020
Passed in principle on **19 February 2020**, and
Referred to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment

*Report Stage*

*Passage*

II. **Private Members’ Public Bills**

*Passage in Principle*

(16) Bill 190
An Act to exclude child support payments from income calculation under various social laws
Introduced by the Member for Sherbrooke on **7 December 2018**

(17) Bill 191
An Act to amend the Act respecting the National Assembly to prescribe the publication of information on the use of the amounts granted to Members in the performance of their duties
Introduced by the Member for Gouin on **6 December 2018**

(18) Bill 192
An Act to recognize the Members’ oath to the people of Québec as the sole oath required for Members to take office
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **28 February 2019**

(19) Bill 193
An Act to establish a budgetary shield to protect education, child and youth protection services
Introduced by the Member for Joliette on **7 February 2019**
(20) Bill 194
An Act to ensure compliance with Québec's climate change-related obligations
Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on 21 February 2019

(21) Bill 195
An Act to amend the Act respecting the National Assembly to extend the scope of the right to payment of expenses for counsel
Introduced by the Member for Chomedey on 11 April 2019

(22) Bill 196
An Act to amend the Act respecting safety in sports to establish a Passe-Sports register to collect data on the state of health of persons under 18 years of age following a concussion
Introduced by the Member for Marquette on 11 April 2019

(23) Bill 197
An Act to amend the Consumer Protection Act to fight planned obsolescence and assert the right to repair goods
Introduced by the Member for Chomedey on 9 April 2019

(24) Bill 198
An Act to facilitate disclosure of wrongdoings
Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on 9 May 2019

(25) Bill 199
An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act to establish a right of citizen initiative in environmental matters and reinforce the powers and independence of the Bureau d’audiences publiques sur l’environnement
Introduced by the Member for Mercier on 25 September 2019

(26) Bill 391
An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act in order to assert the primacy of Québec's jurisdiction in this area
Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on 30 May 2019

(27) Bill 392
An Act respecting the selection of Québec senators
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on 9 May 2019
Bill 393
An Act to affirm Québec’s participation in the appointment process for Québec Supreme Court of Canada judges
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on 16 May 2019

Bill 396
An Act to amend the Civil Code to provide that an action for damages for bodily injury resulting from a sexual aggression, from childhood violence or from the violent behaviour of a spouse or former spouse cannot be prescribed during the lifetime of the author of the act
Introduced by the Member for Sherbrooke on 12 June 2019

Bill 397
An Act to reinforce oversight of the processes to select, renew a term of or dismiss directors of municipal police forces
Introduced by the Member for Vaudreuil on 14 November 2019

Bill 398
An Act to proclaim Québec Democracy Day
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on 20 February 2020

Bill 399
An Act to establish a presumption of consent to organ or tissue donation after death
Introduced by the Member for Pontiac on 5 November 2019

Bill 490
An Act to establish the gradual electrification of Québec’s vehicle fleet
Introduced by the Member for Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques on 26 September 2019

Bill 493
Interculturalism Act
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on 30 October 2019

Bill 495
An Act to authorize the recording of sound and images during the public sittings of a municipal council or the public meetings of a council of a metropolitan community
Introduced by the Member for Verdun on 20 November 2019
(36) Bill 496
Parliamentary Budget Officer Act
Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on 14 November 2019

(37) Bill 497
An Act to amend the Charter of human rights and freedoms in order to strengthen the protection of seniors’ rights and create the office of Seniors Ombudsperson
Introduced by the Member for Rimouski on 4 December 2019

(38) Bill 590
An Act to amend the Charter of the French language to establish free French instruction services for every person who resides in Québec
Introduced by the Member for Jacques-Cartier on 4 December 2019

(39) Bill 591
An Act to amend the Charter of the French language to define the circumstances under which an employer may make knowledge of a language other than the official language a requirement for access to employment or a position
Introduced by the Member for Matane-Matapédia on 12 February 2020

(40) Bill 594
An Act to improve the quality of care through the setting of ratios in certain institutions governed by the Act respecting health services and social services
Introduced by the Member for Pontiac on 26 May 2020

Committee Stage

Report Stage

Passage
III. Private Bills

Hearings and Clause-by-Clause Consideration

(41) Bill 209

An Act respecting Ville de Saint-Tite
Introduced by the Member for Maskinongé on 4 December 2019, and
Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

(42) Bill 210

An Act respecting the subdivision of a lot located in the Maison Roussil protection area in Terrebonne and partly in the Maison Bélisle protection area in Terrebonne
Introduced by the Member for Masson on 4 December 2019, and
Referred to the Committee on Culture and Education

(43) Bill 213

An Act respecting Municipalité des Îles-de-la-Madeleine
Introduced by the Member for the Îles-de-la-Madeleine on 27 May 2020, and
Referred to a Committee of the Whole

Passage in Principle

Passage

IV. Government Motions
V. Estimates of Expenditure

(44) The estimates of expenditure for the fiscal year ending on 31 March 2021 referred on 26 May 2020 to the Committee of the Whole for examination, in accordance with the agreement on the gradual resumption of proceedings carried on 13 May 2020, which examination is to be held no later than 12 June 2020.

(45) The estimates of expenditure for the fiscal year ending on 31 March 2021 referred on 26 May 2020 to the standing committees for examination, with no question being put thereon, in accordance with the agreement on the gradual resumption of proceedings carried on 13 May 2020, which examination is to be held during the week beginning on 17 August 2020.

VI. Statutory Debates

BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION
Part 3

BILLS PASSED

(Bills awaiting Royal Assent)

Bill 18
An Act to amend the Civil Code, the Code of Civil Procedure, the Public Curator Act and various provisions as regards the protection of persons
Passed on 2 June 2020

Bill 63
Appropriation Act No. 3, 2020-2021
Passed on 26 May 2020

Bill 211
An Act respecting SSQ Mutual
Passed on 2 June 2020

Bill 212
An Act respecting La Capitale Civil Service Mutual
Passed on 2 June 2020
Part 4

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEES

The detailed calendar of the proceedings of each committee is available on the Internet site of the Assembly

COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

− Hearing of the Auditor General of Québec on her 2018–2019 annual management report and financial commitments.
− Hearing of the Ministère de l’Éducation et de l’Enseignement supérieur as a follow-up to recommendation 3.2 of the 40th report on accountability of the Committee on Public Administration.
− Hearing of the Public Curator on Chapter 6 of the Auditor General of Québec’s November 2019 report entitled “Protection of Incapacitated Persons Under Public Protective Supervision”.
− Hearing of the Ministère des Transports on Chapter 2 of the Auditor General of Québec’s November 2019 report entitled “Activities of the Centre de gestion de l’équipement roulant”.
− Hearing on the Public Protector’s special report entitled “Give children born in Québec whose parents have a precarious migratory status access to the Québec Health Insurance Plan”.

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COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Order of reference

– Examination of Hydro-Québec’s Strategic Plan 2020-2024 (Order of reference given on 5 December 2019).

Special Consultations:
– Bill 50, An Act respecting the leasing of part of the water power of the Shipshaw River (Order of reference given on 12 March 2020).

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

Surveillance of public bodies and accountability:
– Examination of the policy directions, activities and management of the Régie de l’énergie.

COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:
– Bill 209, An Act respecting Ville de Saint-Tite (Order of reference given on 4 December 2019).

Statutory order

– Examination of the report on the implementation of the Municipal Ethics and Good Conduct Act.

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

Surveillance of public bodies and accountability:
– Hearing the Commission municipale du Québec.


**COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION**

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:
- **Bill 210**, An Act respecting the subdivision of a lot located in the Maison Roussil protection area in Terrebonne and partly in the Maison Bélisle protection area in Terrebonne (Order of reference given on 4 December 2019).

Statutory order

- Hearing the heads of educational institutions at the university level.

Order of initiative

- Future of the news media.


**COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND THE ECONOMY**

Order of reference

Special Consultations:
- **Bill 51**, An Act mainly to improve the flexibility of the parental insurance plan in order to promote family-work balance (Order of reference given on 11 March 2020).


**COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC FINANCE**

Order of reference

- Debate on the Supplementary Estimates No. 1 for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2020 concurred in on 17 March 2020 (order of reference given on 17 March 2020)
Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 23**, An Act respecting the names and responsibilities of certain ministers and government departments and to enact the Act respecting the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (Order of reference given on 19 September 2019).

- **Bill 42**, An Act to give effect to fiscal measures announced in the Budget Speech delivered on 21 March 2019 and to various other measures (Order of reference given on 19 November 2019).

**COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS**

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 29**, An Act to amend the Professional Code and other provisions in particular in the oral health and the applied sciences sectors (Order of reference given on 24 September 2019).

**COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS**

**COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

Order of initiative

- The alarming increase in the use of psychostimulants in children and young people in connection with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

**COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 44**, An Act mainly to ensure effective governance of the fight against climate change and to promote electrification (Order of reference given on 19 February 2020).
SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF MINORS

Order of reference

Special Consultations:
- Creating a portrait of the sexual exploitation of minors in Québec, including the consequences on the transition to adulthood (Order of reference given on 14 June 2019).
Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage) – 4 February 2020
To the Minister of Health and Social Services

As the Public Protector (Québec Ombudsperson) pointed out in her 11 October 2018 report on the Centre intégré de santé et des services sociaux de l'Outaouais – Hôpital de Hull: “... every person has the right to receive appropriate health care services in a personalized, safe manner...” Following the investigation, the Ombudsperson recommended that “a complete ban on wearing perfume apply to the emergency room staff of Hôpital de Hull”.

Many ingredients used in the composition of fragrances can cause or exacerbate health issues such as asthma, eczema, multiple chemical sensitivity, sinusitis and migraines. For example, some people who are ill experience difficulty accessing health care because they cannot tolerate the chemicals in various products such as cologne, aftershave, hairspray, soap and perfume.

In 2015, Statistics Canada identified 173,500 persons diagnosed as suffering from MCS/HCM in Québec alone. By 2016, this number had climbed to 230,500.

The Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse du Québec has declared that “... the definition of handicap in the Charter of human rights and freedoms that our Commission has adopted and the way it has been interpreted by the courts of Québec is sufficiently broad and open for people suffering from environmental hypersensitivity to invoke it”.

Part 5
WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Questions already placed on the Order Paper are published each Wednesday

(118)
In its 3 November 2015 issue, the Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ) published an editorial in which the authors wrote: “There are many practices that are acceptable outside hospitals — but not inside. One of these is the application of artificial scents to our bodies... There is little justification for continuing to tolerate artificial scents in our hospitals... Hospital environments free from artificial scents should become a uniform policy, promoting the safety of patients, staff and visitors alike.”

According to the Environmental Health Association of Québec (EHAQ): “Policies have been implemented in several government and hospital facilities in Canada where visitors, patients, health-care professionals, and other staff members are asked to refrain from using any products containing fragrances.”

The EHAQ recently asked the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux to create fragrance-free health care services in Québec. Last 13 November, Ms. Lucie Opatrny, Assistant Deputy Minister, responded that employers were responsible for adopting fragrance-free policies. On 2 December 2019, the EHAP received a new letter, signed by Mr. Yvan Gendron, Deputy Minister, refusing to meet with them under the pretext that the department had just given the “Institut national de santé publique du Québec the mandate to do a rigorous analysis of the scientific literature”.

My questions to the Minister of Health and Social Services are the following:

- Does the Minister acknowledge that at least 3.2% of Quebecers suffer from environmental hypersensitivity?
- Does the Minister believe it is wise to rely solely on employers when the health of many citizens of Québec is at stake?
- Could the Minister envisage establishing fragrance-free policies for Québec’s health care institutions?
- If so, what reasons would the Minister give for not moving forward with such a policy that could facilitate appropriate access to health care for such people?
- If not, what measures does the Minister intend to take so that these vulnerable people can have access to health care system?
- In 2012, the Minister of Health, Mr. Yves Bolduc, gave Dr. Gaétan Carrier of the INSPQ the mandate to prepare a literature review on multiple chemical sensitivity; can the Minister inform us of what stage the writing of that review has reached?
- Can the Minister inform us of the deadline the Institut national de santé publique du Québec must comply with for filing its report?
Since expertise in this field is rare and it is vital that the literature review be peer reviewed, can the Minister give us the names and areas of expertise of the reviewers?

(132) Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) – 13 May 2020
To the Minister of Economy and Innovation

On 15 April 2020, emergency assistance for Québec’s small and medium enterprises (SMEs) was announced following the realization that SMEs were not adequately covered under the Concerted Temporary Action Program for Businesses Programme (CTAPB). The current situation of some businesses suggests that available assistance is still not enough, and that some businesses that were financially sound before the pandemic crisis began may now have to close their doors due to cash flow shortages.

What criteria did the Government use to determine the amounts of emergency financial assistance distributed under this program? Why were these specific criteria used?

How many businesses to date have received financial assistance loans through this program?

In which sectors of activity do these businesses operate?

Of the $150 million earmarked for this, what amounts have already been disbursed?

Is there any provision for some of this assistance to be forgiven for SMEs, as the Federal Government has done?

(133) Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) – 13 May 2020
To the Minister of Economy and Innovation

The Concerted Temporary Action Program for Businesses (CTAPE) was established by the Government of Québec on 20 March 2020.

Under this program, the Government plans to make available loans and loan guarantees worth more than $50,000 through Investissement Québec—its financial arm. However, this financial assistance is not suitable for all Québec businesses; for example, a start-up or a family-run SME would not necessarily
garner an additional $50,000 of credit, without any regard for its financial health.

Therefore, can the Minister tell us how many enterprises have benefited from these loans or loan guarantees granted through Investissement Québec?

What is the average amount of the individual loans or loan guarantees granted to date?

What is the rate of loan approvals under this program?

What is the average size of the enterprises that have obtained a loan or a loan guarantee?

Are there any plans to review this program with a view to forgiving a portion of these loans, as the federal government has done?

(134) Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) – 13 May 2020
To the Minister of Public Security

Québec’s detention centres have to consider prison realities when dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite some measures being put in place, outbreaks quickly occurred, putting inmates, correctional officers and other professionals who work in prisons in danger.

The Minister announced that she had put in place certain measures, but it is clear that those measures were not enough to effectively deal with the situation.

The Syndicat des agents de la paix en services correctionnels du Québec says it fears for the safety of its members on account of both the pandemic and prison violence in certain institutions.

Will the Minister tell us what measures have been put in place since 13 March 2020 to increase the safety of the peace officers and other professionals working in these institutions?
Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) – 13 May 2020
To the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

On 3 April 2020, after waiting several months, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources and the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change released an action plan for sustainable solutions to protect land against flooding, the “Plan de protection du territoire face aux inondations : des solutions durables pour mieux protéger nos milieux de vie”.

The plan contains 23 measures and involves an investment of $479 million.

Recently, some regional county municipalities have passed resolutions asking that the funds earmarked for flooding in the Plan be maintained. They had learned that the Government planned to cut funding allocated to certain measures, including measure No. 10 of the Plan, which provides for the implementation of resiliency and adaptation measures to deal with flooding.

Can the Minister confirm whether funds have already been cut from her action plan and indicate in detail which specific measures will be affected?

Mr. Barrette (La Pinière) – 13 May 2020
To the Minister for Transport

Thanks to the unanimous support of all National Assembly parliamentarians, expressed on two occasions since 2017, Québec will soon become part of the National Shipbuilding Strategy. With a budget of over $100 billion, it is the most ambitious federal fleet renewal program since World War II.

The Federal Government is clearly very ambitious when it comes to the Canadian shipbuilding industry, but what plans does the Québec Government have for its own shipbuilding industry?

The budget recently tabled by the Government contains no specific measures with regard to the shipbuilding industry. However, given the number of ferries that will have to be built in the next few years, it is legitimate to ask what importance the Québec Government is giving to shipbuilding in the new Québec Maritime Strategy it has been slow to reveal.

Obviously, Québec must do more to promote its maritime industry expertise in Canada and in North America as a whole. This additional effort must be rooted
in a coherent and sustained Québec policy that promotes its own maritime industry, in particular, shipbuilding.

The success of this strategy will require creating a maritime industrial cluster that includes equipment suppliers, ship designers, external professional services and, more broadly, the support of the Québec Government in research and development as well as in educating the public about maritime issues.

Will the Minister confirm what importance will be given to the shipbuilding industry in her new Québec Maritime Strategy?

(139) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – 13 May 2020
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

The Québec Government tabled the Québec cultural policy on 12 June 2018. In addition to providing for more than $600 million in funding over a five-year period, this policy also provides for a review of the two statutes that deal with the status of artists.

Last 9 December, the Minister announced that the Honourable Liza Frulla and Ms. Louise Beaudoin would conduct consultations. It was specified that their mandate would be to meet with groups concerned by this legislation review and to gather their points of view, requests and recommendations. In addition, it was mentioned that the co-chairs would have to table a report during the summer of 2020 proposing solutions to the Minister of Culture and Communications.

Last March, the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications announced on its website that preliminary consultations, including online consultations and witness hearings, were being postponed until further notice.

Given the current situation, can the Minister tell us what repercussions this postponement will have on the review and submit a scenario for the resumption of proceedings including a timeline?
Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – 13 May 2020
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

When reading the 2020–2021 Budget, the Minister of Finance announced a plan to enhance Québécois heritage buildings. Budget documents specify that buildings will be acquired, restored, converted and fitted out for cultural purposes.

Can the Minister detail the type of buildings this measure targets, the list of buildings to be acquired, the acquisition plan and the timelines?

Mr. Rousselle (Vimont) – 13 May 2020
To the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity

Between 2 April 2020 and the beginning of May, the Government announced various wage increases for a temporary period of time. The next day, it put in place the Incentive Program to Retain Essential Workers (IPREW) making $100 per week available to those most in need.

Let me recall, the IPREW is a temporary measure announced on 3 April, which is applicable only as of 27 May. Later, there were suggestions that some increases would remain permanent for some workers. Another interesting measure is the Concerted Actions for Job Retention Program (PACME), however, several companies are questioning how the training aspect of the program works. The list posted on the program website is incomplete.

1. Why does it take more than 7 weeks to implement the IPREW, a program that simply aims to put money in the pockets of those who need it most?

2. Given that the Premier has indicated that he wants to improve the working conditions of our “guardian angels” in a sustainable manner, what measures will be maintained as basic conditions?

3. On the subject of the PACME, why not update the eligible educational institutions and training as they have requested?

4. What are the CNESST certification deadlines for the training centres who want to offer their services to companies under the PACME?
Mr. Roussel (Vimont) – 13 May 2020
To the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity

As we know, the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly affected everyone involved in the health network, both directly or indirectly. With regard to those workers now referred to as “guardian angels”, the Premier has once again apologized for not improving their working conditions more quickly.

Several temporary measures have been announced, however it appears that some major application problems and injustices are taking hold. While the current context requires collaboration and the Premier is asking everyone to show solidarity, there do appear to be tears in the social fabric. Several well-intentioned employment agencies are penalized, feel let down by the Government, thus disadvantaging our guardian angels. Indeed, media reports indicate there may be potential regulatory or legal remedies from the Minister of Health and Social Services.

On 7 May, the Chair of the Conseil du Trésor indicated that the activities of employment agencies aimed at filling these job positions were a “necessary evil” which was very poorly received by some employment agencies. In January, the Minister of Labour amended the regulation governing employment agencies and it appears as though that regulation is incompatible with the current context and the new temporary measures announced. At that time, the regulation was already being challenged in court. Furthermore, while in a context where the Government is committed to increasing guardian angels’ wages, the Chair denounces that some agencies already offer a higher rate.

My questions for the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity are as follows:

1. Given the impact of decisions made and yet to come, does the Minister consider that this regulation is ill-suited or at risk of being so and therefore should be amended?

2. In the same vein as the Premier’s call for cooperation and solidarity, should this regulation be reviewed in collaboration with employment agencies in order to find a consensual solution to this conflict that has been going on for several months?

3. Do the guardian angels who work for employment agencies have access to the measures announced? If so, how does this work?
4. Following the words of the Chair of the Conseil du trésor, I would like to know the Minister's vision regarding the future of Québec's employment agencies?

(144) Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé) – 26 May 2020
To the Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks

Since February 2018, the municipality of Grande-Vallée has been concerned about the future of the wildlife protection office located in its territory. It has repeatedly asked the Government about this issue, but received no response.

Let us recall that this concern stems from the retirement of a first wildlife protection agent, who has never been replaced. Since then, a second agent also retired. Consequently, the Grande-Vallée wildlife protection office is now staffed only by agents who come from the Gaspé and Sainte-Anne-des-Monts offices, located some 95 and 122 kilometres from the municipality, respectively.

In response to the concerns of regional elected officials, who are calling for the return of a wildlife protection service worthy of the name to Grande-Vallée, the department evoked a staff shortage affecting all Québec regions, and assures that Grande-Vallée office services will not be adversely affected.

However, we know that despite all the efforts and reminders made, the department has not yet renewed the office lease. Further, no new agents have been hired for this area, which is highly frequented by hunters and fishers. All this, you will agree, raises serious doubt as to the department’s actual commitment to keeping this office open.

My question is as follows:

- Will the Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks agree to sign, as soon as possible, a lease for the Grande-Vallée wildlife protection office, and to put in place the resources necessary for the deployment of adequate services in the territory?
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(145) Mr. Benjamin (Viau) – 26 May 2020
To the Premier

The coronavirus pandemic, putting Québec “on pause” as well as the many resulting health and prevention measures represent a highly unusual situation for all Quebeckers. And this situation is having an impact on young people and all youth-related issues.

According to a Québec population health survey published by the Institut de la statistique du Québec, young people represent a vulnerable group from a mental health standpoint since the transition to adulthood is rarely a stress-free experience. In 2014–2015, 36% of young people aged 15 to 24 demonstrated high levels of psychological distress. Today, in the midst of a global health pandemic, the percentage of young people in distress could be even higher.

On 24 April, the Québec Government created a temporary component in the Mille et Un Fund for Young People in order to help organizations affected by the COVID-19 crisis. That financial assistance, to which one million dollars is being added, will be available to assist organizations facing financial difficulties.

Considering that the 2016–2021 Québec Youth Action Strategy includes five main axes, including a significant health component, what assistance specifically targeted at youth has the Québec Government offered to mental health services organizations?

What is the Government’s new vision and strategy to provide them with assistance?

Can the Premier commit to injecting more money into the health component of the Québec action strategy for youth?
(146) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – 26 May 2020
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

The La Presse newspaper is asking for help from the Québec Government to stabilize its cash flow, finance employee salaries and support other current business expenses.

Is the Minister comfortable with this request?
Will the Government agree to help the NPO La Presse?

(147) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – 26 May 2020
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

Radio-Canada informed us on May 5 that Quebecor is in the process of buying the Capitole de Québec. As it is classified as a heritage building, the Minister must approve this transaction.

Will the Minister consent to this transaction?

(148) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – 26 May 2020
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

The Government has signed an agreement worth more than US$10 million with an American production company. When filming resumes, we know there will be a high demand for film sets, equipment and tradespeople.

Given that resources will be limited and that the Government now has a financial stake in U.S. productions, when the recovery comes, which productions will the Québec Government prioritize when it comes to Québec and U.S. productions?

(149) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – 26 May 2020
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

In the circus sector, many companies made 90% of their own-source income through international tours.

Does the Minister first have a plan to support the business model during the COVID-19 crisis and second, a plan to revive the circus sector once the crisis is over?
During the summer season, festivals are an economic engine for several regions. Given that the Government has announced the cancellation of festivals up to 31 August 2020, when will a plan be announced to help them ensure their sustainability?

The movie theatre industry wants to reopen in mid-June. Will it be able to count on the Government’s help to apply the rules that will be prescribed by public health and offer help if its business model is affected, in particular by physical distancing?

Recently, the Association des professionnels de l’industrie de l’humour pressed the Government to make known its intentions with regard to deconfinement for the performing arts and reflections on the resumption of activities.

Is the Minister working on a re-opening plan and does she intend to make known the policy directions that broadcasters will be required to follow in the coming months?

On 10 May 2020, the charity event “Une chance qu’on s’a” was broadcast on TVA and Télé-Québec. We have learned that this event was held in partnership with the Government of Québec. Can the Minister give us the details about this partnership?
(154) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – 26 May 2020
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

On 28 April 2020, the Oliverie bookstore announced that it was closing for good after 35 years of existence.

Has the Minister worked on a plan or offered help to save this long-standing institution?

(155) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – 26 May 2020
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

The City of Québec will be setting up free drive-in movie theatres for its citizens this summer.

Does the Minister intend to support this initiative and to promote the deployment of free drive-ins in other cities and municipalities in Québec?

(156) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – 26 May 2020
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

When we re-open, the cultural sector will need health protocols to ensure everyone’s safety.

Has the Government been in touch with the various cultural associations in order to set up protocols for each of them?

(157) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – 26 May 2020
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

This spring, the Minister proceeded to pay out investments ahead of time, notably through the SOCED and CALQ.

Which fiscal year do the amounts committed belong to and what proportion of investments are attributed to the 2019–2020 and 2020–2021 fiscal years, respectively?
Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – 26 May 2020
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

On 14 May 2020, the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor and the Minister of Finance announced that $2.9 billion in investments provided for in the 2020–2030 Québec Infrastructure Plan would be paid out ahead of time for the fiscal year 2020–2021.

In relation to that announcement, can the Minister indicate the proportion of the investments that will be dedicated to culture and provide a list of the projects that will be moved forward?

Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion) – 28 May 2020
To the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

On 17 April, the RQOH, Québec’s network of non-profit housing organizations (Housing NPOs) sent the Minister a letter explaining their financial needs during the COVID-19 pandemic. This letter followed a previous correspondence sent on 6 April to her colleague, the Minister Responsible for Seniors and Informal Caregivers.

Many Housing NPOs provide social housing for seniors. These organizations have made a considerable effort to protect their residents’ health. The measures, in compliance with public health recommendations, have resulted in unforeseen expenses. These range from hiring additional staff to purchasing adequate personal protective equipment to prevent infection.

Many Housing NPOs got their start thanks to financial support available under Component 2 of the AccèsLogis Program specifically targeting seniors. The Société d’habitation du Québec therefore has a responsibility toward these organizations’ sustainability and their quality of housing.

My question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing is the following:

- Will the Minister financially support Housing NPOs in their efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19?
I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

Government Bills

(a) 2 June 2020
   An Act to restart Québec’s economy and to mitigate the consequences of the public health emergency declared on 13 March 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic – Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor

Private Members' Public Bills

(b) 28 May 2020
   An Act to create the Rent Register – Member for Laurier-Dorion

(c) 28 May 2020
   Right-to-Disconnect Act – Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve

Private Bills

II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME

(aa) An Act to amend the Civil Code, in particular to make civil actions for sexual aggression, violence suffered during childhood and spousal violence imprescriptible – Minister of Justice