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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

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FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

## **Order Paper and Notices**

**of the Assembly**

**Wednesday, 30 November 2022 — No. 2**

*Three p.m.*

**President of the National Assembly:  
Madam Nathalie Roy**

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*Opening Address delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor*

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**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**BUSINESS HAVING PRECEDENCE**

- (1) Opening Speech delivered by the Premier

## WRITTEN QUESTIONS

(1) Ms. Labrie (Sherbrooke) – **29 November 2022**

To the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor

Bill 12, introduced in the Second Session of the 42nd Legislature and assented to on 2 June 2022, became the *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*.

This Act is part of the Government's public procurement strategy, which aims to further open public procurement to Québec enterprises, in addition to giving priority to Québec-sourced and responsible procurement.

As a result of fruitful discussions during the clause-by-clause consideration leading to the passage of this Act, significant provisions aimed at promoting access to our public contracts for social economy enterprises within the meaning of the *Social Economy Act* (chapter E-1.1.1) have been included in this legislation.

Given this very relevant objective, we consider that it is important to know where we are starting from in order to better measure the progress made.

My questions are the following:

- What is the monetary value and share of public procurement obtained by social economy enterprises in recent years?
- What is the monetary value and share of public procurement obtained by social economy enterprises in the last year for which we have complete information?
- What are the Government's objectives with regard to developing the monetary value and share of public contracts obtained by social economy enterprises in the coming years?

- (2) **Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) – 30 November 2022**  
To the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility

The inauguration of the Pie-IX bus rapid transit (Pie-IX BRT) on November 7 is good news that we have long been waiting for. Unfortunately, a major shadow is cast over the project. Let's review its history.

Announced in 2009, the Pie-IX BRT was initially scheduled to be commissioned for 2013. However, the project has suffered several delays. Over the years, various electrification scenarios have been studied, including the use of trolleybuses, but this option has been discarded.

In March 2014, the project was presented to Montréal's executive committee, where BRT stations could be seen running from Montée Saint-François in Laval to Notre-Dame Street in Hochelaga-Maisonneuve, for a total of 21 stations.

In 2016, we went from 21 stations to 17. I decried the fact that the project stopped at Pie-IX metro station and left out the entire Hochelaga-Maisonneuve neighbourhood, for only 3 stops. In 2018, we asked for and obtained a phase 2 extension of the BRT to Notre-Dame, which was the same as the initial project. Work finally began in 2019.

Thirteen years after the project was announced, the Pie-IX BRT came into service not with 21 stations, but with 17. Yes, because we learned in the last few weeks that the section between Pie-IX station and Notre-Dame Street was suspended due to a call for tenders that was deemed inconclusive. However, on March 22, 2022, the STM's project website stated: "We are also planning to extend the Pierre-De Coubertin Avenue BRT to Notre-Dame Street. This phase is [...] expected to begin in fall 2022. The integrated Pie-IX BRT is one of the projects that was developed following the joint declaration from the Quebec and Montréal governments to revitalize the east end of the city".

How can we think about revitalizing the east end of Montréal if we cannot install a bus lane from the south to the north of the city? We need this extension to serve the southern part of the neighbourhood. The Minister must commit to rectifying the situation quickly. We will not accept this setback.

In light of the above:

1. Since the Government is a key funder of this project, is it abandoning the last three stops of the Pie-IX BRT or is it firmly committed to supporting the completion of this project?
2. I was 25 years old when the decision was made to set up this public transit project, and now, at 38, I can finally take the Pie-IX BRT. Will I have to wait until I am 50 years old to see the last three stops connecting Notre-Dame to Pie-IX station so that my riding is fully capable of having a public transit option worthy of the name? When will we see the Pie-IX BRT line completed?

(3) Ms. Rotiroti (Jeanne-Mance–Viger) – **30 November 2022**  
To the Minister of Immigration, Francization and Integration

We recently learned in an article in the Journal de Montréal that the time it takes to start a francization course in the Capitale-Nationale region has increased significantly, up to three months between eligibility for the course and its start.

This delay penalizes immigrants who have chosen to settle in Québec and who rely on these francization courses to be able to enter the labour market, in French.

According to data provided by the Ministère de l'Immigration, de la Francisation et de l'Intégration during the consideration of the 2022–2023 estimates of expenditure, the average time between the notice of eligibility for courses and the start of the full-time francization course in Québec was 26 working days. The three-month delay currently mentioned represents an anomalous situation that must be corrected.

Can the Minister tell us what specific measures she intends to put in place with francization stakeholders and partners in the Capitale-Nationale region to deal with the increased demand for francization courses, and will she commit to returning the delays to normal in the coming months?

## NOTICES

### I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

#### Private Members' Public Bills

- (a) 29 November 2022  
An Act to recognize the Members' oath to the people of Québec as the sole oath required for Members to take office – *Member for Jean-Lesage*

### II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME

- (aa) An Act to limit the indexation of several government tariffs – *Minister of Finance*