



Votes and Proceedings
Wednesday, 28 November 2001 - No. 62

Ten o'clock
President : Mr. Jean-Pierre Charbonneau

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 10.02 o'clock a.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Introduction of Bills

Mr. Facal, Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

64 An Act to amend the Civil Code as regards requests for civil status documents.

The motion was carried.

Presenting Papers

Mr. Facal, Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration, tabled the following:

The draft regulation on the release of civil status documents.

(Sessional Paper No. 768-20011128)

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

THAT the Committee on Institutions examine the draft regulation on the release of civil status documents;

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A period of 30 minutes shall be allotted for the opening statements, which time shall be shared equally among the members of the parliamentary group forming the Government and the Members sitting in Opposition;

A period of 30 minutes shall be allotted for the closing statements, 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 Relations with the Citizens and Immigration shall be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

The motion was carried.

Mr. R. Bertrand, Minister responsible for the Capitale-Nationale region, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Commission de la capitale nationale for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2001.

(Sessional Paper No. 769-20011128)

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

Answer to a written question by Mrs. Normandeau (Bonaventure) concerning immigration in Québec – Question No. 28, *Order Paper and Notices* of 20 November 2001.

(Sessional Paper No. 770-20011128)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Bertrand (Portneuf), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Institutions, which met on 27 November 2001 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

- 48 An Act to amend the Act respecting the Barreau du Québec and the Stenographers' Act — Reported with certain amendments.

(Sessional Paper No. 771-20011128)

Mr. Rioux (Matane), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy, which met on 2 October and on 27 November 2001 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

- 181 An Act to amend various legislative provisions relating to the building trade and the construction industry — Reported with certain amendments.

(Sessional Paper No. 772-20011128)

Mr. Simard (Montmorency), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Culture, which met on 27 November 2001 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

- 18 An Act to amend the Act respecting immigration to Québec — Reported without amendment.

(Sessional Paper No. 773-20011128)

Presenting Petitions

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the housing allowance programme and signed by 2903 citizens of Québec.

Complaints of Breach of Privilege or Contempt and Personal Explanations

Mr. President rendered the following decision regarding the point of privilege raised by Mr. Marcoux (Vaudreuil), in which he alleged that Mr. Legault, Minister of Education, was in contempt of Parliament when he made certain comments during the debate on the motion moved during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition at the sitting of Wednesday, 21 November 2001:

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

The facts adduced by the Member for Vaudreuil are not considered, *prima facie*, as contempt of Parliament.

There is contempt of Parliament when any act or omission either hinders Assembly proceedings or is prejudicial to the authority and dignity of the Assembly. Thus, the comments made by the Minister are not deemed to be acts that would hinder the proceedings of the Assembly. In the same manner, these comments are not considered as being prejudicial to the dignity of the Assembly. They constitute a personal opinion on the efficiency of certain parliamentary debates and a severe judgment of the manner in which the Opposition Members discharge their responsibilities. However, despite the fact that they are not considered, *prima facie*, as contempt of Parliament, these comments have the effect of minimizing and belittling the role of the Assembly.

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

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

Copy of a letter, dated 24 November 2001, sent by Mr. Dermot Travis to Mr. Russell Williams, Member for

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Nelligan, concerning the Commission des États généraux
sur la situation et l'avenir de la langue française.

(Sessional Paper No. 775-20011128)

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the Committee on Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food hold special consultations on Bill 53,
An Act respecting the transfer of certain municipal employees
exercising functions related to food inspection, on Wednesday,
28 November 2001 and, for this purpose, hear the following
groups:

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| 8.00 p.m. to 8.15 p.m. | Opening statements by the group
forming the Government |
| 8.15 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. | Opening statements by the Official
Opposition |
| 8.30 p.m. to 9.15 p.m. | Fédération indépendante des syndicats
autonomes |
| 9.15 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. | Syndicats des fonctionnaires
municipaux de Montréal |
| 10.00 p.m. to 10.15 p.m. | Closing statements by the Official
Opposition |
| 10.15 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. | Closing statements by the group
forming the Government |

A period of 30 minutes shall be allotted for the opening
statements, which time shall be shared equally among the
members of the parliamentary group forming the Government
and the Members sitting in Opposition;

A period of 30 minutes shall be allotted for the closing
statements, which time shall be shared equally among the
members of the parliamentary group forming the Government
and the Members sitting in Opposition;

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The presentation by each group shall last no more than 15 minutes and the exchange with the members of the Committee shall last no more than 30 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 Agriculture, Fisheries and Food shall be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

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

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 44, An Act to amend the Parks Act;
- the Committee on Institutions, to examine the draft regulation on the release of civil status documents;
- the Committee on Social Affairs, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 36, Public Health Act;
- the Committee on Education, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 59, An Act to defer the date of the next general school election and to amend the Act respecting school elections;
- the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, to hold special consultations on Bill 53, An Act respecting the transfer of certain municipal employees exercising functions related to food inspection.

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

- the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of meeting the president of the Financière agricole du Québec, Mr. André Dicaire, to exchange on the operation of this organization;
- the Committee on Culture shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of preparing its final report on the Société de la Place des arts de Montréal and the Société du Grand théâtre de Québec, and of organizing its proceedings for the coming months.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mr. R. Bertrand, Minister responsible for the Capitale-Nationale region, moved,
—That Bill 56, An Act to amend the Act respecting the national capital commission, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 56 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mrs. Carrier-Perreault, Deputy Government House Leader, Bill 56 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain.

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At 12.56 o'clock p.m., Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 3.07 o'clock p.m.

Passage in Principle

Resuming the debate, which had been adjourned on Tuesday, 27 November 2001, on the motion by Mrs. Harel, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal, —That Bill 60, An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning municipal affairs, do now pass in principle;

At 5.59 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 8.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 8.11 o'clock p.m.

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And debate continuing on the motion by Mrs. Harel, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal, —That Bill 60, An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning municipal affairs, do now pass in principle;

On motion by Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, the debate was adjourned.

At 11.35 o'clock p.m., on motion by Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned until Thursday, 29 November 2001, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU

President