



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Order Paper and Notices **of the Assembly**

Wednesday, 26 May 2021 — No. 193
Nine forty a.m.

President of the National Assembly:
Mr. François Paradis

Part 1

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

- The Member for Beauce-Sud on the following subject: *The Journée nationale des préposés d'aide à domicile (Coopérative de services à domicile de Beauce-Sartigan).*
- The Member for Viau on the following subject: *Congratulations to Ms. Francine Caccia.*
- The Member for Deux-Montagnes on the following subject: *The World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development.*
- The Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on the following subject: *Underline the 145th anniversary of Mount Royal Park.*
- The Member for Abitibi-Ouest on the following subject: *Tribute to Ms. Rose-Aimée Vallée.*
- The Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on the following subject: *Thanks to citizens involved in the REM de l'Est project.*
- The Member for Lac-Saint-Jean on the following subject: *Mr. Guillaume Côté, Knight of the Ordre national du Québec.*
- The Member for Matane-Matapédia on the following subject: *Underline Mr. Mario Rodrigue's involvement in the organization Les Alcyons.*
- The Member for Chauveau on the following subject: *Ms. Caroline Paradis' Défi Caro à vélo.*
- The Member for Mégantic on the following subject: *Applaud the alliance of shoreline municipalities for the protection of Lac Mégantic.*

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

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Part 2

ORDERS OF THE DAY

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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 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

(3) Bill 81

An Act to amend the Act respecting the Montréal Museum of Fine Arts

Introduced by the Minister of Culture and Communications on **12 May 2021**

(4) Bill 86

An Act respecting the demise of the Crown

Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Canadian Relations and the
Canadian Francophonie on **11 March 2021**

(5) Bill 93

An Act to recognize the Royal Military College Saint-Jean as an educational institution at the university level

Introduced by Minister of Higher Education on 5 May 2021

Report from the Committee on Culture and Education (consultations) tabled on **25 May 2021**

(6) Bill 95

An Act to amend the Act respecting the governance and management of the information resources of public bodies and government enterprises and other legislative provisions

Introduced by the Minister for Government Digital Transformation on **5 May 2021**

(7) Bill 96

An Act respecting French, the official and common language of Québec

Introduced by the Minister Responsible for the French Language on **13 May 2021**

Committee Stage

(8) 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

(9) 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

Passed in principle on **8 October 2020**, and

Referred to the Committee on Institutions

(10) 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

Report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain (consultations) tabled on 27 April 2021

Passed in principle on **25 May 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

(11) 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

Report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy (consultations) tabled on 2 February 2021

Passed in principle on **16 February 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Labour and the Economy

(12) 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

(13) Bill 78

An Act mainly to improve the transparency of enterprises

Introduced by the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity on 8 December 2020

Report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy (consultations) tabled on 9 March 2021

Passed in principle on **14 April 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Labour and the Economy

(14) Bill 79

An Act to authorize the communication of personal information to the families of Indigenous children who went missing or died after being admitted to an institution

Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Indigenous Affairs on 9 December 2020

Report from the Committee on Citizen Relations (consultations) tabled on 13 April 2021

Passed in principle on **14 April 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Citizen Relations

(15) Bill 83

An Act respecting mainly the health insurance plan and prescription drug insurance plan eligibility of certain children whose parents' migratory status is precarious

Introduced by the Minister of Health and Social Services on 10 December 2020

Report from the Committee on Health and Social Services (consultations) tabled on 22 April 2021

Passed in principle on **11 May 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Health and Social Services

(16) Bill 88

An Act to amend the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife and other legislative provisions

Introduced by the Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks on 11 March 2021

Report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment (consultations) tabled on 20 April 2021

Passed in principle on **21 April 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment

(17) Bill 90

An Act to amend the Taxation Act, the Act respecting the Québec sales tax and other provisions

Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 4 May 2021

Passed in principle on **25 May 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

Report Stage

(18) Bill 82

An Act respecting mainly the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speech of 10 March 2020

Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 11 December 2020

Passed in principle on 17 February 2021

Report from the Committee on Public Finance tabled on **25 May 2021**
(Amend. handed in under Standing Order 252)

Passage

(19) Bill 74

An Act to give effect to fiscal measures announced in the Budget Speech delivered on 10 March 2020 and to certain other measures

Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 2 December 2020

Passed in principle on 2 February 2021

Report from the Committee on Public Finance concurred in on **25 May 2021**

II. Private Members' Public Bills

Passage in Principle

(20) 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**

(21) 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**

(22) 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**

- (23) 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**
- (24) Bill 194
An Act to ensure compliance with Québec's climate change-related obligations
Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on **21 February 2019**
- (25) 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**
- (26) 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**
- (27) Bill 198
An Act to facilitate disclosure of wrongdoings
Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on **9 May 2019**
- (28) 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**
- (29) 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**
- (30) Bill 392
An Act respecting the selection of Québec senators
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **9 May 2019**

(31) 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**

(32) 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**

(33) 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**

(34) Bill 398

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

(35) 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**

(36) 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**

(37) Bill 491

An Act to combat food waste
Introduced by the Member for Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue on **12 November 2020**

(38) Bill 492

Right-to-Disconnect Act
Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on **3 June 2020**

(39) Bill 493

Interculturalism Act

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

(40) 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**

(41) Bill 496

Parliamentary Budget Officer Act

Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on **14 November 2019**

(42) 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**

(43) 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**

(44) 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**

(45) 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**

(46) Bill 595

An Act to create the Rent Register

Introduced by the Member for Laurier-Dorion on **4 June 2020**

(47) Bill 596

An Act to establish Pharma-Québec

Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **15 September 2020**

(48) 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**

(49) 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**

(50) Bill 599

An Act to respect sexual orientation and gender identity

Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on **22 September 2020**

(51) 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**

(52) 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**

(53) 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**

(54) 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**

- (55) Bill 695
An Act to set a standard for the maximum concentration of manganese in drinking water
Introduced by the Member for Vaudreuil on **9 December 2020**
- (56) Bill 696
An Act providing for the temporary suspension of the right to increase the rent for a lease of a dwelling
Introduced by the Member for Laurier-Dorion on **10 February 2021**
- (57) Bill 697
An Act to promote the disclosure of wrongdoings and strengthen the protection of whistleblowers
Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on **17 March 2021**
- (58) Bill 698
An Act to temporarily limit the charges that restaurateurs may be required to pay for online order services and meal delivery services
Introduced by the Member for Nelligan on **18 February 2021**
- (59) Bill 699
Act to promote integration of immigrants by organizing welcome ceremonies for newcomers
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **1 April 2021**
- (60) Bill 790
An Act to amend the Act respecting labour relations, vocational training and workforce management in the construction industry to right the power imbalance
Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on **15 April 2021**
- (61) Bill 792
An Act to enhance the transparency of municipal councils
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **14 April 2021**
- (62) Bill 794
An Act to amend the Act respecting the Institut de la statistique du Québec to facilitate the production and circulation of statistical information
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **21 April 2021**

(63) Bill 798

An Act to entitle employees to a “vaccine break” to receive a COVID-19 vaccination

Introduced by the Member for Gouin on **6 May 2021**

Committee Stage

(64) 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

Passed in principle on **13 April 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Citizen Relations

Report Stage

Passage

III. Private Bills

Hearings and Clause-by-Clause Consideration

(65) 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

(66) 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

(67) Bill 215

An Act respecting Municipalité de Nominigüe

Introduced by the Member for Labelle on **12 November 2020**, and

Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

(68) 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

(69) 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

(70) 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

VI. Statutory Debates

BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION

(71)11 May 2021

Motion by the Member for Îles-de-la-Madeleine

THAT the National Assembly note that according to Public Health data, the epidemiological situation related to the COVID-19 pandemic is stable or improving day by day, and the vaccination campaign is proceeding smoothly;

THAT it take into account the fact that the Government announced a gradual deconfinement plan last week;

THAT the National Assembly reiterate that the concept of a state of emergency is an exception to the principle of democracy which is justified only when a situation represents a serious threat to the health of the population, whether it be real or apprehended;

THAT the National Assembly recall the importance of establishing a clear framework to guide the return to a state of normal democracy;

THAT, the National Assembly therefore ask the Government to commit to ending the health emergency once, among other things, its vaccination objectives have been met and the number of hospitalizations resulting from COVID-19 is under control, and to include opposition parties in the process.

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 Société d’habitation du Québec on Chapter 4 of the Auditor General of Québec’s October 2020 report on housing projects entitled “AccèsLogis Québec Programme: Réalisation des projets d’habitation” as a follow-up to recommendation 2.1 of the 41st report from the Committee on Public Administration.
- Hearing of the Ministère de l’Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques on Chapter 2 of the Sustainable Development Commissioner's June 2020 report entitled “Eco-Taxation, Cross-Compliance and Eco-Responsibility for a Green and Responsible Economy”.
- Hearing of the Ministère de l’Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques and the Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l’Habitation on Chapter 3 of the Sustainable Development Commissioner's June 2020 report entitled “Conservation of Water Resources”.
- Hearing of the Ministère de la Famille on its administrative management and financial commitments, as well as on Chapter 2 of the Auditor General of Québec’s October 2020 report entitled “Access to Educational Childcare Services”.
- Hearing of the Ministère de l’Économie et de l’Innovation on its administrative management and financial commitments.

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 49**, An Act to amend the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities, the Municipal Ethics and Good Conduct Act and various legislative provisions (Order of reference given on 25 May 2021).
- **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).

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

Special Consultations:

Bill 81, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Montréal Museum of Fine Arts (Order of reference given on 25 May 2021).

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 59**, An Act to modernize the occupational health and safety regime (Order of reference given on 16 February 2021).
- **Bill 78**, An Act mainly to improve the transparency of enterprises (Order of reference given on 14 April 2021).
- **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

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 95**, An Act to amend the Act respecting the governance and management of the information resources of public bodies and government enterprises and other legislative provisions (Order of reference given on 12 May 2021).

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 90**, An Act to amend the Taxation Act, the Act respecting the Québec sales tax and other provisions (Order of reference given on 25 May 2021).
- **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

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 86**, An Act respecting the demise of the Crown (Order of reference given on 4 May 2021).

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).

COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 79**, An Act to authorize the communication of personal information to the families of Indigenous children who went missing or died after being admitted to an institution (Order of reference given on 14 avril 2021).
- **Bill 197**, An Act to amend the Consumer Protection Act to fight planned obsolescence and assert the right to repair goods (Order of reference given on 13 April 2021).

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 83**, An Act respecting mainly the health insurance plan and prescription drug insurance plan eligibility of certain children whose parents' migratory status is precarious (Order of reference given on 11 May 2021).

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

Interpellation:

- by the Member for D'Arcy-McGee to the Minister for Health and Social Services on the following subject: *Increasing needs in mental health, in particular due to distress caused by the pandemic, and actions that need to be taken to shorten wait times* (notice given on 13 May 2021).

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 88**, An Act to amend the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife and other legislative provisions (Order of reference given on 21 April 2021).

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE EVOLUTION OF THE ACT RESPECTING END-OF-LIFE
CARE**

Order of reference

Special Consultations:

- Examine the issues related to extending medical aid in dying to persons who are incapable of caring for themselves or who are suffering from a mental illness.

Part 5

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

*Questions already placed on the Order Paper
are published each Wednesday*

(227) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – 13 April 2021
To the Government

In principle, anyone whose physical or mental health has changed is required to undergo an automobile driving assessment. If a person's driving abilities are affected following an illness, they must be assessed by an occupational therapist, which is normal. However, age must not be a criterion of discrimination. Many elderly drivers must take a Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ) road test. If they fail the test, the SAAQ often requests that they consult an occupational therapist. The current fee of \$650 for an occupational therapist and the one-year wait time for an appointment are unacceptable.

In the past, this service was offered free of charge by the region's Integrated Health and Social Services Centre (CISSS). For the past few years, this service has been offered solely by private practitioners and there has been an increase in costs that has become difficult for elderly people to pay. The stress of undergoing such an assessment is compounded by the anxiety caused by the financial costs.

In a democratic society such as ours, which has strong social values, how is it that we have come to this point where we have totally eliminated this public service that was necessary for a large part of the population?

In my opinion, ageism exists when seniors are discriminated against compared with younger people. A young person can retake his or her road test without having to consult an occupational therapist.

My question is the following:

Will the Government reconsider this rule in order to provide the population, including seniors, with a public occupational therapy service?

(229) Ms. Weil (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce) – **20 April 2021**
To the Minister of Higher Education

On 7 October 2021, the Ordre des chimistes du Québec (OCQ) sent the Minister a letter to express its serious concerns regarding three matters and propose a solution, which is to update the Professional Chemists Act.

First, the OCQ expressed a grave concern about the obsolescence of the Professional Chemists Act, which was enacted in 1964 and hampers efforts to adequately fight the illegal practice of chemistry and protect the public.

Second, the lack of an adequate framework for the profession of microbiologist creates a major risk for the population that is well-documented. The OCQ is concerned about a possible increase in disinformation regarding the current health situation.

Lastly, the OCQ deplores that the current Act prevents foreign-trained chemists' integration into the order and the labour market because it disregards all the chemistry experience that a qualified and competent candidate has acquired in their career.

The Ordre des chimistes du Québec proposes to remedy these three problems through the legislative review of the Act, which would include updating the definition of chemistry, ensuring the integration of microbiologists into a joint order with chemists and facilitating the integration of foreign-trained chemists.

Can the Minister tell us her orientations and timetable for updating the Professional Chemists Act?

Can the Minister tell us if a new bill will be introduced during this legislature?

(231) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **22 April 2021**
To the Government

Considering the historically low vacancy rate in the Rimouski CMA (0.9% according to the most recent CMHC statistics) and considering the market reality observed through negotiations with the majority of private property-owners participating in the Rent Supplement Program (RSP), it is possible that any of a number of problems related to the lack of available affordable housing may arise in the coming months, specifically in Rimouski's urban sector. We are headed straight for a July 1st crisis.

Also, in the current context, it is foreseeable and probably that housing problems could arise because some households will not qualify as eligible applicants with the Office d'habitation Rimouski Neigette (OHRN). And that the OHRN would then have few resources to participate in the resolution of these issues, except for temporary last-resort assistance (e.g. in a situation where someone is experiencing homelessness).

Since 1 July 2020, the OHRN and its partners have seen a significant increase in homelessness. Notably, some citizens lived in tents or seasonal dwellings, and with the arrival of winter some required emergency assistance. Although the OHRN was able to provide support to a number of such applicants experiencing difficulties, it and its partners noted that some of those citizens experiencing difficulties did not meet the criteria for available social housing programs.

Options are limited in such situations. Partners offering temporary sheltering have often been overwhelmed by demand, because transitional housing (1 and a half, studio) on the market is all already fully occupied. Organizations working in the housing sector in neighbouring RCMs have confirmed that they are experiencing the same problem (extremely low vacancy rate for affordable housing, pressure on the rental and real estate market due to positive migration, and a lack of options for citizens who need larger dwellings).

In addition, this housing scarcity raises concerns that the already precarious situation experienced by low- and modest-income renter households could deteriorate even further, as average rent prices continue to increase. The average monthly rent for a three-bedroom dwelling increased by 5.7% over one year, while the CPI increased by only 0.8%. The various partners involved in the provision of social housing are concerned that in the current context renter households forced to move may simply not find an affordable place to move to. These are all citizens who need social housing right now but are being forced to wait for months, if not years.

It is therefore important that those involved in this field come up with a comprehensive solution for citizens who are not eligible for social housing, or who are eligible but find themselves on a long waiting list, and as a result are falling through the cracks. Various partners, including public health authorities, social services, municipalities and their various partners are assuming their responsibilities as best they can, but the reality is Rimouski needs at least 305 additional housing units.

My question is threefold:

Given the situation with regard to the housing crisis in Québec, where are the 15,000 housing units the CAQ government promised would be built?

Given the rise in housing prices in Québec, are there any means that will be put in place to avoid speculation and the unacceptable increase in the cost of housing?

Will municipalities and community partners receive any special assistance to deal with what is looming on July 1st and the shortage of affordable housing that is apprehended?

(232) Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) – **28 April 2021**
To the Minister of Health and Social Services

On 26 November 2018, the Government announced the expansion and restructuring of the emergency department of the Hôpital de Jonquière in the Jonquière riding. The announcement stated development of the functional and technical program was authorized to begin.

Our questions to the Minister of Health and Social Services are as follows:

Will the Minister of Health and Social Services authorize the stage for the plans and specifications essential to carrying out the work in the coming weeks, given that delays will influence the timeline?

(233) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **28 April 2021**

To the Minister of Economy and Innovation

On 24 April, we learned that a trade dispute between Canada and Australia was going to penalize Québec's small wine producers. The agreement provides for new fees on Québec bottles sold in grocery stores and convenience stores. Those fees could reach \$6 per bottle, which would add a degree of difficulty to selling this type of product in grocery stores. The new measure represents another barrier for Québec's wine and mead producers.

My question is the following:

Is the Minister of Economy considering allowing wine and mead producers to sell online and ship their products directly to the client to counter the negative impacts of this new provision?

(234) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **5 May 2021**

To the Government

Recently, all of Québec's Auberges du cœur requested financial support from the government to ensure the sustainability and deployment of their activities. The Auberges du cœur rightly pointed out that funding for the mission of youth shelters was not increased in the last budget.

The situation of young people experiencing difficulties and homelessness is especially worrying in the context of the health measures related to COVID-19 and the housing crisis. The Auberges du cœur welcome many young people from across Québec throughout the year. In my riding, Le Transit crisis centre offers support to some 80 young Quebecers experiencing difficulties and homelessness every year. These youth, aged 17 to 30, experience difficulties that can have a significant impact on their social integration, family life, lifestyle, professional integration or academic career.

Despite the addition of services and programs, many of these young people are dealing with an accumulation of setbacks, abuse, neglect, and poor decisions or even just bad luck which undermines their ability to cope.

The Auberges du cœur has developed innovative approaches to support youth in their efforts to improve their autonomy and ability to act. The goal is to develop meaningful ties with young people and also to help them develop the autonomy they need to live their lives.

My question is the following:

Does the Government intend to respond positively to the requests of the Auberges du cœur so that they can focus on their mission, which is to provide support to youth experiencing difficulties along life's journey?

(235) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **11 May 2021**
To the Government

In the last three years, Québec has experienced droughts that have had a drastic impact on the hay yields and reserves in a number of administrative regions in our territory. This has directly impacted the lives of Québec farmers. It is clear that climate change is directly affecting the quality of life of Québec citizens and that if nothing is done soon, the effects will increase exponentially.

My question is the following:

- Has the Government begun to analyze the impacts of climate change on farm production in Québec? If so, how many years are considered in the analysis and what action does the Government plan to take?
- Does the Government intend to respond more quickly than in previous years by putting in place an assistance program to meet the needs of farmers who are suffering production losses as a direct result of climate variability?

(236) Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin) – **12 May 2021**
To the Minister of Higher Education

During the public hearings held in August 2019 on Bill 29, An Act to amend the Professional Code and other provisions in particular in the oral health and the applied sciences sectors, the committee heard that there were only five dental assistants in all Québec dental laboratories. Dental assistants are employees who work in dental laboratories, but who have not completed a diploma of college studies (DCS) that would qualify them as a dental technician. However, contrary to what the committee heard, an estimated 1,000 dental assistants currently work in Québec dental laboratories under the supervision of a member of the order, as is done in other fields, such as in the field of pharmacy.

The Ordre des technologues en prothèses et appareils dentaires du Québec (OTPADQ) is now working to have these dental assistants certified as members of the order. However, apparently this is rarely possible because many of them do not meet the order's eligibility criteria.

This new requirement could therefore result in a major labour shortage in Québec dental laboratories and, in turn, jeopardize the supply of dental appliances and prostheses to the Québec population.

In a context where public health and the health system are under considerable strain, the potential inability of dental laboratories to provide appliances and prostheses could compromise the oral health of Quebecers.

My questions are the following:

- Can the Minister clarify whether dental assistants can continue to work within the current framework without being required to become members of the OTPADQ?
- How does the Minister plan to avoid a breakdown in the delivery of dental laboratory services in Québec?

(237) Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue) – **26 May 2021**
To the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

In Québec, citizens generally have three years to file a lawsuit against another person, a company or a government. However, the law provides for some exceptions, including a maximum period of six months to file a lawsuit against a city or town.

This provision of the *Cities and Towns Act*, which dates back several decades, means that heartbreaking cases filed by citizens must be abandoned for lack of a longer prescription period. This is the case of a Hudson citizen who was negotiating in good faith with her city for compensation following the flooding of her house due to the failure of a municipal dam. Judge Pierre-C. Gagnon, who looked into the case of the citizen in question, alerted the government as to the relevance of maintaining the six-month prescription period, which he said protects towns and cities to the detriment of citizens and is a privilege which may have become obsolete and unjustified.

In the absence of bodily injury, these provisions also prevail in the context of cases filed against a police department or one of its employees, in particular with regard to discriminatory profiling by police officers. Obviously, these provisions undermine citizens' trust in their institutions.

In its brief submitted to the advisory committee on policing last November, the Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse noted that it is confronted regularly with difficulties posed by this exceptionally short prescription period. That is why it considered that Bill 168 – tabled in the National Assembly in 2017, but which then died on the Order Paper without having been passed – constituted a true recognition of the primacy of the rights protected by the Charter and of the primary role it must play in Québec's legal system. It should be recalled that sections 36 and 37 of that bill would have had the effect of eliminating the exceptions that reduce the three-year prescription period generally applicable to an action filed to receive compensation for damages resulting from a violation of rights or freedoms protected under the Charter.

Moreover, the Chairperson of the Human Rights Tribunal noted in her 2017 activity report that given their importance, any recourse based on the fundamental rights protected under the Charter should indeed benefit from an extended period, thus ensuring that litigants have a useful and effective remedy.

The Minister is aware of this issue. She is also aware of the various rulings and recommendations made by the various bodies.

My question is the following:

1. Is the Minister open to abolishing the maximum six-month prescription period for claiming damages against a municipality provided for under the *Cities and Towns Act*?

Part 6
NOTICES

I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

Government Bills

Private Members' Public Bills

- (a) 12 May 2021
An Act to amend various legislative provisions relating to financial assistance for education expenses – *Member for Bonaventure*
- (b) 25 May 2021
An Act to amend the Business Corporations Act to include benefit corporations – *Member for Robert-Baldwin*
- (c) 25 May 2021
An Act to recognize the white admiral as the emblematic insect of Québec – *Member for Argenteuil*

Private Bills

II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME

- (aa) An Act to amend the Act respecting energy efficiency and energy conservation standards for certain electrical or hydrocarbon-fuelled appliances – *Minister of Energy and Natural Resources*
- (bb) An Act to permanently limit the amount of certain charges payable by restaurateurs when they retain the delivery services of a third person – *Member for Rosemont*