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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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FIRST SESSION

FORTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

## **Votes and Proceedings**

**of the Assembly**

**Thursday, 3 November 2016 — No. 204**

**President of the National Assembly:  
Mr. Jacques Chagnon**

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**QUÉBEC**







The Assembly was called to order at 9.40 o'clock a.m.

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## **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

### **Statements by Members**

Mr. Morin (Côte-du-Sud) made a statement to congratulate Ville de Montmagny on winning the Groupe Entreprises en santé “Distinction” award.

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Mr. Gendron (Abitibi-Ouest) made a statement to congratulate the winners of the Finale internationale du Challenge francophone d'entrepreneurship.

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Mr. Polo (Laval-des-Rapides) made a statement to underline the success of Laval's Colloque intergénérationnel.

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Mr. Roberge (Chambly) made a statement to congratulate Mr. Philip Brault and Mr. Benjamin Joanis on their performances at the Championnat québécois de wakeboard Bisson Chevrolet.

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Mr. D'Amour (Rivière-du-Loup-Témiscouata) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Réjean Thériault for his 55-year career as a firefighter.



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Mrs. David (Gouin) made a statement to pay tribute to Mrs. Monique Verschelden for her community involvement.

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Mr. Proulx (Jean-Talon) made a statement to underline Financial Literacy Month.

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Mrs. Soucy (Saint-Hyacinthe) made a statement to underline the work of the organization Jeunes en santé.

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Mr. Leitão (Robert-Baldwin) made a statement to pay tribute to Mrs. Joyce Elizabeth Cobb Fennell for her political and social involvement.

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Mr. Villeneuve (Berthier) made a statement to congratulate the elected officials of the regional county municipality of D'Au-tray for highlighting Québec's culture and history.

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At 9.52 o'clock a.m., Mrs. Gaudreault, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

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The proceedings resumed at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

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Moment of reflection

The President informed the Assembly that he had, within the prescribed time, received a request for an urgent debate from Mr. Bonnardel, Second Opposition Group House Leader, concerning troubling revelations regarding police surveillance of journalists and journalists' sources.

He then ruled the following:

#### **RULING FROM THE CHAIR**

To determine whether a request for an urgent debate is receivable, the Chair must examine the criteria stipulated in the Standing Orders and in jurisprudence. The request must concern a specific subject under the Assembly's jurisdiction that cannot otherwise be discussed or that could not otherwise have been discussed. In addition, the subject must concern a sudden, acute crisis or worsening of an existing situation.

In this case, the subject of the request undeniably falls within the jurisdiction of the Québec State. Furthermore, the main admissibility criterion consists in determining the urgency of holding such a debate. The circumstances must be exceptional and the subject so important that it justifies interrupting the legislative proceedings of the Assembly.

Given recent information showing that this matter involves more than one police unit and a number of journalists, it can be qualified as the worsening of a situation, for which Members have shown a marked interest since the beginning of the week. Under these circumstances, the matter is important enough to justify holding an urgent debate and interrupting legislative proceedings.

Therefore, the request for an urgent debate is receivable.



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## **Presenting Papers**

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, tabled the following:

The Government's reply to petitions tabled on 22 September 2016 by Mrs. Lamarre (Taillon) on adding health care personnel in residential and long-term care centres (CHSLD) and local community service centres (CLSC);  
(Sessional Paper No. 2715-20161103)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 22 September 2016 by Mrs. Lamarre (Taillon) on recognition of the right to health in Québec;  
(Sessional Paper No. 2716-20161103)

The reply to a written question from Mr. Roberge (Chambly) asking the Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports if he intends to approach the Commission scolaire des Laurentides to encourage it to set up a special project to address the lack of space for Piedmont students – Question No. 199, *Order Paper and Notices* of 18 October 2016;  
(Sessional Paper No. 2717-20161103)

The reply to a written question from Mr. Roberge (Chambly) asking the Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports if he intends to take action regarding young people suffering from dysphasia and their families and asking that the Québec Dysphasia and Verbal Dyspraxia Week be posted on the MELS website – Question No. 200, *Order Paper and Notices* of 18 October 2016.  
(Sessional Paper No. 2718-20161103)

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The President tabled the following:

A letter, dated 25 October 2016, from Mr. Lawrence MacAulay, the federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, in response to the motion concerning diafiltered milk carried unanimously by the Assembly on 2 June 2016;  
(Sessional Paper No. 2719-20161103)



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A letter, dated 2 November 2016, from Mr. Marc Lacroix, President of the Commission de la fonction publique, informing the President of his resignation from that office following his appointment as Deputy Minister of Transport, Sustainable Mobility and Transport Electrification, effective 7 November 2016.

(Sessional Paper No. 2720-20161103)

### **Presenting Reports from Committees**

Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière), Committee Chair, tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on Public Administration, which elected its Chair on 2 November 2016.

(Sessional Paper No. 2721-20161103)

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Mrs. Rotiroti (Jeanne-Mance–Viger), Committee Chair, tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on Culture and Education, which met on 29 September, on 5, 6, 26 and 27 October and on 1 November 2016, for clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 105, An Act to amend the Education Act. The report contains amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 2722-20161103)

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Mr. Hardy (Saint-François), Committee member, tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy, which elected its Chair on 2 November 2016;

(Sessional Paper No. 2723-20161103)



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The report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy, which met on 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22 and 23 March, on 5, 7, 12, 27 and 28 April, on 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 24, 25, 26 and 31 May, on 1, 2, 7, 8 and 9 June, on 23 and 24 August, on 20, 22 and 28 September, on 4, 19, 20, 25, 26 and 27 October and on 1 November 2016 for clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 70, An Act to allow a better match between training and jobs and to facilitate labour market entry. The report contains amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 2724-20161103)

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Mr. Spénard (Beauce-Nord), Committee Vice-Chair, tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on Public Finance, which elected its Vice-Chair on 2 November 2016.

(Sessional Paper No. 2725-20161103)

### **Presenting Petitions**

Mr. Jolin-Barrette (Borduas) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition on construction on the Lacaille and Brodeur bridges in the municipality of Saint-Jean-Baptiste, signed by 243 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 2726-20161103)

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Mr. Jolin-Barrette (Borduas) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition on building a new school in Mont-Saint-Hilaire, signed by 686 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 2727-20161103)



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### **Oral Questions and Answers**

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

At the request of the President, Mr. Caire, Deputy Leader of the Second Opposition Group, withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

### **Deferred Divisions**

The Assembly took the division, which had been deferred at the sitting of 2 November 2016, on the motion moved by Mrs. Roy (Montarville) during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.

This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly recognize Québec's significant shortcomings in the area of immigrant integration, francization and employability;

THAT the Assembly ask the Government to reduce annual immigration thresholds to 40,000, step up efforts to integrate immigrants and improve their French-language skills and implement mandatory francization classes for newcomers.

The motion was negated on the following vote:

(Division No. **250** in Appendix)

Yeas: **18**    Nays: **86**    Abstentions: **0**



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**Motions Without Notice**

Mr. Charette (Deux-Montagnes), together with Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier), moved a motion concerning the appointments of the Director General of the Sûreté du Québec and the Anti-Corruption Commissioner; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Couillard, Premier, together with Mr. Lisée, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Legault, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, and Mrs. David (Gouin), moved:

THAT the National Assembly congratulate the finalists of the Forum des jeunes de la fonction publique québécoise's 14th "Prix reconnaissance" awards ceremony;

THAT it applaud the professional skills and leadership of these young Québec public service employees, aged 35 and under, and their determination to do outstanding work within the Québec public service;

THAT, lastly, it underline the contribution of the government department and public body authorities and managers who encourage these young people to actively integrate into and thrive within their respective work teams and organizations.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

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Mrs. Maltais (Taschereau), together with Mr. Caire (La Peltrie) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier), moved a motion to hold a parliamentary committee on allegations of fraud within the Société immobilière du Québec; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques), together with Mrs. Léger (Pointe-aux-Trembles) and Mr. Caire (La Peltrie), moved a motion concerning an amendment to section 6 of Bill 87, An Act to facilitate the disclosure of wrongdoings within public bodies; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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

Mr. Tanguay, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following committees:

- the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 106, An Act to implement the 2030 Energy Policy and to amend various legislative provisions;
- the Committee on Public Finance, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 87, An Act to facilitate the disclosure of wrongdoings within public bodies; and then, hold public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 693, An Act to amend the Act respecting the governance of state-owned enterprises to promote the presence of young people on the boards of directors of such enterprises;
- the Committee on Education, to hold public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 114, An Act to modernize the governance of national museums.



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And by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 143, he convened the following committee:

- the Committee on Institutions, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 62, An Act to foster adherence to State religious neutrality and, in particular, to provide a framework for religious accommodation requests in certain bodies.

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Mrs. Gaudreault, Second Vice-President, gave the following notices:

- the Committee on Public Administration shall hold a deliberative meeting to prepare the hearing involving the Société des alcools du Québec on Chapter 6 of the Spring 2016 Report of the Auditor General of Québec entitled “Société des alcools du Québec: Purchase and Sale of Alcoholic Beverages and Performance”; then, hold a public meeting to hear the Société des alcools du Québec; and finally, hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the observations, conclusions and recommendations, if any, following this hearing;
- the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources shall hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the possibility of examining an order of initiative;
- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment shall hold a meeting to elect its Vice-Chair.

### **Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly**

Mrs. Gaudreault, Second Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Friday, 11 November 2016, Mr. Villeneuve (Berthier) would question Mr. Paradis, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, during an interpellation on the following subject: The sharp increase in taxes farmers will undergo following the changes made by the Liberal Government to the farm property tax credit program.



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## **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

### **Urgent Debates**

Before entering upon the urgent debate on troubling revelations regarding police surveillance of journalists and journalists' sources, Mrs. Gaudreault, Second Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings during this debate: 57 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government, 33 minutes 15 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition, 23 minutes 45 seconds to the Second Opposition Group, and 6 minutes to the independent Members. Within this framework, any time not used by the independent Members or by a parliamentary group shall be redistributed among the parliamentary groups in the proportions established above. Lastly, individual addresses shall not be limited.

The urgent debate arose thereon.

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At 1.00 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Gaudreault, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 3.01 o'clock p.m.

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The Assembly continued the urgent debate on troubling revelations regarding police surveillance of journalists and journalists' sources.

The debate expired and, pursuant to Standing Order 91, no question was put.

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Mrs. Vien, Deputy Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Tuesday, 8 November 2016 at 1.40 o'clock p.m.

The motion was carried.

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Accordingly, at 3.33 o'clock p.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Tuesday, 8 November 2016 at 1.40 o'clock p.m.

**JACQUES CHAGNON**

*President*



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**APPENDIX**

**Recorded Divisions**

On the motion moved by Mrs. Roy (Montarville):

**(Division No. 250)**

**YEAS - 18**

Bonnardel (CAQ)	Laframboise (CAQ)	Picard (CAQ)	Schneeberger (CAQ)
Caire (CAQ)	Lavallée (CAQ)	Roberge (CAQ)	Soucy (CAQ)
Charette (CAQ)	Legault (CAQ)	Roy (CAQ)	Spénard (CAQ)
D'Amours (CAQ)	Martel (CAQ)	(Montarville)	Surprenant (CAQ)
Jolin-Barrette (CAQ)	Paradis (CAQ)	Samson (CAQ)	
	(Lévis)		

**NAYS - 86**

Arcand (QLP)	de Santis (QLP)	Lisée (PQ)	Roy (PQ)
Auger (QLP)	Drolet (QLP)	Maltais (PQ)	(Bonaventure)
Barrette (QLP)	Fortin (QLP)	Marceau (PQ)	Sauvé (QLP)
Bergeron (PQ)	(Pontiac)	Massé (IND)	Simard (QLP)
Bérubé (PQ)	Fournier (QLP)	Matte (QLP)	(Dubuc)
Billette (QLP)	Gaudreault (PQ)	Ménard (QLP)	Simard (QLP)
Birnbaum (QLP)	(Jonquière)	Merlini (QLP)	(Charlevoix-Côte-de-Beaupré)
Blais (QLP)	Giguère (QLP)	Montpetit (QLP)	St-Denis (QLP)
Blanchette (QLP)	Girard (QLP)	Morin (QLP)	St-Pierre (QLP)
Bolduc (QLP)	Hamad (QLP)	Nichols (QLP)	Tanguay (QLP)
Boucher (QLP)	Hardy (QLP)	Ouellet (PQ)	Thériault (QLP)
Boulet (QLP)	Heurtel (QLP)	(Vachon)	Therrien (PQ)
Bourgeois (QLP)	Hivon (PQ)	Ouellet (PQ)	Traversy (PQ)
Busque (QLP)	Huot (QLP)	(René-Lévesque)	Tremblay (QLP)
Carrière (QLP)	Iracà (QLP)	Ouellette (QLP)	Turcotte (PQ)
Charbonneau (QLP)	Jean (PQ)	Pagé (PQ)	Vallée (QLP)
Charlebois (QLP)	Kelley (QLP)	Paradis (QLP)	Vien (QLP)
Cloutier (PQ)	Khadir (IND)	(Brome-Missisquoi)	Villeneuve (PQ)
Coiteux (QLP)	Kotto (PQ)	Poirier (PQ)	Weil (QLP)
Couillard (QLP)	Lamarre (PQ)	Polo (QLP)	
Cousineau (PQ)	LeBel (PQ)	Proulx (QLP)	
D'Amour (QLP)	Leclair (PQ)	Reid (QLP)	
David (IND)	Léger (PQ)	Rochon (PQ)	
(Gouin)	Leitão (QLP)	Rotiroti (QLP)	
David (QLP)	Lelièvre (PQ)	Rousselle (QLP)	
(Outremont)	Lessard (QLP)		