



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

SECOND SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 30 March 2022 — No. 43

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

The Assembly was called to order at 9:40 a.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Mr. Lévesque (Chauveau) made a statement to underline the appointment of Mr. Marc de Passorio as new executive chef at the restaurant La Traite.

Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) made a statement to underline the Festi-Cirque event.

Mr. Lemieux (Saint-Jean) made a statement to applaud the willingness to add additional resources to support Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu police officers in the fight against domestic violence.

Mr. Ciccone (Marquette) made a statement to pay tribute to Ms. Huguette Labelle Langlois and Mr. Louis Langlois for their volunteer work and community involvement.

Ms. IsaBelle (Huntingdon) made a statement to pay tribute to Ms. Elizabeth “Betty” Riel, founder of the Betty Riel Foundation.

30 March 2022

Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé) made a statement to congratulate the Gaspé riding recipients of honorary scholarships from the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation.

Mr. Allaire (Maskinongé) made a statement to underline the 50th anniversary of the company Jardins André-Carbonneau.

Ms. Dorion (Taschereau) made a statement to encourage the development and use of public transportation in Québec City.

Ms. Jeannotte (Labelle) made a statement to underline the release of the documentary *L'affaire silicose — L'histoire d'une injustice*.

Mr. Benjamin (Viau) made a statement to underline Mois du Sénégal.

At 9:52 a.m., Ms. Gaudreault, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 10:05 a.m.

30 March 2022

Moment of reflection

Presenting Papers

Ms. LeBel, Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, tabled the following:

The winter 2022 review of the 2019–2023 strategic plan of the Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor.

(Sessional Paper No. 443-20220330)

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

The reply to a written question from Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage) on the amounts invested annually and the investments planned for dementia and Alzheimer's research – Question No. 58, *Order Paper and Notices* of 8 February 2022.

(Sessional Paper No. 444-20220330)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

30 March 2022

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), together with Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey), Mr. Roy (Bonaventure) and Mr. LeBel (Rimouski), moved:

THAT the National Assembly highlight the importance of our municipalities as local governments and the need to commit to the principle of subsidiarity;

THAT it recall that their status as local governments was recognized through the passage of Bill 122 in 2017;

THAT it recognize their expertise and reiterate that they are autonomous in their areas of jurisdiction, in particular culture, recreation, community activities and parks, local economic development, the environment, sanitation, nuisances, safety and transportation, including public transportation;

THAT the National Assembly call on the Québec government to respect that autonomy, including by supporting, without interference, cities in the planning of their projects.

The question was put on this motion, and a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **272** in Appendix)

Yeas: **92** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

30 March 2022

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Roberge, Minister of Education, together with Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent), Ms. Labrie, House Leader of the Second Opposition Group, Ms. Hivon (Joliette), Mr. Roy (Bonaventure), Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) and Ms. Montpetit (Maurice-Richard), moved:

THAT the National Assembly condemn the Taliban's decision to not allow the reopening and attendance of high schools for Afghan girls;

THAT it reiterate that the promotion and protection of human rights, including gender equality, are fundamental values of Québec;

THAT it recall that universal access to education is essential for women's empowerment and ensures equality;

THAT it affirm its solidarity with Afghan women and girls.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

Mr. Derraji (Nelligan), together with Mr. Arseneau, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, and Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey), moved a motion on government management of the health and social services network; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), together with Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis), Mr. Ouellet, House Leader of the Third Opposition Group, Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey), Mr. Roy (Bonaventure) and Mr. LeBel (Rimouski), moved a motion on implementing prefilled tax returns for people living exclusively on government benefits; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

30 March 2022

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

THAT, within the framework of the consideration of Bill 29, An Act to facilitate the conduct of the next general election in Québec, the Committee on Institutions hold special consultations and public hearings on Tuesday, 5 April 2022, after Routine Proceedings until 4:45 p.m.;

THAT, for this purpose, the Committee hear Élections Québec;

THAT the presentation by Élections Québec last no longer than 20 minutes and the exchange with the Committee members last no longer than 70 minutes, allocated as follows: 32 minutes 30 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Government, 21 minutes 40 seconds to the Official Opposition, 5 minutes 25 seconds to the Second Opposition Group, 5 minutes 25 seconds to the Third Opposition Group and 5 minutes to the independent Member;

THAT the witness being heard be permitted to testify by video conference;

THAT the Minister Responsible for Democratic Institutions and Electoral Reform be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

30 March 2022

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. Gaudreault, Third Vice-President, gave the following notice:

- the Committee on Citizen Relations shall hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the possibility of examining a petition.
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30 March 2022

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Debate on the Budget Speech

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned on 29 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, 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.

During her address, Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for its budget, which does not take into account Quebecers’ food insecurity in the context of spiraling inflation.

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), Mr. Arseneau, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, and Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis), subject to the receivability of these motions.

30 March 2022

At the end of his address, Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly censure the CAQ government for its 2022–2023 budget, which does not include multi-year planning for the AccèsLogis program that addresses the needs of people who are inadequately housed.

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), Mr. Arseneau, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis) and Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion), subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the beginning of his address, Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government which, once again, is abandoning Québec patients by not introducing any concrete measures to remedy the situation in the health network and end the increasingly long waiting lists.

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), Mr. Arseneau, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis), Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion) and Mr. Derraji (Nelligan), subject to the receivability of these motions.

30 March 2022

At 1:00 p.m., Ms. Gaudreault, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3:00 p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 3:01 p.m.

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), Mr. Arseneau, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis), Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion) and Mr. Derraji (Nelligan), subject to the receivability of these motions.

During her address, Ms. Sauvé (Fabre) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for its budget, which does not take into account seniors living at home and the most vulnerable in situations of financial precarity.

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), Mr. Arseneau, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis), Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion), Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) and Ms. Sauvé (Fabre), subject to the receivability of these motions.

30 March 2022

At the beginning of his address, Mr. Nadeau-Dubois, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for its failure to support Quebecers in dealing with the cost of living crisis.

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), Mr. Arseneau, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis), Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion), Mr. Derraji (Nelligan), Ms. Sauvé (Fabre) and Mr. Nadeau-Dubois, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, subject to the receivability of these motions.

At the end of his address, Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for its lack of vision and ambition as regards environmental protection and the fight against climate change, as well as for the lack of a serious and credible plan to deal with the climate emergency.

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), Mr. Arseneau, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis), Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion), Mr. Derraji (Nelligan), Ms. Sauvé (Fabre), Mr. Nadeau-Dubois, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, and Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière), subject to the receivability of these motions.

30 March 2022

At the end of her address, Ms. Labrie, House Leader of the Second Opposition Group, moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly censure the CAQ government for not providing enough funding for the missions of community organizations to ensure their sustainability.

Given that 13 hours and 30 minutes had elapsed since Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, had begun the budget speech, the debate thereon was suspended in the Assembly to be resumed by the Committee on Public Finance, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 275.

Government Bills

Report Stage

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Citizen Relations on its clause-by-clause consideration of 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, together with the amendments transmitted by Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage).

The amendments were declared in order, except the amendment proposing to introduce section 21.3 to the bill, as it introduces a new principle into the bill.

By leave of the Assembly, Ms. Soucy, Second Vice-President, put the question on the amendments individually and on the reading thereof.

First, the question was put on the amendment introducing section 21.1.

The amendment was negatived.

The question was then put on the amendment introducing section 21.2.

The amendment was negatived.

30 March 2022

The question was then put on the amendment introducing section 21.4.

The amendment was negatived.

The question was then put on the amendment introducing section 21.5.

The amendment was negatived.

At 5:06 p.m., Ms. Soucy, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 5:11 p.m.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate was held on consideration of the report from the Committee on Citizen Relations, together with the amendments transmitted by Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage).

At 6:30 p.m., Ms. Soucy, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 31 March 2022 at 9:40 a.m.

FRANÇOIS PARADIS

President

30 March 2022

APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion moved by Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), together with Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey), Mr. Roy (Bonaventure) and Mr. LeBel (Rimouski):

(Division No. 272)

YEAS - 92

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Allaire (CAQ) | Fitzgibbon (CAQ) | Lecours (CAQ) | Provençal (CAQ) |
| Arcand (QLP) | Fontecilla (QS) | (Les Plaines) | Reid (CAQ) |
| Arseneau (PQ) | Foster (CAQ) | Leduc (QS) | Richard (PQ) |
| Bachand (CAQ) | Gaudreault (PQ) | Lefebvre (CAQ) | Rizqy (QLP) |
| Barrette (QLP) | (Jonquière) | Leitão (QLP) | Roberge (CAQ) |
| Bérubé (PQ) | Ghazal (QS) | Lemay (CAQ) | Rotiroti (QLP) |
| Blais (CAQ) | Girard (CAQ) | Lemieux (CAQ) | Rouleau (CAQ) |
| (Prévost) | (Lac-Saint-Jean) | Lévesque (CAQ) | Rousselle (QLP) |
| Boulet (CAQ) | Girault (CAQ) | (Chapleau) | Roy (IND) |
| Boutin (CAQ) | Grondin (CAQ) | Lévesque (CAQ) | (Bonaventure) |
| Bussière (CAQ) | Guillemette (CAQ) | (Chauveau) | Roy (CAQ) |
| Caire (CAQ) | Hébert (CAQ) | Maccarone (QLP) | (Montarville) |
| Campeau (CAQ) | Isabelle (CAQ) | Marissal (QS) | Samson (IND) |
| Carmant (CAQ) | Jacques (CAQ) | Martel (CAQ) | Sauvé (QLP) |
| Caron (CAQ) | Jeannotte (CAQ) | Massé (QS) | Simard (CAQ) |
| Charbonneau (QLP) | Julien (CAQ) | Mélançon (QLP) | Skeete (CAQ) |
| Charest (CAQ) | Kelley (QLP) | Ménard (QLP) | Tardif (CAQ) |
| Charette (CAQ) | Labrie (QS) | Nadeau-Dubois (QS) | (Laviolette-Saint-Maurice) |
| Chassé (CAQ) | Lacombe (CAQ) | Nichols (QLP) | Thouin (CAQ) |
| Chassin (CAQ) | Laforest (CAQ) | Ouellet (PQ) | Tremblay (CAQ) |
| Cicccone (QLP) | Laframboise (CAQ) | Perry Mélançon (PQ) | Weil (QLP) |
| D'Amours (CAQ) | Lafrenière (CAQ) | Picard (CAQ) | Zanetti (QS) |
| Dansereau (CAQ) | Lamontagne (CAQ) | (Soulanges) | |
| Derraji (QLP) | LeBel (CAQ) | Polo (QLP) | |
| Dorion (QS) | (Champlain) | Proulx (CAQ) | |
| Dubé (CAQ) | LeBel (IND) | (Berthier) | |
| Dufour (CAQ) | (Rimouski) | Proulx (CAQ) | |
| Émond (CAQ) | Lecours (CAQ) | (Côte-du-Sud) | |
| | (Lotbinière-Frontenac) | | |