

# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

### **Order Paper and Notices**

of the Assembly

Thursday, 23 September 2021 – No. 208 Nine forty a.m.

President of the National Assembly: Mr. François Paradis

#### Part 1

#### **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

#### STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

- The Member for Saint-François on the following subject: *Tribute to Mr. Louis Milette, Correctional Services officer.*
- The Member for D'Arcy-McGee on the following subject: *Tribute to Mr. Noel Alexandre.*
- The Member for Repentigny on the following subject: *Tribute to Mr. YvesL'Écuyer*.
- The Member for Bourassa-Sauvé on the following subject: Tribute to Bourassa-Sauvé streetworkers.
- The Member for Soulanges on the following subject: *Recognizing a heroine: Ms. Louise Jodoin.*
- The Member for Rouyn-Noranda-Témiscamingue on the following subject: Bélanger-Julien participation at Raid aventure Témiscamingue.
- The Member for Saint-Jean on the following subject: Expanding the Programme d'aide aux entrepreneurs Haut-Richelieu.
- The Member for Montarville on the following subject: *Journées de la Culture celebrates 25 years*.
- The Member for Westmount-Saint-Louis on the following subject: Congratulations to Carrefour Jeunesse-Emploi Montréal Centre-Ville on its 20 years of existence.

#### 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

#### **URGENT DEBATES**

#### **DEBATES ON REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

#### **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 101

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

Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Seniors and Informal Caregivers on **9 June 2021** 

#### Committee Stage

#### **(5)** 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

#### (6) 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

#### (7) 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

#### **(8)** 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

#### (9) Bill 92

An Act to create a court specialized in sexual and domestic violence and respecting training of judges in these matters

Introduced by the Minister of Justice on 15 September 2021

Passed in principle on 22 September 2021, and

Referred to the Committee on Institutions

#### (10) 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 Report of the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources (consultations) tabled on 14 September 2021

Passed in principle on 15 September 2021, and

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources

#### (11) Bill 100

Tourist Accommodation Act

Introduced by the Minister of Tourism on 8 June 2021

Report of the Committee on Labour and the Economy (consultations) tabled on 14 September 2021

Passed in principle on 15 September 2021, and

Referred to the Committee on Labour and the Economy

#### Report Stage

#### (12) Bill 99

An Act to amend mainly the Food Products Act

Introduced by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 10 June 2021

Report of the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources (consultations) tabled on 14 September 2021

Passed in principle on 14 September 2021

Report of the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources tabled on 22 September 2021

Passage

#### II. Private Members' Public Bills

Passage in Principle

#### (13) 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

#### (14) 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

#### (15) 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

#### **(16)** 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

#### (17) Bill 194

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

Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on 21 February 2019

#### (18) 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

#### (19) 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

#### (20) Bill 198

An Act to facilitate disclosure of wrongdoings Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on 9 May 2019

#### (21) 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

#### (22) 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

#### (23) Bill 392

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

#### (24) 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

#### (25) 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

#### (26) 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

#### (27) Bill 398

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

#### (28) 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

#### (29) 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

#### (30) Bill 491

An Act to combat food waste

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

#### (31) Bill 492

Right-to-Disconnect Act

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

#### (**32**) Bill 493

Interculturalism Act

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

#### (33) 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

#### (34) Bill 496

Parliamentary Budget Officer Act Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on 14 November 2019

#### (**35**) 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

#### (36) 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** 

#### (37) 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

#### (38) Bill 592

An Act to amend the Act respecting the flag and emblems of Québec to enhance the presence of the flag of Québec

Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on 11 June 2021

#### (39) Bill 593

An Act to change the minimum age required to be a qualified elector Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on 10 June 2021

#### **(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 or

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 694

An Act to regulate appointments to certain senior positions Introduced by the Member for René-Levesque on 10 June 2021

#### (51) 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

#### (52) 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

#### (53) 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

#### (54) 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

#### (55) 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

#### (**56**) 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

#### (57) Bill 792

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

#### **(64)** Bill 893

An Act to facilitate the marketing of Québec microdistillers' and microbrewers' products

Introduced by the Member for Rouyn-Noranda-Témiscamingue on 10 June 2021

#### (65) Bill 894

An Act to prohibit petroleum exploration and production Introduced by the Member for Sainte-Marie-Saint-Jacques **16 September 2021.** 

Committee Stage

#### (66) 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

#### (67) 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

Passed in principle on 10 June 2021, and

Referred to the Committee on Institutions

Report Stage

Passage

#### III. **Private Bills**

Hearings and Clause-by-Clause Consideration

#### (68) 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

#### Passage in Principle

#### (**69**) Bill 219

An Act respecting an immovable located on Rue University in Montréal (on the Royal Victoria Hospital site) (modified titled)

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

Report of the Committee on Public Finance passed on 14 September 2021

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)

#### 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).

#### Consideration of Bills:

 Bill 97, An Act to amend the Act respecting energy efficiency and energy conservation standards for certain electrical or hydrocarbon-fuelled appliances (Order of reference given on 15 September 2021).

#### 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**

#### **Order of reference**

#### **Special Consultations:**

 Bill 96, An Act respecting French, the official and common language of Québec (Order of reference given on 14 September 2021).

#### **Statutory order**

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

#### Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

 Interpellation by the Member for Saint-Laurent to the Minister of Education on the following subject: The Minister of Education's back-to-school report card (notice given on 16 September 2021)

#### 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 100**, Tourist Accommodation Act (Order of reference given on 15 September 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).

#### **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 92, An Act to create a court specialized in sexual and domestic violence and respecting training of judges in these matters (Order of reference given on 22 September 2021).
- Bill 793, An Act to recognize the white admiral as the emblematic insect of Québec (Order of reference given on 10 June 2021).

#### **COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS**

#### Order of reference

#### Special Consultations:

 Bill 101, 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 (Order of reference given on 14 September 2021).

#### 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**

#### COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

## $\frac{\textbf{SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE EVOLUTION OF THE ACT RESPECTING END-OF-LIFE}}{\underline{\textbf{CARE}}}$

#### **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 (Order of reference given on 31 March 2021).

#### Part 5

#### WRITTEN QUESTIONS

<u>Questions already placed</u> on the Order Paper are published each Wednesday

### (256) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **23 September 2021**To the Government

In the 1990s, oil companies competed fiercely. At that time, you could fill your tank for about 40 cents a litre – something that is hard to imagine when today we are paying three to four times as much, depending on the region. That price war resulted in the closure of many independent gas stations further reducing opportunities for competition in certain markets, particularly in my riding of Rimouski.

Ultimately, this left a multitude of gas stations abandoned. In Rimouski alone, which has 50,000 inhabitants, a good half-dozen of these abandoned installations still scar the city centre landscape and sides of busy arteries, including Route 132 which runs along the St. Lawrence.

What's more, nothing obliges gas station operators – most often, very profitable oil companies – to decontaminate the land they own or lease, even if for years it represented a highly lucrative, but polluting, business. As a result, we currently find ourselves in a situation where very successful companies can simply leave without any environmental accountability.

They leave the buildings that no longer serve them to rot and decay, leaving the task of decontaminating the hydrocarbon-laden soil to possible future owners or tenants. It's not hard to understand why potential buyers are not rushing to purchase such properties; as such, we continue to be subjected to polluted urban environments and ground soils while no one is held accountable, often for many years. I can point out such a location in my constituency that has been abandoned for at least three decades.

Furthermore, there does not appear to be a register of Québec's abandoned gas stations that we can consult. With the expected electrification of automobiles, we expect this phenomenon to worsen. We must therefore address this matter now.

My question to the Minister is the following:

Will the Government commit to legislate to put a stop to the reckless abandonment of gas stations and to oblige the owners or tenants of these installations to dismantle them and to decontaminate the land before the conclusion of any transaction and within a year of closing?

(257) Ms. Fournier (Marie-Victorin) – **23 September 2021**To the Minister of Health and Social Services

Minister,

I was recently approached by Dr. Anne-Isabelle Dionne, President and CEO of the Centre médico-sportif Axis, a not-for-profit organization located in Montérégie offering multidisciplinary health services, including cardiovascular rehabilitation services, to over 400 patients of the Pierre-Boucher hospital in Longueuil and the Honoré-Mercier hospital in Saint-Hyacinthe.

She contacted me following receipt, last March 29, of a letter she received from Ms. Maryse Hébert, director of multidisciplinary services at CISSS Montérégie Est, announcing the end of their contractual agreement and by the same token, their principal source of funding. Indeed, the CISSS Montérégie Est, which provided \$372,000, a considerable amount, to the Centre, will terminate the service agreement on 30 September 2021, given that a new cardiovascular rehabilitation service will eventually be offered directly by the CISSS at the Pierre-Boucher hospital in Longueuil. However, in addition to the hundreds of thousands of dollars that will have to be reinvested in order to build from zero a cardiovascular rehabilitation program similar to the one that already exists at the Centre médico-sportif Axis, the CISSS Montérégie-Est's cardiovascular rehabilitation service is currently still not available, resulting in a months-long disruption of services for the population.

In this context, Dr. Dionne took steps to try to obtain adequate, constant funding for the Centre from the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux and the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation, without however obtaining any conclusive financial commitment so far for the organization. As a result, with the financial support from CISSS Montérégie-Est nearing its end, and in the perspective that it would have been counterproductive to duplicate the same service, the representatives of the organization had to make the heartbreaking decision to withdraw the cardiovascular rehabilitation component from the

services offered by the Centre médico-sportif Axis. Instead, they have reoriented and broadened their services, gearing them toward the prevention and reversal of chronic diseases through the optimization of lifestyle habits, in particular, by addressing diabetes, hypertension, obesity and heart disease.

As a result, the Centre médico-sportif Axis continues to set itself apart with an intervention approach to enhance health that is based first and foremost on systematic front-line screening and preventive diagnosis, specifically through risk factor assessment. All with the aim of preventing the onset of chronic diseases, reducing their severity or reversing them completely, or even preventing a complication related to a health condition, which would otherwise generate significant costs for the health system. The Centre's health professionals and practitioners, which include physicians, nurses, nutritionists, kinesiologists, pharmacists, psychosocial workers, meditation teachers, etc., collaborate with, but above all, complement one another, in order to offer multidisciplinary services to patients. Their preventive intervention approach to enhancing health allows them all the latitude needed to provide personalized support to and guide their patients toward healthier behaviours and lifestyles, by promoting more balanced daily health choices regarding nutrition, sleep, stress, sport, environmental quality, and even social relationships. This intervention approach is proving to be more necessary than ever given that the current health crisis is affecting individuals with unhealthy lifestyles and, above all, with chronic diseases, more severely.

It should also be noted that this initiative by the Médico-Sportif Axis Centre has resulted in concrete substantial savings to Québec's health system. We are talking about \$1,060,300 per year in institutional health care for 256 patients (data after only 2.5 years of operation, including the period closed at height of pandemic). This represents a minimum savings of \$4,142 per patient per year, for a one-time participation in a rehabilitation and prevention program at less than half the cost. The positive impact of the Centre's interventions on patients' health is therefore measurable and can also be replicated throughout Québec.

Support for this type of initiative would make it possible to improve the services Québec hospitals offer, in addition to reducing CISSS and CIUSSS administrative and bureaucratic burdens. The multidisciplinary services offered by the Axis Medico-Sports Centre also meet the population's growing demand for access to alternative health enhancement resources rather than medications. We must remember that the MSSS 2015–2020 strategic plan provides that spending for medications to treat diseases directly related to lifestyle habits is approximately \$2 billion. This cost could be reduced by supporting alternative health

enhancement resources, such as the Axis Medico-Sports Centre. In short, this is a concrete and comprehensive initiative with a high potential for return on investment.

My question to the Minister is the following:

Will the Minister undertake to consider the following points, namely:

- Take into account experiences such as that of the Axis Medico-Sports Centre:
- Recognize and support initiatives such as that of the Axis Medico-Sports Center;
- o Fund this type of initiative in the form of a pilot project in Québec.

#### Part 6

#### **NOTICES**

#### I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

**Government Bills** 

**Private Members' Public Bills** 

**Private Bills** 

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

- (aa) An Act to establish a perimeter around certain places in order to regulate demonstrations in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic *Minister of Public Security*.
- **(bb)** Interpellation by the Member for Taschereau to the Minister of Transport on the following subject: *The CAQ government's lack of vision regarding developing Québec transportation for the 21st century.*