



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Thursday, 13 March 2008 — No. 60

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

QUÉBEC

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Debates on Reports from Committees

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned on 12 March 2008, on the consideration of the report from the Committee on Public Administration, which heard the Deputy Minister of Finance, the Controller of Finance and Government Accounting, and the Secretary of the Conseil du trésor within the framework of the order of the National Assembly relating to the application of the *Balanced Budget Act*. This report contains recommendations.

The debate expired and, pursuant to Standing Order 95, no question was put.

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mrs. Beauchamp, Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks, moved, —That Bill 61, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Société des établissements de plein air du Québec and the Act respecting the Société québécoise de récupération et de recyclage, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 61 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, moved that Bill 61 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment.

The motion was carried.

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Passage in Principle

Mr. Couillard, Minister of Health and Social Services, informed the Assembly that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor recommended to its consideration Bill 67, An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning health, and then moved, —That this Bill do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 67 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, moved that Bill 67 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Social Affairs.

The motion was carried.

At 11.18 o'clock a.m., at the request of Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, Mr. Picard, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 2.04 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Presenting Papers

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, on behalf of Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, transmitted the following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, which Mr. President communicated to the Assembly:

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OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor of Québec transmits to the Assembly, in accordance with the provisions of section 54 of the Constitution Act, 1867, the Estimates of Expenditure for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2009, and recommends the said Estimates to the consideration of this Assembly.

Québec City, 12 March 2008

Pierre Duchesne

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, on behalf of Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, laid upon the Table:

The Estimates of Expenditure for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2009, Volumes I, II, III and IV, in French and English.

(Sessional Paper No. 824-20080313)

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT, pursuant to Standing Order 280, the Estimates of Expenditure for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2009 be referred to a Committee of the Whole for consideration and for concurrence in one quarter of the said Estimates.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, on behalf of Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister of Finance, then tabled the following:

The report of the Controller of Finance relating to the special warrant adopted on 20 February 2008, pursuant to the *Financial Administration Act*.

(Sessional Paper No. 825-20080313)

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Presenting Petitions

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

The abstract of a petition respecting the application of a section of the *Animal Health Protection Act* by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and signed by 354 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 826-20080313)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 53 and 59, Mr. Morin (Beauce-Sud) tabled the following:

Copy of a letter, dated 25 February 2008, sent by Mrs. Guylaine Marchand, sponsorship director at Loto-Québec, to Mr. André Gagné, organizer of Woodstock en Beauce, concerning the request for sponsorship of the event.

(Sessional Paper No. 827-20080313)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 53 and 59, Mrs. Roy (Lotbinière) tabled the following:

A document, dated 29 October 2007, issued by Mr. Jocelyn Turcotte of the Public Security Minister's office, entitled "Plan gangs de rue"

(Sessional Paper No. 828-20080313)

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Whissell, Minister of Labour, Mr. Therrien (Terrebonne) and Mr. Cousineau (Bertrand) jointly moved:

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THAT the National Assembly express its deepest condolences to the friends and families who lost a loved one in a roof collapse yesterday in Morin Heights, in the riding of Argenteuil;

THAT it thank all of the responders who joined forces to help the community.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. De Martin (Huntingdon), Mr. Lessard, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly take the opportunity, during Canadian Agricultural Safety Week, which is held from 12 to 18 March 2008, to recall the importance of working prudently in order to avoid work-related injuries and accidents.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. Lapointe (Groulx), Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister of Finance, and Mr. Bédard (Chicoutimi) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly take the opportunity, during World Consumer Rights Day, which will be held next 15 March, to recall the importance of recognizing the rights of consumers especially when basic needs are involved.

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. Légaré (Vanier), Mrs. Courchesne, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, and Mr. Bérubé (Matane) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the outstanding performance of Québec boxer Lucian Bute last 29 February, who kept his title of World Super-Middleweight Champion of the International Boxing Federation and his perfect record of 22 victories including 18 KOs.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- 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).

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Mr. President gave the following notices:

- the Committee on Culture shall hold a preliminary deliberative meeting and then shall hear the chairman of the Conseil supérieur de la langue française, within the framework of the examination of the orientation, activities and management of the Conseil;
- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment shall hold a deliberative meeting to establish the observations, recommendations and conclusions of the Committee following the special consultations and public hearings on residual waste management in Québec.

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Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. President informed the Assembly that on Friday, 21 March 2008, Mrs. Roy (Lotbinière) would question Mr. Dupuis, Minister of Public Security, during an interpellation on "the state of public security in Québec".

At 3.02 o'clock p.m., at the request of Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, Mr. President suspended the proceedings until 4.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 4.09 o'clock p.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Budget Speech

Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister of Finance, delivered the Budget Speech.

During her address, by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister of Finance, laid the following documents upon the Table:

The 2008-2009 Budget Speech, accompanied by the document entitled "The Budget at a Glance";

(Sessional Paper No. 829-20080313)

The Budget Plan for 2008-2009;

(Sessional Paper No. 830-20080313)

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Additional information on the 2008-2009 budgetary measures;
(Sessional Paper No. 831-20080313)

The summary of consolidated financial transactions for the 2007-2008 fiscal year;
(Sessional Paper No. 832-20080313)

The summary of consolidated financial transactions forecast for the 2008-2009 fiscal year;
(Sessional Paper No. 833-20080313)

The consolidated financial transactions forecast for the 2008-2009 fiscal year;
(Sessional Paper No. 834-20080313)

The consolidated non-budgetary transactions forecast for the 2008-2009 fiscal year;
(Sessional Paper No. 835-20080313)

The budgetary revenue of the Consolidated Revenue Fund forecast for the 2008-2009 fiscal year;
(Sessional Paper No. 836-20080313)

The budgetary expenses of the Consolidated Revenue Fund forecast for the 2008-2009 fiscal year.
(Sessional Paper No. 837-20080313)

At the end of her address, Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister of Finance, moved,
-That this Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government.

Mr. Taillon (Chauveau) commented on behalf of the Official Opposition.

Mr. Legault (Rousseau) then commented on behalf of the Second Opposition Group.

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Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Tuesday, 18 March 2008, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, at 5.51 o'clock p.m., Mr. President adjourned the Assembly until Tuesday, 18 March 2008, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

MICHEL BISSONNET

President