



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

SECOND SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Order Paper and Notices

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 23 March 2022 – No. 40

Nine forty a.m.

President of the National Assembly:
Mr. François Paradis

Part 1

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

- The Member for Masson on the following subject: *The North Shore's Relay For Life.*
- The Member for Hull on the following subject: *The Fonds de Bourses BRAVO — It pays to learn!*
- The Member for Chauveau on the following subject: *Mr. Alain Châteauevert, silver medal recipient at the 2021–2022 Canadian International Music Competition — Classical Artist Category.*
- The Member for Saint-Laurent on the following subject: *Tribute to Ms. Marie-Louise Nkwaya, Mr. Elom Akpo and Mr. Bernard Gueu, three marvellous teachers from Nunavik.*
- The Member for Saint-Jean on the following subject: *\$20,000 in Fondation du Cégep Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu scholarships to counter the labour shortage in Haut-Richelieu.*
- The Member for Mercier on the following subject: *Plus pour nos ados campaign.*
- The Member for Blainville on the following subject: *Tribute to Mr. Richard Labelle.*
- The Member for Matane-Matapédia on the following subject: *Establishment of a Québec competition bureau.*
- The Member for Huntingdon on the following subject: *Congratulations to filmmaker Philippe Grégoire from Napierville!*
- The Member for Maskinongé on the following subject: *Tribute to the Centre d'action bénévole de la MRC de Maskinongé.*

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

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

ORAL ANSWERS TO PETITIONS

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

ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

DEFERRED DIVISIONS

MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

NOTICES OF PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEES

INFORMATION ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Part 2

ORDERS OF THE DAY

BUSINESS HAVING PRECEDENCE

- (1) Debate on the motion by the Minister of Finance, –That this Assembly approve the budgetary policy of the Government.
- (2) Estimates of Expenditure for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2023 tabled by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on **22 March 2022** and referred to a Committee of the Whole for concurrence in one quarter of the said Estimates.

URGENT DEBATES

DEBATES ON REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

OTHER BUSINESS

I. Government Bills

Passage in Principle

- (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 28
An Act to terminate the public health emergency
Introduced by the Minister of Health and Social Services on **16 March 2022**

- (6) 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

- (7) 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
- (8) 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
- (9) 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
- (10) 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

- (11) 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
Passed in principle on **10 February 2022**, and
Referred to the Committee on Health and Social Services
- (12) 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
Passed in principle on **17 February 2022**, and
Referred to the Committee on Public Finance
Report of the Committee on Public Finance (consultations) tabled on **22 March 2022**
- (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
Report of the Committee on Health and Social Services (consultations) tabled on **15 February 2022**
- (14) 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
Report of the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources (consultations) tabled on 15 March 2022
Passed in principle on **16 March 2022**, and
Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources

- (15) 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
Passed in principle on 17 February 2022, and
Referred to Committee on Transportation and the Environment
Report of the Committee on Transportation and the Environment (consultations) tabled on **17 March 2022**
- (16) 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
- (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 the Environment (consultations) tabled on 30 November 2021

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

Referred to Committee on Transportation and the 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 499
An Act to promote taking gender equality and diversity into account in the budgetary process
Introduced by the Member for Mercier on **24 February 2022**

- (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 892
An Act to broaden a lessee's right to have the rent fixed and to have other conditions of the lease modified by the Administrative Housing Tribunal
Introduced by the Member for Laurier-Dorion on **24 February 2022**
- (78) 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**
- (79) Bill 894
An Act to prohibit petroleum exploration and production
Introduced by the Member for Sainte-Marie-Saint-Jacques on **16 September 2021**
- (80) 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**

- (81) 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**
- (82) 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

- (83) 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
- (84) 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
Passed in principle on **22 March 2022**, and
Referred to the Committee on Health and Social Services
- (85) 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

(86) 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)

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

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 21**, An Act mainly to end petroleum exploration and production and the public financing of those activities (Order of reference given on 16 March 2022).

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 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 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 (Order of reference given on 17 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).

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

Interpellation:

- By the Member for Robert-Baldwin to the Minister of Finance on the following subject: *The economic uncertainty Québec is facing*. (notice given on 17 March 2022).

COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

Order of reference

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 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

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 11**, An Act to increase the supply of primary care services by general practitioners and to improve the management of that supply (Order of reference given on 10 February 2022).
- **Bill 15**, An Act to amend the Youth Protection Act and other legislative provisions (Order of reference given on 1 February 2022).
- **Bill 498**, An Act to proclaim the National Day for the Promotion of Positive Mental Health (Order of reference given on 22 March 2021)

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 22**, An Act to amend the Automobile Insurance Act, the Highway Safety Code and other provisions (Order of reference given on 17 February 2022).
- **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*

(58) Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage) – **8 February 2022**

To the Minister for Health and Social Services

The number of Quebecers with dementia will double in the next 20 years, a “tidal wave” that is predictable, but for which the health network is not prepared, experts warn. Nouha Ben Gaied, director of research and development at the Federation of Québec Alzheimer Societies, says that the next disease of the century is Alzheimer’s. Alzheimer’s disease is the most common form of dementia, which covers the spectrum of symptoms associated with declining mental functions. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), there is a new case of Alzheimer’s every seven seconds. We have seen the breakthroughs made possible by significant government investments in scientific and medical research for other public health issues such as HIV/AIDS. The Alzheimer Society of Canada recommends an investment of \$150 million over five years to implement a fully funded and robust national dementia strategy.

In this context, my questions to the Minister for Health and Social Services are the following:

- How much public money has been invested annually over the past 10 years in dementia and Alzheimer’s research?
- What investments are planned for this research in future years?

(60) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **8 February 2022**

To the Government

The labour shortage is very significant for the community organizations and public institutions working in the field of health and social services not only in Québec, but also in my region, the Bas-Saint-Laurent.

The Québec government's Opération main-d'œuvre was announced in recent weeks. This initiative aims to address the labour shortage in Québec, in certain targeted sectors, including professions related to mental health and youth protection. Perspective Québec incentive scholarships will be offered to students in the health and social services sector. Surprisingly, the social work program does not appear in the list of programs included by the Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur. However, social work graduates have been working in these sectors for more than 50 years.

This non-recognition of the social work program will result in future students going into programs that are eligible for these scholarships, such as special education or university programs. Obviously, when students have to choose a program, they will prefer the one that offers financial incentives of up to \$15,000. However, the social work program prepares future workers able to serve in the field of health and social services.

According to teachers at the Cégep de Rimouski, excluding college students in social work from this program will worsen the shortage of workers in the CISSS and community organizations, even though this program was created specifically to address this shortage.

My questions are the following:

- Why did the Minister of Higher Education and her department exclude the social work program and on what grounds did they come to this conclusion?
- Will the Government add the social work program to the list of programs recognized for the *Perspective Québec* scholarships, since we need more and more workers now?

(69) Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage) – **17 February 2022**

To the Minister for Health and Social Services

I would like to bring to the Minister for Health and Social Services' attention, the subject of funding for the community organizations under his department's responsibility.

Autonomous community action organizations play an essential role in our society by driving social development and providing a social safety net in Québec. In his department, 3,000 organizations operate in the health and social services sector. Unfortunately, in recent years, government funding has not improved the situation of these groups overall, but rather has only increased the funding of certain less-funded organizations. The 2019, 2020 and 2021 budgets represented a mere 2 to 5% increase in the PSOC envelope and, as such, hardly made an impact. In addition, the funding of organizations is indexed based on the Consumer Price Index, despite the fact that their operating costs increase at a greater rate than that of households, and this adds pressure on these groups.

Community groups operating in the health and social services sector make an essential contribution to the Minister's mission, and it is high time that this contribution be appropriately recognized. For many years, these groups have been advocating for recognition of the extent of the financial needs of the 4,000 autonomous community action organizations in Québec and for acknowledgement of the negative impacts they have sustained because of underfunding. These impacts significantly affect not only the people served by these organizations, but also the already difficult working conditions of their workers. In 2019, under the direction of the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity, the Government began work to develop a new government action plan on community action to ensure greater recognition and support of community action. These consultations have been held but we are still waiting for the policy plan and the funds earmarked to implement it properly.

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

1. Does the Minister intend to ensure that the Government honours its commitment to table a government action plan on community action and that the plan will be accompanied by substantial investments that will sustainably support the mission of the organizations under the PSOC?
2. Does the Minister intend to ensure that this increase in PSOC funding is included in the next budget?

(70) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **23 February 2022**
To the Government

According to an analysis of the most recent data compiled by *Le Devoir*, francophone CÉGEPs and universities in Québec's regions are sustaining the greatest collateral damage from the high rates of rejection of international students by Immigration Canada.

It is increasingly apparent that Canada is systematically rejecting *en masse* students from francophone African countries. The education sector in Québec is denouncing its impact on such an essential clientele, one which is highly welcomed in the regions.

We learned that the rejection rates for international student visa applications to attend any of the regional campuses of Université du Québec (UQ) are often as high as 60% to 80%. The rejection rates in anglophone universities are much lower.

According to *Le Devoir*, the results for Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières (UQTR) speak volumes. Last year, 79% of the 9,000 students who applied for a study permit were rejected by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). In 2020 and 2019, the rejection rates were 88% and 78%, respectively.

The rejection rate for study permits was highest among students from francophone African countries, reaching as high as 90%. Université du Québec à Rimouski (UQAR), which admits many francophone African students, saw over 70% of its 2,000 international students denied a visa.

The rejection rates for study permits could also be higher for colleges in the regions. Many universities and CÉGEPs in the regions operate and innovate by developing their training thanks to the contribution of international students. International recruitment is more active in the programs for fields where there is a labour shortage.

It is unacceptable that our universities and CÉGEPs should sustain collateral damage due to the high rates of rejection of international students by Immigration Canada, both from the standpoint of the students, whose dreams are shattered, and of our regions, who heartily anticipate this new cultural wealth and, of course, this workforce we so sorely need.

My questions are the following:

Has the Government communicated to Ottawa the concerns of our university and college networks and, if not, does it intend to do so?

How does the Government intend to support those networks and ensure that the regions can welcome the international francophone students who wish to study in Québec and perhaps even settle here?

(72) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **24 February 2022**
To the Government

When a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is made, parents' lives are turned upside down. Obviously, this comes with an increase in stressors, numerous appointments, financial needs and psychological distress for the parents. To keep their balance and that of the family, parents need assistance, whether it is psychosocial or financial.

It is extremely difficult to obtain the supplement for handicapped children and, furthermore, the administrative burden returns over the years despite the permanent diagnosis. This is a neurological problem, not a physical one. It is an invisible disability, but it obviously has an impact on the family.

My question is the following:

Autism spectrum disorder is a permanent neurodevelopmental disability that will be present throughout the person's entire life. Will the Government recognize and consider this diagnosis as permanent by stopping the reassessments to renew Retraite Québec's supplement for handicapped children?

(73) Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) – **15 March 2022**
To the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor

On 3 February 2022, the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor tabled 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.

The purpose of this bill is to promote local purchasing, the taking into account of factors other than price (mainly environmental considerations) and public procurement integrity. It also provides that public bodies must conduct an evaluation of their procurement requirements that furthers the pursuit of sustainable development and that tenderers concerned with high standards of environmental integrity may be favoured when awarding public contracts.

In the last two years, Quebecers have used and disposed of several hundreds of thousands of disposable face masks. On a worldwide scale, 129 billion single-use masks are used every month. And yet, reusable, ecological and safe alternatives have been developed right here in Québec.

For example, ECO99 masks, which meet CNESST standards and BNQ certification criteria and which are effective after 100 maintenance cycles – or the masks made by Frétt Design, a Québec company that has invested more than half a million dollars in research and development to design masks that comply with the American Society for Testing and Materials' ASTM F3502 standard as well as the EN 14683 standard, which is the requirement for medical face masks in Europe. Even though these reusable masks have been recognized by a number of independent experts and consultants as being equivalent to the N95 mask, they are unfortunately still subject to outdated regulations with a standard meant for high-particulate work environments, such as mines.

In view of the foregoing, my question to the Minister responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor is as follows:

In order to adhere to the principles of Bill 12, will the Conseil du trésor fulfill its duty to set an example by recommending the purchase of safe and Québec-made reusable masks for the Government's non-medical organizations and institutions?

(74) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **15 March 2022**

To the Government

After 25 years of work and cooperation, domestic help social economy businesses (EÉSADs) must become the priority partners of the health and social services network for home care. They are the largest home care provider outside the public network.

Unfortunately, the work of the Réseau de coopération des EÉSAD shows that there is a lack of access to home care due to the limited financial capacity of seniors. I believe that there is an urgent need to act.

The EÉSADs are committed to immediately and significantly expanding their services if the government adopts simple and effective measures that reflect Quebecers' ability to pay. These solutions, many of which could be implemented in the next budget, would make it possible to achieve, in the short term, a major change in the daily lives of seniors, people with a loss of autonomy or functional limitations, and their families.

The announcement of the government's intention to shift to home care coincides with the review of the Financial Assistance Program for Domestic Help Services (PEFSAD), which has been underway for several months. This program accounts for about 25% of home care in Québec, but it could be even more adapted to the needs and be a real lever for strong growth in home care services.

The EÉSADs are the result of a citizen initiative to respond to community needs and they are authorized to offer home care throughout Québec, while prioritizing the most vulnerable users and services adapted to individual needs. The EÉSADs want to participate in the major shift affecting three areas: accessibility and decision-making autonomy, the offer and quality of home care services, and workforce recruitment and retention.

My question is the following:

Will the Government commit to adopting concrete solutions with the EÉSADs to make the necessary shift to home care, while ensuring that EÉSAD users can afford the hours of service they need?

(75) Ms. Dorion (Taschereau) – **17 March 2022**

To the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity

I would like to bring to the Minister's attention the funding of the community organizations under his department's responsibility.

Autonomous community action organizations play an essential role in our society by driving social development and providing a social safety net in Québec. Nearly 350 organizations involved in the collective defence of rights are still awaiting adequate funding from the Minister's department, both for existing organizations and for organizations pending. Despite the 2019 increase, those organizations are still awaiting a substantial increase that would enable them to fulfill all aspects of their mission. As those organizations approach the renewal of their three-year agreements, I would like to point out to the Minister the importance of including an indexation process based on the increase in operating costs so as to maintain the organizations' activities and improve the working conditions of the workers in those fields. The work those groups perform is essential to achieving a fairer, egalitarian

society, whose members support one another, and it is high time that work was rightly acknowledged.

For many years, these groups have been advocating for recognition of the extent of the financial needs of the 4,000 autonomous community action organizations in Québec and for acknowledgement of the negative impacts they have sustained because of underfunding. These impacts significantly affect not only the people served by these organizations, but also the already difficult working conditions of their workers. In 2019, under the direction of the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity, the Government began work to develop a new government action plan on community action to ensure greater recognition and support of community action. These consultations have been held but we are still waiting for the policy plan and the funds earmarked to implement it properly.

In light of the aforementioned, my questions to the Minister responsible for the rights enhancement component of the government action plan on community action (PAGAC) are the following:

1. Does the Minister intend to ensure that the Government honours its commitment to table a government action plan on community action before the end of this legislature?
2. Does the Minister intend to ensure that the next budget will include substantial investments for autonomous community action that will sustainably support the mission of the organizations under his responsibility?
3. Can the Minister assure us that he will then implement an indexation process based on the increase in operating costs so as to maintain the organizations' activities and improve the working conditions of the workers in those fields?

(76) Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion) – **22 March 2022**

To the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

On 11 March 2022, the Fédération régionale des OSBL d'habitation de la Montérégie et de l'Estrie (FROHME) and the tenants of Villa Belle Rivière in Richelieu called for the cancellation of the sale of immovables comprising 60 social housing units for seniors to a private developer whose identity has not been revealed to date.

The Villa Belle Rivière owns two buildings whose construction was financed through government subsidies. However, the board of directors of this non-profit organization (NPO) has decided to sell its only immovable assets intended for rental to seniors, and this is while we are experiencing an unprecedented housing crisis and the entire region is mobilized to develop affordable social housing.

According to the spokesperson for the tenants, Ms. Sylvie Adam, residents are very concerned about the situation and want the government to intervene to save the NPO in order to preserve the affordability and quality of the housing units for the seniors who live there and to avoid similar situations in the future.

My questions to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing are the following:

- What does the Minister intend to do to save the Villa Belle Rivière non-profit organization?
- Does the Minister plan to change the legal framework for non-profit organizations to prevent them from being sold to private developers?

(77) Ms. Labrie (Sherbrooke) – **22 March 2022**
To the Minister of Education

On 23 September 2020 and 23 August 2021, deputy ministers at the Ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ), Mr. Eric Blackburn and Mr. Alain Sans Cartier, sent correspondence to the directors of school service centres and school boards announcing the launch of a major project to be conducted in close collaboration with the school network and its partners.

The deputy ministers specified the objectives of this major project of the MEQ, namely the simplification of administrative processes related to the declaration of the special education codes and the simplification of associated funding rules, in particular the measure on additional assistance for students with disabilities or serious behavioural problems.

The correspondence reaffirms the Minister of Education's intention to ensure an optimal response to the needs of the province's students and to maximize the impact of professional resources in the communities in order to prioritize direct services to students, beyond administrative processes.

Although the Ministère de l'Éducation confirms, in its correspondence, the extension to June 2022 of the measures aimed at easing the quality assurance process, the school network and its partners, who were initially to take part in the student services funding review project, have still not received any indication of the direction of the project's work, whose recommendations were initially to be part of the plan for the start of the 2022–2023 school year.

Can the Minister of Education inform us of the progress of the work that was initially intended to free up professional resources to better serve students and support their educational success, and can he confirm that the target date for implementing the review of funding of services for students with disabilities, social maladjustments or learning difficulties remains the beginning of the 2022–2023 school year?

(78) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **22 March 2022**
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 almost five times as much, depending on the region. That price war resulted in the closure of many independent gas stations, thereby reducing opportunities for competition in certain markets, particularly in my riding of Rimouski.

Ultimately, this left a multitude of abandoned gas stations. In Rimouski alone, which has 50,000 inhabitants, a good half-dozen of these abandoned facilities 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 the operators of gas stations – 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 having to assume any environmental accountability whatsoever.

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 riding 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 facilities to dismantle them and to decontaminate the land before the conclusion of any transaction and within one year of closing?

(79) Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) – **22 March 2022**

To the Minister of Finance

Celiac disease is a chronic autoimmune disease. It causes inflammation of the intestine induced by the ingestion of gluten and affects people who are genetically predisposed. There is no known cure to date for celiac disease, other than a strict gluten-free diet.

It is estimated that approximately 85,000 Quebecers may be affected by celiac disease. This disease causes not only physical pain and discomfort, but also significant nutritional deficiencies in both children and adults.

The parents of children with celiac disease receive the Supplement for Handicapped Children. They receive \$205 per month until the child reaches the age of majority. Once they reach the age of majority, they are no longer eligible for the Supplement for Handicapped Children. Adults with celiac disease can deduct the costs for gluten-free food under the tax credit for medical expenses. Since 2003, these individuals have been able to claim the additional cost of gluten-free foods as an eligible expense under the tax credit for medical expenses, which amounts to the difference between the cost of gluten-free foods and the cost of similar foods with gluten.

However, the tax credit for adults with celiac disease is problematic for several reasons, including the fact that it disadvantages less affluent individuals who must pay the full amount before being reimbursed. People who do not pay taxes do not have access to the tax credit either. Those who do have access to the tax credit are faced with the administrative burden of keeping track of receipts that fade over time (and cannot be used as supporting documentation) and individual entries of all food receipts. This is so cumbersome and restrictive that many end up abandoning it. According to the preliminary results of a survey carried out in the fall of 2021 by Université de Montréal entitled *Vivre avec la maladie cœliaque - évaluation de l'impact sur la qualité de vie*, 50% of the participants never filed a tax credit application and 86.8% reported feeling embarrassed by the additional expense of purchasing gluten-free foods.

Therefore, on 12 February 2021, Cœliaque Québec filed a request for access to information (RAI): on the one hand, for documents confirming the number of people who have benefited annually from the tax credit for people with celiac disease in the last 10 years and, on the other hand, the average amount associated with the tax credit. In response to the RAI, the Secrétariat du Conseil du Trésor indicated that it did not have this information. If the government uses the tax credit to determine the differentiated financial needs of people affected by celiac disease, it would be important to know to what extent this measure is actually used and effective.

My question is the following:

Given that it is both inequitable and complex, the tax credit currently available represents an unwarranted barrier to being reimbursed for the one and only treatment for celiac disease, that is, a strict gluten-free diet for life. Why not offer a monthly benefit that would provide financial support to adults with celiac disease? Why not offer the same benefit to people 18 years of age and older, who are recipients of the social solidarity allowance and who are diagnosed with celiac disease, as the one granted to the parents of children with celiac disease through the Régie des Rentes du Québec, i.e. \$205 per month, as requested by Cœliaque Québec?

(80) Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) – **22 March 2022**
To the Minister of Culture and Communications

On 21 September 2020, the Minister of Culture and Communications announced a call for projects as part of the program *Aide au développement des infrastructures culturelles*. This program aims to lend support to projects for new construction, expansion, development, upgrading, renovation and restoration of cultural infrastructure, with the goal of helping to restart the Québec economy and promoting access to quality cultural spaces and equipment.

The program has a total envelope of \$100 million, consisting of \$50 million from the Québec government and \$50 million from the Canada Infrastructure Program. Most Canadian provinces and territories have benefited from this program through bilateral agreements to finance their cultural infrastructure. British Columbia, for example, received an envelope similar to that of Québec, but agreed to receive projects also from non-profit organizations.

In Québec, several social economy enterprises and organizations working in the cultural sector could benefit from this restart. For example, the École supérieure de ballet du Québec has been looking for several years for a place to compete with other major North American ballet schools, especially Toronto's, and thereby attract the best talent. Québec's school is currently in a building that is not suited for its activities.

As the Minister just named Ms. Ludmilla Chiriaeff, the founder of this institution soon to celebrate its 45th anniversary, as a historical figure, this is a golden opportunity for Québec to find a location worthy of the international reputation of its students. Management at the École supérieure de ballet du Québec recently had the opportunity to achieve its objective while also preserving our religious heritage by moving into the neighbouring Saint-Denis church. However, due to a lack of financial means it unfortunately does not have the ability to rehabilitate the building. This heartbreaking decision could be overturned if NPOs were accepted as part of this agreement.

My question is the following:

Why did the Minister decide to exclude non-profit organizations from her call for projects under the program *Aide au développement des infrastructures culturelles*, unlike other Canadian provinces, such as British Columbia?

(81) Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion) – **23 March 2022**
To the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources

Bill 35, An Act to modernize certain rules relating to land registration and to facilitate the dissemination of geospatial information, was passed in the National Assembly on 7 October 2020, and has since come into force. One of the reforms contained in the bill is the closure of registry offices, following the digitization and overhaul of the information contained in the land register. This reform introduces a new method for accessing this information on the department's website. Much of this information is crucial for the population, especially tenants. They need to be able to know the identity of their landlords, and registry offices were an important resource in this regard. For disadvantaged people, who are more often victims of evictions or abuse by their landlord, it is therefore now nearly impossible to access such information (due to digital divide and credit card requirement).

In light of the above, my question for the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources is the following:

What does the Minister intend to do to guarantee access to property information for disadvantaged people who do not have access to the Internet or who have difficulty using Web services, and who do not always have a credit card?

Part 6
NOTICES

I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

Government Bills

- (a) 22 March 2022
An Act to facilitate the conduct of the next general election in Québec – *Minister Responsible for Democratic Institutions and Electoral Reform*

Private Members' Public Bills

- (b) 15 March 2022
An Act to facilitate the Auditor General's access to documents and information necessary for the exercise of the Auditor General's powers and duties – *Member for Rosemont*

Private Bills

II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME

- (aa) An Act amending mainly certain Acts establishing public sector pension plans – *Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor*