



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

SECOND SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Tuesday, 29 March 2022 — No. 42

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

The Assembly was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Moment of reflection

Business Having Precedence

Debate on the Budget Speech

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned on 24 March 2022, on the motion moved by Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Leitão (Robert-Baldwin), Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), Ms. Anglade, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Mr. Arcand (Mont-Royal–Outremont), Mr. Fortin, Official Opposition House Leader, and Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of his address, Mr. Birnbaum (D’Arcy-McGee) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for its refusal to increase budgets for mental health and to reduce the unprecedented wait times to consult a psychologist, in order to respond in particular to the steep rise in the level of anxiety being experienced by Quebecers.

The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Leitão (Robert-Baldwin), Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), Ms. Anglade, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Mr. Arcand (Mont-Royal–Outremont), Mr. Fortin, Official Opposition House Leader, Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue) and Mr. Birnbaum (D’Arcy-McGee), subject to the receivability of these motions.

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At the end of her address, Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for its inaction on the housing crisis portfolio, for abandoning the AccèsLogis program and for the absence of structuring measures to both contain the expansion of the real estate bubble and give all Quebecers access to property.

The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Leitão (Robert-Baldwin), Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), Ms. Anglade, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Mr. Arcand (Mont-Royal–Outremont), Mr. Fortin, Official Opposition House Leader, Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue), Mr. Birnbaum (D’Arcy-McGee) and Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of his address, Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly censure the CAQ government for its lack of ambition with respect to the federal government and its resignation on the question of national identity.

The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Leitão (Robert-Baldwin), Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), Ms. Anglade, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Mr. Arcand (Mont-Royal–Outremont), Mr. Fortin, Official Opposition House Leader, Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue), Mr. Birnbaum (D’Arcy-McGee), Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé) and Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage), subject to the receivability of these motions.

The debate was adjourned in the name of Mr. Barrette (La Pinière).

At 12:00 p.m., Mr. Picard, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 1:40 p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 1:40 p.m.

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ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Ms. Lecours (Lotbinière-Frontenac) made a statement to underline the excellence of Cégep de Thetford in the field of research.

Ms. Robitaille (Bourassa-Sauvé) made a statement to underline the 108th birthday of Mr. Paul Lamaute.

Mr. Lemieux (Saint-Jean) made a statement to underline the holding of an adapted hockey festival in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu.

Mr. Benjamin (Viau) made a statement to underline the 50th anniversary of Maison d'Haïti.

Ms. Foster (Charlevoix-Côte-de-Beaupré) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Harold Noël for his 27 years of service to the citizens of Sainte-Pétronille and Île d'Orléans.

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Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion) made a statement to underline Greek Independence Day celebrations.

Mr. Bussière (Gatineau) made a statement to underline the 111th birthday of Ms. Émilienne Marcil.

Mr. Lévesque (Chapleau) made a statement to underline the 30th anniversary of the Maison de la culture de Gatineau.

Mr. Chassin (Saint-Jérôme) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Maxime Diraddo for having saved a man's life.

At 1:51 p.m., the President suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 2:02 p.m.

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Moment of reflection

Presenting Paper

Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader, tabled the following:

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 23 February 2022 by Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine) on ending work on the REM de l'Est and analyzing public transportation needs.

(Sessional Paper No. 439-20220329)

The President tabled the following:

The new seating plan of the National Assembly, dated 29 March 2022;

(Sessional Paper No. 440-20220329)

A Commonwealth Day message from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

(Sessional Paper No. 441-20220329)

Presenting Petitions

Ms. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition on exempting First Nations students from the language requirements set out under the *Charter of the French Language* and in Bill 96, signed by 268 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 442-20220329)

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Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

At the request of the President, Ms. Maltais (Taschereau) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Ms. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques), together with Ms. Charest, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, Ms. Mélançon (Verdun), Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey), Mr. Roy (Bonaventure), Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) and Ms. Montpetit (Maurice-Richard), moved:

THAT the National Assembly recognize that breastfeeding in a public space is a right;

THAT it condemn any obstruction of that right;

THAT the National Assembly encourage mothers who want to breastfeed in public spaces to do so.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

Mr. Ouellet (René-Lévesque), together with Mr. Rousselle (Vimont), Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey), Mr. Roy (Bonaventure), Ms. Samson (Iberville) and Mr. LeBel (Rimouski), moved a motion on the launching of a public inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the deaths of the Carpentier sisters and the abolition of permanent emergency units; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, moved a motion on the sums provided to Quebecers by the Government since the start of its mandate; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Ciccone (Marquette), together with Ms. Roy, Minister of Culture and Communications, Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey), Mr. Roy (Bonaventure), Ms. Samson (Iberville), Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) and Ms. Montpetit (Maurice-Richard), moved:

THAT the National Assembly congratulate journalist Marie-José Turcotte for her 40-year career with Radio-Canada;

THAT it recognize that her entire career has been marked by professionalism and that she has received many awards for her outstanding work;

THAT it underline her achievement of having participated in the coverage of 17 Olympic Games, including 15 as an anchor for Radio-Canada;

THAT it recall that during her 40-year career with Radio-Canada, Ms. Turcotte received many awards, including 15 Gemini awards, in addition to being inducted into the Order of Canada in 2014;

THAT, lastly, the Assembly thank Ms. Turcotte for helping to open the doors of her profession to generations of young women and for being a source of inspiration for many others.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the question was put on this motion; a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

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The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **271** in Appendix)

Yeas: **87** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 84.1 and pursuant to Standing Order 146, Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader, moved:

Common Provisions

THAT the following terms and conditions be applicable to the meetings of the standing committees devoted to the consideration of the 2022–2023 estimates of expenditure;

THAT, notwithstanding the second paragraph of Standing Order 282 and Standing Order 283, the time allotted for the consideration of the estimates of expenditure for 2022–2023 not exceed 120 hours, of which 100 hours of the speaking time be allocated to the Members in opposition and 20 hours to the parliamentary group forming the Government, and that the time allowed for the estimates of any one government department not exceed 12 hours;

THAT consideration of the estimates of expenditure for the year 2022–2023 continue for six sitting days, from Tuesday, 26 April 2022 to Thursday, 28 April 2022 and from Tuesday, 3 May 2022 to Thursday, 5 May 2022, at the times when committees may meet during the period of ordinary hours of meeting pursuant to the terms of the motion carried on 15 March 2022;

THAT, if necessary, in the event that it is impossible to plan a calendar for the consideration of the estimates during which the allotted 120 hours take place according to the above-mentioned schedule, the period on Wednesdays from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. may be used;

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THAT, if the 120 hours have not elapsed at the end of the six sitting days allotted therefor, the committees, as necessary, conclude their deliberations in the ensuing days, and the same rules apply;

THAT, subject to the foregoing, no committee meet on Monday and Friday of the aforementioned weeks when the 2022–2023 estimates of expenditure are considered in parliamentary committees and that no interpellation be held during these weeks;

THAT the independent Members indicate to the House leaders of the parliamentary groups the components they will participate in within the framework of the consideration of the main estimates prior to the tabling of the calendar for examination of the said estimates in the Assembly;

THAT the other provisions of the Standing Orders pertaining to the consideration of the main estimates apply, with the necessary modifications if applicable;

THAT the rules of procedure pertaining to standing committees apply to the exchanges insofar as those rules are consistent with the provisions of this motion;

Final Provision

THAT this motion take precedence over any incompatible provision of the Standing Orders.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. Caire, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following committees:

- the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 21, An Act mainly to end petroleum exploration and production and the public financing of those activities;
- the Committee on Culture and Education, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 96, An Act respecting French, the official and common language of Québec;
- the Committee on Public Finance, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of 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 Committee on Health and Social Services, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 15, An Act to amend the Youth Protection Act and other legislative provisions.

Ms. Soucy, Second Vice-President, gave the following notice:

- the Committee on Culture and Education shall hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the possibility of examining petitions.
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ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Debate on the Budget Speech

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned earlier in today's sitting, on the motion moved by Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Leitão (Robert-Baldwin), Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), Ms. Anglade, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Mr. Arcand (Mont-Royal–Outremont), Mr. Fortin, Official Opposition House Leader, Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue), Mr. Birnbaum (D'Arcy-McGee), Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé) and Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the beginning of her address, Ms. Dorion (Taschereau) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly censure the CAQ government for the unacceptable imbalance between investments in public transit and those in the road network in the 2022–2023 budget.

The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Leitão (Robert-Baldwin), Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), Ms. Anglade, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Mr. Arcand (Mont-Royal–Outremont), Mr. Fortin, Official Opposition House Leader, Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue), Mr. Birnbaum (D'Arcy-McGee), Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage) and Ms. Dorion (Taschereau), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of her address, Ms. Richard (Duplessis) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for its latest budget, which does not provide the necessary funds to begin a real shift toward home care.

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The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Leitão (Robert-Baldwin), Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), Ms. Anglade, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Mr. Arcand (Mont-Royal–Outremont), Mr. Fortin, Official Opposition House Leader, Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue), Mr. Birnbaum (D’Arcy-McGee), Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage), Ms. Dorion (Taschereau) and Ms. Richard (Duplessis), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of her address, Ms. Melançon (Verdun) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for its refusal to recognize the urgency of taking action to fight climate change by investing the bare minimum required by law, as well as for its reduction of incentives for the Roulez vert program.

The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Leitão (Robert-Baldwin), Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), Ms. Anglade, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Mr. Arcand (Mont-Royal–Outremont), Mr. Fortin, Official Opposition House Leader, Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue), Mr. Birnbaum (D’Arcy-McGee), Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage), Ms. Dorion (Taschereau), Ms. Richard (Duplessis) and Ms. Melançon (Verdun), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of her address, Ms. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly censure the CAQ government for its budget, which does not contain the necessary investments to achieve the 40% reduction target for petroleum product consumption, set out in the 2030 Energy Policy.

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The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Leitão (Robert-Baldwin), Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), Ms. Anglade, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Mr. Arcand (Mont-Royal–Outremont), Mr. Fortin, Official Opposition House Leader, Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue), Mr. Birnbaum (D’Arcy-McGee), Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage), Ms. Dorion (Taschereau), Ms. Richard (Duplessis), Ms. Melançon (Verdun) and Ms. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of her address, Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for not having made a concrete plan to remedy the urgent problem of the over 30,000 teachers who are not legally qualified and for having failed to substantially increase the number of places available for the qualifying master’s degree.

The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Leitão (Robert-Baldwin), Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), Ms. Anglade, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Mr. Arcand (Mont-Royal–Outremont), Mr. Fortin, Official Opposition House Leader, Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue), Mr. Birnbaum (D’Arcy-McGee), Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage), Ms. Dorion (Taschereau), Ms. Richard (Duplessis), Ms. Melançon (Verdun), Ms. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques) and Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of his address, Mr. Arseneau, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for not committing to abolishing the use of private placement agencies to reintegrate workers into the public health and social services network.

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The debate continued on the motion moved by Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Leitão (Robert-Baldwin), Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), Ms. Anglade, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Mr. Arcand (Mont-Royal–Outremont), Mr. Fortin, Official Opposition House Leader, Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue), Mr. Birnbaum (D’Arcy-McGee), Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage), Ms. Dorion (Taschereau), Ms. Richard (Duplessis), Ms. Melançon (Verdun), Ms. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques), Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent) and Mr. Arseneau, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, subject to the receivability of these motions.

The debate was adjourned in the name of Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis).

At 6:30 p.m., Ms. Gaudreault, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 30 March 2022 at 9:40 a.m.

FRANÇOIS PARADIS

President

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APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion moved by Mr. Ciccone (Marquette), together with Ms. Roy, Minister of Culture and Communications, Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey), Mr. Roy (Bonaventure), Ms. Samson (Iberville), Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) and Ms. Montpetit (Maurice-Richard):

(Division No. 271)

YEAS - 87

Allaire (CAQ)	Foster (CAQ)	Lecours (CAQ)	Provençal (CAQ)
Anglade (QLP)	Gaudreault (PQ)	(<i>Les Plaines</i>)	Reid (CAQ)
Arcand (QLP)	(<i>Jonquière</i>)	Leduc (QS)	Rizqy (QLP)
Arseneau (PQ)	Ghazal (QS)	Lefebvre (CAQ)	Roberge (CAQ)
Asselin (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ)	Leitão (QLP)	Rotiroti (QLP)
Bachand (CAQ)	(<i>Lac-Saint-Jean</i>)	Lemay (CAQ)	Rouleau (CAQ)
Barrette (QLP)	Girard (CAQ)	Lemieux (CAQ)	Rousselle (QLP)
Benjamin (QLP)	(<i>Groulx</i>)	Lévesque (CAQ)	Roy (IND)
Birnbaum (QLP)	Girault (CAQ)	(<i>Chauveau</i>)	(<i>Bonaventure</i>)
Blais (CAQ)	Grondin (CAQ)	Lévesque (CAQ)	Roy (CAQ)
(<i>Prévost</i>)	Guillemette (CAQ)	(<i>Chapleau</i>)	(<i>Montarville</i>)
Boulet (CAQ)	Hébert (CAQ)	Maccarone (QLP)	Simard (CAQ)
Bussièrre (CAQ)	Hivon (PQ)	Marissal (QS)	Skeete (CAQ)
Caire (CAQ)	Isabelle (CAQ)	Martel (CAQ)	Tardif (CAQ)
Campeau (CAQ)	Jacques (CAQ)	Massé (QS)	(<i>Laviolette-Saint-Maurice</i>)
Carmant (CAQ)	Jeannotte (CAQ)	McCann (CAQ)	Thouin (CAQ)
Caron (CAQ)	Julien (CAQ)	Mélançon (QLP)	Tremblay (CAQ)
Charbonneau (QLP)	Kelley (QLP)	Nichols (QLP)	Weil (QLP)
Charest (CAQ)	Labrie (QS)	Ouellet (PQ)	Zanetti (QS)
Charette (CAQ)	Lacombe (CAQ)	Perry Mélançon (PQ)	
Ciccone (QLP)	Laforest (CAQ)	Picard (CAQ)	
D'Amours (CAQ)	Laframboise (CAQ)	(<i>Soulanges</i>)	
Dansereau (CAQ)	Lafrenière (CAQ)	Polo (QLP)	
Dorion (QS)	Lamontagne (CAQ)	Poulin (CAQ)	
Dufour (CAQ)	LeBel (CAQ)	Proulx (CAQ)	
Émond (CAQ)	(<i>Champlain</i>)	(<i>Côte-du-Sud</i>)	
Fontecilla (QS)	Lecours (CAQ)	Proulx (CAQ)	
	(<i>Lotbinière-Frontenac</i>)	(<i>Berthier</i>)	