



Votes and Proceedings
Tuesday, 3 December 2002 - No. 137

Ten o'clock
President : Mrs. Louise Harel

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 10.06 o'clock a.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Introduction of Bills

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

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

The motion was carried.

Mr. Legendre, Minister responsible for Wildlife and Parks, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

- 147 An Act to amend the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife.

The motion was carried.

Presenting Papers

Mr. Sylvain Simard, Minister of State for Education and Employment, tabled the following:

3 December 2002

The annual management report of the Commission d'évaluation de l'enseignement collégial for the fiscal year ended 30 June 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 1649-20021203)

Mr. Rochon, Minister of State for Human Resources and Labour, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Corporation des maîtres électriciens for the fiscal year ended 31 July 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 1650-20021203)

The Strategic Plan, 2002-2005, of the Régie du bâtiment.

(Sessional Paper No. 1651-20021203)

The annual management report of the Régie du bâtiment for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 1652-20021203)

The annual management report of the Commission de l'équité salariale for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 1653-20021203)

Mr. Ménard, Minister of Public Security, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Ministère de la Sécurité publique for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 1654-20021203)

Mr. Jutras, Minister of Justice, tabled the following:

The annual reports, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2002, of the following professional orders:

3 December 2002

- Ordre des ergothérapeutes du Québec
(Sessional Paper No. 1655-20021203)
- Ordre des évaluateurs agréés du Québec
(Sessional Paper No. 1656-20021203)
- Ordre des géologues du Québec
(Sessional Paper No. 1657-20021203)

Mrs. Papineau, Minister for Industry and Trade, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Ministère de l'Industrie et du Commerce for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2002.
(Sessional Paper No. 1658-20021203)

Mr. Simard, Deputy Government House Leader, tabled the following:

Answer to a petition presented on 15 October 2002 by Mrs. Blanchet (Crémazie) concerning the Vidéotron labour dispute.
(Sessional Paper No. 1659-20021203)

Answer to a petition presented on 17 October 2002 by Mrs. Gauthier (Jonquière) concerning the Métabetchouan ambulance centre.
(Sessional Paper No. 1660-20021203)

Answer to a petition presented on 24 October 2002 by Mr. Benoit (Orford) concerning the coordination centre for ambulance emergency calls in the Eastern Townships.
(Sessional Paper No. 1661-20021203)

Answer to a petition presented on 30 October 2002 by Mrs. Bélanger (Mégantic-Compton) concerning the Eastern Townships emergency calls coordination centre.
(Sessional Paper No. 1662-20021203)

3 December 2002

Madam President tabled the following:

The Strategic Plan, 2002-2004, of the administration of the National Assembly.
(Sessional Paper No. 1663-20021203)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Pinard (Saint-Maurice), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, which met on 29 November 2002 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

134 An Act to establish the Fonds national de l'eau.

The report does not contain any amendments to the bill.
(Sessional Paper No. 1664-20021203)

Mr. Beaumier (Champlain), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Culture, which met on 29 November 2002 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

125 An Act to amend the National Museums Act.

The report contains an amendment to the bill.
(Sessional Paper No. 1665-20021203)

Madam President gave the following directive on a question raised at the sitting of 26 November 2002 by the Member for Louis-Hébert concerning the impact that the arrival of a sixth independent Member had on the number of questions granted to the independent Members as well as the distribution of questions among the latter:

3 December 2002

DIRECTIVE FROM THE CHAIR

Owing to the new composition of the Assembly and to the discretionary authority of the President, the ratio of two questions per five sittings has been increased to two questions per four sittings. The manner in which the main questions will be distributed shall devolve upon the independent Members. The Chair will give the floor to the independent Member who will rise when permitted to do so. If more than one independent Member rises, the Chair will give the floor to the independent Members in alternation as regards the granting of a main question.

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Després (Limoilou) tabled the following:

Copies of two letters, dated 9 May 2002 and 12 November 2002, addressed to Mr. Denis Carbonneau, director general of the Centre hospitalier affilié universitaire de Québec, by Mr. Martin Lessard, head of the intensive care unit, concerning the programme for serious burn victims.

(Sessional Paper No. 1666-20021203)

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. Simard, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

3 December 2002

- the Committee on Social Affairs, to hold special consultations on Bill 113, An Act to amend the Act respecting health services and social services as regards the safe provision of health services and social services, and to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 126, An Act to amend the Act respecting income support, employment assistance and social solidarity and the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale and establishing the Commission des partenaires du marché du travail;
- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to hold special consultations on Bill 143, An Act to amend the Act respecting labour standards and other legislative provisions;
- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to hold a special consultation and to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 115, An Act to amend the Highway Safety Code and the Act respecting the Ministère du Revenu, and to hold special consultations on Bill 129, Natural Heritage Conservation Act;
- the Committee on Education, to hold special consultations on Bill 131, An Act to amend the Education Act as regards the school tax on the island of Montréal and amending other legislative provisions.

Mr. Brouillet, First Vice-President, rendered a decision on the question raised by the Official Opposition House Leader and taken under advisement on Friday, 29 November 2002, by Mr. Beaulne, Second Vice-President, concerning the receivability of a motion without notice moved by the Government House Leader. The motion announced the holding of special consultations by the Committee on Social Affairs in addition to the rescinding of an order adopted at the sitting of Thursday, 28 November 2002.

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

According to the second paragraph of Standing Order 186, an order or a resolution may be discharged or rescinded only upon motion by a minister to that effect, which motion shall not require notice. On this basis, under the provisions prescribed in the Standing Orders, the motion by the Government House Leader for the holding of special consultations should have been preceded by a separate motion without notice by the Government House Leader or by a minister in order to rescind the order adopted at

3 December 2002

the previous sitting. Standing Order 146 states that only the Government House Leader or a minister may move a motion to refer a matter to a committee for its examination. In this case, the motion moved by the Government House Leader on Friday could not contain two different orders, namely the referral of Bill 142 to a committee for special consultations and the rescinding of the order adopted at the previous sitting.

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Roger Bertrand, Minister for Health, Social Services, Youth Protection and Prevention, moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark International Day
for Disabled Persons.

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Want of Confidence Motion

Mr. Charest, Leader of the Official Opposition, moved:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Government of the Parti Québécois for its inability to meet the priorities of Quebecers as well as for its refusal to reduce the tax burden of Quebecers and to reinvest the required amounts to assure the quality and accessibility of public health, education and family support services.

3 December 2002

Before the debate began, Mr. Brouillet, First Vice-President, announced the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this want of confidence motion: fifteen minutes shall be allotted for a reply by its mover and ten minutes shall be set aside for the independent Members; the two parliamentary groups shall share equally the rest of the time allotted for this debate; within this framework, any time not used by a parliamentary group or by the independent Members may be redistributed, and individual addresses shall not otherwise be limited.

And debate arising on the motion moved by Mr. Charest, Leader of the Official Opposition;

The debate being concluded, the question was put on this motion; a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

At the request of Mrs. Vermette, Deputy Government House Leader, the division was deferred until Routine Proceedings on the next sitting day.

At 12.57 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 3.04 o'clock p.m.

Mr. Simard, Deputy Government House Leader, moved:

THAT, pursuant to Standing Order 186, the order adopted on 28 November last concerning the special consultations in regard to Bill 142, An Act to amend the Act respecting health services and social services as regards the medical activities, the distribution and the undertaking of physicians, be rescinded.

The motion was carried.

3 December 2002

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 188, Mr. Simard, Deputy Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the Committee on Social Affairs hold special consultations in regard to Bill 142, An Act to amend the Act respecting health services and social services as regards the medical activities, the distribution and the undertaking of physicians, on Wednesday, 4 December 2002, and that it hear the following groups:

Wednesday, 4 December 2002

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 2.30 p.m. to 2.36 p.m. | Opening statements by the parliamentary group forming the Government |
| 2.36 p.m. to 2.42 p.m. | Opening statements by the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition |
| 2.42 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. | Opening statements by the independent Members |
| 2.45 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. | Fédération des médecins spécialistes du Québec |
| 3.30 p.m. to 4.15 p.m. | Fédération des médecins omnipraticiens du Québec accompanied by emergency doctors |
| 4.15 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. | Fédération des médecins résidents du Québec |
| 5.00 p.m. to 5.45 p.m. | Fédération des Associations des étudiants et étudiantes de médecine du Québec |
| 5.45 p.m. to 6.15 p.m. | Association des centres jeunesse |
| 6.15 p.m. to 6.18 p.m. | Closing statements by the independent Members |
| 6.18 p.m. to 6.24 p.m. | Closing statements by the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition |

3 December 2002

6.24 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. Closing statements by the
parliamentary group forming the
Government

A period of fifteen minutes shall be allotted for the opening statements as well as for the closing statements, which time period shall be divided as follows: six minutes for the members of the parliamentary group forming the Government; six minutes for the Members sitting in Opposition; and three minutes for the independent Members;

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

The Minister of State for Health and Social Services shall be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

The motion was carried.

Government Bills

Report Stage

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Institutions on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 132, An Act to amend certain provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure, together with the amendment handed in by Mr. Jutras, Minister of Justice.

The amendment was declared in order.

The amendment was carried.

The report, as amended, was concurred in.

Private Members' Public Bills

Passage in Principle

Mr. Pelletier (Abitibi-Est) moved, –That Bill 392, An Act to secure the supply of hogs to a slaughterhouse enterprise in the Abitibi-Témiscamingue region, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried on division and Bill 392 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mrs. Vermette, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 392 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, and that the Minister of State for Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal, the Environment and Water, and the Minister of State for Population, Regions and Native Affairs, be members of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

The motion was carried.

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mrs. Goupil, Minister of Social Solidarity, moved, –That Bill 145, An Act respecting the Cree Hunters and Trappers Income Security Board, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 145 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mrs. Vermette, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 145 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Social Affairs.

The motion was carried.

3 December 2002

Report Stage

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Social Affairs on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 127, An Act to facilitate the establishment of a pension plan for employees working in childcare services.

After debate thereon, the report was concurred in.

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Public Finance on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 128, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Québec Pension Plan and other legislative provisions.

Mr. Gauthrin (Verdun) moved the adjournment of the debate.

The motion was carried.

Mrs. Vermette, Deputy Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Wednesday, 4 December 2002, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, at 6.02 o'clock p.m., Mr. Beaulne, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 4 December 2002, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

LOUISE HAREL

President