



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Thursday, 18 October 2007 — No. 28

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

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 10.01 o'clock a.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mrs. St-Pierre, Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, moved, —That Bill 8, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 8 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, moved that Bill 8 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Culture.

The motion was carried.

At 10.17 o'clock a.m., at the request of Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, Mr. Chagnon, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

18 October 2007

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

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Introduction of Bills

Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

195 Québec Identity Act

The motion was carried.

Mr. Turp (Mercier) moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

196 Québec Constitution

The motion was carried.

Presenting Papers

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

The annual management report of the Ministère des Relations internationales, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 367-20071018)

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

The 2006-2007 annual reports with regard to the implementation of the complaints examination procedure and the improvement of services of the following health and social services agencies:

- Lanaudière; (Sessional Paper No. 368-20071018)
- Abitibi-Témiscamingue. (Sessional Paper No. 369-20071018)

The annual management reports, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007, of the following health and social services agencies:

- Lanaudière; (Sessional Paper No. 370-20071018)
- Abitibi-Témiscamingue. (Sessional Paper No. 371-20071018)

A volume containing the annual management report and the annual report on the implementation of the complaints examination procedure and the improvement of services of the Centre régional de santé et de services sociaux de la Baie-James for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 372-20071018)

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT, pursuant to section 392 of the *Act respecting health services and social services*, the 2006-2007 annual management reports of the Lanaudière and Abitibi-Témiscamingue health and social services agencies and of the Centre régional de santé et de services sociaux de la Baie-James be referred to the Committee on Social Affairs for consideration;

The Minister of Health and Social Services shall be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

This motion was carried.

18 October 2007

Mr. Béchard, Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife, tabled the following:

The activities report of the Agence de l'efficacité énergétique du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 373-20071018)

Mr. Pelletier, Minister responsible for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs, Aboriginal Affairs, Francophones within Canada, the Reform of Democratic Institutions and Access to Information, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Commission d'accès à l'information, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 374-20071018)

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

The report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Collapse of a Portion of the De La Concorde Overpass.

(Sessional Paper No. 375-20071018)

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

The activity report of the Conseil des services essentiels, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007;

(Sessional Paper No. 376-20071018)

The activities report of the Commissaire de l'industrie de la construction, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007;

(Sessional Paper No. 377-20071018)

The activities report of the Comité consultatif du travail et de la main-d'oeuvre, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 378-20071018)

18 October 2007

Mrs. St-Pierre, Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Commission de reconnaissance des associations d'artistes et des associations de producteurs, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007;

(Sessional Paper No. 379-20071018)

The annual management report of the Commission des biens culturels du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 380-20071018)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. L'Écuyer (Saint-Hyacinthe), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, which met on 17 October 2007 for clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 18, The Residential Swimming Pool Safety Act. The report contains one amendment to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 381-20071018)

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Curzi (Borduas) 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 15 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 382-20071018)

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

18 October 2007

The abstract of a petition respecting an increase in the number of ambulances and a change in the manner in which ambulance services are dispensed in Granby, and signed by 508 members of the Association québécoise de défense des droits des personnes retraitées et préretraitées.

(Sessional Paper No. 383-20071018)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

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

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, the Assembly immediately took Notices of Proceedings in Committees.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on the Government Sustainable Development Strategy.

18 October 2007

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Benoit (Montmorency), Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister of Finance, and Mr. Pelletier (Rimouski) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Financial Planning Month;

THAT it encourage all Quebecers to plan a strong financial future, a comfortable retirement, thanks to regular savings;

THAT it recall the importance of the role played by savings in the economy, especially at a time when savings made by Quebecers are almost nonexistent.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Bachand, Minister of Tourism, Mr. Gosselin (Jean-Lesage) and Mr. Pagé (Labelle) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the work of the regional tourist associations in promoting and developing the tourist industry in Québec, while also underlining the presence of their representatives today at the National Assembly.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Desrochers (Mirabel), Mrs. Courchesne, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, and Mrs. Malavoy (Taillon) jointly moved:

18 October 2007

THAT the National Assembly mark National School Safety Week, which is being held from 17 to 23 October, and that it encourage all Quebecers to be security conscious when approaching school buses.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 84 and 185, Mrs. Courchesne, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, Mr. Légaré (Vanier) and Mr. Bérubé (Matane) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the holding of Québec week celebrating community recreation centres, which is being held from 14 to 20 October, and that it pay tribute to their contribution which enables a great number of people to take an active role in the life of their community.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Couillard, Minister of Health and Social Services, Mr. Caire (La Peltrie) and Mr. Drainville (Marie-Victorin) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec mark Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. Lapointe (Crémazie), Mr. Hamad, Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity, and Mr. Dorion (Nicolet-Yamaska) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the 18th holding of the Nuit des sans-abris, which will be held next 19 October, simultaneously in 22 locations, in the form of a solidarity vigil;

18 October 2007

THAT the National Assembly also mark the extraordinary work of all persons and organizations who work with homeless people everywhere throughout Québec.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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

THAT the National Assembly mark Women's History Month in Canada and that it recall the key role women play in our society; as this year's theme celebrates immigrant women living in our country, that the National Assembly recognize the important contribution made by immigrant women in Québec's cultural diversity.

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 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;
- the Committee on Culture, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 8, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles.

18 October 2007

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. President rendered the following directive concerning the distribution of Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition and the distribution of interpellations:

DIRECTIVE FROM THE CHAIR

While taking into consideration the relative place occupied by each parliamentary group in opposition and the preponderant role played by the Official Opposition, Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition will be distributed in cycles of ten. Six will be granted to the Official Opposition and four will be granted to the Second Opposition Group. Motions will thus be distributed among the opposition groups in the following order: the first motion will be granted to the Official Opposition. The two opposition groups will then alternate, excepting as regards the fifth and sixth motions, which will be granted to the Official Opposition, subject to the following provisions.

During a sessional period, when the Assembly cannot hold a debate on an item placed under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition owing, for example, to an item placed under Business Having Precedence, the calendar will be modified accordingly. The group that should have moved a motion that day will be able to do so on the next occasion. However, if this next occasion coincides with a new sessional period, the Official Opposition will move this motion, since, as mentioned previously, the first item placed under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition of a sessional period is granted to the Official Opposition. When a modification will be made to the projected calendar, the Chair will table a new calendar in accordance with the aforementioned distribution criteria.

This distribution will also apply to interpellations.

Mr. President then tabled:

A table indicating the distribution of Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition (Wednesday motions) per cycle on the calendar;

(Sessional Paper No. 384-20071018)

A table indicating the distribution of interpellations per cycle on the calendar.

(Sessional Paper No. 385-20071018)

18 October 2007

Mr. Picard, Third Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Friday, 26 October 2007, Mr. Taillon (Chauveau) would question Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister of Finance, during an interpellation on "the crisis in the asset-backed commercial paper (ABCP) industry and its impact on the Government of Québec, government corporations and agencies under the authority of the Minister of Finance".

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister of Finance, moved, —That Bill 20, An Act to amend the Act respecting insurance, the Act respecting trust companies and savings companies and other legislative provisions, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 20 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Gauthrin, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 20 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Public Finance.

The motion was carried.

Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister of Finance, moved, —That Bill 19, An Act to amend the Securities Act and other legislative provisions, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 19 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Gauthrin, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 19 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Public Finance.

The motion was carried.

18 October 2007

At 4.04 o'clock p.m., at the request of Mr. Gauthrin, Deputy Government House Leader, Mr. Picard, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 4.45 o'clock p.m.

Debates Upon Adjournment

At 4.45 o'clock p.m., by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 309, the Assembly held two debates upon adjournment:

- the first, on a question by Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine) to Mr. Lessard, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, about the protection of agricultural land;
- the second, on a question by Mr. Grondin (Beauce-Nord) to Mrs. Boulet, Minister of Transport, about victim compensation following the collapse of the La Concorde overpass.

Mr. Gauthrin, Deputy Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Tuesday, 23 October 2007, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, at 5.09 o'clock p.m., Mr. Picard, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Tuesday, 23 October 2007, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

MICHEL BISSONNET

President