



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Friday, 14 December 2007 — No. 55

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

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 10.07 o'clock a.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Ministers

Mrs. St-Pierre, Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, made a statement about the future of TV5 Monde.

Mr. Benjamin (Berthier) commented on behalf of the Official Opposition.

Mr. Simard (Richelieu) commented on behalf of the Second Opposition Group.

Introduction of Bills

Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister of Finance, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

64 An Act to amend the Act respecting the Autorité des marchés financiers and other legislative provisions

The motion was carried.

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Mr. Dupuis, Minister of Public Security, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

66 An Act respecting the Laboratoire de sciences judiciaires et de
 médecine légale

The motion was carried.

Mr. Pelletier, Minister responsible for the Reform of Democratic Institutions, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

69 An Act to amend the Election Act and other legislative
 provisions

The motion was carried.

Mr. Lessard, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

72 Crop Health Protection Act

The motion was carried.

Presenting Papers

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, tabled the following:

Answer to Written Question No. 2 concerning the Kyoto Protocol, placed on the
Order Paper and Notices of 5 December 2007 by Mr. Turp (Mercier).
(Sessional Paper No. 754-20071214)

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Mrs. Gagnon-Tremblay, Minister of International Relations, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Office (formerly Agence) Québec Wallonie Bruxelles pour la jeunesse, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2006.

(Sessional Paper No. 755-20071214)

Mr. Hamad, Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity, tabled the following:

The actuarial analysis of the Québec Pension Plan as at 31 December 2006.

(Sessional Paper No. 756-20071214)

Mrs. Blais, Minister responsible for Seniors, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Conseil des aînés, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 757-20071214)

Mr. Whissell, Minister of Labour, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Commission de l'équité salariale, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 758-20071214)

Presenting Reports from Committees

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

A report from the Committee on Public Finance, which met on 13 December 2007 for clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 52, An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning pension plans in the public sector. The report contains certain amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 759-20071214)

Mrs. Morissette (Charlesbourg), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy, which met on 12 and 13 December 2007 for clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 39, An Act to amend the Forest Act and other legislative provisions. The report does not contain any amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 760-20071214)

Presenting Petitions

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

The abstract of a petition respecting the maintaining of retirees' living standards, and signed by 1632 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 761-20071214)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mrs. Roy (Lotbinière) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the construction of bicycle lanes on Highway 132 in Saint-Antoine-de-Tilly, and signed by 164 citizens of Saint-Antoine-de-Tilly and the surrounding areas.

(Sessional Paper No. 762-20071214)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mr. Cloutier (Lac-Saint-Jean) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the transformation of tax credits for new graduates working in remote resource regions, and signed by 326 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 763-20071214)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

At the request of Mr. President, Mrs. Normandeau, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Regions, withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

At the request of Mr. President, Mr. Proulx, Official Opposition House Leader, withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 53 and 59, Mr. Legault (Rousseau) tabled the following:

A document concerning the purchase of securities and options by head officers of The Montreal Exchange.

(Sessional Paper No. 764-20071214)

At the request of Mr. President, Mr. Riedl (Iberville) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

At the request of Mr. President, Mr. Lessard, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, the Assembly immediately took Notices of Proceedings in Committees.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 143.1 and 145, Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, convened the following Committee:

- the Committee on Public Administration, to hold public hearings with the following, in the order given: the Deputy Minister of Finance; the Controller of Finance and Government Accounting; and the Secretary of the Conseil du trésor.

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Dubourg (Viau), Mr. Légaré (Vanier) and Mr. Bérubé (Matane) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the performance of Québec boxer Joachim Alcine, who, five months after having been crowned, was able to keep his WBA world champion super middle-weight title and maintain a perfect record of thirty matches won and none lost.

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, Mrs. Normandeau, Deputy Premier and Minister of Municipal Affairs and Regions, Mr. Camirand (Prévost) and Mr. Gendron (Abitibi-Ouest) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly ask the Federal Government to permanently transfer, while respecting the terms and conditions of the current agreement, the Federal excise tax on gasoline for the purpose of financially supporting Québec's cities and municipalities in their efforts to renew and develop their infrastructures.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 84 and 185, Mrs. Lapointe (Groulx), Mrs. Normandeau, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Regions, Mr. Gendron (Abitibi-Ouest) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the 50th anniversary of the city of Rosemere, which distinguishes itself through its unique pastoral and picturesque setting that has earned it several honorary awards throughout the years, including the provincial first prize of "Ville fleurie" in 1993 and the award of excellency for landscape architecture in 1998;

THAT its status of pioneer city in environment protection also be recognized as it is one of the first cities to have controlled the use of pesticides on its territory.

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 Transportation and the Environment, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 42, An Act to amend the Highway Safety Code and the Regulation respecting demerit points;
- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 41, An Act to foster transparency in the sale of gasoline and diesel fuel, and to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 39, An Act to amend the Forest Act and other legislative provisions.

And, by leave of the Assembly to set aside section 40 of the Rules for the Conduct of Proceedings respecting Private Bills, Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, convened:

- the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, to hear the interested parties and give clause-by-clause consideration to Private Bill 206, An Act respecting Ville de Saint-Jérôme, and Private Bill 204, An Act respecting Ville de Lévis.

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Mr. Chagnon, Second Vice-President, gave the following notice:

- the Committee on Public Administration shall hold a deliberative meeting to prepare observations, conclusions and recommendations within the framework of the order of the National Assembly relating to the application of the *Balanced Budget Act*.

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 32, An Act to promote rigorous management of public infrastructures and large projects, together with the amendment handed in by Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor.

The amendment was declared in order.

The amendment was carried.

The report, as amended, was concurred in.

Passage

Mr. Whissell, Minister of Labour, moved the passage of Bill 58, An Act to amend the Act respecting labour standards with regard to absences and leave.

A debate arose thereon.

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During the debate, Mr. Whissell, Minister of Labour, moved that Bill 58 be referred to a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of an amendment that he specified.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Whissell, Minister of Labour, moved that the Assembly then resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole.

The motion was carried.

The amendment by Mr. Whissell, Minister of Labour, was considered and then carried in Committee of the Whole.

Bill 58, as amended, was reported to the Assembly, which concurred in the Committee's report.

The debate continued on the motion for the passage of Bill 58, An Act to amend the Act respecting labour standards with regard to absences and leave.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried and, accordingly, Bill 58 was passed.

Passage

Mr. Dupuis, Minister of Justice, moved the passage of Bill 11, An Act respecting the forfeiture, administration and appropriation of proceeds and instruments of unlawful activities.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and, accordingly, Bill 11 was passed.

Report Stage

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Institutions on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 46, An Act to amend the Professional Code and the Chartered Accountants Act in respect of public accountancy.

After debate thereon, the report was concurred in.

Passage in Principle

Mr. Dupuis, Minister of Public Security, moved, —That Bill 60, An Act to amend the Police Act, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 60 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Pelletier, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 60 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Institutions.

The motion was carried.

Passage

Mr. Dupuis, Minister of Justice, moved the passage of Bill 45, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Barreau du Québec and the Professional Code (*modified title*).

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and, accordingly, Bill 45 was passed.

Passage in Principle

Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister of Finance, moved, —That Bill 44, An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act and the Act respecting the Ministère des Finances, do now pass in principle.

A debate arose thereon.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 21, the proceedings continued beyond 1.00 o'clock p.m.

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The debate being concluded, the question was put on this motion; a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

At the request of Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, the division was deferred until Routine Proceedings on the next sitting day.

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Tuesday, 18 December 2007, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, at 1.40 o'clock p.m., Mr. Chagnon, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Tuesday, 18 December 2007, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

MICHEL BISSONNET

President