



---

---

# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

---

---

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

## **Votes and Proceedings**

**of the Assembly**

**Thursday, 7 April 2005 — No. 135**

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

---

**QUÉBEC**

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

---

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### Government Bills

#### *Passage in Principle*

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned on 23 March 2005, on the motion by Mr. Couillard, Minister of Health and Social Services, —That Bill 38, An Act respecting the Health and Welfare Commissioner, do now pass in principle.

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

At the request of Mrs. Lamquin-Éthier, Deputy Government House Leader, the division was deferred until Routine Proceedings later on in today's sitting

---

At 10.37 o'clock a.m., at the request of Mrs. Lamquin-Éthier, Deputy Government House Leader, Mrs. Leblanc, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

---

**7 April 2005**

---

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

\_\_\_\_\_

Moment of reflection

### **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

#### **Introduction of Bills**

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

- 93     An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation and the Food Products Act.

The motion was carried.

\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Corbeil, Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

- 92     An Act to amend the Act respecting petroleum products and equipment, the Building Act and other legislative provisions.

The motion was carried.

#### **Presenting Papers**

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

**7 April 2005**

---

Order-in-Council No. 215-2005 concerning a reduction of the issued and paid share capital of the Société Innovatech du Grand Montréal and an equivalent repayment of capital.

(Sessional Paper No. 1729-20050407)

---

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

The Reciprocal Agreement between the Government of Québec and the Government of the Swiss Confederation concerning the Exchange of Driver's Licences, as well as explanatory notes on the content and effects thereof.

(Sessional Paper No. 1730-20050407)

She then tabled the following motion:

THAT, pursuant to section 22.3 of the *Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales*, the National Assembly approve the Reciprocal Agreement between the Government of Québec and the Government of the Swiss Confederation concerning the Exchange of Driver's Licences.

(Sessional Paper No. 1731-20050407)

---

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

The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as explanatory notes on the content and effects thereof.

(Sessional Paper No. 1732-20050407)

She then tabled the following motion:

THAT the National Assembly approve the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity, pursuant to section 22.3 of the *Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales*.

(Sessional Paper No. 1733-20050407)

**7 April 2005**

---

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

The national report on the health status of the population of Québec.  
(Sessional Paper No. 1734-20050407)

---

Mrs. Gauthier, Minister of Tourism, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Régie des installations olympiques for the fiscal year ended 31 October 2004.  
(Sessional Paper No. 1735-20050407)

### **Presenting Reports from Committees**

Mr. Copeman (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Social Affairs, which, on 9, 10, 17 and 22 February, on 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17 and 22 March and on 5 and 6 April 2005, held public hearings within the framework of a general consultation on the following Bill:

- 83    An Act to amend the Act respecting health services and social services and other legislative provisions.  
(Sessional Paper No. 1736-20050407)

### **Presenting Petitions**

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

The abstract of a petition respecting the modernization of low-cost housing facilities, and signed by 33 citizens from the riding of Matapédia.  
(Sessional Paper No. 1737-20050407)

**7 April 2005**

---

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

The abstract of a petition respecting gasoline price management in Québec, and signed by 110,000 citizens from the riding of Prévost.

(Sessional Paper No. 1738-20050407)

### **Oral Questions and Answers**

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

### **Deferred Divisions**

The Assembly took the division on the motion by Mr. Couillard, Minister of Health and Social Services, for the passage in principle of Bill 38, An Act respecting the Health and Welfare Commissioner.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **156** in Appendix)

Yeas: **56**    Nays: **36**    Abstentions: **0**

Accordingly, Bill 38 was passed in principle.

Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved that Bill 38 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Social Affairs.

The motion was carried.

---

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

**7 April 2005**

---

**Notices of Proceedings in Committees**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 145, Mrs. Lamquin-Éthier, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

- the Committee on Social Affairs, to continue its public hearings within the framework of a general consultation with reference to the document entitled "For a New Social Contract of Equality between Women and Men";
- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to conclude its public hearings within the framework of special consultations with reference to the document entitled "The Energy Sector in Québec – Context, Issues and Questions";
- the Committee on Public Finance, to hold public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 85, An Act respecting the Centre de services administratifs.

**Motions Without Notice**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. Beauchamp, Minister of Culture and Communications, Mr. Turp (Mercier) and Mr. Légaré (Vanier) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the death of Montreal-born writer Mr. Saul Bellow, Nobel Prize laureate in 1976, and pay tribute to his outstanding contribution to literature.

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

**7 April 2005**

---

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Couillard, Minister of Health and Social Services, and Mrs. Charest (Rimouski) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark World Health Day.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

---

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. Courchesne, Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity, and Mr. Fournier, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, jointly moved, within the framework of Québec Adult Learners' Week:

THAT, within the framework of this Week, the National Assembly mark the efforts of the thousands of Québec adults who strive to keep their knowledge and skills up to date for the greater benefit of Québec society and that it express its appreciation to the Institut de coopération pour l'éducation des adultes and to the hundreds of partners hailing from various sectors who ensure this Week's success in all regions of Québec.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

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

Mrs. Leblanc, Second Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Friday, 15 April 2005, Mrs. Harel (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) would question Mr. Couillard, Minister of Health and Social Services, during an interpellation on "the assessment of the Liberal Government's electoral commitments in health and social services two years after its election".

---



**7 April 2005**

---

**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

At 3.47 o'clock p.m., at the request of Mrs. Lamquin-Éthier, Deputy Government House Leader, Mrs. Leblanc, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 6.00 o'clock p.m.

**Debates Upon Adjournment**

At 6.06 o'clock p.m., the Assembly held two debates upon adjournment:

- the first, on a question by Mr. Legendre (Blainville) to Mrs. Normandeau, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Regions, about the distribution of the gasoline tax;
- the second, on a question by Mrs. Doyer (Matapédia) to Mr. Corbeil, Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife, about the implementation of measures to mitigate the consequences of the reduction in forestry opportunities.

---

Mrs. Lamquin-Éthier, Deputy Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Tuesday, 12 April 2005, at 2.00 o'clock p.m.

The motion was carried.

---

Accordingly, at 6.32 o'clock p.m., Mr. Cusano, First Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Tuesday, 12 April 2005, at 2.00 o'clock p.m.

**MICHEL BISSONNET**

*President*

7 April 2005

---

## APPENDIX

### Recorded Divisions

On the motion by Mr. Couillard, Minister of Health and Social Services, for the passage in principle of Bill 38, An Act respecting the Health and Welfare Commissioner:

#### (Division No. 156)

#### YEAS – 56

Auclair	Corbeil	Jérôme-Forget	Normandeau
Audet	Couillard	Lafrenière	Paquet
Bachand	Courchesne	Lamquin-Éthier	Pelletier
Beauchamp	Delisle	L'Écuyer	Perreault
Béchar	Descoteaux	Legault	Reid
Bergman	Després	<i>[Chambly]</i>	Rioux
Bernard	Dubuc	Lessard	Soucy
Bernier	Dupuis	Loiselle	Théberge
Blackburn	Fournier	MacMillan	Thériault
Boulet	Gabias	Marcoux	<i>[Anjou]</i>
Brodeur	Gagnon-Tremblay	Marsan	Tomassi
Charlebois	Gauthier	Mercier	Vallières
Cholette	Gautrin	Moreau	Vien
Clermont	Hamad	Morin	Whissell
Copeman	James	<i>[Montmagny-L'Islet]</i>	

#### NAYS – 36

Bertrand	Deslières	Legendre	Pinard
Bouchard	Dion	Léger	Richard
<i>[Vachon]</i>	Dionne-Marsolais	Lelièvre	Robert
Bourdeau	Doyer	Lemieux	Simard
Caron	Dufour	Létourneau	Thériault
Champagne	Girard	Maltais	<i>[Masson]</i>
Charbonneau	Grondin	Marois	Turp
Charest	Jutras	Morin	Vermette
<i>[Rimouski]</i>	Légaré	<i>[Nicolet-Yamaska]</i>	
Côté	Legault	Papineau	
Cousineau	<i>[Rousseau]</i>	Picard	