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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

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FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

## **Order Paper and Notices**

**of the Assembly**

**Wednesday, 17 March 2021 — No. 169**

*Nine forty a.m.*

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

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Part 1

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- The Member for Beauce-Sud on the following subject: *Tribute to Mr. Daniel Desmarais, former SQ director.*
- The Member for Anjou–Louis-Riel on the following subject: *Underlining World Consumer Rights Day.*
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Part 2

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**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 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**

- (4) Bill 78  
An Act mainly to improve the transparency of enterprises  
Introduced by the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity on  
8 December 2020  
Report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy (consultations)  
tabled on **9 March 2021**
- (5) Bill 79  
An Act to authorize the communication of personal information to the  
families of Indigenous children who went missing or died after being admitted  
to an institution  
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Indigenous Affairs on  
**9 December 2020**
- (6) Bill 83  
An Act respecting mainly the health insurance plan and prescription drug  
insurance plan eligibility of certain children whose parents' migratory status  
is precarious  
Introduced by the Minister of Health and Social Services on **10 December  
2020**
- (7) Bill 86  
An Act respecting the demise of the Crown  
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Canadian Relations and the  
Canadian Francophonie on **11 March 2021**
- (8) Bill 88  
An Act to amend the Act respecting the conservation and development of  
wildlife and other legislative provisions  
Introduced by the Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks on **11 March 2021**

*Committee Stage*

**(9)** 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

**(10)** 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

**(11)** 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

Report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy (consultations) tabled on 2 February 2021

Passed in principle on **16 February 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Labour and the Economy

**(12)** 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

Report from the Committee on Public Finance (consultations) tabled on 17 February 2021

Passed in principle on **9 March 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

**(13) 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

**(14) Bill 74**

An Act to give effect to fiscal measures announced in the Budget Speech delivered on 10 March 2020 and to certain other measures

Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 2 December 2020

Passed in principle on **2 February 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

**(15) Bill 82**

An Act respecting mainly the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speech of 10 March 2020

Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 11 December 2020

Passed in principle on **17 February 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

**(16) Bill 84\***

An Act to assist persons who are victims of criminal offences and to facilitate their recovery

Introduced by the Minister of Justice on 10 December 2020

Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on 2 February 2021

Passed in principle on **4 February 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Institutions

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\* **Recommendation of the Lieutenant-Governor**



**(17) Bill 85**

An Act to facilitate the conduct of the 7 November 2021 municipal general election in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic

Introduced by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on 10 February 2021

Report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain (consultations) tabled on 11 March 2021

Passed in principle on **16 March 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

*Report Stage*

**(18) 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

Report from the Committee on Culture and Education (consultations) tabled on 1 December 2020

Passed in principle on 8 December 2020

Report from the Committee on Culture and Education tabled on **16 March 2021** (Amend. handed in under Standing Order 252)

*Passage*

**(19) 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

Passed in principle on 5 November 2020

Report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain concurred in on **11 March 2021**

## 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 491  
An Act to combat food waste  
Introduced by the Member for Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue on  
**12 November 2020**
- (39) Bill 492  
Right-to-Disconnect Act  
Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on **3 June 2020**
- (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**
- (45) 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**
- (46) 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**
- (47) Bill 595  
An Act to create the Rent Register  
Introduced by the Member for Laurier-Dorion on **4 June 2020**
- (48) Bill 596  
An Act to establish Pharma-Québec  
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **15 September 2020**
- (49) 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**

- (50) 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**
- (51) Bill 599  
An Act to respect sexual orientation and gender identity  
Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on **22 September 2020**
- (52) 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**
- (53) 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**
- (54) 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**
- (55) 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**
- (56) Bill 695  
An Act to set a standard for the maximum concentration of manganese in drinking water  
Introduced by the Member for Vaudreuil on **9 December 2020**

**(57)Bill 696**

An Act providing for the temporary suspension of the right to increase the rent for a lease of a dwelling  
Introduced by the Member for Laurier-Dorion on **10 February 2021**

**(58)Bill 698**

An Act to temporarily limit the charges that restaurateurs may be required to pay for online order services and meal delivery services  
Introduced by the Member for Nelligan on **18 February 2021**

*Committee Stage*

*Report Stage*

*Passage*

**III. Private Bills**

*Hearings and Clause-by-Clause Consideration*

**(59)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

**(60)Bill 214**

An Act respecting Ville de Sutton  
Introduced by the Member for Richmond on **12 November 2020**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

**(61)Bill 215**

An Act respecting Municipalité de Nominigüe  
Introduced by the Member for Labelle on **12 November 2020**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

**(62)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

**(63)**Bill 217

An Act respecting the objects and powers of the Roman Catholic  
Archiepiscopal corporation of Montreal

Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on **11 November  
2020**, and

Referred to the Committee on Labour and the Economy

**(64)**Bill 219

An Act respecting an immovable located on Rue University in Montréal

Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on **11 November  
2020**, and

Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

*Passage in Principle*

*Passage*

**IV. Government Motions**

**V. Estimates of Expenditure**

**(65)**Supplementary Estimates of March 2021 for the fiscal year ending on  
31 March 2021 tabled by the Minister Responsible for Government  
Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on **9 March 2021** and  
referred for consideration to a Committee of the Whole

**VI. Statutory Debates**



## **BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION**

(66) 16 March 2021

Motion moved by the Leader of the Official Opposition

THAT the National Assembly recognize that the COVID-19 pandemic has had and will have a major impact on economic growth, the job market and the labour shortage, as well as on Québec's public finances;

THAT it acknowledge that the CAQ government will table its 2021–2021 budget on 25 March;

THAT it ask the Government to put in place the necessary measures to ensure the economy recovers and our public services improve, while maintaining the current framework and protecting the sums accumulated in the Generations Fund;

THAT it ask the Government to be flexible regarding the goal of returning to a balanced budget;

THAT it ask the Government to put in place a modern and egalitarian economic recovery plan which will provide equal opportunities for women and men;

THAT it ask that Québec's economic recovery involve increased support for research and innovation in order to help businesses in all sectors adapt to the new reality and develop new markets;

THAT it ask the Government to ensure that citizens have access to the health care to which they are entitled, in particular by establishing a fund for catching up on delayed surgeries and a universal public program for free access to psychotherapy;

THAT it also ask the Government to support young Quebecers by creating the promised child care spaces, improving the tutoring program and providing financial assistance to cover the costs for parents who hire resources to support learning;

THAT it ask the Government to support Québec seniors by ensuring that the tax credit for home-support services is more appropriate and more generous;

THAT, lastly, it ask the Government to further support Québec's small and medium-sized businesses that have suffered, in particular by adjusting its business assistance programs to provide more direct assistance, abolishing the criteria excluding access to the small business deduction for the service sectors and providing greater flexibility in the conditions for repaying loans.

Part 3

**BILLS PASSED**

*(Bills awaiting Royal Assent)*

Bill 65

An Act to amend mainly the Environment Quality Act with respect to deposits  
and selective collection

Passed on **11 March 2021**

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 Société d’habitation du Québec on Chapter 4 of the Auditor General of Québec’s October 2020 report on housing projects entitled “AccèsLogis Québec Programme: Réalisation des projets d’habitation” as a follow-up to recommendation 2.1 of the 41st report from the Committee on Public Administration.
- Hearing of the Ministère de l’Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques on Chapter 2 of the Sustainable Development Commissioner’s June 2020 report entitled “Eco-Taxation, Cross-Compliance and Eco-Responsibility for a Green and Responsible Economy”.
- Hearing of the Ministère de l’Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques and the Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l’Habitation on Chapter 3 of the Sustainable Development Commissioner’s June 2020 report entitled “Conservation of Water Resources”.
- Hearing of the Ministère de la Famille on its administrative management and financial commitments, as well as on Chapter 2 of the Auditor General of Québec’s October 2020 report entitled “Access to Educational Childcare Services”.
- Hearing of the Ministère de l’Économie et de l’Innovation on its administrative management and financial commitments.

## 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 85**, An Act to facilitate the conduct of the 7 November 2021 municipal general election in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic (Order of reference given on 16 March 2021).
- **Bill 209**, An Act respecting Ville de Saint-Tite (Order of reference given on 4 December 2019).
- **Bill 214**, An Act respecting Ville de Sutton (Order of reference given on 12 November 2020).
- **Bill 215**, An Act respecting Municipalité de Nominique (Order of reference given on 12 November 2020).
- **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.

### Interpellation :

- By the Member for Saint-Laurent to the Minister Responsible for the Capitale-Nationale Region on the following subject: *Leadership necessary for the prosperity and development of the Capitale-Nationale* (notice given on 11 March 2021).

## **COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION**

### **Statutory order**

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

## **COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND THE ECONOMY**

### **Order of reference**

#### Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 59**, An Act to modernize the occupational health and safety regime (Order of reference given on 16 February 2021).
- **Bill 217**, An Act respecting the objects and powers of the Roman Catholic Archiepiscopal corporation of Montreal (Order of reference given on 11 November 2020).

## 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 60**, An Act to amend the Public Service Act and other provisions (Order of reference given on 9 March 2021).
- **Bill 74**, An Act to give effect to fiscal measures announced in the Budget Speech delivered on 10 March 2020 and to certain other measures (Order of reference given on 2 February 2021).
- **Bill 82**, An Act respecting mainly the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speech of 10 March 2020 (Order of reference given on 17 February 2021).
- **Bill 219**, An Act respecting an immovable located on Rue University in Montréal (Order of reference given on 11 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**

#### 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).
- **Bill 84**, An Act to assist persons who are victims of criminal offences and to facilitate their recovery (Order of reference given on 4 February 2021).

COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT



Part 5

**WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

*Questions already placed on the Order Paper  
are published each Wednesday*

(189) Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) – **9 February 2021**  
To the Minister of Finance

On 10 November 2017, Québec’s Minister of Finance made public the Tax Fairness Action Plan. This action plan was a follow-up to the National Assembly’s Committee on Public Finance (CPF) report on the tax havens phenomenon, published in March of the same year.

Two recommendations in the CPF report were not retained by the Québec government in the Minister of Finance’s Action Plan (recommendations 5 and 6):

“5. Tax dividends received in Québec that have been subject to foreign deductions.

6. Grant a tax credit equal to the foreign income tax paid rather than allowing the income to be brought back into Québec tax-free.”

The Action Plan states that “In 2017, 29 of the 35 OECD member countries had a tax system allowing the repatriation of earnings through tax-exempt dividends or provided some exemption for such dividends.” (Action Plan, p. 157)

My questions to the Minister of Finance with respect to Measure 5 of the action plan are as follows:

- What is the assessment of losses Québec will incur by refusing to adopt these two recommendations?
- What is the assessment of the impacts of collecting the tax on dividends imposed by six of the 35 OECD member countries?
- Has Québec entered into discussions with the federal government and the other provinces in order to form a united front with respect to the taxation of these dividends?

(190) Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) – **9 February 2021**  
To the Minister of Finance

On 10 November 2017, Québec’s Minister of Finance made public the Tax Fairness Action Plan. This action plan was a follow-up to the National Assembly’s Committee on Public Finance (CPF) report on the tax havens phenomenon, published in March of the same year.

Measure 2 of the Action Plan states that “Québec asks the federal government to send it the information obtained under bilateral tax treaties with other countries.”

In February 2018, the Minister of Finance testified before the CPF members that under the current tax agreements, only information obtained from France and the United States could be transmitted to Québec by the Canada Revenue Agency. However, these tax agreements would allow Québec to obtain information on Québec companies conducting business abroad.

Measure 3 of the Action Plan states that “In order to make full use of the information obtained through measures 1 and 2, Québec is setting up the Intervention Group specializing in international tax planning to use the financial and tax data”.

My questions to the Minister of Finance with respect to Measure 2 of the action plan are as follows:

- To what extent does the government of Québec currently obtain from the federal government the information obtained by the latter under,
  - the tax agreements Canada is a party to?
  - the country-by-country reporting implemented in the context of the OECD BEPS initiative, which Canada has been receiving since 2017?
- Does the information provided to Québec by the federal government make it possible, on the one hand, to determine the volume of business and profits being made by transnational corporations in Québec and, on the other hand, to determine the profits diverted to jurisdictions elsewhere for lower tax rates?

- Given its sovereignty in fiscal matters, how does Québec intend to address the situation if it has not received information to ensure tax fairness for Québec companies compared to transnational companies?

My questions to the Minister of Finance with respect to Measure 3 of the action plan are as follows:

- For each year since the publication of the Action Plan, how many people have been part of the intervention group specializing in international tax planning (full-time equivalent employees – FTEs)?
- What is the actual amount of money spent by Revenu Québec for this specialized intervention group?
- What objectives have been set for hiring personnel for this group, particularly for professionals specializing in international tax planning?
- Have those objectives been achieved for each of the years since the publication of the Action Plan?
- Is a progress report on this group’s work available and if so has it been tabled before the Committee?
- What is the proportion of the personnel assigned to work on businesses compared to personnel assigned to work on individuals, keeping in mind that only 5% of the funds that transit through tax havens belongs to individuals?
- Considering this proportion (the 5% mentioned above), should the focus be more on tax planning for businesses than for individuals?

(191) Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) – **9 February 2021**  
To the Minister of Finance

On 10 November 2017, Québec’s Minister of Finance made public the Tax Fairness Action Plan. This action plan was a follow-up to the National Assembly’s Committee on Public Finance (CPF) report on the tax havens phenomenon, published in March of the same year.

Measure 5 of the Action Plan states that “Québec will support the Canada Border Services Agency to ensure collection of Québec sales tax on tangible properties from abroad and sold by companies without a physical or significant presence in Québec”.

We know that Measure 5 has not yielded the expected results. However, a pilot project on border tax collection will be established in 2021 in accordance with what was announced in the context of the presentation of the 2020 budget: “Given the shared determination of both governments, Québec will work with the federal government to implement in 2021 harmonized rules for the collection of the QST and the GST/HST by foreign suppliers”. (Source: Budget 2020–2021, Additional Information, p. B.4)

My questions to the Minister of Finance regarding Measure 5 of the action plan are as follows:

- What is the status of discussions with the federal government regarding this pilot project and what are the main issues?
- Has the Ministère des Finances updated its 2017 estimate for Québec sales tax revenue losses on tangible properties from abroad sold by companies without a physical or significant presence in Québec? If so, what are the estimated losses for 2020?
- Has the Ministère des Finances studied the negative impacts of this privilege for local stores and businesses? If so, what are the conclusions?

(192) Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) – **9 February 2021**

To the Minister of Finance

In 2013, member governments of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the G20 initiated a major overhaul of international tax rules, which resulted in the creation of the Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) project. The objective of this project was to revise the rules in force so that they would be better adapted to the world economy and in harmony with it. The goal was therefore to ensure that profits are taxed in the countries where economic activities are carried out. One of the main issues identified as being at the root of the BEPS phenomenon is the lack of coordination between national rules. In addition, the constantly changing global economic environment often leads to gaps in international rules. Lastly, significant widespread gaps in data and information knowledge were also found.

The 2013 Action Plan on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting identified 15 actions, along three fundamental pillars: “introducing coherence in the domestic rules that affect cross-border activities, reinforcing substance requirements in the existing international standards and improving transparency, as well as certainty for businesses that do not take aggressive positions”.

In October 2020, the Inclusive Framework on BEPS (grouping of over 125 countries and jurisdictions collaborating on the implementation of measures arising from the BEPS project) released the work programmes of the two pillars resulting from the BEPS project, namely:

1. Solutions to better allocate taxing rights across jurisdictions (nexus and profit allocation);
2. Development of a system to ensure that multinational corporations pay a minimum level of tax on profits.

My questions to the Minister of Finance are as follows:

- Has the Ministère des Finances or Revenu Québec carried out an analysis of how Québec would be affected by the proposal made by the OECD last October (pillars One and Two)?
- Has the Ministère des Finances or Revenu Québec carried out an assessment of the revenue that could be generated for Québec if the OECD proposal (pillars One and Two) were implemented?
- Considering how difficult it is to reach a multilateral agreement on digital economy taxation, would it not be wise for Québec to introduce a new temporary tax on the turnover of companies in the digital sector, as certain jurisdictions such as France have done?
- Given that harmonization of such a temporary tax on the digital economy with the federal government would be desirable, have the Ministère des Finances or Revenu Québec entered into discussions with their federal counterparts on this subject?
- In the context of major budget deficits due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the concomitant increase in the revenues and profits of the giants of the digital economy, does the Minister consider it appropriate that the government of Québec explicitly request that the federal government implement a temporary tax on digital economy businesses?

(193) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **9 February 2021**  
To the Minister of Health and Social Services

Many elderly people who live in private seniors' residences (PSRs) in my riding and throughout Québec are being affected by a dramatic increase in their rent costs exceeding the inflation rate. I understand that PSRs are experiencing higher operating costs due to the pandemic, as are many businesses, however not all seniors live in luxurious residences and the vast majority simply cannot afford this increased burden. Some seniors do not have family support and the elderly often fear reprisals. Senior citizens have a limited ability to pay because 60% of those aged 65 and older have an income of less than \$30,000 per year.

My question is the following:

Can the Minister quickly implement specific measures to protect seniors from these unacceptable increases by implementing an assistance program to support small residences experiencing financial difficulty or by raising incomes for seniors living in these residences?

(196) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **16 February 2021**  
To the Government

According to an annual survey conducted by the Association des pharmaciens des établissements de santé (APES), 13 of the 45 pharmacist positions in our Bas-Saint-Laurent region are vacant and 8 of the 23 positions in Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine are to be filled. In addition, Côte-Nord is lacking 8 pharmacists out of a possible 23.

This shortage is due to competition from the private sector, where the salaries are higher. APES is asking the government to improve their salary conditions in order to address the shortage of pharmacists in our health institutions.

The premiums granted to pharmacists to retain them in the public sector are temporary but represent half their salaries. That is huge. These salaries are therefore unreliable and not attractive to young pharmacists.

The situation is critical, as the CISSS spends on average \$1,000 to \$1,500 per day to cover the cost of each replacement pharmacist from the private sector, including travel, lodging and meal expenses. In Bas-Saint-Laurent, depending on where the replacement pharmacist is coming from, the travel expenses can be even higher.

According to APES, the CISSS in Gaspésie–Îles-de-la-Madeleine had to call on the services of replacement pharmacists for 822 days between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020. In Côte-Nord, this number was 933 days, while in Bas-Saint-Laurent, it was 239 days.

My question is as follows:

The situation is more than alarming because the shortage of pharmacists in the public network results in an excessive workload for pharmacists in that sector and risks for patients. Given the context of the renewal of its work agreement with public-sector pharmacists, does the Québec government intend to remedy this situation and ensure there are enough pharmacists in eastern Québec’s health institutions?

(197) Mr. Lebel (Rimouski) – **18 February 2021**  
To the Government

The past year has been challenging for a large number of Québec’s elderly population. Our shortcomings in how we perceive aging and the services we need to offer to seniors have been exposed for all to see. Without pointing fingers, we must come to the realization that things must change and that it is necessary to rethink our idea of what “aging well” means in Québec.

We must make the right decisions to adapt Québec society to the aging of its population. This is a major societal issue that requires vision and concrete actions.

It is clear that people are living longer lives, with average life expectancy being much higher due to better overall health. However, it is much less clear that we will be living better lives. Our ability to meet the challenges of this new paradigm will depend on society’s ability to adapt. This new reality requires that we thoroughly examine the ways in which we view aging, retirement, the various stages we go through in life, and the contribution of each individual to society.

In my riding, already one in four people is over age 65. In October 2019, I held a symposium where seniors, elected officials and stakeholders became more aware of the situation. Together, we identified concrete actions that could be taken to make longevity a good thing and not a problem.

Now all Quebecers must be made more aware of the situation because our society is one of most affected by aging in the world. We must take urgent action. I know that we all agree on the why, but now we must mobilize all Quebecers to reflect on the how.

My question is the following:

Is the Government ready to initiate a process involving the mobilization of seniors and civil society actors that will lead us to an Estates General on the ability of Québec society to adapt to its aging population by fall 2022?

(198) Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage) – **9 March 2021**

To the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change

Sollio Groupe Coopératif (formerly La Coop fédérée) operates a grain terminal on the site of the Port of Quebec, at Anse au Foulon. The Québec Port Authority (QPA), operates a rail yard next to it. The port activities planned for this sector will not all be fully operational until early 2022. The final project includes conversion of the wood pellet terminal, construction of four 15,000 tonne (t) silos, four smaller 1,000-tonne silos, covered conveyors, two grain handling and cleaning towers, a grain grading laboratory, two electrical substations and one grain car unloading station. The marine and land terminal will have the capacity to accommodate two moored ocean-going vessels, 110-car trains in sections in a rail yard, and around 100 trucks a day. The grain storage capacity will increase from 75,000 tonnes to 109,000 tonnes. The project's anticipated export volume is 1,290,000 tonnes of grain per year via 47 ships. The terminal's annual supply will be transported by 23 ships, 45 110-car trains, and 4,210 30-tonne trucks.



Nearly 1,200 homes are located less than one kilometre from the project. Although the project has not yet been carried out to its full potential, the area's residents have already been suffering from the noise and air pollution for two years. The environmental impact analyses paid for by Sollio Cooperative Group and the Quebec Port Authority clearly show that, once the project is 100% operational, noise levels will exceed standards and fine particles will almost exceed standards. It should be noted that the analyses do not include all the fine particles or all the noise that will be emitted by the terminal. And the completed impact studies do not take into account the noise from ships that will be docked at the wharf. Despite all these omissions, the study clearly indicates that the guideline values used will be exceeded. The noise from railway activities will almost always be above the standards (variance between +3 and +5). During train handling and railcar unloading—for approximately 12 hours—the noise levels for residents on Champlain Boulevard would be two times higher than the guideline values, while at the Jardins Mérici complex, the noise would exceed the guideline values. The impact assessment data shows that total fine particle concentrations will be just below Québec's environmental standard. In fact, the report states that there will be 29.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup> while the standard of the Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte aux changements climatiques is 30 at the limits of the industrial zone. Moreover, and what is most worrisome, the assessment report takes into account only particles emitted from grain handling and cleaning. If the fine particles emitted by ships, trains and trucks on the project site are included, the current environmental standards will surely be exceeded. We would like to point out that as a result of this project, in a single day, there may be two ships moored at the wharf, as many as 100 trucks, and the dismantling of a 110-car train in the rail yard. And we know nothing at all about the fine dust emitted by the current Sollio Cooperative Group facilities located nearby, which will be linked to the project.

The ruling by the Court of Appeal in the case of the *Attorney General of Québec vs. IMTT-Québec inc* (2019 QCCA 1598) clearly specifies the applicability of provincial environmental legislation to activities or enterprises governed by a federal authority: “[278] In principle, until proven otherwise, provincial laws and regulations of general application aimed at controlling contaminants apply within the port of Quebec. The same is true of the general prohibition set out in s. 20 EQA, which deals with the release of contaminants into the environment likely to adversely affect the health of human beings or cause damage to or otherwise impair the quality of the environment, and of the Quebec civil law doctrine of neighbourhood annoyances with which this general prohibition accords. [238] Citizens of Quebec have just as much of a right to an environment free of contaminants within the port of Quebec as they do elsewhere in Quebec. [279] It is appropriate, within this context, to point out that the federal legislation underscores the importance of effective and harmonious

cooperation among all levels of government when dealing with environmental protection. In this area, collaboration rather than confrontation is needed.”

In light of the information brought to the attention of the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change, my questions are as follows:

1. Can the Minister confirm that the project under way at Anse au Foulon complies with Québec environmental standards?
2. If it does not, why is the Minister not demanding compliance with Québec laws, in particular the Environment Quality Act, on the Anse au Foulon territory within the framework of the project developed by the Québec Port Authority and Sollio Groupe Coopératif?
3. After being alerted by citizens in the sector, as early as June 2020, why did the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change not send his own experts into the field to verify if the environmental standards were being complied with?
4. Considering that the Government recently petitioned the Supreme Court to have its law applied to the Port of Québec, how can the Minister justify his inaction in the Anse au Foulon sector given the Québec Court of Appeal ruling validating Québec’s jurisdiction in the matter?

(199) Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage) – **9 March 2021**  
To the Minister of Transport

Sollio Cooperative Group (formerly La Coop fédérée) operates a grain terminal at the Port of Québec, at the Anse au Foulon site. The Québec Port Authority (QPA) operates a rail yard right next door. The port activities planned for this sector will not all be fully operational until early 2022. The final project includes the conversion of the wood pellet terminal and the construction of four 15,000 tonne (t) silos, four smaller 1,000 tonne silos, covered conveyors, two grain handling and cleaning towers, a grain grading laboratory, two electrical substations and one grain car unloading station. The marine and land terminal will have the capacity to accommodate two moored ocean-going vessels, 110-car trains in sections in a rail yard, and around 100 trucks per day.

The grain storage capacity will increase from 75,000 tonnes to 109,000 tonnes. The project's anticipated export volume is 1,290,000 tonnes of grain per year via 47 ships. The terminal's annual supply will be transported by 23 ships, 45 110-car trains and 4,210 30-tonne trucks.

Nearly 1,200 homes are located less than one kilometre from the project. Although the project has not yet been carried out to its full potential, the area's residents have already been suffering from the noise and air pollution for two years. The environmental impact analyses paid for by Sollio Cooperative Group and the Quebec Port Authority clearly show that, once the project is 100% operational, noise levels will exceed standards and fine particles will almost exceed standards. It should be noted that the analyses do not include all the fine particles or all the noise that will be emitted by the terminal. Additionally, the completed impact assessments do not take into account the noise from ships that will be moored at the wharf. Despite all these omissions, the study clearly indicates that the guideline values used will be exceeded. The noise from railway activities will almost always be above the standards (variance between +3 and +5). During train handling and railcar unloading—for approximately 12 hours—the noise levels for residents on Champlain Boulevard would be two times higher than the guideline values, while at the Jardins Mérici complex, the noise would exceed the guideline values. The impact assessment data shows that total fine particle concentrations will be just below Québec's environmental standard. In fact, the report states that there will be 29.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup> while the standard of the Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte aux changements climatiques is 30 at the limits of the industrial zone. Moreover, and what is most worrisome, the assessment report takes into account only particles emitted from grain handling and cleaning. If the fine particles emitted by ships, trains and trucks on the project site are included, the current environmental standards will surely be exceeded. We would like to point out that as a result of this project, in a single day, there may be two ships moored at the wharf, as many as 100 trucks, and the dismantling of a 110-car train in the rail yard. And we know nothing at all about the fine dust emitted by the current Sollio Cooperative Group facilities located nearby, which will be linked to the project.

Furthermore, the total cost of the grain terminal and rail yard project is estimated at \$100 million. The Québec government has announced a financial contribution of \$30 million, which includes a \$10 million investment from Capital Logistique Québec and a \$20 million subsidy from the Ministère des Transports (MTQ) Programme de soutien aux investissements dans les infrastructures de transport maritime. However, one of the conditions of the subsidy program is compliance with Québec laws and regulations, failing which the subsidies may be withdrawn: “[Translation] Program beneficiaries must comply with the laws, regulations and standards in force and obtain the required authorizations before carrying out the project. The MTQ may withdraw from its commitment, reduce its contribution or require repayment of amounts paid if the applicant fails to comply with the conditions of the program or with Québec laws and regulations.”

In light of the matters brought to the attention of the Minister of Transport, we would like him to answer the following questions:

1. Why is the Minister of Transport not enforcing the rules of the subsidy program he administers by withdrawing the subsidies allocated to this project since it does not comply with Québec’s current environmental regulations?
2. What use are the rules of his Programme de soutien aux investissements dans les infrastructures de transport maritime if it is possible to fail to comply with them without consequences and still receive subsidies?
3. How does the Minister of Transport justify that the task of ensuring compliance with the laws in force in Québec is left to the subsidy recipients, and that the government is not conducting any compliance audits?
4. Considering that citizens alerted the Ministère des Transports as early as February 2020, how does the Minister justify his inaction on this matter?
5. How does the Minister respond to citizens in the area who denounce the fact that public money is allocated to developers who then cause harm to citizens?

(200) Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion) – **9 March 2021**  
To the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

In 1995, following proposals made by the Association des groupes de ressources techniques du Québec (AGRTQ) and the Confédération québécoise des coopératives d'habitation (CQCH), the Programme d'achat-rénovation en coopératives et OSBL (PARCO) was created.

A little over 1,000 housing units have been developed through the PARCO program. However, most of the agreements with the Société d'habitation du Québec for these housing projects will expire at the end of 2022, along with the rent supplement (PSL) subsidies that make it possible for those who are most vulnerable to live in these homes.

At a time when Québec is experiencing one of the worst housing crises in decades, with skyrocketing rents and an alarming vacancy rate, and when the current health crisis and resulting confinement have once again revealed the importance of having adequate housing, it is more important than ever that low-income households, and especially those living in housing created through the PARCO program, be able to have peace of mind about their future housing situation.

In light of the above, my question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing is the following:

Will the Minister immediately commit to maintaining the rent subsidies for co-operatives and non-profit housing, in particular those granted through the PARCO program?

(201) Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) – **9 March 2021**  
To the Minister of Transport

The Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques issued an order in council (890-2010) for the Turcot Complex reconstruction project in the cities of Montréal, Montréal-Ouest and Westmount to ensure that this major project is carried out properly from an environmental perspective.

One component of the Order in Council, condition 8 regarding the Saint-Jacques Escarpment, requires mitigation of the damages that will be caused to the wetland and trees in the area.

Instead of creating basins and a pond as presented to the public, the department wants to create a ditch that would require the removal of between 400 and 625 trees, even though most of them are healthy. The MTQ's explanations that this work is necessary “[Translation] to facilitate maintenance, ensure adequate drainage and guarantee the long-term stability of the Saint-Jacques Escarpment and the mound of the green strip” are confusing because the trees’ roots play an important role in maintaining soil stability.

The Escarpment is a major route for migratory birds, for which these trees are essential, and home to 65 species of birds, including species such as the wood thrush and the barn swallow, which are threatened, as well as the brown snake, which is on the way to becoming threatened.

In light of these points, we would like the Minister to answer the following questions:

1. Why is the Minister of Transport not complying with condition 8 of Order in Council 890-2010, as regards the Saint-Jacques Escarpment?
2. Why was the group Sauvons la falaise not notified about the Minister of the Environment’s approval of tree removal or the start of work, despite a promise to do so?

What does the Minister intend to do to comply with condition 8?

(202) The Member for Verdun – **9 March 2021**  
To the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women

On 27 October 2020, the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity tabled Bill 59, An Act to modernize the occupational health and safety regime. Various groups representing women, as well as all bodies representing the rights of Quebecers and Québec, condemned the Government's haste to move forward with a reform that will have significant impacts on the health and safety of women.

As regards this bill, please tell us whether the Secrétariat à la Condition féminine or the Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale have conducted a gender-based analysis, or any other analysis to take into account the impacts on women?

Will the Minister also table the opinion produced by the Secrétariat à la condition féminine regarding this bill or any comments made before the tabling of this bill?

(203) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – **9 March 2021**  
To the Minister responsible for the Status of Women

On 10 December 2020, the Minister of Justice tabled Bill 84, An Act to assist persons who are victims of criminal offences and to facilitate their recovery. Various groups representing women condemned the Government's haste to move forward with a reform that could have significant impacts for women.

As regards this Bill, can the Minister tell us if the Secrétariat à la condition féminine or the Ministère de la Justice has conducted a gender-based analysis?

Can the Minister also table the opinion produced by the Secrétariat regarding this bill or any comments made before the tabling of this bill?

(204) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) – **9 March 2021**  
To the Minister responsible for the Status of Women

For victims of domestic and family violence, the pandemic has been a major ordeal that has brought to light all the suffering and isolation of victims.

Can the Minister tell us, since the start of the pandemic in March 2020, how many additional places have been opened for women who are victims of domestic violence and their children, broken down by region?

Can the Minister also tell us how many additional places have been offered to women who are homeless since the start of the pandemic, broken down by region, and tell us whether these places are exclusively for women?

- (205) Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent) – **9 March 2021**  
To the Minister of Education

In April 2020, the Premier affirmed that herd immunity was one of the reasons for students' return to the classroom.

Can the Minister table the public health notices on this subject?

- (206) Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent) – **9 March 2021**  
To the Minister of Education

On 8 January 2021, the Minister of Education announced that a mobile application would be created to give young people access to resources, testimonials, videos, etc. The Minister also announced that discussion forums on themes designed to meet the needs of young people would be set up to help mitigate feelings of isolation and offer ways to manage stress, in addition to a messaging service (chat) to be accessible throughout Québec.

For each of these announcements, can the Minister specify the progress of the work, the deadlines, the partner organizations responsible for implementing these measures and the contracts awarded to the organizations?

- (207) Ms Rizqy (Saint-Laurent) – **9 March 2021**  
To the Minister of Education

On 8 January 2021, the Minister of Education announced the implementation of a tutoring program and, according to the press release, the launch of various tutoring programs slated to begin at the end of January.

Can the Minister specify the list of tutoring programs put in place, the amounts allocated, the dates of allocation and a breakdown of the amounts by school service centre?



(208) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **10 March 2021**  
To the Government

Saturday, 20 February 2021, marked the World Day of Social Justice. Celebrated each year, this day represents an opportunity to remember that, now more than ever, it is necessary to intensify the battle to eradicate poverty and reduce social inequalities and social exclusion. In this period of restriction and confinement, there is no doubt that equal access for all to health services, education, affordable housing and safe and suitable employment is threatened.

Indeed, for many of our fellow citizens, in particular seniors and people with disabilities, living conditions have deteriorated. The current social programs are no longer adequate and, in many cases, have been inadequate for a long time.

On 13 December 2002, Québec passed the Act to combat poverty and social exclusion following an unprecedented social mobilization that included the tabling of a petition signed by 215,307 people and more than 1,500 organizations. This Act is not perfect, but it has the merit of stipulating that in the fight against poverty, government action requires political responses and concerted actions.

I am proud to have participated in the drafting of this Act as head of the Minister's Office. However, 20 years later, we must ask ourselves if the various action plans have allowed us to meet the objectives clearly identified in the Act, that is, to progressively make Québec one of the industrialized nations with the least number of people living in poverty by 2013. It is clearly time to update our objectives.

My question is the following:

Would the Government agree that after 20 years it is advisable to review the Act, consult the groups again in order to assess its impact and determine the objectives to be achieved for the next 10 years?

209) Mr. Leduc, Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve – **10 March 2021**  
To the Chair of the Conseil du trésor

Last year once again revealed that the work performed by women in the public sector is not sufficiently recognized. Nearly 300,000 women struggle to keep the health, education and social services networks in operation. However, pay equity has yet to become a reality.

The first public sector pay equity process was finalized in 2006. The first pay equity audit was performed in 2010. More than 3,000 complaints were filed with the pay equity commission, because the Secrétariat du Conseil du Trésor (SCT) had not recognized the changes for certain job titles. In 2015, the SCT performed its second pay equity audit; again, it failed to recognize all the job title changes. More than 9,000 complaints were filed with the commission. The complaints filed in 2010 were transferred to the CNESST investigations unit in 2017 and the investigation process began in 2018. The unions again participated in a conciliation process from July 2019 to January 2020, but it yielded no conclusive results. In addition, the Government has repeatedly committed to paying orderlies an entry-level salary of \$26 an hour. If the job title issue were settled, 29,000 women would have a better salary. And if we include only the orderlies for 2015, nearly 60,000 women would have more decent conditions.

Considering the above,

1. Can the Chair of the Conseil du trésor explain why the SCT does not undertake to settle the job titles for which there is agreement and have the rest of the disputed cases settled by the CNESST, as the unions have suggested?
2. Why does the Chair not issue a mandate to settle the pay equity issue?
3. Why does the Chair not issue a mandate to settle the orderlies' 2015 pay equity complaint?

(210) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **11 March 2021**  
To the Government

On this March 11, National day of remembrance for victims of COVID 19, I need not remind you that the impact the coronavirus pandemic and social distancing measures are having on social, community and economic services in all our ridings may continue for another year or more. One could surmise that the fallout will continue even after the public health situation has been restored.

The pandemic is not over and there are still needs to be met. The Government has rightly tripled the 2020–2021 budget made available to Members through the Soutien à l'action bénévole program, in order to better meet the requests of groups given the current public health emergency.

When we get access to funds quickly, it makes a big difference and it helps the community sector a lot. The Premier himself said that he was increasing the amount budgeted for the Soutien à l'action bénévole program because Members are the ones who are best positioned to quickly decide what their ridings need most to fight the pandemic. We have to admit that this was a good reaction on the part of the Premier, as the additional financial assistance has been very helpful for our communities.

This discretionary envelope makes it possible to meet the increase in financial requests from organizations in sectors related to poverty-reduction, food banks, health care, culture, services for seniors, families, education, and immigration.

As the time to table the next budget approaches, I hope that Québec's intentions are not to return the program's financing to pre-pandemic levels.

My question is the following:

We will survive this crisis, however I believe that our socio-community needs will continue to be affected for some time. We must continue. Can the Government assure the Members of the Assembly that they will be able to count on the same budget for the Soutien à l'action bénévole program as the one for 2020–2021?

(211) Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) – **16 March 2021**  
To the Minister of Transport

Since Mr. Réjean Bacon's hunger strike in January 2019, road accident victims and the Association pour les droits des accidentés that represents them have been waiting for changes to the Automobile Insurance Act. This reform, desired and announced by the Minister of Transport and the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ), was to address the alarming issue of compensation being reduced starting at age 65 and completely terminated at age 68. Those receiving compensation do not contribute to the Régie des rentes du Québec and are unjustly penalized when they retire. This injustice is also perpetuated because, according to the Institut de la statistique du Québec, life expectancy increased by 7.2 years for women and 11.3 years for men between 1977 and 2020.

In a written answer on 18 December 2019, the Minister of Transport expressed his concern and mentioned that he was waiting for solutions from the SAAQ. Since then, my office has been regularly following up on this matter with the office of the Ministère des Transports to see if there has been any progress.

Given the slowness of the process, I would like to ask the Minister of Transport the following questions:

1. On behalf of the road accident victims who are hostage to the slow pace of the proposed changes, I would like to ask the Minister of Transport what he intends to do in the short term to ensure they do not continue to suffer the injustice resulting from the reduced compensation?
2. Since the creation of the Régie de l'assurance automobile du Québec in 1978, the situation of those receiving compensation has continued to deteriorate because they must live for longer and longer periods of time with unjustly reduced income. Given the urgency of their situation and the extent of their needs, when does the Minister intend to introduce his bill?

(212) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **16 March 2021**  
To the Government

People living in poverty in the regions and the organizations that stand up for them are complaining that they no longer have access to denturist services.

The Québec government is mainly responsible for this problem, according to the Association des denturologistes, which specializes in the manufacture, installation and adjustment of dentures.

Let us recall that being deprived of these services can cause health problems for the people affected or exacerbate problems they already have.

I don't think we should blame denturists. The problem is that the Government reimburses only two-thirds of the bill for denturists, who must also deal with a huge bureaucracy and a lot of State-imposed paperwork. In many regions, this situation results in a complete refusal by denturists to provide care to some of our most vulnerable population.

Denturists are under pressure, and this has significant impacts on the health of Quebecers who are on social assistance, which is unacceptable.

My question is the following:

Is the Government aware of the situation? What will it do to remedy this situation? It is a question of health and social justice.

Part 6  
**NOTICES**

**I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN**

**Government Bills**

**Private Members' Public Bills**

(a) 17 February 2021

An Act to promote the disclosure of wrongdoings and strengthen the protection of whistleblowers – *Member for Jonquière*

**Private Bills**

**II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME**