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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

## **Votes and Proceedings**

**of the Assembly**

**Tuesday, 17 March 2009 — No. 7**

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

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**QUÉBEC**



The Assembly was called to order at 10.02 o'clock a.m.

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**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**Business Having Precedence**

*Opening Speech Debate of the Session*

The Assembly resumed the debate on the Opening Speech of the Session delivered by Mr. Charest, Premier, at the sitting of Tuesday, 10 March 2009, and on the want of confidence motions by Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mrs. Roy (Lotbinière), Mr. Khadir (Mercier) and Mr. Ferland (Ungava).

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At 11.58 o'clock a.m., Mr. Chagnon, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 2.08 o'clock p.m.

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Moment of reflection

## **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

### **Introduction of Bills**

Mrs. Weil, Minister of Justice, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

18      An Act respecting the Compilation of Québec Laws and Regulations

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, Bill 18 was introduced in the Assembly.

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Mr. Hamad, Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

22      An Act respecting the governance of the Régie des rentes du Québec and amending various legislative provisions

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, Bill 22 was introduced in the Assembly.

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Mr. Dutil, Minister of Revenue, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

- 2        An Act giving effect to the Budget Speech delivered on 24 May 2007, to the 1 June 2007 Ministerial Statement Concerning the Government's 2007-2008 Budgetary Policy and to certain other budget statements

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, Bill 2 was introduced in the Assembly.

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Mrs. St-Pierre, Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

- 10       An Act to amend the Act respecting the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, Bill 10 was introduced in the Assembly.

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Mr. President communicated to the Assembly and then tabled the report from the Law Clerk on the following Private Bill:

- 200       An Act respecting Ville de Malartic

The report states that the notice was drafted and published in accordance with the Rules for the Conduct of Proceedings Respecting Private Bills.

(Sessional Paper No. 70-20090317)

Mr. Bernard (Rouyn-Noranda-Témiscamingue) then moved that leave be granted to introduce Private Bill 200, An Act respecting Ville de Malartic.

This motion was carried.

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Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved that Private Bill 200 be referred for consultations and clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain and that the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Regions and Land Occupancy be a member during its deliberations in respect of the said Bill.

This motion was carried.

### **Presenting Papers**

Mrs. Gagnon-Tremblay, Minister responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, tabled the following:

The Strategic Plan 2009-2010 of the Commission administrative des régimes de retraite et d'assurances.

(Sessional Paper No. 71-20090317)

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Mr. Lessard, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, tabled the following:

The Strategic Plan 2008-2011 of the Commission de protection du territoire agricole du Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 72-20090317)

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Mrs. St-Pierre, Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, tabled the following:

A notice from the Commission des biens culturels du Québec, concerning the classification of the church of Saint-Marc;

(Sessional Paper No. 73-20090317)

The annual management report of the Conservatoire de musique et d'art dramatique du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 30 June 2008;

(Sessional Paper No. 74-20090317)

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The annual report of the Société de la Place des Arts de Montréal, for the fiscal year ended 31 August 2008;

(Sessional Paper No. 75-20090317)

The annual report of the Société du Grand Théâtre de Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 August 2008.

(Sessional Paper No. 76-20090317)

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Mr. President tabled the following Decisions from the Office of the National Assembly, dated 5 March 2009:

Decision 1439 concerning the regulation to amend the regulation respecting the remuneration and conditions of employment which apply to a Member's staff (Règlement modifiant le Règlement sur la rémunération et les conditions de travail du personnel d'un député);

(Sessional Paper No. 77-20090317)

Decision 1440 concerning the regulation to amend the regulation respecting the remuneration and conditions of employment of the staff of Members holding parliamentary functions at the National Assembly (Règlement modifiant le Règlement sur la rémunération et les conditions de travail du personnel des cabinets de l'Assemblée nationale);

(Sessional Paper No. 78-20090317)

Decision 1441 concerning the regulation to amend the regulation respecting financial and administrative management (Règlement modifiant le Règlement sur la gestion financière et administrative).

(Sessional Paper No. 79-20090317)

### **Oral Questions and Answers**

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister of Finance, tabled the following:

An excerpt, dated June 2007, from the Financial System Review published by the Bank of Canada.

(Sessional Paper No. 80-20090317)

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**Motions Without Notice**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Charest, Premier, Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mrs. Roy (Lotbinière) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly observe a moment of reflection in sympathy for the deep sorrow experienced by the parents, families and friends of the 16 victims of the tragic accident that occurred last Thursday off the coast of St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador; in our own name and in the name of all Quebecers, we extend to them our heartfelt condolences; we salute the strength and solidarity they must demonstrate to get through these most difficult times.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

At the invitation of Mr. President, the Assembly observed a minute of silence.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 84 and 185, Mrs. James, Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities, Mr. Bouchard (Vachon), Mrs. Roy (Lotbinière) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier) jointly moved:

THAT, on the occasion of St. Patrick's Day, the National Assembly mark the important contribution made by Quebecers of Irish descent to the development of Québec.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 84 and 185, Mrs. Blais, Minister responsible for Seniors, Mrs. Lapointe (Crémazie), Mr. Picard (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier) jointly moved:



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THAT the National Assembly mark the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of Meals on Wheels Week, which is being held from 16 to 21 March 2009; it is an opportunity to thank the numerous volunteers who serve no less than one million hot meals a year to persons with diminishing abilities, mostly senior citizens; thanks to their generosity, all of these persons may thus remain in their home and receive a visit.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 84 and 185, Mr. Bouchard (Vachon), Mrs. James, Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities, Mr. Deltell (Chauveau) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the holding of the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of Action Week Against Racism, which is being held from 12 to 22 March, and invite the population of Québec to appreciate the wealth of Québec's human diversity.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 84 and 185, Mr. Sklavounos (Laurier-Dorion), Mr. Drainville (Marie-Victorin), Mr. Caire (La Peltre) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark National Nutrition Month;

THAT it reiterate the importance of adopting healthy eating habits.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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Pursuant to Standing Order 146, Mr. Gauthrin, Deputy Government House Leader, moved:

THAT, within the framework of the consideration of Bill 6, An Act to establish a seniors caregiver support fund, the Committee on Social Affairs hold special consultations and public hearings on 24, 25, 26 and 31 March 2009 and that, for this purpose, it hear the following groups:

- Regroupement des organismes montréalais d'aidants naturels
- Conseil des aînés (Mr. Georges Lalande, chair)
- Association québécoise de défenses des droits des personnes retraitées et préretraitées (Mr. Maurice Boucher, chair)
- Association québécoise des retraités(e)s des secteurs public et parapublic (Mrs. Madelaine Michaud, chair)
- Association des retraitées et retraités de l'éducation et des autres services publics du Québec (Mrs. Mariette Gélinas, chair)
- Regroupement des aidants naturels du Québec (Mme Lily Tremblay, chair)
- Fédération québécoise des sociétés Alzheimer
- Réseau des aidants (Mrs. Chloé Sainte-Marie)
- Maison Carpe Diem (Mrs. Nicole Poirier)
- Baluchon Alzheimer
- Dr. Howard Bergman, full professor and first holder of the Dr. Joseph Kaufmann Chair in Geriatrics at McGill University
- Dr. Réjean Hébert, dean of the Faculté de médecine et des sciences de la santé de l'Université de Sherbrooke
- Mrs. Francine Ducharme, full professor at the Faculté des sciences infirmières de l'Université de Montréal and researcher at the Centre de recherche de l'institut universitaire de gériatrie de Montréal
- Centre de santé et de services sociaux de la Vieille-Capitale
- Dr. Richard Béliveau
- Fédération de l'âge d'or du Québec
- Virage (support group for cancer patients and their friends and families)

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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;

The presentation by each group shall not last more than 10 minutes and the exchange with the members of the Committee shall not last more than 50 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;

The Minister responsible for Seniors shall be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

### **Notices of Proceedings in Committees**

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

- the Committee on Social Affairs shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of organizing its proceedings.

### **Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly**

Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Friday, 20 March 2009, Mr. Cloutier (Lac-Saint-Jean) would question Mr. Dupuis, Minister responsible for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs and the Reform of Democratic Institutions, during an interpellation on "the Federal Government's decisions and their effects on the financial situation of Québec".

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## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### Business Having Precedence

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The Assembly continued the debate on the Opening Speech of the Session delivered by Mr. Charest, Premier, at the sitting of Tuesday, 10 March 2009, and on the want of confidence motions by Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mrs. Roy (Lotbinière), Mr. Khadir (Mercier) and Mr. Ferland (Ungava).

At the end of his speech, Mr. Drainville (Marie-Victorin) moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec severely blame the Liberal Party Government for having abandoned the objectives aiming to eliminate emergency room waiting time.

The debate continued on the Opening Speech of the Session and on the want of confidence motions by Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mrs. Roy (Lotbinière), Mr. Khadir (Mercier), Mr. Ferland (Ungava) and Mr. Drainville (Marie-Victorin).

At the end of his speech, Mr. Simard (Richelieu) moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Liberal Government for its ideological stubbornness in pursuing the building of CHUM in PPP mode rather than in a conventional mode.

### Debates Upon Adjournment

The Assembly held two debates upon adjournment:

- the first, on a question by Mr. Simard (Richelieu) to Mrs. Courchesne, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, in remplacement of Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister of Finance, about public-private partnerships;

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- the second, on a question by Mrs. Maltais (Taschereau) to Mrs. Weil, Minister of Justice, in replacement of Mr. Charest, Premier, about the process leading to the hiring of Mr. Philippe Couillard by Persistence Capital Partners.

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At 6.26 o'clock p.m., Mr. Chagnon, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 18 March 2009, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

**YVON VALLIÈRES**

*President*