



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 6 November 2019 — No. 78

**President of the National Assembly:
Mr. François Paradis**

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

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Mr. Émond (Richelieu) made a statement to underline Sorel-Tracy's 40th Salon des métiers d'art.

Mrs. Gaudreault (Hull) made a statement to underline the Centre de travail LARO's 40th anniversary.

Mr. Lévesque (Chauveau) made a statement to congratulate Mr. Guy Auclair on obtaining his 5th dan in karate at age 76.

Mrs. Sauvé (Fabre) made a statement to underline five students' participation in the StratosPi project.

Mr. Campeau (Bourget) made a statement to underline the 30th anniversary of Maison de la culture Mercier.

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Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) made a statement to call for a reform of the program to compensate victims of crimes.

Mr. Lévesque (Chapleau) made a statement to congratulate Forces Avenir gala award recipients.

Mr. Jacques (Mégantic) made a statement to recognize the benefits of the forest school pedagogical project for École de la Voie-Lactée students.

Mrs. Robitaille (Bourassa-Sauvé) made a statement to congratulate gymnast Keimy St-Firmin on her athletic performances.

At 9.51 o'clock a.m., Mrs. Soucy, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 10.02 o'clock a.m.

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Moment of reflection

Presenting Papers

Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader, tabled the following:

The reply to written questions from Mrs. Fournier (Marie-Victorin) on the Service Employment Paycheque Program – Questions No. 86 and 87, *Order Paper and Notices* of 25 September 2019;

(Sessional Paper No. 1146-20191106)

The Government's reply to petitions tabled on 26 September 2019 by Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine) on access to ultra-high-speed Internet on the Îles-de-la-Madeleine.

(Sessional Paper No. 1147-20191106)

The President tabled the following:

A letter, dated 31 October 2019, he had received from Mr. Bertrand Bolduc, President of the Ordre des pharmaciens du Québec, about the motion carried by the Assembly on 2 October 2019 relating to a personal and medical information leak.

(Sessional Paper No. 1148-20191106)

Presenting Petitions

Mrs. Ghazal (Mercier) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition calling on the SQDC to adopt a more ecological packaging policy, signed by 2,008 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1149-20191106)

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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. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), together with Mrs. McCann, Minister of Health and Social Services, Mrs. David (Marguerite-Bourgeoys), Mrs. Labrie (Sherbrooke) and Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey), moved:

THAT the National Assembly highlight the important and necessary contribution of shelters for abused women;

THAT it also highlight the work done by the Fédération des maisons d'hébergement pour femmes and the Regroupement des maisons d'hébergement pour femmes victimes de violence conjugale, which work co-operatively;

THAT the Assembly note the chronic underfunding of shelters, which puts women and children at risk;

THAT it urge the Government to consolidate the current network by increasing funding for existing shelters;

THAT, lastly, it ask the Government to reinvest in the network of shelters for women and children in order to open places quickly.

The question was put on this motion, and a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

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The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **239** in Appendix)

Yeas: **109** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Caire, Minister for Government Digital Transformation, together with Mrs. D'Amours, Minister Responsible for Indigenous Affairs, Mr. Birnbaum (D'Arcy-McGee), Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque) and Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey), moved:

THAT the National Assembly highlight the first Printemps numérique digital café tour in Atikamekw communities, organized from 30 September to 4 October 2019;

THAT it welcome this series of initiatives promoting digital education among youth in Indigenous communities and recognize the opportunities for development it represents;

THAT, lastly, it applaud the Conseil de la Nation Atikamekw's willingness to integrate new technologies and that it recognize that the means the Conseil has put in place to diminish the digital divide have the potential of lessening economic, social and democratic risks.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

Mrs. Nichols (Vaudreuil), together with Mrs. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda-Témiscamingue), Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) and Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey), moved a motion on the Sainte-Marthe-sur-le-Lac disaster; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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Mrs. Labrie (Sherbrooke), together with Mrs. Hivon (Joliette), moved a motion on Bill 40, An Act to amend mainly the Education Act with regard to school organization and governance; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 34, An Act to simplify the process for establishing electricity distribution rates;
- the Committee on Culture and Education, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 40, An Act to amend mainly the Education Act with regard to school organization and governance.

Mrs. Soucy, Second Vice-President, gave the following notices:

- the Select Committee on the Sexual Exploitation of Minors shall hold a public meeting to hold public hearings within the framework of special consultations; and then, hold a deliberative meeting to draw up an assessment of the public hearings on the sexual exploitation of minors;

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- the Committee on Health and Social Services shall hold a public meeting to hold public hearings within the framework of special consultations on the order of initiative on the alarming increase in the use by children and youth of psychostimulants in relation to attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); and then, hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the possibility of carrying out an order of initiative.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Report Stage

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Public Finance on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 38, An Act amending certain Acts establishing public sector pension plans.

After debate thereon, the report was concurred in.

Passage in Principle

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned on 5 November 2019, on the motion moved by Mrs. LeBel, Minister of Justice, that Bill 32, An Act mainly to promote the efficiency of penal justice and to establish the terms governing the intervention of the Court of Québec with respect to applications for appeal, do now pass in principle.

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The debate being concluded, the motion was carried, and Bill 32 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Schneeberger, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 32 be referred to the Committee on Institutions for clause-by-clause consideration.

The motion was carried.

Government Motions

The Assembly held the debate on the motion that arose from the tabling of the Agreement on social security between Québec and the Republic of Bulgaria, on 23 October 2019, by Mrs. Girault, Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie.

The motion reads as follows:

THAT, pursuant to section 22.3 of the *Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales*, the National Assembly approve the Agreement on social security between Québec and the Republic of Bulgaria.

Mrs. Soucy, Second Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this limited debate: 58 minutes 30 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 34 minutes 51 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 12 minutes 27 seconds to the Second Opposition Group; 11 minutes 12 seconds to the Third Opposition Group, and 1 minute 30 seconds to each independent Member. However, if only one independent Member takes part in the debate, that Member's speaking time is 2 minutes. Within this framework, any time not used by the independent Members or by a parliamentary group shall be redistributed among the parliamentary groups in the proportions established above. Lastly, individual addresses shall not be limited.

A debate arose thereon.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried. Accordingly, this commitment was approved.

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At 12.39 o'clock p.m., at the request of Mr. Schneeberger, Deputy Government House Leader, and by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 20, Mrs. Soucy, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 3.02 o'clock p.m.

Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition

Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) moved:

THAT the National Assembly recall that the Programme de l'expérience québécoise (PEQ – Québec experience program) is a fast track for obtaining a Québec selection certificate, which is a prerequisite to obtaining permanent residence;

THAT it acknowledge that, in 2018, the program enabled 11,000 temporary foreign workers and foreign graduates of Québec educational institutions to immigrate to Québec;

THAT it note that the changes made to the Québec experience program by the CAQ Government tarnish Québec's international reputation, undermine its ability to attract and retain the talent needed for Québec's economic growth and have a dramatic impact on the immigration plans of thousands of foreign students and temporary foreign workers currently in Québec;

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THAT, lastly, the National Assembly demand that the CAQ Government cancel the recent changes to the program and reinstate the eligibility criteria in place before the moratorium imposed last July.

Mrs. Gaudreault, Third Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this limited debate: 10 minutes to the mover of the motion for his reply; 53 minutes 30 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 31 minutes 52 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 11 minutes 23 seconds to the Second Opposition Group; 10 minutes 15 seconds to the Third Opposition Group; and 1 minute 30 seconds to each independent Member. However, if only one independent Member takes part in the debate, that Member's speaking time is 2 minutes. Within this framework, any time not used by independent Members or by a parliamentary group shall be redistributed among the parliamentary groups in the proportions established above. Lastly, individual addresses shall not be limited.

A debate arose thereon.

At the beginning of his address, Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Minister of Immigration, Francization and Integration, moved:

THAT the motion moved by Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) be amended as follows:

By adding "around" before "11,000 temporary foreign workers" and by replacing "to immigrate to Québec" by "to obtain a Québec selection certificate" in the second paragraph;

By withdrawing the third and fourth paragraphs;

By adding the following paragraph after the second paragraph: "THAT it highlight the Government's decision to exempt persons who qualified for both the Québec graduate and temporary foreign worker categories under the old program criteria from the changes created by the reform of the Québec experience program dated 1 November 2019."

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The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly recall that the Programme de l'expérience québécoise (PEQ – Québec experience program) is a fast track for obtaining a Québec selection certificate, which is a prerequisite to obtaining permanent residence;

THAT it acknowledge that, in 2018, the program enabled around 11,000 temporary foreign workers and foreign graduates of Québec educational institutions to obtain a Québec selection certificate;

THAT it highlight the Government's decision to exempt persons who qualified for both the Québec graduate and temporary foreign worker categories under the old program criteria from the changes created by the reform of the Québec experience program dated 1 November 2019.

The debate continued on the main motion moved by Mr. Derraji (Nelligan), and on the amendment motion moved by Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Minister of Immigration, Francization and Integration, subject to the permission of its author.

At the end of her address, Mrs. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé) moved:

THAT the motion moved by Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) be amended as follows:

By adding “, in particular in its remote regions,” after “Québec's economic growth” in the third paragraph.

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly recall that the Programme de l'expérience québécoise (PEQ – Québec experience program) is a fast track for obtaining a Québec selection certificate, which is a prerequisite to obtaining permanent residence;

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THAT it acknowledge that, in 2018, the program enabled 11,000 temporary foreign workers and foreign graduates of Québec educational institutions to immigrate to Québec;

THAT it note that the changes made to the Québec experience program by the CAQ Government tarnish Québec's international reputation, undermine its ability to attract and retain the talent needed for Québec's economic growth, in particular in its remote regions, and have a dramatic impact on the immigration plans of thousands of foreign students and temporary foreign workers currently in Québec;

THAT, lastly, the National Assembly demand that the CAQ Government cancel the recent changes to the program and reinstate the eligibility criteria in place before the moratorium imposed last July.

The debate continued on the main motion moved by Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) and on the amendment motions moved by Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Minister of Immigration, Francization and Integration, and Mrs. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), subject to the permission of its author.

Pursuant to Standing Order 98.1, Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) refused the amendment proposed by Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Minister of Immigration, Francization and Integration, and accepted the amendment proposed by Mrs. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé).

The debate being concluded, the question was put on the amendment motion moved by Mrs. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé).

The amendment motion was carried on division.

The question was then put on the motion moved by Mr. Derraji (Nelligan), as amended.

The motion, as amended, was carried on division.

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Mr. Schneeberger, Deputy Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Thursday, 7 November 2019 at 9.40 o'clock a.m.

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, at 5.06 o'clock p.m., Mr. Picard, First Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 7 November 2019 at 9.40 o'clock a.m.

ROYAL ASSENT

On Wednesday, 6 November 2019, at 2.15 o'clock p.m. in the Office of the Lieutenant-Governor, in the presence of Mrs. McCann, Minister of Health and Social Services, Mr. Schneeberger, Deputy Government House Leader, Mrs. Picard (Soulanges), Delegates of the Premier, and Mrs. Durepos, Director of the Sitings Service and Delegate of the Secretary General, the Honourable J. Michel Doyon, Lieutenant-Governor of Québec, was pleased to assent to the following bills:

- 28 An Act to allow the establishment of certain health and social services measures related to the Mauricie et Centre-du-Québec health region's special geographic status
- 36 An Act to amend the Companies Act concerning participation in and decision making at meetings of legal persons without share capital

FRANÇOIS PARADIS

President

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APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion moved by Mrs. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), together with Mrs. McCann, Minister of Health and Social Services, Mrs. David (Marguerite-Bourgeoys), Mrs. Labrie (Sherbrooke) and Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey):

(Division No. 239)

YEAS - 109

Allaire (CAQ)	Dufour (CAQ)	LeBel (PQ)	Proulx (CAQ)
Anglade (PLQ)	Émond (CAQ)	(Rimouski)	(Berthier)
Arcand (PLQ)	Fitzgibbon (CAQ)	Lecours (CAQ)	Provençal (CAQ)
Arseneau (PQ)	Foster (CAQ)	(Lotbinière-Frontenac)	Rizqy (PLQ)
Asselin (CAQ)	Gaudreault (PQ)	Lecours (CAQ)	Roberge (CAQ)
Bachand (CAQ)	(Jonquière)	(Les Plaines)	Robitaille (PLQ)
Barrette (PLQ)	Ghazal (QS)	Leduc (QS)	Rotiroti (PLQ)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ)	Lefebvre (CAQ)	Rouleau (CAQ)
Benjamin (PLQ)	(Lac-Saint-Jean)	Leitão (PLQ)	Roy (PQ)
Bérubé (PQ)	Girard (CAQ)	Lemay (CAQ)	(Bonaventure)
Birnbaum (PLQ)	(Groulx)	Lemieux (CAQ)	Roy (CAQ)
Blais (CAQ)	Girault (CAQ)	Lessard-Therrien (QS)	(Montarville)
(Prévost)	Grondin (CAQ)	Lévesque (CAQ)	Sauvé (PLQ)
Blais (CAQ)	Guilbault (CAQ)	(Chauveau)	Schneeberger (CAQ)
(Abitibi-Ouest)	Guillemette (CAQ)	Lévesque (CAQ)	Simard (CAQ)
Bonnardel (CAQ)	Hébert (CAQ)	(Chapleau)	Skeete (CAQ)
Boulet (CAQ)	Hivon (PQ)	Maccarone (PLQ)	St-Pierre (PLQ)
Bussière (CAQ)	Isabelle (CAQ)	Marissal (QS)	Tanguay (PLQ)
Caire (CAQ)	Jacques (CAQ)	Martel (CAQ)	Tardif (CAQ)
Campeau (CAQ)	Jeannotte (CAQ)	Massé (QS)	(Lavolette-Saint-Maurice)
Carmant (CAQ)	Jolin-Barrette (CAQ)	McCann (CAQ)	Tardif (CAQ)
Caron (CAQ)	Julien (CAQ)	Mélançon (PLQ)	(Rivière-du-Loup-Témiscouata)
Charbonneau (PLQ)	Kelley (PLQ)	Ménard (PLQ)	Thériault (PLQ)
Charest (CAQ)	Labrie (QS)	Nadeau-Dubois (QS)	Thouin (CAQ)
Charette (CAQ)	Lachance (CAQ)	Nichols (PLQ)	Tremblay (CAQ)
Chassé (CAQ)	Lacombe (CAQ)	Ouellet (PQ)	Weil (PLQ)
Chassin (CAQ)	Laforest (CAQ)	Ouellette (IND)	Zanetti (QS)
Ciccone (PLQ)	Laframboise (CAQ)	Perry Mélançon (PQ)	
D'Amours (CAQ)	Lafrenière (CAQ)	Picard (CAQ)	
Dansereau (CAQ)	Lamontagne (CAQ)	(Soulanges)	
Derraji (PLQ)	Lamothe (CAQ)	Polo (PLQ)	
Dorion (QS)	LeBel (CAQ)	Poulin (CAQ)	
Dubé (CAQ)	(Champlain)	Proulx (CAQ)	
		(Côte-du-Sud)	