



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 23 March 2005 — No. 131

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

QUÉBEC

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition

Mrs. Doyer (Matapédia) moved:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec require the tabling, before 31 March 2005, of all Government measures required to give effect to the Coulombe report in its entirety, which report advocates concurrence in the implementation of its principal recommendations, particularly the establishment of a strategy to minimize the impacts on employment and on local communities.

Following a meeting with the House leaders, Mr. Cusano, First Vice-President, announced that he 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 and 10 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 may be added to that of the other group, while any time not used by the independent Members will be redistributed equally amongst the parliamentary groups, and individual addresses shall not be limited.

A debate arose on the motion by Mrs. Doyer (Matapédia).

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

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

23 March 2005

At the request of Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, the division was deferred until Routine Proceedings later in today's sitting.

At 12.00 o'clock p.m., Mr. Cusano, 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. Fournier, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Université du Québec and its institutions for the fiscal year ended 31 May 2004.

(Sessional Paper No. 1673-20050323)

The financial statements of the Fondation universitaire de l'Institution royale pour l'avancement des sciences (McGill University), for the fiscal year ended 31 May 2004.

(Sessional Paper No. 1674-20050323)

The financial report, the statement of salaries and the report on performance and on development prospects of McGill University, for the fiscal year ended 31 May 2004.

(Sessional Paper No. 1675-20050323)

23 March 2005

Mr. Mulcair, Minister of Sustainable Development, the Environment and Parks, tabled the following:

Report No. 209 on the inquiry and public hearings of the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement, entitled "Les répercussions d'un échange de terrains sur la biodiversité et l'intégrité écologique du parc national du Mont-Orford".

(Sessional Paper No. 1676-20050323)

Mr. President tabled the following:

A letter, dated 22 March 2005, he had received from Mr. Mario Dumont, the Member for Rivière-du-Loup, informing him of the appointment of Mr. Marc Picard, the Member for Chutes-de-la-Chaudière, as substitute member representing the Action démocratique du Québec at the Office of the National Assembly, in replacement of Mrs. Sylvie Roy, the Member for Lotbinière, effective as from 22 March 2005.

(Sessional Paper No. 1677-20050323)

Mr. Cusano, First Vice-President, moved that this modification to the composition of the Office of the National Assembly be adopted.

The motion was carried.

Presenting Petitions

Mr. St-André (L'Assomption) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the Montréal-Repentigny-L'Assomption commuter train project, and signed by 76 citizens of the regional county municipality of L'Assomption.

(Sessional Paper No. 1678-20050323)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mr. St-André (L'Assomption) tabled the following:

23 March 2005

The abstract of a petition respecting the installation of a stop sign at Exit 108 West on Highway 40, and signed by 23 citizens of the riding of L'Assomption.
(Sessional Paper No. 1679-20050323)

Mrs. Champagne (Champlain) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the financing of Québec's national holiday, and signed by 618 citizens of the riding of Champlain.
(Sessional Paper No. 1680-20050323)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mrs. Harel (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the modernization of low-cost housing facilities, and signed by 93 citizens of the riding of Hochelaga-Maisonneuve.
(Sessional Paper No. 1681-20050323)

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

The abstract of a petition respecting the conservation of the ecological and territorial integrity of Mont-Orford national park, and signed by 7264 citizens of Québec.
(Sessional Paper No. 1682-20050323)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

23 March 2005

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mrs. Lemieux, Official Opposition House Leader, tabled the following:

The Superior Court decision, dated 22 March 2005, concerning the case of Yves L. Duhaime against Thomas J. Mulcair.

(Sessional Paper No. 1683-20050323)

Deferred Divisions

The Assembly took the division, which was deferred during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, on the motion by Mrs. Doyer (Matapédia).

This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec require the tabling, before 31 March 2005, of all Government measures required to give effect to the Coulombe report in its entirety, which report advocates concurrence in the implementation of its principal recommendations, particularly the establishment of a strategy to minimize the impacts on employment and on local communities.

The motion was negatived on the following vote:

(Division No. **152** in Appendix)

Yeas: **47** Nays: **61** Abstentions: **0**

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, convened the following Committee:

- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations with reference to the document entitled "The Energy Sector in Québec – Context, Issues and Questions".

23 March 2005

Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, gave the following notice:

- the Committee on Public Finance shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of organizing its proceedings.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mrs. Lemieux, Official Opposition House Leader, requested a directive concerning the interpellation scheduled for Friday, 25 March 2005.

Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, gave the following directive:

DIRECTIVE FROM THE CHAIR

Standing Order 299 states that no interpellation may be held while the Assembly stands adjourned for more than five days. If the interpellation scheduled for Friday, 25 March, cannot take place owing to the adjournment of the proceedings of the Assembly, the interpellation announced for this date will then be held the first Friday following the resumption of proceedings. This is in accordance with past practice.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned on 10 December 2004, 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.

23 March 2005

The debate was adjourned in the name of Mr. Legault (Rousseau).

At 6.00 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Leblanc, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 24 March 2005, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

MICHEL BISSONNET

President

23 March 2005

APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion moved by Mrs. Doyer (Matapédia) during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, concerning the Government measures required to give effect to the Coulombe report:

(Division No. 152)

YEAS – 47

Arseneau	Cousineau	Legault	Picard
Bédard	Deslières	<i>[Rousseau]</i>	Pinard
Bertrand	Dion	Legendre	Richard
Bouchard	Dionne-Marsolais	Léger	Robert
<i>[Vachon]</i>	Doyer	Lelièvre	Roy
Boucher	Dufour	Lemieux	Simard
Boulerice	Girard	Létourneau	St-André
Bourdeau	Grondin	Maltais	Thériault
Caron	Harel	Marois	<i>[Masson]</i>
Champagne	Jutras	Morin	Tremblay
Charbonneau	Landry	<i>[Nicolet-Yamaska]</i>	Turp
Charest	Lefebvre	Pagé	Valois
<i>[Rimouski]</i>	Légaré	Papineau	Vermette

NAYS - 61

Auclair	Chenail	James	Normandeau
Audet	Cholette	Jérôme-Forget	Ouimet
Bachand	Clermont	Kelley	Paquet
Beauchamp	Copeman	Lafrenière	Paquin
Béchar	Corbeil	L'Écuyer	Pelletier
Bergman	Courchesne	Legault	Perreault
Bernard	Delisle	<i>[Chambly]</i>	Reid
Bernier	Descoteaux	Lessard	Soucy
Blackburn	Dubuc	Loiselle	Théberge
Bordeleau	Dupuis	MacMillan	Thériault
Boulet	Fournier	Marcoux	<i>[Anjou]</i>
Brodeur	Gabias	Marsan	Tomassi
Charest	Gagnon-Tremblay	Mercier	Vallières
<i>[Sherbrooke]</i>	Gaudet	Moreau	Vien
Charest	Gautrin	Morin	Whissell
<i>[Matane]</i>	Hamad	<i>[Montmagny-L'Islet]</i>	
Charlebois	Hamel	Mulcair	