



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Tuesday, 18 May 2004 — No. 73

**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 21 April 2004, on the motion by Mrs. Beauchamp, Minister of Culture and Communications, –That Bill 42, An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning professional artists, do now pass in principle.

At 10.10 o'clock a.m., Mr. Sirros, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings.

The proceedings resumed at 10.17 o'clock a.m.

And debate continuing;

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried and Bill 42 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved that Bill 42 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Culture.

The motion was carried.

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Debates on Reports from Committees

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Culture, which held public hearings with reference to the document entitled "Reforming Access to Information: Choosing Transparency". This report, which was tabled on 12 May 2004, contains recommendations.

Following a meeting with the House leaders, Mr. Sirros, First Vice-President, informed the Assembly of 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 may be added to that of the other group, while any time not used by the independent Members shall be redistributed equally among the two parliamentary groups, and individual speeches will not be limited.

And debate arising;

At 11.58 o'clock a.m., Mr. Sirros, 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. Corbeil, Minister for Forests, Wildlife and Parks, tabled the following:

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Copy of an agreement between the Government of Québec and the Council of the Malecite First Nation of Viger, concerning the conditions regarding access to certain territories organized for the practice of fishing activities for dietary or social purposes.

(Sessional Paper No. 880-20040518)

Mr. President tabled the following:

The report from the Director General of Elections of Québec on the implementation of section 30.8 of the *Act respecting school elections*, within the framework of the by-election held on 25 April 2004 in district no. 8 of the Rives-du-Saguenay School Board.

(Sessional Paper No. 881-20040518)

Copy of the notice of motion by Mrs. Dionne-Marsolais (Rosemont) which will be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* of Wednesday, 19 May 2004, under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.

(Sessional Paper No. 882-20040518)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. President tabled:

The following reports from the Standing Committees that considered the Estimates of Expenditure of the Ministries for the 2004-2005 fiscal year:

— The report from the Committee on Institutions;
(Sessional Paper No. 883-20040518)

— The report from the Committee on Public Finance;
(Sessional Paper No. 884-20040518)

— The report from the Committee on Social Affairs;
(Sessional Paper No. 885-20040518)

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- The report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy;
(Sessional Paper No. 886-20040518)
- The report from the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food;
(Sessional Paper No. 887-20040518)
- The report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain;
(Sessional Paper No. 888-20040518)
- The report from the Committee on Education;
(Sessional Paper No. 889-20040518)
- The report from the Committee on Culture;
(Sessional Paper No. 890-20040518)
- The report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment.
(Sessional Paper No. 891-20040518)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Landry, Leader of the Official Opposition, tabled the following:

Copy of a letter, dated 17 May 2004, sent to Mr. Jean Charest, Premier of Québec, by Mr. Gilles Duceppe, Leader of the Bloc Québécois, on the position of the Bloc Québécois regarding health financing and the fiscal imbalance.
(Sessional Paper No. 892-20040518)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mr. Corbeil, Minister for Forests, Wildlife and Parks, tabled the following:

A document prepared by the Ministère des Finances entitled "Impacts sur les finances publiques du prix d'un litre d'essence à 0,95 \$".
(Sessional Paper No. 893-20040518)

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An excerpt from the Budget Speech delivered in the National Assembly on 11 March 2003, concerning the impact of the increase in gasoline prices on public finance.

(Sessional Paper No. 894-20040518)

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Charest, Premier, moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of Sherbrooke University as well as its contribution to the quality and outreach of our higher education network.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Mr. Couillard, Minister of Health and Social Services, moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark International Nurses Day and Nurses Week.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

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

THAT the National Assembly mark International Museums Day on 18 May.

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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.

Mrs. Normandeau, Minister for Regional Development and Tourism, moved:

THAT the National Assembly congratulate the national winners of the 19th Grands Prix du tourisme québécois awards gala, which was held last 14 May at the Palais des congrès de Montréal, and mark their outstanding contribution to the development of the tourism industry.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) moved:

THAT the National Assembly ask the Federal Government to abandon its plan for a national securities commission, a plan that constitutes interference in an area of jurisdiction belonging to the provinces.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, the question was put on this motion; a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

At the request of Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, the division was deferred until Routine Proceedings on the next sitting day.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

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- the Committee on Public Finance, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 36, An Act to amend the Taxation Act and other legislative provisions.

Mr. President gave the following notice:

- the Committee on Labour and the Economy shall hold special consultations within the framework of the Committee's order of initiative in relation to Hydro-Québec's Strategic Plan 2004-2008.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Debates on Reports from Committees

The Assembly continued the debate on the consideration of the report from the Committee on Culture, which held public hearings with reference to the document entitled "Reforming Access to Information: Choosing Transparency".

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

At 4.46 o'clock p.m., at the request of Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, Mrs. Leblanc, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 6.00 o'clock p.m.

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Debates Upon Adjournment

At 6.02 o'clock p.m., the Assembly held three debates upon adjournment:

- the first, on a question by Mr. Côté (Dubuc) to Mr. Corbeil, Minister for Forests, Wildlife and Parks, about the transfer of the Saguenay telecontrol centre to the Abitibi region;
- the second, on a question by Mrs. Dionne-Marsolais (Rosemont) to Mr. Corbeil, Minister for Forests, Wildlife and Parks, about the Suroît power plant construction contracts;
- the third, on a question by Mrs. Lemieux (Bourget) to Mr. Fournier, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Sports and Recreation, about the municipal demergers.

At 6.41 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Leblanc, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 19 May 2004, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

MICHEL BISSONNET

President