



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 24 October 2007 — No. 30

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

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 10.04 o'clock a.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition

Mrs. Morasse (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue) moved:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec demand that the Government immediately put in place the necessary measures to adequately support all workers having permanently or temporarily lost their jobs as well as the necessary measures to cope with possible job losses in our forest regions linked to the upcoming forest industry consolidation announced by the Minister for next December.

Following a meeting with the House leaders, Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, announced that she had apportioned the speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this motion as follows: 10 minutes shall be allotted for a reply by its mover; the remaining time will be distributed among the parliamentary groups, who will have a time envelope that corresponds to the proportion of seats they respectively have in the Assembly; any time not used by a group will be transferred to the two other groups, in accordance with the proportion of seats they hold; and individual addresses shall not be limited.

A debate arose on the motion by Mrs. Morasse (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue).

At the end of his address, Mr. Béchar, Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife, moved the following amendment:

24 October 2007

THAT the motion by the Member for Rouyn-Noranda-Témiscamingue be amended as follows: By replacing, in the first line, the words "demand that" by the word "ask"; in the second and third lines, by removing the words "immediately put in place the necessary measures"; in the fourth line, replace the words "as well as the" by the word "by" and replace the word "necessary" by the word "appropriate"; and remove the following words in the fifth, sixth and seventh lines: "to cope with possible job losses in our forest regions linked to the upcoming forest industry consolidation announced by the Minister for next December".

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec ask the Government to adequately support all workers having permanently or temporarily lost their jobs by appropriate measures.

The debate continued on the main motion by Mrs. Morasse (Rouyn-Noranda-Témiscamingue) and on the amendment motion by Mr. Béchar, Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife, subject to the receivability of the latter, which Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, took under advisement.

Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, rendered the following decision regarding the receivability of the amendment motion:

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

The motion to amend is not receivable.

The motion under discussion contains two components: one concerns help to be given to forest workers who have already lost their jobs and the other concerns help to workers affected by possible job losses in this sector.

The amendment completely sets aside the second component of the motion, which is not permitted by jurisprudence. Furthermore, by setting aside this component, the motion by the Minister no longer specifies which workers are referred to since it proposes to adequately support all workers, while the main motion concerns forest region workers.

24 October 2007

The debate continued on the motion by Mrs. Morasse (Rouyn-Noranda-Témiscamingue).

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

At the request of Mr. Gauthrin, Deputy Government House Leader, the division was deferred until Routine Proceedings later in the sitting.

At 11.56 o'clock a.m., Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 2.05 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Presenting Papers

Mr. Charest, Premier, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Conseil permanent de la jeunesse, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 403-20071024)

24 October 2007

Mrs. Normandeau, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Regions, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Ministère des Affaires municipales et des Régions, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007;

(Sessional Paper No. 404-20071024)

The annual management report of the Régie du logement, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 405-20071024)

Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister of Finance, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Institut de la statistique du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007;

(Sessional Paper No. 406-20071024)

The annual report of the Bureau de décision et de révision en valeurs mobilières, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007;

(Sessional Paper No. 407-20071024)

The annual report of the Autorité des marchés financiers, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 408-20071024)

Mr. Couillard, Minister of Health and Social Services, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Commissaire à la santé et au bien-être, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 409-20071024)

Mrs. Courchesne, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports and Minister of Families, tabled the following:

24 October 2007

The annual management report of the Institut de tourisme et d'hôtellerie du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 30 June 2007;

(Sessional Paper No. 410-20071024)

The annual management report of the Ministère de la Famille et des Aînés, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 411-20071024)

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, on behalf of Mr. Dupuis, Minister of Justice, tabled the following:

The 35th annual management report of the Commission des services juridiques, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 412-20071024)

Mrs. James, Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities, tabled the following:

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

(Sessional Paper No. 413-20071024)

Presenting Reports from Committees

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

A report from the Committee on Culture, which met on 23 October 2007 for clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 8, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles. The report contains certain amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 414-20071024)

24 October 2007

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

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

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

Copy of a letter, dated 19 September 2007, addressed to Arnstein Sletmoe, of Norsk Hydro, by Heinz Schimmelbusch, of AMG Advanced Metallurgical Group N.V., concerning the Bécancour Magnésium plant.

(Sessional Paper No. 415-20071024)

At the request of Mr. President, Mr. Gendron, House Leader of the Second Opposition Group, withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

At the request of Mr. President, Mr. Béchard, Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife, withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

Deferred Divisions

The Assembly took the division, which had been deferred during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, on the motion by Mrs. Morasse (Rouyn-Noranda-Témiscamingue). This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec demand that the Government immediately put in place the necessary measures to adequately support all workers having permanently or temporarily lost their jobs as well as the necessary measures to cope with possible job losses in our forest regions linked to the upcoming forest industry consolidation announced by the Minister for next December.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 20 in Appendix)

Yeas: **69** Nays: **40** Abstentions: **0**

24 October 2007

Motions Without Notice

Pursuant to Standing Order 146, Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT, within the framework of the consideration of Bill 22, An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning the urban agglomeration of Montréal, the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain hold special consultations and public hearings on 6, 7, 8 and 13 November 2007 and that, for this purpose, it hear the following groups;

- Culture Montréal
- Regroupement des événements majeurs internationaux
- Conseil des chaînes de restaurants du Québec
- Regroupement pour le développement économique de Montréal
- ADISQ
- SDC du Vieux-Montréal
- Canadian Federation of Independent Business
- Association des restaurateurs du Québec
- Vision Montréal, represented by Mrs. Noushig Eloyan
- Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal
- Fédération des travailleurs du Québec (FTQ)
- Conseil central du Montréal Métropolitain (CSN)
- Association des pompiers de Montréal (Premiers répondants - Côte-Saint-Luc)
- Ville de Côte-Saint-Luc
- Association des municipalités de banlieue (Karin Marks)
- Ville de Montréal

24 October 2007

A period of 45 minutes shall be allotted for the opening statements, which time shall be shared equally among the parliamentary group forming the Government, the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition and the Second Opposition Group;

The presentation by each group shall last no more than 15 minutes and exchanges with members of the Committee shall last no more than 45 minutes, which time shall be shared among the members as follows: 17 minutes for the Members of the parliamentary group forming the Government; 15 minutes for the Members of the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; and 13 minutes for the Members of the Second Opposition Group;

A period of 45 minutes shall be allotted for the closing statements, which time shall be shared equally among the parliamentary group forming the Government, the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition and the Second Opposition Group;

The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Regions shall be a member of the said committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Riedl (Iberville), Mrs. Gagnon-Tremblay, Minister of International Relations, and Mr. Turp (Mercier) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark United Nations Day and, by the same token, the anniversary of the creation of this world forum.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

24 October 2007

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Couillard, Minister of Health and Social Services, Mr. Laporte (L'Assomption) and Mrs. Harel (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Foster Family Week.

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. Blais, Minister responsible for Seniors, Mrs. Grandmont (Masson) and Mr. Bergeron (Verchères) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark International Day of Older Persons, which was held on 1 October 2007, to pay tribute to the women and men who contributed to building today's Québec and who, with their great knowledge and precious life experience, continue to play an active role therein.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- the Committee on Public Finance, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 17, An Act to amend the Public Curator Act and the Act respecting the Ministère du Revenu, and to Bill 19, An Act to amend the Securities Act and other legislative provisions;
- the Committee on Institutions, to continue its public hearings within the framework of the general consultation on Bill 9, An Act respecting the safety of persons on certain premises and amending the Act respecting safety in sports.

24 October 2007

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

- the Committee on Public Administration shall hold a deliberative meeting to organize its proceedings and to make observations following the hearing with the Deputy Minister of Transport on the ministry's annual management report.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mr. Couillard, Minister of Health and Social Services, moved, —That Bill 24, An Act to amend the Act respecting prescription drug insurance, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 24 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Pelletier, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 24 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Social Affairs.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Bachand, Minister of Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade, moved, —That Bill 16, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Société du Centre des congrès de Québec and the Act respecting the Société du Palais des congrès de Montréal, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 16 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Pelletier, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 16 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Labour and the Economy.

The motion was carried.

24 October 2007

Mr. Pelletier, Deputy Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Thursday, 25 October 2007, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, at 4.11 o'clock p.m., Mr. Chagnon, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 25 October 2007, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

MICHEL BISSONNET

President

24 October 2007

APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion moved by Mrs. Morasse (Rouyn-Noranda-Témiscamingue) during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, concerning measures to support forest industry workers:

(Division No. 20)

YEAS - 69

Arseneau	Deslières	Harel	Morissette
Auger	Desrochers	Lapointe	Pagé
Beaupré	Diamond	<i>[Groulx]</i>	Pelletier
Bédard	Dionne-Marsolais	Lapointe	<i>[Rimouski]</i>
Benjamin	Domingue	<i>[Crémazie]</i>	Proulx
Benoit	Dorion	Laporte	Riedl
Bergeron	Doyer	Leblanc	Roy
Bérubé	Drainville	L'Écuyer	<i>[Lotbinière]</i>
Bonnardel	Dufour	<i>[Saint-Hyacinthe]</i>	Roy
Bouchard	Dumont	Légaré	<i>[Montmagny-L'Islet]</i>
Caire	Ferland	Legault	Roy Verville
Camirand	Francoeur	Lelièvre	Schneeberger
Charbonneau	Gaudreault	Lemay	Simard
Cloutier	Gendron	Lévesque	Taillon
Cousineau	Gingras	Malavoy	Therrien
Curzi	Girard	Maltais	Trottier
Damphousse	Gosselin	Méthé	Turp
De Martin	Grandmont	Morasse	Wawanoloath
Deschamps	Grondin	Morin	

NAYS - 40

Arcand	Copeman	Lessard	Sklavounos
Auclair	Couillard	MacMillan	St-Pierre
Bachand	Courchesne	Marcoux	Thériault
Beauchamp	Dubourg	Marsan	Tomassi
Béchar	Fournier	Ménard	Vallée
Bergman	Gautrin	Normandeau	Vallières
Blais	Gonthier	Ouellette	Whissell
Boulet	James	Ouimet	
Charest	Jérôme-Forget	Paquet	
Charlebois	Kelley	Pelletier	
Cholette	L'Écuyer	<i>[Chapleau]</i>	
	<i>[Pontiac]</i>	Reid	