



Votes and Proceedings
Tuesday, 10 April 2001 - No. 9

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 10.07 o'clock a.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Opening Speech Debate of the Session

The Assembly resumed the debate on the Opening Speech of the Session delivered by Mr. Landry, Premier, at the sitting of Monday, 22 March 2001, and on the want of confidence motions by Mr. Charest, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mrs. Normandeau (Bonaventure), Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion), Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) and Mr. Béchard (Kamouraska-Témiscouata).

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

THAT the National Assembly condemn the Government for its lack of foresight regarding the apprehended demographic shock and its incapacity to put forward practical measures to deal with this.

And debate continuing on the Opening Speech of the Session and on the want of confidence motions;

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 2.03 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Presenting Papers

Mrs. Marois, Deputy Premier, Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, and Minister of Research, Science and Technology, tabled the following:

The financial statements of the agencies and corporations of the Government of Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2000.

(Sessional Paper No. 153-20010410)

Mr. Legault, Minister of State for Education and Youth, tabled the following:

The financial report of the Fondation universitaire de l'École des hautes études commerciales de Montréal for the fiscal year ended 31 May 2000.

(Sessional Paper No. 154-20010410)

Mrs. Lemieux, Minister of State for Culture and Communications, tabled the following:

A notice of classification from the Commission des biens culturels du Québec, under section 29 of the *Cultural Property Act*, concerning the Sacré-Cœur de Chicoutimi church and rectory.

(Sessional Paper No. 155-20010410)

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A notice of classification from the Commission des biens culturels du Québec, under section 29 of the *Cultural Property Act*, concerning Notre-Dame-de-la-Visitation church.

(Sessional Paper No. 156-20010410)

Mr. Ménard, Minister of Public Security, tabled the following:

The Strategic Plan, 2001-2004, of the Comité de déontologie policière.

(Sessional Paper No. 157-20010410)

Mr. Facal, Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration, Minister for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs, and Minister responsible for Relations with French-Speaking and Acadian Communities, tabled the following:

The Declaration of Services to Citizens of the Ministère des Relations avec les citoyens et de l'Immigration.

(Sessional Paper No. 158-20010410)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mrs. Gagnon-Tremblay (Saint-François), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Social Affairs, which, on 12, 13, 14, 15, 18 and 19 December 2000 as well as on 27 February 2001, gave clause-by-clause consideration to the following Bill:

140 An Act respecting parental insurance — Reported with certain amendments.

(Sessional Paper No. 159-20010410)

Mr. Bertrand (Portneuf), chairman, tabled the following reports from the Committee on Institutions, which:

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On 13, 14, 15 and 28 February 2001, held public hearings within the framework of a general consultation on Bill 173, Civil Protection Act.

(Sessional Paper No. 160-20010410)

On 25 January 2001, gave clause-by-clause consideration to the following Bill:

177 Geologists Act — Reported with certain amendments.

(Sessional Paper No. 161-20010410)

Mrs. Vermette (Marie-Victorin), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, which, on 6, 7 and 8 February 2001, held public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 184, An Act to amend the Act respecting the preservation of agricultural land and agricultural activities and other legislative provisions.

(Sessional Paper No. 162-20010410)

Mr. Lachance (Bellechasse), chairman, tabled the following reports from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, which:

On 1 February 2001, held public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 149, An Act respecting nature reserves on private land.

(Sessional Paper No. 163-20010410)

On 8 February 2001, gave clause-by-clause consideration to the following Bill:

149 An Act respecting nature reserves on private land — Reported with certain amendments.

(Sessional Paper No. 164-20010410)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

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Motions Without Notice

Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the name of Mr. Maxime Arseneau replace that of Mr. Rémy Trudel as sponsor of the following Bills:

Bill 184 An Act to amend the Act respecting the preservation of agricultural land and agricultural activities and other legislative provisions;

Bill 154 An Act to amend the Agricultural Merit Act, the Restauration Merit Act and the Fishermen's Merit Act.

THAT the name of Mr. Paul Bégin replace that of Mrs. Linda Goupil as sponsor of the following Bills:

Bill 180 An Act to amend various legislative provisions as regards the disclosure of confidential information to protect individuals;

Bill 169 An Act to amend the Professional Code and other legislative provisions as regards the carrying on of professional activities within a partnership or company;

Bill 177 Geologists Act.

THAT the name of Mr. André Boisclair replace that of Mr. Paul Bégin as sponsor of the following Bill:

Bill 149 An Act respecting nature reserves on private land.

THAT the name of Mr. Joseph Facal replace that of Mr. Sylvain Simard as sponsor of the following Bill:

Bill 122 An Act to amend the Act respecting Access to documents held by public bodies and the Protection of personal information, the Act respecting the protection of personal information in the private sector, the Professional Code and other legislative provisions.

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THAT the name of Mrs. Linda Goupil replace that of Mrs. Pauline Marois as sponsor of the following Bill:

Bill 140 An Act respecting parental insurance.

THAT the name of Mr. Guy Julien replace that of Mr. Paul Bégin as sponsor of the following Bills:

Bill 175 An Act to amend the Taxation Act, the Act respecting the Québec sales tax and other legislative provisions;

Bill 138 An Act to again amend the Taxation Act and other legislative provisions.

THAT the name of Mrs. Diane Lemieux replace that of Mrs. Agnès Maltais as sponsor of the following Bill:

Bill 160 An Act respecting the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec and amending various legislative provisions.

THAT the name of Mrs. Diane Lemieux replace that of Mr. David Cliche as sponsor of the following Bill:

Bill 161 An Act to establish a legal framework for information technology.

THAT the name of Mrs. Agnès Maltais replace that of Mr. Gilles Baril as sponsor of the following Bill:

Bill 166 An Act to amend the Youth Protection Act.

THAT the name of Mr. Rémy Trudel replace that of Mrs. Pauline Marois as sponsor of the following Bill:

Bill 165 An Act to amend the Act respecting the terms of the directors of certain public health and social service institutions.

THAT the name of Mr. Sylvain Simard replace that of Mr. Jacques Léonard as sponsor of the following Bill:

Bill 159 An Act respecting the Pension Plan of Management Personnel.

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THAT the title of the sponsor of Bill 161, An Act to establish a legal framework for information technology, be "Minister responsible for the Information Highway";

THAT the title of the sponsor of Bill 159, An Act respecting the Pension Plan of Management Personnel, be "Minister for Administration and the Public Service, Chairman of the Conseil du Trésor".

This motion was carried.

Mr. Boisclair, Minister of the Environment, and Mr. Benoit (Orford) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly ask that the Federal Government reiterate its commitment to respecting the objectives of reducing greenhouse gases, as stipulated in the Kyoto Protocol on climate change, and urge that it take an active role in the efforts underway which aim to request negotiations in order that the greatest possible number of States may ratify this protocol.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84 and by leave to set aside Standing Order 185, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Mr. Marcoux (Vaudreuil) moved:

THAT the National Assembly express its sympathy to the family of Mr. Pierre De Celles, president of the administrative council and director general of the École nationale d'administration publique, who passed away last 6 April, and mark his outstanding contribution in Québec's academia.

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

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The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- the Committee on Institutions, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on the reorganization of Québec police departments: "Vers une nouvelle carte policière" (Towards a new police organization)";
 - the Committee on Public Finance, to continue the debate on the Budget Speech.
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Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, gave the following notice:

- the Committee on Education shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of organizing its proceedings.
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ORDERS OF THE DAY

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 87, 185 and 188, Mr. Landry, Premier, Mr. Charest, Leader of the Official Opposition, and Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly, in light of the unanimous report of the Committee on Institutions entitled "Le Québec et la Zone de libre-échange des Amériques : Effets politiques et socio-économiques" (Québec and the Free Trade Area of the Americas: Political and Socioeconomic Impacts), declare that the market openness of the Americas constitutes a major potential for Québec's economy, that the negotiation process regarding this area must be transparent and democratic and that an eventual free-trade treaty of the Americas shall have to respect our

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constitutional competencies, our social values and our collective identity.

After debate thereon, the question was put on this motion; a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

At the request of Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, and by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 223, the division was deferred until Wednesday, 11 April 2001, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

Business Having Precedence

Opening Speech Debate of the Session

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Debates Upon Adjournment

The Assembly held three debates upon adjournment:

- the first, on a question by Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière) to Mrs. Harel, Minister of State for Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal, about the \$60 million surplus of the Société d'habitation du Québec;
- the second, on a question by Mr. Dupuis (Saint-Laurent) to Mr. Bégin, Minister of Justice, about the safety of Crown prosecutors;
- the third, on a question by Mr. Vallières (Richmond) to Mr. Rochon, Minister of State for Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity, about the severity of standards with regard to asbestos removal.

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At 6.38 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 11 April 2001, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU

President