



Votes and Proceedings
Tuesday, 13 November 2001 - No. 55

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 10.04 o'clock a.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Debate on the Budget Speech

The Assembly resumed the debate on the motion by Mrs. Marois, Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, —That the Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government, as well as on the want of confidence motions by Mrs. Jérôme-Forget (Marguerite-Bourgeoys), Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup), Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay), Mr. Marsan (Robert-Baldwin), Mr. Marcoux (Vaudreuil), Mr. Gauthrin (Verdun) and Mrs. Boulet (Laviolette).

During his speech, Mr. Charest, Leader of the Official Opposition, moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly condemn the Parti Québécois Government for having brought down a budget that does not represent the true state of public finance and that gives rise to concern rather than confidence.

And debate continuing:

At 11.57 o'clock a.m., Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 2.08 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Mr. Maciocia informed the Assembly of his resignation as Member for the Electoral Division of Viger.

Mr. Landry, Premier, Mr. Charest, Leader of the Official Opposition, and Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) then made certain remarks.

Introduction of Bills

Mr. Ménard, Minister of Public Security, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

- 51 An Act to amend the Act respecting lotteries, publicity contests and amusement machines and the Act respecting the Régie des alcools, des courses et des jeux.

The motion was carried.

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

- 54 An Act to reform the Code of Civil Procedure.

The motion was carried.

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Mr. Arseneau, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

- 53 An Act respecting the transfer of certain municipal employees exercising functions related to food inspection.

The motion was carried.

Mr. R. Bertrand, Minister responsible for the Capitale-Nationale region, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

- 56 An Act to amend the Act respecting the national capital commission.

The motion was carried.

Presenting Papers

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup), Mr. Chagnon (Westmount–Saint-Louis) and Mr. Pagé (Labelle) tabled the following:

Copy of a letter, dated 6 November 2001, addressed by the Mouvement pour une démocratie nouvelle, concerning the voting procedure in Québec.
(Sessional Paper No. 703-20011113)

Mr. President tabled the following:

The annual report of the Public Protector, entitled "The Citizen, Always First", for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2001.
(Sessional Paper No. 704-20011113)

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The following Decisions from the Office of the National Assembly, dated 31 Octobre 2001:

- Decision 1052 concerning the regulation to amend the regulation respecting allowances to Members (Règlement modifiant le Règlement sur les allocations aux députés).

(Sessional Paper No. 705-20011113)

- Decision 1053 concerning the regulation to amend the regulation respecting the payment by the Assembly of retroactive amounts for kilometres travelled by Members' personnel (Règlement modifiant le Règlement sur le paiement par l'Assemblée des montants de rétroactivité pour le kilométrage parcouru par le personnel des députés).

(Sessional Paper No. 706-20011113)

Pursuant to Standing Order 97.1, Mr. President then tabled the following:

Copy of the notice of motion by Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay) which will be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* of Wednesday, 14 November 2001, under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.

(Sessional Paper No. 707-20011113)

Mrs. Harel, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Société immobilière du Québec SHQ for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2001.

(Sessional Paper No. 708-20011113)

Mr. Landry, Premier, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Ministère du Conseil Exécutif for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2001.

(Sessional Paper No. 709-20011113)

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Mr. Boisclair, Minister responsible for the Régie des installations olympiques, tabled the following:

A summary of the coordination meeting concerning the new roof of the Olympic Stadium.

(Sessional Paper No. 710-20011113)

Summaries of the supervisory board meetings concerning the new roof of the Olympic Stadium.

(Sessional Paper No. 711-20011113)

The minutes of the in-house coordination meetings of the construction and maintenance vice-chairmanship.

(Sessional Paper No. 712-20011113)

The document from the Régie des installations olympiques, entitled "Conception et construction de la nouvelle toiture du Stade olympique", containing the list of call for tenders documents.

(Sessional Paper No. 713-20011113)

The reports relating to security control before the holding of an activity.

(Sessional Paper No. 714-20011113)

Copy of a letter, dated 12 November 2001, sent by Mr. Guy Gilbert, from Gilbert, Simard, Tremblay, inc., to Me André Lafrenière of the Régie des installations olympiques, concerning the confidentiality of certain documents from Birdair inc.

(Sessional Paper No. 715-20011113)

Presenting Reports from Committees

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

A report from the Committee on Culture, which, on 10, 15, 24, 31 May, 5 and 8 June, 25 September, 2, 18, 24, 31 October and 13 November 2001, held meetings within the framework of an order of initiative on the follow-up to its general consultation and public hearings on media concentration. This report contains recommendations.

(Sessional Paper No. 716-20011113)

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Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Facal, Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration, and Mr. Bordeleau (Acadie) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Québec Citizenship Week, which will be held during the Rendez-vous québécois de la citoyenneté from 19 to 23 November 2001 and which was launched this morning at the Marché Bonsecours in Montréal.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- the Committee on Social Affairs, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 27, An Act respecting the Health and Social Services Ombudsman and amending various legislative provisions.

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

- the Committee on Public Administration shall hear the Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services with regard to medical imaging services.
- the Committee on Public Finance shall hold a deliberative meeting in order to discuss regulatory parliamentary control.

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Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Wednesday, 14 November 2001, 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 deplore the fact that health is not a priority for the Government of the Parti Québécois.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Debate on the Budget Speech

The Assembly continued the debate on the motion by Mrs. Marois, Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, —That the Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government, as well as on the want of confidence motions by Mrs. Jérôme-Forget (Marguerite-Bourgeoys), Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup), Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay), Mr. Marsan (Robert-Baldwin), Mr. Marcoux (Vaudreuil), Mr. Gautrin (Verdun), Mrs. Boulet (Laviolette) and Mr. Charest, Leader of the Official Opposition.

At the end of her speech, Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière) moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly condemn the Parti Québécois Government for its improvisation and its squandering of public funds in the field of information technologies and electronic trade.

And debate continuing:

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

THAT the National Assembly condemn the Parti Québécois Government for not having made firm commitments concerning social services, services to the disabled and youth protection.

And debate continuing;

At 6.00 o'clock p.m., the debate was adjourned in the name of Mr. Després (Limoilou).

Debates Upon Adjournment

The Assembly held two debates upon adjournment:

- the first, on a question by Mrs. Boulet (Laviolette) to Mr. Trudel, Minister of Health and Social Services, about prescription drug insurance;
- the second, on a question by Mr. Williams (Nelligan) to Mrs. Marois, Minister of Finance, about the purchasing of video lottery terminals.

At 6.28 o'clock p.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 14 November 2001, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

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ROYAL ASSENT

On Friday, 9 November 2001, at 9.32 o'clock a.m., in the Office of the Lieutenant-Governor, in the presence of Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President of the National Assembly, of Mr. Côté (Dubuc), the Delegate of the Premier, of Mrs. Normandeau (Bonaventure), the Delegate of the Leader of the Official Opposition, and of Mr. Arseneault, Director of the Secretariat of the Assembly, the Honourable Lise Thibault, Lieutenant-Governor of Québec, was pleased to assent to the following Bill:

47 An Act to amend the Civil Code as regards civil status documents.

JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU

President