



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Thursday, 25 March 2004 — No. 54

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

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 2.08 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Presenting Papers

Mr. President tabled the following Decision from the Office of the National Assembly, dated 16 March 2004:

- Decision 1196 concerning the regulation to amend the regulation respecting Members' allowances (Règlement modifiant le Règlement sur les allocations aux députés).

(Sessional Paper No. 754-20040325)

Presenting Petitions

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

The abstract of a petition respecting the Centre de réadaptation en déficience intellectuelle du Québec, and signed by 3060 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 755-20040325)

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

25 March 2004

The abstract of a petition respecting the adoption of a motion to support Mohamed Cherfi, and signed by 706 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 756-20040325)

Complaints of Breach of Privilege or Contempt and Personal Explanations

Mr. President informed the Assembly that he had received, within the prescribed time, a request from Mr. Séguin, Minister of Finance, to give personal explanations in relation to statements made during Oral Questions and Answers at the sitting of 24 March 2004 and which were published in certain newspapers.

Mr. President ruled that this request was in order and, consequently, allowed the Minister of Finance to give explanations.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mr. Séguin, Minister of Finance, tabled the following:

Documents concerning his declaration of interest as member of the Executive Council and documents relating to blind trust.

(Sessional Paper No. 757-20040325)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

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

Documents describing various cases of families with a child suffering from an intellectual disability, cerebral palsy or trisomy.

(Sessional Paper No. 758-20040325)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, the Assembly immediately took Notices of Proceedings in Committees.

25 March 2004

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

Pursuant to Standing Order 129, Mr. Vallières, Chief Government Whip, moved:

THAT the Member for Frontenac replace the Member for Robert-Baldwin as a member of the Standing Committee on Public Administration;

THAT the Member for Acadie replace the Member for Jean-Talon as a member of the Standing Committee on Education;

THAT the Member for Matane replace the Member for Anjou as a member of the Standing Committee on Public Administration;

THAT the Member for Montmagny-L'Islet be named a member of the Standing Committee on Planning and the Public Domain;

THAT the Member for Robert-Baldwin be named a member of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs.

THAT these modifications be effective immediately.

The motion was carried.

25 March 2004

Pursuant to Standing Order 129, Mrs. Léger, Deputy Opposition Whip, moved:

THAT the Member for Dubuc replace the Member for Prévost as a member of the Standing Committee on Institutions;

THAT the Member for Duplessis replace the Member for Pointe-aux-Trembles as a member of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs;

THAT the Member for Johnson replace the Member for Labelle as a member of the Standing Committee on Labour and the Economy;

THAT the Member for Labelle replace the Member for Dubuc as a member of the Standing Committee on Planning and the Public Domain;

THAT the Member for Prévost replace the Member for Marie-Victorin as a member of the Standing Committee on Culture;

THAT the Member for Terrebonne replace the Member for Berthier as a member of the Standing Committee on Culture;

THAT the Member for Pointe-aux-Trembles replace the Member for Duplessis as a member of the Standing Committee on Culture;

THAT the Member for Berthier replace the Member for Johnson as a member of the Standing Committee on Public Administration;

THAT the Member for Marie-Victorin replace the Member for Terrebonne as a member of the Standing Committee on Public Administration.

THAT these modifications be effective immediately.

The motion was carried.

25 March 2004

Mrs. Vien (Bellechasse) moved:

THAT the National Assembly congratulate the City of Montreal for having been chosen by UNESCO as World Book Capital 2005.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Mrs. Maltais (Taschereau) moved a motion concerning the death of Mrs. Françoise Gamache-Stanton; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- 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;
- the Committee on Institutions, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 21, An Act to amend the Civil Code and the Code of Civil Procedure as regards the determination of child support payments.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. President informed the Assembly that on Friday, 2 April 2004, Mr. Simard (Richelieu) would question Mrs. Jérôme-Forget, Minister responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, during an interpellation on "the reengineering of the Québec State".

25 March 2004

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage

Mr. Marcoux, Minister of Transport, on behalf of Mrs. Boulet, Minister for Transport, moved the passage of Bill 29, An Act to amend the Highway Safety Code and other legislative provisions.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and, accordingly, Bill 29 was passed.

At 4.10 o'clock p.m., at the request of Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, Mr. President suspended the proceedings.

The proceedings resumed at 5.01 o'clock p.m.

Debates Upon Adjournment

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 309, the Assembly held two debates upon adjournment:

- the first, on a question by Mrs. Lemieux (Bourget) to Mrs. Beauchamp, Minister of Culture and Communications, about the organization of the regional forums and of the national forum;
- the second, on a question by Mr. Jutras (Drummond) to Mr. Marcoux, Minister of Transport, about the extension of Highway 30.

25 March 2004

Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Tuesday, 30 March 2004, at 2.00 o'clock p.m.

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, at 5.26 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Leblanc, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Tuesday, 30 March 2004, at 2.00 o'clock p.m.

MICHEL BISSONNET

President