



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Tuesday, 15 March 2011 — No. 3

**President of the National Assembly:
Mr. Yvon Vallières**

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 1.49 o'clock p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Mr. Gautrin (Verdun) made a statement about the passing of Mrs. Marie-Andrée Bertrand.

Mr. Aussant (Nicolet-Yamaska) made a statement about Mr. Jonathan Bezeau.

Mrs. Blais (Saint-Henri–Sainte-Anne) made a statement about the passing of Mr. André Lachapelle, priest working for the Société des Missions-Étrangères in Japan.

Mr. Girard (Gouin) made a statement about Fromagerie Hamel.

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Mr. Bonnardel (Shefford) made a statement to pay homage to Domaine Les Brome.

Mrs. Beauchamp (Bourassa-Sauvé) made a statement about the 40th anniversary of the Club de natation de Montréal-Nord.

Mr. Drainville (Marie-Victorin) made a statement about L'Abri de la Rive-Sud.

Mr. Ouimet (Marquette) made a statement to mark World Consumer Rights Day and the conferring of the 2011 Prix de l'Office.

Mrs. Doyer (Matapédia) made a statement about Québec Intellectual Disability Week.

Mr. Paquet (Laval-des-Rapides) made a statement about Fraud Prevention Month.

At 2.02 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

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The proceedings resumed at 2.11 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

Presenting Papers

Mrs. Normandeau, Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife, tabled the following:

The report on the impact that the exercise of the Régie de l'énergie's powers has on prices and commercial practices in the retailing of gasoline and diesel fuel – January 2011.

(Sessional Paper No. 27-20110315)

Mrs. Beauchamp, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, tabled the following:

The five-year university investment plan for the period of 1 June 2009 to 31 May 2014.

(Sessional Paper No. 28-20110315)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Bédard, Official Opposition House Leader, tabled the following:

The proposal of the Parti Québécois to amend the *Election Act*.

(Sessional Paper No. 29-20110315)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Khadir (Mercier), tabled the following:

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Copy of a letter, dated 15 March 2011, he had addressed to Mr. Pierre Moreau, Minister responsible for the Reform of Democratic Institutions and Access to Information, along with a document entitled "Projet de réforme pour un mode de scrutin mixte et compensatoire – mai 2010", presented by Québec Solidaire.
(Sessional Paper No. 30-20110315)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mrs. Roy, Second Opposition Group House Leader, tabled the following:

Copy of a letter, dated 15 March 2011, she had addressed to Mr. Pierre Moreau, Minister responsible for the Reform of Democratic Institutions and Access to Information, concerning the new electoral map.
(Sessional Paper No. 31-20110315)

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, tabled the following:

The reply from the Government to the petition tabled on 24 November 2010 by Mr. Khadir (Mercier), regarding a small hydro-electric station on the Jacques-Cartier river in Shannon;
(Sessional Paper No. 32-20110315)

The reply from the Government to the petitions tabled on 2 December 2010 by Mr. Bergeron (Verchères) and on 9 December 2010 by Mr. Drolet (Jean-Lesage), regarding tobacco smuggling in the electoral divisions of Charlevoix and Jean-Lesage;
(Sessional Paper No. 33-20110315)

The reply from the Government to the petitions tabled on 9 December 2010 by Mr. Traversy (Terrebonne), regarding tuition fees;
(Sessional Paper No. 34-20110315)

The reply from the Government to the petition tabled on 9 February 2011 by Mr. Khadir (Mercier), regarding modifications to the Charter of Ville de Montréal;
(Sessional Paper No. 35-20110315)

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The reply from the Government to the petition tabled on 10 February 2011 by Mr. Bonnardel (Shefford), regarding multiple sclerosis treatment.

(Sessional Paper No. 36-20110315)

Mr. President tabled the following:

A message from Her Majesty The Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, in honour of Commonwealth Day on Monday, 14 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 37-20110315)

A letter, dated 7 March 2011, addressed to Mr. Michel Bonsaint, Secretary General of the National Assembly, from Mrs. Marie-José Nadeau, Executive Vice-President of Corporate Affairs and Secretary General at Hydro-Québec, concerning the Hydro-Québec contracts.

(Sessional Paper No. 38-20110315)

He then tabled the following Decisions from the Office of the National Assembly, dated 24 February 2011:

Decision 1552-1 concerning the Règlement sur les contrats du commissaire à l'éthique et à la déontologie;

(Sessional Paper No. 39-20110315)

Decision 1552-2 concerning the Regulation respecting contracts of the Ethics Commissioner;

(Sessional Paper No. 40-20110315)

Decision 1553-1 concerning the Règlement sur les contrats du Directeur général des élections et le Règlement sur les contrats de la Commission de la représentation édictés en vertu de la Loi électorale;

(Sessional Paper No. 41-20110315)

Decision 1553-2 concerning the Regulation respecting contracts of the Chief Electoral Officer and the Regulation respecting contracts of the Commission de la représentation enacted pursuant to the Election Act;

(Sessional Paper No. 42-20110315)

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Decision 1555 concerning the Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting the remuneration and conditions of employment of a Member's staff;

(Sessional Paper No. 43-20110315)

Decision 1556 concerning the Regulation respecting the remuneration and conditions of employment of the staff of the offices of the National Assembly.

(Sessional Paper No. 44-20110315)

Lastly, he tabled the following:

The new seating plan of the National Assembly, dated 15 March 2011.

(Sessional Paper No. 45-20110315)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Drainville (Marie-Victorin), committee chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Institutions, which, on 17 February 2011, held public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 119, An Act respecting the election process.

(Sessional Paper No. 46-20110315)

Mrs. Doyer (Matapédia), committee chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, which, on 15 and 17 February 2011, held public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 89, An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act in order to reinforce compliance.

(Sessional Paper No. 47-20110315)

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Cloutier (Lac-Saint-Jean) tabled the following:

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The abstract of a petition respecting housing overcrowding in Nunavik, and signed by 1246 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 48-20110315)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 53 and 59, Mrs. Lapointe (Crémazie) tabled the following:

A document entitled "Modifications proposées aux articles 36 et 37 de la *Loi sur la recherche des causes et des circonstances des décès*".

(Sessional Paper No. 49-20110315)

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 84.3 and 185, Mr. Charest, Premier, together with Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Deltell, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, Mr. Picard (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière), Mr. Caire (La Peltre) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier), moved:

THAT the National Assembly express its profound sorrow in the face of the devastating effects of the earthquake and the tsunami that struck Japan on Friday, 11 March 2011;

THAT it address to the Japanese people, represented here today by the Ambassador of Japan in Canada on an official visit to Québec and by the Consul General of Japan in Montréal, a message of condolences for the very high loss of life caused by this catastrophe;

THAT it also express its compassion to all of the families and populations directly stricken;

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THAT it is concerned about the fate of Quebecers who are currently in Japan and that it call upon the Government of Québec to make every effort in close collaboration with the Federal Government to ensure their safety, particularly through the services of the General Delegation of Québec in Tokyo;

THAT, lastly, it mark the courage and dignity of the Japanese people in the face of this difficult ordeal.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

At the invitation of Mrs. Houde-Pepin, First Vice-President, the Assembly observed a minute of silence.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, the Assembly immediately took Notices of Proceedings in Committees.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 143 and 145, Mr. Dutil, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following Committee:

- the Committee on Health and Social Services, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 127, An Act to improve the management of the health and social services network.

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Charette (Deux-Montagnes), together with Mr. Dubourg (Viau), Mrs. Roy (Lotbinière), Mr. Picard (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière), Mr. Caire (La Peltrie) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier), moved:

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THAT the National Assembly commend the KANPE initiative;

THAT it commend the vitality and altruism of the members of the organization that was set up for the purpose of creating a new global programme to accompany and support the most vulnerable Haitians in their quest for a better future.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Bonnardel (Shefford), together with Mrs. Beauchamp, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, Mr. Boucher (Johnson), Mr. Picard (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière), Mr. Caire (La Peltre) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier), moved:

THAT the National Assembly congratulate cross-country skier Alex Harvey, who received top honours at the World Ski Championships in Oslo, Norway, last 2 March, with his teammate Devon Kershaw;

THAT it underline the outstanding nature of the performance of Alex Harvey, who, at only 22 years of age, won the first gold medal in Canadian history in the team sprint race, an exploit that will go down in history and which makes him a major source of inspiration to all young Québec skiers.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

Mr. Khadir (Mercier), together with Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière), moved a motion concerning Gentilly II nuclear power plant; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 84.1 and 185, Mrs. St-Pierre, Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, together with Mrs. Beaudoin (Rosemont), Mrs. Roy (Lotbinière), Mr. Picard (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière), Mr. Caire (La Peltre) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier), moved:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec mark the 100th International Women's Day, which was held last 8 March, and that it reaffirm the importance of equality among men and women as a fundamental value of Québec society.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Mr. Dutil, Deputy Government House Leader, moved:

THAT, pursuant to section 392 of the *Act respecting health services and social services*, the 2008-2009 annual reports of the Estrie and Laurentides Health and Social Services Agencies be referred to the Committee on Health and Social Services for consideration;

The Minister of Health and Social Services shall be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

The motion was carried.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. Dutil, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following Committee:

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- the Committee on Institutions, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 94, An Act to establish guidelines governing accommodation requests within the Administration and certain institutions.

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Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, gave the following notices:

- the Committee on Public Administration shall hold a deliberative meeting to organize its proceedings, to examine the annual management reports of ministries and public bodies, and to examine the financial commitments of ministries and public bodies;
- the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources shall hold a deliberative meeting to dispose of an order of initiative on oil supply security and, if need be, to decide what follow-up will be given to this order;
- the Committee on Culture and Education shall hold a deliberative meeting to organize its proceedings.

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ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Opening Speech Debate of the Session

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned on 24 February 2011, on the Opening Speech of the Session, on the motion by Mr. Charest, Premier, as well as on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Khadir (Mercier), Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), and Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière), subject to the receivability of these motions.

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At the end of his speech, Mr. Blanchet (Drummond) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Liberal Government for refusing to ensure the primacy of the French language and culture as a tool for international outreach, a harmonious integration resource for immigrants and an expression of the national pride of Quebecers.

The debate continued on the Opening Speech of the Session, on the motion by Mr. Charest, Premier, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Khadir (Mercier), Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) and Mr. Blanchet (Drummond), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of her speech, Mrs. Lapointe (Crémazie) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Liberal Government for its misconduct with regard to vulnerable seniors and for its obstinate refusal to immediately implement an emergency plan to handle the crisis that is prevailing with respect to seniors' services and security.

The debate continued on the Opening Speech of the Session, on the motion by Mr. Charest, Premier, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Khadir (Mercier), Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière), Mr. Blanchet (Drummond) and Mrs. Lapointe (Crémazie), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of his speech, Mr. Aussant (Nicolet-Yamaska) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Liberal Government for refusing to recognize that Québec sovereignty, to wit, the control of all of its taxes, the voting on all of its laws and the signing of all of its treaties, is an essential condition to Québec's full economic development.

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At 6.00 o'clock p.m., Mr. Chagnon, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 7.30 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 7.30 o'clock p.m.

Opening Speech Debate of the Session

The debate continued on the Opening Speech of the Session, on the motion by Mr. Charest, Premier, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Khadir (Mercier), Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière), Mr. Blanchet (Drummond), Mrs. Lapointe (Crémazie) and Mr. Aussant (Nicolet-Yamaska), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of his speech, Mr. Kotto (Bourget) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Liberal Government and its Premier for their lack of vision and desire for a true integration of all of our immigrants into Québec society.

The debate continued on the Opening Speech of the Session, on the motion by Mr. Charest, Premier, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Khadir (Mercier), Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière), Mr. Blanchet (Drummond), Mrs. Lapointe (Crémazie), Mr. Aussant (Nicolet-Yamaska) and Mr. Kotto (Bourget), subject to the receivability of these motions.

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At the end of her speech, Mrs. Richard (Marguerite-D'Youville) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Liberal Government for its lack of understanding as regards the true needs of the education sector.

At 9.28 o'clock p.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 16 March 2011, at 9.45 o'clock a.m.

YVON VALLIÈRES

President