



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Tuesday, 30 March 2004 — No. 55

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

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 2.07 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Introduction of Bills

Mrs. Beauchamp, Minister of Culture and Communications, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

- 42 An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning professional artists.

The motion was carried.

Presenting Papers

Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister responsible for Government Administration, Chair of the Conseil du trésor, transmitted the following Message from the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor, which Mr. President communicated to the Assembly:

OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

The Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor of Québec transmits to the Assembly, in accordance with the provisions of section 54 of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, the Estimates of Expenditure for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2005, and recommends the said Estimates to the consideration of this Assembly.

Québec City, 23 March 2004

Lise Thibault

30 March 2004

Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister responsible for Government Administration, laid upon the Table the Estimates of Expenditure for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2005.
(Sessional Paper No. 759-20040330)

Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, then moved:

THAT, pursuant to Standing Order 280, the Estimates of Expenditure for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2005 be referred to a Committee of the Whole for consideration and for concurrence in one quarter of the said Estimates.

This motion was carried.

Mr. President tabled the following:

Copy of the notice of motion by Mr. Legault (Rousseau) which will be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* of Wednesday, 31 March 2004, under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.
(Sessional Paper No. 760-20040330)

Presenting Petitions

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mr. Bouchard (Vachon) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the operations of Emploi-Québec in the Montérégie region, and signed by 497 citizens of Québec.
(Sessional Paper No. 761-20040330)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

30 March 2004

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mrs. Papineau (Prévost) tabled the following:

Copy of a letter, dated 3 March 2004, she had received from Mr. Roméo Lafond, chairman of the board of directors of La Bellefeuilleoise, concerning the opening of this home for seniors.

(Sessional Paper No. 762-20040330)

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. President gave the following notice:

- the Committee on Public Administration shall hold a meeting to elect its vice-chairman and to hear the Deputy Minister of the Environment on the monitoring and management of water, and subsequently shall hold a deliberative meeting to comment on this hearing.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. President informed the Assembly that on Wednesday, 31 March 2004, during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, a debate will be held on the motion 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.

At 3.05 o'clock p.m., at the request of Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, Mr. President suspended the proceedings until 4.00 o'clock p.m.

30 March 2004

The proceedings resumed at 4.05 o'clock p.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Budget Speech

Mr. Séguin, Minister of Finance, delivered the Budget Speech.

During his address, by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mr. Séguin laid the following documents upon the Table:

- the budget speech 2004-2005;
(Sessional Paper No. 763-20040330)
- the budget plan for 2004-2005;
(Sessional Paper No. 764-20040330)
- Additional information on the 2004-2005 budgetary measures;
(Sessional Paper No. 765-20040330)
- the document entitled "Reducing Income Tax";
(Sessional Paper No. 766-20040330)
- the document entitled "Correcting Fiscal Imbalance";
(Sessional Paper No. 767-20040330)
- the Government of Québec summary of consolidated financial transactions
for the 2003-2004 fiscal year;
(Sessional Paper No. 768-20040330)
- the Government of Québec summary of consolidated financial transactions
2004-2005 forecast;
(Sessional Paper No. 769-20040330)

30 March 2004

- the Government of Québec budgetary revenue of the Consolidated Revenue Fund 2004-2005 forecast;
(Sessional Paper No. 770-20040330)
- the Government of Québec expenditure of the Consolidated Revenue Fund 2004-2005 forecast;
(Sessional Paper No. 771-20040330)
- the Government of Québec budgetary transactions of consolidated organizations 2004-2005 forecast;
(Sessional Paper No. 772-20040330)
- the Government of Québec non-budgetary transactions 2004-2005 forecast;
(Sessional Paper No. 773-20040330)
- the Government of Québec financing transactions 2004-2005 forecast.
(Sessional Paper No. 774-20040330)

At the end of his address, Mr. Séguin moved, —That this Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government.

Mr. Legault (Rousseau) then commented on behalf of the Official Opposition.

Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Wednesday, 31 March 2004, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

The motion was carried.

30 March 2004

Accordingly, at 5.25 o'clock p.m., Mr. President adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 31 March 2004, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

MICHEL BISSONNET

President