

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Order Paper and Notices

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 2 December 2020 — No. 149 Nine forty a.m.

President of the National Assembly: Mr. François Paradis

Part 1

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

- The Member for Bourget on the following subject: *Tribute to Father Baril*.
- The Member for D'Arcy-McGee on the following subject: *Gratitude toward a local hero in mental health matters*.
- The Member for Saint-François on the following subject: Sports Trans-Action's 25 charitable deeds.
- The Member for Saint-Laurent on the following subject: *Tribute to Mr. Mahdi Ziani*.
- The Member for Masson on the following subject: 100-kilometre run for a good cause.
- The Member for Matane-Matapédia on the following subject: Access to hemodialysis treatments in the Amqui and Matane hospital centres.
- The Member for Labelle on the following subject: 12 days of action to end violence against women.
- The Member for Laurier-Dorion on the following subject: *Food security*.
- The Member for Beauce-Nord on the following subject: *Congratulations to Saint-Joseph-de-Beauce's Mr. Raphaël Lessard on his NASCAR season.*
- The Member for Beauharnois on the following subject: *Tribute to artist Denis Poirier*.

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

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MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

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INFORMATION ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Part 2

ORDERS OF THE DAY

BUSINESS HAVING PRECEDENCE

URGENT DEBATES

DEBATES ON REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

(1) Report from the Committee on Culture and Education which held public hearings on 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30 August 2019 within the framework of special consultations on the order of initiative on the future of news media. The report contains observations and 20 recommendations.

Report tabled on 1 December 2020

Subject to the provisions of the second paragraph of Standing Order 94, this report shall be taken into consideration not later than **16 December 2020**.

OTHER BUSINESS

I. Government Bills

Passage in Principle

(2) 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

(3) 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

(4) Bill 59

An Act to modernize the occupational health and safety regime Introduced by the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity on 27 October 2020

(5) Bill 60

An Act to amend the Public Service Act and other provisions Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on 12 June 2020

(6) Bill 61

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

Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on 3 June 2020

Report from the Committee on Public Finance (consultations) tabled on 11 June 2020

Resuming the debate adjourned in the name of the Member for La Pinière on 12 June 2020

(**7**) Bill 69

An Act to amend the Cultural Heritage Act and other legislative provisions Introduced by the Minister of Culture and Communications on 29 October 2020

Report from the Committee on Culture and Education (consultations) tabled on **1 December 2020**

(**8**) Bill 72

An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning mainly bodies in the field of public safety

Introduced by the Minister of Public Security on 21 October 2020

Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on $12 \, \text{November} \, 2020$

Resuming the debate, adjourned on **1 December 2020**, on the motion to divide by the Member for D'Arcy-McGee. This motion reads as follows:

THAT, pursuant to Standing Order 241, Bill 72, An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning mainly bodies in the field of public safety, be divided into two bills:

The first of which shall be entitled "An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning the Commission québécoise des libérations conditionnelles and the manner for appointing investigators of specialized police forces", and shall comprise sections 1 to 50 and 66, except the words "except sections 52 and 53, which come into force on the date of coming into force of section 27 of the Act respecting liquor permits (chapter P-9.1), enacted by section 2 of the Act to modernize the legal regime applicable to liquor permits and to amend various other legislative provisions with regard to alcoholic beverages (2018, chapter 20)";

The second of which shall be entitled "An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning liquor permits and alcoholic beverages", and shall comprise sections 51 to 65 and 66.

(9) Bill 73

An Act to amend various provisions relating to assisted procreation Introduced by the Minister for Health and Social Services on 11 November 2020

(10)Bill 77*

An Act respecting the Institut de technologie agroalimentaire du Québec Introduced by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on **26 November 2020**

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 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 $11 \ \text{February} \ 2020$

Passed in principle on 8 October 2020, and

Referred to the Committee on Institutions

(13)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

Report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment (consultations) tabled on 24 September 2020

Passed in principle on 30 September 2020, and

Referred to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment

^{*} Recommendation of the Lieutenant-Governor

(14)Bill 64

An Act to modernize legislative provisions as regards the protection of personal information

Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Democratic Institutions, Electoral Reform and Access to Information on 12 June 2020, and

Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on 30 September 2020

Passed in principle on 20 October 2020, and

Referred to the Committee on Institutions

(15)Bill 65

An Act to amend mainly the Environment Quality Act with respect to deposits and selective collection

Introduced by the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change on 24 September 2020, and

Report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment (consultations) tabled on 27 October 2020

Passed in principle on 11 November 2020, and

Referred to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment

(16)Bill 66

An Act respecting the acceleration of certain infrastructure projects

Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on 23 September 2020

Report from the Committee on Public Finance (consultations) tabled on 28 October 2020

Passed in principle on 3 November 2020, and

Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

(17)Bill 67

An Act to establish a new development regime for the flood zones of lakes and watercourses, to temporarily grant municipalities powers enabling them to respond to certain needs and to amend various provisions

Introduced by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on 30 September 2020

Passed in principle on 5 November 2020, and,

Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

(18)Bill 68

An Act mainly to allow the establishment of target benefit pension plans Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 7 October 2020

Report from the Committee on Public Finance (consultations) tabled on 4 November 2020

Passed in principle on 5 November 2020, and,

Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

(19)Bill 70

An Act to protect persons from conversion therapy provided to change their sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression

Introduced by the Minister of Justice on 22 October 2020

Report from the Committee on Citizen Relations (consultations) tabled on 10 November 2020

Passed in principle on 10 November 2020, and

Referred to the Committee on Citizen Relations

(20)Bill 71

An Act respecting off-highway vehicles

Introduced by the Minister of Transport on 22 October 2020

Report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment (consultations) tabled on 12 November 2020

Passed in principle on 26 November 2020, and

Referred to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment

(21)Bill 75

An Act to improve justice accessibility and efficiency, in particular to address consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic

Introduced by the Minister of Justice on 3 November 2020

Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on 26 November 2020

Passed in principle on 1 December 2020, and

Referred to the Committee on Institutions

Report Stage

Passage

II. Private Members' Public Bills

Passage in Principle

(22)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

(23)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

(24)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

(25)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

(26)Bill 194

An Act to ensure compliance with Québec's climate change-related obligations

Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on 21 February 2019

(27)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

(28)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

(29)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

(30)Bill 198

An Act to facilitate disclosure of wrongdoings Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on **9 May 2019**

(31)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

(32)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

(33)Bill 392

An Act respecting the selection of Québec senators Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on 9 May 2019

(**34**)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

(35)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**

(36)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

(37)Bill 398

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

(38)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

(39)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**

(40)Bill 491

An Act to combat food waste

Introduced by the Member for Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue on 12 November 2020

(41)Bill 492

Right-to-Disconnect Act

Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on 3 June 2020

(42)Bill 493

Interculturalism Act

Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on 30 October 2019

(43)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

(44)Bill 496

Parliamentary Budget Officer Act Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on 14 November 2019

(45)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

(46)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**

(47)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

(48)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

(**49**)Bill 595

An Act to create the Rent Register
Introduced by the Member for Laurier-Dorion on **4 June 2020**

(**50**)Bill 596

An Act to establish Pharma-Québec Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on 15 September 2020

(51)Bill 597

An Act to improve support offered to entrepreneurs and farmers in relation to mental health

Introduced by the Member for Nelligan on 10 June 2020

(52)Bill 598

An Act to authorize the holder of a restaurant sales liquor permit to sell, for takeout or delivery, spirit-based alcoholic beverages
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on 12 June 2020

(53)Bill 599

An Act to respect sexual orientation and gender identity

Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on

22 September 2020

(54)Bill 690

An Act to amend the Charter of the French language to specify that it applies to private enterprises operating in an area of federal jurisdiction Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **24 September 2020**

(55)Bill 691

An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère des Transports to maintain air transportation services in certain regions of Québec Introduced by the Member for Mont-Royal—Outremont on 30 September 2020

(**56**)Bill 692

An Act to amend the Act respecting safety in sports to prohibit fighting in sports activities in which persons under 18 years of age participate Introduced by the Member for Marquette on **21 October 2020**

(**57**)Bill 693

An Act to amend the Election Act to prevent and fight sexual violence in the context of political activities

Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on 22 October 2020

Committee Stage

Report Stage

Passage

III. Private Bills

Hearings and Clause-by-Clause Consideration

(58)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

(59)Bill 214

An Act respecting Ville de Sutton Introduced by the Member for Richmond on **12 November 2020**, and Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

(60)Bill 215

An Act respecting Municipalité de Nominingue Introduced by the Member for Labelle on **12 November 2020**, and Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

(61)Bill 216

An Act to amend the Act respecting the establishment of a special taxation scheme for the Corporation de gestion du port de Baie-Comeau Introduced by the Member for René-Lévesque on **21 October 2020**, and Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

(62)Bill 217

An Act respecting the objects and powers of the Roman Catholic Archiepiscopal corporation of Montreal

Introduced by the Member for Westmount-Saint-Louis on 11 November 2020, and

Referred to the Committee on Labour and the Economy

(63)Bill 218

An Act respecting Municipalité des Îles-de-la-Madeleine Introduced by the Member for Îles-de-la-Madeleine on 12 November 2020, and

Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

(64)Bill 219

An Act respecting an immovable located on Rue University in Montréal Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on 11 November 2020, and

Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

Passage in Principle

Passage

IV. Government Motions

V. Estimates of Expenditure

(65)Supplementary Estimates No. 1 for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2021 tabled by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on 24 November 2020 and referred for consideration to a Committee of the Whole

VI. Statutory Debates

BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION

Part 3

BILLS PASSED

(Bills awaiting Royal Assent)

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 Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor on the Report on the application of the *Public Administration Act*.
- 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".

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).

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 67, An act to establish a new development regime for the flood zones of lakes and watercourses, to temporarily grant municipalities powers enabling them to respond to certain needs and to amend various provisions (Order of reference given on 5 November 2020).
- **Bill 209**, An Act respecting Ville de Saint-Tite (Order of reference given on 4 December 2019).
- **Bill 214**, An Act respecting Ville de Sutton (Order of reference given on 12 November 2020).
- **Bill 215**, An Act respecting Municipalité de Nominingue (Order of reference given on 12 November 2020).
- **Bill 216**, An Act to amend the Act respecting the establishment of a special taxation scheme for the Corporation de gestion du port de Baie-Comeau (Order of reference given on 21 October 2020).
- **Bill 218**, An Act respecting Municipalité des Îles-de-la-Madeleine (Order of reference given on 12 November 2020).

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

Surveillance of public bodies and accountability:

- Hearing the Commission municipale du Québec.

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

Statutory order

Hearing the heads of educational institutions at the university level.

COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND THE ECONOMY

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

 Bill 217, An Act respecting the objects and powers of the Roman Catholic Archiepiscopal corporation of Montreal (Order of reference given on 11 November 2020).

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC FINANCE

Order of reference

 Debate on the economic update presented on 12 November 2020, in accordance with the motion carried by the Assembly 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 66**, An Act respecting the acceleration of certain infrastructure projects (Order of reference given on 3 November 2020).
- **Bill 68**, An Act mainly to allow the establishment of target benefit pension plans (Order of reference given on 5 November 2020).
- Bill 219, An Act respecting an immovable located on Rue University in Montréal (Order of reference given on 11 November 2020).

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

- Quarterly examination of the Government's budgetary policy and of the evolution of public finance.

COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 39**, An Act to establish a new electoral system (Order of reference given on 8 October 2020).
- **Bill 64**, An Act to modernize legislative provisions as regards the protection of personal information (Order of reference given on 20 October 2020).
- Bill 75, An Act to improve justice accessibility and efficiency, in particular to address consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic (Order of reference given on 1 December 2020).

COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

 Bill 70, An Act to protect persons from conversion therapy provided to change their sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression (Order of reference given on 10 November 2020).

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Order of reference

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 73**, An Act to amend various provisions relating to assisted procreation (Order of reference given on 26 November 2020).

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 46**, An Act to amend the Natural Heritage Conservation Act and other provisions (Order of reference given on 30 September 2020).
- Bill 65, An Act to amend mainly the Environment Quality Act with respect to deposits and selective collection (Order of reference given on 11 November 2020).
- **Bill 71**, An Act respecting off-highway vehicles (Order of reference given on 26 November 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).

Part 5

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

<u>Questions already placed</u> on the Order Paper are published each Wednesday

(173) Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) – **8 October 2020**To the Minister of Finance

We have received a citizen's testimony regarding certain aspects of exchange traded funds, mutual funds and defined contribution pension funds—aspects that he considers to be anomalies. In his opinion, certain income distributions (capital distributions, capital gains and dividends) are not made. We can provide all the documents supporting his claims.

The issue we want to bring to the Minister of Finance's attention is the transparency of discount brokerage firms and financial institutions. The current regulations allow these institutions to display only certain information on the detailed statements sent to investors and retirees, which makes it more difficult to monitor the different movements of capital in their accounts. Discount brokerage firms and financial institutions therefore seem able to avoid displaying certain amounts that, often, would be relevant for investors and retirees to know. This situation is all the more worrisome in that it potentially affects a large number of people who do not regularly monitor their investments or pension funds. For example, it is not possible to know the income distribution details, whether it be regarding capital distributions, capital gains, Canadiansource interest income or dividends.

Given this situation, our questions to the Minister of Finance are as follows:

Will the Minister of Finance commit to shedding light on these aspects of exchange traded funds, mutual funds and defined contribution pension funds?

Will the Minister of Finance commit to amending the regulations in force to increase transparency in the statements issued by brokerage firms and financial institutions, and require that the brokerage firms and financial institutions display all capital movements on the detailed statements for investors and retirees?

(175) Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) – **22 October 2020**To the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity

The organization RightOnCanada and the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment called on the Premier by sending him a letter dated 21 September 2020, for the second time in the past year, to share their concerns regarding the actions of the International Chrysotile Association (ICA), an asbestos lobby group registered in Québec as a non-profit organization. I share the concerns of these experts and scientists, and I want to discuss them with you.

First, not a single member of the ICA board of directors resides in Québec, which is contrary to the *Companies Act*. Further, while asbestos has been scientifically shown to be a carcinogenic substance and has been banished in some fifty countries, the ICA continues to promote it all over the world as a safe product and which can be used in the form of cement in the construction of buildings, including schools.

Let us also recall that the BAPE inquiry commission on the state of affairs and management of asbestos and asbestos mining residues submitted to the Government last July asks the Government to take various measures to protect the public's health and safety against the harmful effects of asbestos. While we want to protect the general public and Québec workers, we also have a moral obligation to protect the populations in developing countries. However, the fact that the ICA, whose members' have practices that put the health and safety of the world's most vulnerable populations at risk, is associated with Québec by having its head office here, tarnishes our reputation on the international stage.

The ICA is registered in Québec as a non-profit organization. However, on the website of the Ministère du Travail, de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale, it clearly indicates that a non-profit organization is a group of natural persons who pursue a moral or altruistic goal and who do not intend to make any monetary gains to be shared among its members.

If we examine the actions of the ICA, it does not pursue either moral or altruistic goals.

- Have you or has a member of your office ever held meetings with the ICA? If so, on which dates and what were the subjects discussed at these meetings?
- Do you intend to order an administrative inquiry into whether ICA's constitution as a non-profit organization is compliant with the *Companies Act*? If the inquiry reveals that the ICA is non-compliant, will you take appropriate legal action?

(179) Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue) – **3 November 2020** To the Minister of Transport

During meetings held with municipalities in my riding, two main issues were raised with regard to the transportation network: insufficient financial assistance for the maintenance of local roads and concerns about safety in certain sectors.

Since the responsibility for local roads was transferred in 1993 from the Ministère des Transports (MTQ) to the municipalities, local road network maintenance has been weakened due to a lack of indexation of the amounts provided for under the Programme d'aide à la voirie locale, with the exception of an investment included in the 2018 budget. The problem is exacerbated in the regions, where rural municipalities have difficulty benefiting from the program, mostly because they have to compete with the needs of larger cities. For some small municipalities, the program represents the only assistance available for local road network maintenance.

In addition, the transport department's network encompasses local municipalities in which a variety of user needs coexist, such as schools, local services, residential sectors. In these communities, the most vulnerable users (pedestrians and cyclists) sometimes develop a sense of insecurity. Some municipalities in my riding turned to the Minister's department to lower the speed limits or to add a pedestrian crossing or a beacon, only to be told that the road situation met the norms in place and thus that no intervention was necessary. I have therefore respectively concluded, Minister, that there is at times a huge divide between Transports Québec's norms and what is actually experienced on the ground.

My questions are as follows:

- 1. Do you plan on significantly increasing the budget of the Programme d'aide à la voirie locale and what assistance do you intend to give municipalities for their road network maintenance?
- 2. What actions could be taken to improve users' sense of safety in communities when your department deems that there is no such problem?

(182) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **24 November 2020**To the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity,

On 15 November, the Minister of Health and Social Services and the Minister Responsible for Seniors and Informal Caregivers announced additional investments of \$100 million for the coming year and \$65 million for the following five years, amounts that are to be used to improve home services and care. Of these amounts, around \$10 million will be allocated to improving the conditions of workers in the sector. The minimum hourly wage, which is currently \$14.25, will increase to \$16.00.

This increase of \$1.75 per hour is a first step, but it is important to remember that there is a significant wage gap between the public and private sector for the same job as a personal care attendant; this has caused labour availability issues for years. In fact, with the recent increases that have been granted, level-one personal care attendants working in CHSLDs and hospitals now earn \$20.55 per hour.

For the well-being of the elderly, the sick, those who must deal with a temporary or permanent disability as well as caregivers, it is essential to find a way to reduce the significant wage gap between essential workers in the public and private sectors. In this regard, the Member for Rimouski has repeatedly called for the establishment of a collective agreement decree so that we can legislate on the conditions of workers in the home care sector.

We would therefore like to ask the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity the following questions:

- Will the Minister quickly put in place a collective agreement decree to establish the minimum conditions of employment—that is, conditions equal to those of public workers—for home care attendants and private nursing home attendants? Can we expect this decree in 2021?
- When interviewed, the Minister's press secretary said "[...] that different avenues are being explored. It's important to improve working conditions for the dedicated employees in these sectors. To do this, we must analyze the various means available to us." Could you tell us what are these different means, what are the objectives for improving the working conditions of these employees as well as the expected timeframe?

(183) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – **24 November 2020**To the Minister of Culture and Communications

What amounts have been disbursed by the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications since 10 March 2020 to support artists under the La culture à l'école program and who are the beneficiaries?

How many students have been affected by the measure, broken down by region and by grade level?

How many schools were visited by region?

How many different artists participated in the measure, by region?

How much money has been invested to promote the measure to artists?

How much money has been invested to promote the measure in schools?

(184) Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion) – **24 November 2020**To the Minister of Immigration, Francization and Integration

As part of the Program for Refugees Abroad, a collective sponsorship program, many Québec citizens and residents turn to organizations to sponsor refugees by committing to facilitate their integration and cover costs related to their establishment.

There were some problems with this program during the most recent application period last January.

On 28 October, the Minister put an end to a tradition of collaboration between the Ministère de l'Immigration, de la Francisation et de l'Intégration and sponsoring organizations. The Minister has discredited all of the organizations and groups sponsoring refugees in Québec and decided to exclude all organizations from the collective sponsorship program for the year 2021. This decision will increase wait times that are already too long.

My questions for the Minister are as follows:

- What actions will the Minister take to renew the dialogue and take into account the needs of refugees under the sponsorship program?
- Why prohibit all sponsoring organizations from submitting applications in 2021, when only a few organizations are under investigation?
- (185) Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) **24 November 2020** To the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity

The 2017–2023 Government Action Plan to Foster Economic Inclusion and Social Participation provided for increasing the benefits of all last-resort financial assistance programs up to a certain percentage of the Market Basket Measure (MBM), i.e. 55.1% for Social Assistance, 77.6% for Social Solidarity, and 90.1% for Social Solidarity 66/72.

However, Statistics Canada has just revised the MBM so that the amount to cover the basic needs of a person living alone in Montreal has gone from \$17,820 to \$20,080 (2018 base).

In this context, the MBM coverage percentages of the different programs is evidently not the same.

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

- Does the Minister intend to adjust the amount of the benefits paid under these programs so as to maintain the planned MBM coverage percentages?
- If not, can the Minister explain why these coverage percentages were initially considered relevant, but no longer now?

(186) Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion) – **1 December 2020**To the Minister of Immigration, Francization and Integration

The pandemic and the reform of the Programme de l'expérience québécoise (PEQ – Québec experience program) have resulted in significantly longer processing times to obtain a Québec selection certificate (CSQ). The processing times have increased from 25 days to more than 6 months, leading to increasingly intolerable situations for those who hope to obtain a CSQ to pursue their dream of settling in Québec.

In addition to the much longer processing times, we have seen an increase in the number of applications returned to applicants where the Ministère de l'Immigration, de la Francisation et de l'Intégration (MIFI) refers to the absence of documents or an inability to collect the processing fees. Returning these applications obviously causes additional delays. We understand that the MIFI cannot process incomplete applications, but when this department requests documents to update a file that was already complete when it was received six months earlier, it is hard for us to understand how immigration candidates can be penalized for delays that the MIFI is responsible for. We would also like to point out that the COVID-19 context has made it more difficult to obtain these non-essential documents because some people have lost their job, been laid off or have an implied status.

For these people, the processing of their case is urgent and critical for them to return to a sense of normalcy. In fact, the CSQ is required to establish permanent residency in Québec and, in many cases, to renew a work permit while waiting to obtain permanent residency. Similarly, we are concerned to see immigration applications rejected due to a lack of rigour by the MIFI, which loses track of items that have been properly mailed by immigration candidates in a timely manner, as mentioned by the Québec Ombudsperson in her 2019–2020 report.

We have also found that the mechanism for payment of fees, which requires the availability of \$812 for a continuous period of six months, is not suitable for a context where many are in difficult financial situations.

In light of these real-life situations we have heard through citizens' requests at riding offices, the questions for the Minister are as follows:

- Will the Minister commit to accelerating application processing by hiring additional agents?
- Will the Minister also commit to mitigating the impacts of increased processing times, in particular by ensuring that there will be no further delays due to requests for documents to update files that were already complete when the application was filed by the immigration candidate?
- Will the Minister commit to ensuring more flexible and human processing of immigration applications, in particular by allowing immigration candidates to provide the missing or lost documents to the MIFI by email, as recommended by the Ombudsperson in her 2019–2020 report?
- Will the Minister commit to ensuring flexible processing for the payment of required fees, so that this is no longer a reason for returning an entire application?
- What concrete action will the Minister take to address the findings outlined in the Québec Ombudsperson's 2019–2020 annual report, which are that the Department clearly displays administrative rigidity regarding its rules, a lack of openness regarding the candidates' version, and very little empathy regarding the individual and family issues at stake?

- With the prospect of an extended health emergency and in relation to the government's 2019–2023 digital transformation strategy, will the Minister also commit to modernizing the method for receiving PEQ applications by developing an online platform to reduce the processing times and mailing fees resulting from these back-and-forths?

(187) Ms. Montpetit (Maurice-Richard) – **1 December 2020**To the Minister of Health and Social Services

With regard to the directive issued by the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux that paramedics not resuscitate people in cardiac arrest:

When did the Minister become aware of the directive?

On what legal basis was the directive issued?

Why was the directive maintained beyond what was necessary, that is, until 21 September 2020?

Why was this directive, unlike the 260 other directives issued last spring, never published on a government website?

Was the directive reassessed between 4 April and 21 September, by who, and how many times?

Part 6

NOTICES

I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

Government Bills

(a) 1 December 2020
An Act to give effect to fiscal measures announced in the Budget Speech delivered on 10 March 2020 and to certain other measures – *Minister of Finance*

Private Members' Public Bills

Private Bills

II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME