



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Order Paper and Notices

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 4 November 2020 — No. 140
Nine forty a.m.

President of the National Assembly:
Mr. François Paradis

Part 1

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

- The Member for Vachon on the following subject: *Underline the courage of Mr. Anthony Lévis Bégin Moar.*
- The Member for Hull on the following subject: *Underline the 25th anniversary of the Centre d'action bénévole de Hull, 25 years of kindness!*
- The Member for Beauce-Sud on the following subject: *Death of the former mayor of Saint-Robert and prefect of the MRC du Granit.*
- The Member for Jacques-Cartier on the following subject: *Tribute to Mr. Alex Killorn, member of the Tampa Bay Lightning, 2019–2020 Stanley Cup Champions.*
- The Member for Chapleau on the following subject: *La Soupière de l'Amitié's fundraising campaign.*
- The Member for Gouin on the following subject: *Recognition of the work carried out by community organizations.*
- The Member for Taillon on the following subject: *Mr. Wadii Karfali receives an award at the Forces AVENIR gala.*
- The Member for Marie-Victorin on the following subject: *The importance of not stigmatizing people with mental disorders.*
- The Member for Prévost on the following subject: *National Caregiver Week.*
- The Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on the following subject: *Tribute to the work of Mr. and Ms. Wong of the organization Services à la famille chinoise.*

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

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Part 2

ORDERS OF THE DAY

BUSINESS HAVING PRECEDENCE

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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 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

(3) Bill 59

An Act to modernize the occupational health and safety regime
Introduced by the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity on
27 October 2020

(4) Bill 60

An Act to amend the Public Service Act and other provisions
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and
Chair of the Conseil du trésor on **12 June 2020**

- (5) Bill 61
An Act to restart Québec's economy and to mitigate the consequences of the public health emergency declared on 13 March 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on 3 June 2020
Report from the Committee on Public Finance (consultations) tabled on 11 June 2020
Resuming the debate adjourned in the name of the Member for La Pinière on **12 June 2020**
- (6) Bill 65
An Act to amend mainly the Environment Quality Act with respect to deposits and selective collection
Introduced by the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change on 24 September 2020, and
Report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment (consultations) tabled on **27 October 2020**
- (7) Bill 67
An Act to establish a new development regime for the flood zones of lakes and watercourses, to temporarily grant municipalities powers enabling them to respond to certain needs and to amend various provisions
Introduced by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on 30 September 2020
Resuming the debate adjourned in the name of the Member for Vaudreuil on **3 November 2020**
- (8) Bill 68
An Act mainly to allow the establishment of target benefit pension plans
Introduced by the Minister of Finance on **7 October 2020**
- (9) Bill 69
An Act to amend the Cultural Heritage Act and other legislative provisions
Introduced by the Minister of Culture and Communications on **29 October 2020**

(10) Bill 70

An Act to protect persons from conversion therapy provided to change their sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression
Introduced by the Minister of Justice on **22 October 2020**

(11) Bill 71

An Act respecting off-highway vehicles
Introduced by the Minister of Transport on **22 October 2020**

(12) Bill 72

An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning mainly bodies in the field of public safety
Introduced by the Minister of Public Security on **21 October 2020**

(13) Bill 75

An Act to improve justice accessibility and efficiency, in particular to address consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic
Introduced by the Minister of Justice on **3 November 2020**

Committee Stage

(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 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
Passed in principle on **8 October 2020**, and
Referred to the Committee on Institutions

(16)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

Report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment (consultations) tabled on 24 September 2020

Passed in principle on **30 September 2020**, and

Referred to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment

(17)Bill 64

An Act to modernize legislative provisions as regards the protection of personal information

Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Democratic Institutions, Electoral Reform and Access to Information on 12 June 2020, and

Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on 30 September 2020

Passed in principle on **20 October 2020**, and

Referred to the Committee on Institutions

(18)Bill 66

An Act respecting the acceleration of certain infrastructure projects

Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on 23 September 2020

Report from the Committee on Public Finance (consultations) tabled on 28 October 2020

Passed in principle on **3 November 2020**, and

Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

Report Stage

Passage

(19) 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

Passed in principle on 17 September 2020

Report from the Committee on Health and Social Services adopted on **28 October 2020**

II. Private Members' Public Bills

Passage in Principle

(20) 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**

(21) 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**

(22) 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**

(23) 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**

- (24) Bill 194
An Act to ensure compliance with Québec's climate change-related obligations
Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on **21 February 2019**
- (25) 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**
- (26) 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**
- (27) 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**
- (28) Bill 198
An Act to facilitate disclosure of wrongdoings
Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on **9 May 2019**
- (29) 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**
- (30) 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**
- (31) Bill 392
An Act respecting the selection of Québec senators
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **9 May 2019**

- (32) 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**
- (33) 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**
- (34) 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**
- (35) Bill 398
An Act to proclaim Québec Democracy Day
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **20 February 2020**
- (36) 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**
- (37) 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**
- (38) Bill 492
Right-to-Disconnect Act
Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on **3 June 2020**
- (39) Bill 493
Interculturalism Act
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **30 October 2019**

- (40) 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**
- (41) Bill 496
Parliamentary Budget Officer Act
Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on **14 November 2019**
- (42) 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**
- (43) 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**
- (44) 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**
- (45) 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**
- (46) Bill 595
An Act to create the Rent Register
Introduced by the Member for Laurier-Dorion on **4 June 2020**

- (47) Bill 596
An Act to establish Pharma-Québec
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **15 September 2020**
- (48) Bill 597
An Act to improve support offered to entrepreneurs and farmers in relation to mental health
Introduced by the Member for Nelligan on **10 June 2020**
- (49) Bill 598
An Act to authorize the holder of a restaurant sales liquor permit to sell, for takeout or delivery, spirit-based alcoholic beverages
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **12 June 2020**
- (50) Bill 599
An Act to respect sexual orientation and gender identity
Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on **22 September 2020**
- (51) Bill 690
An Act to amend the Charter of the French language to specify that it applies to private enterprises operating in an area of federal jurisdiction
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **24 September 2020**
- (52) Bill 691
An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère des Transports to maintain air transportation services in certain regions of Québec
Introduced by the Member for Mont-Royal–Outremont on **30 September 2020**
- (53) Bill 692
An Act to amend the Act respecting safety in sports to prohibit fighting in sports activities in which persons under 18 years of age participate
Introduced by the Member for Marquette on **21 October 2020**
- (54) Bill 693
An Act to amend the Election Act to prevent and fight sexual violence in the context of political activities
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **22 October 2020**

Committee Stage

Report Stage

Passage

III. Private Bills

Hearings and Clause-by-Clause Consideration

(55)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

(56)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

(57)Bill 216

An Act to amend the Act respecting the establishment of a special taxation scheme for the Corporation de gestion du port de Baie-Comeau

Introduced by the Member for René-Lévesque on **21 October 2020**, and

Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

Passage in Principle

Passage

IV. Government Motions

(58)20 October 2020

Motion by the Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie

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

In compliance with section 22.3 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales, this motion cannot be debated before 30 October 2020.

V. Estimates of Expenditure

VI. Statutory Debates

BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION

(59)3 November 2020

Motion by the Leader of the Official Opposition

THAT the National Assembly acknowledge that the pandemic and its many impacts have significantly increased the level of distress among Quebecers, whether they be seniors deprived of contact with their loved ones, young people deprived of places to socialize, families and entrepreneurs affected by an unexpected source of economic insecurity, health workers or the women who bear an increased mental load as a result of all the upheaval;

THAT it recognize that despite the recent announcements, mental health resources are struggling to meet all the needs within reasonable timeframes, be they for access to adult and child psychiatrists or psychologists who can treat anxiety, distress and serious mental illness;

THAT it affirm the need to hold a societal debate on the issue of access to mental health care and to initiate this debate soon in the National Assembly, in collaboration with subject matter experts;

THAT the Assembly ask the four parliamentary group House leaders to meet in a timely manner to set up a non-partisan special parliamentary committee to hear from experts on mental health issues, in particular in the context of the pandemic and to make recommendations to support the Government's short- and mid-term actions to carefully determine the scope of the problem, evaluate best practices from around the world, raise public awareness of the magnitude of the problem and engage civil society so that everyone does their part to help people around them who are vulnerable;

THAT the independent Members be able to take part in the committee's proceedings;

THAT the special parliamentary committee report to the National Assembly not later than 18 February 2021, unless the committee decides otherwise;

THAT, lastly, the Assembly call on the Government to continue its efforts by allocating all the necessary resources so that people who require psychotherapy to recover can receive it without financial hurdles and within similar timeframes in both private practice and the public sector.

Part 3

BILLS PASSED

(Bills awaiting Royal Assent)

Part 4

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEES

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

COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

- Hearing of the Auditor General of Québec on 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 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.

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).
- **Bill 216**, An Act to amend the Act respecting the establishment of a special taxation scheme for the Corporation de gestion du port de Baie-Comeau (Order of reference given on 21 October 2020).

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

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 68**, An Act mainly to allow the establishment of target benefit pension plans (Order of reference given on 21 October 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 66**, An Act respecting the acceleration of certain infrastructure projects (Order of reference given on 3 November 2020).

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

- Quarterly examination of the Government's budgetary policy and of the evolution of public finance.

COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

Order of reference

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 72**, An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning mainly bodies in the field of public safety (Order of reference given on 28 October 2020).

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 39**, An Act to establish a new electoral system (Order of reference given on 8 October 2020).
- **Bill 64**, An Act to modernize legislative provisions as regards the protection of personal information (Order of reference given on 20 October 2020).

COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS

Order of reference

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 70**, An Act to protect persons from conversion therapy provided to change their sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression (Order of reference given on 27 October 2020).

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

Interpellation :

- by the Member for LaFontaine to the Minister of Families on the following subject: *The decline in the delivery of our educational childcare services since October 2018 due to the CAQ's mismanagement* (notice given on 29 October 2020).

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

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 71**, An Act respecting off-highway vehicles (Order of reference given on 29 October 2020).

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 46**, An Act to amend the Natural Heritage Conservation Act and other provisions (Order of reference given on 30 September 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*

(165) M. Lebel (Rimouski) – **15 September 2020**

To the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity

During the examination of the 2020–2021 estimates of expenditure of the Ministère du Travail, de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale (Employment and Social Solidarity component), the Member for Rimouski Harold Lebel raised the issue commonly referred to as the “Right to love”—which is the possibility for a social assistance recipient living with someone as a couple or with a roommate to receive their benefits—with the Minister Jean Boulet.

Minister Boulet indicated during the committee proceedings that the Right to love issue was one of the issues addressed by the *Comité consultatif de lutte à la pauvreté et à l'exclusion sociale* and that the principle of “one person, one cheque” was being considered by the committee and that announcements regarding this matter would be forthcoming.

On this issue, my questions to Minister Boulet are as follows:

- Can the Minister provide us with a progress report as regards the work of the *Comité consultatif de lutte à la pauvreté et à l'exclusion sociale* relating to the Right to love and, if applicable, its conclusions and recommendations regarding this issue?
- Does the Minister plan to implement the “one person, one cheque” principle in the allocation of social assistance, without taking into account the number of persons living in the recipient’s home?
- Can the Minister confirm that he will be making announcements concerning the Right to love and tell us if such announcements will be made before the end of 2020?

(166) Mr. Zanetti (Jean Lesage) – **17 September 2020**
To the Minister of Health and Social Services

On 18 August 2020, the Government announced a \$106 M investment in public health.

To hire 1,000 new full-time employees in the Public Health Directorate in order to increase tracing capacity in preparation for the second wave. Their work will involve responding to outbreaks and conducting contact investigations of infected individuals.

My questions for the Minister are the following:

For each CISSS-CIUSSS:

- How many individuals were assigned to this task as of 1 March 2020?
- How many individuals were assigned to this task as of 17 August 2020, before the announcement on 18 August 2020?
- Between 18 August and 15 September, how many individuals were hired and began working?

(172) Mr. Fortin (Pontiac) – **30 September 2020**
To the Minister of Finance

On 21 August 2020, the Société des loteries du Québec (Loto-Québec) announced that the gaming hall in Québec City, the Salon de jeux de Québec, would be moved from the Vanier sector to Beauport. We have noted that this move would entail \$10 million in costs, despite the fact that no call for tenders had been made for the selection of the new location in Beauport.

The decision is based on an analysis by KPMG, which was commissioned to carry out a study to assist Loto-Québec in choosing a new site. The study states that a regulatory analysis carried out by Loto-Québec initially identified a number of potential sites.

However, the CAQ made an election promise to move the establishment to a tourist zone and not a residential area, like Beauport.

Can the Minister explain to us why he went against his party's election promise by moving the Salon de jeux de Québec to a residential area?

Also, can the Minister table all the documents leading to this decision, in particular Loto-Québec's regulatory analysis, which allowed it to identify potential sites?

(173) Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) – **8 October 2020**

To the Minister of Finance

We have received a citizen's testimony regarding certain aspects of exchange traded funds, mutual funds and defined contribution pension funds—aspects that he considers to be anomalies. In his opinion, certain income distributions (capital distributions, capital gains and dividends) are not made. We can provide all the documents supporting his claims.

The issue we want to bring to the Minister of Finance's attention is the transparency of discount brokerage firms and financial institutions. The current regulations allow these institutions to display only certain information on the detailed statements sent to investors and retirees, which makes it more difficult to monitor the different movements of capital in their accounts. Discount brokerage firms and financial institutions therefore seem able to avoid displaying certain amounts that, often, would be relevant for investors and retirees to know. This situation is all the more worrisome in that it potentially affects a large number of people who do not regularly monitor their investments or pension funds. For example, it is not possible to know the income distribution details, whether it be regarding capital distributions, capital gains, Canadian-source interest income or dividends.

Given this situation, our questions to the Minister of Finance are as follows:

Will the Minister of Finance commit to shedding light on these aspects of exchange traded funds, mutual funds and defined contribution pension funds?

Will the Minister of Finance commit to amending the regulations in force to increase transparency in the statements issued by brokerage firms and financial institutions, and require that the brokerage firms and financial institutions display all capital movements on the detailed statements for investors and retirees?

(174) Mr. Arcand (Mont-Royal–Outremont) – **21 October 2020**

To the Minister of Transport

Ever since the "pausing" last fall, many public transit authorities have experienced a major decline in ridership. For example, the Réseau de transport de la Capitale (RTC), the Société de transport de Lévis (STLévis), the Société de transport de Montréal (STM) and numerous others have seen their ridership cut in half compared to last fall. The Autorité régionale de transport métropolitain (ARTM) is currently expecting below-average ridership until at least 2021. In light of the government's upcoming decisions, the second wave and its potential complications, it would appear that this trend will continue.

The pandemic has forced citizens to rethink their habits. Many have doubts and are afraid of being infected, and they prefer to drive their cars alone. According to one survey, 75% of Québec's public transit users plan to go back to buses once the crisis is over, while 25% say they will never take a bus again. According to the experts, after a breakdown of trust in public transportation, for example as in the case of the Madrid and Brussels attacks, it takes approximately one year to return to similar levels of ridership.

The overall decline has caused financial losses, which have been amplified because similar service levels have been maintained. In the greater Montréal region alone, there is a shortfall of nearly \$870 million over three years. For example, since the start of the pandemic, the STM has lost around \$75 million each month. For the future, the ARTM has asked the STM to review its expenses, reduce its services and reconsider its plan to acquire 300 vehicles due

to a 60% drop in ridership and expert forecasts predicting that it will be several years before business picks back up again.

The questions are as follows:

- 1- The Minister has announced assistance to offset operating losses, so will he ask the STM to reconsider its bus acquisition plan, in order to ensure that the delivery cycle and fleet expansion are more in sync with the resumption of business?
- 2- The STM intends to hire 200 drivers, which will only increase its future operating losses. Can the Minister commit to compensating the agency for the upcoming shortfall with respect to the new services?
- 3- Considering the collapse of public transit throughout Québec and the increasing use of cars, what is the Minister's strategy for public transportation?

(175) Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) – **22 October 2020**

To the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity

The organization RightOnCanada and the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment called on the Premier by sending him a letter dated 21 September 2020, for the second time in the past year, to share their concerns regarding the actions of the International Chrysotile Association (ICA), an asbestos lobby group registered in Québec as a non-profit organization. I share the concerns of these experts and scientists, and I want to discuss them with you.

First, not a single member of the ICA board of directors resides in Québec, which is contrary to the *Companies Act*. Further, while asbestos has been scientifically shown to be a carcinogenic substance and has been banished in some fifty countries, the ICA continues to promote it all over the world as a safe product and which can be used in the form of cement in the construction of buildings, including schools.

Let us also recall that the BAPE inquiry commission on the state of affairs and management of asbestos and asbestos mining residues submitted to the Government last July asks the Government to take various measures to protect

the public's health and safety against the harmful effects of asbestos. While we want to protect the general public and Québec workers, we also have a moral obligation to protect the populations in developing countries. However, the fact that the ICA, whose members' have practices that put the health and safety of the world's most vulnerable populations at risk, is associated with Québec by having its head office here, tarnishes our reputation on the international stage.

The ICA is registered in Québec as a non-profit organization. However, on the website of the Ministère du Travail, de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale, it clearly indicates that a non-profit organization is a group of natural persons who pursue a moral or altruistic goal and who do not intend to make any monetary gains to be shared among its members.

If we examine the actions of the ICA, it does not pursue either moral or altruistic goals.

- Have you or has a member of your office ever held meetings with the ICA? If so, on which dates and what were the subjects discussed at these meetings?
- Do you intend to order an administrative inquiry into whether ICA's constitution as a non-profit organization is compliant with the *Companies Act*? If the inquiry reveals that the ICA is non-compliant, will you take appropriate legal action?

(176) Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) – **22 October 2020**
To the Minister of Education,

The sustainability of funding popular education centres (InterCEP), while fully respecting their mission and the principle of autonomous community action, has been a longstanding demand since the creation of PACTÉ. During a telephone meeting with the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on 30 June 2020, you affirmed your willingness to resolve the main issues before the start of the 2020 school year, namely, the payment of operating costs and the sustainability of CEP funding. Given that the timeline was exceeded and the lack of funds, last week we learned that InterCEP members have decided to suspend payment of their operating costs.

During a recent telephone discussion with Diane Dupuis, spokesperson for InterCEP, your political attaché Sophie Côté informed her that the operating costs for this year would be adopted at a meeting of the Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor on Tuesday, 20 October 2020. We received confirmation of this yesterday. We welcome this first step, which demonstrates your commitment to this issue. However, it remained vague as to the sustainability of CEP funding.

Considering the above:

- 1- Can the Minister reaffirm his commitment to resolving InterCEP's longstanding demands, as was done during his meeting with the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve, particularly regarding the sustainability of its funding?
- 1- If this is still the will of the Minister, and since the deadline for the start of the 2020 school year has passed, what timetable does he recommend to resolve this issue that is in line with CEPs' mission and the principle of autonomous community action?

(177) Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue) – **28 October 2020**
To the Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks

On 24 July of this year, the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (MFFP) announced that it had signed a service agreement with Sécurité Nature. Among other things, the agreement provides for changes in the offering of courses for Québec hunters. Thus, since August 2020, the two introductory hunting courses may be completed entirely on-line. Also, the Practical Bow Test has been eliminated as a requirement for successfully completing the Introduction to Hunting with a Bow or Crossbow course.

A number of stakeholders and hunting specialists in Abitibi-Témiscamingue have raised concerns about the provisions of this new training framework. For example, that eliminating the Practical Bow Test would be comparable to eliminating driving lessons and could have harmful consequences, including:

1. an increase in the number of inexperienced hunters who will go hunting without necessarily being fully prepared or qualified;
2. an increase in the number of accidents and injuries due to poor arms use;

3. an increase in the number of animals slain incorrectly or unnecessarily injured.

My questions to the Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks are as follows:

1. What are the reasons behind eliminating the Practical Bow Test?
2. Have analyses or studies been carried out to assess the potential impact of this decision, including the possible impacts on animal herd populations?
3. Were Indigenous communities consulted and involved in the process leading to this decision?

(178) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **29 October 2020**
To the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

On 6 October 2020, the governments of Canada and Québec announced they had entered into an agreement for nearly \$3.7 billion over 10 years for housing. If we look at the terms of that agreement, it “provides for total federal funding of \$1.84 billion and involves a financial commitment from Québec equivalent to the federal commitment for the three components covered by the Agreement:

- \$272.25 M for the “Quebec Priorities” component;
- \$1.12 B for the “Canada Community Housing Initiative” component; and
- \$454.3 M for the “Canada Housing Benefit” component.”

We understand that the shared objective of the agreement is to reduce the number of households in housing need. However, we would like to clarify the following points:

- As concerns the \$272.25 M, how does the government of Québec intend to break down that sum according to “Quebec’s priorities”, and how many housing units in addition to those already announced does it intend to build?

- Given that the Canadian government's National Housing Strategy was developed on the basis of a Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+), that it was included in the Federal Plan for Gender Equality and that it therefore allowed 25% of the sums earmarked for the Strategy to be directed to projects targeting the special needs of women, girls and their families, will these targets remain among the priorities established by Québec? If so, how will the sums be allocated, and will you conduct a Gender-Based Analysis from an intersectional perspective (GBA+) in the programs, policies and actions funded by these sums for social housing?

(179) Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue) – **3 November 2020**
To the Minister of Transport

During meetings held with municipalities in my riding, two main issues were raised with regard to the transportation network: insufficient financial assistance for the maintenance of local roads and concerns about safety in certain sectors.

Since the responsibility for local roads was transferred in 1993 from the Ministère des Transports (MTQ) to the municipalities, local road network maintenance has been weakened due to a lack of indexation of the amounts provided for under the Programme d'aide à la voirie locale, with the exception of an investment included in the 2018 budget. The problem is exacerbated in the regions, where rural municipalities have difficulty benefiting from the program, mostly because they have to compete with the needs of larger cities. For some small municipalities, the program represents the only assistance available for local road network maintenance.

In addition, the transport department's network encompasses local municipalities in which a variety of user needs coexist, such as schools, local services, residential sectors. In these communities, the most vulnerable users (pedestrians and cyclists) sometimes develop a sense of insecurity. Some municipalities in my riding turned to the Minister's department to lower the speed limits or to add a pedestrian crossing or a beacon, only to be told that the road situation met the norms in place and thus that no intervention was necessary. I have therefore respectively concluded, Minister, that there is at times a huge divide between Transports Québec's norms and what is actually experienced on the ground.

My questions are as follows:

1. Do you plan on significantly increasing the budget of the Programme d'aide à la voirie locale and what assistance do you intend to give municipalities for their road network maintenance?
2. What actions could be taken to improve users' sense of safety in communities when your department deems that there is no such problem?

Part 6
NOTICES

I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

Government Bills

Private Members' Public Bills

Private Bills

II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME