



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

SECOND SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Order Paper and Notices

of the Assembly

Thursday, 10 February 2022 – No. 29

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 Ms. Nicole Dostie, school cook.*
- The Member for Verdun on the following subject: *Inconsistent government action on the environment.*
- The Member for Repentigny on the following subject: *The 20th anniversary of La Joyeuse Marmite collective kitchens.*
- The Member for Viau on the following subject: *Underline Hooked on School Days.*
- The Member for Bellechasse on the following subject: *Ms. Olivia Asselin on her sports career and participation in the Olympic Games.*
- The Member for Brome-Missisquoi on the following subject: *Underline the International Day of Women and Girls in Science.*
- The Member for Labelle on the following subject: *Support for positive behavior in schools.*
- The Member for Jean-Lesage on the following subject: *White Cane Week – Web accessibility for persons with disabilities.*
- The Member for Papineau on the following subject: *Tribute to Mr. Yolain Bianchi.*

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

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Part 2

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URGENT DEBATES

DEBATES ON REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

OTHER BUSINESS

I. Government Bills

Passage in Principle

- (1) Bill 11
An Act to increase the supply of primary care services by general practitioners and to improve the management of that supply
Introduced by the Minister of Health and Social Services on 11 November 2021
Report of the Committee on Health and Social Services (consultations) tabled on 8 February 2022
Resuming the debate adjourned on **9 February 2022**
- (2) Bill 12
An Act mainly to promote Québec-sourced and responsible procurement by public bodies, to reinforce the integrity regime of enterprises and to increase the powers of the Autorité des marchés publics
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on **3 February 2022**
- (3) Bill 18
An Act to amend various provisions relating to public security and enacting the Act to assist in locating missing persons
Introduced by the Minister of Public Security on **8 December 2021**
- (4) Bill 19
An Act respecting health and social services information and amending various legislative provisions
Introduced by the Minister of Health and Social services on **3 December 2021**

- (5) Bill 21
An Act mainly to end petroleum exploration and production and the public financing of those activities
Introduced by the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources on **2 February 2022**
- (6) Bill 22
An Act to amend the Automobile Insurance Act, the Highway Safety Code and other provisions
Introduced by the Minister of Transport on **9 February 2022**
- (7) 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**

Committee Stage

- (8) Bill 1
An Act to amend the Educational Childcare Act to improve access to the educational childcare services network and complete its development
Introduced by the Minister of Families on 21 October 2021
Report of the Committee on Citizen Relations (consultations) tabled on 30 November 2021
Passed in principle on **2 December 2021**, and
Referred to the Committee on Citizen Relations
- (9) Bill 2
An Act respecting family law reform with regard to filiation and amending the Civil Code in relation to personality rights and civil status
Introduced by the Minister of Justice on 21 October 2021
Report of the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on 7 December 2021
Passed in principle on **1 February 2022**, and
Referred to the Committee on Institutions

- (10) Bill 4
An Act to reinforce the governance of state-owned enterprises and to amend other legislative provisions
Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 26 October 2021
Report of the Committee on Public Finance (consultations) tabled on 1 February 2022
Passed in principle on **2 February 2022**, and
Referred to the Committee on Public Finance
- (11) Bill 9
An Act respecting the National Student Ombudsman
Introduced by the Minister of Education on 23 November 2021
Report of the Committee on Culture and Education (consultations) tabled on 1 February 2022
Passed in principle on **3 February 2022**, and
Referred to the Committee on Culture and Education
- (12) Bill 14
An Act to ensure the protection of trainees in the workplace
Introduced by the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity on 2 December 2021
Report of the Committee on Labour and Economy (consultations) tabled on 3 February 2022
Passed in principle on **8 February 2022**, and
Referred to the Committee on Labour and Economy
- (13) Bill 15
An Act to amend the Youth Protection Act and other legislative provisions
Introduced by the Minister for Health and Social Services on 1 December 2021
Passed in principle on **1 February 2022**, and
Referred to the Committee on Health and Social Services
- (14) Bill 17
An Act respecting the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speech of 25 March 2021 and amending other provisions
Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 3 December 2021
Passed in principle on **1 February 2022**, and
Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

- (15) 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
- (16) Bill 24
An Act to amend the Act respecting the Québec correctional system to provide for the power to require that an offender be connected to a device that allows the offender's whereabouts to be known
Introduced by the Minister of Public Security on 2 February 2022
Passed in principle on **8 February 2022**, and
Referred to the Committee on Institutions
- (17) 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 of the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on 11 February 2020
Passed in principle on **8 October 2020**, and
Referred to the Committee on Institutions
- (18) 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
Report of the Committee on Culture and Education (consultations) tabled on 21 October 2021
Passed in principle on **4 November 2021**, and
Referred to the Committee on Culture and Education

(19) 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

Report of the Committee on Citizen Relations (consultations) tabled on 5 October 2021

Passed in principle on **6 October 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Citizen Relations

(20) Bill 102

An Act mainly to reinforce the enforcement of environmental and dam safety legislation, to ensure the responsible management of pesticides and to implement certain measures of the 2030 Plan for a Green Economy concerning zero emission vehicles

Introduced by the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change on 5 October 2021

Report of the Committee on Transportation and Environment (consultations) tabled on 30 November 2021

Passed in principle on **1 December 2021**, and

Referred to Committee on Transportation and Environment

Report Stage

Passage

II. Private Members' Public Bills

Passage in Principle

(21) Bill 190

An Act to amend the Charter of the French language and other legislative provisions in order to enhance the protection of the French language

Introduced by the Member for Matane-Matapédia on **11 November 2021**

(22) Bill 191

An Act to regulate the distribution of advertising items

Introduced by the Member for Mercier on **11 November 2021**

- (23) 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**
- (24) 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**
- (25) Bill 194
An Act to ensure compliance with Québec's climate change-related obligations
Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on **21 February 2019**
- (26) 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**
- (27) 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**
- (28) Bill 198
An Act to facilitate disclosure of wrongdoings
Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on **9 May 2019**
- (29) Bill 199
An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act to establish a right of citizen initiative in environmental matters and reinforce the powers and independence of the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement
Introduced by the Member for Mercier on **25 September 2019**
- (30) Bill 390
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 **4 November 2021**

- (31) 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**
- (32) Bill 392
An Act respecting the selection of Québec senators
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **9 May 2019**
- (33) 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**
- (34) Bill 394
An Act to prevent and fight sexual violence in educational institutions that provide preschool education services, elementary school instructional services, or secondary school instructional services in general and vocational education, including adult education services
Introduced by the Member for Sherbrooke on **21 October 2021**
- (35) Bill 395
An Act to establish the Just Transition Fund
Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on **28 October 2021**
- (36) Bill 396
An Act for better air quality
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **28 October 2021**
- (37) 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**
- (38) Bill 398
An Act to proclaim Québec Democracy Day
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **20 February 2020**

- (39) 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**
- (40) 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
- (41) Bill 491
An Act to combat food waste
Introduced by the Member for Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue on
12 November 2020
- (42) Bill 493
Interculturalism Act
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **30 October 2019**
- (43) Bill 494
An Act to prohibit petroleum exploration and production
Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on **2 December 2021**
- (44) 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**
- (45) Bill 496
Parliamentary Budget Officer Act
Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on **14 November 2019**
- (46) 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**
- (47) Bill 498
An Act to proclaim the National Day for the Promotion of Positive Mental Health
Introduced by the Member for D'Arcy-McGee on **2 December 2021**

- (48) 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**
- (49) 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**
- (50) 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**
- (51) 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**
- (52) 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**
- (53) Bill 595
An Act to create the Rent Register
Introduced by the Member for Laurier-Dorion on **4 June 2020**
- (54) Bill 596
An Act to establish Pharma-Québec
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **15 September 2020**
- (55) 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**

- (56) 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**
- (57) Bill 599
An Act to respect sexual orientation and gender identity
Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on **22 September 2020**
- (58) Bill 690
An Act to promote socially responsible investments
Presented by the Member for René-Lévesque on **9 December 2021**
- (59) 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**
- (60) 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**
- (61) 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**
- (62) Bill 694
An Act to regulate appointments to certain senior positions
Introduced by the Member for René-Levesque on **10 June 2021**
- (63) 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**
- (64) Bill 696
An Act to replace the name of the electoral division of Arthabaska by Arthabaska-L'Érable
Introduced by the Member for Arthabaska on **7 December 2021**

- (65) 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**
- (66) 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**
- (67) 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**
- (68) 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**
- (69) Bill 791
An Act respecting the implementation of study-family-work balance policies in particular in higher education institutions
Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on **30 September 2021**
- (70) Bill 792
An Act to enhance the transparency of municipal councils
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **14 April 2021**
- (71) 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**
- (72) 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**

- (73) 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**
- (74) Bill 798
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 Mercier on **3 December 2021**
- (75) Bill 799
Right-to-Disconnect Act
Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on **10 December 2021**
- (76) 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**
- (77) 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**
- (78) Bill 894
An Act to prohibit petroleum exploration and production
Introduced by the Member for Sainte-Marie-Saint-Jacques on **16 September 2021**
- (79) Bill 896
An Act to amend the Election Act to encourage parity between women and men as candidates of political parties in a general election
Introduced by the Member for LaFontaine on **7 October 2021**
- (80) Bill 897
An Act to amend the Educational Childcare Act to guarantee the right to receive childcare services
Introduced by the Member for LaFontaine on **29 September 2021**

(81) Bill 898

An Act to amend the Public Health Act to change the terms of renewal of the declaration of a state of health emergency

Introduced by the Member for Iberville on **6 October 2021**

Resuming the debate adjourned in the name of the Member for Saint-Jean on **9 February 2022**

Committee Stage

(82) 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

(83) 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

(84) 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

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 16

An Act to amend various legislative provisions to implement Complementary Agreements No. 22 and No. 27 to the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement
Passed on **8 February 2022**

Part 4

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEES

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

COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

- Hearing of the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation on its administrative management and financial commitments.
- 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 Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor on the Report on the application of the *Public Administration Act*.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 9**, An Act respecting the National Student Ombudsman (Order of reference given on 3 February 2022)

- **Bill 96**, An Act respecting French, the official and common language of Québec (Order of reference given on 4 November 2021).

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 14**, An Act to ensure the protection of trainees in the workplace (Order of reference given on 8 February 2022).
- **Bill 217**, An Act respecting the objects and powers of the Roman Catholic Archiepiscopal corporation of Montreal (Order of reference given on 20 October 2021).

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC FINANCE

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 4**, An Act to reinforce the governance of state-owned enterprises and to amend other legislative provisions (Order of reference given on 2 February 2022)
- **Bill 17**, An Act respecting the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speech of 25 March 2021 and amending other provisions (Order of reference given on 1 February 2022).
- **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 20 October 2021).

COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

Order of reference

Special consultations:

- **Bill 24**, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Québec correctional system to provide for the power to require that an offender be connected to a device that allows the offender's whereabouts to be known (Order of reference given on 9 February 2022).

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 2**, An Act respecting family law reform with regard to filiation and amending the Civil Code in relation to personality rights and civil status (Order of reference given on 1 February 2022).
- **Bill 24**, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Québec correctional system to provide for the power to require that an offender be connected to a device that allows the offender's whereabouts to be known (Order of reference given on 8 February 2022).
- **Bill 39**, An Act to establish a new electoral system (Order of reference given on 20 October 2021).
- **Bill 793**, An Act to recognize the white admiral as the emblematic insect of Québec (Order of reference given on 20 October 2021).

Statutory order

- Examination of the Report on the implementation of the Code of Ethics and Conduct of the Members of the National Assembly.

COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 1**, An Act to amend the Educational Childcare Act to improve access to the educational childcare services network and complete its development (Order of reference given on 2 December 2021).
- **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 20 October 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 20 October 2021).

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Order of reference

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 15**, An Act to amend the Youth Protection Act and other legislative provisions (Order of reference given on 2 February 2022).

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 15**, An Act to amend the Youth Protection Act and other legislative provisions (Order of reference given on 1 February 2022).

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

Interpellation:

- By the Member for Nelligan to the Minister of Health and Social Services on the following subject: *Lack of foresight, inconsistency and backtracking: Quebecers are paying for the CAQ government's management of the COVID-19 pandemic* (notice given on 3 February 2022).

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 102**, An Act mainly to reinforce the enforcement of environmental and dam safety legislation, to ensure the responsible management of pesticides and to implement certain measures of the 2030 Plan for a Green Economy concerning zero emission vehicles (Order of reference given on 1 December 2021).

Part 5

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

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

(62) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **10 February 2022**

To the Government

A citizen in my riding drew my attention to the fact that the wait times for cataract surgery are extremely long. In this citizen's case, the wait time is up to a year and a half. How can one wait so long to regain sight?

According to an article in the January 28 edition of the *Journal de Montréal*, the rescheduling of ophthalmology appointments has delayed almost 40,000 cataract surgeries since the start of the pandemic.

For some vulnerable seniors, this will have undeniable consequences on their autonomy and mental health, since their activities will be reduced due in particular to the risk of falling.

Since a large number of cataract surgeries have been postponed since the start of the pandemic, as confirmed by the spokesperson for the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (MSSS), Robert Maranda, my question is the following:

How does the Government intend to correct this situation?

(63) Ms. Dorion (Taschereau) – **10 February 2022**

To the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity

Today, I would like to draw the Minister's attention to the funding of the community groups under his department's responsibility.

The Minister is well aware that autonomous community action organizations play an essential role in our society as a motor of social transformation and a pillar of Québec's social safety net – one of his department's important missions being precisely to support funding for the missions of several of them. Among these are included community development corporations, which are organizations that coordinate the actions of groups by sector. There are 67 of these in Québec, including two that still do not receive funding from the secretariat. The work these groups do is essential to sustaining the Minister's mission, because it coordinates comprehensive, concerted and effective action. It is high time that this was justly recognized.

For many years, the groups have campaigned to have the scope of Québec's 4,000 autonomous community action organizations' financial needs recognized and the harmful impacts of their underfunding considered. Such underfunding has a major impact on the population these organizations serve and on the working conditions of their employees. In 2019, under the Minister's directions, the department began work to develop a new government action plan on community action to ensure greater recognition and support of community action. These consultations have taken place but we are still waiting for the policy plan and the funds earmarked to implement it properly.

A recent economic impact study of CDCs conducted by AppEco shows that the positive impacts on employment and GDP of a government investment in the community sector is greater than that of a similar investment in the Québec economy as a whole. Despite this, we see that real funding for CDCs has actually declined by 12% since 2001.

To fully achieve its mission, the CDC network needs an additional \$8.7 million in funding starting in 2022–2023. Such an amount would allow the CDCs to make up for the shortfall of the past 20 years, to improve their community interventions and to meet the increase in needs, by enabling each to rely on a team of at least three full-time employees.

In view of the foregoing, my questions to the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity are as follows:

- Does the Minister intend to table a government action plan for community action in time for the 2022 budget?
- Does the Minister intend to include substantial investments with this plan to sustain the organizations' mission, and will he do so in time for the next budget?
- Does the Minister intend to grant additional funding of \$8.7 million to the CDC network in order to make up for the shortfall of the past 20 years?

(64) Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue) – **10 February 2022**
To the Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks

For several years, populations of forest-dwelling and mountain ecotype woodland caribou have been in serious decline in Québec. They have been designated a “vulnerable species” in Québec since 2005 under the *Act respecting threatened or vulnerable species*. The government is legally bound to put protective measures in place. By postponing the adoption of its strategy for woodland caribou until 2024, the government is sending a clear message that protecting caribou is not a short-term priority. Meanwhile, territories, which were supposed to be protected, are being opened up to forestry companies.

In Val-d’Or, there are only 7 caribou left, whereas there were around 50 at the end of the 1970s. In Charlevoix, there are barely 20 caribou, whereas thirty years ago their population was over 120. In the Gaspésie region, fewer than 30 mountain ecotype woodland caribou remain, whereas ten years ago there were nearly 200. Experts have determined that populations have very little chance of surviving in the medium or long term when more than 35% of their habitat is disturbed, and today disruption is affecting from 60% to 85% of their habitat.

We have been consulting communities and experts on this issue for decades and the consensus is clear: we must protect forest-dwelling and mountain woodland caribou at the same time as our natural heritage riches.

My question to the Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks is as follows:

Will he table his strategy for the protection of forest-dwelling and mountain woodland caribou no later than this spring, as he promised?

Part 6
NOTICES

I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

Government Bills

Private Members' Public Bills

Private Bills

II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME

- (aa) Interpellation by the Member for Rouyn-Noranda–Téiscamingue to the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change on the following subject: *The CAQ government's laxity when it comes to air quality protection for Québec citizens.*