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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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FIRST SESSION

FORTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

## **Votes and Proceedings**

**of the Assembly**

**Tuesday, 10 April 2018 — No. 324**

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

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**QUÉBEC**



The Assembly was called to order at 1.40 o'clock p.m.

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**ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

**Statements by Members**

Mrs. Gaudreault (Hull) made a statement to underline the 20th anniversary of the Outaouais Film Festival.

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Mr. Girard (Trois-Rivières) made a statement to underline the success of the fund-raising dinner held by the organization Démarche des premiers quartiers de Trois-Rivières.

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Mr. Roberge (Chambly) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Yves LaBarre, president of the Royal Canadian Legion – Branch 034, Arras, Chambly.

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Mr. Drolet (Jean-Lesage) made a statement to underline the presence of École Sainte-Odile student council members visiting the National Assembly.

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Mrs. Ouellet (Vachon) made a statement to underline the holding of the Jeux FADOQ Rive-Sud–Suroît.

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Mr. Chevarie (Îles-de-la-Madeleine) made a statement to underline Daffodil Month.

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Mrs. Soucy (Saint-Hyacinthe) made a statement to congratulate the artisans of Agropur's "L'Extra" cheese, named world's best Camembert at the World Championship Cheese Contest.

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Mr. Auger (Champlain) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. René Beaudoin, recipient of Culture Mauricie's "Médaille des bâtisseurs".

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Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) made a statement to pay tribute to Mrs. Marthe Asselin-Vaillancourt, a pioneer in defending women's rights in Québec.

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Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) made a statement to pay tribute to conductor Mrs. Dina Gilbert, recipient of the "Discovery of the Year" OPUS award.

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At 1.52 o'clock p.m., Mr. Ouimet, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

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

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At the request of the President, the Assembly observed a moment of silence in memory of Mr. Clément Vincent, former Member for Nicolet.

The President tabled the following:

A letter, dated 8 April 2018, he had received from Mr. Jean-François Lisée, Leader of the Official Opposition, informing him of the appointment of Mrs. Carole Poirier, Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve, as Official Opposition House Leader to replace Mr. Pascal Bérubé, Member for Matane-Matapédia;  
(Sessional Paper No. 4226-20180410)

A letter, dated 8 April 2018, he had received from Mr. Jean-François Lisée, Leader of the Official Opposition, informing him of the appointment of Mr. Mathieu Traversy, Member for Terrebonne, as Deputy Official Opposition House Leader to replace Mrs. Carole Poirier, Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve.

(Sessional Paper No. 4227-20180410)

### **Presenting Papers**

Mr. Moreau, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, tabled the following:

The 2018–2021 strategic plan of the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles.

(Sessional Paper No. 4228-20180410)

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

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 14 March 2018 by Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) on adding 2,000 electric vehicle quick-charge stations by 2020;

(Sessional Paper No. 4229-20180410)

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The Government's reply to petitions tabled on 14 March 2018 by Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) on group leisure activity league eligibility for 50-50 draw permit applications;

(Sessional Paper No. 4230-20180410)

The Government's reply to petitions tabled on 14 March 2018 by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau) on Camp Bruchési;

(Sessional Paper No. 4231-20180410)

The Government's reply to petitions tabled on 14 March 2018 by Mr. Roy (Bonaventure) on the possibility of completing university program internships in Québec's 17 regions;

(Sessional Paper No. 4232-20180410)

The Government's reply to petitions tabled on 15 March 2018 by Mrs. de Santis (Bourassa-Sauvé) on controlling access to pornography and establishing an awareness campaign on its adverse effects on young people;

(Sessional Paper No. 4233-20180410)

The Government's reply to petitions tabled on 15 March 2018 by Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) on funding organizations involved in the collective defence of rights;

(Sessional Paper No. 4234-20180410)

The Government's reply to petitions tabled on 15 March 2018 by Mr. Pagé (Labelle) on establishing a public dermatology service in the Hautes-Laurentides area;

(Sessional Paper No. 4235-20180410)

The reply to a written question from Mr. Turcotte (Saint-Jean) on construction of the Montérégie server laboratory on the Hôpital Charles-Lemoyne site – Question No. 284, *Order Paper and Notices* of 6 February 2018;

(Sessional Paper No. 4236-20180410)

The reply to a written question from Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) on creating a financial assistance program regarding dry rot fungus – Question No. 293, *Order Paper and Notices* of 20 March 2018;

(Sessional Paper No. 4237-20180410)

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The reply to a written question from Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques) on Bill 399, An Act to exclude child support payments from income calculation under various social laws, introduced in the National Assembly on 18 March 2015 – Question No. 295, *Order Paper and Notices* of 21 March 2018.

(Sessional Paper No. 4238-20180410)

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 143.1 and 283, the President tabled the following:

The calendar for examination of the 2018–2019 estimates of expenditure.

(Sessional Paper No. 4239-20180410)

He then tabled the following:

The Chief Electoral Officer of Québec’s 2017 political financing report: overview and outlook entitled “Financement politique : Bilan et perspectives”, for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2017;

(Sessional Paper No. 4240-20180410)

The 2018–2019 budgetary forecasts and 2017–2018 preliminary financial report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Québec and Québec’s Commission de la représentation électorale;

(Sessional Paper No. 4241-20180410)

The Ethics Commissioner’s 2018–2022 institutional orientations, accompanied by a letter from the Ethics Commissioner, Me Ariane Mignolet, about these orientations;

(Sessional Paper No. 4242-20180410)

The new seating plan of the National Assembly, dated 10 April 2018;

(Sessional Paper No. 4243-20180410)

A copy of the notice of motion by Mr. Jolin-Barrette (Borduas) to be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* of Wednesday, 11 April 2018 under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.

(Sessional Paper No. 4244-20180410)

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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, Mrs. Charlebois, Minister for Rehabilitation, Youth Protection, Public Health and Healthy Living, together with Mr. Turcotte (Saint-Jean), Mr. Paradis (Lévis), Mr. Khadir (Mercier), Mr. Lelièvre (Gaspé), Mr. Surprenant (Groulx) and Mrs. Ouellet (Vachon), moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Autism Month, held each April;

THAT it express its solidarity with people with autism spectrum disorders and their families, who show determination in overcoming the associated challenges;

THAT it recognize the essential work performed every day by the many professionals and volunteers who work with people with autism;

THAT, lastly, it raise public awareness of the complex realities experienced by people with autism spectrum disorders.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque), together with Mrs. Poirier (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve), Mr. Charette (Deux-Montagnes), Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques), Mr. Lelièvre (Gaspé) and Mr. Surprenant (Groulx), moved a motion on local content in the procurement of rolling stock for use in extending the Montréal metro's Blue Line; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Legault, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, together with Mr. Couillard, Premier, Mr. Lisée, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin), Mr. Lelièvre (Gaspé), Mr. Surprenant (Groulx) and Mrs. Ouellet (Vachon), moved:

THAT the National Assembly deplore the terrible bus accident that occurred last Friday, killing 15 members of the Humboldt Broncos junior hockey team in Saskatchewan;

THAT it express its most heartfelt condolences to the accident victims' friends and families and its solidarity with all Saskatchewanians;

THAT, lastly, the Members of the Assembly observe a minute of silence in memory of the victims.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

At the request of Mr. Ouimet, First Vice-President, the Assembly observed a minute of silence.

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Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin) moved a motion on the right to disconnect from job-related digital devices; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 84.1 and pursuant to Standing Order 146, Mr. Tanguay, Deputy Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the National Assembly give effect to the order of reference given to the Committee on Public Finance within the framework of the consideration of Bill 171, An Act to enact the Act respecting the implementation of the Canadian Free Trade Agreement and to bring measures relating to contracting by public bodies into compliance with that agreement, the Trade and Cooperation Agreement between Ontario and Québec and the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement between Canada and the European Union and its Member States, to hold special consultations and public hearings on 10, 11 and 17 April 2018;

THAT, for this purpose, the Committee hear the following:

Conseil du patronat du Québec  
Canadian Federation of Independent Business  
Fédération des chambres de commerce du Québec  
Quebec Technology Association  
Association des entrepreneurs en construction du Québec  
Union des producteurs agricoles  
Association des fromagers artisans du Québec  
Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec  
Confédération des syndicats nationaux  
Centrale syndicale du Québec  
Association québécoise de l'industrie du disque, du spectacle et de la vidéo  
Mrs. Louise Lantagne, President, SODEC;

THAT a period of 12 minutes be set aside for opening statements, allocated as follows: 6 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government, 3 minutes 30 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition, and 2 minutes 30 seconds to the Second Opposition Group;

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THAT the presentation by each individual or organization last no longer than 10 minutes and the exchange with the Committee members last no longer than 50 minutes, allocated as follows: 25 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government, 15 minutes to the Official Opposition, and 10 minutes to the Second Opposition Group;

THAT the Minister for Integrity in Public Procurement and for Information Resources be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

#### **Notices of Proceedings in Committees**

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

- the Committee on Institutions, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 170, An Act to modernize the legal regime applicable to liquor permits and to amend various other legislative provisions with regard to alcoholic beverages;
- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 173, An Act mainly to introduce a basic income for persons with a severely limited capacity for employment;
- the Committee on Public Finance, to hold public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 171, An Act to enact the Act respecting the implementation of the Canadian Free Trade Agreement and to bring measures relating to contracting by public bodies into compliance with that agreement, the Trade and Cooperation Agreement between Ontario and Québec and the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement between Canada and the European Union and its Member States;

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- the Committee on Health and Social Services, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 157, An Act to constitute the Société québécoise du cannabis, to enact the Cannabis Regulation Act and to amend various highway safety-related provisions.

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Mr. Ouimet, First Vice-President, gave the following notices:

- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment shall hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the possibility of examining a petition;
- the Committee on Health and Social Services shall hold a deliberative meeting to approve the Committee's report following the examination of petitions on introducing and implementing a Lyme disease action plan.

### **Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly**

Mr. Ouimet, First Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Wednesday, 11 April 2018, during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, a debate would be held on the motion moved by Mr. Jolin-Barrette (Borduas).

This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly ask the Government to abolish the statute of limitations applicable to victims of sexual assault.

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## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### Business Having Precedence

#### *Debate on the Budget Speech*

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned on 29 March 2018, on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, that the Assembly approve the Government's budgetary policy, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Bonnardel (Granby), Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque), Mr. Caire (La Peltrie), Mrs. Jean (Chicoutimi), Mr. Bourcier (Saint-Jérôme) and Mr. Villeneuve (Berthier), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of her address, Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly censure the Liberal Government for its 2018–2019 budget, which perpetuates the unfair tax treatment of Québec businesses compared to digital platforms based abroad as concerns collection of the Québec sales tax.

The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Bonnardel (Granby), Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque), Mr. Caire (La Peltrie), Mrs. Jean (Chicoutimi), Mr. Bourcier (Saint-Jérôme), Mr. Villeneuve (Berthier) and Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of her address, Mrs. Léger (Pointe-aux-Trembles) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Liberal Government for presenting a budget that will bring about a return to austerity after the general election.

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The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Bonnardel (Granby), Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque), Mr. Caire (La Peltrie), Mrs. Jean (Chicoutimi), Mr. Bourcier (Saint-Jérôme), Mr. Villeneuve (Berthier), Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques) and Mrs. Léger (Pointe-aux-Trembles), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of his address, Mr. Paradis (Lévis) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Liberal Government for underinvesting in health, thereby cutting direct services to persons who are vulnerable, for the alarming state of hospital buildings, long-term senior care facilities and youth centres, and for paying unjustified salary increases to medical specialists while more important needs are not being met.

The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Bonnardel (Granby), Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque), Mr. Caire (La Peltrie), Mrs. Jean (Chicoutimi), Mr. Bourcier (Saint-Jérôme), Mr. Villeneuve (Berthier), Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques), Mrs. Léger (Pointe-aux-Trembles) and Mr. Paradis (Lévis), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of his address, Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly censure the Liberal Government for its 2018–2019 budget which, as a result of the tax reductions granted since the beginning of this Legislature, has deprived public finances of over \$3.5 billion per year.

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The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Bonnardel (Granby), Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque), Mr. Caire (La Peltrie), Mrs. Jean (Chicoutimi), Mr. Bourcier (Saint-Jérôme), Mr. Villeneuve (Berthier), Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques), Mrs. Léger (Pointe-aux-Trembles), Mr. Paradis (Lévis) and Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin), subject to the receivability of these motions.

### **Debates upon Adjournment**

At 6.00 o'clock p.m., the Assembly held a debate upon adjournment on a question from Mr. Therrien (Sanguinet) to Mr. Fortin, Minister of Transport, Sustainable Mobility and Transport Electrification, about Hydro-Québec's cost overruns in connection with the Réseau express métropolitain.

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At 6.13 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Gaudreault, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 7.30 o'clock p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 7.30 o'clock p.m.

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## **Business Having Precedence**

### *Debate on the Budget Speech*

The Assembly continued the debate on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, that the Assembly approve the Government's budgetary policy and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Bonnardel (Granby), Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque), Mr. Caire (La Peltrie), Mrs. Jean (Chicoutimi), Mr. Bourcier (Saint-Jérôme), Mr. Villeneuve (Berthier), Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie-Saint-Jacques), Mrs. Léger (Pointe-aux-Trembles), Mr. Paradis (Lévis) and Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of his address, Mr. Roberge (Chambly) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Liberal Government for underinvesting in education, thereby cutting direct services to students, and for the alarmingly decrepit state of Québec schools.

The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Bonnardel (Granby), Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque), Mr. Caire (La Peltrie), Mrs. Jean (Chicoutimi), Mr. Bourcier (Saint-Jérôme), Mr. Villeneuve (Berthier), Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie-Saint-Jacques), Mrs. Léger (Pointe-aux-Trembles), Mr. Paradis (Lévis), Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin) and Mr. Roberge (Chambly), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of his address, Mr. Turcotte (Saint-Jean) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Liberal Government for presenting a budget that leaves out persons with special needs.

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The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Bonnardel (Granby), Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque), Mr. Caire (La Peltrie), Mrs. Jean (Chicoutimi), Mr. Bourcier (Saint-Jérôme), Mr. Villeneuve (Berthier), Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques), Mrs. Léger (Pointe-aux-Trembles), Mr. Paradis (Lévis), Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin), Mr. Roberge (Chambly) and Mr. Turcotte (Saint-Jean), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of his address, Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Liberal Government for presenting a budget that does not make up for cuts made to environment spending since 2014.

The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Leitão, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Bonnardel (Granby), Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque), Mr. Caire (La Peltrie), Mrs. Jean (Chicoutimi), Mr. Bourcier (Saint-Jérôme), Mr. Villeneuve (Berthier), Mrs. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques), Mrs. Léger (Pointe-aux-Trembles), Mr. Paradis (Lévis), Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin), Mr. Roberge (Chambly), Mr. Turcotte (Saint-Jean) and Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière), subject to the receivability of these motions.

The debate was adjourned in the name of Mrs. Sauvé (Fabre).

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At 9.30 o'clock p.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 11 April 2018 at 9.40 o'clock a.m.

**JACQUES CHAGNON**

*President*