



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 20 October 2004 — No. 92

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

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 10.03 o'clock a.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition

Mrs. Marois (Taillon) moved:

THAT the National Assembly demand from the Liberal Government that any increase in equalization payments it may receive at the federal-provincial meeting of 26 October 2004 be primarily invested in the education sector.

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 shall be redistributed equally amongst the two parliamentary groups, and individual addresses shall not be limited.

And debate arising on the motion moved by Mrs. Marois (Taillon);

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 on the present sitting day.

At 11.58 o'clock a.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

Mr. President tabled the following:

A letter, dated 20 October 2004, he had received from Mr. Mario Dumont, the Member for Rivière-du-Loup, informing him of the designation of Mrs. Sylvie Roy, the Member for Lotbinière, as substitute member representing the Action démocratique du Québec party at the Office of the National Assembly, in replacement of Mr. Marc Picard, the Member for Chutes-de-la-Chaudière, effective beginning today.

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.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Introduction of Bills

Mr. Picard (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière) moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

199 An Act to amend the Transport Act.

The motion was carried.

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Presenting Papers

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

The activity report of Financement Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2004.

(Sessional Paper No. 1182-20041020)

The annual management report of the Institut de la statistique du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2004.

(Sessional Paper No. 1183-20041020)

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

The annual management report of the Institut national de la santé publique du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2004.

(Sessional Paper No. 1184-20041020)

An agreement on the exchange of personal information between the Public Curator and the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec, as well as an opinion from the Commission d'accès à l'information.

(Sessional Paper No. 1185-20041020)

The 2003-2004 annual report on the implementation of the complaints examination procedure and the improvement in the quality of services provided by the Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine Local Health and Social Services Network Development Agency.

(Sessional Paper No. 1186-20041020)

Mr. Fournier, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Sports and Recreation, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Société québécoise d'assainissement des eaux for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2004.

(Sessional Paper No. 1187-20041020)

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The annual report of the société Immobilière SHQ for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2003.

(Sessional Paper No. 1188-20041020)

The annual management report of the Commission municipale du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2004.

(Sessional Paper No. 1189-20041020)

Mr. Chagnon, Minister of Public Security, tabled the following:

The 2003-2004 activity report of the Conseil de surveillance des activités de la Sûreté du Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1190-20041020)

Mr. President tabled the following:

The Strategic Plan, 2004-2008, of the Public Protector.

(Sessional Paper No. 1191-20041020)

Two bills passed by the members of the Seniors' Parliament, which was held on 14 and 15 September 2004: Bill No. 1, An Act concerning the implementation of a policy on ageing well; Bill No. 2, An Act respecting home care services.

(Sessional Paper No. 1192-20041020)

A letter, dated 19 October 2004, he had received from Mr. William Cusano, the Member for Viau and First Vice-President of the National Assembly, informing him of his resignation as chairman of the Committee on Culture, beginning on this date.

(Sessional Paper No. 1193-20041020)

A letter, dated 20 October 2004, he had received from Mr. Bernard Brodeur, the Member for Shefford, informing him of his resignation as chairman of the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, beginning on this date.

(Sessional Paper No. 1194-20041020)

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The new seating plan of the National Assembly, dated 20 October 2004.
(Sessional Paper No. 1195-20041020)

Presenting Petitions

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, the abstracts of two petitions respecting mandatory labelling for genetically modified organisms were laid upon the Table:

- the first, being the abstract of a petition signed by 32 citizens from the riding of Saint-Hyacinthe, by Mr. Dion (Saint-Hyacinthe);
(Sessional Paper No. 1196-20041020)
- the second, being the abstract of a petition signed by 9 citizens of Québec, by Mr. Grondin (Beauce-Nord).
(Sessional Paper No. 1197-20041020)

Oral Questions and Answers

Mr. President gave a directive regarding the arrival of a sixth independent Member and its effects on the management of Oral Questions and Answers.

DIRECTIVE FROM THE CHAIR

Based on precedents, the Chair has increased the ratio of two questions per five sittings to a ratio of two questions per four sittings for the six independent Members as a group.

The Assembly then proceeded to Oral Question Period.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mrs. Harel (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) tabled the following:

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Copy of a letter, dated 28 July 2004, addressed to Dr. P. Clifford Blais, from Mr. Yves Lamontagne, chairman of the Collège des médecins du Québec, concerning trade relations between groups of pharmacists and groups of medical doctors.

(Sessional Paper No. 1198-20041020)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Boucher (Johnson) tabled the following:

A letter, dated 20 September 2004, he had received from Mr. Gilles Marcoux, chairman of the Regroupement des centres-villes et des artères commerciales du Québec, concerning the new reality of retail businesses with regard to the extension of their business hours.

(Sessional Paper No. 1199-20041020)

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. Marois (Taillon). This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly demand from the Liberal Government that any increase in equalization payments it may receive at the federal-provincial meeting of 26 October 2004 be primarily invested in the education sector.

The motion was negatived on the following vote:

(Division No. 87 in Appendix)

Yeas: **40** Nays: **68** Abstentions: **0**

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Charest, Premier, moved:

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THAT, pursuant to sections 104 and 105 of the *Act respecting Access to documents held by public bodies and the Protection of personal information* (R.S.Q., c. A-2.1), Mr. Jacques Saint-Laurent, barrister, Assistant Deputy Minister at the Ministère des Relations avec les citoyens et de l'Immigration and Registrar of Civil Status, State Administrator II, be named member and chairman of the Commission d'accès à l'information for a term of five years, beginning on 25 October 2004, and that his remuneration and other conditions of employment be included in the document in appendix.

Mr. Charest, Premier, then tabled the following:

A document containing the salary and other conditions of employment of Mr. Jacques Saint-Laurent, barrister, as member and chairman of the Commission d'accès à l'information, as well as a summary of his curriculum vitae.

(Sessional Paper No. 1200-20041020)

The question being put on the motion, a recorded division was taken as required for the application of sections 104 and 105 of the *Act respecting Access to documents held by public bodies and the Protection of personal information*.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 88 in Appendix)

Yeas: 111 Nays: 0 Abstentions: 0

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

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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.

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Vallières, Chief Government Whip, moved:

THAT, pursuant to Standing Order 129, the Member for Shefford be named a member of the Standing Committee on Culture;

THAT this modification be effective immediately.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Vallières, Chief Government Whip, moved:

THAT, pursuant to Standing Order 129, the Member for LaFontaine be named a member of the Standing Committee on Transportation and the Environment, thus replacing the Member for Shefford;

THAT this modification be effective immediately.

The motion was carried.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 127, Mr. Vallières, Chief Government Whip, moved:

THAT the Member for Nelligan be named a member of the Standing Committee on Labour and the Economy.

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

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Mrs. Beauchamp, Minister of Culture and Communications, moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Québec Public Library Week, which is being held from 17 to 23 October 2004.

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

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

At the request of Mr. Mulcair, Deputy Government House Leader, the division was deferred until Routine Proceedings at the sitting of 21 October 2004.

Mr. Audet, Minister of Economic and Regional Development and Research, moved a motion concerning Cooperative Week; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 84, Mr. Audet, Minister of Economic and Regional Development and Research, moved a second motion without notice concerning Small and Medium-Sized Businesses Week 2004; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière) moved a motion concerning the massacres of civil populations in Darfour; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the 100th anniversary of the founding of St. Joseph's Oratory, an international mecca for pilgrimage.

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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 127, Mr. Picard (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière) moved:

THAT the Member for Vanier be named a member of
the Standing Committee on Labour and the Economy.

The motion was carried.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 55, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec and other legislative provisions.
-

Mr. Cusano, First Vice-President, gave the following notices:

- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment shall meet for the purpose of electing its vice-chairman;
- the Committee on Culture shall meet for the purpose of electing its chairman;
- the Committee on Public Administration shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of preparing the hearing with the Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services.

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ORDERS OF THE DAY

Debates on Reports from Committees

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, which held a general consultation, within the framework of an order of initiative, to examine the new issues surrounding the bio-food industry, from the farm to the table, particularly relating to GMOs, traceability and labelling to improve the level of food safety in Québec. This report contains recommendations.

Following a meeting with the House leaders, Mr. Cusano, First Vice-President, announced the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this limited debate: ten minutes shall be set aside for the independent Members; the two parliamentary groups shall share equally the rest of the period 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 among the two parliamentary groups, and individual speeches will not be limited.

And debate arising;

The debate expired and, pursuant to Standing Order 95, no question was put.

Debates Upon Adjournment

At 6.00 o'clock p.m., the Assembly held the three debates upon adjournment that had been deferred at the sitting of 19 October 2004:

- the first, on a question by Mrs. Marois (Taillon) to Mr. Reid, Minister of Education, about the increase in student debt;
- the second, on a question by Mrs. Harel (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) to Mr. Couillard, Minister of Health and Social Services, about the benefits granted to physicians by pharmaceutical companies;

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- the third, on a question by Mrs. Dionne-Marsolais (Rosemont) to Mr. Hamad, Minister of Natural Resources, Wildlife and Parks, about the examination of the wind energy potential.

At 6.39 o'clock p.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 21 October 2004, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

MICHEL BISSONNET

President

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APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion by Mrs. Marois (Taillon) moved during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, concerning investment in the education sector:

(Division No. 87)

YEAS - 40

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

NAYS - 68

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

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On the motion by Mr. Charest, Premier, to appoint Mr. Jacques Saint-Laurent, barrister, as member and chairman of the Commission d'accès à l'information:

(Division No. 88)

YEAS – 111

Arseneau	Charlebois	Kelley	Papineau
Auclair	Chenail	Lafrenière	Paquet
Audet	Cholette	Lamquin-Éthier	Paquin
Bachand	Clermont	Landry	Paradis
Beauchamp	Copeman	Leblanc	Pelletier
Beaudoin	Corbeil	L'Écuyer	Perreault
Béchar	Côté	Lefebvre	Picard
Bédard	Couillard	Légaré	Pinard
Bergman	Courchesne	Legault	Reid
Bernard	Cousineau	[Chambly]	Richard
Bernier	Cusano	Legault	Rioux
Bertrand	Delisle	[Rousseau]	Robert
Blackburn	Deslières	Léger	Roy
Bordeleau	Després	Lemieux	Séguin
Bouchard	Dion	Lessard	Simard
[Mégantic-Compton]	Dionne-Marsolais	Létourneau	Soucy
Bouchard	Dubuc	MacMillan	St-André
[Vachon]	Dufour	Maltais	Théberge
Boucher	Dumont	Marcoux	Thériault
Boulerice	Dupuis	Marois	[Masson]
Boulet	Fournier	Marsan	Thériault
Caron	Gautrin	Mercier	[Anjou]
Chagnon	Gendron	Moreau	Tomassi
Champagne	Girard	Morin	Turp
Charbonneau	Grondin	[Nicolet-Yamaska]	Vallières
Charest	Hamad	Morin	Valois
[Sherbrooke]	Hamel	[Montmagny-L'Islet]	Vermette
Charest	Harel	Mulcair	Vien
[Rimouski]	Houda-Pepin	Normandeau	Whissell
Charest	James	Ouimet	
[Matane]	Jutras	Pagé	