Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Thursday, 25 April 2013 — No. 44

President of the National Assembly:
Mr. Jacques Chagnon

QUÉBEC
The Assembly was called to order at 9.45 o'clock a.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Mrs. Gadoury-Hamelin (Masson) made a statement about National Orderlies Day.

Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière) made a statement to congratulate Mrs. Chloé Isaac, solo gold medal winner at the British Open Synchronized Swimming Competition.

Mr. Bureau-Blouin (Laval-des-Rapides) made a statement about an activity jointly organized by the Laval libraries and the Groupe Alpha Laval during Québec Adult Learners' Week.

Mrs. Vallée (Gatineau) made a statement to thank the SOS VG volunteers.

Mrs. Trudel (Charlesbourg) made a statement to congratulate Mrs. Sandrine Renaud.
Mr. Chapadeau (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue) made a statement about the Festival des 1001 lectures of the Commission scolaire de Rouyn-Noranda.

Mrs. David (Gouin) made a statement about Volunteer Week, "Celebrating People in Action".

Mr. Bonnardel (Granby) made a statement about The Alzheimer's Project.

Mr. Rousselle (Vimont) made a statement to pay tribute to Father Claude Desrochers on his 50th anniversary of priesthood.

Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) made a statement about Mr. Louis Drainville, who saved the life of a young 7-year-old boy.

At 9.56 o'clock a.m., Mr. Ouimet, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 10.13 o'clock a.m.
25 April 2013

Moment of reflection

Presenting Papers

Mr. Bédard, Minister responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, tabled the following:

The Québec plan on infrastructures for 2013-2023.
   (Sessional Paper No. 604-20130425)

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

The reply from the Government to the petition tabled on 14 March 2013 by Mr. Diamond (Maskinongé), concerning financial support to the employees of Groupe RCM to keep their jobs;
   (Sessional Paper No. 605-20130425)

The reply from the Government to the petitions tabled on 14 March 2013 by Mr. Bolduc (Jean-Talon), concerning to keep Lachine Hospital within the MUHC;
   (Sessional Paper No. 606-20130425)

The reply from the Government to the petition tabled on 13 March 2013 by Mrs. David (Gouin), concerning the United Nations Convention Against Corruption.
   (Sessional Paper No. 607-20130425)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Pelletier (Rimouski), committee chairman, tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on Public Finance, which, on 24 April 2013, held public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 32, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Pension Plan of Peace Officers in Correctional Services and other legislative provisions.
   (Sessional Paper No. 608-20130425)
Presenting Petitions

Mr. Dubé (Lévis) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the increase in the maximum fine for offending employers in workplace accident cases, and signed by 24 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 609-20130425)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, the abstracts of two petitions respecting the financing of independent community organizations were tabled:

— the first, being the abstract of a petition signed by 831 citizens of the riding of Îles-de-la-Madeleine, by Mrs. Richard (Îles-de-la-Madeleine);
  (Sessional Paper No. 610-20130425)

— the second, being the abstract of a petition signed by 4931 citizens of the ridings of Gaspé and Bonaventure, by Mr. Roy (Bonaventure).
  (Sessional Paper No. 611-20130425)

Mr. Deltell, Second Opposition Group House Leader, made a request for a directive on the speaking time allotted to the Second Opposition Group in committee.

After having heard comments, Mr. President took the matter under advisement.

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. Vallée (Gatineau) tabled the following:

Copy of a document entitled "SOS Vallée de la Gatineau – Mémoire de présentation sur les dommages et les conséquences de la tempête de neige du mois de décembre dans la Vallée de la Gatineau".

(Sessional Paper No. 612-20130425)

Deferred Divisions

The Assembly took the divisions, which had been deferred during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition at the sitting of 24 April 2013, on the motion by Mr. Gautrin (Verdun) and on the amendment motion by Mrs. Maltais, Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity.

First, the question was put on the amendment motion moved by Mrs. Maltais, Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity. This motion reads as follows:

In the second line of the second paragraph, replace the word "3" by "10";

Remove the fourth paragraph and replace it by the following paragraph: "THAT the organization of the mandate be entrusted to the Committee members."

The amendment motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 33 in Appendix)

Yea: 104  Nays: 0  Abstentions: 0

The question was then put on the motion by Mr. Gautrin (Verdun), as amended. The motion reads as follows:
THAT the National Assembly demand that the Parti Québécois Government act expeditiously with regard to pension plans;

THAT for this purpose, beginning on 10 June 2013, the Committee on Public Finance hold special consultations on the report entitled "Innovating for a Sustainable Retirement System" (D’Amours Report) tabled in the National Assembly last 18 April by the Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity;

THAT the Committee hear Mr. Alban D'Amours as well as any person or group it deems necessary to summon;

THAT the organization of the mandate be entrusted to the Committee members.

THAT the Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference;

THAT the Committee report to the National Assembly on Tuesday, 17 September 2013;

THAT this motion become an order of the National Assembly.

The motion, as amended, was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 34 in Appendix)

Yeas: 104 Nays: 0 Abstentions: 0

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Duchesneau (Saint-Jérôme), together with Mr. Bergeron, Minister of Public Security, and Mr. Poëti (Marguerite-Bourgeoys), moved:
25 April 2013

THAT the National Assembly applaud the recent achievements of all police officers involved in the fight against terrorism and recognize the paramount importance of their work to ensure the safety of citizens;

THAT it recall that the fight against terrorism is a constant battle that requires the sustained efforts of governments and police forces, as well as great vigilance on the part of all citizens.

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. St-Arnaud, Minister of Justice, together with Mr. Ouimet (Fabre), Mr. Duchesneau (Saint-Jérôme) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier), moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Act respecting assistance for victims of crime and the creation of the crime victims' assistance centre network;

THAT on this occasion tribute be paid to their teams for the valuable support given to victims, their loved ones and to witnesses of crime.

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. Ouimet (Fabre), together with Mr. St-Arnaud, Minister of Justice, Mr. Duchesneau (Saint-Jérôme) and Mrs. David (Gouin), moved:
THAT the National Assembly underline National Victims of Crime Awareness Week, taking place under the theme "We All Have a Role";

THAT it invite the population to participate therein by partaking in the various activities organized throughout Québec;

THAT it urge Government stakeholders to continue their efforts toward providing better support to victims of crime and the community organizations that contribute to defending their rights.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

Mr. Khadir (Mercier) moved a motion concerning the "Juste. Pour tous" campaign, tax audits and the fight against tax evasion; 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. Duchesneau (Saint-Jérôme), together with Mrs. St-Pierre (Acadie) and Mrs. David (Gouin), moved:

THAT the National Assembly acknowledge the offer made by Qatar to move the International Civil Aviation Organization from Montréal to Doha;

THAT it recognize the historic character and significant impact of the presence of the ICAO in Montréal, both from an economic perspective as well as in terms of international relations;

THAT it ask the Government of Québec and all other stakeholders to work together and make every effort to keep this important international organization in Montréal.

By leave of the Assembly, the debate was deferred until Tuesday, 30 April 2013, at the period set aside for Motions Without Notice.
By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 84.1 and 185, Mrs. Maltais, Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity, together with Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey), Mr. Dubé (Lévis) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier), moved:

THAT the National Assembly today, in preparing for 28 April 2013, mark the International Day of Mourning for Workers Killed or Injured in the Workplace, and that it recall the importance of safety in the workplace;

THAT this commemoration remind us that the health and safety of workers is a priority in our society.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

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

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 84.1 and 185, Mr. Iracà (Papineau), together with Mrs. Malavoy, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, Mrs. Trudel (Charlesbourg) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier), moved:

THAT the National Assembly applaud the project to expand and relocate the Canadian Olympic Committee to a new office in Montréal;

THAT it underline that the integration of Ottawa's operations to those of Montréal establishes the metropolis as first Olympic city of Canada and recognizes the outstanding contribution of Québec athletes and coaches to the success of Canada in high-level sports competitions.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.
By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 84.1 and 185, Mr. Duchesne, Minister of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology, together with Mr. Reid (Orford), Mr. Deltell (Chauveau) and Mrs. David (Gouin), moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark World Intellectual Property Day and that it recognize the primary importance of creating intellectual property as a means of developing a prosperous Québec.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. Traversy, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

— the Committee on Institutions, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 12, An Act to amend the Police Act as concerns independent investigations; and to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 22, An Act to amend the Crime Victims Compensation Act;

— the Committee on Health and Social Services, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 30, An Act to amend the Civil Code and other legislative provisions with respect to research.

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

— the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 26, An Act to amend the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities with respect to financing;

— the Committee on Culture and Education, to hold public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 23, An Act to amend the Education Act concerning certain educational services for students under five years of age.
Mrs. Poirier, First Vice-President, gave the following notice:

the Committee on Institutions shall hold a deliberative meeting to make an assessment of the hearing with the Lobbyists Commissioner within the framework of the examination of his report entitled "Proposed Amendments to the Lobbying Transparency and Ethics Act", the examination of his activity reports from 2007-2008 to 2011-2012, and the examination of his policy directions, activities and administrative management, as well as to discuss upcoming mandates.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mrs. Poirier, First Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Friday, 3 May 2013, Mr. Bachand (Outremont) would question Mr. Marceau, Minister of Finance and the Economy, during an interpellation on "assessing the consequences of the reduction in State revenues under the Parti Québécois Government".

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned on 23 April 2013, on the motion by Mr. Drainville, Minister responsible for Democratic Institutions and Active Citizenship, for the passage in principle of Bill 33, An Act to amend the Act respecting the conditions of employment and the pension plan of the Members of the National Assembly.
At 1.00 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Poirier, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 3.00 o'clock p.m.

Passage in Principle

The Assembly continued the debate on the motion by Mr. Drainville, Minister responsible for Democratic Institutions and Active Citizenship, for the passage in principle of Bill 33, An Act to amend the Act respecting the conditions of employment and the pension plan of the Members of the National Assembly.

At the request of Mrs. Poirier, First Vice-President, Mr. Drolet (Jean-Lesage) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

The debate was adjourned in the name of Mr. Lessard (Lotbinière-Frontenac).

Debates Upon Adjournment

At 6.00 o’clock p.m., the Assembly held two debates upon adjournment:

— the first, on a question by Mrs. Boulet (Laviolette) to Mrs. Ouellet, Minister of Natural Resources, about the devastating impact of the closing of mini hydro stations on the regions. Mr. Gaudreault, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Regions and Land Occupancy replaced the Minister for this debate;
the second, on a question by Mrs. Vallée (Gatineau) to Mrs. Ouellet, Minister of Natural Resources, about the inaction of the Parti Québécois Government to restore the forest areas that were devastated by the ice storm last 21 December.

At 6.26 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Poirier, First Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Tuesday, 30 April 2013, at 1.45 o'clock p.m.

JACQUES CHAGNON

President
APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the amendment motion by Mrs. Maltais, Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity:

(Division No. 33)

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On the motion by Mr. Gautrin (Verdun), as amended:

(Division No. 34)

(Identical to Division No. 33)