



*Votes and Proceedings*  
*Tuesday, 4 April 2000 - No. 92*

*Two 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.*

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

The Assembly was called to order at 2.03 o'clock p.m.

---

Moment of reflection

### ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

#### Presenting Papers

Mrs. Léger, Minister for Child and Family Welfare, tabled the following:

The exchange of information agreement reached between the Régie des rentes du Québec and the Ministère du Revenu, as well as the favourable opinion from the Commission d'accès à l'information, concerning the allocation of tax refunding to debts under the authority of the *Family Benefits Act*.

(Sessional Paper No. 1034-20000404)

---

Mr. President tabled the following:

The 2000-2001 budgetary estimates and the preliminary 1999-2000 financial statement of the Chief Electoral Officer of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1035-20000404)

The 2000-2001 budgetary estimates and the preliminary 1999-2000 financial statement of the Commission de la représentation électorale du Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1036-20000404)

He then tabled the following Decisions from the Office of the National Assembly, dated 23 March 2000:

Decision 954 concerning the regulation to amend the regulation respecting Members' allowances (Règlement modifiant le Règlement sur les allocations aux députés).

(Sessional Paper No. 1037-20000404)

**4 April 2000**

---

Decision 957 concerning the regulation to amend the regulation respecting the provisioning of uniforms and special purpose clothing (Règlement modifiant le Règlement concernant la fourniture d'uniformes et de vêtements spéciaux).

(Sessional Paper No. 1038-20000404)

### **Presenting Reports from Committees**

Mrs. Carrier-Perreault (Les Chutes-de-la-Chaudière), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy, which met on 4 April 2000 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

105 An Act to regulate the forest management activities of holders of timber supply and forest management agreements for the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 — Reported without amendment.

(Sessional Paper No. 1039-20000404)

### **Presenting Petitions**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 62 and 64, Mr. Pinard (Saint-Maurice) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition, signed by 2400 scout representatives from around the world who gathered in Québec for the Jam des neiges (World Scout Forum), concerning the resolutions adopted on this occasion.

(Sessional Paper No. 1040-20000404)

### **Oral Questions and Answers**

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

### **Motions Without Notice**

Mr. Boisclair, Minister of Social Solidarity, moved:

**4 April 2000**

---

THAT the Québec National Assembly mark Volunteer Week, which will be held from 9 to 15 April 2000, and whose theme this year is "Bâtir demain ensemble: l'action bénévole, un coup de main qui fait du bien" (Building tomorrow together: volunteer work, the helping hand that makes everyone feel good).

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

---

Mr. Julien, Minister for Industry and Trade, moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Québec Retail Trade Week, which is being held from 2 to 8 April 2000, recognize the economic contribution of this branch of industry, the merit of its workers, as well as the contribution of retail trade to the growth of employment and Québec's prosperity.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

---

Mr. Pinard (Saint-Maurice) moved:

THAT the National Assembly congratulate the hockey team of the Québec National Assembly, who was victorious over the hockey team of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, the motion was carried.

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

Mr. Boulerice, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

**4 April 2000**

---

- the Committee on Institutions, to continue its public hearings within the framework of a general consultation on Bill 99, An Act respecting the exercise of the fundamental rights and prerogatives of the Québec people and of the Québec State, and then on Bill 87, An Act to amend the Professional Code and other legislative provisions;
- the Committee on Public Finance, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 29, An Act to again amend the Taxation Act and other 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 on the coordination and financing of research in the health and social research sectors, pursuant to the *Act respecting the accountability of deputy ministers and chief executive officers of public bodies*;
- the Committee on Culture shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of organizing its proceedings.

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

Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Wednesday, 5 April 2000, during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, a debate will be held on the motion by Mrs. Normandeau (Bonaventure). This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly demand that the Parti Québécois Government cease to take advantage of Québec consumers by maintaining the highest gasoline taxes in Canada and North America.

---

4 April 2000

---

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### Government Bills

#### *Passage in Principle*

Mr. Ménard, Minister of Public Security, moved, —That Bill 86, Police Act, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried on division and Bill 86 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mr. Boulerice, Deputy Government House Leader, Bill 86 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Institutions.

---

At 5.25 o'clock p.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 6.00 o'clock p.m.

---

### Debates Upon Adjournment

At 6.06 o'clock p.m., the Assembly held three debates upon adjournment:

- the first, on a question by Mr. Benoit (Orford) to Mr. Bégin, Minister of the Environment, about the failure of the Government as regards the environment;
- the second, on a question by Mr. Marcoux (Vaudreuil) to Mrs. Marois, Minister of Health and Social Services, about the bill respecting a budgetary balance in the health and social services network;

**4 April 2000**

---

- the third, on a question by Mrs. Bélanger (Mégantic-Compton) to Mr. Perreault, Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration, about the Duplessis orphans.

---

At 6.46 o'clock p.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 5 April 2000, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

**JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU**

*President*