NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Order Paper and Notices

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 12 February 2020 — No. 100
Nine forty a.m.

President of the National Assembly:
Mr. François Paradis

Part 1

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

- The Member for Chauveau on the following subject: *Tribute to Mr. Paul Martel, who passed away on 16 January 2020.*

- The Member for Bourassa-Sauvé on the following subject: *Congratulations to the organization Un Itinéraire pour tous on its activities during Black History Month.*

- The Member for Maskinongé on the following subject: *Recognition of Mr. Michel Purcell.*

- The Member for Verdun on the following subject: *Underline the work of Regroupement des maisons pour femmes victimes de violence conjugale.*

- The Member for Les Plaines on the following subject: *Le Phare des Lucioles – a haven for elementary school children.*

- The Member for Rivière-du-Loup–Témiscouata on the following subject: *Generous donation by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lévesque.*

- The Member for Nicolet-Bécancour on the following subject: *100th anniversary of the passing of Ms. Aurore Gagnon.*

- The Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on the following subject: *Thanks to Ms. Diane Beaudet, Hochelaga-Maisonneuve school commissioner.*

- The Member for Chambly on the following subject: *100th birthday of Ms. Henriette Benoit.*

- The Member for Granby on the following subject: *50th edition of Granby's International Bantam Hockey Tournament.*

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

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PRESENTING
- **a) Papers**
- **b) Reports from committees**
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ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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Part 2

ORDERS OF THE DAY

BUSINESS HAVING PRECEDENCE

URGENT DEBATES

DEBATES ON REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

OTHER BUSINESS

I. Government Bills

Passage in Principle

(1) Bill 30
An Act to recover amounts owed to the State
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on **14 June 2019**

(2) Bill 35
An Act to modernize certain rules relating to land registration and to facilitate the dissemination of geospatial information
Introduced by the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources on **19 September 2019**

(3) Bill 39
An Act to establish a new electoral system
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Democratic Institutions, Electoral Reform and Access to Information on 25 September 2019
Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on **11 February 2020**

(4) Bill 44

An Act mainly to ensure effective governance of the fight against climate change and to promote electrification

Introduced by the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change on 31 October 2019

Report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment (consultations) tabled on 6 February 2020

Resuming the debate, adjourned on **11 February 2020**, on the hoist motion by the Member for Rimouski, –THAT the motion under debate be amended by striking out the word "now" and by the adding at the end thereof the words "this day twelve months hence"

(5) Bill 45

An Act concerning mainly the appointment and the terms of office of coroners and of the Chief Coroner

Introduced by the Minister of Public Security on **30 October 2019**

(6) Bill 46

An Act to amend the Natural Heritage Conservation Act and other provisions

Introduced by the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change on **14 November 2019**

(7) Bill 48

An Act mainly to control the cost of the farm property tax and to simplify access to the farm property tax credit

Introduced by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 5 November 2019

Report from the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources (consultations) tabled on **11 February 2020**

(8) 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

Introduced by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on **13 November 2019**

(9) Bill 50

An Act respecting the leasing of part of the water power of the Shipshaw River

Introduced by the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources on **6 February 2020**

(10) Bill 51

An Act mainly to improve the flexibility of the parental insurance plan in order to promote family-work balance

Introduced by the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity on **28 November 2019**

(11) Bill 52

An Act to strengthen the complaint examination process of the health and social services network, in particular for users receiving services from private institutions

Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Seniors and Informal Caregivers on **3 December 2019**

(12) Bill 53

Credit Assessment Agents Act

Introduced by the Minister of Finance on **5 December 2019**

Committee Stage

(13) Bill 18

An Act to amend the Civil Code, the Code of Civil Procedure, the Public Curator Act and various provisions as regards the protection of persons

Introduced by the Minister of Families on 10 April 2019

Report from the Committee on Citizen Relations (consultations) tabled on 25 September 2019

Passed in principle on **26 September 2019**, and

Referred to the Committee on Citizen Relations

(14) Bill 23

An Act respecting the names and responsibilities of certain ministers and government departments and to enact the Act respecting the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs

Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on 18 April 2019

Passed in principle on **19 September 2019**, and

Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

(15) Bill 29

An Act to amend the Professional Code and other provisions in particular in the oral health and the applied sciences sectors

Introduced by the Minister of Justice on 5 June 2019

Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on 17 September 2019

Passed in principle on **24 September 2019**, and

Referred to the Committee on Institutions

(16) 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

Introduced by the Minister of Justice on 13 June 2019

Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on 31 October 2019

Passed in principle on **6 November 2019**, and

Referred to the Committee on Institutions

(17) Bill 41

An Act respecting mainly the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speeches of 17 March 2016, 28 March 2017, 27 March 2018 and 21 March 2019

Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 31 October 2019

Passed in principle on **7 November 2019**, and

Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

(18) Bill 42

An Act to give effect to fiscal measures announced in the Budget Speech delivered on 21 March 2019 and to various other measures
Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 7 November 2019
Passed in principle on **19 November 2019**, and
Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

(19) Bill 43

An Act to amend the Nurses Act and other provisions in order to facilitate access to health services
Introduced by the Minister of Health and Social Services on 9 October 2019
Report from the Committee on Health and Social Services (consultations) tabled on 14 November 2019
Passed in principle on **27 November 2019**, and
Referred to the Committee on Health and Social Services

Report Stage

(20) Bill 15

An Act respecting the Société de développement et de mise en valeur du Parc olympique
Introduced by the Minister of Tourism 28 May 2019
Report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy (consultations) tabled on 17 September 2019
Passed in principle on 19 September 2019
Report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy tabled on **6 February 2020**

Passage

(21) Bill 31

An Act to amend mainly the Pharmacy Act for the purpose of facilitating access to certain services and to authorize the communication of personal information concerning certain missing or deceased Aboriginal children to their families *(modified title)*
Introduced by the Minister of Health and Social Services on 13 June 2019
Report from the Committee on Health and Social Services (consultations) tabled on 9 October 2019
Passed in principle on 31 October 2019
Report from the Committee on Health and Social Services adopted on **3 December 2019**

(22) Bill 37

An Act mainly to establish the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales and Infrastructures technologiques Québec

Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on 18 September 2019

Report from the Committee on Public Finance (consultations) tabled on 30 October 2019

Passed in principle on 5 November 2019

Report from the Committee on Public Finance adopted on **11 February 2020**

II. Private Members' Public Bills

Passage in Principle

(23) 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**

(24) 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**

(25) 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**

(26) 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**

(27) Bill 194

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

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

(28) Bill 195

An Act to amend the Act respecting the National Assembly to extend the scope of the right to payment of expenses for counsel

Introduced by the Member for Chomedey on **11 April 2019**

(29) Bill 196

An Act to amend the Act respecting safety in sports to establish a Passe-Sports register to collect data on the state of health of persons under 18 years of age following a concussion

Introduced by the Member for Marquette on **11 April 2019**

(30) Bill 197

An Act to amend the Consumer Protection Act to fight planned obsolescence and assert the right to repair goods

Introduced by the Member for Chomedey on **9 April 2019**

(31) Bill 198

An Act to facilitate disclosure of wrongdoings

Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on **9 May 2019**

(32) Bill 199

An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act to establish a right of citizen initiative in environmental matters and reinforce the powers and independence of the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement

Introduced by the Member for Mercier on **25 September 2019**

(33) Bill 391

An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act in order to assert the primacy of Québec's jurisdiction in this area

Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on **30 May 2019**

(34) Bill 392

An Act respecting the selection of Québec senators

Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **9 May 2019**

(35) Bill 393

An Act to affirm Québec's participation in the appointment process for Québec Supreme Court of Canada judges

Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **16 May 2019**

(36) Bill 396

An Act to amend the Civil Code to provide that an action for damages for bodily injury resulting from a sexual aggression, from childhood violence or from the violent behaviour of a spouse or former spouse cannot be prescribed during the lifetime of the author of the act

Introduced by the Member for Sherbrooke on **12 June 2019**

(37) Bill 397

An Act to reinforce oversight of the processes to select, renew a term of or dismiss directors of municipal police forces

Introduced by the Member for Vaudreuil on **14 November 2019**

(38) Bill 399

An Act to establish a presumption of consent to organ or tissue donation after death

Introduced by the Member for Pontiac on **5 November 2019**

(39) Bill 490

An Act to establish the gradual electrification of Québec's vehicle fleet

Introduced by the Member for Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques on **26 September 2019**

(40) Bill 493

Interculturalism Act

Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **30 October 2019**

(41) Bill 495

An Act to authorize the recording of sound and images during the public sittings of a municipal council or the public meetings of a council of a metropolitan community

Introduced by the Member for Verdun on **20 November 2019**

(42) Bill 496

Parliamentary Budget Officer Act

Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on **14 November 2019**

(43) Bill 497
An Act to amend the Charter of human rights and freedoms in order to strengthen the protection of seniors' rights and create the office of Seniors Ombudsperson
Introduced by the Member for Rimouski on **4 December 2019**

(44) Bill 590
An Act to amend the Charter of the French language to establish free French instruction services for every person who resides in Québec
Introduced by the Member for Jacques-Cartier on **4 December 2019**

Committee Stage

Report Stage

Passage

III. Private Bills

Hearings and Clause-by-Clause Consideration

(45) Bill 209
An Act respecting Ville de Saint-Tite
Introduced by the Member for Maskinongé on **4 December 2019**, and
Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

(46) Bill 210
An Act respecting the subdivision of a lot located in the Maison Roussil protection area in Terrebonne and partly in the Maison Bélisle protection area in Terrebonne
Introduced by the Member for Masson on **4 December 2019**, and
Referred to the Committee on Culture and Education

Passage in Principle

Passage

IV. Government Motions

V. Estimates of Expenditure

VI. Statutory Debates

BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION

(47) 11 February 2020

Motion by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve:

THAT the National Assembly ask the Government to introduce, no later than June 2020, an emergency bill to deal with the housing crisis currently prevailing in Québec;

THAT the bill include:

a moratorium on lessee evictions under article 1959 of the Civil Code in sectors where the rental property vacancy rate is less than 3%;

a maximum rate of rent increase.

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 on the administrative management of the Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Habitation and of the Société d'habitation du Québec, and on Chapter 2 of the Auditor General's May 2019 report entitled "AccèsLogis Québec Program: Operation of Buildings".
- Hearing of the Auditor General of Québec on her 2018–2019 annual management report and financial commitments.
- Hearing of the Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor on the Report on the application of the *Public Administration Act*.
- Hearing of the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur as a follow-up to recommendation 3.2 of the 40th report on accountability of the Committee on Public Administration.
- Hearing of the Public Curator on Chapter 6 of the Auditor General of Québec's November 2019 report entitled "Protection of Incapacitated Persons Under Public Protective Supervision".
- Hearing of the Ministère des Transports on Chapter 2 of the Auditor General of Québec's November 2019 report entitled "Activities of the Centre de gestion de l'équipement roulant".
- Hearing on the Public Protector's special report entitled "Give children born in Québec whose parents have a precarious migratory status access to the Québec Health Insurance Plan".

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Order of reference

- Examination of Hydro-Québec's Strategic Plan 2020-2024 (Order of reference given on 5 December 2019).

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

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 209**, An Act respecting Ville de Saint-Tite (Order of reference given on 4 December 2019).

Statutory order

- Examination of the report on the implementation of the Municipal Ethics and Good Conduct Act.

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

Surveillance of public bodies and accountability:

- Hearing the Commission municipale du Québec.

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 210**, An Act respecting the subdivision of a lot located in the Maison Roussil protection area in Terrebonne and partly in the Maison Bélisle protection area in Terrebonne (Order of reference given on 4 December 2019).

Statutory order

- Hearing the heads of educational institutions at the university level.

Order of initiative

- Future of the news media.

COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND THE ECONOMY

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC FINANCE

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 23**, An Act respecting the names and responsibilities of certain ministers and government departments and to enact the Act respecting the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (Order of reference given on 19 September 2019).
- **Bill 41**, An Act respecting mainly the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speeches of 17 March 2016, 28 March 2017, 27 March 2018 and 21 March 2019 (Order of reference given on 7 November 2019).
- **Bill 42,** An Act to give effect to fiscal measures announced in the Budget Speech delivered on 21 March 2019 and to various other measures (Order of reference given on 19 November 2019).

COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 29,** An Act to amend the Professional Code and other provisions in particular in the oral health and the applied sciences sectors (Order of reference given on 24 September 2019).
- **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 (Order of reference given on 6 November 2019).

Interpellation:

- By the Member for D'Arcy-McGee to the Minister Responsible for Indigenous Affairs on the following subject: *The need for the CAQ Government to table tangible policy directions and show strong, consensus-building leadership in the wake of the 142 calls to action from the Public Inquiry Commission on relations between Indigenous Peoples and certain public services in Québec* (notice given on 6 February 2020).

COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 18**, An Act to amend the Civil Code, the Code of Civil Procedure, the Public Curator Act and various provisions as regards the protection of persons (Order of reference given on 26 September 2019).

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 43**, An Act to amend the Nurses Act and other provisions in order to facilitate access to health services (Order of reference given on 27 November 2019).

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 52**, An Act to strengthen the complaint examination process of the health and social services network, in particular for users receiving services from private institutions (Order of reference given on 4 February 2020).

Order of initiative

- The alarming increase in the use of psychostimulants in children and young people in connection with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF MINORS

Order of reference

Special Consultations:

- Creating a portrait of the sexual exploitation of minors in Québec, including the consequences on the transition to adulthood (Order of reference given on 14 June 2019).

Part 5

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Questions already placed on the Order Paper are published each Wednesday

(117) Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) – **4 February 2020**
To the Minister of Finance

Montréal pour tous is an organization in my riding that brings volunteers from across Montréal together to work to keep residents in their neighbourhoods. Since September 2018, they have been seeking a commitment from the Ministère des Finances that the Grant for Seniors to Offset a Municipal Tax Increase be adjusted in line with the skyrocketing increases in property taxes likely to displace homeowners who are seniors or whose income is not on the

same upward trajectory. An initial letter submitted on 15 September 2018 was left unanswered by the outgoing Minister of Finance. A second letter sent on 14 December 2018 received nothing more than an acknowledgement of receipt.

The 2020–2022 property tax roll published by Ville de Montréal shows the average increases by borough. In the Plateau-Mont-Royal neighborhood, the variation in property values is approximately 16.7%, which is 4% more than the Montréal average. This significant variation, combined with municipal and borough tax increases, is making it more difficult for people whose income or pensions are increasing little or not at all. In this context of overheated property values, the existing grant is insufficient and must therefore be increased.

In light of this situation, which is untenable for a growing number of residents, my question for the Minister of Finance is the following:

- Does the Minister plan to increase the grant for seniors to offset a municipal tax increase in order to adapt it to current realities marked by sharp increases in property assessments in the most sought-after areas of the market that are forcing many citizens to have to leave their homes?

(118) Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage) – **4 February 2020**
To the Minister of Health and Social Services

As the Public Protector (Québec Ombudsperson) pointed out in her 11 October 2018 report on the Centre intégré de santé et des services sociaux de l'Outaouais – Hôpital de Hull: ". . . every person has the right to receive appropriate health care services in a personalized, safe manner . . ." Following the investigation, the Ombudsperson recommended that "a complete ban on wearing perfume apply to the emergency room staff of Hôpital de Hull".

Many ingredients used in the composition of fragrances can cause or exacerbate health issues such as asthma, eczema, multiple chemical sensitivity, sinusitis and migraines. For example, some people who are ill experience difficulty accessing health care because they cannot tolerate the chemicals in various products such as cologne, aftershave, hairspray, soap and perfume.

In 2015, Statistics Canada identified 173,500 persons diagnosed as suffering from MCS/HCM in Québec alone. By 2016, this number had climbed to 230,500.

The Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse du Québec has declared that ". . . the definition of handicap in the Charter of human rights and freedoms that our Commission has adopted and the way it has been interpreted by the courts of Québec is sufficiently broad and open for people suffering from environmental hypersensitivity to invoke it".

In its 3 November 2015 issue, the Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ) published an editorial in which the authors wrote: "There are many practices that are acceptable outside hospitals — but not inside. One of these is the application of artificial scents to our bodies. . . There is little justification for continuing to tolerate artificial scents in our hospitals. . . Hospital environments free from artificial scents should become a uniform policy, promoting the safety of patients, staff and visitors alike."

According to the Environmental Health Association of Québec (EHAQ): " Policies have been implemented in several government and hospital facilities in Canada where visitors, patients, health-care professionals, and other staff members are asked to refrain from using any products containing fragrances."

The EHAQ recently asked the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux to create fragrance-free health care services in Québec. Last 13 November, Ms. Lucie Opatrny, Assistant Deputy Minister, responded that employers were responsible for adopting fragrance-free policies. On 2 December 2019, the EHAP received a new letter, signed by Mr. Yvan Gendron, Deputy Minister, refusing to meet with them under the pretext that the department had just given the "Institut national de santé publique du Québec the mandate to do a rigorous analysis of the scientific literature".

My questions to the Minister of Health and Social Services are the following:

- Does the Minister acknowledge that at least 3.2% of Quebecers suffer from environmental hypersensitivity?
- Does the Minister believe it is wise to rely solely on employers when the health of many citizens of Québec is at stake?
- Could the Minister envisage establishing fragrance-free policies for Québec's health care institutions?
- If so, what reasons would the Minister give for not moving forward with such a policy that could facilitate appropriate access to health care for such people?
- If not, what measures does the Minister intend to take so that these vulnerable people can have access to health care system?

- In 2012, the Minister of Health, Mr. Yves Bolduc, gave Dr. Gaétan Carrier of the INSPQ the mandate to prepare a literature review on multiple chemical sensitivity; can the Minister inform us of what stage the writing of that review has reached?
- Can the Minister inform us of the deadline the Institut national de santé publique du Québec must comply with for filing its report?
- Since expertise in this field is rare and it is vital that the literature review be peer reviewed, can the Minister give us the names and areas of expertise of the reviewers?

(119) Ms. Fournier (Marie-Victorin) – **4 February 2020**
To the Minister of Justice

I have been made aware of a fact concerning the recycling of automobile parts. Considering that the purchase and use of a vehicle is a significant household expense, it seems justified that auto repair shops be required to systematically offer their clients a choice between purchasing new auto parts and purchasing recycled or re-used auto parts, particularly given that the two latter options are more ecological choices in the climate crisis context.

Today, there are no norms or standards in this sense, leaving this choice to the discretion of the auto repairer, whereas it should be systematically left to the consumer. The possibility of choosing a new or a second-hand part would allow consumers to better manage their household budgets and would be consistent with circular economy principles.

My question is the following:

- Will the Minister of Justice commit to incorporating into the *Consumer Protection* Act, for obvious economic and ecological reasons, an obligation to offer consumers functional recycled or second-hand products when repairing their vehicles?

(120) Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) – **5 February 2020**
To the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change

Last January, Conservation de la nature Québec (CNQ), a non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve Québec's natural settings, asked the Government of Québec to participate in the Héritage naturel Québec nature conservancy project (PHNQ 2019–2023), which aims to take advantage of $100

million in matched funds from CNQ partners, provided $100 million is invested by the provincial government in its land conservation project.

My question for the Minister of the Environment is the following:

To meet the commitments made in the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), namely to protect 17% of its land and inland waters, will the Government of Québec, which currently protects just under 10% of its land and inland waters, seize the opportunity offered by the CNQ to protect the equivalent of $200 million of territory for only $100 million?

(121) Ms. Labrie (Sherbrooke) – **6 February 2020**
To the Minister of Education and Higher Education

Last December, the Minister of Economy declared that education would be one of the most important sectors to act on to fight the labour shortage in Québec. In January, the Minister of Finance mentioned education as a means to generate long-term wealth in Québec.

Although the Government is following the 2017 Policy on Educational Success, that policy fails to take into account a good number of adult education sectors. The most recent adult education policy dates back to 2002 and its related action plan expired in 2007. The review of the 2002 policy highlighted its shortcomings and the issues relating to adult learning.

My question is as follows:

In this context, will the Minister of Education and Higher Education commit to giving Québec a real adult education policy?

(122) Ms. Fournier (Marie-Victorin) – **6 February 2020**
To the Minister of Immigration, Francization and Integration

Since over 18,000 immigration application files were terminated as a result of Bill 9 being passed, the department has proceeded to refund the costs related to those applications. Although a form is now available online for the applicants who want the refund, there is yet no procedure for mandataries who have already paid the required fees.

These mandataries made a payment on behalf of an applicant for various reasons, such as difficult or inexistent access to a bank account in the applicant's

country of origin, or because of economic sanctions limiting banking transactions, as is currently the case in Iran. Mandataries have been waiting for months for their refund, often without a reply from the department. Moreover, communications with the department, when they are established, take place exclusively with the applicant and not the mandatary to whom the refund is however due.

These unreasonable delays and the lack of communication cause a great deal of anxiety, frustration and uncertainty for these citizens and residents, for whom the payment of hundreds of dollars can put great strain on their personal finances.

My questions are as follows:

- Will the Minister commit to putting in place a procedure for refunding the mandataries, as soon as possible?
    - If so, can he inform us of the timeline for putting the procedure in place?
- In addition to communicating the reimbursement procedure to the immigration applicants, will the Minister promise to communicate the procedure directly to the mandataries, in those cases where the department has their contact information?

Part 6

NOTICES

I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

Government Bills

Private Members' Public Bills

(a) 10 February 2020
An Act to amend the Charter of the French language to define the circumstances under which an employer may make knowledge of a language other than the official language a requirement for access to employment or a position – *Member for Matane-Matapédia*

Private Bills

II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME