



Votes and Proceedings
Friday, 5 December 2003 - No. 37

Ten o'clock
President: Mr. Michel Bissonnet

The paper version of the Votes and Proceedings takes precedence over its electronic equivalent.

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The Assembly was called to order at 10.05 o'clock a.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Presenting Papers

Mr. Reid, Minister of Education, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Commission des programmes d'études for the fiscal year ended 30 June 2003.

(Sessional Paper No. 525-20031205)

A consultation paper prepared by the Ministère de l'Éducation entitled "Commission parlementaire sur la qualité, l'accessibilité et le financement des universités".

(Sessional Paper No. 526-20031205)

Mr. President tabled the following:

A letter, dated 4 December 2003, he had received from Mr. Charest, Premier, regarding the appointment of Mr. Tony Tomassi, the Member for LaFontaine, as member of the Office of the National Assembly, effective 5 December 2003.

(Sessional Paper No. 527-20031205)

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 Petitions

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, the abstracts of three petitions respecting the maintaining and development of non profit community-owned housing were laid upon the Table:

- the first, being the abstract of a petition signed by 990 tenants of non profit community-owned housing in the riding of Matapédia, by Mrs. Doyer (Matapédia);
(Sessional Paper No. 528-20031205)
 - the second, being the abstract of a petition signed by 269 tenants of non profit community-owned housing in the riding of Chapleau, by Mrs. L'Écuyer (Pontiac);
(Sessional Paper No. 529-20031205)
 - the third, being the abstract of a petition signed by 479 tenants of non profit community-owned housing in Shawinigan, by Mrs. Gaudet (Maskinongé).
(Sessional Paper No. 530-20031205)
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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mr. Pinard (Saint-Maurice) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting a reduction in the number of wildlife conservation officers and signed by 11,306 members of the Syndicat des agents de conservation de la faune du Québec and citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 531-20031205)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the Committee on Education hold a general consultation and public hearings beginning on 17 February 2004 for the purpose of examining the issues surrounding the quality, accessibility and funding of Québec universities;

THAT all briefs be submitted to the Secretariat of Committees by 6 February 2004;

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

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, the motion was carried.

Mrs. Legault (Chambly) moved:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec remember the tragedy that took place at École polytechnique de Montréal, on 6 December 1989, and that each of its Members commit themselves to taking action in order to make Québec an increasingly open, tolerant and non violent society with regard to women.

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

The Assembly observed a minute of silence.

And debate continuing;

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

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 Social Affairs, to continue its special consultations within the framework of the consideration of Bill 30, An Act respecting bargaining units in the social affairs sector and amending the Act respecting the process of negotiation of the collective agreements in the public and parapublic sectors.

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 143.1, Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the Committee on Social Affairs, within the framework of the consultations it is holding on Bill 25, An Act respecting local health and social services network development agencies, hear the following groups on Monday, 8 December 2003, in the Legislative Council Room, according to the order indicated hereafter:

11.45 o'clock a.m.	Solidarité rurale du Québec
12.30 o'clock p.m.	Ordre des infirmières
4.45 o'clock p.m.	Confédération des organismes de personnes handicapées du Québec
5.30 o'clock p.m.	Association des groupes de défense en santé mentale du Québec

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6.15 o'clock p.m. Fédération CJA

The presentation by each individual and group shall last no more than 15 minutes and the exchange with the members of the Committee shall last no more than 30 minutes, which time shall be shared equally among the members of the parliamentary group forming the Government and the Members sitting in Opposition.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, the motion was carried.

Mr. Béchard, Minister of Employment, Social Solidarity and Family Welfare, moved:

THAT the National Assembly, on this 5 December 2003, mark International Volunteers Day by paying tribute to the commitment and contribution of those Quebecers who give generously of their time and energy to improve the quality of life of their fellow citizens.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Mrs. Boulet, Minister for Transport, moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the 20th edition of Opération Nez Rouge.

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

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

- the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 33, An Act to amend the Charter of Ville de Montréal, and of Bill 23, An Act to again amend various legislative provisions concerning municipal affairs;
- the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 27, An Act respecting commercial aquaculture, and to Bill 28, An Act to amend the Animal Health Protection Act;
- the Committee on Social Affairs, to continue its special consultations within the framework of the consideration of Bill 25, An Act respecting local health and social services network development agencies.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Report Stage

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Education on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 19, An Act to amend the Act respecting financial assistance for education expenses.

After debate thereon, the report was concurred in.

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 22, An Act to amend the Cooperatives Act.

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After debate thereon, the report was concurred in.

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 13, An Act to amend the Mining Act.

After debate thereon, the report was concurred in.

Passage in Principle

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned on 28 November 2003, on the motion by Mr. Audet, Minister of Economic and Regional Development, —That Bill 34, An Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional, do now pass in principle.

At 1.00 o'clock p.m., Mr. Sirros, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 3.07 o'clock p.m.

And debate continuing on the motion by Mr. Audet, Minister of Economic and Regional Development, —That Bill 34, An Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional, do now pass in principle;

At 5.59 o'clock p.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 8.00 o'clock p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 8.05 o'clock p.m.

Passage in Principle

And debate continuing on the motion by Mr. Audet, Minister of Economic and Regional Development, —That Bill 34, An Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique et régional, do now pass in principle;

Mr. Bédard, Deputy Opposition House Leader, moved the adjournment of the debate.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Tuesday, 9 December 2003, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, at 11.23 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Leblanc, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Tuesday, 9 December 2003, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

MICHEL BISSONNET

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President