



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Order Paper and Notices

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 9 June 2021 — No. 200

Nine forty a.m.

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

Part 1

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

- The Member for Pointe-aux-Trembles on the following subject: *The 35th anniversary of the MS Society – Est de Montréal chapter.*
- The Member for Hull on the following subject: *Maison Oddo's Mr. Benjamin Oddo, 2021 Pastry Chef of the Year!*
- The Member for Prévost on the following subject: *World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.*
- The Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on the following subject: *Presentation of the Medal of the National Assembly to Mr. Daniel Lanteigne for his outstanding community service.*
- The Member for Sanguinet on the following subject: *Saint-Constant's Exporail museum will celebrate its 60th anniversary this year.*
- The Member for Laurier-Dorion on the following subject: *The Pacte d'inclusion québécois for the fight against systemic racism and discrimination.*
- The Member for Deux-Montagnes on the following subject: *The Québec government's recognition of the definition of anti-Semitism.*
- The Member for Chicoutimi on the following subject: *Underline the 25th anniversary of the Saguenay flood.*
- The Member for Fabre on the following subject: *Congratulate Fabre's winners from Laval of the OSEntreprendre Challenge.*

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

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Part 2

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BUSINESS HAVING PRECEDENCE

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OTHER BUSINESS

I. Government Bills

Passage in Principle

(1) Bill 30

An Act to recover amounts owed to the State

Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and
Chair of the Conseil du trésor on **14 June 2019**

(2) Bill 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

(3) Bill 96

An Act respecting French, the official and common language of Québec

Introduced by the Minister Responsible for the French Language on **13 May
2021**

(4) Bill 97
An Act to amend the Act respecting energy efficiency and energy conservation standards for certain electrical or hydrocarbon-fuelled appliances
Introduced by the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources on **27 May 2021**

(5) Bill 100
Tourist Accommodation Act
Introduced by the Minister of Tourism on **8 June 2021**

Committee Stage

(6) 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

(7) 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

(8) 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

Passed in principle on **25 May 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

(9) 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

(10) 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

(11) 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

(12) 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

Passage

(13) Bill 81

An Act to amend the Act respecting the Montréal Museum of Fine Arts

Introduced by the Minister of Culture and Communications on 12 May 2021

Report from the Committee on Culture and Education (consultations) tabled on 27 May 2021

Passed in principle on 1 June 2021

Report from the Committee on Culture and Education concurred in on **8 June 2021**

(14) 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

Report from the Committee on Public Finance (consultations) tabled on 27 May 2021

Passed in principle on 1 June 2021

Report from the Committee on Public Finance concurred in on **8 June 2021**

II. Private Members' Public Bills

Passage in Principle

(15)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**

(16)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**

(17)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**

(18)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**

(19)Bill 194

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

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

(20)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**

(21)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**

- (22) Bill 198
An Act to facilitate disclosure of wrongdoings
Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on **9 May 2019**
- (23) 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**
- (24) 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**
- (25) Bill 392
An Act respecting the selection of Québec senators
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **9 May 2019**
- (26) 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**
- (27) 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**
- (28) 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**
- (29) Bill 398
An Act to proclaim Québec Democracy Day
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **20 February 2020**

- (30) 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**
- (31) 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
- (32) Bill 491
An Act to combat food waste
Introduced by the Member for Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue on
12 November 2020
- (33) Bill 492
Right-to-Disconnect Act
Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on **3 June 2020**
- (34) Bill 493
Interculturalism Act
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **30 October 2019**
- (35) 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**
- (36) Bill 496
Parliamentary Budget Officer Act
Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on **14 November 2019**
- (37) 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**

- (38) 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**
- (39) 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**
- (40) 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**
- (41) Bill 595
An Act to create the Rent Register
Introduced by the Member for Laurier-Dorion on **4 June 2020**
- (42) Bill 596
An Act to establish Pharma-Québec
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **15 September 2020**
- (43) 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**
- (44) 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**
- (45) Bill 599
An Act to respect sexual orientation and gender identity
Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on **22 September 2020**

(46)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**

(47)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

(48)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**

(49)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**

(50)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**

(51)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**

(52)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**

- (53) 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**
- (54) 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**
- (55) 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**
- (56) Bill 792
An Act to enhance the transparency of municipal councils
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **14 April 2021**
- (57) Bill 793
An Act to recognize the white admiral as the emblematic insect of Québec
Introduced by the Member for Argenteuil on **26 May 2021**
- (58) 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**
- (59) Bill 795
An Act to permanently limit the amount of certain charges payable by restaurateurs when they retain the delivery services of a third person
Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on **27 May 2021**
- (60) Bill 796
An Act respecting the Agence des infrastructures de transport du Québec
Introduced by the Member for Îles-de-la-Madeleine on **1 June 2021**

(61)Bill 797

An Act to amend the Business Corporations Act to include benefit corporations

Introduced by the Member for Robert-Baldwin on **26 May 2021**

(62)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**

(63)Bill 890

An Act to amend various legislative provisions relating to financial assistance for education expenses

Introduced by the Member for Bonaventure on **27 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 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

(66)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

Part 3

BILLS PASSED

(Bills awaiting Royal Assent)

Bill 93

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

Passed on **3 June 2021**

Bill 209

An Act respecting Ville de Saint-Tite

Passed on **8 June 2021**

Bill 214

An Act respecting Ville de Sutton

Passed on **8 June 2021**

Bill 215

An Act respecting Municipalité de Nominigüe

Passed on **8 June 2021**

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

Passed on **8 June 2021**

Part 4

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEES

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

COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

- Hearing of the Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor on the Report on the application of the *Public Administration Act*.
- 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 49**, An Act to amend the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities, the Municipal Ethics and Good Conduct Act and various legislative provisions (Order of reference given on 25 May 2021).

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 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 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).

COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **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*

(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?

(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?

(237) Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue) – **26 May 2021**

To the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

In Québec, citizens generally have three years to file a lawsuit against another person, a company or a government. However, the law provides for some exceptions, including a maximum period of six months to file a lawsuit against a city or town.

This provision of the *Cities and Towns Act*, which dates back several decades, means that heartbreaking cases filed by citizens must be abandoned for lack of a longer prescription period. This is the case of a Hudson citizen who was negotiating in good faith with her city for compensation following the flooding of her house due to the failure of a municipal dam. Judge Pierre-C. Gagnon, who looked into the case of the citizen in question, alerted the government as to the relevance of maintaining the six-month prescription period, which he said protects towns and cities to the detriment of citizens and is a privilege which may have become obsolete and unjustified.

In the absence of bodily injury, these provisions also prevail in the context of cases filed against a police department or one of its employees, in particular with regard to discriminatory profiling by police officers. Obviously, these provisions undermine citizens' trust in their institutions.

In its brief submitted to the advisory committee on policing last November, the Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse noted that it is confronted regularly with difficulties posed by this exceptionally short prescription period. That is why it considered that Bill 168 – tabled in the National Assembly in 2017, but which then died on the Order Paper without having been passed – constituted a true recognition of the primacy of the rights protected by the Charter and of the primary role it must play in Québec’s legal system. It should be recalled that sections 36 and 37 of that bill would have had the effect of eliminating the exceptions that reduce the three-year prescription period generally applicable to an action filed to receive compensation for damages resulting from a violation of rights or freedoms protected under the Charter.

Moreover, the Chairperson of the Human Rights Tribunal noted in her 2017 activity report that given their importance, any recourse based on the fundamental rights protected under the Charter should indeed benefit from an extended period, thus ensuring that litigants have a useful and effective remedy.

The Minister is aware of this issue. She is also aware of the various rulings and recommendations made by the various bodies.

My question is the following:

1. Is the Minister open to abolishing the maximum six-month prescription period for claiming damages against a municipality provided for under the *Cities and Towns Act*?

(238) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **27 May 2021**
To the Government

The month of May is a time to raise awareness of celiac disease, a gluten allergy that affects about 1% of the Québec population. Unfortunately, it can take up to ten years for it to be diagnosed.

This chronic autoimmune disease affects people who are genetically predisposed. Consumption of gluten-containing foods by a person with celiac disease causes an abnormal and disproportionate immune system response. Some people have no symptoms, while others are very sick to the point of not being functional.

There is no treatment and the solution is for these people to eliminate gluten from their diets. That is why the organization Cœliaque Québec is asking the Government to provide financial assistance for people with the disease, as gluten-free foods are very expensive.

My question is the following:

Why doesn't the Government offer the same measure that is offered to parents of children with celiac disease, who can receive up to \$200 per month to help them with groceries thanks to the supplement for disabled children?

(239) Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion) – **1 June 2021**
To the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

The March 2021 budget plan entitled “Québec is resilient and confident” states that Government funding “allowed 1 759 units to be built in 2019, compared to 834 in 2018” (p. E.10).

In addition, on 5 May 2021, during the examination of the “Housing” component of the 2021–2022 estimates of expenditure, the Minister stated that the Government had allowed for the construction of 3,000 social housing units.

With regard to this matter, I would like the Minister to table a list of the social housing projects completed in 2018, 2019 and 2020, and the first quarter of 2021, indicating for each project: the project name, the program under which funding was granted, the municipality, the subsidy amount and the number of units included.

(240) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **3 June 2021**
To the Government

As part of the Semaine québécoise des personnes handicapées held from 1 to 7 June 2021, I would like to question the Government of Québec about its commitment to put in place a pilot project to help adults with disabilities quit residential and long-term care centres.

When Mr. Jonathan Marchand, who suffers from muscular dystrophy, protested in front of the Parliament Building last August, I supported him to show my solidarity with persons with severe disabilities who wish to live with dignity. This 44-year-old man has been fighting for a very long time to regain full independence.

A pilot project was announced for the summer of 2021, but the Government's vision appears to be contested. Apparently, the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (MSSS) would like to create a housing model that would group a number of people with physical limitations.

The alternative proposed by people with disabilities would be to create a self-managed personal assistance program. They could recruit caregivers to provide homecare services and support them in their activities. This approach would allow them to contribute to society.

The Government's proposed model is not innovative. They are reproducing a model that already exists. Unfortunately, it does not help people with disabilities regain their independence.

My question is the following:

Why is the opinion of people with disabilities not being considered in order to provide adequate services that are adapted to their needs?

(241) Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin) – **9 June 2021**
To the Minister of Health and Social Services

Today I would like to draw your attention to Québec's pre-hospital emergency services.

On 27 December 2017, a young 24-year-old paramedic named Hugo St-Onge died from respiratory arrest in Lévis because 21 minutes elapsed between the 911 call and the arrival of the ambulance. On 30 July 2020, the report from coroner Julie Langlois concluded that this incident could have been avoided and pointed out the lack of ambulances to serve this territory. One month before his death, Mr. St-Onge had signed an open letter denouncing the lack of ambulance personnel in Chaudière-Appalaches. To this day, despite the publication of the coroner's report, paramedics are still waiting for a response from the Minister.

Following this incident in 2017, Dessercom (Mr. St-Onge's employer) requested an additional vehicle from the CISSS de Chaudière-Appalaches. However, the CISSS did not see fit, at that time, to forward this request to the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (MSSS). It was not until the day the coroner's report was tabled, July 30th of last year, that the CISSS finally made the request – three years after the death of Hugo St-Onge. On 20 August 2020, the office of the Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services requested a review of the ambulance service in Lévis. This review is still underway.

The situation in the Lévis region is not an exception. Québec's pre-hospital system is failing in multiple ways and a complete overhaul is required. Furthermore, the MSSS is planning a reform. In 2019, it established the Comité national de transformation des services préhospitaliers d'urgence (CNTSPU) chaired by Michel C. Doré. A first report was to be tabled in the spring of 2020, but we are still awaiting tabling.

The CNTSPU issued its diagnosis of the situation identifying 25 key elements that justify the urgency to take action. This committee has openly shared its conclusions that due to the changing needs of the population, developments in health care continuums, technological support capabilities, and demographic challenges as well as contemporary performance standards, major changes to the system are required.

In light of the aforementioned, my questions to the Minister of Health and Social Services are as follows:

1. What steps are planned next leading up to the release of the CNTSPU report?
2. When can we expect the final tabling?
3. Will the Minister commit to implementing all of the CNTSPU's recommendations with a view to providing Quebecers with a quality pre-hospital emergency system?

(242) Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue) – **9 June 2021**
To the Minister of Health and Social Services

In June 2019, following a disruption in obstetrics services in La Sarre, consultant Sylvain Gagnon, mandated by the MSSS, submitted a report to the latter containing several recommendations to prevent the situation from recurring. Some of these recommendations were more generally concerning the labour shortage in the network, particularly in remote regions such as Abitibi-Témiscamingue. It was essential, according to Mr. Gagnon, that the MSSS intensify and coordinate nationally efforts to recruit abroad in order to benefit remote regions. More generally, the MSSS should, in his opinion, establish a national workforce development strategy without delay. The consultant also recommended creating a working group made up of representatives of remote regions in order to develop an intervention strategy for recruiting and retaining labour in the regions.

Considering the aforementioned:

1. Have the recommendations made to the MSSS in the Gagnon report been implemented? In particular:
 - a. Recommendation 11: The MSSS, with its sectoral partners, should examine, in the very short term, the feasibility of adopting a national workforce development strategy to effectively address the structural issue of labour shortages in the Québec health and social services network;
 - b. Recommendation 12: Under the authority of the MSSS, set up a working group made up of representatives of remote regions with a mandate to develop an intervention strategy for the recruitment and retention of the workforce in the regions;
 - c. Recommendation 16: Under the authority of the MSSS, set up a working group to examine the feasibility of introducing a new job title for obstetrics and birthing units in rural areas and to define the conditions of practice;
 - d. Recommendation 17: Under the authority of the MSSS, set up a working committee bringing together stakeholders from the regions in order to identify incentives for professionals to relocate and remain in the regions.

2. If the recommendations were implemented, when were the various steps for implementing these recommendations carried out? And what results were achieved?
3. What is planned for the further implementation of these recommendations?

(243) Ms. St-Pierre (Acadie) – **9 June 2021**

To the Minister of Culture and Communications

What amounts have been disbursed by the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications since 1 March 2020 to support art training schools, in particular under the program Aide au fonctionnement pour les organismes de formation en art?

More specifically, as regards the amounts announced for the circus community last 22 April, what proportion of this will be allocated to increase support for circus schools, especially those supported by the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications and not by the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec?

(244) Ms. Thériault (Anjou–Louis-Riel) – **9 June 2021**

To the Minister of Justice

In January 2021, the Association coopérative d'économie familiale Montérégie-est conducted an investigation of companies that specialize in providing quick loans. The results of this investigation, presented in May 2021, show that there are 15 such companies, in their territory alone. The business model of these companies, which do not hold lender permits, takes advantage of vulnerable consumers and exploits their naivety.

This study shows that the Minister of Justice must legislate in order to prevent other scams of this type and strengthen the law.

After more than a year of the pandemic, which has been hard on Quebecers' wallets, many have turned to dubious, but seemingly serious businesses in order to gain access to some form of credit. These companies agree to enter into quick loan contracts and charge exorbitant credit fees, without ever being worried that the government will audit them.

With the real estate market exploding over the past year, many families are struggling to cover their monthly expenses. It often becomes impossible to pay the mortgage on their property because of their financial precarity. Many families are falling into debt to the point where they can no longer find payment solutions for the collection of their debt. It is unfortunate to know that many young families turn to these kinds of businesses thinking that their financial problems will be resolved, but much to the contrary, these problems become worse.

During the examination of the estimates of expenditure last May, the Minister of Justice, who is responsible for the *Consumer Protection Act*, told us he was actively working on a bill that would cover balloon loans, umbrella mortgages, legal mortgages and joint liability for credit card purchases.

When does the Minister of Justice intend to introduce a bill to Members of the National Assembly and will all these subjects be addressed in the bill?

Part 6
NOTICES

I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

Government Bills

- (a) 8 June 2021
An Act to strengthen the fight against maltreatment of seniors and other persons of full age in vulnerable situations as well as the monitoring of the quality of health services and social services – *Minister Responsible for Seniors and Informal Caregivers*

Private Members' Public Bills

- (b) 8 June 2021
An Act to regulate appointments to certain senior positions – *Member for René-Levesque*

Private Bills

II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME

- (aa) An Act to amend mainly the Food Products Act – *Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food*
- (bb) An Act to change the minimum age required to be a qualified elector – *Member for Marie-Victorin*
- (cc) An Act to facilitate the marketing of Québec microdistillers' and microbrewers' products – *Member for Rouyn-Noranda-Témiscamingue*