

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

Order Paper and Notices

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 3 June 2015 — No. 97 *Nine forty-five*

President of the National Assembly: Mr. Jacques Chagnon

QUÉBEC

Part 1

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

- The Member for Sainte-Rose on the following subject: *Congratulations to the winners of the 51st Soirée des Curés*.
- The Member for Taillon on the following subject: La Maison de Jonathan's Azimut project.
- The Member for Laval-des-Rapides on the following subject: *Underline* Soccer Week in Québec.
- The Member for Chambly on the following subject: *Laura-Maude Vidori*, participant in La Dictée Paul-Gérin-Lajoie's Grande finale internationale.
- The Member for Chomedey on the following subject: Mrs. Anastasia Katsolis, recipient of the Lieutenant Governor's Medal.
- The Member for Mercier on the following subject: *Underline the* 35th anniversary of Imagerie youth centre.
- The Member for Mont-Royal on the following subject: Congratulations to Mrs. Sandrine Bayard of Port-Cartier, who took top honours at the 54th Canada-Wide Science Fair.
- The Member for Beauce-Nord on the following subject: *Underline the presentation of the 11th edition of the Festival sportif de Sainte-Marie.*
- The Member for Huntingdon on the following subject: *Underline the* 50th anniversary of the founding of Hemmingford Sport and Country Club.
- The Member for Matane-Matapédia on the following subject: The passing of Mrs. Gaétane Courcy.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

PRESENTING

- (a) Papers
- (b) Reports from committees
- (c) Petitions

ORAL ANSWERS TO PETITIONS

COMPLAINTS OF BREACH OF PRIVILEGE OR CONTEMPT AND PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

DEFERRED DIVISIONS

Motion by the Minister of the Economy, Innovation and Exports for the passage of Bill 37, An Act to confirm that the cement plant and maritime terminal projects in the territory of Municipalité de Port-Daniel-Gascons are subject solely to the authorizations required under section 22 of the Environment Quality Act.

MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

NOTICES OF PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEES

INFORMATION ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Part 2

ORDERS OF THE DAY

BUSINESS HAVING PRECEDENCE

URGENT DEBATES

DEBATES ON REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

(1) Report from the Committee on Institutions, which, on 15 and 16 April, and on 13 and 14 May 2015, held public hearings within the framework of special consultations on the draft regulation concerning the Regulation respecting change of name and of other particulars of civil status for transsexual and transgender persons. The Committee also held deliberative meetings on 20 May 2015 with regard to this order. The report contains observations and 3 recommendations.

Report tabled on 21 May 2015

Subject to the provisions of the second paragraph of Standing Order 94, this report shall be taken into consideration not later than **5 June 2015**.

OTHER BUSINESS

I. Government Bills

Passage in Principle

(2) Bill 27

An Act respecting the optimization of subsidized educational childcare services

Introduced by the Minister of Families on 26 November 2014

Report from the Committee on Citizen Relations (consultations) tabled on 10 February 2015

(3) Bill 36

An Act to amend various legislative provisions mainly concerning shared transportation

Introduced by the Minister of Transport on 12 May 2015

(4) Bill 39

An Act to give effect to the Update on Québec's Economic and Financial Situation presented on 2 December 2014 and to amend various legislative provisions

Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 14 May 2015

(5) Bill 44

An Act to bolster tobacco control Introduced by the Minister for Rehabilitation, Youth Protection and Public Health on 5 May 2015

(6) Bill 47

An Act to modernize the governance of Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec

Introduced by the Minister of Culture and Communications on 13 May 2015

(7) Bill 48

An Act to modernize the governance of Conservatoire de musique et d'art dramatique du Québec

Introduced by the Minister of Culture and Communications on 13 May 2015

(8) Bill 53

An Act to update the Act respecting collective agreement decrees mainly to facilitate its application and enhance the transparency and accountability of parity committees

Introduced by the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity on 26 May 2015

Committee Stage

(9) Bill 13

An Act to give effect to the Budget Speech delivered on 4 June 2014 and to various other fiscal measures

Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 4 December 2014

Passed in principle on 19 May 2015, and

Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

(10)Bill 20

An Act to enact the Act to promote access to family medicine and specialized medicine services and to amend various legislative provisions relating to assisted procreation

Introduced by the Minister of Health and Social Services on 28 November 2014

Report from the Committee on Health and Social Services (consultations) tabled on 26 March 2015

Division deferred on 19 May 2015

Passed in principle on 20 May 2015, and

Referred to the Committee on Health and Social Services

(11)Bill 38

An Act to allow the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec to carry out infrastructure projects

Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 18 March 2015

Report from the Committee on Public Finance (consultations) tabled on 20 May 2015

Passed in principle on 26 May 2015, and

Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

(12)Bill 42

An Act to group the Commission de l'équité salariale, the Commission des normes du travail and the Commission de la santé et de la sécurité du travail and to establish the Administrative Labour Tribunal

Introduced by the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity on 15 April 2015

Report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy (consultations) tabled on 19 May 2015

Passed in principle on 26 May 2015, and

Referred to the Committee on Labour and the Economy

Report Stage

Passage

(13)Bill 37

An Act to confirm that the cement plant and maritime terminal projects in the territory of Municipalité de Port-Daniel-Gascons are subject solely to the authorizations required under section 22 of the Environment Quality Act Introduced by the Minister of the Economy, Innovation and Exports on 19 February 2015

Passed in principle on 13 May 2015

Report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy adopted on 28 May 2015

Division deferred on 28 May 2015

(14)Bill 46

An Act respecting the election for the office of warden of Municipalité régionale de comté du Granit

Introduced by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Land Occupancy on 14 May 2015

Passed in principle on 20 May 2015

Report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain adopted on 27 May 2015

II. Private Members' Public Bills

Passage in Principle

(**15**)Bill 190

An Act to amend the Civil Code in order to protect the rights of seniors as lessees

Introduced by the Member for Gouin on 27 May 2014

Resuming the debate adjourned on 5 June 2014

(16)Bill 192

An Act to amend the Anti-Corruption Act as concerns the protection of whistleblowers

Introduced by the Member for Chutes-de-la-Chaudière on 23 September 2014

(17)Bill 193

An Act to regulate ferrous and non-ferrous metal transactions and recycling Introduced by the Member for Chutes-de-la-Chaudière on 21 October 2014

(18)Bill 194

An Act to promote the inclusion of social housing or affordable housing in new construction projects

Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on 2 October 2014

(19)Bill 195

An Act to amend the Municipal Powers Act to allow regional county municipalities to carry out certain work without delay Introduced by the Member for Nicolet-Bécancour on 25 September 2014

(20)Bill 196

An Act to amend the Public Protector Act
Introduced by the Member for Deux-Montagnes on 1 October 2014

(**21**)Bill 197

An Act to reduce medication procurement costs in Québec Introduced by the Member for Mercier on 17 February 2015

(22)Bill 390

An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act in order to assert the primacy of Québec's jurisdiction in this area

Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on 3 December 2014

(23)Bill 392

An Act respecting zero-GHG-emission motor vehicles Introduced by the Member for Vachon on 15 April 2015

(24)Bill 393

An Act to provide a framework for appointments to certain senior positions and to standardize certain aspects of the appointment of administrative judges and decision-makers

Introduced by the Member for Deux-Montagnes on 4 December 2014

(25)Bill 394

An act to amend the Police Act as concerns issuing statements of offence Introduced by the Member for Chutes-de-la-Chaudière on 12 February 2015

(26)Bill 395

Religious Fundamentalism Observer Act Introduced by the Member for Taschereau on **11 February 2015**

(27)Bill 396

Parliamentary Budget Officer Act
Introduced by the Member for Granby on 19 February 2015

(28)Bill 397

Parliamentary Budget Officer Act
Introduced by the Member for Rousseau on **26 February 2015**

(29)Bill 398

An Act to amend the Act respecting the conditions of employment and the pension plan of the Members of the National Assembly Introduced by the Member for Verchères on 18 March 2015

(30)Bill 399

An Act to exclude child support payments from income calculation under various social laws

Introduced by the Member for Sainte-Marie-Saint-Jacques on 18 March 2015

(31)Bill 490

An Act to amend the Act respecting the conditions of employment and the pension plan of the Members of the National Assembly as regards the transition allowance

Introduced by the Member for Deux-Montagnes on 18 March 2015

(32)Bill 492

An Act to amend the Civil Code to protect seniors' rights as lessees Introduced by the Member for Gouin on **21 May 2015**

(33)Bill 494

Taxpayer Protection Act Introduced by the Member for Granby on 28 May 2015 Committee Stage

Report Stage

Passage

III. Private Bills

Hearings and Clause-by-Clause Consideration

(34)Bill 204

An Act respecting Ville de Saint-Joseph-de-Sorel Introduced by the Member for Saint-Hyacinthe on 13 November 2014, and Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

(**35**)Bill 205

An Act respecting Ville de Sherbrooke Introduced by the Member for Sherbrooke on **14 May 2015**, and Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

(36)Bill 206

An Act respecting Ville de Mercier Introduced by the Member for La Prairie on 13 May 2015, and Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

(37)Bill 207

An Act respecting Ville de Boucherville Introduced by the Member for Montarville on **14 May 2015**, and Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

(38)Bill 208

An Act respecting Ville de Saint-Félicien Introduced by the Member for Dubuc on **14 May 2015**, and Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

(39)Bill 209

An Act respecting Ville de Mascouche Introduced by the Member for Masson on **14 May 2015**, and Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain Passage in Principle

Passage

IV. Government Motions

(40)12 May 2015

Motion by the Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie:

THAT, pursuant to section 22.3 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales, the National Assembly approve the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the Republic of Peru, the Agreement on the Environment between Canada and the Republic of Peru, and the Agreement on Labour Cooperation between Canada and the Republic of Peru, signed on 29 May 2008 and in force since 1 August 2009.

In compliance with section 22.3 of the *Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales*, this motion cannot be debated before 22 May 2015.

(41)12 May 2015

Motion by the Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie:

THAT, pursuant to section 22.3 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales, the National Assembly approve the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Agreement on the Environment between Canada and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and the Agreement on Labour Cooperation between Canada and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, signed on 28 June 2009 and in force since 1 October 2012.

In compliance with section 22.3 of the *Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales*, this motion cannot be debated before 22 May 2015.

(42)12 May 2015

Motion by the Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie:

THAT, pursuant to section 22.3 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales, the National Assembly approve the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the Republic of Honduras, the Agreement on the Environment between Canada and the Republic of Honduras, and the Agreement on Labour Cooperation between Canada and the Republic of Honduras, signed on 5 November 2013 and in force since 1 October 2014.

In compliance with section 22.3 of the *Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales*, this motion cannot be debated before 22 May 2015.

(43)26 May 2015

Motion by the Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie:

THAT, pursuant to section 22.3 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales, the National Assembly approve the Québec-India social security agreement signed in Québec City on 26 November 2013.

In compliance with section 22.3 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales, this motion cannot be debated before 5 June 2015.

V. Estimates of Expenditure

VI. Statutory Debates

BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION

Part 3

BILLS PASSED

(Bills not yet given Royal Assent)

Bill 43

An Act to enhance the communication of hazard-related information concerning products present in the workplace and to amend the Act respecting occupational health and safety
Passed on 28 May 2015

Part 4

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEES

The detailed calendar of the proceedings of each committee is available on the Internet site of the Assembly

COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Inquiry arising from the motion moved by the Official Opposition House Leader and Member for Taschereau pursuant to Standing Orders 315 to 321.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

- Examination of the annual reports on the application of the *Public Administration Act*.
- Hearing of the Auditor General on his annual management report.
- Hearing on chapter 3 of the Auditor General's report for spring 2014 regarding the acquisition of goods and services.
- Hearing on the administrative management of the Régie des alcools, des courses et des jeux.
- Hearing on the administrative management of the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport.
- Hearing on the administrative management of the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

Surveillance of public bodies and accountability:

 Hearing the Commission de protection du territoire agricole du Québec on its policy directions, activities and administrative management.

Order of initiative

- Analysis of the farmland grabbing phenomenon.

COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 204**, An Act respecting Ville de Saint-Joseph-de-Sorel (Order of reference given on 13 November 2014).
- Bill 205, An Act respecting Ville de Sherbrooke (Order of reference given on 14 May 2015).
- Bill 206, Loi concernant la Ville de Mercier (Order of reference given on 13 May 2015).
- **Bill 207**, An Act respecting Ville de Boucherville (Order of reference given on 14 May 2015).
- Bill 208, An Act respecting Ville de Saint-Félicien (Order of reference given on 14 May 2015).
- Bill 209, An Act respecting Ville de Mascouche (Order of reference given on 14 May 2015).

Statutory order

 Examination of the reports on the implementation of the Municipal Ethics and Good Conduct Act.

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

Surveillance of public bodies and accountability:

- Examination of the policy directions, activities and administrative management of the Société d'habitation du Québec.

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

Order of reference

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 47**, An Act to modernize the governance of Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (Order of reference given on 26 May 2015).

Statutory order

- Hearing the heads of the university-level educational institutions.

COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND THE ECONOMY

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

 Bill 42, An Act to group the Commission de l'équité salariale, the Commission des normes du travail and the Commission de la santé et de la sécurité du travail and to establish the Administrative Labour Tribunal (Order of reference given on 26 May 2015).

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC FINANCE

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- Bill 13, An Act to give effect to the Budget Speech delivered on 4 June 2014 and to various other fiscal measures (Order of reference given on 19 May 2015).
- Bill 38, An Act to allow the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec to carry out infrastructure projects (Order of reference given on 26 May 2015).

Order of initiative

- The use of tax havens phenomenon.

COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

Order of reference

General consultation:

 Policy paper entitled "Orientations gouvernementales pour un gouvernement plus transparent, dans le respect du droit à la vie privée et la protection des renseignements personnels" (order of reference given on 25 March 2015).

Statutory order

 Examination of the report on the implementation of the Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly.

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

- Hearing the Québec Chief Electoral Officer.

Surveillance of public bodies and accountability:

- Examination of the policy directions, activities and management of the reintegration support central fund's advisory committee.
- Examination of the policy directions, activities and management of the 18 reintegration support funds of Québec's correctional facilities.
- Examination of the policy directions, activities and management of the Anti-Corruption Commissioner.

COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS

Order of initiative

 Aboriginal women's living conditions as affected by sexual assault and domestic violence.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

 Bill 20, An Act to enact the Act to promote access to family medicine and specialized medicine services and to amend various legislative provisions relating to assisted procreation (Order of reference given on 20 May 2015).

Special Consultations:

 Bill 44, An Act to bolster tobacco control (Order of reference given on 21 May 2015).

Statutory order

- Examination of the 2013-2014 annual reports of the following health and social services agencies: Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Bas-Saint-Laurent, Capitale-Nationale, Chaudière-Appalaches, Côte-Nord, Estrie, Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine, Lanaudière, Laurentides, Laval, Mauricie et Centre-du-Québec, Montérégie, Montréal, Outaouais, Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean, and of the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay and the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services (deferred on 7 October 2014).
- Examination of the 2013-2014 annual management report of the Centre régional de santé et de services sociaux de la Baie-James (deferred on 9 October 2014).

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

Surveillance of public bodies and accountability:

 Examination of the policy directions, activities and management of the Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Côte-Nord, Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine and Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean health and social services agencies and of the Centre régional de santé et de services sociaux de la Baie-James.

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Order of reference

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 36**, An Act to amend various legislative provisions mainly concerning shared transportation (Order of reference given on 28 May 2015).

Statutory order

- Examination of the report from the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec on automobile advertising guidelines.
- Examination of the 2013 evaluation report Photo radar devices and red light camera systems.

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

Surveillance of public bodies and accountability:

 Hearing the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec on its administrative management, activities and policy directions.

Part 5

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

<u>Questions already placed</u> on the Order Paper are published each Wednesday

Act to implement certain provisions of the Budget Speech of 30 March 2010,

(53) Mr. Caire (La Peltrie) – **17 March 2015**To the Minister of Education, Higher Education and Research

According to the Auditor General of Québec, for the fiscal year ended on 30 April 2014, the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) violated Bill 100, An

reduce the debt and return to a balanced budget in 2013-2014.

The UQAM granted 85 executives \$352,767 in lump sum settlements in addition to the maximum salary provided for in the Act. The department had then informed the UQAM that it had to comply with the Act, failing which it risked a subsidy reduction.

The UQAM has always denied having violated the Act in spite of the department's warning. Has the Minister of Education taken steps to recover the UQAM's overpayments?

(65) Mr. Schneeberger (Drummond–Bois-Francs) – **12 May 2015**To the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

The Minister of Agriculture is reviewing his department's ways of doing things with a view to simplifying procedures. We hope that such changes will make life easier for the next generation of farmers.

In view of this review, is the Minister also open to reviewing the number of permits required to operate an agritourism business? Does he intend to simplify a regulation that all too often represents an obstacle to those who would like to start an agritourism business?

(68) Mr. Schneeberger (Drummond–Bois-Francs) – **13 May 2015**To the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

It is well known that for many years profits from the sale of Québec products at the Société des alcools du Québec (SAQ) have differed. Indeed, Québec ciders sold by the Crown corporation receive higher royalties than Québec wines.

During the consideration of the estimates of expenditure of the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation, the Minister informed us that he was aware of the situation. When we asked him the reason for this difference, he told us, without going out on a limb, that historical issues account for this situation. We were also given a document to attempt to further our understanding thereof.

However, numbers dating back to 2002 lead us to believe that cider and wine royalties were equivalent. This is why I am asking the Minister to clarify the reasons that led to this difference in percentage between ciders and wines. Furthermore, can the Minister tell us what he intends to do address this inequality?

(69) Mr. Surprenant (Groulx) – **21 May 2015**To the Minister of the Economy, Innovation and Exports

Within the framework of the examination of the estimates of expenditure, I submitted a question to the Secrétariat à l'implantation de la stratégie maritime about the setting up of logistics hubs.

The Secrétariat informed me that this question, question 150 of the Second Opposition Group's special enquiries, must be directed to and answered by the Ministère de l'Économie, de l'Innovation et des Exportations (MEIE).

I therefore ask the Minister to answer the following question:

What is the status of the project to set up logistics hubs?

- a) targeted and detailed timeframe of project work and completion;
- b) initial and updated cost estimate (the most recent);
- c) list and copy of all studies (including feasibility and needs studies), analyses, reports or other studies carried out or commissioned by the department to date;
- d) status of the draft project development and of the preparation of plans and specifications;
- e) statement of money invested in 2014-2015 and forecast for 2015-2016;
- f) nature of the Fonds de solidarité FTQ's participation and list of meetings held with the Fonds concerning the development of logistics hub projects.

(70) Mr. Surprenant (Groulx) – **21 May 2015**To the Minister of Tourism

Within the framework of the examination of the estimates of expenditure, I submitted a question to the Secrétariat à l'implantation de la stratégie maritime about the Port of Québec cruise ship terminal project.

The Secrétariat informed me that this question, question 151 of the Second Opposition Group's special enquiries, must be directed to and answered by the Ministère du Tourisme (MTO).

I therefore ask the Minister to answer the following question:

What is the status of the \$90 M project to redesign the Port of Québec cruise ship terminal?

- a) targeted and detailed timeframe of project work and completion;
- b) initial and updated cost estimate (the most recent);
- c) list and copy of all studies (including feasibility and needs studies), analyses, reports or other studies carried out or commissioned by the department to date;
- d) status report on the walkway over the Louise Basin and indicate whether or not this is a part of the project;
- e) investment estimates for 2015-2016.

(71) Mr. Surprenant (Groulx) – **21 May 2015**

To the Minister for Transport and the Implementation of the Maritime Strategy

In the 2014-2015 budget, the Government created two tax incentives within the framework of its future maritime strategy: an additional 50% capital cost allowance for the construction or renovation of vessels and an incentive for the creation of a tax-free reserve for shipowners.

I would like to know what the Minister's assessment is of these measures, approximately one year after their implementation. Could he tell us:

- How many of the projects used the additional capital cost allowance for the construction or renovation of vessels, and how many ships benefitted from this?
- How many of the projects used the tax-free reserve, and how many ships benefitted from this?
- For each measure, how much has it cost the Government this past year?
 Does he consider that jobs were created thanks to these measures and if so, how many?

(72) Mr. Surprenant (Groulx) – **26 May 2015**

To the Minister for Transport and the Implementation of the Maritime Strategy

On 15 April of this year, the Société des traversiers increased its Québec-Lévis ferry service tariffs. For motorists purchasing 10 or more tickets, this increase is significant and greatly exceeds inflation.

I would like to know what impact these increased tariffs have had on ferry traffic volume since 15 April of this year. Has there been a decrease in passenger and/or motor vehicle traffic volume since 15 April?

Can the Minister clearly indicate:

- How many cars were transported between 15 April and 15 May 2015 compared to the same period last year?
- How many passengers were transported between 15 April and 15 May 2015 compared to the same period last year?
- How many cars were transported between 15 April and 15 May 2015 compared to the period from 15 March to 15 April 2015?
- How many passengers were transported between 15 April and 15 May 2015 compared to the period from 15 March to 15 April 2015?

(73) Mr. Surprenant (Groulx) – **26 May 2015**

To the Minister for Transport and the Implementation of the Maritime Strategy

In the 2015-2025 Québec Infrastructure Plan, the Government provides an investment of \$2164.7 million dollars for the "Marine, Air, Rail and Other Transportation" sector.

As was the case for the 2014-2024 QIP, this sector was not broken down by category (marine, rail, air, other transportation).

Last year, the Minister had accepted, in his answer to a written question by the Member for Granby, to tell us how much money was set aside for marine transportation.

Can he tell us how much money, in the 2015-2025 QIP, is specifically set aside for marine transportation?

(74) Mrs. D'Amours (Mirabel) – **27 May 2015**To the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

During the examination of the estimates of expenditure of the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'alimentation, I questioned you and informed you of certain concerns regarding Agri-traçabilité organization. A unanimous resolution of the Plan conjoint des producteurs de bovins du Québec's annual general assembly was brought to my attention. The resolution mentioned the following:

To Agri-Traçabilité Québec

- To improve identifier retention, by improving the plastic currently being used, by analyzing other available identifiers or any other method providing long-lasting identifier retention;
- To make better use of its services, particularly by developing mobile applications;

To the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec

- Show the same tolerance for the dairy cull cattle sector as for the grass-fed calf sector regarding the use of nine-digit yellow metal identifiers as additional identifiers;
- Facilitate the identification of bovines, particularly that all official identification be obligatory only when the animal leaves the farm;
- Implement the traceability of agricultural products from the farm to the table.

What action does the Minister plan to take to address the recommendations contained in the resolution of the Plan conjoint des producteurs de bovins du Québec's annual general assembly?

(75) Mr. Pagé (Labelle) – **28 May 2015**To the Minister responsible for Recreation and Sport

The announcement of the budgets allocated to the Programme d'assistance financière au loisir des personnes handicapées – volet accompagnement (PAFLPH) has been delayed. One of the consequences of this delay is to compromise accompaniment services for municipal day camps and activities provided by organizations.

The Association québécoise pour le loisir des personnes handicapées and its regional branches are standing by and hoping for answers as soon as possible. They emphasize that those who have to wait are vulnerable persons.

- 1. Can the Minister confirm the budgets allocated to the PAFLPH, as well as provide the breakdown of amounts per region?
- 2. If not, can he tell us when, exactly, will he announce the budgets?

(76) Mrs. Roy (Montarville) – **3 June 2015**To the Minister of Justice and Minister responsible for the Outaouais region

Section 224 of the Consumer Protection Act (CPA), whose administration is under the responsibility of the Minister of Justice, provides that, like merchants, manufacturers and advertisers, no Government agency may charge, for goods or services, a higher price than that advertised.

Despite this prohibition, the 28 May 2015 edition of the *Journal de Québec* reported that a Gatineau branch of the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ) charges \$1.50 per debit card transaction, even though a Superior Court judge clearly stated that this practice is prohibited in a ruling handed down last 8 May (Stratos Pizzeria (1992) inc. v. Galarneau 2015 QCCS 2353).

In spite of this ruling, the Office de la protection du consommateur (OPC) lawyers interpreted the CPA as not applying in such cases, since, in their opinion, the prohibition only concerns commercial transactions. Neither the APC, nor the Regulation Respecting the Application of the Consumer Protection Act provides for an exemption to this rule according to the nature of the transaction. Furthermore, the present case does not meet the exemptive criteria provided for in sections 91.6 to 91.8 of the implementing regulation.

While it is true that merchants, manufacturers and advertisers naturally conduct commercial transactions, and that the Government, its departments and agencies, governed by the CPA in accordance with section 4, instead require charges, contributions or fees for public services rendered, which can be further defined as administrative transactions, these are still not exempt from the said prohibition because Title II under Division VII of Chapter III of the Act, under which this provision is found, is entitled "Business practices", or because Judge Blanchard, in his recent ruling, used the term "prohibited commercial practice" to describe the rule provided for in section 224 of the CPA.

Indeed, the Government, its departments and agencies are covered by the CPA's scope, whose extent is set forth in sections 2 to 7. Had lawmakers wished to shield them from the application of this rule, they could have created an explicit exemption. They chose not to do so.

It appears then that transactions conducted between consumers, in this case citizens within the meaning of administrative law, and the public administration are covered by section 224 of the CPA and that by charging \$1.50 per debit card transaction, this SAAQ branch in Gatineau, a region under the Minister's responsibility, is clearly in violation of the Act.

What does the Minister intend to do to ensure that all public agencies respect the provisions set forth in the Consumer Protection Act? Will her Government commit to conducting the appropriate verifications to identify all public agencies that are in violation of this rule and to issuing a directive calling on them to comply therewith?

Part 6

NOTICES

I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

Government Bills

(a) 28 May 2015

An Act mainly to make the administration of justice more efficient and fines for minors more deterrent – *Minister of Justice*.

Private Members' Public Bills

(b) 2 June 2015 An Act to proclaim Nelson Mandela Day – *Member for Bourget*.

Private Bills

(c) 26 May 2015

An Act concerning an immovable situated in the territory of Ville de Québec – *Member for Vanier-Les Rivières*.

II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME