



Votes and Proceedings
Wednesday, 20 October 1999 - No. 52

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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Presenting Papers

Presenting Reports from Committees

Presenting Petitions

Complaints of Breach of Privilege or Contempt and Personal Explanations

Motions Without Notice

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Recorded Divisions

The Assembly was called to order at 10.02 o'clock a.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Want of Confidence Motion

Mr. Chagnon (Westmount–Saint-Louis) moved:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec severely blame the Parti Québécois Government for its unjustified delays and total improvisation regarding negotiations with the employees of the health sector.

Following a meeting with the House leaders, Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, announced the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this want of confidence motion: twenty minutes shall be allotted for a reply by its mover and twenty 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 shall be added to that of the other group while any time not used by the independent Member may be redistributed amongst the parliamentary groups, and individual addresses shall not otherwise be limited.

And debate arising on the motion by Mr. Chagnon (Westmount–Saint-Louis);

At 12.00 o'clock p.m., Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, having left the Chair, the proceedings were suspended until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

20 October 1999

The proceedings resumed at 2.01 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Presenting Papers

Mr. Landry, Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Inspector General of Financial Institutions for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1999.

(Sessional Paper No. 574-19991020)

Mrs. Marois, Minister of State for Health and Social Services, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Conseil médical du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1999.

(Sessional Paper No. 575-19991020)

The annual report, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1999, with regard to the implementation of the complaints examination procedure of the Bas-Saint-Laurent Regional Health and Social Services Board.

(Sessional Paper No. 576-19991020)

A copy of eight orders-in-council concerning the organization of boards of directors of public institutions.

(Sessional Paper No. 577-19991020)

Mrs. Harel, Minister of State for Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Régie du logement for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1999.

(Sessional Paper No. 578-19991020)

20 October 1999

The annual report of the Conseil des aînés for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1999.

(Sessional Paper No. 579-19991020)

Mrs. Lemieux, Minister of State for Labour and Employment, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Commission des normes du travail for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1999.

(Sessional Paper No. 580-19991020)

The annual report of the Commission des lésions professionnelles for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1999.

(Sessional Paper No. 581-19991020)

The annual report of the Commission de l'équité salariale for the fiscal year ended 31 December 1998.

(Sessional Paper No. 582-19991020)

Mr. Brassard, Minister of Natural Resources, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Agence de l'efficacité énergétique for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1999.

(Sessional Paper No. 583-19991020)

Mr. Trudel, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Régie des assurances agricoles du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1999.

(Sessional Paper No. 584-19991020)

The annual report of the Commission de protection du territoire agricole du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1999.

(Sessional Paper No. 585-19991020)

20 October 1999

Mrs. Maltais, Minister of Culture and Communications, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Musée des beaux-arts de Montréal for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1999.

(Sessional Paper No. 586-19991020)

The annual report of the Musée de la civilisation for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1999.

(Sessional Paper No. 587-19991020)

Three certificates of compliance in favour of Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc.

(Sessional Paper No. 588-19991020)

Presenting Reports from Committees

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

A report from the Committee on Institutions, which met on 29 September 1999 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

66 An Act to provide for the implementation of agreements with the
Mohawk Nation — Reported with certain amendments.

(Sessional Paper No. 589-19991020)

The report from the Select Committee, which, on 21, 22, 23 and 30 September 1999, held public hearings within the framework of a general consultation on a new governmental management framework proposed in the policy statement entitled "Improving services for Quebecers — A new management framework for the Public Service".

(Sessional Paper No. 590-19991020)

Presenting Petitions

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 62 to 64, Mr. Marsan (Robert-Baldwin) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the maintaining of back-to-school programmes for adults and signed by 6700 members of the Association nationale des étudiants et étudiants adultes des commissions scolaires du Québec (ANEACSQ).

(Sessional Paper No. 591-19991020)

20 October 1999

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 64, Mr. Kelley (Jacques-Cartier) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition requesting that a public debate be held on the mission, organization, and role of Emploi-Québec and signed by 127 citizens from the riding of Jacques-Cartier.

(Sessional Paper No. 592-19991020)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 64, Mr. Béchar (Kamouraska-Témiscouata) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting section 292 of the *Education Act* and signed by 975 parents from five schools belonging to the Navigateurs School Board in the county of Lotbinière.

(Sessional Paper No. 593-19991020)

Complaints of Breach of Privilege or Contempt and Personal Explanations

Mr. President rendered the following decision regarding the request to rise on a point of privilege he had received from Mr. Chagnon (Westmount-Saint-Louis) on 19 October 1999, with regard to the testimony of Mr. Pierre Sarto Blanchard, a public servant at the Ministère du Revenu, before the Commission d'accès à l'information, regarding an alleged violation of tax confidentiality concerning a Member of the Liberal opposition:

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

The facts adduced by the Member do not give rise, *prima facie*, to a point of privilege.

There has been no substantiation of the allegation that tax information was used to interfere with Members in the exercise of their duties. None of the facts set forth prove that such information was used to prevent Members from speaking freely before the Assembly, to threaten Members or to influence the vote, opinion, judgment or action of Members by means of threats or coercion.

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

20 October 1999

At the request of Mr. President, Mr. Béchard (Kamouraska-Témiscouata) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the agreement reached between the House leaders be ratified in order that the Select Committee, which was established in pursuance of Standing Order 178 by motion carried on 17 June last, be chaired by the Member for Portneuf due to the exceptional circumstances preventing the chairman of the Committee on Public Finance from performing his duties for the duration of this order.

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

—————

Mr. Chagnon (Westmount–Saint-Louis) moved a motion concerning the breach of the rights and privileges of the Assembly and of its Members; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

—————

Mr. Bordeleau (Acadie) moved a motion requesting the holding of an extended public hearing on the management and administration of Emploi-Québec; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to continue its public hearings within the framework of a general consultation on the document entitled "Réforme du transport par taxi: pour des services de taxi de meilleure qualité".

20 October 1999

Mr. President gave the following notice:

- the Committee on Institutions shall hear Mr. Jean K. Samson, President of the Office des professions du Québec (Québec professions board), within the framework of the order of surveillance of this agency.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Want of Confidence Motion

And debate continuing on the want of confidence motion by Mr. Chagnon (Westmount–Saint-Louis), which reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec severely blame the Parti Québécois Government for its unjustified delays and total improvisation regarding negotiations with the employees of the health sector.

Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, interrupted the debate and informed the Assembly that an end of sitting debate will be held on Thursday, 21 October 1999, between Mrs. Loiselle (Saint-Henri–Sainte-Anne) and Mrs. Lemieux, Minister of Labour, on the bungalows of Emploi-Québec.

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

The motion was negated on the following vote:

(Division No. 43 in Appendix)

Yeas: **38** Nays: **62** Abstentions: **0**

20 October 1999

At 5.59 o'clock p.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 21 October 1999, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU

President

20 October 1999

APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the want of confidence motion by Mr. Chagnon (Westmount–Saint-Louis):

(Division No. 43)

YEAS - 38

Beauchamp	Chenail	Gobé	Middlemiss
Béchar	Cholette	Houda-Pepin	Normandeau
Bélanger	Copeman	Kelley	Ouimet
Benoit	Cusano	Lamoureux	Paradis
Bergman	Delisle	Lamquin-Éthier	Pelletier
Bordeleau	Després	Leblanc	(<i>Chapleau</i>)
Brodeur	Dupuis	Loiselle	Sirros
Chagnon	Fournier	Maciocia	Tranchemontagne
Charest	Gagnon-Tremblay	MacMillan	Vallières
(<i>Sherbrooke</i>)	Gautrin	Marcoux	Whissell

NAYS - 62

Barbeau	Charest	Goupil	Papineau
Baril	(<i>Rimouski</i>)	Jolivet	Paquin
(<i>Arthabaska</i>)	Chevrette	Jutras	Paré
Beaulne	Cliche	Kieffer	Payne
Beaumier	Côté	Labbe	Pelletier
Bédard	(<i>La Peltrie</i>)	Lachance	(<i>Abitibi-Est</i>)
Bégin	Côté	Laprise	Perreault
Bergeron	(<i>Dubuc</i>)	Leduc	Robert
Bertrand	Cousineau	Legault	Rochon
(<i>Portneuf</i>)	Désilets	Léger	Signori
Blanchet	Deslières	Lelièvre	Simard
Boisclair	Dion	Lemieux	(<i>Richelieu</i>)
Boucher	Dionne-Marsolais	Léonard	St-André
Boulerice	Doyer	Létourneau	Trudel
Boulianne	Duguay	Maltais	Vermette
Brassard	Gagnon	Marois	
Caron	Gendron	Ménard	
Carrier-Perreault	Geoffrion	Morin	