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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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FIRST SESSION

FORTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

## **Votes and Proceedings**

**of the Assembly**

**Wednesday, 23 March 2016 — No. 155**

**President of the National Assembly:  
Mr. Jacques Chagnon**

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**QUÉBEC**



The Assembly was called to order at 9.40 o'clock a.m.

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## **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

### **Statements by Members**

Mr. Drolet (Jean-Lesage) made a statement to underline the 30th anniversary of the organization Femmes actives de Giffard.

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Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) made a statement to underline Mr. Pierre-Olivier Ferry's career as a chef.

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Mr. Polo (Laval-des-Rapides) made a statement to pay tribute to Mrs. Huguette Turcotte, responsible for pastoral care at Le Quatre Cent seniors' residence.

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Mr. Laframboise (Blainville) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Jonathan Michaud for his involvement in a humanitarian cause in Haiti.

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Mr. Giguère (Saint-Maurice) made a statement to underline the 50th anniversary of the Club optimiste de Shawinigan-Sud.

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Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques) made a statement in support of organizations wishing to be consulted about the future of Maison de Radio-Canada in the Centre-Sud neighbourhood.

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Mrs. Anglade (Saint-Henri–Sainte-Anne) made a statement to underline Québec Retail Trade Week.

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Mrs. Samson (Iberville) made a statement to pay tribute to Québec's cider producers.

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Mr. Daoust (Verdun) made a statement to underline the 25th anniversary of the organization L'Ancre des Jeunes.

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Mr. Turcotte (Saint-Jean) made a statement to pay tribute to Mrs. Andrée Bouchard for her community involvement.

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At 9.51 o'clock a.m., Mr. Ouimet, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

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The proceedings resumed at 10.01 o'clock a.m.

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Moment of reflection

### **Presenting Papers**

Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, tabled the following:

Revenu Québec's plan for using public bodies' information files entitled "Plan d'utilisation des fichiers de renseignements des organismes publics de Revenu Québec – Mise à jour de février 2016".

(Sessional Paper No. 2048-20160323)

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Mr. Coiteux, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Land Occupancy, tabled the following:

The 2015–2020 strategic plan of the Commission municipale du Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 2049-20160323)

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

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 9 February 2016 by Mr. Charette (Deux-Montagnes) on reinjecting funds into Québec's education system;

(Sessional Paper No. 2050-20160323)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 10 February 2016 by Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) on building a gymnasium at the École Saint-Victor de Matane;

(Sessional Paper No. 2051-20160323)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 10 February 2016 by Mr. Jolin-Barrette (Borduas) on amending legislation governing vehicle exhaust systems;

(Sessional Paper No. 2052-20160323)

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The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 25 February 2016 by Mr. Lisée (Rosemont) on funding addiction intervention centres and reinstating last-resort financial assistance benefits for adults staying in such centres;  
(Sessional Paper No. 2053-20160323)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 8 March 2016 by Mr. Drolet (Jean-Lesage) on adopting measures designed to protect the Québec taxi industry;  
(Sessional Paper No. 2054-20160323)

The reply to a written question from Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques) on the “Programme d'action communautaire sur le terrain de l'éducation (PACTE)” – Question No. 152, *Order Paper and Notices* of 25 February 2016.  
(Sessional Paper No. 2055-20160323)

#### **Presenting Reports from Committees**

Mr. Pagé (Labelle), Committee Chair, tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources, which held public hearings on 16 and 17 March 2015 within the framework of special consultations on the farmland grabbing phenomenon. The report contains observations, conclusions and 5 recommendations.  
(Sessional Paper No. 2056-20160323)

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Mr. Picard (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière), Committee Chair, tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on Citizen Relations, which met on 23 February and on 8, 9, 10, 15, 16 and 17 March 2016 for clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 77, Québec Immigration Act. The report contains amendments to the bill.  
(Sessional Paper No. 2057-20160323)

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### **Presenting Petitions**

Mr. St-Denis (Argenteuil) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition on using existing rights-of-way and line undergrounding for the high-voltage Grand-Brûlé–Saint-Sauveur Supply Line, signed by 1,096 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 2058-20160323)

### **Oral Questions and Answers**

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

At the request of the President, Mrs. Roy (Montarville) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

### **Motions Without Notice**

Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia), together with Mr. Spénard (Beauce-Nord) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier), moved a motion concerning the appointment of the Anti-Corruption Commissioner; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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Mr. Paradis (Lévis), together with Mr. Lisée (Rosemont) and Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques), moved a motion concerning Pavillon Sainte-Marie de Saint-Jérôme; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Coiteux, Minister of Public Security, together with Mrs. Maltais (Taschereau), Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia), Mr. Spénard (Beauce-Nord) and Mrs. David (Gouin), moved:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec honour Mr. Cyrille Delâge, Coroner and Fire Investigation Commissioner for Québec City;

THAT it recognize the dedication and commitment of this ardent protector of human life renowned for contributing to fire safety development in Québec, who helped ensure that Quebecers are better protected;

THAT it highlight his near-fifty-year public protection career, during which the findings contained in his reports enabled firefighters to improve their response techniques, thereby helping reduce the risks inherent in their profession;

THAT it recall the Prix Hommage he was awarded on 16 February 2016, during the 20<sup>e</sup> Mérite québécois de la sécurité civile et incendie ceremony, for his remarkable career as both Fire Investigation Commissioner and Coroner;

THAT it convey its condolences to Mr. Delâge's family and friends.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

At the request of Mr. Ouimet, First Vice-President, the Assembly observed a minute of silence.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. David (Gouin), together with Mrs. Charlebois, Minister for Rehabilitation, Youth Protection, Public Health and Healthy Lifestyles, Mr. Lisée (Rosemont) and Mr. Paradis (Lévis), moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Québec Social Workers' Week, held from 20 to 26 March;

THAT it acknowledge the essential work done by more than 13,000 social workers, who provide services to all clienteles—children, families, people struggling with a wide range of problems—throughout Québec;

THAT it recognize that these men and women work skilfully and passionately under difficult conditions to improve people's living conditions and to fight social inequality;

THAT it recall that bad luck can strike any one of us and that, when it comes down to it, we are all vulnerable.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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

Mr. Sklavounos, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following committees:

- the Committee on Culture and Education, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 86, An Act to modify the organization and governance of school boards to give schools a greater say in decision-making and ensure parents' presence within each school board's decision-making body;

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- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 70, An Act to allow a better match between training and jobs and to facilitate labour market entry;
- the Committee on Institutions, to hold public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 64, Firearms Registration Act.

And by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 143, he convened the following committee:

- the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on the Green Paper on social acceptability entitled “Orientations du ministère de l’Énergie et des Ressources naturelles en matière d’acceptabilité sociale”.
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## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### Business Having Precedence

#### *Debate on the Budget Speech*

The Assembly entered upon the debate on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, that the Assembly approve the Government's budgetary policy.

At the end of his address, Mr. Marceau (Rousseau) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Liberal Government for its lack of an economic policy, which has resulted in stagnating private-sector investments, an unrelenting burden on families and the Government's reneging on its promise to create 250,000 jobs.

The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, and on the motion stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), subject to the receivability of this motion.

At the end of his address, Mr. Bonnardel (Granby) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Liberal Government for having increased every Québec citizen's tax burden by an average of \$750 since the beginning of its term in office.

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Following a meeting with the House leaders, Mr. Ouimet, First Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this debate: 6 hours 26 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government, including the Budget Speech; 3 hours 48 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition, including the comments made by its representative on 17 March 2016 and his address during today's proceedings; 2 hours 37 minutes to the Second Opposition Group, including the comments made by its representative on 17 March 2016 and his address during today's proceedings; 30 minutes to the independent Members belonging to Québec solidaire, and 7 minutes 30 seconds to the independent Member for Arthabaska. Within this framework, any time not used by the independent Members belonging to Québec solidaire or by the Member for Arthabaska shall be redistributed among the parliamentary groups in the proportions established above and any time not used by a parliamentary group shall be redistributed among the parliamentary groups in the same proportions. Lastly, individual addresses shall not be limited.

The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau) and Mr. Bonnardel (Granby), subject to the receivability of these motions.

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At 1.00 o'clock p.m., Mr. Ouimet, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 3.03 o'clock p.m.

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*Debate on the Budget Speech*

The Assembly continued the debate on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, that the Assembly approve the Government's budgetary policy, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau) and Mr. Bonnardel (Granby), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of his address, Mr. Khadir (Mercier) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec severely censure the Liberal Government for its 2016–2017 budget and its \$2 billion surplus paid in full into the Generations Fund, which keep Québec in a permanent state of austerity and prevent adequate funding of public services, in particular those of the health and social services network.

The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Bonnardel (Granby) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of his address, Mr. Therrien (Sanguinet) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Liberal Government for its austerity policy, which jeopardizes Québec's economic growth.

The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Bonnardel (Granby), Mr. Khadir (Mercier) and Mr. Therrien (Sanguinet), subject to the receivability of these motions.

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

A copy of a document on a plan for a modern, efficient state entitled “Un pacte de responsabilité – Plan pour un état moderne et efficace, automne 2015”.  
(Sessional Paper No. 2059-20160323)

At the end of his address, Mr. Caire (La Peltre) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Liberal Government for lacking a credible plan to bridge the remaining \$890 million gap in 2017–2018 program spending.

The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Bonnardel (Granby), Mr. Khadir (Mercier), Mr. Therrien (Sanguinet) and Mr. Caire (La Peltre), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of his address, Mr. Lelièvre (Gaspé) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Liberal Government for the lack of concrete measures meeting the regions’ needs, especially those of the resource regions, in its 2016–2017 budget.

The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Bonnardel (Granby), Mr. Khadir (Mercier), Mr. Therrien (Sanguinet), Mr. Caire (La Peltre) and Mr. Lelièvre (Gaspé), subject to the receivability of these motions.

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At the end of his address, Mr. Lisée (Rosemont) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Liberal Government for having tabled a budget inspired by the practices of Stephen Harper's Conservative Government, which Quebecers rejected massively in the last federal general election.

The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Bonnardel (Granby), Mr. Khadir (Mercier), Mr. Therrien (Sanguinet), Mr. Caire (La Peltre), Mr. Lelièvre (Gaspé) and Mr. Lisée (Rosemont), subject to the receivability of these motions.

The debate was adjourned in the name of Mr. Kelley, Minister responsible for Native Affairs.

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At 6.00 o'clock p.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 24 March 2016 at 9.40 o'clock a.m.

#### **ROYAL ASSENT**

On Wednesday, 23 March 2016 at 9 o'clock a.m. in the Office of the Lieutenant-Governor, in the presence of Mr. Arseneault, Director of Parliamentary Proceedings and Delegate of the Secretary General, the Honourable J. Michel Doyon, Lieutenant-Governor of Québec, was pleased to assent to the following bill:

90      Appropriation Act No. 1, 2016–2017

**JACQUES CHAGNON**

*President*