



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Tuesday, 21 October 2008 — No. 104

**President of the National Assembly:
Mr. François Gendron**

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 2.08 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

The Secretary General, Mr. François Côté, tabled the following:

Copy of a letter, dated 25 June 2008, addressed to Mr. Michel Bissonnet, President of the National Assembly, by Mr. Philippe Couillard, Member for Jean-Talon, informing him of his resignation as Member for this electoral division;
(Sessional Paper No. 1193-20081021)

A letter, dated 6 October 2008, he had received from Mr. Marcel Blanchet, Chief Electoral Officer of Québec, concerning the by-election held on 29 September 2008 in the electoral division of Jean-Talon, accompanied by a notice declaring Mr. Yves Bolduc the candidate duly elected in this electoral division;
(Sessional Paper No. 1194-20081021)

A letter, dated 16 September 2008, he had received from Mr. Jean Charest, Premier of Québec, informing him of the appointment of Mr. Norman MacMillan, the Member for Papineau, as Interim Government Caucus Chairman, in replacement of Mr. Yvon Vallières, the Member for Richmond, effective 10 September 2008.
(Sessional Paper No. 1195-20081021)

The Secretary General informed the Assembly of the vacant office of President and then tabled the following:

A letter, dated 14 July 2008, he had received from Mr. Michel Bissonnet, Member for Jeanne-Mance–Viger, informing him of his resignation as President of the National Assembly;
(Sessional Paper No. 1196-20081021)

A letter, dated 24 September 2008, he had received from Mr. Michel Bissonnet, Member for Jeanne-Mance–Viger, informing him of his resignation as Member for this electoral division.
(Sessional Paper No. 1197-20081021)

21 October 2008

The Secretary General then invited the longest-serving Member of the Assembly, Mr. Gauthrin, Member for Verdun, to preside at the election of the President of the National Assembly.

The longest-serving Member obtained the consent of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 5 to 8 respecting the election of the President of the National Assembly, in compliance with the rules contained in a document he then tabled, entitled:

"Standing Orders and Rules of Procedure for the Election of the President of the National Assembly by Secret Ballot".

(Sessional Paper No. 1198-20081021)

He then communicated to the Assembly and tabled the following:

The list of Members standing as candidates for the office of President of the National Assembly.

(Sessional Paper No. 1199-20081021)

**LIST OF MEMBERS STANDING AS CANDIDATES FOR THE
OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

- Mr. François Gendron (Abitibi-Ouest)
- Mr. Yvon Vallières (Richmond)

The Presiding Officer explained the balloting procedure and, at 2.15 o'clock p.m., suspended the meeting for a few minutes.

At 2.24 o'clock p.m., the Members took their seats and proceeded to cast their ballots.

At 3.13 o'clock p.m., the voting was concluded and the meeting was suspended for the counting of the votes by the Secretary General and Mr. Claude Bisson, Jurisconsult.

21 October 2008

At 3.39 o'clock p.m., the Members once again took their seats.

The Presiding Officer declared that Mr. François Gendron, the Member for Abitibi-Ouest, was elected President of the National Assembly, having received a number of votes that is not less than that of the majority of the valid votes cast by the Members of the Assembly.

Accordingly, the Presiding Officer left the Chair.

Mr. Dumont, Leader of the Official Opposition, and Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, then accompanied Mr. Gendron to the Chair.

The Mace was then laid upon the Table and, consequently, the sitting opened.

Mr. President then delivered a speech.

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the National Assembly ratify the special procedure for the election of the President contained in the document entitled "Standing Orders and Rules of Procedure respecting the Election of the President of the National Assembly by Secret Ballot" that was tabled earlier by the most senior Member of the Assembly, the Member for Verdun, and, accordingly, that the Assembly give effect to the results of the vote held in pursuance of this procedure.

The motion was carried.

Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, Mr. Dumont, Leader of the Official Opposition, and Mr. Charest, Premier, each took the floor.

21 October 2008

Mr. President informed the Assembly that notice of the motion to be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* of 22 October 2008, in the name of Mr. Taillon (Chauveau), had been submitted within the specified delay, which motion is to be debated under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition on that same day. This motion reads as follows:

THAT the Government table in the National Assembly, on or before 25 November 2008, an action plan to attenuate the effects of the economic slowdown. This plan must contain: 1° the measures envisaged to encourage household consumption; 2° the measures to maintain the purchasing power of the middle class; 3° the expectations with regard to the Federal Government concerning an assistance plan for Québec's manufacturing sector and the elements of its monetary policy to counter the credit crunch arising from the financial crisis; 4° the acceleration of projects that are likely to quickly stimulate job creation; 5° the effects of these measures on the budget situation of the Québec Government for the current year and for the preparation of the 2009-2010 budget.

In pursuance of Standing Order 97.1, he then tabled the following:

A copy of the text of the said motion.

(Sessional Paper No. 1200-20081021)

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, moved that the Assembly adjourn its proceedings until Wednesday, 22 October 2008, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, at 4.17 o'clock p.m., Mr. President adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 22 October 2008, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

FRANÇOIS GENDRON

President

1020