



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 24 November 2004 — No. 107

**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. Dionne-Marsolais (Rosemont) moved:

THAT the Government of Québec, as sole shareholder, demand that Hydro-Québec withdraw its request before the Régie de l'énergie aiming to obtain a third consecutive rate increase in one year and a half.

Following a meeting with the House leaders, Mrs. Leblanc, Second Vice-President, announced the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this motion: ten minutes shall be allotted for a reply by its mover and ten 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 two parliamentary groups, and individual addresses shall not be limited.

And debate arising on the motion moved by Mrs. Dionne-Marsolais (Rosemont);

At the end of his speech, Mr. Gautrin (Verdun) moved:

THAT the motion by the Member for Rosemont be amended as follows: in the second line, by replacing the word "demand", by the word "ask" and by replacing the word "withdraw" by the words "review the pertinence of".

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The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the Government of Québec, as sole shareholder, ask that Hydro-Québec review the pertinence of its request before the Régie de l'énergie aiming to obtain a third consecutive rate increase in one year and a half

The debate continued on the main motion by Mrs. Dionne-Marsolais (Rosemont) and on the amendment by Mr. Gautrin (Verdun), subject to the receivability of the latter, which Mrs. Leblanc, Second Vice-President, took under advisement.

Mrs. Leblanc, Second Vice-President, rendered her ruling on the receivability of the amendment motion.

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

The amendment motion is not receivable. Indeed, if the amendment were adopted, it is true that this could have the effect of maintaining the desired conclusion in the main motion. However, this could also have the opposite effect, which would have the consequence of contradicting the principle of the motion. In short, the main motion has an imperative quality, that is the pure and simple withdrawal of the request for an increase in rates, while the amendment motion leaves the door open to such an increase.

And debate continuing on the motion by Mrs. Dionne-Marsolais (Rosemont);

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 in today's sitting day.

At 12.00 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Leblanc, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

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

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Presenting Papers

Mr. Reid, Minister of Education, tabled the following:

The financial report of the Concordia University Foundation for the fiscal year ended 31 May 2003.

(Sessional Paper No. 1420-20041124)

The annual report of the Comité d'évaluation des ressources didactiques for the fiscal year ended 30 June 2004.

(Sessional Paper No. 1421-20041124)

Complaints of Breach of Privilege or Contempt and Personal Explanations

Mr. President informed the Assembly that he had received, within the prescribed time, a notice from the Member for Beauharnois indicating his intention to rise on a matter of privilege. According to the latter, the Minister of Finance allegedly committed a breach of the Assembly's privileges by taking for granted that the Members of the Assembly would adopt Bill 55, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec and other legislative provisions.

Mr. President took the matter under advisement.

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

At the request of Mr. President, Mr. Grondin (Beauce-Nord) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

Deferred Divisions

The Assembly took the division, which had been deferred during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition earlier in today's sitting, on the motion moved by Mrs. Dionne-Marsolais (Rosemont). This motion reads as follows:

THAT the Government of Québec, as sole shareholder, demand that Hydro-Québec withdraw its request before the Régie de l'énergie aiming to obtain a third consecutive rate increase in one year and a half.

The motion was negatived on the following vote:

(Division No. **129** in Appendix)

Yeas: **44** Nays: **67** Abstentions: **0**

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Chagnon, Minister of Public Security, moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the 25th anniversary of the presence of women on the Montreal police force.

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

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Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the motion carried on 4 November 2004 concerning the general consultation to be held by the Committee on Social Affairs with reference to the document entitled "For a New Social Contract of Equality between Women and Men" and the motion carried on 16 November 2004 concerning the complementary on-line consultation entitled "Equality Between Women and Men, On-line Consultation" be amended in order that the beginning of the hearings be deferred until 25 January 2005 and that the briefs may be submitted to the Secretariat of Committees no later than 17 December 2004.

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

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Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the Committee on Labour and the Economy, within the framework of the consideration of Bill 73, An Act to amend the Education Act and the Act respecting private education, hold special consultations and public hearings on 2 and 7 December 2004, in Louis-Joseph-Papineau Room, and that, for this purpose, it hear the following groups, according to the schedule and order indicated hereafter:

2 December 2004

8.00 p.m. to 8.15 p.m.	Opening statements by the parliamentary group forming the Government
8.15 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.	Opening statements by the Opposition Members
8.30 p.m. to 9.15 p.m.	Fédération des syndicats de l'enseignement
9.15 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.	Centrale des syndicats du Québec

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10.00 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. Association montréalaise des directions d'établissement scolaire, Association québécoise du personnel de direction des écoles, Fédération québécoise des directeurs et directrices d'établissement d'enseignement and the Association of Administrators of English Schools of Quebec

7 December 2004

11.15 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. Fédération des commissions scolaires du Québec

12.00 p.m. to 12.45 p.m. Québec English School Boards Association

3.00 p.m. to 3.45 p.m. Fédération des établissements d'enseignement privé

3.45 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Fédération des comités de parents du Québec

4.30 p.m. to 4.45 p.m. Closing statements by the Opposition Members

4.45 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Closing statements by the parliamentary group forming the Government

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

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

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. Mulcair, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

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- the Committee on Social Affairs, to continue its public hearings within the framework of a general consultation on Bill 57, Individual and Family Assistance Act;
- the Committee on Public Finance, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 60, An Act respecting the Société de financement des infrastructures locales du Québec and amending the Highway Safety Code;
- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to examine the draft regulation on pay equity in enterprises where there are no predominantly male job classes, pursuant to section 114 of the *Pay Equity Act*.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mr. Audet, Minister of Economic and Regional Development and Research, moved, —That Bill 68, An Act to repeal the Act respecting the Société de développement de la Zone de commerce international de Montréal à Mirabel, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 68 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Mulcair, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 68 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Labour and the Economy.

The motion was carried.

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Passage in Principle

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned on 23 November 2004, on the motion by Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister responsible for Government Administration, Chair of the Conseil du trésor, —That Bill 61, An Act respecting the Agence des partenariats public-privé du Québec, do now pass in principle.

At the request of Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, Mrs. Léger (Pointe-aux-Trembles) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

And debate continuing;

The debate was adjourned in the name of Mrs. Léger (Pointe-aux-Trembles).

At 5.59 o'clock p.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 25 November 2004, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

MICHEL BISSONNET

President

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APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion moved by Mrs. Dionne-Marsolais (Rosemont) during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, concerning Hydro-Québec's request for an increase in rates:

(Division No. 129)

YEAS – 44

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

NAYS – 67

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