

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Tuesday, 20 May 2008 — No. 85

President of the National Assembly: Mr. Michel Bissonnet

The Assembly was called to order at 2.03 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

Mr. President read an excerpt of a letter, dated 20 May 2008, addressed to Mr. François Côté, Secretary General of the National Assembly, by Mr. Marcel Blanchet, Chief Electoral Officer of Québec, in relation to the by-elections held on 12 May 2008 in the Electoral Divisions of Bourget, Hull and Pointe-aux-Trembles.

Mr. President then tabled the following:

The aforementioned letter accompanied by a notice proclaiming Mr. Maka Kotto the candidate returned in the Electoral Division of Bourget, Mrs. Maryse Gaudreault the candidate returned in Hull, and Mrs. Nicole Léger the candidate returned in the Electoral Division of Pointe-aux-Trembles.

(Sessional Paper No. 983-20080520)

At the invitation of Mr. President, Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, and Mr. Bédard, Whip of the Second Opposition Group, welcomed the new Member for Bourget, Mr. Kotto, and the new Member for Pointe-aux-Trembles, Mrs. Léger.

Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, Mr. Dumont, Leader of the Official Opposition, and Mrs. Normandeau, Deputy Premier, on behalf of Mr. Charest, Premier, made a few comments.

Mr. Kotto (Bourget) and Mrs. Léger (Pointe-aux-Trembles) then took the floor.

Finally, Mr. President welcomed the new Members.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Introduction of Bills

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

An Act to amend the Act respecting the Québec Pension Plan and other legislative provisions

The motion was carried.

Presenting Papers

Mrs. Boulet, Minister of Transport, tabled the following:

The annual management reports of the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec, of the Fonds d'assurance automobile du Québec and of Contrôle routier Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2007;

(Sessional Paper No. 984-20080520)

The 2008 Action Plan of Contrôle routier Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 985-20080520)

Mr. President tabled the following:

Copy of the notice of motion by Mr. Legault (Rousseau) which will be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* of Wednesday, 21 May 2008, under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.

(Sessional Paper No. 986-20080520)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Lévesque (Lévis), vice-chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Institutions, which met on 15 May 2008 for clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 60, An Act to amend the Police Act. The report contains certain amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 987-20080520)

Mr. Paquet (Laval-des-Rapides), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Public Finance, which met on 14 May 2008 for clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 73, Real Estate Brokerage Act. The report contains certain amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 988-20080520)

Mr. Kelley (Jacques-Cartier), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Social Affairs, which met on 30 April and on 14 and 15 May 2008 for clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 70, An Act to amend the Act respecting health services and social services, the Health Insurance Act and the Act respecting the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec. The Committee also held public hearings within the framework of special consultations on this same bill in order to hear the Commission d'accès à l'information on 13 May 2008. The report contains certain amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 989-20080520)

Mr. Simard (Richelieu), committee chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Culture, which, on 18 March and on 8 and 9 April 2008, heard the Conseil supérieur de la langue française, the Office québécois de la langue française and the Commission de tononymie du Québec within the framework of an order of surveillance of public bodies. The Committee also held deliberative meetings on 19 June 2007 and on 18 March, 8 April and 14 May 2008. This report contains 8 recommendations.

(Sessional Paper No. 990-20080520)

Presenting Petitions

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

The abstract of a petition respecting access to rehabilitation services for the mentally impaired and access to support services for their families in Les Chenaux Regional County Municipality, and signed by 98 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 991-20080520)

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:

Copy of an open letter, dated 19 May 2008, addressed to Mr. François Legault, Member for the Electoral Division of Rousseau, by Mr. Paul J. Massicotte, owner of Attractions Hippiques, concerning the contract granted to this business by the Government of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 992-20080520)

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, Mr. Gautrin (Verdun), and Mr. Desrochers (Mirabel) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the Journée nationale des Patriotes, which was held on 19 May.

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. Caire (La Peltrie), Mr. Couillard, Minister of Health and Social Services, and Mrs. Harel (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Autism Month in Québec.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

Mr. Proulx (Trois-Rivières) and Mr. Curzi (Borduas) jointly moved a motion concerning the Bouchard-Taylor Commission report; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

— the Committee on Institutions, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 69, An Act to amend the Election Act and other legislative provisions;

— the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to give clauseby-clause consideration to Bill 55, An Act to again amend the Highway Safety Code and other legislative provisions.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 143, Mr. Chagnon, Second Vice-President, gave the following notice:

— the Committee on Social Affairs shall hold a meeting to hear the Corporation d'urgences-santé.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. Chagnon, Second Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Wednesday, 21 May 2008, during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, a debate will be held on the motion by Mr. Legault (Rousseau).

This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly ask the Auditor General of Québec to establish, in a special report, the actual budget balance as at 31 March 2007, in relation to Bill 85, An Act to amend the Balanced Budget Act and other legislative provisions.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 298, Mr. Chagnon, Second Vice-President, informed the Assembly that the interpellation scheduled for Friday, 23 May 2008, during which Mrs. Roy (Lotbinière) would question Mr. Dupuis, Minister of Public Security, on "the state of public security in Québec", will be held on Monday, 26 May 2008.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Report Stage

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Public Finance on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 64, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Autorité des marchés financiers and other legislative provisions.

After debate thereon, the report was concurred in.

Passage in Principle

Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister of Finance, moved, —That Bill 80, An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 80 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Gautrin, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 80 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Public Finance.

The motion was carried.

At 4.30 o'clock p.m., at the request of Mr. Gautrin, Deputy Government House Leader, Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 6.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 6.00 o'clock p.m.

Debates Upon Adjournment

The Assembly held a debate upon adjournment on a question by Mr. Lemay (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques) addressed to Mrs. James, Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities, about the Bouchard-Taylor Commission; Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, replaced the Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities for this debate.

At 6.14 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 21 May 2008, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

MICHEL BISSONNET

President