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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

## **Votes and Proceedings**

**of the Assembly**

**Tuesday, 4 April 2006 — No. 11**

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

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**QUÉBEC**

The Assembly was called to order at 10.02 o'clock a.m.

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## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### Business Having Precedence

#### *Debate on the Budget Speech*

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned on 30 March 2006, on the motion by Mr. Audet, Minister of Finance, —That this Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government, as well as on the want of confidence motions moved by Mr. Legault (Rousseau), Mr. Lelièvre (Gaspé), Mrs. Papineau (Prévost) and Mr. Charbonneau (Borduas).

At the end of her speech, Mrs. Harel, Leader of the Official Opposition, moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly severely condemn the Liberal Government for not having respected its commitment to reduce the taxes of Quebecers.

And debate continuing on the motion by Mr. Audet, Minister of Finance, and on the want of confidence motions;

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

Copy of a letter, dated 22 March 2006, sent to Mr. Jean Charest, Premier, from Mr. Georges Banoub, Director General of PPG Canada Inc., concerning the increase in electricity tariffs.

(Sessional Paper No. 122-20060404)

At the request of Mr. Cusano, First Vice-President, Mr. Deslières (Beauharnois) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

**4 April 2006**

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At the end of his speech, Mr. Picard (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière) moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly severely condemn the Liberal Government for having presented a debt growth acceleration plan.

And debate continuing on the motion by Mr. Audet, Minister of Finance, and on the want of confidence motions;

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At 12.00 o'clock p.m., Mr. Cusano, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 2.06 o'clock p.m.

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Moment of reflection

## **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

### **Introduction of Bills**

Mrs. Gagnon-Tremblay, Minister of International Relations and Minister responsible for La Francophonie, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

- 4 An Act to amend the Act respecting the Office Québec-Amériques pour la jeunesse and the Act respecting the Office franco-québécois pour la jeunesse

The motion was carried.

**4 April 2006**

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

10     An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation

The motion was carried.

### **Presenting Papers**

Mrs. Gagnon-Tremblay, Minister of International Relations and Minister responsible for La Francophonie, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Office franco-québécois pour la jeunesse for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2004.

(Sessional Paper No. 123-20060404)

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

The annual report of Hydro-Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2005.

(Sessional Paper No. 124-20060404)

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Mr. President tabled the following:

The 2006-2007 budgetary estimates and the preliminary 2005-2006 financial statement of the Chief Electoral Officer of Québec;

(Sessional Paper No. 125-20060404)

The 2006-2007 budgetary estimates and the preliminary 2005-2006 financial statement of the Commission de la représentation électorale du Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 126-20060404)

**4 April 2006**

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### **Presenting Reports from Committees**

Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, which, on 28 February and on 7, 8, 9, 29 and 30 March 2006, held public hearings within the framework of special consultations and gave clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 137, An Act respecting reserved designations and added-value claims. The report contains certain amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 127-20060404)

### **Presenting Petitions**

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

The abstract of a petition respecting the maintaining of Norbois sawmill in Rivière-Pentecôte, and signed by 2174 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 128-20060404)

### **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. Bédard, Deputy Opposition House Leader, tabled the following:

Copy of a summons, dated 31 March 2006, addressed to Mrs. Agnès Maltais, Member for Taschereau, by M<sup>c</sup> Jacques Jeansonne, with Deslauriers Jeansonne law firm, further to comments she allegedly made on 30 March 2006 with regard to Mr. Jean Charest, Premier.

(Sessional Paper No. 129-20060404)

**4 April 2006**

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 53 and 59, Mrs. Dionne-Marsolais (Rosemont) tabled the following:

A document presented at the Canadian Energy Opportunities Seminar held in Houston, Texas, on 10 November 2005, concerning oil and gas exploration projects in the province of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 130-20060404)

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. Béchard, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following Committee:

- the Committee on Social Affairs, to continue its public hearings within the framework of a general consultation with reference to the document entitled "Guaranteeing Access: Meeting the Challenges of Equity, Efficiency and Quality".

#### **Motions Without Notice**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 185 and 209, Mrs. Courchesne, Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity, Mr. Girard (Gouin) and Mr. Légaré (Vanier) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Québec Adult Learners' Week, which is held from 1 to 7 April, to pay tribute to the determination of hundreds of thousands Québec adults who are committed to a training process aiming to improve their knowledge and skills for the greater benefit of Québec society.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

**4 April 2006**

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Mrs. Thériault, Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities, moved:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec mark National Refugee Awareness Day, which is celebrated on 4 April.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, the motion was carried.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 185 and 209, Mrs. Delisle, Minister for Youth Protection and Rehabilitation, Mrs. Charest (Rimouski) and Mrs. Roy (Lotbinière) jointly moved,

THAT the National Assembly mark Autism Month.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

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Mrs. Caron (Terrebonne) moved:

THAT, on this 4 April 2006, the National Assembly mark the 6<sup>th</sup> Invisible Work Awareness Day, organized by the AFEAS; that it recognize the considerable contribution made to Québec society by this unremunerated work carried out mainly by women, mothers and caregivers, for family members.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, the motion was carried.

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

Mr. Béchar, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following Committee:

**4 April 2006**

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- the Committee on Public Finance, to continue the debate on the Budget Speech.

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Mrs. Leblanc, Second Vice-President, gave the following notices:

- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment shall hold a deliberative meeting to take a decision on the proposal to carry out an order of surveillance of the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec;
- the Committee on Public Administration shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of examining the financial commitments of the ministries;
- the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain shall hold a deliberative meeting to follow up on the mandate relating to the examination of the orientation, activities and management of the Société d'habitation du Québec.

#### **Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly**

Mrs. Leblanc, Second Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Wednesday, 5 April 2006, during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, a debate will be held on the motion by Mr. Bergeron (Verchères). This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly ask the Premier of Québec to abandon his project to sell a part of Mont-Orford National Park to private interests.

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4 April 2006

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## ORDERS OF THE DAY

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The Assembly continued the debate on the motion by Mr. Audet, Minister of Finance, —That this Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government, as well as on the want of confidence motions moved by Mr. Legault (Rousseau), Mr. Lelièvre (Gaspé), Mrs. Papineau (Prévost), Mr. Charbonneau (Borduas), Mrs. Harel, Leader of the Official Opposition, and Mr. Picard (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière).

Thirteen hours and thirty minutes having elapsed since Mr. Audet, Minister of Finance, began the Budget Speech, the debate thereon was suspended in the Assembly to be resumed by the Committee on Public Finance, in compliance with the provisions of Standing Order 275.

### **Government Motions**

Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT, within the framework of the insurance contributions increase proposals made public by the SAAQ, the Committee on Transportation and the Environment hear the chairman and chief executive officer of the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec, according to the schedule indicated hereafter:

On Tuesday, 11 April 2006:

Beginning at 9.30 o'clock a.m., for a period of 30 minutes, the Committee shall hear the opening statements, which shall be distributed as follows: 15 minutes for the parliamentary group forming the Government and 15 minutes for the Members sitting in opposition;

**4 April 2006**

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Upon the conclusion of these statements, the Committee shall hear the chairman and chief executive officer of the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec for a period of 60 minutes;

THAT, at the end of this presentation, the Committee shall exchange views for a period of 60 minutes, which shall be shared equally among the Members of the parliamentary group forming the Government and the Members sitting in opposition;

Upon the conclusion of the Routine Proceedings, the Committee members shall continue their exchange with the chairman and chief executive officer of the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec for a period of 90 minutes, which shall be shared equally among the Members of the parliamentary group forming the Government and the Members sitting in opposition;

A period of 30 minutes shall be allotted for the closing statements, which time period shall be divided as follows: 15 minutes for the Members of the parliamentary group forming the Government and 15 minutes for the Members sitting in opposition.

Following a meeting with the House leaders, Mrs. Leblanc, Second Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this motion: 5 minutes shall be allotted for a reply by its mover and 5 minutes shall be set aside for the independent Members; the two parliamentary groups shall share equally the rest of the time allotted for this debate; within this framework, any time not used by a parliamentary group will be added to that of the other group, while any time not used by the independent Members may be redistributed equally amongst the parliamentary groups, it having been agreed that this apportionment may not be carried out before the time allotted to both parliamentary groups has entirely expired; and individual addresses shall not be limited.

And debate arising on the motion by Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader;

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried on division.

**4 April 2006**

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At 5.27 o'clock p.m., at the request of Mr. Béchard, Deputy Government House Leader, Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 6.00 o'clock p.m.

### **Debates Upon Adjournment**

At 5.59 o'clock p.m., the Assembly held a debate upon adjournment on a question by Mrs. Papineau (Prévost) addressed to Mr. Dupuis, Minister of Public Security, about the obsolescence of prisons and the lack of capital budget.

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At 6.11 o'clock p.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 5 April 2006, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

**MICHEL BISSONNET**

*President*