



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Order Paper and Notices **of the Assembly**

Wednesday, 12 May 2021 — No. 190
Nine forty a.m.

President of the National Assembly:
Mr. François Paradis

Part 1

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

- The Member for Chutes-de-la-Chaudière on the following subject: *The Political Book Prize.*
- The Member for Saint-Laurent on the following subject: *Underline Québec School Daycare Week.*
- The Member for Brome-Missisquoi on the following subject: *The 40th anniversary of the Fondation Claude De Serres.*
- The Member for Viau on the following subject: *Tribute to the families and family organizations of Saint-Michel as part of Québec Family Week.*
- The Member for Pointe-aux-Trembles on the following subject: *The 35th anniversary of Les Relevailles de Montréal.*
- The Member for Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques on the following subject: *LGBTQ experience and racism.*
- The Member for Vachon on the following subject: *Médaille pour action méritoire for two KRPF police officers.*
- The Member for Marie-Victorin on the following subject: *Congratulations to the health network for the COVID-19 vaccination campaign.*

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
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Part 2

ORDERS OF THE DAY

BUSINESS HAVING PRECEDENCE

- (1) Limited debate on the reports from the committees that considered the Estimates of Expenditure for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2022
Reports tabled on **11 May 2022**

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
Report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain (consultations) tabled on 27 April 2021
Resuming the debate adjourned in the name of the Member for Vaudreuil on **11 May 2021**

(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 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**

(6) Bill 90

An Act to amend the Taxation Act, the Act respecting the Québec sales tax and other provisions

Introduced by the Minister of Finance on **4 May 2021**

(7) Bill 93

An Act to recognize the Royal Military College Saint-Jean as an educational institution at the university level

Introduced by Minister of Higher Education on **5 May 2021**

(8) Bill 95

An Act to amend the Act respecting the governance and management of the information resources of public bodies and government enterprises and other legislative provisions

Introduced by the Minister for Government Digital Transformation on **5 May 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 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

(13) 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
Passed in principle on **14 April 2021**, and
Referred to the Committee on Labour and the Economy

(14) 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
Report from the Committee on Citizen Relations (consultations) tabled on
13 April 2021
Passed in principle on **14 April 2021**, and
Referred to the Committee on Citizen Relations

(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 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
Report from the Committee on Health and Social Services (consultations)
tabled on 22 April 2021
Passed in principle on **11 May 2021**, and
Referred to the Committee on Health and Social Services

(17) 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

Report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment (consultations) tabled on 20 April 2021

Passed in principle on **21 April 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment

Report Stage

(18) 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

Report from the Committee on Public Finance tabled on **22 April 2021**

Passage

(19) 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

Report (amended) from the Committee on Institutions concurred in on **11 May 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 198

An Act to facilitate disclosure of wrongdoings

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

(28) Bill 199

An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act to establish a right of citizen initiative in environmental matters and reinforce the powers and independence of the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement
Introduced by the Member for Mercier on **25 September 2019**

(29) Bill 391

An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act in order to assert the primacy of Québec's jurisdiction in this area
Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on **30 May 2019**

(30) Bill 392

An Act respecting the selection of Québec senators
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **9 May 2019**

(31) Bill 393

An Act to affirm Québec's participation in the appointment process for Québec Supreme Court of Canada judges
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **16 May 2019**

(32) Bill 396

An Act to amend the Civil Code to provide that an action for damages for bodily injury resulting from a sexual aggression, from childhood violence or from the violent behaviour of a spouse or former spouse cannot be prescribed during the lifetime of the author of the act
Introduced by the Member for Sherbrooke on **12 June 2019**

(33) Bill 397

An Act to reinforce oversight of the processes to select, renew a term of or dismiss directors of municipal police forces
Introduced by the Member for Vaudreuil on **14 November 2019**

(34) Bill 398

An Act to proclaim Québec Democracy Day
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **20 February 2020**

- (35) Bill 399
An Act to establish a presumption of consent to organ or tissue donation after death
Introduced by the Member for Pontiac on **5 November 2019**
- (36) Bill 490
An Act to establish the gradual electrification of Québec's vehicle fleet
Introduced by the Member for Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques on
26 September 2019
- (37) Bill 491
An Act to combat food waste
Introduced by the Member for Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue on
12 November 2020
- (38) Bill 492
Right-to-Disconnect Act
Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on **3 June 2020**
- (39) Bill 493
Interculturalism Act
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **30 October 2019**
- (40) Bill 495
An Act to authorize the recording of sound and images during the public sittings of a municipal council or the public meetings of a council of a metropolitan community
Introduced by the Member for Verdun on **20 November 2019**
- (41) Bill 496
Parliamentary Budget Officer Act
Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on **14 November 2019**
- (42) Bill 497
An Act to amend the Charter of human rights and freedoms in order to strengthen the protection of seniors' rights and create the office of Seniors Ombudsperson
Introduced by the Member for Rimouski on **4 December 2019**

(43) Bill 590

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

(44) Bill 591

An Act to amend the Charter of the French language to define the circumstances under which an employer may make knowledge of a language other than the official language a requirement for access to employment or a position
Introduced by the Member for Matane-Matapédia on **12 February 2020**

(45) Bill 594

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

(46) Bill 595

An Act to create the Rent Register
Introduced by the Member for Laurier-Dorion on **4 June 2020**

(47) Bill 596

An Act to establish Pharma-Québec
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **15 September 2020**

(48) Bill 597

An Act to improve support offered to entrepreneurs and farmers in relation to mental health
Introduced by the Member for Nelligan on **10 June 2020**

(49) Bill 598

An Act to authorize the holder of a restaurant sales liquor permit to sell, for takeout or delivery, spirit-based alcoholic beverages
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **12 June 2020**

(50) Bill 599

An Act to respect sexual orientation and gender identity
Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on **22 September 2020**

(51) Bill 690

An Act to amend the Charter of the French language to specify that it applies to private enterprises operating in an area of federal jurisdiction
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **24 September 2020**

(52) Bill 691

An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère des Transports to maintain air transportation services in certain regions of Québec
Introduced by the Member for Mont-Royal–Outremont on
30 September 2020

(53) Bill 692

An Act to amend the Act respecting safety in sports to prohibit fighting in sports activities in which persons under 18 years of age participate
Introduced by the Member for Marquette on **21 October 2020**

(54) Bill 693

An Act to amend the Election Act to prevent and fight sexual violence in the context of political activities
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **22 October 2020**

(55) 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**

(56) 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**

(57) 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**

(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**

(59) Bill 699

Act to promote integration of immigrants by organizing welcome ceremonies for newcomers
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **1 April 2021**

(60) Bill 790

An Act to amend the Act respecting labour relations, vocational training and workforce management in the construction industry to right the power imbalance
Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on **15 April 2021**

(61) Bill 792

An Act to enhance the transparency of municipal councils
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **14 April 2021**

(62) Bill 794

An Act to amend the Act respecting the Institut de la statistique du Québec to facilitate the production and circulation of statistical information
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **21 April 2021**

(63) Bill 798

An Act to entitle employees to a “vaccine break” to receive a COVID-19 vaccination
Introduced by the Member for Gouin on **6 May 2021**

Committee Stage

(64) 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
Passed in principle on **13 April 2021**, and
Referred to the Committee on Citizen Relations

Report Stage

Passage

III. Private Bills

Hearings and Clause-by-Clause Consideration

(65) 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

(66) 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

(67) Bill 215

An Act respecting Municipalité de Nominingue

Introduced by the Member for Labelle on **12 November 2020**, and

Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

(68) 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

(69) 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

(70) 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

VI. Statutory Debates

BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION

(1) 11 May 2021

Motion by the Member for Vaudreuil

THAT the National Assembly recognize that all of Québec is currently experiencing a housing crisis that is preventing people from owning a home and accessing affordable housing and social housing;

THAT it recognize that the rental property vacancy rate is at a historic low;

THAT it recognize that the financial ability of households to purchase property has dropped in Canada in the first quarter of 2021, as indicated in the Desjardins Affordability Index published last week;

THAT it ask the CAQ government to modernize the Home Buyers' Plan (HBP), put in place a tax credit that would be transferred directly to municipalities to foster the creation of affordable housing in the regions and double the number of social housing units slated for construction this year;

THAT, lastly, it demand that the CAQ government table an exhaustive plan to address the housing crisis that includes the tabling of an action plan by July 1 so that hundreds of households do not suddenly find themselves on the street.

Part 3

BILLS PASSED

(Bills awaiting Royal Assent)

Part 4

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEES

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

COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

- Hearing of the Auditor General of Québec on her 2018–2019 annual management report and financial commitments.
- Hearing of the Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor on the Report on the application of the *Public Administration Act*.
- Hearing of the Public Curator on Chapter 6 of the Auditor General of Québec’s November 2019 report entitled “Protection of Incapacitated Persons Under Public Protective Supervision”.
- Hearing of the 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 Nominingue (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 78**, An Act mainly to improve the transparency of enterprises (Order of reference given on 14 April 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 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

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 86**, An Act respecting the demise of the Crown (Order of reference given on 4 May 2021).

Consideration of Bills:

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

COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **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 14 avril 2021).
- **Bill 197**, An Act to amend the Consumer Protection Act to fight planned obsolescence and assert the right to repair goods (Order of reference given on 13 April 2021).

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **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 11 May 2021).

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 88**, An Act to amend the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife and other legislative provisions (Order of reference given on 21 April 2021).

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE EVOLUTION OF THE ACT RESPECTING END-OF-LIFE
CARE**

Order of reference

Special Consultations:

- Examine the issues related to extending medical aid in dying to persons who are incapable of caring for themselves or who are suffering from a mental illness.

Part 5

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

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

(226) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **1 April 2021**
To the Government

Passe-Partout is an educational program that facilitates the first transition to school for 4-year olds and their families. It is recognized that children who have participated in Passe-Partout are likely to be less vulnerable in kindergarten. That is why parents should have access to this program by choice.

This educational program has been offered for more than 40 years and it is unique in that it supports parenting skills while facilitating the first transition to school. This program may be offered in parallel with the 4-year old kindergarten program and is a great complement to the various educational childcare services. The Passe-Partout program benefits participating children in numerous ways. It makes it possible to reach children who do not attend any educational childcare service before the age of five and to identify their vulnerabilities and needs before they start school. It is necessary to have all the tools to act quickly if a child is experiencing difficulties.

In the current context of the pandemic and as regards changes in kindergarten for 4-year olds, I have learned that many school service centres have reduced the number of Passe-Partout groups.

Funding for the Passe-Partout program is capped, so these cuts will be permanent.

It is a matter of two different educational programs that can co-exist.

My questions are as follows:

Is it possible to suspend the funding cap on the Passe-Partout program in the budget rules for school service centres so that the spaces not being used during the pandemic can be funded in future years?

Is it feasible to review the terms of the Passe-Partout program for 2022–2023 with regard to the recommendations of the department's assessment report, including the updating of the organizational framework and budget rules so that the program can be implemented throughout Québec?

(227) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – 13 April 2021
To the Government

In principle, anyone whose physical or mental health has changed is required to undergo an automobile driving assessment. If a person's driving abilities are affected following an illness, they must be assessed by an occupational therapist, which is normal. However, age must not be a criterion of discrimination. Many elderly drivers must take a Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ) road test. If they fail the test, the SAAQ often requests that they consult an occupational therapist. The current fee of \$650 for an occupational therapist and the one-year wait time for an appointment are unacceptable.

In the past, this service was offered free of charge by the region's Integrated Health and Social Services Centre (CISSS). For the past few years, this service has been offered solely by private practitioners and there has been an increase in costs that has become difficult for elderly people to pay. The stress of undergoing such an assessment is compounded by the anxiety caused by the financial costs.

In a democratic society such as ours, which has strong social values, how is it that we have come to this point where we have totally eliminated this public service that was necessary for a large part of the population?

In my opinion, ageism exists when seniors are discriminated against compared with younger people. A young person can retake his or her road test without having to consult an occupational therapist.

My question is the following:

Will the Government reconsider this rule in order to provide the population, including seniors, with a public occupational therapy service?

(228) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **15 April 2021**
To the Government

The Québec government acquired the ports of Rimouski, Matane, Gaspé and Gros-Cacouna from the Canadian government on 30 March 2020. It took three years of negotiations to complete the acquisition. According to the President and CEO of the Société portuaire du Bas-Saint-Laurent et de la Gaspésie, Ms. Anne Dupéré, we inherited structures from the federal government that were in very poor condition. Structures whose deterioration is accelerated each year by snow and wind storms.

Time is of the essence, and due to Ottawa's neglect in past years, it seems obvious that a lot more time will be required to modernize these ports that are key for eastern Québec's economy. According to the port corporation, work is not slated to begin before 2023 or 2024, "provided everything goes well".

The transfer of property from Ottawa to Québec City was accompanied by a cheque for nearly \$150 million to carry out this work, which is considered major. People closely involved in this issue are convinced that the \$150 million from Ottawa will not be enough. This is a matter of concern to the port corporation's board of directors.

My question is the following:

Can the Government confirm the timelines for work to begin and does it think that the \$150 million transferred from Ottawa will be sufficient to modernize these four ports? If not, does it intend to take the matter up again with Ottawa, which is responsible for the deterioration of these ports, or does it intend to provide the funds for the work itself?

(229) Ms. Weil (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce) – **20 April 2021**
To the Minister of Higher Education

On 7 October 2021, the Ordre des chimistes du Québec (OCQ) sent the Minister a letter to express its serious concerns regarding three matters and propose a solution, which is to update the Professional Chemists Act.

First, the OCQ expressed a grave concern about the obsolescence of the Professional Chemists Act, which was enacted in 1964 and hampers efforts to adequately fight the illegal practice of chemistry and protect the public.

Second, the lack of an adequate framework for the profession of microbiologist creates a major risk for the population that is well-documented. The OCQ is concerned about a possible increase in disinformation regarding the current health situation.

Lastly, the OCQ deplores that the current Act prevents foreign-trained chemists' integration into the order and the labour market because it disregards all the chemistry experience that a qualified and competent candidate has acquired in their career.

The Ordre des chimistes du Québec proposes to remedy these three problems through the legislative review of the Act, which would include updating the definition of chemistry, ensuring the integration of microbiologists into a joint order with chemists and facilitating the integration of foreign-trained chemists.

Can the Minister tell us her orientations and timetable for updating the Professional Chemists Act?

Can the Minister tell us if a new bill will be introduced during this legislature?

(231) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **22 April 2021**
To the Government

Considering the historically low vacancy rate in the Rimouski CMA (0.9% according to the most recent CMHC statistics) and considering the market reality observed through negotiations with the majority of private property-owners participating in the Rent Supplement Program (RSP), it is possible that any of a number of problems related to the lack of available affordable housing may arise in the coming months, specifically in Rimouski's urban sector. We are headed straight for a July 1st crisis.

Also, in the current context, it is foreseeable and probably that housing problems could arise because some households will not qualify as eligible applicants with the Office d'habitation Rimouski Neigette (OHRN). And that the OHRN would then have few resources to participate in the resolution of these issues, except for temporary last-resort assistance (e.g. in a situation where someone is experiencing homelessness).

Since 1 July 2020, the OHRN and its partners have seen a significant increase in homelessness. Notably, some citizens lived in tents or seasonal dwellings, and with the arrival of winter some required emergency assistance. Although the OHRN was able to provide support to a number of such applicants experiencing difficulties, it and its partners noted that some of those citizens experiencing difficulties did not meet the criteria for available social housing programs.

Options are limited in such situations. Partners offering temporary sheltering have often been overwhelmed by demand, because transitional housing (1 and a half, studio) on the market is all already fully occupied. Organizations working in the housing sector in neighbouring RCMs have confirmed that they are experiencing the same problem (extremely low vacancy rate for affordable housing, pressure on the rental and real estate market due to positive migration, and a lack of options for citizens who need larger dwellings).

In addition, this housing scarcity raises concerns that the already precarious situation experienced by low- and modest-income renter households could deteriorate even further, as average rent prices continue to increase. The average monthly rent for a three-bedroom dwelling increased by 5.7% over one year, while the CPI increased by only 0.8%. The various partners involved in the provision of social housing are concerned that in the current context renter households forced to move may simply not find an affordable place to move to. These are all citizens who need social housing right now but are being forced to wait for months, if not years.

It is therefore important that those involved in this field come up with a comprehensive solution for citizens who are not eligible for social housing, or who are eligible but find themselves on a long waiting list, and as a result are falling through the cracks. Various partners, including public health authorities, social services, municipalities and their various partners are assuming their responsibilities as best they can, but the reality is Rimouski needs at least 305 additional housing units.

My question is threefold:

Given the situation with regard to the housing crisis in Québec, where are the 15,000 housing units the CAQ government promised would be built?

Given the rise in housing prices in Québec, are there any means that will be put in place to avoid speculation and the unacceptable increase in the cost of housing?

Will municipalities and community partners receive any special assistance to deal with what is looming on July 1st and the shortage of affordable housing that is apprehended?

(232) Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) – **28 April 2021**
To the Minister of Health and Social Services

On 26 November 2018, the Government announced the expansion and restructuring of the emergency department of the Hôpital de Jonquière in the Jonquière riding. The announcement stated development of the functional and technical program was authorized to begin.

Our questions to the Minister of Health and Social Services are as follows:

Will the Minister of Health and Social Services authorize the stage for the plans and specifications essential to carrying out the work in the coming weeks, given that delays will influence the timeline?

(233) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **28 April 2021**
To the Minister of Economy and Innovation

On 24 April, we learned that a trade dispute between Canada and Australia was going to penalize Québec's small wine producers. The agreement provides for new fees on Québec bottles sold in grocery stores and convenience stores. Those fees could reach \$6 per bottle, which would add a degree of difficulty to selling this type of product in grocery stores. The new measure represents another barrier for Québec's wine and mead producers.

My question is the following:

Is the Minister of Economy considering allowing wine and mead producers to sell online and ship their products directly to the client to counter the negative impacts of this new provision?

(234) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **5 May 2021**
To the Government

Recently, all of Québec's Auberges du cœur requested financial support from the government to ensure the sustainability and deployment of their activities. The Auberges du cœur rightly pointed out that funding for the mission of youth shelters was not increased in the last budget.

The situation of young people experiencing difficulties and homelessness is especially worrying in the context of the health measures related to COVID-19 and the housing crisis. The Auberges du cœur welcome many young people from across Québec throughout the year. In my riding, Le Transit crisis centre offers support to some 80 young Quebecers experiencing difficulties and homelessness every year. These youth, aged 17 to 30, experience difficulties that can have a significant impact on their social integration, family life, lifestyle, professional integration or academic career.

Despite the addition of services and programs, many of these young people are dealing with an accumulation of setbacks, abuse, neglect, and poor decisions or even just bad luck which undermines their ability to cope.

The Auberges du cœur has developed innovative approaches to support youth in their efforts to improve their autonomy and ability to act. The goal is to develop meaningful ties with young people and also to help them develop the autonomy they need to live their lives.

My question is the following:

Does the Government intend to respond positively to the requests of the Auberges du cœur so that they can focus on their mission, which is to provide support to youth experiencing difficulties along life's journey?

(235) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **11 May 2021**
To the Government

In the last three years, Québec has experienced droughts that have had a drastic impact on the hay yields and reserves in a number of administrative regions in our territory. This has directly impacted the lives of Québec farmers. It is clear that climate change is directly affecting the quality of life of Québec citizens and that if nothing is done soon, the effects will increase exponentially.

My question is the following:

- Has the Government begun to analyze the impacts of climate change on farm production in Québec? If so, how many years are considered in the analysis and what action does the Government plan to take?
- Does the Government intend to respond more quickly than in previous years by putting in place an assistance program to meet the needs of farmers who are suffering production losses as a direct result of climate variability?

(236) Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin) – **12 May 2021**
To the Minister of Higher Education

During the public hearings held in August 2019 on Bill 29, An Act to amend the Professional Code and other provisions in particular in the oral health and the applied sciences sectors, the committee heard that there were only five dental assistants in all Québec dental laboratories. Dental assistants are employees who work in dental laboratories, but who have not completed a diploma of college studies (DCS) that would qualify them as a dental technician. However, contrary to what the committee heard, an estimated 1,000 dental assistants currently work in Québec dental laboratories under the supervision of a member of the order, as is done in other fields, such as in the field of pharmacy.

The Ordre des technologues en prothèses et appareils dentaires du Québec (OTPADQ) is now working to have these dental assistants certified as members of the order. However, apparently this is rarely possible because many of them do not meet the order's eligibility criteria.

This new requirement could therefore result in a major labour shortage in Québec dental laboratories and, in turn, jeopardize the supply of dental appliances and prostheses to the Québec population.

In a context where public health and the health system are under considerable strain, the potential inability of dental laboratories to provide appliances and prostheses could compromise the oral health of Quebecers.

My questions are the following:

- Can the Minister clarify whether dental assistants can continue to work within the current framework without being required to become members of the OTPADQ?
- How does the Minister plan to avoid a breakdown in the delivery of dental laboratory services in Québec?

Part 6
NOTICES

I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

Government Bills

- (a) 11 May 2021
An Act to amend the Act respecting the Montréal Museum of Fine Arts –
Minister of Culture and Communications

Private Members' Public Bills

Private Bills

II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME

- (aa) An Act respecting French, the official and common language of Québec –
Minister Responsible for the French Language
- (bb) An Act to amend various legislative provisions relating to financial
assistance for education expenses – *Member for Bonaventure*