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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

## **Votes and Proceedings**

**of the Assembly**

**Wednesday, 31 March 2004 — No. 56**

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

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**QUÉBEC**

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

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**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition**

Mr. Legault (Rousseau) moved:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec deplore the various increases in tariffs ordered by the Liberal Government.

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 parliamentary groups, and individual addresses shall not be limited.

And debate arising on the motion by Mr. Legault (Rousseau);

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.

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

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Mr. Boisclair, Official Opposition House Leader, requested a directive from the Chair concerning the validity of a special order issued by the Government on 25 February 2004 and on the impact this order would have on the examination of the estimates of expenditure by the National Assembly.

Mr. President took the question under advisement.

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At 12.37 o'clock p.m., Mr. President suspended the proceedings until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 2.07 o'clock p.m.

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Moment of reflection

## **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

### **Presenting Papers**

Mr. Bellemare, Minister of Justice, tabled the following:

The report from the Comité de la rémunération des juges de la Cour du Québec, concerning the calculation of the amount of the Court of Québec judges' pension.  
(Sessional Paper No. 775-20040331)

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

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The 2003-2004 report on the situation and needs of families and children of the Conseil de la famille et de l'enfance.

(Sessional Paper No. 776-20040331)

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

An amendment to the Agreement between the Government of Québec and the Odanak and Wölinak band councils, concerning the pursuit of hunting and trapping activities for dietary, ritual or social purposes.

(Sessional Paper No. 777-20040331)

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Mr. President tabled the following:

Copy of a letter, dated 31 March 2004, he had received from Mr. Charest, Premier, concerning the appointment of Mr. Jean-Pierre Paquin, Member for Saint-Jean, as a Member of the Office of the National Assembly, in replacement of Mrs. Sarah Perreault, Member for Chauveau, effective 31 March 2004.

(Sessional Paper No. 778-20040331)

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

The motion was carried.

### **Presenting Reports from Committees**

Mr. Simard (Richelieu), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Institutions, which, on 18, 23, 24 and 25 March 2004, held public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 21, An Act to amend the Civil Code and the Code of Civil Procedure as regards the determination of child support payments.

(Sessional Paper No. 779-20040331)

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Mr. Simard (Richelieu), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Institutions, which met on 30 March 2004 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

- 21 An Act to amend the Civil Code and the Code of Civil Procedure as regards the determination of child support payments.

The report contains certain amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 780-20040331)

### **Presenting Petitions**

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 public tree nurseries within the public network, and signed by 9360 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 781-20040331)

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

The abstract of a petition respecting services provided at the Centre hospitalier d'Amqui, and signed by 6428 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 782-20040331)

### **Oral Questions and Answers**

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

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### **Deferred Divisions**

The Assembly took the division, which had been deferred during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, on the motion moved by Mr. Legault (Rousseau). This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec deplore the various increases in tariffs ordered by the Liberal Government.

The motion was negated on the following vote:

(Division No. **61** in Appendix)

Yeas: **42**   Nays: **65**   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**

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

- the Committee on Education, to continue its public hearings within the framework of a general consultation on the quality, accessibility and funding of Québec universities.

### **Motions Without Notice**

Mr. Audet, Minister of Economic and Regional Development and Research, moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Québec Retail Trade Week, which will be held from 4 to 11 April 2004.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. Delisle (Jean-Talon), Mrs. Maltais (Taschereau) and Mr. Picard (Les Chutes-de-la-Chaudière) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the death of Mrs. Françoise Gamache-Stanton and express its sympathy to her family and friends.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

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Mrs. Leblanc (Beauce-Sud) moved:

THAT the National Assembly congratulate Gesti-Faune, which operates three corporate wilderness retreats, including the Domaine du Lac Portage located in Beauce-Sud, for having been awarded the title of Best Cookbook in the World in any language, in the Best Single Subject category, with its book "Gastronomie et Forêt". This is a world first for Québec.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

### **Notices of Proceedings in Committees**

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

- the Committee on Public Finance, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 20, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère du Revenu and other legislative provisions.
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Mr. Sirros, First Vice-President, gave the following notice:

- the Committee on the National Assembly shall examine the amendments to the election regulations, pursuant to section 550 of the *Election Act*.

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**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**Estimates of Expenditure**

*Interim Supply*

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 188, Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved that the Assembly give general approval to one quarter of the Estimates of Expenditure, pursuant to Standing Orders 280 and 281, according to the following terms and conditions:

THAT immediately this motion is carried, the Assembly resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole;

THAT beginning immediately, for a period of 60 minutes, an exchange shall take place between the Minister responsible for Government Administration, Chair of the Conseil du trésor, and the Members sitting in opposition;

THAT immediately thereafter, for a period of 90 minutes, an exchange shall take place between the Minister of Health and Social Services and the Members sitting in opposition;

THAT subsequently, for a period of 90 minutes, an exchange shall take place between the Minister of Education and the Members sitting in opposition;

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THAT subsequently, for a period of 60 minutes, an exchange shall take place between the Minister for Regional Development and Tourism and the Members sitting in opposition;

THAT immediately thereafter, the question shall be put for concurrence in one quarter of the Estimates of Expenditure for the 2004-2005 fiscal year;

THAT immediately thereafter, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole shall report the interim supply estimates to the Assembly; and the question for concurrence in such report and that for passage of the consequent appropriation bill shall be put without debate, pursuant to the first paragraph of Standing Order 281;

THAT finally, pursuant to the second paragraph of Standing Order 281, on a motion that the Government House Leader shall be permitted to move without notice and that may not be debated, the estimates of expenditure, save those for the National Assembly, shall be referred for consideration to the Standing Committees;

THAT the opening statements concerning each of the exchanges with the aforementioned Ministers be apportioned as follows: five minutes to each parliamentary group and two minutes to the independent Members;

THAT this motion become an order of the Assembly.

The motion was carried.

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Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved that the Assembly resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure for the 2004-2005 fiscal year, with a view to granting Interim Supply, being one quarter of the said Estimates.

The motion was carried.

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*Consideration in Committee of the Whole*

The Committee of the Whole entered upon the consideration of Interim Supply for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2005.

The debate being concluded, Interim Supply for the 2004-2005 fiscal year was concurred in on division.

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The Chairman of the Committee of the Whole reported to the Assembly as follows:

The Committee of the Whole has granted a quarter of Interim Supply in a sum not to exceed \$10,595,983,175.00 to defray a part of the expenditure estimates of Québec tabled in the National Assembly for the 2004-2005 fiscal year not otherwise provided for.

The report was concurred in on division.

Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Chair of the Conseil du trésor and Minister responsible for Government Administration, moved:

THAT Bill 43, Appropriation Act No. 1, 2004-2005, be brought before the Assembly;

THAT this Bill do pass in principle;

THAT this Bill do pass.

This motion was carried on division. Accordingly, Bill 43, Appropriation Act No. 1, 2004-2005, was passed.

Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved that the Estimates of Expenditure for the 2004-2005 fiscal year, save those for the National Assembly, be referred for consideration to the Standing Committees.

This motion was carried.

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Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Thursday, 1 April 2004, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

The motion was carried.

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At 8.59 o'clock p.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 1 April 2004, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

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**ROYAL ASSENT**

On Wednesday, 31 March 2004, at 9.30 o'clock p.m., in Québec City, in the presence of Mrs. Giguère, Director of the Secretariat of the Assembly, Delegate of the Secretary General, the Honourable Lise Thibault, Lieutenant-Governor of Québec, was pleased to assent to the following Bill:

43      Appropriation Act No. 1, 2004-2005.

**MICHEL BISSONNET**

*President*

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APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion moved by Mr. Legault (Rousseau) during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition:

(Division No. 61)

YEAS - 42

Arseneau	Côté	Legendre	Simard
Beaudoin	Cousineau	Léger	St-André
Bédard	Deslières	Lelièvre	Thériault
Boisclair	Dion	Lemieux	<i>[Masson]</i>
Bouchard	Dionne-Marsolais	Létourneau	Tremblay
<i>[Vachon]</i>	Doyer	Maltais	Valois
Boucher	Dufour	Marois	Vermette
Boulerice	Dumont	Pagé	
Bourdeau	Grondin	Papineau	
Caron	Harel	Picard	
Champagne	Landry	Pinard	
Charest	Legault	Richard	
<i>[Rimouski]</i>	<i>[Rousseau]</i>	Robert	

NAYS - 65

Aclair	Cholette	Lafrenière	Pelletier
Audet	Clermont	Lamquin-Éthier	Perreault
Bachand	Corbeil	L'Écuyer	Reid
Beauchamp	Couillard	Legault	Rioux
Béchar	Courchesne	<i>[Chambly]</i>	Séguin
Bellemare	Cusano	Lessard	Soucy
Bergman	Delisle	Loiselle	Théberge
Bernard	Després	MacMillan	Thériault
Bernier	Dubuc	Marcoux	<i>[Anjou]</i>
Blackburn	Dupuis	Marsan	Tomassi
Bordeleau	Fournier	Mercier	Vallières
Boulet	Gabias	Morin	Vien
Brodeur	Gagnon-Tremblay	<i>[Montmagny-L'Islet]</i>	Whissell
Chagnon	Gauthier	Mulcair	
Charest	Gautrin	Normandeau	
<i>[Sherbrooke]</i>	Hamel	Ouimet	
Charest	Houda-Pepin	Paquet	
<i>[Matane]</i>	Jérôme-Forget	Paquin	
Charlebois	Kelley	Paradis	

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