



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 13 November 2019 — No. 81

**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. Lemay (Masson) made a statement to underline the holding of the 25th pancake breakfast for the benefit of the Canadian Red Cross – Section des Moulins.

Mrs. Melançon (Verdun) made a statement to underline the success of the L'Art à l'Île fund-raising art show for the Santé Urbaine foundation.

Mr. Fitzgibbon (Terrebonne) made a statement to underline the holding of the 25th pancake breakfast for the benefit of the Canadian Red Cross – Section des Moulins.

Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) made a statement to underline the Kingdom of Morocco's Independence Day.

Mr. Lévesque (Chauveau) made a statement to underline the 50th anniversary of FADOQ, Québec and Chaudière-Appalaches regions.

Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage) made a statement about encouraging the fight against homelessness in Québec City and elsewhere.

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Mrs. Chassé (Châteauguay) made a statement to underline the organization Héritage Saint-Bernard's contribution to preserving Île Saint-Bernard.

Mrs. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé) made a statement to underline the launching of the video clip "Harmonie" by L'Estran's Association des personnes handicapées.

Mrs. Lachance (Bellechasse) made a statement to congratulate Mr. Bruno Lachance, director of the documentary film "Bob Bissonnette : Rockstar. Pis pas à peu près".

Mrs. McCann (Sanguinet) made a statement to underline the 25th anniversary of the practice of midwifery in Québec.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 54.1 and 54.3, Mr. Schneeberger (Drummond-Bois-Francis) made a statement to underline World Kindness Day.

At 9.54 o'clock a.m., Mrs. Gaudreault, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 10.01 o'clock a.m.

Moment of reflection

Introduction of Bills

Mrs. Laforest, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following bill:

- 49 An Act to amend the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities, the Municipal Ethics and Good Conduct Act and various legislative provisions

Mr. Tanguay, Official Opposition House Leader, requested a directive on Bill 49, An Act to amend the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities, the Municipal Ethics and Good Conduct Act and various legislative provisions, and the report on the implementation of the *Municipal Ethics and Good Conduct Act* before the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain.

After having heard arguments from all sides, the President took the matter under advisement.

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, Bill 49 was introduced in the Assembly.

The President communicated to the Assembly, and then tabled, the Law Clerk's report on the following private bill:

- 204 An Act respecting the establishment of a special taxation scheme for Port of Havre-Saint-Pierre

The report states that the notice was drafted and published in accordance with the Rules for the Conduct of Proceedings governing private bills.

(Sessional Paper No. 1161-20191113)

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Mr. Richard (Duplessis) moved that leave be granted to introduce Private Bill 204, An Act respecting the establishment of a special taxation scheme for Port of Havre-Saint-Pierre.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader, moved that Private Bill 204 be referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain for consultation and clause-by-clause consideration and that the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

The motion was carried.

The President communicated to the Assembly, and then tabled, the Law Clerk's report on the following private bill:

206 An Act to amend the Act respecting the charter of the
Coopérative fédérée de Québec

The report states that the notice was drafted and published in accordance with the Rules for the Conduct of Proceedings governing private bills.

(Sessional Paper No. 1162-20191113)

Mr. Thouin (Rousseau) moved that leave be granted to introduce Private Bill 206, An Act to amend the Act respecting the charter of the Coopérative fédérée de Québec.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader, moved that Private Bill 206 be referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain for consultation and clause-by-clause consideration and that the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

The motion was carried.

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The President communicated to the Assembly, and then tabled, the Law Clerk's report on the following private bill:

205 An Act respecting Ville de Gaspé

The report states that the notice was drafted and published in accordance with the Rules for the Conduct of Proceedings governing private bills.

(Sessional Paper No. 1163-20191113)

Mrs. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé) moved that leave be granted to introduce Private Bill 205, An Act respecting Ville de Gaspé.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader, moved that Private Bill 205 be referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain for consultation and clause-by-clause consideration and that the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

The motion was carried.

Presenting Papers

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

The 2018–2019 annual management report of Transition énergétique Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1164-20191113)

Mr. Lacombe, Minister of Families, tabled the following:

The 2017–2018 annual report on the activities of the Early Childhood Development Fund and of the Société de gestion Avenir d'enfants.

(Sessional Paper No. 1165-20191113)

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Presenting Petitions

Mrs. Ghazal (Mercier) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition on the removal of all digital meters, communicating or not, signed by 617 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1166-20191113)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

At the request of the President, Mrs. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 53 and 59, Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) tabled the following:

A graph illustrating the results of a survey conducted on social media networks concerning the increase in the minimum wage.

(Sessional Paper No. 1167-20191113)

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Nadeau-Dubois, House Leader of the Second Opposition Group, together with Mr. Derraji (Nelligan), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) and Mrs. Fournier (Marie-Victorin), moved a motion on the Programme de l'expérience québécoise (PEQ – Québec experience program); 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. Ouellet (René-Lévesque), together with Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) and Mrs. Fournier (Marie-Victorin), moved:

THAT the National Assembly ask the Government to create a Parliamentary Budget Officer position, drawing on Bill 192 introduced during the 40th Legislature by the current Chair of the Conseil du trésor and Member for La Prairie, as well as Bills 396 and 397, introduced during the last legislature by, respectively, the current Minister of Transport and Member for Granby, and the former Member for Rousseau, Mr. Nicolas Marceau.

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

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 242 in Appendix)

Yeas: **114** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. D'Amours, Minister Responsible for Indigenous Affairs, together with Mr. Birnbaum (D'Arcy-McGee), Mrs. Massé, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) and Mrs. Fournier (Marie-Victorin), moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Aboriginal Veterans Day, celebrated on 8 November each year, and pay tribute to the First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples who have served the cause of freedom, justice and respect for human rights;

THAT it recall that since 1994, this day has been celebrated across the country to highlight their contribution to military efforts;

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THAT it take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank Indigenous peoples for having protected our freedom and rights during war times and for their contribution to Canada's military efforts;

THAT, lastly, it observe a minute of silence to honour the memory of all those who made the ultimate sacrifice of their lives.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

At the request of Mrs. Gaudreault, Third Vice-President, the Assembly observed a minute of silence.

Mr. Derraji (Nelligan), together with Mr. Nadeau-Dubois, House Leader of the Second Opposition Group, Mrs. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) and Mrs. Fournier (Marie-Victorin), moved a motion on the Programme de l'expérience québécoise (PEQ – Québec experience program); this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. Fournier (Marie-Victorin), together with Mrs. Roy, Minister of Culture and Communications, Mrs. Dorion (Taschereau) and Mrs. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), moved:

THAT the National Assembly reiterate that it is the Québec Government's duty to foster pride in Québec and to heighten awareness of our history and memory;

THAT it recall that the official motto of Québec is *Je me souviens* (I remember);

THAT it ask the Government of Québec to set up a national commemoration policy that would include diversity, and recognition of the contribution of women and Indigenous peoples.

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By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 27, An Act respecting mainly government organization as regards the economy and innovation;
- the Committee on Public Finance, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 37, An Act mainly to establish the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales and Infrastructures technologiques Québec;
- 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;
- the Committee on Health and Social Services, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 43, An Act to amend the Nurses Act and other provisions in order to facilitate access to health services.

Mrs. Gaudreault, Third Vice-President, gave the following notices:

- 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 of psychostimulants in children and youth, related to attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD);

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- the Select Committee on the Sexual Exploitation of Minors shall hold a deliberative meeting to conduct refresher training for members of the Committee.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. Tanguay, Official Opposition House Leader, requested a directive on the motion for special consultations and public hearings on the leak of personal information from Desjardins placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* by the Government House Leader.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 53 and 59, Mr. Nadeau-Dubois, House Leader of the Second Opposition Group, tabled the following:

Copies of letters addressed to the Chair of the Committee on Public Finance and the Chair of the Committee on Institutions requesting that a deliberative meeting be held to ensure they examine certain orders of initiative on personal information protection, as well as the votes and proceedings of those deliberative meetings, dated 3 and 19 September 2019.

(Sessional Paper No. 1168-20191113)

At 11.57 o'clock a.m., after having heard arguments from all sides, the President took the matter under advisement and suspended proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 12.13 o'clock p.m.

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The President issued a directive on a question raised by the Official Opposition House Leader on the motion to hold special consultations and public hearings on the leak of personal information from Desjardins placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* by the Government House Leader.

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

Mechanisms exist both in committee and in the Assembly to assign and establish the manner in which orders referred to parliamentary committees will be organized.

It is true that members of two parliamentary committees discussed in a deliberative meeting the possibility of initiating an order to consider the matter of the personal information leak, requests which were rejected. Other requests related to this matter are on hold pending a deliberative meeting of a committee.

This situation cannot, however, prevent the Assembly from referring a matter to a committee on its own initiative.

This can be done during Motions Without Notice, provided that all Members consent to consider such a motion. It can also be done pursuant to Standing Order 146, which states that a motion may be discussed during Orders of the Day if it is included in the matters the Government House Leader asks the Assembly to consider. It is then a prerogative of the Government House Leader to make the motion and to move that the motion be carried by the Assembly.

In parliamentary committee, for an order of initiative to be carried, the consent of the majority of members from each parliamentary group is required. In the National Assembly, the procedure to refer a matter to committee is to make a motion pursuant to Standing Order 146. Such a motion cannot be amended but may be discussed in a limited debate lasting no longer than one hour. A majority of votes is required for it to be carried.

The Chair encourages constructive discussion among political groups to come to agreements on this and other matters. However, the Chair is not required to qualify the use of the mechanisms provided for in the Standing Orders.

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As for the respect that is due regarding parliamentary proceeding-related matters, the Chair would like to recall that it has already indicated that the text of the written questions placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* must not be disclosed until the Order Paper is published. The same caution should guide all parliamentarians with respect to motions, even though it has not been demonstrated in this case that the text of the motion was disclosed prior to its publication in the Order Paper.

Mrs. Gaudreault, Third Vice-President, informed the Assembly that she had received a request for a debate upon adjournment to be held on Thursday, 14 November 2019 on a question from Mr. Barrette (La Pinière) to Mr. Dubé, Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, on gaps in the application of the register of enterprises ineligible for public contracts (RENA).

ORDERS OF THE DAY

At 12.20 o'clock p.m., at the request of Mr. Schneeberger, Deputy Government House Leader, Mrs. Gaudreault, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 3.00 o'clock p.m.

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Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition

Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) moved:

THAT the National Assembly recall the motion carried unanimously on 28 May 2019 that reiterated that “the Québec nation has sovereignty over its territory”;

THAT, before the end of the current sessional period, the Committee on Transportation and the Environment hold special consultations and public hearings within the framework of the consideration of Bill 391, An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act in order to assert the primacy of Québec’s jurisdiction in this area.

Mr. Picard, First 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; 48 minutes 30 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 28 minutes 11 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 10 minutes 4 seconds to the Second Opposition Group; 20 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 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.

The debate being concluded, the motion was negatived.

Mr. Schneeberger, Deputy Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Thursday, 14 November 2019 at 9.40 o’clock a.m.

The motion was carried.

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Accordingly, at 16.53 o'clock a.m., Mrs. Soucy, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 14 November 2019 at 9.40 o'clock a.m.

FRANÇOIS PARADIS

President

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APPENDIX

Recorded Division

On the motion moved by Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque), together with Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) and Mrs. Fournier (Marie-Victorin):

(Division No. 242)

YEAS - 114

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