



Votes and Proceedings
Wednesday, 23 May 2001 - No. 25

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 10.03 o'clock a.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition

Mr. Benoit (Orford) moved:

THAT the National Assembly call upon the Parti Québécois Government to report without delay on the measures taken to ensure that the water supply system contains drinking water that is safe and that does not pose any health risk to the population.

Following a meeting with the House leaders, Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, announced the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this motion: ten minutes shall be allotted for a reply by its mover and five minutes shall be set aside for the independent Member; 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 Member shall be redistributed amongst the parliamentary groups, and individual addresses shall not otherwise be limited.

And debate arising on the motion moved by Mr. Benoit;

At the end of his speech, Mr. Boisclair, Minister of the Environment, moved the following amendment motion:

THAT the motion by the Member for Orford be amended by replacing the words "call upon" by the words "ask".

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly ask the Parti Québécois Government to report without delay on the measures taken to ensure that the water supply system contains drinking water that is safe and that does not pose any health risk to the population.

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Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, declared the amendment motion in order.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 199, the debate continued on the main motion by Mr. Benoit (Orford) and on the amendment by Mr. Boisclair.

During his speech, Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader, moved:

THAT the amendment moved by the Minister of the Environment be subamended by replacing the word "ask" by the words "demand that".

The motion, as amended and subamended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly demand that the Parti Québécois Government to report without delay on the measures taken to ensure that the water supply system contains drinking water that is safe and that does not pose any health risk to the population.

Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, declared the subamendment motion in order.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 199 and 200, the debate continued on the subamendment motion, on the amendment motion, and on the main motion.

The debate being concluded, the question was put on the subamendment motion by Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader; a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

At the request of Mrs. Carrier-Perreault, Deputy Government House Leader, the divisions on the subamendment motion, the amendment motion and the main motion were deferred until Routine Proceedings on the present sitting day.

At 12.00 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 2.05 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Presenting Papers

Mr. President tabled the following:

Enactment 2, *An Act obliging elementary schools to establish a seniors' community help programme for third-year students in order to promote awareness of the needs of an aging population.*

(Sessional Paper No. 280-20010523)

Enactment 3, *An Act establishing an Internet site for 6th-grade elementary school classes.*

(Sessional Paper No. 281-20010523)

Presenting Reports from Committees

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

Report from the Committee on Institutions, which, on 15 and 16 May 2001, held public hearings within the framework of special consultations on the working paper concerning the Federal Bill on criminal justice for young persons.

(Sessional Paper No. 282-20010523)

Report from the Committee on Institutions, which, on 17 and 22 May 2001, gave clause-by-clause consideration to the following Bill:

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- 2 An Act to amend the Courts of Justice Act — Reported with certain amendments.

(Sessional Paper No. 283-20010523)

Mrs. Bélanger (Mégantic-Compton), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Education, which met on 22 May 2001 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

- 162 An Act to amend the Act respecting financial assistance for education expenses — Reported with an amendment.

(Sessional Paper No. 284-20010523)

Presenting Petitions

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mrs. Jérôme-Forget (Marguerite-Bourgeoys) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the provisions in the taxation act concerning successions, and signed by 4431 petitioners from the Province of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 285-20010523)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

Deferred Divisions

The Assembly took the divisions, which had been deferred during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition earlier in today's sitting, on the motion moved by Mr. Benoit (Orford), as well as on the amendment motion moved by Mr. Boisclair, Minister of the Environment, and on the subamendment moved by Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader.

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First, the question was put on the subamendment moved by Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader. This motion reads as follows:

THAT the amendment moved by the Minister of the Environment be subamended by replacing the word "ask" by the words "demand that".

The motion was negatived on the following vote:

(Division No. 23 in Appendix)

Yeas: **36** Nays: **56** Abstentions: **0**

The question was then put on the amendment moved by Mr. Boisclair, Minister of the Environment. This motion reads as follows:

THAT the motion by the Member for Orford be amended by replacing the words "call upon" by the words "ask".

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 24 in Appendix)

Yeas: **56** Nays: **36** Abstentions: **0**

Finally, the question was put on the motion by Mr. Benoit (Orford), as amended by the preceding vote. This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly ask the Parti Québécois Government to report without delay on the measures taken to ensure that the water supply system contains drinking water that is safe and that does not pose any health risk to the population.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 25 in Appendix)

Yeas: **92** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

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Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. Lamquin-Éthier (Bourassa) and Mr. Bégin, Minister of Justice, jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly ask the Government of Canada to establish within the criminal justice system for young persons a special plan for Québec, namely the *Young Offenders Act*, to fully take into account its specific intervention model.

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

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

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 26 in Appendix)

Yeas: **88** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, moved a motion for the holding of special consultations on Bill 28, An Act to amend the Act respecting health services and social services and other legislative provisions; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, then moved a motion for the holding of special consultations on Bill 14, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère du Revenu and other legislative provisions as regards the protection of confidential information; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Following the presentation of these two motions by the Government House Leader, Mr. President indicated that they should have been presented pursuant to Standing Order 146 rather than to Standing Order 235, since both bills concerned by these two motions have now reached the stage of passage in principle.

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After having heard comments from Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader, Mr. President agreed to rediscuss this matter before the end of Routine Proceedings in order to provide additional information thereon.

Mrs. Leduc (Mille-Îles) moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Arthritis Awareness Day, held today, in order to inform the population on the effects of the disease and to encourage the work of The Arthritis Society in Québec.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Mr. Cousineau (Bertrand) moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark World Blood Donation Day, to remind us that this donation is the most precious gift that anyone can offer and to thank the donors and thousands of volunteers who ensure the recruitment of donors and the organization of these blood donor clinics year after year.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Mr. President provided the following additional information with regard to the decision he rendered earlier concerning the application of Standing Orders 146 and 235 to the motions moved by Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, for the holding of special consultations:

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

Mr. President indicated that these two motions should have been moved under Standing Order 146 rather than Standing Order 235, since both bills concerned by these two motions have now reached the stage of passage in principle. Standing Order 235 applies only to the introduction stage of a bill. Furthermore, by adopting provisions relating to special consultations, the Assembly did not intend on limiting its power of asking a committee to hold special consultations until once the bill was introduced, as stipulated in Standing Order 235. Thus, via Standing Order 146, the Assembly gave itself the general power to refer any matter to a committee, which is no less than the specific power provided for in Standing Order 235. Consequently, we must refer to Standing Order 146 for the presentation of a motion to hold special consultations on a bill that was made public at the stage of its passage in principle.

In this case, without consent, both motions by the Government House Leader shall have to be presented under Standing Order 146 and shall have to be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices*, or an order to remove from Orders of the Day the passage in principle of these two bills shall have to be adopted in order to comply with Standing Order 235.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mrs. Carrier-Perreault, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 161, An Act to establish a legal framework for information technology;
- the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 154, An Act to amend the Agricultural Merit Act, the Restauration Merit Act and the Fishermen's Merit Act;
- the Committee on Public Finance, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 159, An Act respecting the Pension Plan of Management Personnel;

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- the Committee on Institutions, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 23, An Act to amend the Act respecting the conditions of employment and the pension plan of the Members of the National Assembly.

—————

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

- the Committee on Culture shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of preparing the final report on media concentration.

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ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Motions

Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the Committee on Labour and the Economy hold special consultations and public hearings on Bill 31, An Act to amend the Labour Code, to establish the Commission des relations du travail and to amend other legislative provisions, on 29 and 30 May 2001, and, for this purpose, hear the following groups:

Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse
Conseil du statut de la femme
Centrale des syndicats du Québec
Ordre des conseillers en ressources humaines et en relations industrielles agréés du Québec
Fédération canadienne de l'entreprise indépendante
Manufacturiers et exportateurs du Québec
Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec

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Fédération indépendante des syndicats autonomes
Centrales des syndicats démocratiques
Conférence des juges administratifs du Québec
Chambres de commerce du Québec
Alain Barré
Conseil du patronat du Québec
Union des municipalités du Québec
Confédération des syndicats nationaux
Barreau du Québec

The presentation by each group shall not last more than twenty minutes and its exchange with the members of the Committee shall not last more than forty minutes, which time shall be shared equally among the members of the parliamentary group forming the Gouvernement and the Members sitting in Opposition;

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

Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader, raised a point of order in which he asked whether a seven-day delay applies in order to summon the individuals and groups within the framework of special consultations.

Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, rendered the following decision:

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

No Standing Order provides for the delay to summon individuals and groups within the framework of special consultations

Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, informed the Assembly that he had received two requests for debates upon adjournment:

- the first, on a question by Mr. Benoit (Orford) to Mr. Boisclair, Minister of the Environment, about the lack of drinking water regulations;

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- the second, on a question by Mr. Brodeur (Shefford) to Mr. Chevrette, Minister of Transport, about photographic speed-measuring devices.

Before the debate began, Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, announced the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this motion: five minutes shall be set aside for the independent Member; 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 Member may be redistributed, and individual addresses shall not otherwise be limited; however, the mover of the motion has no right of reply.

And debate arising on the motion by Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader;

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

At the request of Mrs. Carrier-Perreault, Deputy Government House Leader, the division was deferred until Routine Proceedings at the sitting of Thursday, 24 May 2001.

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mrs. Maltais, Minister for Health, Social Services and Youth Protection, moved,
—That Bill 166, An Act to amend the Youth Protection Act, do now pass in principle.

And debate arising;

The debate was adjourned.

At 5.49 o'clock p.m., by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 20, Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 24 May 2001, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

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ROYAL ASSENT

On Wednesday, 23 May 2001, at 3.45 o'clock p.m., in Sillery, in the presence of Mr. Arsenaault, Director of the Secretariat of the Assembly, the Honourable Paul-Arthur Gendreau, Administrator of Québec, was pleased to assent to the following Bills:

- 136 An Act to amend the Forest Act and other legislative provisions;
- 138 An Act to amend the Taxation Act and other legislative provisions
(*modified title*).

JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU

President

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APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion by Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader, to subamend the motion by Mr. Boisclair, Minister of the Environment, to amend the main motion by Mr. Benoit (Orford):

(Division No. 23)

YEAS - 36

Beauchamp	Cusano	Gobé	Middlemiss
Béchar	Delisle	Houda-Pepin	Mulcair
Bélanger	Després	Jérôme-Forget	Normandeau
Benoit	Dumont	Lafrenière	Ouimet
Bergman	Dupuis	Lamoureux	Paradis
Bordeleau	Fournier	Lamquin-Éthier	Poulin
Brodeur	Gagnon-Tremblay	Maciocia	Rochefort
Chagnon	Gautrin	MacMillan	Tranchemontagne
Copeman	Gauvin	Marsan	Whissell

NAYS - 56

Arseneau	Boucher	Duguay	Maltais
Baril	Boulerice	Gendron	Marois
(<i>Arthabaska</i>)	Boulianne	Geoffrion	Ménard
Baril	Brassard	Goupil	Papineau
(<i>Berthier</i>)	Caron	Harel	Paré
Beaulne	Carrier-Perreault	Jutras	Pelletier
Beaumier	Charest	Kieffer	(<i>Abitibi-Est</i>)
Bédard	(<i>Rimouski</i>)	Labbé	Rioux
Bégin	Chevrette	Lachance	Robert
Bergeron	Cliche	Landry	Rochon
Bertrand	Côté	Laprise	Signori
(<i>Portneuf</i>)	(<i>La Peltrie</i>)	Leduc	Simard
Bertrand	Cousineau	Legault	(<i>Richelieu</i>)
(<i>Charlevoix</i>)	Désilets	Léger	St-André
Blanchet	Deslières	Lelièvre	Trudel
Boisclair	Dion	Lemieux	Vermette

23 May 2001

On the motion by Mr. Boisclair, Minister of the Environment, to amend the main motion by Mr. Benoit (Orford):

(Division No. 24)

YEAS - 56

Arseneau	Boucher	Duguay	Maltais
Baril	Boulerice	Gendron	Marois
<i>(Arthabaska)</i>	Boulianne	Geoffrion	Ménard
Baril	Brassard	Goupil	Papineau
<i>(Berthier)</i>	Caron	Harel	Paré
Beaulne	Carrier-Perreault	Jutras	Pelletier
Beaumier	Charest	Kieffer	<i>(Abitibi-Est)</i>
Bédard	<i>(Rimouski)</i>	Labbé	Rioux
Bégin	Chevrette	Lachance	Robert
Bergeron	Cliche	Landry	Rochon
Bertrand	Côté	Laprise	Signori
<i>(Portneuf)</i>	<i>(La Peltrie)</i>	Leduc	Simard
Bertrand	Cousineau	Legault	<i>(Richelieu)</i>
<i>(Charlevoix)</i>	Désilets	Léger	St-André
Blanchet	Deslières	Lelièvre	Trudel
Boisclair	Dion	Lemieux	Vermette

NAYS - 36

Beauchamp	Cusano	Gobé	Middlemiss
Béchar	Delisle	Houda-Pepin	Mulcair
Bélanger	Després	Jérôme-Forget	Normandeau
Benoit	Dumont	Lafrenière	Ouimet
Bergman	Dupuis	Lamoureux	Paradis
Bordeleau	Fournier	Lamquin-Éthier	Poulin
Brodeur	Gagnon-Tremblay	Maciocia	Rocheport
Chagnon	Gautrin	MacMillan	Tranchemontagne
Copeman	Gauvin	Marsan	Whissell

23 May 2001

On the motion moved by Mr. Benoit (Orford) during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, as amended:

(Division No. 25)

YEAS - 92

Arseneau	Brassard	Gauvin	Marois
Baril	Brodeur	Gendron	Marsan
<i>(Berthier)</i>	Caron	Geoffrion	Ménard
Baril	Carrier-Perreault	Gobé	Middlemiss
<i>(Arthabaska)</i>	Chagnon	Goupil	Mulcair
Beauchamp	Charest	Harel	Normandeau
Beaulne	<i>(Rimouski)</i>	Houda-Pepin	Ouimet
Beaumier	Chevrette	Jérôme-Forget	Papineau
Béchar	Cliche	Jutras	Paradis
Bédard	Copeman	Kieffer	Paré
Bégin	Côté	Labbé	Pelletier
Bélanger	<i>(La Peltrie)</i>	Lachance	<i>(Abitibi-Est)</i>
Benoit	Cousineau	Lafrenière	Poulin
Bergeron	Cusano	Lamoureux	Rioux
Bergman	Delisle	Lamquin-Éthier	Robert
Bertrand	Désilets	Landry	Rochefort
<i>(Charlevoix)</i>	Deslières	Laprise	Rochon
Bertrand	Després	Leduc	Signori
<i>(Portneuf)</i>	Dion	Legault	Simard
Blanchet	Duguay	Léger	<i>(Richelieu)</i>
Boisclair	Dumont	Lelièvre	St-André
Bordeleau	Dupuis	Lemieux	Tranchemontagne
Boucher	Fournier	Maciocia	Trudel
Boulerice	Gagnon-Tremblay	MacMillan	Vermette
Boulianne	Gautrin	Maltais	Whissell

23 May 2001

On the motion by Mrs. Lamquin-Éthier (Bourassa) and Mr. Bégin, Minister of Justice:

(Division No. 26)

YEAS - 88

Arseneau	Brassard	Gautrin	Marois
Baril	Brodeur	Gauvin	Ménard
(<i>Arthabaska</i>)	Brouillet	Gendron	Middlemiss
Baril	Carrier-Perreault	Geoffrion	Mulcair
(<i>Berthier</i>)	Chagnon	Gobé	Normandeau
Beauchamp	Charest	Goupil	Ouimet
Beaulne	(<i>Rimouski</i>)	Harel	Papineau
Beaumier	Chevrette	Houda-Pepin	Paradis
Béchar	Cliche	Jérôme-Forget	Paré
Bédard	Copeman	Jutras	Pelletier
Bégin	Côté	Kieffer	(<i>Abitibi-Est</i>)
Bélanger	(<i>La Peltrie</i>)	Lachance	Poulin
Benoit	Cousineau	Lafrenière	Rioux
Bergeron	Cusano	Lamoureux	Robert
Bertrand	Delisle	Lamquin-Éthier	Rochefort
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Bertrand	Deslières	Laprise	Signori
(<i>Portneuf</i>)	Després	Leduc	Simard
Bissonnet	Dion	Legault	(<i>Richelieu</i>)
Blanchet	Duguay	Léger	St-André
Boisclair	Dumont	Lelièvre	Tranchemontagne
Bordeleau	Dupuis	Lemieux	Trudel
Boucher	Fournier	Maciocia	Vermette
Boulerice	Gagnon-Tremblay	Maltais	Whissell