



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Order Paper and Notices **of the Assembly**

Wednesday, 27 May 2020 — No. 111
Nine forty a.m.

President of the National Assembly:
Mr. François Paradis

Part 1

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

- The Member for Chicoutimi on the following subject: *Congratulations to Mr. Donald Aubin.*
- The Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on the following subject: *Underline the Semaine des services éducatifs à l'enfance.*
- The Member for Chauveau on the following subject: *Volunteer of the year.*
- The Member for Saint-Laurent on the following subject: *Hats off to teens!*
- The Member for Nicolet-Bécancour on the following subject: *Tribute to my fellow citizens of Nicolet-Bécancour.*
- The Member for Matane-Matapédia on the following subject: *Tribute to Ms. Céline Lefrançois.*
- The Member for Chapleau on the following subject: *Thanking the food banks and soup kitchens.*
- The Member for Saint-Jean on the following subject: *The economic community's and business people's reaction to the pandemic.*
- The Member for Richelieu on the following subject: *Thanking Richelieu riding's school network In the context of COVID-19.*

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

URGENT DEBATES

DEBATES ON REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

- (1) A two-hour limited debate on the estimates of expenditure for the fiscal year ending on 31 March 2021, in accordance with the agreement on the gradual resumption of proceedings carried on 13 May 2020, which debate is considered a debate on a report from a committee and is to be held no later than 12 June 2020.

OTHER BUSINESS

I. Government Bills

Passage in Principle

- (2) 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**
- (3) 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**
- (4) 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**

- (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 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**
- (8) 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**
- (9) 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**
- (10) 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
Report from the Committee on Health and Social Services (consultations) tabled on **10 March 2020**

(11) Bill 53

Credit Assessment Agents Act

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

Committee Stage

(12) 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

(13) 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

(14) 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

Report from the Committee on Institutions tabled on **26 May 2020**, and

Referred to a Committee of the Whole

(15) 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

(16) 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

Passed in principle on **19 February 2020**, and

Referred to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment

Report Stage

(17) 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

Report from the Committee on Citizen Relations tabled on **11 March 2020** (Amend. handed in under Standing Order 252)

Passage

(18) 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 adopted on **20 February 2020**

II. Private Members' Public Bills

Passage in Principle

(19) 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**

(20) 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**

(21) 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**

(22) 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**

(23) Bill 194

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

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

(24) 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**

(25) 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**

(26) 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**

(27) Bill 198

An Act to facilitate disclosure of wrongdoings

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

(28) 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**

(29) 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**

(30) Bill 392

An Act respecting the selection of Québec senators

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

(31) 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**

(32) 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**

- (33) 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**
- (34) Bill 398
An Act to proclaim Québec Democracy Day
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **20 February 2020**
- (35) 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**
- (36) 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**
- (37) Bill 493
Interculturalism Act
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **30 October 2019**
- (38) 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**
- (39) Bill 496
Parliamentary Budget Officer Act
Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on **14 November 2019**
- (40) 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**

(41) 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**

(42) Bill 591

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
Introduced by the Member for Matane-Matapédia on **12 February 2020**

(43) Bill 594

An Act to improve the quality of care through the setting of ratios in certain institutions governed by the Act respecting health services and social services
Introduced by the Member for Pontiac on **26 May 2020**

Committee Stage

Report Stage

Passage

III. Private Bills

Hearings and Clause-by-Clause Consideration

(44) 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

(45) 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

(46) Bill 211

An Act respecting SSQ Mutual
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Talon on **26 May 2020**, and
Referred to a Committee of the Whole

(47) Bill 212

An Act respecting La Capitale Civil Service Mutual
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Talon on **26 May 2020**, and
Referred to a Committee of the Whole

Passage in Principle

Passage

IV. Government Motions

V. Estimates of Expenditure

(48) The estimates of expenditure for the National Assembly for the fiscal year ending on 31 March 2021 referred on 26 May 2020 to the Committee of the Whole for examination, in accordance with the agreement on the gradual resumption of proceedings carried on 13 May 2020, which examination is to be held no later than 12 June 2020.

(49) The estimates of expenditure for the fiscal year ending on 31 March 2021 referred on 26 May 2020 to the standing committees for examination, with no question being put thereon, in accordance with the agreement on the gradual resumption of proceedings carried on 13 May 2020, which examination is to be held during the week beginning on 17 August 2020.

VI. Statutory Debates

BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION

(50)26 May 2020

Motion by the Member for Saint-Laurent

THAT the National Assembly recognize that the confinement due to the COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on the daily lives of Quebec students;

THAT it acknowledge that the continuation of schooling and educational activities through remote means was carried out unevenly and that not all students received the same level of services;

THAT it acknowledge that the most vulnerable students may fall behind considerably and lose some of their educational gains;

THAT it recall that, according to many experts, anxiety levels have risen significantly among Québec's young people;

THAT it ask the Québec Government to provide Québec students with access to support services, such as psychological, speech therapy and special education services, throughout the summer in preparation for the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year, and that those services be offered on a continuing basis from now on;

THAT, lastly, it ask the Québec Government to establish a voluntary three-week upgrading period for all students, giving priority to students graduating from the elementary level to the secondary level and from the secondary level to the college level, so that they are able to fully acquire the learning likely to promote their school success and ensure a better transition.

Part 3

BILLS PASSED

(Bills awaiting Royal Assent)

Bill 62

Appropriation Act No. 2, 2020-2021

Passed on **26 May 2020**

Bill 63

Appropriation Act No. 3, 2020-2021

Passed on **26 May 2020**

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).

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 50**, An Act respecting the leasing of part of the water power of the Shipshaw River (Order of reference given on 12 March 2020).

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.

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

Order of reference

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 51**, An Act mainly to improve the flexibility of the parental insurance plan in order to promote family-work balance (Order of reference given on 11 March 2020).

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC FINANCE

Order of reference

- Debate on the Supplementary Estimates No. 1 for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2020 concurred in on 17 March 2020 (order of reference given on 17 March 2020)

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 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).

COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

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

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 44**, An Act mainly to ensure effective governance of the fight against climate change and to promote electrification (Order of reference given on 19 February 2020).

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*

- (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?

(123) Ms. Fournier (Marie-Victorin) – **18 February 2020**
To the Minister of Justice

Public confidence in our justice system is largely dependent on having access to justice. Although the situation has been improved somewhat in recent years, the eligibility threshold for free legal aid is still well below the level of viable income for a single-person household.

According to an IRIS study, the weighted average viable income for a single person was \$26,721 in 2019, whereas the threshold to be eligible for free legal aid for a single person has been \$22,750 since 2019. A person whose earnings are just on the viable income cutoff point has to spend \$400 to get access to legal aid. Hence, justice is too often becoming a luxury that is difficult for the poorest in society to access.

My question is as follows:

- Will the Minister commit to raising the eligibility thresholds for free legal aid?

(132) Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) – **13 May 2020**
To the Minister of Economy and Innovation

On 15 April 2020, emergency assistance for Québec's small and medium enterprises (SMEs) was announced following the realization that SMEs were not adequately covered under the Concerted Temporary Action Program for Businesses Programme (CTAPB). The current situation of some businesses suggests that available assistance is still not enough, and that some businesses that were financially sound before the pandemic crisis began may now have to close their doors due to cash flow shortages.

What criteria did the Government use to determine the amounts of emergency financial assistance distributed under this program? Why were these specific criteria used?

How many businesses to date have received financial assistance loans through this program?

In which sectors of activity do these businesses operate?

Of the \$150 million earmarked for this, what amounts have already been disbursed?

Is there any provision for some of this assistance to be forgiven for SMEs, as the Federal Government has done?

(133) Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) – **13 May 2020**

To the Minister of Economy and Innovation

The Concerted Temporary Action Program for Businesses (CTAPE) was established by the Government of Québec on 20 March 2020.

Under this program, the Government plans to make available loans and loan guarantees worth more than \$50,000 through Investissement Québec—its financial arm. However, this financial assistance is not suitable for all Québec businesses; for example, a start-up or a family-run SME would not necessarily garner an additional \$50,000 of credit, without any regard for its financial health.

Therefore, can the Minister tell us how many enterprises have benefited from these loans or loan guarantees granted through Investissement Québec?

What is the average amount of the individual loans or loan guarantees granted to date?

What is the rate of loan approvals under this program?

What is the average size of the enterprises that have obtained a loan or a loan guarantee?

Are there any plans to review this program with a view to forgiving a portion of these loans, as the federal government has done?

- (134) Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) – **13 May 2020**
To the Minister of Public Security

Québec's detention centres have to consider prison realities when dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite some measures being put in place, outbreaks quickly occurred, putting inmates, correctional officers and other professionals who work in prisons in danger.

The Minister announced that she had put in place certain measures, but it is clear that those measures were not enough to effectively deal with the situation.

The Syndicat des agents de la paix en services correctionnels du Québec says it fears for the safety of its members on account of both the pandemic and prison violence in certain institutions.

Will the Minister tell us what measures have been put in place since 13 March 2020 to increase the safety of the peace officers and other professionals working in these institutions?

- (135) Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) – **13 May 2020**
To the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

On 3 April 2020, after waiting several months, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources and the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change released an action plan for sustainable solutions to protect land against flooding, the "Plan de protection du territoire face aux inondations : des solutions durables pour mieux protéger nos milieux de vie".

The plan contains 23 measures and involves an investment of \$479 million.

Recently, some regional county municipalities have passed resolutions asking that the funds earmarked for flooding in the Plan be maintained. They had learned that the Government planned to cut funding allocated to certain measures, including measure No. 10 of the Plan, which provides for the implementation of resiliency and adaptation measures to deal with flooding.

Can the Minister confirm whether funds have already been cut from her action plan and indicate in detail which specific measures will be affected?

(136) Mr. Barrette (La Pinière) – **13 May 2020**
To the Minister for Transport

Thanks to the unanimous support of all National Assembly parliamentarians, expressed on two occasions since 2017, Québec will soon become part of the National Shipbuilding Strategy. With a budget of over \$100 billion, it is the most ambitious federal fleet renewal program since World War II.

The Federal Government is clearly very ambitious when it comes to the Canadian shipbuilding industry, but what plans does the Québec Government have for its own shipbuilding industry?

The budget recently tabled by the Government contains no specific measures with regard to the shipbuilding industry. However, given the number of ferries that will have to be built in the next few years, it is legitimate to ask what importance the Québec Government is giving to shipbuilding in the new Québec Maritime Strategy it has been slow to reveal.

Obviously, Québec must do more to promote its maritime industry expertise in Canada and in North America as a whole. This additional effort must be rooted in a coherent and sustained Québec policy that promotes its own maritime industry, in particular, shipbuilding.

The success of this strategy will require creating a maritime industrial cluster that includes equipment suppliers, ship designers, external professional services and, more broadly, the support of the Québec Government in research and development as well as in educating the public about maritime issues.

Will the Minister confirm what importance will be given to the shipbuilding industry in her new Québec Maritime Strategy?

(137) Ms. Weil (Notre-Dame-de-Grace) – **13 May 2020**
To the Minister of Justice

The emergency situation the current pandemic has created justifies the decision taken by the Minister of Health and Social Services and the Minister of Education and Higher Education to advance graduation for certain students whose skills are needed in the front-line collective effort. This is why some colleges and professional orders have had to deal with the major problem of ensuring these students nonetheless obtain all the skills and knowledge required

to exercise their professions and even though final internships were cancelled due to education establishment closings.

Final internships can often be a key component in a student's education, and while it is currently urgent for some students to enter the job market, it is nevertheless fundamental from a public protection point of view to ensure, in the medium term, that these students have acquired all the skills necessary to exercise their professions.

The Minister of Health and Social Services has stated several times that agreements to this effect have been reached with the professional orders concerned.

Can the Minister detail the steps that have been taken to ensure and to verify that these students have acquired the necessary skills?

What actions has the Office des professions taken to ensure that measures are equitable, consistent and uniform for all newly graduated students?

Which professional orders have been allowed to prescribe additional conditions for graduates?

- (138) Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis) – **13 May 2020**
To the Minister of Justice and Minister Responsible for the Fight against Homophobia

The current pandemic has left many Quebecers feeling isolated. This situation has raised important questions and heightened levels of stress, anxiety and panic among many citizens, with LGBTQ+ people facing unique challenges.

A study also shows that LGBTQ+ communities experience more layoffs, mental and physical health effects, and often have more precarious financial situations.

Given the history of their difficult struggles, LGBTQ+ people often prefer to turn to local community services for assistance in times of need, whereas the current pandemic has significantly increased demands on such organizations. In addition to providing specialized interventions for LGBTQ+ communities, the employees and volunteers of these organizations have become frontline workers during this public health crisis and have had to adapt the services they offer considerably.

Faced with urgent needs and significant income losses, many organizations fear for their survival.

Can the Minister tell us what specific assistance for LGBTQ+ communities the Government of Québec has granted to adapt services and cope with income loss since the start of the pandemic?

Will the Minister commit to creating a COVID-19 emergency fund for LGBTQ+ organizations in order to ensure that these communities, among Québec's most vulnerable, receive adequate support and services?

(139) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – **13 May 2020**
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

The Québec Government tabled the Québec cultural policy on 12 June 2018. In addition to providing for more than \$600 million in funding over a five-year period, this policy also provides for a review of the two statutes that deal with the status of artists.

Last 9 December, the Minister announced that the Honourable Liza Frulla and Ms. Louise Beaudoin would conduct consultations. It was specified that their mandate would be to meet with groups concerned by this legislation review and to gather their points of view, requests and recommendations. In addition, it was mentioned that the co-chairs would have to table a report during the summer of 2020 proposing solutions to the Minister of Culture and Communications.

Last March, the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications announced on its website that preliminary consultations, including online consultations and witness hearings, were being postponed until further notice.

Given the current situation, can the Minister tell us what repercussions this postponement will have on the review and submit a scenario for the resumption of proceedings including a timeline?

(140) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – **13 May 2020**
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

When reading the 2020–2021 Budget, the Minister of Finance announced a plan to enhance Québec's heritage buildings. Budget documents specify that buildings will be acquired, restored, converted and fitted out for cultural purposes.

Can the Minister detail the type of buildings this measure targets, the list of buildings to be acquired, the acquisition plan and the timelines?

(141) Mr. Rousselle (Vimont) – **13 May 2020**
To the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity

Between 2 April 2020 and the beginning of May, the Government announced various wage increases for a temporary period of time. The next day, it put in place the Incentive Program to Retain Essential Workers (IPREW) making \$100 per week available to those most in need.

Let me recall, the IPREW is a temporary measure announced on 3 April, which is applicable only as of 27 May. Later, there were suggestions that some increases would remain permanent for some workers. Another interesting measure is the Concerted Actions for Job Retention Program (PACME), however, several companies are questioning how the training aspect of the program works. The list posted on the program website is incomplete.

1. Why does it take more than 7 weeks to implement the IPREW, a program that simply aims to put money in the pockets of those who need it most?

2. Given that the Premier has indicated that he wants to improve the working conditions of our “guardian angels” in a sustainable manner, what measures will be maintained as basic conditions?

3. On the subject of the PACME, why not update the eligible educational institutions and training as they have requested?

4. What are the CNESST certification deadlines for the training centres who want to offer their services to companies under the PACME?

(142) Mr. Rousselle (Vimont) – **13 May 2020**

To the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity

As we know, the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly affected everyone involved in the health network, both directly or indirectly. With regard to those workers now referred to as “guardian angels”, the Premier has once again apologized for not improving their working conditions more quickly.

Several temporary measures have been announced, however it appears that some major application problems and injustices are taking hold. While the current context requires collaboration and the Premier is asking everyone to show solidarity, there do appear to be tears in the social fabric. Several well-intentioned employment agencies are penalized, feel let down by the Government, thus disadvantaging our guardian angels. Indeed, media reports indicate there may be potential regulatory or legal remedies from the Minister of Health and Social Services.

On 7 May, the Chair of the Conseil du Trésor indicated that the activities of employment agencies aimed at filling these job positions were a “necessary evil” which was very poorly received by some employment agencies. In January, the Minister of Labour amended the regulation governing employment agencies and it appears as though that regulation is incompatible with the current context and the new temporary measures announced. At that time, the regulation was already being challenged in court. Furthermore, while in a context where the Government is committed to increasing guardian angels’ wages, the Chair denounces that some agencies already offer a higher rate.

My questions for the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity are as follows:

1. Given the impact of decisions made and yet to come, does the Minister consider that this regulation is ill-suited or at risk of being so and therefore should be amended?
2. In the same vein as the Premier’s call for cooperation and solidarity, should this regulation be reviewed in collaboration with employment agencies in order to find a consensual solution to this conflict that has been going on for several months?
3. Do the guardian angels who work for employment agencies have access to the measures announced? If so, how does this work?

4. Following the words of the Chair of the Conseil du trésor, I would like to know the Minister's vision regarding the future of Québec's employment agencies?

(143) Mr. Kelley (Jacques-Cartier) – **13 May 2020**
To the Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks

The forest industry was negatively affected by the last railway crisis. Now, the health crisis is hitting it hard on many levels. The Government has taken several decisions to lessen these negative impacts, for example, by considering the wood products sector and silvicultural work essential services. However, a general decline in the demand for wood for construction and for paper along with border closings and a slowdown in economic trade are considerable. Many workers are still laid off as a result of this economic downturn.

A new threat looming is the recent decision announced by the Société de protection des forêts contre les incendies et les maladies (SOPFIM), Québec's forest protection society against insects and diseases, to cancel the upcoming spruce budworm treatment season. While Québec may be temporarily slowed down but gradually resuming activities, this insect will not slow down its damage to our forests.

While the Government is making decisions about loosening quarantine measures and initiating the reopening of several sectors of society, such as schools and the labour market in general, the SOPFIM is moving in the opposite direction when it comes to its June to July activities. Unions, municipalities, environmental organizations and others have criticized this decision. Last year, the department revealed that over 9.6 million hectares have been infected and that the infection has been steadily increasing over the last 10 years.

In November 2019, there was talk of limiting spray treatments in mature forests in order to protect the habitat of the Woodland Caribou.

So, I would like the Minister to explain:

1. Why does the SOPFIM not appear to be considered an essential service when silvicultural work is?
2. Why allow the SOPFIM to cancel its activities at a time when most of the province will be gradually resuming its activities?

3. This government department and the SOPFIM both share the view that one less year of treatment won't have a substantial impact; if that is the case, why do we bother with yearly interventions to fight this growing problem?

4. What is this decision's expected impact on the protection of the Woodland Caribou and what decisions are being considered to protect Québec's herds?

5. What are the anticipated impacts to this industry in terms of wood loss and financial losses?

(144) Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé) – **26 May 2020**
To the Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks

Since February 2018, the municipality of Grande-Vallée has been concerned about the future of the wildlife protection office located in its territory. It has repeatedly asked the Government about this issue, but received no response.

Let us recall that this concern stems from the retirement of a first wildlife protection agent, who has never been replaced. Since then, a second agent also retired. Consequently, the Grande-Vallée wildlife protection office is now staffed only by agents who come from the Gaspé and Sainte-Anne-des-Monts offices, located some 95 and 122 kilometres from the municipality, respectively.

In response to the concerns of regional elected officials, who are calling for the return of a wildlife protection service worthy of the name to Grande-Vallée, the department evoked a staff shortage affecting all Québec regions, and assures that Grande-Vallée office services will not be adversely affected.

However, we know that despite all the efforts and reminders made, the department has not yet renewed the office lease. Further, no new agents have been hired for this area, which is highly frequented by hunters and fishers. All this, you will agree, raises serious doubt as to the department's actual commitment to keeping this office open.

My question is as follows:

- Will the Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks agree to sign, as soon as possible, a lease for the Grande-Vallée wildlife protection office, and to put in

place the resources necessary for the deployment of adequate services in the territory?

(145) Mr. Benjamin (Viau) – **26 May 2020**
To the Premier

The coronavirus pandemic, putting Québec “on pause” as well as the many resulting health and prevention measures represent a highly unusual situation for all Quebecers. And this situation is having an impact on young people and all youth-related issues.

According to a Québec population health survey published by the Institut de la statistique du Québec, young people represent a vulnerable group from a mental health standpoint since the transition to adulthood is rarely a stress-free experience. In 2014–2015, 36% of young people aged 15 to 24 demonstrated high levels of psychological distress. Today, in the midst of a global health pandemic, the percentage of young people in distress could be even higher.

On 24 April, the Québec Government created a temporary component in the Mille et Un Fund for Young People in order to help organizations affected by the COVID-19 crisis. That financial assistance, to which one million dollars is being added, will be available to assist organizations facing financial difficulties.

Considering that the 2016–2021 Québec Youth Action Strategy includes five main axes, including a significant health component, what assistance specifically targeted at youth has the Québec Government offered to mental health services organizations?

What is the Government's new vision and strategy to provide them with assistance?

Can the Premier commit to injecting more money into the health component of the Québec action strategy for youth?

- (146) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – **26 May 2020**
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

The La Presse newspaper is asking for help from the Québec Government to stabilize its cash flow, finance employee salaries and support other current business expenses.

Is the Minister comfortable with this request?

Will the Government agree to help the NPO La Presse?

- (147) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – **26 May 2020**
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

Radio-Canada informed us on May 5 that Quebecor is in the process of buying the Capitol de Québec. As it is classified as a heritage building, the Minister must approve this transaction.

Will the Minister consent to this transaction?

- (148) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – **26 May 2020**
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

The Government has signed an agreement worth more than US\$10 million with an American production company. When filming resumes, we know there will be a high demand for film sets, equipment and tradespeople.

Given that resources will be limited and that the Government now has a financial stake in U.S. productions, when the recovery comes, which productions will the Québec Government prioritize when it comes to Québec and U.S. productions?

- (149) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – **26 May 2020**
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

In the circus sector, many companies made 90% of their own-source income through international tours.

Does the Minister first have a plan to support the business model during the COVID-19 crisis and second, a plan to revive the circus sector once the crisis is over?

- (150) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – **26 May 2020**
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

During the summer season, festivals are an economic engine for several regions. Given that the Government has announced the cancellation of festivals up to 31 August 2020, when will a plan be announced to help them ensure their sustainability?

- (151) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – **26 May 2020**
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

The movie theatre industry wants to reopen in mid-June. Will it be able to count on the Government's help to apply the rules that will be prescribed by public health and offer help if its business model is affected, in particular by physical distancing?

- (152) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – **26 May 2020**
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

Recently, the Association des professionnels de l'industrie de l'humour pressed the Government to make known its intentions with regard to deconfinement for the performing arts and reflections on the resumption of activities.

Is the Minister working on a re-opening plan and does she intend to make known the policy directions that broadcasters will be required to follow in the coming months?

- (153) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – **26 May 2020**
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

On 10 May 2020, the charity event "Une chance qu'on s'a" was broadcast on TVA and Télé-Québec. We have learned that this event was held in partnership with the Government of Québec.

Can the Minister give us the details about this partnership?

- (154) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – **26 May 2020**
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

On 28 April 2020, the Olivierie bookstore announced that it was closing for good after 35 years of existence.

Has the Minister worked on a plan or offered help to save this long-standing institution?

- (155) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – **26 May 2020**
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

The City of Québec will be setting up free drive-in movie theatres for its citizens this summer.

Does the Minister intend to support this initiative and to promote the deployment of free drive-ins in other cities and municipalities in Québec?

- (156) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – **26 May 2020**
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

When we re-open, the cultural sector will need health protocols to ensure everyone's safety.

Has the Government been in touch with the various cultural associations in order to set up protocols for each of them?

- (157) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – **26 May 2020**
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

This spring, the Minister proceeded to pay out investments ahead of time, notably through the SOCED and CALQ.

Which fiscal year do the amounts committed belong to and what proportion of investments are attributed to the 2019–2020 and 2020–2021 fiscal years, respectively?

(158) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – **26 May 2020**
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

On 14 May 2020, the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor and the Minister of Finance announced that \$2.9 billion in investments provided for in the 2020–2030 Québec Infrastructure Plan would be paid out ahead of time for the fiscal year 2020–2021.

In relation to that announcement, can the Minister indicate the proportion of the investments that will be dedicated to culture and provide a list of the projects that will be moved forward?

Part 6
NOTICES

I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

Government Bills

Private Members' Public Bills

Private Bills

(a) 13 May 2020

An Act respecting Municipalité des Îles-de-la-Madeleine – *Member for Îles-de-la-Madeleine*

Interpellations

(b) 26 May 2020

Interpellation by the Member for Jean-Lesage to the Minister of Health and Social Services on the following subject: *The need to establish Pharma-Québec in order to ensure the availability of medications, vaccines and medical equipment for Quebecers while reducing procurement costs.*

II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME