



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Thursday, 8 April 2004 — No. 60

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

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 10.08 o'clock a.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Debate on the Budget Speech

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned at the sitting of 7 April 2004, on the motion by Mr. Séguin, Minister of Finance, —That this Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government, and on the want of confidence motions moved by Mr. Legault (Rousseau), Mr. Landry, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mrs. Lemieux (Bourget), Mr. Dion (Saint-Hyacinthe), Mrs. Harel (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) and Mr. Turp (Mercier).

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 20, the proceedings continued beyond 12.00 o'clock p.m.

Thirteen hours and thirty minutes having elapsed since Mr. Séguin, Minister of Finance, began the Budget Speech, the debate thereon was suspended in the Assembly to be resumed by the Committee on Public Finance, in compliance with the provisions of Standing Order 275.

At 12.16 o'clock p.m., Mr. Sirros, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 2.08 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Introduction of Bills

Mr. Mulcair, Minister of the Environment, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

- 44 An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Environnement, the Environment Quality Act and other legislative provisions.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved:

 THAT the Committee on Transportation and the Environment hold a general consultation and public hearings on Bill 44, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Environnement, the Environment Quality Act and other legislative provisions, beginning on 14 September 2004;

 THAT all briefs be submitted to the Secretariat of Committees by 24 August 2004;

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

The motion was carried.

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Presenting Papers

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

The annual report, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2003, with regard to the implementation of the complaints examination procedure of the Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean Regional Health and Social Services Board.

(Sessional Paper No. 818-20040323)

The activity report on the fight against the West Nile virus.

(Sessional Paper No. 819-20040408)

Mr. Béchard, Minister of Employment, Social Solidarity and Family Welfare, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Cree Hunters and Trappers Income Security Board for the fiscal year ended 30 June 2003.

(Sessional Paper No. 820-20040408)

Mrs. Normandeau, Minister for Regional Development and Tourism, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Régie des installations olympiques for the fiscal year ended 31 October 2003.

(Sessional Paper No. 821-20040408)

Mr. Corbeil, Minister for Forests, Wildlife and Parks, tabled the following:

The annual report of Hydro-Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2003.

(Sessional Paper No. 822-20040408)

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Mr. President tabled the following:

A letter, dated 7 April 2004, he had received from Mr. Roger Lefebvre informing him of his resignation as member and vice-chairman of the Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse, as at 26 April 2004.

(Sessional Paper No. 823-20040408)

The schedule for the consideration of the estimates of expenditure, which will take place from Monday, 26 April 2004, to Friday, 14 May 2004 inclusively, as agreed to during a meeting with the House leaders.

(Sessional Paper No. 824-20040408)

Presenting Petitions

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mrs. Loiselle (Saint-Henri–Sainte-Anne) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the funding for the music programme of Pierre-Laporte High School, and signed by 3000 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 825-20040408)

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

The abstract of a petition respecting the maintaining of the public tree nurseries network, and signed by 320 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 826-20040408)

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

The abstract of a petition respecting the extension of Highway 20, and signed by 111 citizens of the Bas-Saint-Laurent region.

(Sessional Paper No. 827-20040408)

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the hunting and fishing rights of Club Appalaches, and signed by 99 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 828-20040408)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

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

Copy of a letter, dated 29 March 2004, to Mr. Sam Hamad, Minister of Natural Resources, Wildlife and Parks, from Mr. André Bourbeau, chairman of the board of directors at Hydro-Québec, concerning the shares held by Marie-José Nadeau in Métro Inc.

(Sessional Paper No. 829-20040408)

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

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

— the Committee on Public Finance, to continue the debate on the Budget Speech.

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Motions Without Notice

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

THAT the National Assembly mark Autism Month.

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

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 298, Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, informed the Assembly that the interpellation scheduled for Friday, 9 April 2004, between Mr. Tremblay (Lac-Saint-Jean) and Mr. Mulcair, Minister of the Environment, on "the implementation of the National Water Policy", will be held on Friday, 23 April 2004.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mr. Bellemare, Minister of Justice, moved, —That Bill 40, An Act to amend the Code of Civil Procedure with respect to the time limit for inscription, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 40 was accordingly passed in principle.

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Mr. Mulcair, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 40 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Institutions.

The motion was carried.

Report Stage

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Institutions on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 21, An Act to amend the Civil Code and the Code of Civil Procedure as regards the determination of child support payments.

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

Copy of a letter, dated 2 April 2004, to M^e Pierre Tanguay, secretary of the Comité du suivi du modèle québécois de fixation des pensions alimentaires pour enfants of the Ministère de la Justice, from Mr. Marc Bellemare, Minister of Justice, concerning an additional mandate given to the Comité du suivi.

(Sessional Paper No. 830-20040408)

Copy of a letter, dated 2 April 2004, he had received from Mr. Marc Bellemare, Minister of Justice, concerning an additional mandate given to the Comité du suivi du modèle québécois de fixation des pensions alimentaires pour enfants of the Ministère de la Justice.

(Sessional Paper No. 831-20040408)

And debate continuing;

The debate being concluded, the report was concurred in.

Mr. Mulcair, Deputy Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the sitting until Tuesday, 20 April 2004, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

The motion was carried.

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Accordingly, at 4.18 o'clock p.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Tuesday, 20 April 2004, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

MICHEL BISSONNET

President