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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

## **Votes and Proceedings**

**of the Assembly**

**Tuesday, 18 March 2008 — No. 61**

**President of the National Assembly:  
Mr. Michel Bissonnet**

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**QUÉBEC**



The Assembly was called to order at 10.03 o'clock a.m.

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**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**Estimates of Expenditure**

*Interim Supply*

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 188, Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, moved that the Assembly give consideration to Interim Supply, pursuant to Standing Orders 280 and 281, according to the following terms and conditions:

THAT immediately after this motion is carried and when entering upon the Orders of the Day, after the Routine Proceedings, the Assembly resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole;

THAT for a period of 1 hour and 40 minutes, an exchange take place between the Minister of Health and Social Services and the Members sitting in opposition;

THAT the proceedings of the Assembly then be suspended until 2.00 o'clock p.m.;

THAT upon the resumption of proceedings, for a period of 1 hour and 10 minutes, an exchange take place between the Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports and the Members sitting in opposition;

THAT subsequently, for a period of 1 hour and 10 minutes, an exchange take place between the Minister of Families and the Members sitting in opposition;

THAT following this, for a period of 60 minutes, an exchange take place between the Chair of the Conseil du trésor and the Members sitting in opposition;

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THAT immediately thereafter, the question be put by the Chair of the Committee of the Whole for concurrence in one quarter of the Estimates of Expenditure for the 2008-2009 fiscal year;

THAT immediately thereafter, the Committee of the Whole report to the Assembly; and the question for concurrence in such report and that for passage of the consequent appropriation bill be put without debate, pursuant to the first paragraph of Standing Order 281;

THAT finally, pursuant to the second paragraph of Standing Order 281, on a motion that the Government House Leader shall be permitted to move without notice and that may not be debated, the estimates of expenditure, save those for the National Assembly, be referred for consideration to the Standing Committees;

THAT the opening statements for each of the exchanges be limited to 5 minutes for each parliamentary group;

THAT the President of the Assembly or the Chair of the Committee of the Whole may suspend proceedings at any time;

THAT, notwithstanding Standing Order 20, the Assembly or the Committee of the Whole may continue its proceedings until it has voted on the appropriation bill;

THAT suspension of the proceedings may be moved without notice at any time by a Minister or a Deputy Government House Leader, that such motion not be amended or debated and that the question on such motion be put immediately without recorded division;

THAT this motion have precedence over any incompatible provisions in the Standing Orders;

THAT this motion become an order of the Assembly.

The motion was carried.

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At 10.06 o'clock a.m., Mr. Chagnon, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

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The proceedings resumed at 10.12 o'clock a.m.

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*Consideration in Committee of the Whole*

The Committee of the Whole entered upon the consideration of Interim Supply for the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

With the permission of Mr. Chagnon, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, Mrs. Harel (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) tabled the following:

A table, prepared by the Comité régional des associations pour la déficience intellectuelle, showing the distribution, throughout Québec, of appropriations allocated to support individuals with an intellectual deficiency and individuals who have family members with an intellectual deficiency.

(Sessional Paper No. 838-20080318)

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At 11.50 o'clock a.m., pursuant to the order adopted previously, Mr. Chagnon, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, suspended the proceedings until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 2.02 o'clock p.m.

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Moment of reflection

**ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

**Presenting Papers**

Mr. President tabled the following:

Volume III of the report from the Auditor General to the National Assembly for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, accompanied by a brochure on the highlights of the said report;

(Sessional Paper No. 839-20080318)

The following Decisions from the Office of the National Assembly, dated 13 March 2008:

Decision 1411 concerning the regulation to amend the regulation respecting the remuneration and the 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. 840-20080318)

Decision 1412 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. 841-20080318)

Decision 1413 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. 842-20080318)

Copy of the notice of motion by Mr. Gendron (Abitibi-Ouest) which will be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* of Wednesday, 19 March 2008, under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.

(Sessional Paper No. 843-20080318)

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### **Presenting Reports from Committees**

Mrs. Thériault (Anjou), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Institutions, which, on 4, 5 6 and 12 March 2008, held public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 50, An Act to amend the Professional Code and other legislative provisions in the field of mental health and human relations.

(Sessional Paper No. 844-20080318)

### **Oral Questions and Answers**

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

At the request of Mr. President, Mr. Charest, Premier, withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mr. Couillard, Minister of Health and Social Services, tabled the following:

A copy of a letter, dated 17 March 2008, addressed to Mr. Roger Paquet, Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services, by Mr. Denis R. Roy, Executive Director of the Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal (CHUM), concerning the emergency rooms of the CHUM.

(Sessional Paper No. 845-20080318)

At the request of Mr. President, Mr. Roux (Arthabaska) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

### **Motions Without Notice**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, Mrs. St-Pierre, Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, and Mrs. Leblanc (Deux-Montagnes) jointly moved:

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THAT the National Assembly congratulate Mrs. Monique Leroux on becoming the first woman in 108 years of history to be appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Desjardins Group, that is, the most successful cooperative group in Québec.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. Courchesne, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, Mr. Benjamin (Berthier) and Mr. Curzi (Borduas) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the sixtieth anniversary of the Mouvement national des Québécoises et des Québécois and convey its thanks for the Mouvement's substantial contribution to the expression and influence of Québec culture.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Lemay (Sainte-Marie-Saint-Jacques), Mrs. James, Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities, and Mrs. Morissette (Charlesbourg) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark St. Patrick's Day, the Irish holiday celebrated yesterday.

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. Curzi (Borduas), Mrs. St-Pierre, Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, and Mr. Riedl (Iberville) jointly moved:

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THAT the National Assembly mark the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Dictée des Amériques;

THAT it congratulate the 23 Québec residents who, among 150 spelling champions from 60 African, American, Asian, European and Oceanian countries, took part in the international final competition of the Dictée, held at the National Assembly;

THAT it offer its most sincere congratulations to all the participants in and to the winners of the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of the Dictée.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

- the Committee on Institutions, to continue its general consultation with reference to the evaluation report of the *Act to reform the Code of Civil Procedure* and the report on strategic lawsuits against public participation (SLAPP);
- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 62, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Régie des installations olympiques.

Mr. Picard, Third Vice-President, gave the following notice:

- the Committee on Culture shall hear the chairman of the Conseil supérieur de la langue française.

At 2.56 o'clock p.m., Mr. Picard, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

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The proceedings resumed at 3.08 o'clock p.m.

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## **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

### **Estimates of Expenditure**

#### *Interim Supply*

#### *Consideration in Committee of the Whole*

Pursuant to the order adopted previously, the Committee of the Whole continued its consideration of Interim Supply for the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

With the permission of Mr. Picard, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, Mrs. Courchesne, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, tabled the following:

A document, dated 13 June 2007, entitled "Ajout de ressources de 100 M\$ pour les élèves à risque et les élèves handicapés ou en difficulté d'adaptation ou d'apprentissage".

(Sessional Paper No. 846-20080318)

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At 4.18 o'clock p.m., Mr. Picard, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

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The proceedings resumed at 4.26 o'clock p.m.

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The Committee of the Whole continued its consideration of Interim Supply for the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

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At 5.37 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Houda-Pepin, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

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The proceedings resumed at 5.53 o'clock p.m.

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The consideration being concluded, Interim Supply for the 2008-2009 fiscal year was concurred in, following a recorded division (standing vote).

Mr. Chairman of the Committee of the Whole reported to the Assembly as follows:

The Committee of the Whole has granted on division a quarter of Interim Supply in a sum not to exceed \$13,883,962,975.00 to defray a part of the expenditure estimates of Québec tabled in the National Assembly for the 2008-2009 fiscal year not otherwise provided for.

The report was concurred in.

Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Chair of the Conseil du trésor and Minister responsible for Government Administration, moved:

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THAT Bill 76, Appropriation Act No. 1, 2008-2009, be brought before the Assembly;

THAT this Bill do pass in principle;

THAT this Bill do pass.

The question was put on this motion; a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **39** in Appendix)

Yeas: **79**   Nays: **32**   Abstentions: **0**

Accordingly, Bill 76, Appropriation Act No. 1, 2008-2009, was passed.

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, moved that the Estimates of Expenditure for the 2008-2009 fiscal year, save those for the National Assembly, be referred for consideration to the Standing Committees.

The motion was carried.

### **Debates Upon Adjournment**

The Assembly held three debates upon adjournment:

- the first, on a question by Mr. Desrochers (Mirabel) to Mrs. Courchesne, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, about snow removal on the roofs of certain schools;
- the second, on a question by Mr. Simard (Richelieu) to Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Chair of the Conseil du trésor, about Mr. Marc A. Fortier's resignation from the Société immobilière du Québec;
- the third, on a question by Mr. Roux (Arthabaska) to Mr. Béchard, Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife, about the Chantiers Chibougamau company.

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At 7.45 o'clock p.m., Mr. Chagnon, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 19 March 2008, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

**MICHEL BISSONNET**

*President*

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**APPENDIX**

**Recorded Divisions**

On the motion by Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, for the introduction, passage in principle and passage of Bill 76, Appropriation Act No. 1, 2008-2009:

**(Division No. 39)**

**YEAS - 79**

Arcand	Deschamps	Laporte	Proulx
Auclair	Desrochers	Leblanc	Reid
Auger	Diamond	L'Écuyer	Riedl
Bachand	Domingue	[Pontiac]	Roux
Beauchamp	Dorion	L'Écuyer	Roy
Beaupré	Dubourg	[Saint-Hyacinthe]	[Montmagny-L'Islet]
Béchar	Dumont	Lessard	Roy
Benjamin	Fournier	Lévesque	[Lotbinière]
Bergman	Francoeur	MacMillan	Roy Verville
Blais	Gagnon-Tremblay	Marcoux	Schneeberger
Bonnardel	Gautrin	Marsan	Sklavounos
Boulet	Gingras	Ménard	St-Pierre
Caire	Gonthier	Merlini	Taillon
Camirand	Gosselin	Méthé	Thériault
Charbonneau	Grandmont	Morin	Therrien
Charest	Grondin	Normandeau	Tomassi
Charlebois	Hamad	Ouellette	Vallée
Copeman	James	Ouimet	Vallières
Couillard	Jérôme-Forget	Paquet	Whissell
Courchesne	Kelley	Paradis	
Damphousse	Lapointe	Pelletier	
De Martin	[Groulx]	[Chapleau]	

**NAYS - 32**

Arseneau	Deslières	Lapointe	Pagé
Bédard	Dionne-Marsolais	[Crémazie]	Pelletier
Bergeron	Drainville	Legault	[Rimouski]
Bérubé	Dufour	Lelièvre	Richard
Bouchard	Ferland	Lemay	Simard
Cloutier	Gaudreault	Malavoy	Trottier
Côté	Gendron	Maltais	Wawanoloath
Cousineau	Girard	Marois	
Curzi	Harel	Morasse	