



***Votes and Proceedings
Tuesday, 10 June 2003 - No. 2003***

Ten o'clock
President: Mr. Michel Bissonnet

The paper version of the Votes and Proceedings takes precedence over its electronic equivalent. The headings under the table of contents are neither all-inclusive nor restrictive.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Assembly was called to order at 10.04 o'clock a.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

The Official Opposition House Leader raised a point of privilege following an article published in *Le Soleil* newspaper on 10 June 2003.

At 10.13 o'clock a.m., Mr. President suspended the proceedings.

The proceedings resumed at 10.28 o'clock a.m.

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

The President ruled that the Official Opposition House Leader may not raise his question of privilege at this stage of the proceedings.

There are two periods when a question of privilege may be raised: immediately after the fact or not later than one hour before the Routine Proceedings are to be taken. Thus, the question raised by the Official Opposition House Leader was not raised immediately after the fact, since he based his question on an article published early this morning. The Official Opposition House Leader therefore had the requisite time to hand in a notice to the President, pursuant to Standing Order 69.

Introduction of Bills

Mr. Bergman, Minister of Revenue, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

10 June 2003

- 3 An Act to amend the Taxation Act, the Act respecting the Québec sales tax and other legislative provisions

The motion was carried.

Presenting Papers

Mr. Audet, Minister of Economic and Regional Development, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Société générale de financement du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 31-20030610)

The annual report of Sidbec for the fiscal year ended 31 October 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 32-20030610)

The annual report of the Régie des installations olympiques for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 33-20030610)

Mr. Bergman, Minister of Revenue, tabled the following:

An agreement between the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec and the Ministère du Revenu relating to the release of information.

(Sessional Paper No. 34-20030610)

The fourth update of the Plan d'utilisation des fichiers de renseignements and an opinion from the Commission d'accès à l'information.

(Sessional Paper No. 35-20030610)

Mr. President tabled the following, pursuant to section 91 of the *Act respecting the National Assembly*:

10 June 2003

The list of the Members designated as members and substitute members of the Office of the National Assembly:

By the Québec Liberal Party:

- Mr. Daniel Bernard (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue), Mr. André Chenail (Huntingdon), Mrs. Julie Boulet (Laviolette), Mr. Éric Mercier (Charlesbourg), and Mrs. Sarah Perreault (Chauveau) as members; Mr. Yvon Vallières (Richmond), Mr. Norman MacMillan (Papineau), Mrs. Nicole Loiselle (Saint-Henri–Sainte-Anne), Mrs. Margaret Delisle (Jean-Talon), and Mr. Geoffrey Kelley (Jacques-Cartier) as substitute members.

(Sessional Paper No. 36-20030610)

By the Parti Québécois:

- Mr. Guy Lelièvre (Gaspé), Mr. Claude Pinard (Saint-Maurice), and Mr. Michel Létourneau (Ungava) as members; Mr. Michel Morin (Nicolet-Yamaska), Mr. Sylvain Pagé (Labelle), and Mrs. Lucie Papineau (Prévost) as substitute members.

(Sessional Paper No. 37-20030610)

By Action Démocratique du Québec:

- Mr. Mario Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) as member; Mr. Marc Picard (Les Chutes-de-la-Chaudière) as substitute member.

(Sessional Paper No. 38-20030610)

Mr. Sirros, First Vice-President, moved that the list of members and substitute members of the Office of the National Assembly be adopted and come into effect beginning on 10 June 2003.

The motion was carried.

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mrs. Dionne-Marsolais (Rosemont), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Public Administration, which met on 6 June 2003 to elect its chairman and vice-chairman.

(Sessional Paper No. 39-20030610)

10 June 2003

Mrs. Thériault (Anjou), vice-chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Institutions, which met on 6 June 2003 to elect its chairman and vice-chairman.

(Sessional Paper No. 40-20030610)

Mr. Paquet (Laval-des-Rapides), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Public Finance, which met on 6 June 2003 to elect its chairman and vice-chairman.

(Sessional Paper No. 41-20030610)

Mr. Copeman (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Social Affairs, which met on 6 June 2003 to elect its chairman and vice-chairman.

(Sessional Paper No. 42-20030610)

Mrs. Lemieux (Bourget), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy, which met on 6 June 2003 to elect its chairman and vice-chairman.

(Sessional Paper No. 43-20030610)

Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, which met on 6 June 2003 to elect its chairman and vice-chairman.

(Sessional Paper No. 44-20030610)

10 June 2003

Mr. Ouimet (Marquette), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, which met on 6 June 2003 to elect its chairman and vice-chairman.

(Sessional Paper No. 45-20030610)

Mr. Kelley (Jacques-Cartier), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Education, which met on 6 June 2003 to elect its chairman and vice-chairman.

(Sessional Paper No. 46-20030610)

Mr. Mercier (Charlesbourg), member, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Culture, which met on 6 June 2003 to elect its chairman and vice-chairman.

(Sessional Paper No. 47-20030610)

Mrs. Harel (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, which met on 6 June 2003 to elect its chairman and vice-chairman.

(Sessional Paper No. 48-20030610)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Boisclair, Official Opposition House Leader, tabled the following:

Copy of a letter, dated 9 June 2003, addressed to Mr. Charest, Premier, by Mr. Landry, Leader of the Official Opposition, concerning a motion proposing that the Committee on Public Finance hear the authors of the *Rapport sur la situation financière prévisible du gouvernement au 15 avril 2003* (report on the foreseeable financial situation of the Government as at 15 April 2003).

(Sessional Paper No. 49-20030610)

10 June 2003

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Landry, Leader of the Official Opposition, tabled the following:

An article entitled "227 M\$ en moins aux entreprises", published on 10 June 2003 in *Le Soleil* newspaper.

(Sessional Paper No. 50-20030610)

Motions Without Notice

Mrs. Gagnon-Tremblay, Deputy Premier and Minister responsible for La Francophonie, moved:

THAT the National Assembly express its solidarity and its support to the Algerian people and to the families of the victims of the violent earthquake, which, on 21 May last, struck their country, leaving thousands dead, injured and missing;

THAT the Members of the National Assembly of Québec share with our fellow citizens of Algerian origin their concern and anguish.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

At the invitation of Mr. President, the Assembly then observed a minute of silence.

Mr. Mulcair, Minister of the Environment, moved:

10 June 2003

THAT the National Assembly join the international community in marking the year 2003, which was declared International Fresh Water Year by the United Nations;

THAT the National Assembly join the international community in marking 8 June, which is both World Oceans Day and National Rivers Day.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Mr. Cholette (Hull) moved:

THAT the National Assembly congratulate the Mayor of Gatineau, Mr. Yves Ducharme, for his election as president of the Canadian Federation of Municipalities.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Opening Speech Debate of the Session

The Assembly resumed the debate, adjourned on 6 June 2003, on the Opening Speech of the Session and on the want of confidence motions moved by Mr. Landry, Leader of the Official Opposition and by Mrs. Caron (Terrebonne).

10 June 2003

At 12.59 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Leblanc, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 3.00 o'clock p.m.

Opening Speech Debate of the Session

And debate continuing on the Opening Speech and on the want of confidence motions moved by Mr. Landry, Leader of the Official Opposition and Mrs. Caron (Terrebonne);

At the end of his speech, Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly vigorously denounce the Liberal Government for its lack of foresight and concrete measures to deal with the aging of the population in Québec.

And debate continuing on the Opening Speech and on the want of confidence motions moved by Mr. Landry, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mrs. Caron (Terrebonne), and Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup);

At the end of his speech, Mr. Picard (Les Chutes-de-la-Chaudière) moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly severely reprimand the Liberal Government for having omitted to announce a debt reimbursement plan during the Opening Speech.

And debate continuing on the Opening Speech and on the want of confidence motions moved by Mr. Landry, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mrs. Caron (Terrebonne), Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) and Mr. Picard (Les Chutes-de-la-Chaudière);

At the end of her speech, Mrs. Roy (Lotbinière) moved the following want of confidence motion:

10 June 2003

THAT the National Assembly condemn the Liberal Government for not having respected its promise to open more operating rooms from the day after the election in order to reduce waiting times.

And debate continuing on the Opening Speech and on the want of confidence motions moved by Mr. Landry, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mrs. Caron (Terrebonne), Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup), Mr. Picard (Les Chutes-de-la-Chaudière) and Mrs. Roy (Lotbinière);

At 6.00 o'clock p.m., Mr. Sirros, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 8.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 8.07 o'clock p.m.

Opening Speech Debate of the Session

And debate continuing on the Opening Speech and on the want of confidence motions moved by Mr. Landry, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mrs. Caron (Terrebonne), Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup), Mr. Picard (Les Chutes-de-la-Chaudière) and Mrs. Roy (Lotbinière);

At the end of his speech, Mr. Boulerice (Sainte-Marie—Saint-Jacques) moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly condemn the conservative Government of the Québec Liberal Party for presenting to Québec society – recognized as friendly, tolerant and advanced as regards immigrant integration – a retrograde and divisive vision which, rather than uniting Quebecers in their likeness, categorizes and ghettoizes them on the basis of their differences and for imperiling the regionalization efforts made by the previous Governments;

10 June 2003

THAT the National Assembly also condemn the current Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration, who disowns the past action of Minister Gérard Godin and of the current Deputy Premier, the Member for Saint-François.

And debate continuing;

Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, ruled that the want of confidence motion moved by Mr. Boulerice (Sainte-Marie—Saint-Jacques) was out of order, particularly on the ground that it contains recitals.

And debate continuing;

At the end of his speech, Mr. Bédard (Chicoutimi) moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly denounce the negligence of the Liberal Government, which, by its failure to act, paralyzes the Highway 175 construction work and which fails to make a priority thereof in the Opening Speech.

At 11.59 o'clock p.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 11 June 2003, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

MICHEL BISSONNET

President