



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Thursday, 26 October 2017 — No. 285

**President of the National Assembly:
Mr. Jacques Chagnon**

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 9.40 o'clock a.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Mr. Giguère (Saint-Maurice) made a statement to underline Mr. Denis Bouvette's volunteer work in Saint-Maurice riding.

Mr. Marceau (Rousseau) made a statement to underline the 35th anniversary of the Club FADOQ Beaulac and the 45th anniversary of the Club FADOQ Les Blés d'or Saint-Alexis and the Club FADOQ Saint-Lin-Laurentides.

Mr. Moreau (Châteauguay) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Ernest Presseau for his community work in the community of Châteauguay.

Mr. Charette (Deux-Montagnes) made a statement to underline the 20th anniversary of the Centre d'aide aux personnes traumatisées crâniennes et handicapées physiques des Laurentides.

Mr. Habel (Sainte-Rose) made a statement to underline Journée de sensibilisation aux maladies neurologiques évolutives.

26 October 2017

Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques) made a statement to underline the 10th anniversary of the Association des familles du Centre-Sud.

Mr. Bolduc (Mégantic) made a statement to congratulate Fromagerie P'tit plaisir, recipient of a “Sélection Caseus” award.

Mrs. Roy (Montarville) made a statement to congratulate Mr. Philip Charbonneau on receiving a “Reconnaissance Roger-Pedneault” award.

Mr. Blais (Charlesbourg) made a statement to underline the Semaine nationale de visibilité de l'action communautaire autonome.

Mrs. Poirier (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Pierre-André Jacob for his 50-year-long career as a florist.

At 9.51 o'clock a.m., Mr. Ouimet, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

26 October 2017

Moment of reflection

Presenting Papers

Mr. Barrette, Minister of Health and Social Services, tabled the following:

The annual activity report of the Commission sur les soins de fin de vie for the period 1 June 2016 to 30 June 2017.

(Sessional Paper No. 3745-20171026)

Mr. Heurtel, Minister of Immigration, Diversity and Inclusiveness, tabled the following:

Québec's 2018 immigration plan.

(Sessional Paper No. 3746-20171026)

Mrs. Thériault, Minister responsible for Consumer Protection and for Housing, tabled the following:

The 2016–2017 annual management report of the Régie du logement.

(Sessional Paper No. 3747-20171026)

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

The reply to a written question from Mr. Picard (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière) on the worker's income replacement indemnity and employer's liability in cases involving an incarcerated worker – Question No. 245, *Order Paper and Notices* of 29 May 2017.

(Sessional Paper No. 3748-20171026)

26 October 2017

Mrs. Gaudreault, Second Vice-President, tabled the following:

A letter, dated 23 October 2017, to Mr. Jacques Chagnon, President of the National Assembly, from Mr. Philippe Couillard, Premier, informing the President of the appointment of Mrs. Monique Sauvé, Member for Fabre, Mrs. Karine Vallières, Member for Richmond, Mr. Richard Merlini, Member for La Prairie, and Mr. Michel Matte, Member for Portneuf, as members of the Office of the National Assembly, and of the appointment of Mrs. Nicole Ménard, Member for Laporte, and Mr. Norbert Morin, Member for Côte-du-Sud, as substitute members of the Office of the National Assembly.

(Sessional Paper No. 3749-20171026)

Mr. Ouimet, First Vice-President, moved that these modifications to the composition of the Office of the National Assembly be adopted.

The motion was carried.

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Bergeron (Verchères), Committee Vice-Chair, tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on Institutions, which met on 25 October 2017 for clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 139, An Act to group the Office Québec/Wallonie-Bruxelles pour la jeunesse, the Office Québec-Amériques pour la jeunesse and the Office Québec-Monde pour la jeunesse. The report contains amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 3750-20171026)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

26 October 2017

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. Lavallée (Repentigny), together with Mrs. Charlebois, Minister for Rehabilitation, Youth Protection, Public Health and Healthy Living, Mr. Pagé (Labelle), Mr. Khadir (Mercier), Mr. Lelièvre (Gaspé), Mr. Surprenant (Groulx), Mr. Sklavounos (Laurier-Dorion) and Mrs. Ouellet (Vachon), moved:

THAT the National Assembly ask the national public health director to investigate cases of poisoning caused by consuming beverages high in sugar and alcohol, especially by young people;

THAT the Minister for Public Health report to the National Assembly on the conclusions and recommendations of this investigation as soon as possible.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. David, Minister responsible for Higher Education, together with Mr. Turcotte (Saint-Jean), Mr. Roberge (Chambly), Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin), Mr. Lelièvre (Gaspé), Mr. Surprenant (Groulx), Mr. Sklavounos (Laurier-Dorion) and Mrs. Ouellet (Vachon), moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the 50th anniversary of the CEGEP system;

THAT the Assembly underline the contribution CEGEPs have made to Québec's economic, social and cultural development;

THAT it reiterate the important role CEGEPs play in educating creative, innovative and committed citizens;

26 October 2017

THAT, lastly, it applaud the commitment and achievements of all those who have worked or still work in our CEGEPs.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Mrs. Lamarre (Taillon), together with Mr. Khadir (Mercier), Mr. Lelièvre (Gaspé) and Mrs. Ouellet (Vachon), moved a motion on family physicians taking charge of more patients; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Mr. Surprenant (Groulx), together with Mr. Charette (Deux-Montagnes), Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque) and Mrs. Ouellet (Vachon), moved a motion on the construction of reserved lanes on Autoroute 15; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. Tanguay, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following committees:

- the Committee on Citizen Relations, to conclude its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 143, An Act to improve the educational quality and foster the harmonious development of educational childcare services;

26 October 2017

- the Committee on Public Finance, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 108, An Act to facilitate oversight of public bodies' contracts and to establish the Autorité des marchés publics.

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

- the Committee on Health and Social Services shall hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the possibility of examining certain petitions;
- the Committee on Labour and the Economy shall hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the observations, conclusions and recommendations, if any, following hearings on Québec's three research funds; and then, hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the possibility of carrying out an order of initiative.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, informed the Assembly that, on Friday, 3 November 2017, Mrs. Richard (Duplessis) would question Mr. Arcand, Minister responsible for the Côte-Nord region, during an interpellation on how the Liberal government has abandoned the Côte-Nord region.

Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, heard arguments on the complaint of breach of privilege or contempt raised by Mr. Bérubé, Official Opposition House Leader, on 24 October 2017.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 53 and 59, Mr. Bérubé, Official Opposition House Leader, tabled the following:

26 October 2017

A copy of excerpts from Radio-Canada's *Téléjournal Grand Montréal* and TVA Nouvelles, dated 18 October 2017, on interpretation of the *Act to foster adherence to State religious neutrality and, in particular, to provide a framework for requests for accommodations on religious grounds in certain bodies*.

(Sessional Paper No. 3751-20171026)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, tabled the following:

A copy of a document on his argument on the complaint of breach of privilege or contempt raised by the Official Opposition House Leader.

(Sessional Paper No. 3752-20171026)

After having heard arguments from all sides, Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, took the matter under advisement.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mrs. Thériault, Minister responsible for Consumer Protection and for Housing, moved that Bill 134, An Act mainly to modernize rules relating to consumer credit and to regulate debt settlement service contracts, high-cost credit contracts and loyalty programs, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried, and Bill 134 was accordingly passed in principle.

26 October 2017

Mr. Tanguay, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 134 be referred to the Committee on Citizen Relations for clause-by-clause consideration.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Coiteux, Minister of Public Security, moved that Bill 107, An Act to increase the jurisdiction and independence of the Anti-Corruption Commissioner and the Bureau des enquêtes indépendantes and expand the power of the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions to grant certain benefits to cooperating witnesses, do now pass in principle.

At 12.59 o'clock p.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 3.00 o'clock p.m.

The Assembly continued the debate on the motion moved by Mr. Coiteux, Minister of Public Security, for the passage in principle of Bill 107, An Act to increase the jurisdiction and independence of the Anti-Corruption Commissioner and the Bureau des enquêtes indépendantes and expand the power of the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions to grant certain benefits to cooperating witnesses.

26 October 2017

At the end of his speech, Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) moved the following motion to divide the said Bill:

THAT, pursuant to Standing Order 241, Bill 107, An Act to increase the jurisdiction and independence of the Anti-Corruption Commissioner and the Bureau des enquêtes indépendantes and expand the power of the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions to grant certain benefits to cooperating witnesses, be divided into three bills, the first of which shall be entitled “An Act to increase the jurisdiction and independence of the Anti-Corruption Commissioner” and shall comprise sections 1 to 22, 41, 43 to 46 and 47, except the words “, except sections 28 to 32, 34 and 35, which come into force on the dates to be set by the Government”; the second of which shall be entitled “An Act to increase the jurisdiction and independence of the Bureau des enquêtes indépendantes” and shall comprise sections 23 to 37 and 47; and the third of which shall be entitled “An Act respecting the power of the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions to grant certain benefits to cooperating witnesses” and shall comprise sections 38 to 40, 42 and 47, except the words “, except sections 28 to 32, 34 and 35, which come into force on the dates to be set by the Government”.

At 4.00 o'clock p.m., Mr. Ouimet, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 4.17 o'clock p.m.

26 October 2017

At 4.24 o'clock p.m., after hearing arguments from all sides regarding the receivability of the motion to divide, Mrs. Gaudreault, Second Vice-President, took the matter under advisement and suspended the proceedings.

The proceedings resumed at 5.45 o'clock p.m.

Mrs. Gaudreault, Second Vice-President, ruled on the receivability of the motion to divide moved by Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia).

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

Over the years, jurisprudence has established numerous criteria for determining the receivability of motions to divide. Having referred to these criteria and read the bill's provisions, the Chair notes that the bill contains more than one principle. That being said, the Chair must still determine if the way the sections are divided among the different bills resulting from the division generates separate bills that are coherent and can be considered independently.

For bills resulting from division to be coherent and able to stand alone, the provisions relating to principles contained in the new bills must follow the principle to which they belong. The motion to divide, as drafted, links section 39 to the third bill resulting from the division, entitled "An Act respecting the power of the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions to grant certain benefits to cooperating witnesses". This section constitutes a provision linked to the Associate Commissioner for Investigations, a concept linked to the first bill resulting from the division, on the Anti-Corruption Commissioner. Consequently, this provision is unrelated to and inconsistent with the bill resulting from the division in which it appears. In other words, one of the provisions is not linked to the principle from which it stems.

Accordingly, the motion to divide is declared out of order.

26 October 2017

The Assembly continued the debate on the motion moved by Mr. Coiteux, Minister of Public Security, for the passage in principle of Bill 107, An Act to increase the jurisdiction and independence of the Anti-Corruption Commissioner and the Bureau des enquêtes indépendantes and expand the power of the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions to grant certain benefits to cooperating witnesses.

The debate was adjourned in the name of Mr. Spénard (Beauce-Nord).

Debates upon Adjournment

At 6.00 o'clock p.m., the Assembly held a debate upon adjournment on a question from Mr. Villeneuve (Berthier) to Mr. Lessard, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, about the shelved Boucherie Richard Morin Incorporée inspection reports.

At 6.15 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Gaudreault, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Tuesday, 31 October 2017 at 1.40 o'clock p.m.

26 October 2017

ROYAL ASSENT

On Thursday, 26 October 2017 at 2.30 o'clock p.m. in the Office of the Lieutenant-Governor, in the presence of Mr. Chevarie (Îles-de-la-Madeleine), Delegate of the Premier, and of Mr. Arsenault, Director General of Parliamentary Affairs and Delegate of the Secretary General, the Honourable J. Michel Doyon, Lieutenant-Governor of Québec, was pleased to assent to the following bill:

Bill 130 An Act to amend certain provisions regarding the clinical organization and management of health and social services institutions

JACQUES CHAGNON

President