



Votes and Proceedings
Tuesday, 19 March 2002 - No. 78

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.

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mr. Jean-François Simard, Minister for the Environment and Water, moved, —That Bill 72, An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act and other legislative provisions with regard to land protection and rehabilitation, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 72 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Simard, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 72 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment.

The motion was carried.

At 11.55 o'clock a.m., Mr. Brouillet, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 2.03 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Presenting Papers

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

The annual report of the Fonds national de la formation de la main-d'œuvre for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2001.

(Sessional Paper No. 980-20020319)

The annual report of the Institut de tourisme et d'hôtellerie du Québec for the fiscal year ended 30 June 2000.

(Sessional Paper No. 981-20020319)

The annual report of the Université du Québec and its institutions for the fiscal year ended 31 May 2001.

(Sessional Paper No. 982-20020319)

Mrs. Goupil, Minister responsible for Seniors, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Conseil des aînés for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2001.

(Sessional Paper No. 983-20020319)

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

The annual reports, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2001, of the following professional orders:

- Ordre des conseillers et conseillères d'orientation et des psychoéducateurs et psychoéducatrices
(Sessional Paper No. 984-20020319)
- Ordre des sages-femmes du Québec
(Sessional Paper No. 985-20020319)
- Ordre professionnel des travailleurs sociaux du Québec
(Sessional Paper No. 986-20020319)

The annual report, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2000, of the Ordre professionnel des conseillers et conseillères d'orientation du Québec.
(Sessional Paper No. 987-20020319)

Mr. Boisclair, Government House Leader, on behalf of Mrs. Marois, Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, tabled the following:

The summary of financial operations as of 31 December 2001.
(Sessional Paper No. 988-20020319)

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

The annual report of the Corporation des maîtres électriciens du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 July 2001.
(Sessional Paper No. 989-20020319)

Madam President tabled the following:

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Copy of the notice of motion by Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay) which will be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* of Wednesday, 20 March 2002, under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.
(Sessional Paper No. 990-20020319)

Presenting Reports from Committees

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

A report from the Committee on Public Finance, which met on 13 March 2002 to elect its chairman.

(Sessional Paper No. 991-20020319)

Presenting Petitions

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mrs. Blanchet (Crémazie) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the inclusion of size and weight as grounds for discrimination in the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, and signed by 2401 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 992-20020319)

Mrs. Blanchet (Crémazie) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the adoption of an ergonomics regulation, and signed by 1656 Québec workers.

(Sessional Paper No. 993-20020319)

Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader, raised a point of order in which he asked the President whether a written answer to a petition must be signed by a public servant when such answer is to be given by the Government.

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RULING FROM THE CHAIR

Pursuant to Standing Order 64.1, the written answer to a petition must be signed by a Government Member and not by a public servant.

Following an answer given by the Government to a petition, Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader, asked the President whether a Minister may demand that the Committee on the National Assembly be convened in order to amend the Standing Orders.

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Chair and following a meeting with the House leaders, the President of the Assembly and chairman of the Committee on the National Assembly indicated her intention to convene this Committee in the near future in order to discuss various parliamentary reform proposals. Furthermore, the President noted that, in past practice, amendments to the Standing Orders were carried unanimously by the Members and that she intended to respect this practice.

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

At the request of Madam President, Mrs. Loiselle (Saint-Henri–Sainte-Anne) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 53 and 59, Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay) tabled the following:

Copy of correspondence between Mr. Jean-Philippe Marois, executive assistant to the Chief Opposition Whip, and Mr. Claude Lamarre, head of the library resources service and responsible for access to information at the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux, concerning an access to information request, as well as a document from the said Ministère entitled "Coût des différents types d'énergie".

(Sessional Paper No. 994-20020319)

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Motions Without Notice

Mrs. Papineau, Minister for Industry and Trade, moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Québec Retail Trade Week, held from 17 to 24 March 2002.

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

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. Bissonnet, Third Vice-President, gave the following notices:

- the Committee on Education shall meet to hear the head officers of universities with regard to their 1999-2000 annual reports tabled in the National Assembly, pursuant to the *Act respecting educational institutions at the university level*.
- the Committee on Labour and the Economy shall hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the order of initiative relating to production machinery.
- the Committee on Culture shall hold a deliberative meeting to organize its proceedings and, subsequently, shall hear the chief executive officer of Télé-Québec within the framework of the order of surveillance of agencies.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. Bissonnet, Third Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Wednesday, 20 March 2002, during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, a debate will be held on the motion by Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay). This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly strongly deplores the lack of vision and leadership of the Parti Québécois Government in the implementation of the Claire Report recommendations.

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At 3.06 o'clock p.m., by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 20, Mr. Bissonnet, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 4.00 o'clock p.m.

The sitting resumed at 4.07 o'clock p.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Supplementary Statement on the Budget

Mrs. Marois, Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, delivered a supplementary statement to the Budget.

During her speech, by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mrs. Marois tabled the following documents:

Tables indicating the preliminary results of the Government's financial operations for 2002-2003.

(Sessional Paper No. 995-20020319)

Supplement to the Government's Budgetary Policy.

(Sessional Paper No. 996-20020319)

Budget Plan 2002-2003.

(Sessional Paper No. 997-20020319)

The summary of financial operations as of 31 December 2001.

(Sessional Paper No. 998-20020319)

Additional information on the measures included in the Supplement to the Government's Budgetary Policy.

(Sessional Paper No. 999-20020319)

Five documents concerning the Supplement to the Government's Budgetary Policy, entitled "Agir".

(Sessional Paper No. 1000-20020319)

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At the end of her address, Mrs. Marois moved, —That this Assembly approves the budgetary policy of the Government.

Mrs. Jérôme-Forget (Marguerite-Bourgeois) then commented on behalf of the Official Opposition.

At 5.12 o'clock p.m., by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 20, Madam President suspended the proceedings until 6.00 o'clock p.m.

Debates Upon Adjournment

At 6.00 o'clock p.m., the Assembly held three debates upon adjournment:

- the first, on a question by Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay) to Mr. Legault, Minister of State for Health and Social Services, about the financing of home care services;
- the second, on a question by Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière) to Mr. Côté, Minister for Housing, about the housing supplement;
- the third, on a question by Mr. Mulcair (Chomedey) to Mr. Landry, Premier, about Mr. Sylvain Vaugeois and the Cité du Multimédia (Mr. Boisclair, Government House Leader, replaced the Premier for this debate).

At 6.40 o'clock p.m., Mr. Beaulne, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 20 March 2002, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

LOUISE HAREL

President