



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Thursday, 22 March 2012 — No. 87

**President of the National Assembly:
Mr. Jacques Chagnon**

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 9.47 o'clock a.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Mrs. Blais (Saint-Henri–Sainte-Anne) made a statement about Meals on Wheels Week.

Mr. McKay (L'Assomption) made a statement about health in the Lanaudière region.

Mr. Arcand (Mont-Royal) made a statement about World Water Day.

Mrs. Doyer (Matapédia) made a statement about La Matapédia regional county municipality honoured at the Mérite québécois de la sécurité civile.

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Mr. Grondin (Beauce-Nord) made a statement to wish good luck to Mmes. Maude Giguère and Andrée-Anne Côté, synchronized swimmers.

Mr. Chevarie (Îles-de-la-Madeleine) made a statement about Epilepsy Month.

Mr. Huot (Vanier) made a statement to underline the 30 years of commitment of Mrs. Sylvie Sauvageau at the Maison des jeunes La Parenthèse in Vanier.

Mr. Simard (Kamouraska-Témiscouata) made a statement to congratulate Mrs. Sophie Pelletier, women's finalist in the Star Académie competition.

Mr. Morin (Montmagny-L'Islet) made a statement to congratulate Mrs. Sophie Pelletier, women's finalist in the Star Académie competition.

At 9.59 o'clock a.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

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The proceedings resumed at 10.16 o'clock a.m.

Moment of reflection

Presenting Papers

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

The reply from the Government to the petition tabled on 8 December 2011 by Mr. Chevarie (Îles-de-la-Madeleine), concerning the recognition of the work of caregivers;

(Sessional Paper No. 1117-20120322)

The reply from the Government to the petitions tabled on 14 February 2012 by Mrs. Doyer (Matapédia) and Mr. Pelletier (Saint-Hyacinthe), concerning services for disabled persons aged 21 years and over.

(Sessional Paper No. 1118-20120322)

Mr. President tabled the following decisions from the Office of the National Assembly, dated 1 March 2012:

Decision 1635 concerning the Regulation respecting the rules applicable to the Ethics Commissioner concerning conflicts of interest;

(Sessional Paper No. 1119-20120322)

Decision 1636 concerning the Regulation respecting conflicts of interest involving the jurisconsult;

(Sessional Paper No. 1120-20120322)

Decision 1638 concerning the Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting financial and administrative management;

(Sessional Paper No. 1121-20120322)

Decision 1639 concerning the Regulation to amend the Regulation on the remuneration and conditions of employment of a Member's staff and other regulatory provisions.

(Sessional Paper No. 1122-20120322)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey), committee chairman, tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy, which, on 16 March 2011 and on 2 February and 20 March 2012, examined the policy directions, activities and administrative management of the Commission des partenaires du marché du travail and the financial statements and annual reports from 2007-2008 to 2010-2011 of the Fonds de développement et de reconnaissance des compétences de la main-d'oeuvre.

(Sessional Paper No. 1123-20120322)

Mrs. Vallée (Gatineau), committee vice-chairman, tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on Institutions, which, on 27, 28 and 29 February as well as on 1, 20 and 21 March 2012, held public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 46, An Act respecting independent police investigations.

(Sessional Paper No. 1124-20120322)

Mrs. Gaudreault (Hull), committee chairman, tabled the following:

The report from the Select Committee on Dying with Dignity, which, on 7, 8, 9, 10, 24, 28, 29 and 30 September, on 12, 13, 14, 15, 22 and 26 October, on 2, 11, 19, 25 and 26 November 2010, on 31 January 2011, and on 1, 3, 4, 9, 10, 14, 15 and 17 February as well as on 22 March 2011, held public hearings within the framework of a general consultation on the issue of dying with dignity. The report contains 24 recommendations.

(Sessional Paper No. 1125-20120322)

Presenting Petitions

The abstracts of two petitions respecting the renovation of low-cost housing, were tabled:

- the first, being the abstract of a petition signed by 100 citizens of Québec, by Mr. Gautrin (Verdun);
(Sessional Paper No. 1126-20120322)
- the second, being the abstract of a petition signed by 88 citizens of Québec, by Mr. Pigeon (Charlesbourg).
(Sessional Paper No. 1127-20120322)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mrs. Champagne (Champlain) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the renovation of low-cost housing, and signed by 80 citizens of Québec.
(Sessional Paper No. 1128-20120322)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mrs. Richard (Marguerite-D'Youville) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the production of corn on the Îles de Boucherville, and signed by 2286 citizens of Québec.
(Sessional Paper No. 1129-20120322)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

Deferred Divisions

The Assembly took the division, which had been deferred during at the sitting of 21 March 2012, on the motion moved by Mr. Aussant (Nicolet-Yamaska), together with Mr. Blanchet (Drummond), Mrs. Lapointe (Crémazie), Mr. Gauvreau (Groulx), Mrs. Roy (Lotbinière) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier).

This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly reaffirm the inalienable right of the citizens of Québec to protest in accordance with the law.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 71 in Appendix)

Yeas: **94** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Bédard, Official Opposition House Leader, together with Mr. Khadir (Mercier) moved a motion concerning tuition fees; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Mr. Matte (Portneuf), together with Mrs. Lapointe (Crémazie), moved a motion concerning federal aeronautics laws; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. Beaudoin (Rosemont), together with Mr. St-Arnaud (Chambly), Mrs. Lapointe (Crémazie), Mr. Gauvreau (Groulx), Mrs. Roy (Lotbinière) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier), moved:

THAT the National Assembly ask the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to cooperate fully with the Commission of Inquiry on the Awarding and Management of Public Contracts in the Construction Industry, presided by Justice France Charbonneau.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

Mrs. Maltais (Taschereau), together with Mr. Drainville (Marie-Victorin), moved a motion concerning the Neuville aerodrome; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 84.1 and 185, Mr. Hamad, Minister of Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade, together with Mr. Marceau (Rousseau) and Mr. Rebello (La Prairie), moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Québec Retail Trade Week and congratulate the entrepreneurs, business leaders and their employees for their contribution to Québec's economic vitality.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 84.1 and pursuant to Standing Order 146, Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT, within the framework of the examination of Bill 55, An Act respecting the professional recognition of medical electrophysiology technologists, the Committee on Health and Social Services hold special consultations and public hearings on Wednesday, 28 March 2012, after Routine Proceedings for a period of two hours and thirty minutes, and that, for this purpose, it hear the following groups according to the schedule indicated hereafter:

A period of 15 minutes shall be allotted for the opening statements, which time shall be shared equally among the members of the parliamentary group forming the Government and the Members sitting in opposition;

Upon the conclusion of these statements, the Committee shall hear the Ordre professionnel des inhalothérapeutes du Québec. The presentation shall last no more than 15 minutes and the exchange with the members of the Committee shall last no more than 45 minutes, which time shall be shared equally among the members of the parliamentary group forming the Government and the Members sitting in opposition;

Upon the conclusion of these exchanges, the Committee shall hear the Ordre des technologues en imagerie médicale et en radio-oncologie du Québec and the Association des technologues en électrophysiologie médicale. The joint presentation shall last no more than 15 minutes and the exchange with the members of the Committee shall last no more than 45 minutes, which time shall be shared equally among the members of the parliamentary group forming the Government and the Members sitting in opposition;

A period of 15 minutes shall be allotted for the closing statements, which time shall be shared equally among the members of the parliamentary group forming the Government and the Members sitting in opposition;

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

This motion replaces the motion carried on Tuesday, 20 March 2012.

The motion was carried.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

- the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 34, An Act to ensure the occupancy and vitality of territories;
- the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 27, An Act respecting the Société du Plan Nord;
- the Committee on Health and Social Services, to hold public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 53, An Act to dissolve the Société de gestion informatique SOGIQUE.

And, by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 143, he convened the following Committee:

- the Committee on Culture and Education, to hold public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 56, An Act to prevent and deal with bullying and violence in schools.

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Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 298, Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, informed the Assembly that the interpellation scheduled for Friday, 23 March 2012, between Mr. Simard (Kamouraska-Témiscouata) and Mr. Corbeil, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, on "agriculture in Québec" will be held from 9.30 o'clock a.m. to 11.30 o'clock a.m.

He also informed the Assembly that on Friday, 30 March 2012, Mr. Curzi (Borduas) would question Mrs. St-Pierre, Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, during an interpellation on "*the Charter of the French Language*".

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Debate on the Budget Speech

The Assembly entered upon the debate on the motion by Mr. Bachand, Minister of Finance, —That this Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government.

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

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Liberal Government for its 2012-2013 budget, which puts all the burden of the fiscal effort to restore fiscal balance on the middle class.

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At 12.49 o'clock p.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 1.02 o'clock p.m.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, informed the Assembly of a change in the schedule of the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources.

At 1.03 o'clock p.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 3.02 o'clock p.m.

Debate on the Budget Speech

The Assembly continued the debate on the motion by Mr. Bachand, Minister of Finance, —That this Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government, and on the motion stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), subject to the receivability of this motion.

Following a meeting with the House leaders, Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for this debate: 5 hours 52 minutes and 30 seconds are set aside for the group forming the Government, including the Budget Speech and the previous address; 5 hours 52 minutes and 30 seconds are set aside for the group forming the Official Opposition, including the comments made by the representative of the Official Opposition that were made on Tuesday, 20 March 2012, and his address on Thursday, 22 March 2012; 1 hour 45 minutes are allotted to the independent Members who indicated their intention to speak, 7 minutes and 30 seconds being allotted to each. Within this framework any time not used by the independent Members shall be redistributed equally between the parliamentary group forming the Government and the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition. Any time not used by the parliamentary group forming the Government will be transferred to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition, and vice versa. Individual addresses will not be limited. Finally, the Chair will take all necessary measures to apply the principle of alternation and foster a certain degree of equity when granting the right to speak as the debate progresses.

The debate continued on the motion by Mr. Bachand, Minister of Finance, and on the motion stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), subject to the receivability of this motion.

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

THAT the National Assembly censure the Government for having underestimated government expenditure by \$10.3 billion during the period covered by the Plan to Restore Fiscal Balance, following the method established by the Auditor General in his report entitled "Audit of Financial Information and Other Related Work – Report of the Auditor General of Québec to the National Assembly for 2011-2012", published on 1 March 2012.

The debate continued on the motion by Mr. Bachand, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau) and Mr. Simard (Richelieu), subject to the receivability of these motions.

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

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THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Liberal Government for the 2012-2013 budget, which fails to respond to the report of the Auditor General of Québec, who considers that the doubtful accounts expense within the framework of tax recovery targets was significantly underestimated.

The debate continued on the motion by Mr. Bachand, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Simard (Richelieu) and Mr. Pelletier (Rimouski), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of his speech, Mr. Drainville (Marie-Victorin) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly censure the Government for having refused to decommission the Gentilly-2 nuclear generating station and for having set aside \$275 million for its refurbishment in the 2012-2013 budget.

The debate continued on the motion by Mr. Bachand, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Simard (Richelieu), Mr. Pelletier (Rimouski) and Mr. Drainville (Marie-Victorin), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At 5.59 o'clock p.m., Mr. Ouimet, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Tuesday, 27 March 2012, at 1.45 o'clock p.m.

JACQUES CHAGNON

President

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APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion moved by Mr. Aussant (Nicolet-Yamaska), together with Mr. Blanchet (Drummond), Mrs. Lapointe (Crémazie), Mr. Gauvreau (Groulx), Mrs. Roy (Lotbinière) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier):

(Division No. 71)

YEAS - 94

Arcand	Charlebois	Huot	Rebello
Arsenault	Chevarie	James	Reid
Auclair	Cloutier	Kelley	Richard
Bachand	Corbeil	Khadir	(Duplessis)
(Outremont)	Courchesne	L'Écuyer	Richard
Bachand	D'Amour	Léger	(Marguerite-D'Youville)
(Arthabaska)	Deltell	Lehouillier	Rotiroti
Beauchamp	Diamond	Lessard	Roy
Beaudoin	Doyer	MacMillan	Simard
(Rosemont)	Drainville	Maltais	(Dubuc)
Bédard	Drolet	Mamelonet	Simard
Bergeron	Dubourg	Marceau	(Richelieu)
Bergman	Dufour	Marcoux	Simard
Bernard	Dutil	Marsan	(Kamouraska-Témiscouata)
Bernier	Ferland	Matte	Sklavounos
Bérubé	Fournier	McKay	St-Amand
Billette	Gagnon-Tremblay	Ménard	St-Arnaud
Blais	Gaudreault	Moreau	St-Pierre
Bolduc	(Jonquière)	Morin	Thériault
Bouillé	Gaudreault	Ouellette	Vallée
Boulet	(Hull)	Paquet	Vallières
Caire	Gautrin	Pelletier	Vien
Carrière	Gignac	(Rimouski)	Villeneuve
Champagne	Gonthier	Picard	Weil
Charbonneau	Grondin	Pigeon	
Charest	Hamad	Pinard	
Charette	Hivon	Ratthé	