



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Order Paper and Notices

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 31 March 2021 — No. 175
Nine forty a.m.

President of the National Assembly:
Mr. François Paradis

Part 1

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

- The Member for Blainville on the following subject: *Service d'Aide St-Maurice.*
- The Member for Hull on the following subject: *Underline the 40th anniversary of the Université du Québec en Outaouais.*
- The Member for Taillon on the following subject: *The 25th anniversary of Action services aux proches aidants de Taillon.*
- The Member for Marquette on the following subject: *Tribute to the Lac St-Louis Regional Soccer Association on its 50th anniversary.*
- The Member for Chicoutimi on the following subject: *Tribute to Ms. Dominique Jodoin.*
- The Member for Laurier-Dorion on the following subject: *Solidarity with the Haitian people.*
- The Member for Huntingdon on the following subject: *An initiative to promote French at Chateauguay Valley Regional High School: Congratulations to Ms. Nelleke Nieuwenhof.*
- The Member for Gaspé on the following subject: *Tribute to Mr. Guy Lelièvre, Member for Gaspé from 1994 to 2008.*
- The Member for Gatineau on the following subject: *Tribute to the initiators of flashing green lights for fire safety.*
- The Member for Bourget on the following subject: *Tribute to Mr. Bruno Lachance, former fire chief of the SIM.*

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

PRESENTING a) Papers
 b) Reports from committees
 c) Petitions

ORAL ANSWERS TO PETITIONS

**COMPLAINTS OF BREACH OF PRIVILEGE OR CONTEMPT AND
PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS**

ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

DEFERRED DIVISIONS

MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

NOTICES OF PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEES

INFORMATION ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Part 2

ORDERS OF THE DAY

BUSINESS HAVING PRECEDENCE

- (1) Debate on the motion by the Minister of Finance,- That this Assembly approves the budgetary policy of the Government.

URGENT DEBATES

DEBATES ON REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

OTHER BUSINESS

I. Government Bills

Passage in Principle

- (2) Bill 30
An Act to recover amounts owed to the State
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on **14 June 2019**
- (3) Bill 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**
- (4) 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**

- (5) 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**
- (6) 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
- (7) 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**
- (8) 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**
- (9) 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

(10)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

(11)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

(12)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

(13)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

(14) 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

(15) 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

(16) 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

(17) 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

* **Recommendation of the Lieutenant-Governor**

Report Stage

Passage

II. Private Members' Public Bills

Passage in Principle

(18) 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**

(19) 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**

(20) 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**

(21) 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**

(22) Bill 194

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

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

(23) 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**

(24) 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**

(25) 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

Resuming the debate adjourned in the name of the Member for Beauce-Sud on **25 March 2021**

(26) Bill 198

An Act to facilitate disclosure of wrongdoings

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

(27) 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**

(28) 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**

(29) Bill 392

An Act respecting the selection of Québec senators

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

(30) 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**

(31) 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**

(32) 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**

(33) Bill 398

An Act to proclaim Québec Democracy Day

Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **20 February 2020**

(34) 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**

(35) 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

(36) Bill 491

An Act to combat food waste

Introduced by the Member for Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue on
12 November 2020

(37) Bill 492

Right-to-Disconnect Act

Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on **3 June 2020**

(38) Bill 493

Interculturalism Act

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

- (39) 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**
- (40) Bill 496
Parliamentary Budget Officer Act
Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on **14 November 2019**
- (41) 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**
- (42) 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**
- (43) 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**
- (44) 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**
- (45) Bill 595
An Act to create the Rent Register
Introduced by the Member for Laurier-Dorion on **4 June 2020**
- (46) Bill 596
An Act to establish Pharma-Québec
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **15 September 2020**

- (47) 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**
- (48) 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**
- (49) Bill 599
An Act to respect sexual orientation and gender identity
Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on **22 September 2020**
- (50) 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**
- (51) 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**
- (52) 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**
- (53) 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**

(54) 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**

(55) 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**

(56) Bill 697

An Act to promote the disclosure of wrongdoings and strengthen the protection of whistleblowers

Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on **17 March 2021**

(57) 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

(58) 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

(59) 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

(60)Bill 215

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

(61)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

(62)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

(63)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

(64)Estimates of Expenditure for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2022 tabled by
the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the
Conseil du trésor on 25 March 2021 and referred for consideration of the
standing committees on **30 March 2021**

VI. Statutory Debates

BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION

Part 3

BILLS PASSED

(Bills awaiting Royal Assent)

Bill 69

An Act to amend the Cultural Heritage Act and other legislative provisions
Passed on **25 March 2022**

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 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.

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 Archbishopial 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

Order of reference

Special Consultations:

- **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 (Order of reference given on 18 March 2021).

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Order of reference

Special Consultations:

- **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 (Order of reference given on 25 March 2021).

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Order of reference

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 88**, An Act to amend the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife and other legislative provisions (Order of reference given on 30 March 2021).

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?

(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/m³ 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 $29.3 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ 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

Answer tabled on **24 March 2021** (Sessional Paper No. 2408-20210324)

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.

(213) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **18 March 2021**
To the Government

Street outreach workers work in various organizations throughout Québec and their job is to provide support to individuals with kindness, professionalism and integrity. This work has existed for over 50 years, but unfortunately is not well understood and goes largely unseen by the general public.

Our society is not always able to properly care for people who are socially excluded. Street outreach workers provide a regular ongoing presence in the community for these vulnerable individuals serving as a point of reference and helping to reduce marginalization and social exclusion. They also provide support by integrating themselves into their daily lives and the spaces these individuals occupy with a non-repressive and tolerant approach. Their role is also to increase people's awareness who live in the streets by encouraging them to adopt and maintain safe and non-abusive behaviour with regard to their health, all while carrying out actions of an informative, preventive and educational nature both for individuals and the community. Street outreach workers have the expertise to help individuals experiencing different problematic situations while making personalized referrals to services and demystifying the role of public health and social workers. They also promote cooperation amongst various organizations and resources in the community.

The impacts of the pandemic on mental health have demonstrated that needs are becoming increasingly dire within the general public. For this reason, the Government intends to deploy a network of scouts throughout Québec. Social workers and community workers will become the eyes and ears of communities in order to reach those suffering in silence. The Government cannot take a one-size-fits-all approach for all regions of Québec, rather it must take into account services that are already established in communities.

In Bas-Saint-Laurent, the organization En Tout C.A.S. works hard to maintain what it has achieved. This new initiative will change the picture and limit access to financing, which is already difficult. The Government's efforts should instead be complementary while also increasing financial assistance.

My question is the following:

Street outreach workers must be considered and their work must be funded adequately to meet the needs of the communities in each region. Why not consolidate the outreach work already being done in the streets, rather than start a new project?

(214) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) - **18 March 2021**
To the Minister of Tourism

On 11 June 2020, the Minister of Tourism announced a tourism recovery plan with an emergency assistance envelope under the Concerted Temporary Action Program for Businesses (PACTE) of \$446 million in loans, including forgiveness of an amount equal to 25% of the loan repayment, up to a maximum of \$100,000. This represents direct assistance of only 8%. This low proportion will increase the financial burden on Québec's establishments and tourist attractions and hamper the industry's recovery.

Last November 10, the Minister announced that the forgivable portion of a loan under the tourism recovery plan would be increased from 25% to 40%, without however changing the ceiling, which is maintained at \$100,000.

On February 12 of this year, the Minister announced a new modification to the PACTE program, this time increasing the ceiling on the forgivable portion to \$250,000 and adding 100% coverage of monthly energy costs incurred between 1 January 2021 and 30 June 2021, up to \$35,000 per month, subject to an overall maximum of \$210,000 per establishment.

Further to the changes set out above, can the Minister tell us what proportion of the \$446 million of the tourism component of the PACTE program will be dedicated to establishments and tourist attractions?

(215) Ms. Melançon (Verdun) - **18 March 2021**
To the Minister of Tourism

In recent weeks, the Minister announced an action plan for responsible and sustainable tourism. In a related press conference, the Minister affirmed that the first measure she wants to quickly put in place is an electric car circuit to visit vineyards and farms in the Estrie region.

In connection with this statement and objective 2.2 of the action plan, can the Minister specify which regions will be targeted by the deployment of such circuits first, the planned investments that will be required to establish these circuits and the timetable for putting them in place?

(216) Mr. Tanguay (LaFontaine) – **18 March 2021**
To the Minister of Justice

On 14 April 2020, the Honourable Judge Claude Dallaire made an important judgement (*A v. Attorney General of Quebec*, 2020 QCCS 3375) in which he ordered the Attorney General of Quebec and Ms. France Rémillard to pay damages to the plaintiff as a result of the actions of a public servant of the Ministère de la Justice.

Once the facts of this case were made public by the newspaper *La Presse*, the Minister mandated Ms. Lise Verreault to conduct an internal investigation into the compliance of the current management mechanisms and procedures of the Autorité centrale du Québec (ACQ). The report was submitted to the Minister on 17 December 2020 and subsequently made public.

With regard to this matter, I would like to ask the Minister the following questions:

- What actions have been taken to follow up on each of report's recommendations so far?
- How many people are currently employed by the ACQ? Can he provide their names and functions, a description of their duties and who they report to?
- Can he tell us what procedures have been put in place to ensure control and accountability mechanisms?
- Lastly, can the Minister tell us what Ms. France Rémillard's current functions are within the Ministère de la Justice?

- (217) Ms. David (Marguerite-Bourgeoys) – **18 March 2021**
To the Minister Responsible for the French Language

On November 4, 2019, the Conseil supérieur de la langue française released a study entitled “Pratiques linguistiques des ministères et organismes publics du gouvernement du Québec”. The report contains an analysis of the governmental language policy adopted in 2011. The report reveals that just under 40% of government employees are aware of the existence of this language policy. Therefore, a large proportion of government employees cannot apply the policy in their day-to-day work and in their interactions with Québec citizens.

The day after the publication of this report, the Minister Responsible for the French Language issued a press release in which he stated that he had read the report and that he wanted to rectify the situation quickly.

Now that 16 months have passed since the Minister's commitment to rectify the situation, can the Minister tell us what actions have been taken to improve language practices within government departments and agencies?

- (218) Ms. Maccarone (Westmount □ Saint-Louis) – **18 March 2021**
To the Minister of Justice

Last January 28, the Superior Court, in the Centre for Gender Advocacy v. Attorney General of Quebec case, declared certain articles of the Civil Code discriminatory against trans and non-binary individuals. Following this ruling, the Government has until December 31 to amend these articles.

These legislative changes are very important for Québec's LGBT+ community and will require the sensitivity and expertise necessary to be able to carry out this legislative work.

In order to accomplish this, will the Minister commit to setting up, as of now, a working table on the necessary amendments with the relevant groups, in particular, LGBT+ Family Coalition, Gender Creative Kids Canada, Conseil québécois LGBT and other experts?

(219) Ms. Fournier (Marie-Victorin) – **23 March 2021**
To the Minister of Finance

On 13 June 2018, Bill 141, An Act mainly to improve the regulation of the financial sector, the protection of deposits of money and the operation of financial institutions, was passed and assented to. It brought about changes to legislation governing in particular commercial leasing brokerage.

One of the amendments that was introduced led to a certain loosening of the commercial real estate brokerage industry since the requirement to obtain a licence issued by the real estate self-regulatory organization known as the Organisme d'autoréglementation du courtage immobilier du Québec (OICAQ) to practise certain brokerage activities was withdrawn. The requirement to obtain a broker's licence is now linked to the aspect of professional representation rather than that of practice, which is paradoxical. Only individuals holding the title of broker and operating under this designation are required to have a broker's licence. This situation allows any player to enter the market without the need for a licence, despite the fact that transactions are often complex and delicate, and the legal obligations place all of the burden and risk on the tenants. In the past, the issuance of a licence at least ensured that industry players had the skills necessary to operate while ensuring the protection of the public.

The OACIQ interprets this legislative amendment as follows with respect to its practical application: "Licence holders performing leasing brokerage transactions are subject to the obligations of the REBA even when carrying out a leasing transaction. Other companies or individuals who do not hold a licence may now carry out leasing brokerage transactions, but cannot use a title leading others to believe that they are real estate brokers." The organization also received these changes with caution. Taking into consideration these facts, it is important to enhance the norms and standards governing the practice of commercial leasing brokerage for the purpose of protecting the public. Therefore:

- Will the Minister of Finance commit to intervene by decree or regulation to rectify the situation by demanding that from now on a broker's licence issued by the OACIQ be required to practice commercial leasing brokerage?

(220) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **23 March 2021**
To the Premier

In a letter dated September 2019, the Premier confirmed to me his desire to include the Autoroute 20 project between Notre-Dame-des-Neiges and Rimouski in the Québec Infrastructure Plan (PQI) once again. Anticipation for this project is high and the populations concerned would like to see the proposed routes and learn the project's impact in that area. But to do this, the project must first be reintegrated into the PQI.

In the same context, a public announcement was made in relation to this matter and reported on by several media outlets in the Bas-Saint-Laurent region. In a Radio-Canada interview on September 13, the Premier stated that Autoroute 20 was indeed an electoral campaign commitment and that, as he had repeated for a year, they would keep all their electoral promises. The Premier added that it was the Liberal party that removed the Autoroute 20 project from the PQI, but that his party was going to reintegrate it into the PQI.

In the meantime, we have experienced the COVID-19 pandemic and the Québec government will have to position itself to put in place projects to help revive the economy of Québec and all its administrative regions.

Issues related to the environment and landscape protection are important and will necessitate that the planning of consultations and work begin sooner rather than later.

My question is the following:

- With the tabling of the budget just around the corner, can the citizens of the Bas-Saint-Laurent region count on the Premier to fulfil his election promise and will his Government finally reintegrate the Autoroute 20 project between Notre-Dame-des-Neiges and Rimouski into the PQI plan to help revive the economy in Eastern Québec?

(221) Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage) – **25 March 2021**
To the Minister of Higher Education

In recent years, several controversies have erupted in Québec due to the absence of chemical validation. A recent example is the fire at a chemical plant in Trois-Rivières that resulted because no chemist was employed by the company.

Despite the fact that almost 3,000 chemists are members of the Ordre des chimistes du Québec (OCQ), it is reasonable to assume that a large number of individuals practise chemistry in Québec illegally and without adequate controls. This phenomenon has dramatically increased in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, in particular with regards to the production of hydroalcoholic gel.

In addition, the professional practice of chemistry has evolved considerably in recent years and today has many ramifications that are not considered in the *Professional Chemists Act* (the Act), currently in effect. The lack of a defined framework for practising a field of biochemistry is also problematic. In this sense, the microbiologists represented by the Association des microbiologistes du Québec (AMQ) recently stated that they wished to be integrated into the OCQ. In order to ensure the independence of the analysis process and the competence of the individuals employed who are responsible for carrying on activities related to the profession of microbiology, it is important that this be supervised without further delay by the OCQ, which already offers to its members the levers and tools required to practise in the field of microbiology.

In addition, within the framework of the consideration of Bill 98, An Act to amend various legislation mainly with respect to admission to professions and the governance of the professional system, the OCQ obtained the support of the Minister of Justice for updating the Act. The Minister, who was a member of the Opposition at the time, had urged the Government in place to proceed with the update quickly.

It is therefore essential that the Act be updated without delay for the good of the Québec population.

Given the above, our questions to the Minister responsible for the administration of legislation respecting the professions are the following:

- In light of this information, will the Minister responsible for the administration of legislation respecting the professions commit to updating the *Professional Chemists Act*?
- If so, within what time frame?

(222) Ms. Montpetit (Maurice-Richard) – **25 March 2021**
To the Minister of Health and Social Services

Regarding Québec's universal hearing screening program:

Screening for hearing impairment of newborn babies is essential in order to quickly identify possible learning disabilities or language disorders.

Considering that in the rest of Canada nearly 95% of newborns are screened, my questions to the Minister are the following:

- At what stage are we in implementing the program in Québec hospitals and birth centres?
- What are the targets by region and what is the timetable for implementation?
- What measures does the Minister intend to put in place to make this screening mandatory for each newborn and what is the timetable?
- Lastly, what percentage of newborns in Québec have been screened in recent years?

(223) Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) – **30 March 2021**
To the Minister of Public Security

On Friday, 21 August 2020, during the period of appropriations for the Ministère de la Sécurité publique, I had asked the Minister what actions had been taken after her office received complaints about favouritism in what had become known as an organized system of political appointments for the promotion of Sûreté du Québec officers.

Based on the answers obtained, I had asked the Minister to inform the members of the Committee on Institutions of the following elements and to get back to us with the answers:

1. Who handled the complaints received by her office;
2. If the Minister had verified the Sûreté du Québec's officer promotion process;
3. How many complaints had her office received;
4. Were those in charge who were the subject of these complaints of favouritism informed of the allegations against them;
5. What did the Minister intend to do to ensure a fair promotion process for everyone.

Following this publicly made request, the basis of which is in the day's debate transcripts, the members of the Committee on Institutions have been waiting more than seven months for answers from the Minister and her department to these five questions.

During question period on 24 March 2021, I asked the Minister if her executive secretary, Mr. Cédric Lavoie, had had the time to inform her of the matter and the complaints he had received in November 2019.

Can the Minister inform and tell us what specific actions have been taken following the receipt of these complaints and provide answers to the five questions previously asked during the appropriations for the Ministère de la Sécurité publique on 21 August 2020?

(224) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **30 March 2021**
To the Government

The situation in western Bas-St-Laurent continues to deteriorate, with an increasing number of new COVID-19 cases. We are even reaching a record number of cases since the pandemic started. More and more people are worried that the region will become a red zone.

If that should happen, I wonder whether public health would penalize eastern Bas-Saint-Laurent which has an epidemiological record similar to that of our neighbours in the Gaspésie region, which is at the yellow level. Before the holidays, the CAQ government had decided to divide eastern and western Bas-Saint-Laurent in two. It is therefore possible to do the opposite at a time when the situation seems to be getting worse in the regional county municipalities in the western part of the region.

But according to the regional director for public health, it was the Minister of Health and Social Services who decided that the regions would not be split this time, contrary to before the holidays when KRTB remained orange while the regional county municipalities of Rimouski-Neigette, La Mitis, La Matapédia and La Matanie had become red zones.

The director was clear, stating that it was a political decision and that they had been told it would be like that for all regions this time: no divisions.
Therefore, my question is the following:

At a time when the region is concerned about becoming a red zone, with an increasing number of cases in the regional county municipalities of western Bas-St-Laurent, can the Minister explain to us on what basis he decided that it is no longer possible for a part of the region to remain an orange zone, contrary to before the holidays?

(225) Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) – **31 March 2021**
To the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change

Last October 7, the Coalition des opposants à un projet minier en Haute-Matawinie (COPH), a coalition of citizens from various sectors of the municipality of Saint-Michel-des-Saints, sent a letter to the Minister concerning the Matawinie mining project and progress on recommendations made by the BAPE commissioner in report 353 released in June 2020. To date, the COPH has not received a response from the Minister.

In his letter of introduction accompanying the commission's report, BAPE president

Philippe Bourke stated that the commission of inquiry examined the project from a sustainable development perspective and that in this regard, the report brings to the attention of the decision-making bodies concerned various elements that require commitments, actions or modifications, before the possible issuance of government authorizations.

For the sake of transparency, we would like to know the state of progress and the results of the recommendations made by the commission in its report.

In the report's conclusion, the commission states that given the social acceptability issues important at the time of the public hearing, but recognizing the complexity of integrating this project into an inhabited resort area, it believes that Nouveau Monde Graphite (NMG) should carry out the recommended assessments to reduce uncertainty about aspects the area considers valuable, in particular, water quality, quality of life, cohabitation, property values and mining legacy effects. Based on the results of these assessments, improvements should be made by the project developer and then evaluated by the Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques (MELCC) before authorization of the project.

In its report, the committee also states that the MELCC must ensure that it obtains nine additional assessments from the project developer.

I would therefore like to ask the Minister of the Environment the following questions:

1. What assessments have been carried out by his department and by the project developer since report 353 was tabled by the commission in June 2020?
2. Were the assessments completed before the project was authorized by his department?
3. Will the assessments be made public?

Part 6
NOTICES

I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

Government Bills

Private Members' Public Bills

Private Bills

II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME

(aa) Act to promote integration of immigrants by organizing welcome ceremonies for newcomers – *Member for Marie-Victorin*