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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

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FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

## Order Paper and Notices

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 3 April 2019 — No. 28

*Nine forty a.m.*

President of the National Assembly:  
Mr. François Paradis

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Part 1

**ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

**STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS**

- The Member for Deux-Montagnes on the following subject: *Retirement of Diane Desjardins Lavallée, Director General of the Fondation de l'Hôpital de Saint-Eustache.*
- The Member for Hull on the following subject: *Underline the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hull's oldest golden age club, the Club du Sourire.*
- The Member for Bourget on the following subject: *Fédération des centres d'action bénévole du Québec.*
- The Member for D'Arcy-McGee on the following subject: *Underline International Roma Day.*
- The Member for Chauveau on the following subject: *The performances of archer Jacob Gagnon of Saint-Émile.*
- The Member for Rosemont on the following subject: *The 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Épicerie solidaire de Rosemont.*
- The Member for Chicoutimi on the following subject: *25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fédération des chambres immobilières du Québec.*
- The Member for Marie-Victorin on the following subject: *Tribute to Lydia Montigny.*
- The Member for Lotbinière-Frontenac on the following subject: *A gold medal in snowboard cross at the Canada Games for Anthony Gervais-Marcoux.*
- The Member for Saint-Laurent on the following subject: *Tribute to the winners of the Bar's "Visez droit" contest.*

**STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS**

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

**PRESENTING**     (a) Papers  
                     (b) Reports from committees  
                     (c) Petitions

**ORAL ANSWERS TO PETITIONS**

**COMPLAINTS OF BREACH OF PRIVILEGE OR CONTEMPT AND  
PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS**

**ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**DEFERRED DIVISIONS**

**MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

**NOTICES OF PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEES**

**INFORMATION ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY**

Part 2

**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**BUSINESS HAVING PRECEDENCE**

- (1) Pursuant to Standing Orders 275 and 276, continuation of the debate on the motion by the Minister of Finance, –That this Assembly approves the budgetary policy of the Government,

And on the motions stating a grievance moved by:

**The Member for Robert-Baldwin:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ Government for its budget, which will result in the loss of \$600 million over four years by liquidating much of the Generations Fund.

**The Member for Rosemont:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Coalition avenir Québec Government for its Québec Infrastructure Plan, which reduces the ratio of public transit investments to highway transportation investments.

**The Leader of the Official Opposition:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ Government for its 2019–2020 budget, which does not take into account the significant leeway inherited from the previous government, contains no vision and abandons future generations.

**The Member for Laurier-Dorion:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Government for not committing, in its 2019–2010 budget, to undertake new energy-efficient social housing unit construction projects under the AccèsLogis Program.

**The Member for Rimouski:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ Government for its complete lack of vision with respect to development of the blue economy and maritime Québec.

**The Member for Mercier:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Coalition avenir Québec Government for its budget, which contains no structuring measures to fight climate change effectively.

**The Member for Sherbrooke:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Coalition avenir Québec Government for its 2019–2010 budget, which does not provide for a plan to finance the renovation and ecological construction of buildings belonging to school system real estate.

**The Member for Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Coalition avenir Québec Government for its lack of support to Québec municipalities to deal with the negative consequences of climate change.

**The Member for Gouin:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Coalition avenir Québec Government for not having budgeted any amount for paid internships.

**The Member for Gaspé:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ Government for its lack of vision regarding four-season tourism development.

**The Member for Maurice-Richard:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ Government for the lack of vision and concrete measures to fight climate change in its budget and the lack of additional sums for public transit projects.

**The Member for Jean-Lesage:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Coalition avenir Québec Government for its budget, which provides no measures against the denied funding the Canadian government is imposing on us through its management of health transfers.

**The Member for Joliette:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Government for the lack, in its 2019–2020 budget, of additional investments of \$22 million in the financial assistance program for parents of children with severe disabilities that it promised in the last election campaign and that is foreseen in the Coalition avenir Québec’s financial framework.

**The Member for Pontiac:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ Government for presenting a budget without the \$350 million needed to implement nurse-to-patient ratio projects throughout Québec.

**The Member for Anjou–Louis-Riel:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ Government for depriving families of \$1,700 on average to make their houses more energy-efficient by abolishing the RénoVert tax credit in its budget.

**The Member for Îles-de-la-Madeleine:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ Government for devoting an insignificant amount of money in its 2019–2020 budget to finance risk reduction projects in municipalities affected by extreme weather events such as coastal erosion and flooding.

**The Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ Government for not keeping its promise to pay additional support to families with children with severe disabilities as of 2019–2020.

**The Member for Jonquière:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the Government for its lack of vision to address the climate crisis, as reflected in a lack of budgetary and financial measures to begin a real transition to a green economy.

**The Member for Saint-Laurent:**

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ Government for not including in its budget the amounts needed to cover paid internships in the college and university network and the additional bursaries requested by psychology students at the doctoral level.

**URGENT DEBATES**

**DEBATES ON REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**



## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **I. Government Bills**

#### *Passage in Principle*

**(2) Bill 2**

An Act to tighten the regulation of cannabis

Introduced by the Minister for Health and Social Services on 5 December 2018

Report from the Committee on Health and Social Services (consultations) tabled on 21 February 2019

Resuming the debate adjourned on **19 March 2019**

**(3) Bill 5**

An Act to amend the Education Act and other provisions regarding preschool education services for students 4 years of age

Introduced by the Minister of Education and Higher Education on **14 February 2019**

**(4) Bill 6**

An Act to transfer responsibility for the registry of lobbyists to the Lobbyists Commissioner and to implement the Charbonneau Commission recommendation on the prescription period for bringing penal proceedings

Introduced by the Minister of Justice on **13 February 2019**

**(5) Bill 7**

An Act respecting certain terms of employment applicable to officers of the health and social services network

Introduced by the Minister of Health and Social Services on 26 February 2019

Report from the Committee on Health and Social Services (consultations) tabled on **21 March 2019**

- (6) Bill 9  
An Act to increase Québec's socio-economic prosperity and adequately meet labour market needs through successful immigrant integration  
Introduced by the Minister of Immigration, Diversity and Inclusiveness on 7 February 2019  
Report from the Committee on Citizen Relations (consultations) tabled on 19 March 2019  
Resuming the debate adjourned in the name of the Member for Saint-Laurent on **2 April 2019**
- (7) Bill 12  
An Act to clarify the scope of the right to free education and to allow the regulation of certain financial contributions that may be required  
Introduced by the Minister of Education and Higher Education on 21 February 2019  
Report from the Committee on Culture and Education (consultations) tabled on **27 March 2019**
- (8) Bill 13  
An Act to amend the Taxation Act, the Act respecting the Québec sales tax and other legislative provisions  
Introduced by the Minister of Finance on **26 February 2019**
- (9) Bill 17  
An Act respecting remunerated passenger transportation by automobile  
Introduced by the Minister of Transport on **20 March 2019**
- (10) Bill 21  
An Act respecting the laicity of the State  
Introduced by the Minister of Immigration, Diversity and Inclusiveness on **28 March 2019**

*Committee Stage*

**(11) Bill 1**

An Act to amend the rules governing the appointment and dismissal of the Anti-Corruption Commissioner, the Director General of the Sûreté du Québec and the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions

Introduced by the Minister of Public Security on 29 November 2018

Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on 20 February 2019

Passed in principle on **28 February 2019**, and

Referred to the Committee on Institutions

*Report Stage*

**(12) Bill 3**

An Act to establish a single school tax rate

Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 6 December 2018

Report from the Committee on Public Finance (consultations) tabled on 7 February 2019

Passed in principle on 13 February 2019

Report from the Committee on Public Finance tabled on **27 March 2019**

(Amend. handed in under Standing Order 252)

**(13) Bill 10**

An Act to amend the Pay Equity Act mainly to improve the pay equity audit process

Introduced by the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity on 12 February 2019

Passed in principle on 20 March 2019

Report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy tabled on **2 April 2019** (Amend. handed in under Standing Order 252)

*Passage*

**II. Private Members' Public Bills**

*Passage in Principle*

**(14) Bill 190**

An Act to exclude child support payments from income calculation under various social laws

Introduced by the Member for Sherbrooke on **7 December 2018**

**(15) Bill 191**

An Act to amend the Act respecting the National Assembly to prescribe the publication of information on the use of the amounts granted to Members in the performance of their duties

Introduced by the Member for Gouin on **6 December 2018**

**(16) Bill 192**

An Act to recognize the Members' oath to the people of Québec as the sole oath required for Members to take office

Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **28 February 2019**

**(17) Bill 193**

An Act to establish a budgetary shield to protect education, child and youth protection services

Introduced by the Member for Joliette on **7 February 2019**

**(18) Bill 194**

An Act to ensure compliance with Québec's climate change-related obligations

Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on **21 February 2019**

*Committee Stage*

*Report Stage*

*Passage*

**III. Private Bills**

*Hearings and Clause-by-Clause Consideration*

*Passage in Principle*

*Passage*

**IV. Government Motions**

**V. Estimates of Expenditure**

(19) Estimates of Expenditure for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2020 tabled by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on 21 March 2019 and referred for consideration to the standing committees on **26 March 2019**.

**VI. Statutory Debates**

**BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION**

(20) 2 April 2019

Motion by the Leader of the Second Opposition Group:

THAT the National Assembly ask the CAQ Government to propose, by 1 October 2020, a greenhouse gas emissions reduction plan approved by an independent non-government expert that makes it possible to achieve the targets recommended by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) for 2030;

THAT the National Assembly also ask the Government to prohibit all oil and gas development and exploration projects on Québec territory.

Part 3

**BILLS PASSED**

*(Bills awaiting Royal Assent)*

Part 4

**PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEES**

*The detailed calendar of the proceedings of each committee  
is available on the Internet site of the Assembly*

**COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

**Order in compliance with the Standing Orders**

- Hearing of the Auditor General of Québec on its annual management report 2017-2018 and financial commitments.
- Hearing on chapter 5 entitled “Computer Recovery” and chapter 7 entitled “Information Technology Contracts – Follow-Up on a Special Audit” of the Auditor General of Québec’s May 2018 report.
- Hearing on chapter 3 entitled “Contaminated Sites Under the Responsibility of the State” of the Auditor General of Québec’s June 2018 report.
- Hearing on chapter 3 entitled “End-of-Life Tire Management” of the Auditor General of Québec’s November 2018 report.

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Order in compliance with the Standing Orders**

Surveillance of public bodies and accountability:

- Examination of the policy directions, activities and management of the Régie de l’énergie.

**Order of initiative**

- Examine the impact of pesticides on public health and the environment, as well as current and future innovative alternative practices in the agriculture and food sectors, in recognition of the competitiveness of Québec’s agri-food sector.

## COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

### COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

#### **Order of initiative**

- Future of the news media.

### COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND THE ECONOMY

#### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC FINANCE

#### **Order in compliance with the Standing Orders**

- Continuation of the debate on the budget speech.

#### Interpellation:

- By the Member for La Pinière to the Chair of the Conseil du trésor on the following subject: *The CAQ Government's lack of vision regarding data management and the unrealistic promise of savings announced by the Chair of the Conseil du trésor* (notice given on 28 March 2019).

### COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

#### **Order of reference**

#### Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 1**, An Act to amend the rules governing the appointment and dismissal of the Anti-Corruption Commissioner, the Director General of the Sûreté du Québec and the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions (Order of reference given on 28 February 2019).

#### Special Consultations:

- **Bill 6**, An Act to transfer responsibility for the registry of lobbyists to the Lobbyists Commissioner and to implement the Charbonneau Commission recommendation on the prescription period for bringing penal proceedings (Order of reference given on 19 March 2019).

COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Part 5

**WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

Questions already placed on the Order Paper  
are published each Wednesday

- (22) Mr. Benjamin (Viau) – **19 February 2019**  
To the Minister of Tourism

Last 9 September, the Premier expressed his will to support the creation of 500 new agritourism businesses within the next 4 years. Since that time, we have barely heard about this promise. Since 18 October 2018, measures must have been undertaken to respect your promise. In this regard, we would like to know:

What is your timeline for the creation of the 500 new businesses? How many new businesses will come into being each year?

What will the total budget granted to support the creation of these 500 new businesses be?

Since you came to power, have any agritourism businesses been created thanks to Government support? If so, what was the financial support given to each of the businesses?

Will any existing agritourism businesses also benefit from financial support?



- (24) Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) – **19 March 2019**  
To the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

The municipality of Lac-au-Saumon is undertaking a permanent groundwater supply project that is estimated to cost between 6 and 7 million dollars. The municipality's main water source is Lake Angus. However, last summer's drought brought the water level down to below the reservoir valves' normal range. Since this lake can no longer meet the needs of the citizens and the municipality, the municipality is using Lake Au Saumon as a temporary water source with a temporary pump to get its water supply during the winter. The installation of a temporary pump costs approximately \$250,000. The municipality of Lac-au-Saumon applied for funding from the Ministère de la Sécurité publique, but the request was immediately denied as it did not fall within the definition of "disaster" or "climate crisis" under existing programs. This small community of 1406 inhabitants must therefore bear the costs on its own.

My question is as follows:

- Will the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing consider adding a sub-component to component 1 (Water Infrastructure) in the Programme d'infrastructures municipales d'eau to include an emergency fund during the water infrastructure transition?

- (25) Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) – **19 March 2019**  
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

The Camp musical du lac Matapédia is a summer camp where young people aged 7 to 17, with or without experience in the performing arts, are given the opportunity to receive intensive training in music, dance and theatre on the shore of Lake Matapédia in Sayabec. As the camp is very popular among young people throughout Québec, it must now manage exponential growth.

On the one hand, the Camp musical du lac Matapédia must deal with inequity in the funding of its activities in comparison with other Québec music camps. In 2016-2017, the organization received \$15,700 compared to \$55,800 for the Camp musical Saint-Alexandre, located in the western Bas-Saint-Laurent region. In 2017-2018, the Camp musical du lac Matapédia got the same amount as the previous year, while the Camp musical Saint-Alexandre was given an additional amount of \$34,326 for a total financial contribution of \$90,126. Though additional funding must not be recurrent, the Camp musical Saint-Alexandre received financial assistance in the amount of \$91,528 in 2018-2019.

For the same period, the Camp musical du lac Matapédia received a slight increase, totalling \$26,316.

On the other hand, the Camp musical du lac Matapédia must build and restore deteriorated infrastructure in order to continue its activities. For instance, the camp does not have a drinking water infrastructure or septic system. Furthermore, lack of space obliges young people to practice in mosquito net shelters, rain or shine. Underfunding prevents catching up with repairs to deteriorating infrastructure.

My questions are as follows:

- Will the Minister of Culture and Communications commit to taking a closer look at the issue of inequity of financial assistance for music camps?
- Would it be possible to establish financial assistance in the program “Aide au fonctionnement pour les organismes de formation en art” to include infrastructure investment?

(26) Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) – **19 March 2019**

To the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change

Common hogweed is an invasive alien plant in the Matapedia valley. The sap contains toxins that, combined with exposure to light, cause severe and painful second degree dermatitis upon contact. Symptoms usually appear between 24 and 48 hours after contact with skin. Inflammation can last anywhere between 3 to 5 days and scars may remain approximately six years. Resembling cow parsnip and giant hogweed, common hogweed is increasingly taking the place of native species, which results in biodiversity loss in both natural and urban environments.

The Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques' Program to Fight Against Invasive Alien Plant Species provides financial assistance for initiatives aimed at reducing the threats and impacts of invasive alien plants on biodiversity and Québec's natural environments. However, the action plan does not consider other environments and only includes three invasive species: common reed, giant hogweed and Japanese knotweed.

My questions are as follows:

- Will the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change expand the action plan to include other invasive plants?
- Will the Program to Fight Against Invasive Alien Plant Species include urban environments, since this is also a matter of public health?

(27) Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) – **19 March 2019**  
To the Minister of Health and Social Services

Food allergies are on the rise. In Québec, 8% of children suffer from food allergies. In schools, where these children eat at least one of their meals each day, there is currently no legal framework in Québec that enables the standardization of preventive measures and treatment of severe allergic reactions. Québec is the only Canadian province without a legal framework to standardize reception measures for allergic children and the prevention of severe reactions.

Last 14 June, the outgoing Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve, Carole Poirier, introduced Bill 1197 to require educational institutions to adopt practices for managing cases of anaphylaxis.

My questions are as follows:

- Do you intend to support the introduction and passage of such a bill during the current parliamentary session?
- What actions do you intend to take in the coming months to ensure the standardization of reception measures for allergic children and the prevention of severe reactions?

(28) Mr. Fortin (Pontiac) – **20 March 2019**  
To the Minister for Health and Social Services

Last 27 November, we asked the Minister for Health and Social Services and the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux for information on the Approche interactive au développement de l'enfant (A.I.D.E) Platform, such as Platform analyses and an assessment plan of costs. We did not know whether this Platform, previously praised by Dr. Carmant before he was a minister, would ever see the light of day.

However, our request for access to this information was turned down last 19 December. We finally found out through a press release that the A.I.D.E Platform would be launched last 1 February.

Several families awaited the financing of this type of Platform that was to enable early detection of developmental problems.

However, several questions remain unanswered:

- Which services will you provide for children who have already been diagnosed with ASD or ID but who are awaiting services?
- What will you do for children living in CHSLDs or IR-FTRs who are affected by this diagnosis and who are under stimulated?
- How will you manage to hire 800 professionals when Québec is currently going through a labour shortage? We ask that you table your hiring plan per establishment and your timelines.
- Investments are expected to range from \$70 to \$90 million for the development of this platform. Why are you not able to provide a more accurate estimate? How will you finance all this when no additional money was announced to improve health services at the last update?

(29) Mrs. Fournier (Marie-Victorin) – **2 April 2019**  
To the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

My riding office was recently informed of an urgent situation involving a person requiring that her case be treated as a top priority to obtain low rental housing. This elderly woman was living temporarily with her son and was a victim of violence committed by a close family member, namely her son's spouse.

Considering that the By-law respecting the allocation of dwellings in low rental housing of the *Act respecting the Société d'habitation du Québec* (chapter S-8, s. 86) states that only a person who is a victim of domestic violence may benefit from a priority application under section 23.1, several other situations requiring emergency housing for vulnerable individuals are not taken care of by the State. This section, which reads as follows: "a person whose lease is resiliated under article 1974.1 of the Civil Code or who is a victim of domestic violence as indicated in an attestation issued by a shelter for such persons, a police force or

an institution of the health and social services network”, is extremely restrictive when we consider the range of possible situations that may jeopardize the security and physical integrity of vulnerable persons.

Will the Minister commit to:

- Evaluating the possibility of extending the range of situations considered to be priority situations provided for in this section of the Act and setting up guidelines to facilitate prioritization of vulnerable individuals in situations that pose a threat to their security and physical integrity?

(30) Mrs. Fournier (Marie-Victorin) – **2 April 2019**

To the Minister of Finance

Support-payment collection is a prerogative that is currently administered by Revenu Québec under the *Act to facilitate the payment of support*. This Act allows the tax agency to use various levers to ensure that these payments are recovered should debtors fail to comply with the rulings establishing support payment terms and conditions. These levers of intervention are determined primarily by the existence of administrative and legal remedies. Administrative remedies exist in order to oblige recalcitrant debtors to comply with their obligations as a step before turning to the courts. This mechanism aims to establish a gradation of measures to strike a balance between coercion and the rights of individuals.

The existing administrative measures are the following, namely: compensation, legal hypothec, seizure by garnishment, solidary liability and suspension of passport or federal licences. Several of these measures have proven their effectiveness, but several specific cases, however, show that certain recalcitrant debtors still manage to avoid the coercive effects of these combined measures. These measures could therefore be improved to be even stricter and prevent these cases from going before the courts at the source.

Will the Minister commit to:

- Evaluating the possibility of including the suspension of the debtor’s driver’s licence and the registration of any vehicles registered in the said debtor’s name among the administrative measures?

(31) Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin) – **2 April 2019**  
To the Minister of Education and Higher Education

In 2017, the Couillard Government undertook to offer 250 \$25,000 scholarships per year to graduating doctoral students in psychology who choose to complete their mandatory internship in the public or parapublic sector. The program has been so successful that demand now exceeds supply. The result: a large number of these students will not have access to the scholarship that they are entitled to according to the program's criteria. Universities will have to improvise to determine the criteria for allocating financial assistance, by opting for the random draw or by delivering partial scholarships, for example.

Last February, we found out that the Université de Sherbrooke took the decision, owing to insufficient funding, to allocate the \$25,000 scholarships promised by the Québec Government by random draw to the doctoral students in psychology having chosen the public and parapublic sector internships. The Université de Sherbrooke is not the only institution to find itself in this situation: Next year, this lack of funding will affect Université Laval and Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières in particular.

This underfunding of psychology graduates, who are preparing to take up the reins of a profession that is experiencing a major shortfall of services in the public and parapublic network, is unacceptable. Student bodies are unanimous: It is simply unrealistic to have a job during this internship. Without a scholarship, few options are available to the persons who are excluded from the program. They must live off of their savings, ask their families for help or go into debt.

My questions to the Minister of Education and Higher Education are the following:

- Will the Minister commit to sustaining the scholarship program for doctoral students in psychology who choose to complete their mandatory 1600-hour internship in the public and parapublic sectors?
- Will the Minister commit to increasing the number of scholarships offered within the framework of this program to ensure that all of these graduates receive this financial assistance that is essential to completing their internship?

- (32) Mrs. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue) – **2 April 2019**  
To the Minister of Transport

In 2006, the Government launched the Village-Relais program, which involves 41 municipalities located throughout Québec on main national roads or tourist routes, including the town of Témiscaming located in my riding, Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue. This program has two main objectives: counter fatigue at the wheel by providing safe stopping areas and contribute to the local development of certified municipalities. The agreement between the certified municipalities and the Ministère des Transports consists of commitments made on both sides. The “villages-relais” must adhere to a quality charter by providing basic services throughout the year to maintain their certification. In this regard, several investments are made each year in the different municipalities to improve and design areas to make them more accessible and safe.

However, over the past ten years, the network has benefitted from only three major promotional campaigns from 2012 to 2014. To fully carry out their role as a “village-relais”, certified municipalities must be promoted in order to make them better known to the general public.

This program’s implementation and success cannot be achieved without the full participation of the “villages-relais” and their local businesses and that of the Minister of Transport. Lastly, note that this program is perfectly in line with the 2018-2022 government strategy and that of its Ministère des Affaires Municipales et de l’Habitation to ensure land occupancy.

It is with this in mind that the town of Témiscaming urged me to ask you the following questions:

- 1) How do you intend to help the “villages-relais” maintain their role, which offers more services than a road park?
- 2) When do you intend to launch a major promotional campaign to make the network’s services better known and what amount do you intend to invest in it?
- 3) Specifically, how will you show your support and that of the partner departments, Tourism and Municipal Affairs and Housing, for carrying out projects that allow the “villages-relais”, and their Federation, to fully play their role as safe stopping areas for road users?

- (33) Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) – **2 April 2019**  
To the Minister of Public Security

The Ministère de la Sécurité publique is in discussions with the Sainte-Flavie and Sainte-Luce municipalities to implement measures allowing to eliminate the risk of disasters associated with erosion and coastal flooding threatening principal residences. Since the high tides of December 2010, these municipalities have been relentlessly working to implement solutions to ensure the safety of riverside residents. The Ministère's support and the implementation of new measures have been most welcome. However, certain points of the Ministère's currently proposed agreement must be reviewed. Considering that each of the municipalities is responsible for administrating the Ministère's program, it is requested that the department cover all costs related to the hiring of a person to provide assistance to the concerned owners, since this is not municipal work but rather services performed to implement the agreement reached with the Ministère, for the benefit of individuals.

My questions are as follows:

- 1) What are the Ministère de la Sécurité publique's intentions in this regard?
- 2) Will the Ministère fully cover the costs related to the implementation of the agreements with the Sainte-Luce and Sainte-Flavie municipalities aiming to eliminate the risks of disasters associated with erosion and coastal flooding?

- (34) Mrs. Fournier (Marie-Victorin) – **3 April 2019**  
To the Government House Leader and Minister of Immigration, Diversity and Inclusiveness

On Sunday, 31 March 2019, the Premier delivered a message to Quebecers to explain why it is necessary to end the debate on religious symbols and the laicity of the State.

This address followed your Government's initiative in the matter. On Thursday, 28 March 2019, you tabled Bill 21, An Act respecting the laicity of the State.



The same day, a motion mandating the Office of the National Assembly to move the crucifix from the National Assembly Chamber (“Salon bleu”) in order to showcase it elsewhere in the parliamentary precincts was carried unanimously in the National Assembly.

This motion arose, twelve years later, from the findings of the Bouchard-Taylor Commission to the effect that keeping the crucifix would suggest that “a very special closeness exists between legislative power and the religion of the majority.” The report concluded that “It seems preferable for the very place where elected representatives deliberate and legislate not to be identified with a specific religion.”

The purpose of your Government’s bill is to affirm the laicity of the State and to set out the requirements that follow from it. To that end, the explanatory notes state that the “bill provides that the laicity of the State is based on four principles: the separation of State and religions, the religious neutrality of the State, the equality of all citizens, and freedom of conscience and freedom of religion. Parliamentary, government and judicial institutions are bound to adhere to these principles in pursuing their missions.”

I hereby wish to remind you that, other than the Catholic crucifix above the President’s Chair, there are many other religious signs and symbols in the National Assembly Chamber.

Even today, there are, among other things, above the Throne and the head of the President of the National Assembly, a crown and a cross representing the monarch of the United Kingdom, who is, let us recall, not only a political leader, but also a religious leader.

Still today, this monarch—in this case Queen Elizabeth II—is not only the monarch of the United Kingdom and the other Commonwealth realms, including Canada and Québec, but is also the Supreme Governor of the Church of England.

This office marks the authority that the United Kingdom’s monarch exercises over the Church of England and the Anglican religion.

In short, this same crown and this same cross also appear on the mace that is in the Sergeant-at-Arms’ custody, this mace which symbolizes nothing less than the authority of the National Assembly and the Chair.

Finally, I would like to bring to your attention that monarchical symbols have been removed from the National Assembly Chamber in the past. This was the case for statues, including that of Queen Victoria, for example. That statue was replaced by a plant.

In this context, my question is as follows:

Do you intend to mandate the Office of the National Assembly to remove, in addition to the crucifix, all signs and symbols that refer to a religious power from the National Assembly Chamber?

Part 6  
**NOTICES**

**I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN**

**Government Bills**

**(a) 2 April 2019**

An Act mainly to regulate building inspections and divided co-ownership, to replace the name and improve the rules of operation of the Régie du logement and to amend the Act respecting the Société d'habitation du Québec and various legislative provisions concerning municipal affairs – *Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.*

**Private Members' Public Bills**

**Private Bills**

**(b) 5 February 2019**

An Act respecting certain immovables situated on a mining concession of the cadastre of Canton de Bourlamaque, registration division of Abitibi – *Member for Abitibi-Ouest.*

**II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME**

**(aa)** An Act to facilitate the public administration's digital transformation – *Minister for Government Digital Transformation.*