

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

SECOND SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Order Paper and Notices

of the Assembly

Special edition – June 2022

(Updated following the adjournment of the Assembly on 10 June 2022)

President of the National Assembly: Mr. François Paradis

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I. Government Bills

Passage in Principle

(1) Bill 18

An Act to amend various provisions relating to public security and enacting the Act to assist in locating missing persons
Introduced by the Minister of Public Security on 8 December 2021

(2) Bill 19

An Act respecting health and social services information and amending various legislative provisions

Introduced by the Minister of Health and Social services on 3 December 2021

(3) Bill 27

An Act amending mainly certain Acts establishing public sector pension plans

Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on 24 March 2022

(4) 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

(5) Bill 40

An Act mainly to improve access to justice by simplifying civil procedure in the Court of Québec and by bringing about the digital transformation of the notarial profession

Introduced by the Minister of Justice on 31 May 2022

(6) Bill 41

An Act to amend the Agrologists Act

Introduced by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 1 June 2022

(7) Bill 42

An Act mainly to provide for the revision of the charges payable for the use of water

Introduced by the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change on **8 June 2022**

(8) Bill 43

An Act mainly to cap the indexation rate for electric power distribution rate prices

Introduced by the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources on 8 June 2022

(9) Bill 44

An Act to amend various provisions for the purpose of reducing regulatory and administrative burden

Introduced by the Minister for the Economy on 7 June 2022

Committee Stage

(10) 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

(11) Bill 38

An Act to amend the Act respecting end-of-life care and other legislative provisions

Introduced by the Minister of Health and Social Services on 25 May 2022 Report of the Committee on Health and Social Services (consultations) tabled on 2 June 2022

Passed in principle on 2 June 2022, and

Referred to the Committee on Health and Social Services

(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 of the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on 11 February 2020

Passed in principle on 8 October 2020, and

Referred to the Committee on Institutions

Report Stage

Passage

II. Private Members' Public Bills

Passage in Principle

(13) Bill 190

An Act to amend the Charter of the French language and other legislative provisions in order to enhance the protection of the French language Introduced by the Member for Matane-Matapédia on 11 November 2021

(14) Bill 191

An Act to regulate the distribution of advertising items Introduced by the Member for Mercier on 11 November 2021

(15) 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

(16) Bill 194

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

Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on 21 February 2019

(17) 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

(18) 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

(19) Bill 198

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

(20) 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

(21) Bill 390

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 4 November 2021

(22) Bill 392

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

(23) 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

(24) Bill 394

An Act to prevent and fight sexual violence in educational institutions that provide preschool education services, elementary school instructional services, or secondary school instructional services in general and vocational education, including adult education services

Introduced by the Member for Sherbrooke on 21 October 2021

(25) Bill 396

An Act for better air quality Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on 28 October 2021

(26) 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

(27) Bill 398

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

(28) 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

(29) 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**

(30) Bill 491

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

(**31**) Bill 493

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

(32) Bill 494

An Act to prohibit petroleum exploration and production Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on 2 December 2021

(33) 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

(**34**) Bill 496

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

(35) 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

(**36**) Bill 499

An Act to promote taking gender equality and diversity into account in the budgetary process

Introduced by the Member for Mercier on 24 February 2022

(**37**) 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**

(38) 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

(39) Bill 592

An Act to amend the Act respecting the flag and emblems of Québec to enhance the presence of the flag of Québec Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on 11 June 2021

(**40**) Bill 593

An Act to change the minimum age required to be a qualified elector Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on 10 June 2021

(41) 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

(**42**) Bill 595

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

(43) Bill 596

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

(44) 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

(45) 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

(46) Bill 599

An Act to respect sexual orientation and gender identity
Introduced by the Member for Westmount-Saint-Louis or
22 September 2020

(47) Bill 690

An Act to promote socially responsible investments
Presented by the Member for René-Lévesque on **9 December 2021**

(**48**) 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

(**49**) 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

(**50**) Bill 694

An Act to regulate appointments to certain senior positions Introduced by the Member for René-Levesque on 10 June 2021

(51) 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

(**52**) Bill 696

An Act to replace the name of the electoral division of Arthabaska by Arthabaska-L'Érable

Introduced by the Member for Arthabaska on 7 December 2021 Passed in principle on **8 June 2022**

(53) 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

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(54) 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

(55) 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

(56) 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

(57) Bill 791

An Act respecting the implementation of study-family-work balance policies in particular in higher education institutions Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on 30 September 2021

(58) Bill 792

An Act to enhance the transparency of municipal councils Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on 14 April 2021

(**59**) 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

(**60**) Bill 795

An Act to facilitate the Auditor General's access to documents and information necessary for the exercise of the Auditor General's powers and duties

Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on 14 April 2022

(61) Bill 796

An Act respecting the Agence des infrastructures de transport du Québec Introduced by the Member for Îles-de-la-Madeleine on 1 June 2021

(62) Bill 797

An Act to amend the Business Corporations Act to include benefit corporations

Introduced by the Member for Robert-Baldwin on 26 May 2021

(63) Bill 798

Act to permanently limit the amount of certain charges payable by restaurateurs when they retain the delivery services of a third person Introduced by the Member for Mercier on 3 December 2021

(64) Bill 799

Right-to-Disconnect Act

Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on 10 December 2021

(**65**) Bill 890

An Act to amend various legislative provisions relating to financial assistance for education expenses

Introduced by the Member for Bonaventure on 27 May 2021

(66) Bill 892

An Act to broaden a lessee's right to have the rent fixed and to have other conditions of the lease modified by the Administrative Housing Tribunal Introduced by the Member for Laurier-Dorion on 24 February 2022

(67) Bill 893

An Act to facilitate the marketing of Québec microdistillers' and microbrewers' products

Introduced by the Member for Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue on 10 June 2021

(68) Bill 894

An Act to prohibit petroleum exploration and production Introduced by the Member for Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques or 16 September 2021

(69) Bill 896

An Act to amend the Election Act to encourage parity between women and men as candidates of political parties in a general election Introduced by the Member for LaFontaine on 7 October 2021

(70) Bill 897

An Act to amend the Educational Childcare Act to guarantee the right to receive childcare services
Introduced by the Member for LaFontaine on 29 September 2021

(71) Bill 898

An Act to amend the Public Health Act to change the terms of renewal of the declaration of a state of health emergency Introduced by the Member for Iberville on 6 October 2021 Resuming the debate adjourned in the name of the Member for Saint-Jean on 9 February 2022

(72) Bill 899

An Act to amend the Charter of human rights and freedoms to recognize the right to a healthful environment as a fundamental right Introduced by the Member for Verdun on 28 April 2022

(73) Bill 990

An Act to confer rights on the St. Lawrence River Introduced by the Member for Rouyn-Noranda—Témiscamingue on 5 May 2022

(74) Bill 991

Anti-Farm Land Grabbing Act Introduced by the Member for Rouyn-Noranda—Témiscamingue on 24 May 2022

(75) Bill 992

An Act to amend the Labour Code in order to update the concept of establishment for the purposes of the provisions relating to strikebreakers Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on 4 May 2022

(76) Bill 993

An Act to amend the Civil Code to ensure greater protection of seniors as lessees against repossession of dwellings and evictions Introduced by the Member for Laurier-Dorion on 12 May 2022 Resuming the debate adjourned in the name of the Member for Roberval on 25 May 2022

(77) Bill 994

An Act to empower local municipalities to exercise a pre-emptive right to acquire immovables

Introduced by the Member for Gaspé on 12 May 2022

(78) Bill 995

An Act to ensure student health and safety in the classroom by regulating ambient air quality in schools

Introduced by the Member for Saint-Laurent on 12 May 2022

(79) Bill 996

An Act to promote public access to watercourses and lakes Introduced by the Member for Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue on 7.June 2022

(80) Bill 997

An Act respecting the Québec Tartan
Introduced by the Member for Huntingdon on **8 June 2022**

Committee Stage

(81) 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

(82) 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

Passed in principle on 12 April 2022, and

Referred to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment

(83) Bill 395

An Act to establish the Just Transition Fund

Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on 28 October 2021

Passed in principle on 8 June 2022, and

Referred to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment

(**84**) 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 Passed in principle on **8 June 2022**, and Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

(85) Bill 793

An Act to recognize the white admiral as the emblematic insect of Québec Introduced by the Member for Argenteuil on 26 May 2021 Passed in principle on **10 June 2021**, and Referred to the Committee on Institutions

Report Stage

(86) 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 Passed in principle on 8 June 2022 Report of the Committee on Institutions tabled on 10 June 2022

Passage

III. Private Bills

Hearings and Clause-by-Clause Consideration

(87) 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

Passage in Principle

Passage

IV. Government Motions

V. Estimates of Expenditure

VI. Statutory Debates

BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION

BILLS PASSED

(Bills awaiting Royal Assent)

Bill 211

An Act respecting Municipalité de Saint-Damien-de-Buckland Passed on **10 June 2022**

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 Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation on its administrative management and financial commitments.
- 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 l'Immigration, de la Francisation et de l'Intégration on its administrative management and financial commitments.
- Hearing of the Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor on the Report on the application of the Public Administration Act.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Order of reference

 Examination of Hydro-Québec's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 (Order of reference given on 24 March 2022).

COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

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 (Order of reference given on 8 June 2022).

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 20 October 2021).

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC FINANCE

Order of reference

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 20 October 2021).

COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 39**, An Act to establish a new electoral system (Order of reference given on 20 October 2021).
- **Bill 793**, An Act to recognize the white admiral as the emblematic insect of Québec (Order of reference given on 20 October 2021).

Statutory order

 Examination of the Report on the implementation of the Code of Ethics and Conduct of the Members of the National Assembly.

COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **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 20 October 2021).

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

Bill 38, An Act to amend the Act respecting end-of-life care and other legislative provisions (Order of reference given on 2 June 2022).

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- Bill 391, An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act in order to assert the primacy of Québec's jurisdiction in this area (Order of reference given on 12 April 2022).
- **Bill 395**, An Act to establish the Just Transition Fund (Order of reference given on 8 June 2022).

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

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

(96) Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) – **5 May 2022**To the Minister of Health and Social Services

Bill 96, while being a step forward for the protection and promotion of the French language, raises some questions related to the services offered by the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux.

The Québec State has the duty to ensure that every resident of Québec, regardless of their level of French, has equitable access to the health and social services that are essential to their health and well-being.

In section 2 of the *Act respecting health services and social* it is stated that it is necessary to "take account of the distinctive geographical, linguistic, sociocultural, ethnocultural and socioeconomic characteristics of each region" and that it is necessary to "foster, to the extent allowed by the resources, access to health services and social services in their own languages for members of the various cultural communities of Québec." This section reflects the kind of humanism States that respect minorities must put forward.

Section 349 of the same Act states that it is necessary to "facilitate accessibility to health and social services in a manner which is respectful of the characteristics of those cultural communities."

Despite this, many people from ethnocultural communities do not feel reassured by the amendments being made to the *Charter of the French language* by Bill 96.

I often say the way we debate is important, and in this matter, I would have liked to hear the Government, either through the Premier or the Minister Responsible for the French Language, clearly explain the impact this bill will have in the delivery of health services.

My questions to the Minister are as follows:

- Can the Minister confirm that access to state-paid interpreters will be allowed, even after 6 months, for immigrants and refugees?
- If so, will the use of a state-paid interpreter be permitted for all health care and all social services provided through the public network, or only for certain types of care or under certain circumstances? Is it the healthcare professional who determines whether the use of an interpreter is required? Will the use of an interpreter be permitted even for individuals who speak a little French, but are more comfortable in their mother tongue?
- Can the Minister give us some guidance on the scope of the exception that allows the use of a language other than French "where health, public safety or the principles of natural justice so require"? More specifically, does it cover all health care and social services provided through the public network, or only some?
- Can the Minister tell us what would happen if an immigrant or a refugee who
 arrived more than 6 months previous had to receive health care or social
 services and that person did not master either French or English?
- Could a physician who speaks a language other than French or English use that language to speak with a person from an immigrant or refugee background who arrived more than 6 months previous and who has a very limited understanding of French? Would this be allowed for salaried professionals in the public network such as nurses, social workers, speech therapists and psychologists?

(103) Mr. Fortin (Pontiac) – **24 May 2022**To the Minister of Transport

During the consultations on Bill 22, An Act to amend the Automobile Insurance Act, the Highway Safety Code and other provisions, various briefs were submitted. One of them proposed to add two elements to the bill to improve practices with the SAAQ and insurers.

The first idea is to require the holders of a driver's licence that has been suspended, for example for drinking and driving or demerit points, to provide the SAAQ with proof of insurance for a period of 3 to 5 years. According to the brief's author, this measure would be advantageous for good drivers when they renegotiate their insurance premiums. In his view, it would make it possible to more appropriately set the premiums for motorists based on their behaviour and thus lower the cost for good drivers while increasing it for offenders.

The second idea concerns productivity, bureaucracy and wait times. It is a matter of driving records. Currently, to access one's driving record, the SAAQ system requires that a request be submitted on paper by mail. Citizens who want to obtain their driving record must therefore contend with postal and bureaucratic delays. Insurers may also access driving records while incurring costs and delays. In short, the brief seems to propose solutions, such as electronic access, to facilitate information sharing while ensuring the protection of personal data.

Can the Minister tell us what follow-up he is committed to regarding this brief and, further to my first question, can he explain the grounds on which he is basing his decision?

(105) Ms. Dorion (Taschereau) – **24 May 2022**To the Minister of Transport

On 28 April 2022, the Québec government unveiled the 2022–2027 implementation plan for the 2030 Plan for a Green Economy, increasing investments in the fight against climate change, as announced in the 2022–2023 Québec budget.

This follows the 22 March 2022 budget statement, which raised much hope regarding confirmation of the Québec government's determination to electrify transportation in the province. Subsequently, the paid passenger transportation industry had to admit that taxi electrification had been put on hold because investments were by no means enough to complete this component, which is however essential for Québec's ecological transition.

However, this "new version" of the implementation plan allocates increased funding for several important areas, including electrification and efficiency in transportation (\$3.48 billion). Specifically, page 47 of the document states that \$10.8 million will be invested over 4 years, including the current year, to electrify 40% of taxis by 2030.

Obviously, this is a worthwhile investment. However, several questions remain for the paid passenger transportation industry.

In light of the aforementioned, my questions to the Minister of Transport are the following:

- Can the Minister explain to Québecers and to the paid passenger transportation industry what this amount means in terms of the MTQ program, and what the timelines are?
- Can the Minister confirm whether this is an extension of the existing electrification program, or whether it is a pre-announcement of a new upcoming program?
- If it turns out that these amounts are to pre-announce new programs for taxi electrification, then when does the Minister intend to inform the public with an official announcement?

(106) Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion) – **24 May 2022**To the Minister of Finance

Québec is currently experiencing a massive housing crisis. Quebecers are facing significant rent increases, many "renovictions" and unacceptable tactics by many real estate owners.

Real estate speculation is no stranger to this, quite the contrary, especially through money laundering. In fact, the Québec real estate market is currently heavily invested in money laundering, according to several observations and studies conducted in recent years. Other jurisdictions are also struggling with this situation. British Columbia has launched a major investigation which resulted in a report with very clear conclusions: money laundering in real estate is a growing phenomenon throughout Canada and elsewhere in the world. According to this information, billions of dollars are at stake.

My questions to the Minister are the following:

- Does the Minister of Finance think it is appropriate to launch a public inquiry into real estate money laundering, as British Columbia recently did?
- What steps is his Government taking to address this problem?

(107) Mr. Barrette (La Pinière) – **25 May 2022**To the Premier

On two occasions, first on 23 April 2021 and then on 1 October 2021, Mr. Michel Lépine, President of NOBCO Micro-systèmes, sent the Premier a formal request for a public inquiry into a matter involving Mr. Lépine and his company, National Bank and, at the time, the CSST.

Mr. Lépine alleges there may be embezzlement, even fraud, in the performance of a \$130 million contract involving at least the three above-mentioned parties, the result of which he was defrauded.

Without passing judgment on the substance of the allegations, it appears to me that Mr. Lépine has legitimate reason to consider himself in the position of a whistleblower and to expect a follow-up to his request.

However, as of 31 December 2021, Mr. Lépine had still not received any follow-up to his two requests. Faced with this lack of response, Mr. Lépine sent an affidavit concerning his allegations to the Premier's office on 8 March 2022.

Allegations of fraud, corruption, fabrication, and even destruction of evidence – this situation, if proven true, and given Mr. Lépine's professional background as an SPVM investigator, not only necessitates the Premier's attention, but also from an ethical point of view should make him want to answer the following questions.

First, can the Premier assure us that a detailed response will be given to Mr. Lépine as soon as possible? Also, can be give the House an update on this matter? And, lastly, can the Premier tell us whether an assessment has been carried out, and if so, what the conclusions are and how he intends to follow-up on this assessment?

(108) Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) – **2 June 2022** To the Minister of Education

The sustainability of funding for popular education centres (CEPs), in full compliance with their mission and the principle of independent community action, has been a longstanding demand since the creation of the Programme d'action communautaire sur le terrain de l'éducation (PACTE). In a telephone meeting with the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on 30 June 2020, the Minister affirmed his desire to resolve the main issues before the start of the 2020 school year, namely the payment of operating costs and the sustainability of CEP funding. The Minister mentioned in February 2021, in connection with the sustainability of funding, that teams were in the process of drafting the new program and that it was a long and complex process necessitating several stages of validation at different levels (MEQ,

MCE and SCT). The Minister mentioned that it would be ideal for the program to be completed for the next year in order to regularize the situation of CEPs such as the Centre-Sud Social Committee. It has now been over a year since that update and CEPs still do not have confirmation of the program.

During the 12 April 2022 visit of the six CEPs to the National Assembly, the Minister mentioned during the meeting that he would soon have good news for the CEPs regarding their funding. The Minister could not confirm whether it was regarding the new program or another source of funding. However, to date, these centres are still without news.

Furthermore, the CEP in my riding, the Pavillon d'éducation communautaire d'Hochelaga-Maisonneuve (PECHM), is experiencing a particular situation related to work needed to address maintenance problems in its building. In 2016, a budget of \$12 million was obtained by the Alliance of Popular Education Centres (InterCEP) to carry out building maintenance work. However, the PECHM alone was excluded from this budget. This situation was also brought to the Minister's attention by the PECHM's director in a letter dated last 5 May.

In light of the above:

- 1. Can the Minister reaffirm his commitment to resolving InterCEP's longstanding demands, as was done during his meeting with the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve, particularly regarding the sustainability of its funding?
- 2. If this is indeed the Minister's intention, what timetable does he recommend for resolving this issue that is in accordance with their mission and the principle of independent community action?
- 3. Whose decision was it to exclude the PECHM from the work planned for in the \$12 million budget obtained in 2016?
- 4. What is the plan and timetable for the work required to maintain the PECHM's services?
- (109) Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue) **8 June 2022** To the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

On 8 February 2022, as part of his 2020–2030 Sustainable Agriculture Plan, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food announced a program to compensate Québec farmers for agri-environmental practices.

Despite the announced \$70 million envelope to recognize farm producers' efforts and environmentally friendly farming practices that go beyond regulatory requirements and generate significant environmental gains, the total government compensation for producers will finally be \$14 million per year, for three years.

On 22 March 2022, the Minister of Finance's budget confirmed the allocation of \$29 million over five years to enhance the Sustainable Agriculture Plan in order to recognize and reward good farming practices, in line with the Government's accelerated strategy in this election year.

Although there is still a long way to go to adequately support Québec's grain producers and thereby ensure their national and international competitiveness, the investments to reward environmentally friendly farming efforts are welcomed with open arms by the farming community, in particular Québec's grain sector. However, as the Government's own 2020 study on the competitiveness of Québec grain producers clearly shows, this sector requires not only economic security programs, but also, more broadly, a major government commitment to support it financially in meeting its current challenges, in particular with regard to society's environmental expectations.

In this context, our questions to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food are the following:

- Does the Minister sincerely believe that these amounts are sufficient for the agricultural sector to meet the environmental challenges head-on, especially considering society's high expectations in this regard?
- Can the Minister tell us how he intends to support Québec farmers who have already implemented environmentally friendly practices and meet the needs expressed from all regions of Québec so that the services provided are equitable for all?
- Does the Minister believe that we should continue to focus on compensation, research, transfer and consulting services to meet the challenge of actively and continuously implementing environmentally friendly farming practices?
- Is the Minister aware that the investments announced in 2022 to reward producers' environmentally friendly efforts are still much less than what is provided in the United States and Europe, and that this is a threat to their competitiveness in the coming years?

NOTICES

I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

Government Bills

Private Members' Public Bills

(a) 24 March 2022

An Act to promote the resolution of the conflict between the central municipality of the urban agglomeration of Montréal and the other related municipalities concerning the formula used to calculate their fiscal potential – *Member for Vaudreuil*

Private Bills

II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME