



Votes and Proceedings
Tuesday, 15 October 2002 - No. 118

Two 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.

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The Assembly was called to order at 2.04 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

At the invitation of Madam President, Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) welcomed the new Member for Berthier, Mrs. Grégoire, and Mr. Landry, Premier, welcomed the new Member for Lac-Saint-Jean, Mr. Tremblay.

Mrs. Grégoire (Berthier) and Mr. Tremblay (Lac-Saint-Jean) then took the floor. Mr. Landry, Premier, Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup), Mr. Charest, Leader of the Official Opposition, made a few comments.

Finally, Madam President welcomed the new Members.

Madam President informed the Assembly of certain principles that will guide her in the management of Oral Questions and Answers and in the determination of the order in which Business Standing in the Name of Members Standing in Opposition will be taken.

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

On the basis of the principles set forth in the ruling rendered by President Saintonge on 12 December 1989, and of the statistics of the 34th Legislature, the Chair will grant the independent Members two main questions per five sittings. Generally speaking, they will continue to ask their main question in fourth place.

As regards the determination of the order in which Business Standing in the Name of Members Standing in Opposition will be taken, on the basis of the statistics of recent legislatures, a motion standing in the name of an independent Member could be debated during a session. Since the Official Opposition must enjoy a preponderant position in the exercise of parliamentary control, the first motion of the current parliamentary session ending in December will be granted to a Member of the Official Opposition, namely the Member for Kamouraska-Témiscouata. Subsequently, such motion may be granted to an independent Member.

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Madam President then tabled the text of the ruling.
(Sessional Paper No. 1352-20021015)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Presenting Papers

Mrs. Goupil, Minister of Social Solidarity, tabled the following:

The 2002-2003 action plan of the Centre de recouvrement.
(Sessional Paper No. 1353-20021015)

The 2002-2003 action plan of the Sécurité du revenu.
(Sessional Paper No. 1354-20021015)

Mr. Gendron, Minister of Natural Resources, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Ministère des Ressources naturelles for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2002.
(Sessional Paper No. 1355-20021015)

The annual report of the Société de développement de la Baie James for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2001.
(Sessional Paper No. 1356-20021015)

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

The annual report of the Commission des services juridiques for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2002.
(Sessional Paper No. 1357-20021015)

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The annual report of the Conseil interprofessionnel du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 1358-20021015)

Mr. Arseneau, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, tabled the following:

The report of the Financière agricole for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 1359-20021015)

The report of the Régie des marchés agricoles et alimentaires du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 1360-20021015)

Mr. Legendre, Minister responsible for Youth, Tourism, Recreation and Sport tabled the following:

The agreement between the Government of Québec and the Huron Wendat Nation Council, concerning the pursuit of hunting activities for dietary, ritual or social purposes.

(Sessional Paper No. 1361-20021015)

An amendment to the agreement between the Government of Québec and the Malecite First Nation Council of Viger, concerning the pursuit of hunting and trapping activities for dietary or social purposes.

(Sessional Paper No. 1362-20021015)

An amendment to the agreement between the Government of Québec and the Micmac Nation of Gespeg, concerning the pursuit of hunting activities for dietary, ritual or social purposes.

(Sessional Paper No. 1363-20021015)

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

Answer to a written question by Mr. Williams (Nelligan) concerning the impact of multi-sites on pathological gamblers – Question No. 60, *Order Paper and Notices* of 7 May 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 1364-20021015)

Answer to a written question by Mr. Williams (Nelligan) concerning the analyses and studies on the operation of sites having more than one liquor licence and operating more than five video lottery terminals – Question No. 61, *Order Paper and Notices* of 7 May 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 1365-20021015)

Answer to a written question by Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion) concerning the indicator used to adjust welfare benefit payments – Question No. 65, *Order Paper and Notices* of 21 May 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 1366-20021015)

Answers to written questions by Mrs. Normandeau (Bonaventure) concerning the Plan de relance de la Gaspésie – Question Nos. 66 and 67, *Order Paper and Notices* of 31 May 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 1367-20021015)

Answer to a written question by Mr. Williams (Nelligan) concerning rehabilitation centres for intellectually disabled persons – Question No. 68, *Order Paper and Notices* of 31 May 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 1368-20021015)

Answer to a written question by Mr. Benoit (Orford) concerning the use of rotenone – Question No. 69, *Order Paper and Notices* of 13 June 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 1369-20021015)

Answer to a petition presented on 16 May 2002 by Mr. Rioux (Matane), Mr. Charest, Leader of the Official Opposition, and Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup), concerning the funding of safe houses.

(Sessional Paper No. 1370-20021015)

Answer to a petition presented on 16 May 2002 by Mr. Paré (Lotbinière) concerning the number of doctors in the RCM of Bécancour.

(Sessional Paper No. 1371-20021015)

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Answer to a petition presented on 16 May 2002 by Mrs. Leblanc (Beauce-Sud) concerning assistance to persons living in poverty.

(Sessional Paper No. 1372-20021015)

Answer to a petition presented on 29 May 2002 by Mr. Benoit (Orford) concerning a study on the toxicological effects of the gases emitted from the Alex Couture inc. rendering plant in Charny.

(Sessional Paper No. 1373-20021015)

Answer to a petition presented on 5 June 2002 by Mr. Paquin (Saint-Jean) concerning the care and resources committed to school-age children.

(Sessional Paper No. 1374-20021015)

Answer to a petition presented on 5 June 2002 by Mrs. Normandeau (Bonaventure) concerning tax deductions for persons living in remote regions.

(Sessional Paper No. 1375-20021015)

Answer to a petition presented on 7 June 2002 by Mr. Paquin (Saint-Jean) concerning the approval of the necessary funds for the extension of Prés-Verts school.

(Sessional Paper No. 1376-20021015)

Answer to a petition presented on 7 June 2002 by Mr. Vallières (Richmond) concerning the reclassification of public servants following the federal-provincial transfer of manpower.

(Sessional Paper No. 1377-20021015)

Answer to a petition presented on 12 June 2002 by Mr. Paquin (Saint-Jean) concerning the prohibition of carrying edged weapons in schools.

(Sessional Paper No. 1378-20021015)

Answer to a petition presented on 12 June 2002 by Mrs. Thériault (Anjou) concerning medication for a young person stricken with ornithin transcarbamylase deficiency.

(Sessional Paper No. 1379-20021015)

Answer to a petition presented on 13 June 2002 by Mr. Bergeron (Iberville) concerning the establishment of the new municipality of Sutton.

(Sessional Paper No. 1380-20021015)

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Answer to a petition presented on 13 June 2002 by Mr. Dion (Saint-Hyacinthe) and Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière) concerning the release of Ingrid Betancourt.
(Sessional Paper No. 1381-20021015)

Answers to two petitions presented on 13 June 2002 by Mr. Whissell (Argenteuil) concerning the establishment and expansion of pig farms on this territory and the passage of the interim control regulation of the RCM of Vallée du Richilieu.
(Sessional Paper No. 1382-20021015)

Answer to a petition presented on 13 June 2002 by Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay) concerning the Coalition Priorité Cancer au Québec and the resources of the Programme québécois de lutte contre le cancer.
(Sessional Paper No. 1383-20021015)

Answer to a petition presented on 14 June 2002 by Mr. Laporte (Outremont) concerning Bill 84, An Act instituting civil unions and establishing new rules of filiation.
(Sessional Paper No. 1384-20021015)

Answer to a petition presented on 14 June 2002 by Mr. Williams (Nelligan) concerning the Coalition Priorité Cancer and the Québec programme for the fight against cancer.
(Sessional Paper No. 1385-20021015)

Answer to a petition presented on 14 June 2002 by Mr. Béchard (Kamouraska-Témiscouata) concerning closed competitions within the public service.
(Sessional Paper No. 1386-20021015)

Madam President tabled the following:

A letter, dated 8 June 2002, she had received from Mr. Pierre Marois, Chairman of the Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse, concerning the appointment of M^e Céline Giroux and of M^e Roger Lefebvre as vice-chairmen of the Commission.

(Sessional Paper No. 1387-20021015)

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The annual report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Québec, as well as the annual report of the Commission de la représentation électorale, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2002. The activities related to the implementation of the *Election Act* for the period from 1 April 2001 to 31 March 2002 and the activities related to the *Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities* for the period from 1 January 2001 to 31 March 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 1388-20021015)

The report from the Commission de la représentation électorale du Québec concerning the expenses related to the determination of electoral boundaries.

(Sessional Paper No. 1389-20021015)

The following Decisions from the Office of the National Assembly, dated 4 September 2002:

— Decision 1105 concerning the regulation relating to the granting of a special allowance to the Member for Mercier (Règlement relatif à l'octroi d'une allocation spéciale à la députée de Mercier).

(Sessional Paper No. 1390-20021015)

— Decision 1108 concerning the regulation on pay equity at the National Assembly (Règlement sur l'équité salariale à l'Assemblée nationale).

(Sessional Paper No. 1391-20021015)

The new seating plan of the National Assembly, dated 15 October 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 1392-20021015)

Copy of the notice of motion by Mr. Bécharde (Kamouraska-Témiscouata) which will be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* of Wednesday, 16 October 2002, under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.

(Sessional Paper No. 1393-20021015)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Lachance (Bellechasse), chairman, tabled the following:

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A report from the Committee on Institutions, which, on 28 August and 3 September 2002, held public hearings within the framework of a general consultation on the working paper entitled "Measures aiming to establish a new Code of Civil Procedure and containing a proposal with regard to the first two volumes of this Code".

(Sessional Paper No. 1394-20021015)

A report from the Committee on Institutions, which, on 29 August and on 4, 5 and 12 September 2002, held public hearings within the framework of a general consultation on Bill 109, An Act respecting the Observatoire québécois de la mondialisation.

(Sessional Paper No. 1395-20021015)

Mr. Paré (Lotbinière), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Public Finance, which met on 3 and 11 September 2002 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

- 78 Budget Act No. 2 giving effect to the Budget Speech delivered on 29 March 2001 and to certain budget statements.

The report contains certain amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 1396-20021015)

Mr. Dion (Saint-Hyacinthe), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, which, on 10 and 11 September 2002, held public hearings within the framework of a general consultation on the draft bill entitled "An Act respecting commercial aquaculture".

(Sessional Paper No. 1397-20021015)

Presenting Petitions

Mrs. Blanchet (Crémazie) tabled the following:

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The abstract of a petition respecting the labour dispute at Vidéotron and signed by 72,961 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1398-20021015)

Complaints of Breach of Privilege or Contempt and Personal Explanations

Madam President informed the Assembly that she had received, within the prescribed time, a notice from Mr. Williams (Nelligan) indicating his intention to rise on a matter of privilege concerning the Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean regional board, which allegedly invoked legislative provisions that had not yet been carried.

Madam President took the matter under advisement.

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 127, Mr. Brouillet, First Vice-President, moved:

THAT Mr. François Corriveau, the Member for Saguenay, and Mr. Stéphan Tremblay, the Member for Lac-Saint-Jean, be named members of the Standing Committee on Planning and the Public Domain;

THAT Mrs. Marie Grégoire, the Member for Berthier, and Mr. Stéphan Tremblay, the Member for Lac-Saint-Jean, be named members of the Standing Committee on Public Finance;

THAT Mrs. Sylvie Lespérance, the Member for Joliette, and Mrs. Cécile Vermette, the Member for Marie-Victorin, be named members of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs;

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And, pursuant to Standing Order 129, he then moved:

THAT Mr. François Gaudreau, the Member for Vimont, replace Mr. François Corriveau, the Member for Saguenay, as member of the Standing Committee on Labour and the Economy.

The motion was carried.

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

THAT Mrs. Manon Blanchet, the Member for Crémazie, be named a member of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The motion was carried.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. Boisclair, Government House Leader, convened the following Committee:

- the Committee on Social Affairs, to continue its public hearings within the framework of the general consultation on Bill 112, An Act to combat poverty and social exclusion.
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Madam President gave the following notice:

- the Committee on Public Administration shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of preparing its hearings with the Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services concerning home care services.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Madam President informed the Assembly that on Wednesday, 16 October 2002, during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, a debate will be held on the motion by Mr. Béchar (Kamouraska-Témiscouata). This motion reads as follows:

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THAT the Governments of Québec and of Canada help the workers and forest industries of Québec affected by the softwood lumber conflict by immediately implementing efficient measures particularly, concerning the Government of Québec: by establishing specific training programmes for workers, by intensifying forestry operations, by adopting a moratorium on any new measure that would adversely affect the industry and by developing alternatives for the use of softwood lumber and particularly, concerning the Government of Canada: by improving the employment insurance programme, by facilitating credit access for businesses and by evaluating the possibility of creating a Crown corporation that could import wood in the United States.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Debates on Reports from Committees

At the request of Mr. Boisclair, Government House Leader, and by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 94, the Assembly deferred the debate on the report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy, which held public hearings within the framework of the general consultation on the issue of gasoline price variations and their impact on Québec's economy. This report contains recommendations.

Government Bills

Report Stage

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 252 and 253, the Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Public Finance on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 78, Budget Act No. 2 giving effect to the Budget Speech delivered on 29 March 2001 and to certain budget statements.

The report was concurred in on division.

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Passage

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 230, Mr. Julien, Minister of Revenue, moved the passage of Bill 78, Budget Act No. 2 giving effect to the Budget Speech delivered on 29 March 2001 and to certain budget statements.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried on division and, accordingly, Bill 78 was passed.

At 4.32 o'clock p.m., Mr. Bissonnet, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings.

Debates Upon Adjournment

At 4.57 o'clock p.m., by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 309, the Assembly held two debates upon adjournment:

- the first, on a question by Mr. Charest, Leader of the Official Opposition, to Mr. Legault, Minister of Health and Social Services, about the effects of the *An Act to ensure the continued provision of emergency medical services*;
- the second, on a question by Mrs. Delisle (Jean-Talon) to Mrs. Marois, Minister of Finance, the Economy and Research, about the Loto-Québec sales counters in Robert-Giffard and Louis-Hippolyte-Lafontaine hospitals. Mr. Roger Bertrand, Minister for Health, Social Services, Youth Protection and Prevention, replaced the Minister of Finance, the Economy and Research in this debate.

At 5.34 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, First Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 16 October 2002, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

LOUISE HAREL

President

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