



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 22 March 2023 — No. 25

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

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

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Ms. Bourassa (Charlevoix–Côte-de-Beaupré) made a statement to underline Québec Meals on Wheels Week.

Mr. Benjamin (Viau) made a statement to underline the work of the Saint-Michel branch of the Association québécoise de défense des droits des personnes retraitées et préretraitées.

Mr. Poulin (Beauce-Sud) made a statement to applaud the work of promoter Les Amants de la scène and invite citizens to the Festival d'été de Saint-Georges.

Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) made a statement to underline Quebec Intellectual Disability Week.

Mr. Lemieux (Saint-Jean) made a statement to underline the arrival of a new cohort of nurses in the Saint-Jean riding.

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Ms. Rotiroti (Jeanne-Mance–Viger) made a statement to congratulate the members of the Les Suprêmes skating club, gold medalists at the Novice Canadian Championships for synchronized skating.

Ms. Soucy (Saint-Hyacinthe) made a statement to congratulate Ms. Éloïse Caron, gold medalist at the IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Women’s World Championship.

Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) made a statement to applaud the work of the first responders at the tragic event that occurred in Amqui on 13 March 2023.

Mr. Girard (Lac-Saint-Jean) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Raymond Maltais for his volunteer work and community involvement.

Mr. Laframboise (Blainville) made a statement to pay tribute to artist Micheline Brodeur.

Mr. Rivest (Côte-du-Sud) made a statement to underline the Mi-Carême festivities in Isle-aux-Grues.

Mr. Lafrenière (Vachon) made a statement to congratulate the participants of the Hydro-Québec Science Fair.

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At 9:55 a.m., Mr. Lévesque, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 10:04 a.m.

Moment of reflection

Presenting Petitions

Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon (Camille-Laurin) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition on adding an annex to Louise-Trichet high school, signed by 599 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 454-20230322)

Ms. Prass (D'Arcy-McGee) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition on improving the services and resources available to people with Tourette syndrome, signed by 2,504 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 455-20230322)

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, the Assembly proceeded with the tabling of a committee report.

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Ciccone (Marquette), Committee Chair, tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources, which met on 16 and 21 March 2023 for clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 13, An Act respecting the Hertel-New York interconnection line. The report does not contain amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 456-20230322)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 53 and 59, Mr. Bouazzi (Maurice-Richard) tabled the following:

A copy of a report entitled “Synthesis Report of the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (AR6)”.

(Sessional Paper No. 457-20230322)

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Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Roberge, Minister of the French Language, together with Ms. Setlakwe (Mont-Royal–Outremont), Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage), Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine), Ms. Tardif (Laviolette–Saint-Maurice) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark not only the Journée québécoise de la francophonie canadienne, but also International Francophonie Day;

THAT it recall the leading role Québec plays in the French-speaking world while respecting the diversity of francophone and Acadian communities and other governments;

THAT it reaffirm that it supports the francophone and Acadian communities because of the long history that unites them with the Québec nation and the fact that Québec is the only French-speaking State in North America;

THAT it reiterate that defending the French language in Québec is the responsibility of all generations of Quebecers;

THAT, lastly, it underline the commitment of all Québec government subsectors to promote the French language and the growth of francophone and Acadian communities.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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Ms. McGraw (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce), together with Mr. Nadeau-Dubois, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved a motion on the amounts invested in greenhouse gas reduction; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Ms. Labrie (Sherbrooke), together with Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Minister of Justice, Ms. Garceau (Robert-Baldwin), Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, Ms. Tardif (Laviolette–Saint-Maurice) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved:

THAT the National Assembly recognize that domestic violence includes psychological, verbal, physical, sexual and economic abuse;

THAT it underline that domestic violence has significant impacts on its victims;

THAT it underline that the *Criminal Code* does not make it possible to take into account certain forms of domestic violence and the considerable harm they cause, because no offence includes all aspects of coercive control;

THAT, lastly, the National Assembly ask the federal government to create an expert federal-provincial-territorial working group tasked with making recommendations on the drafting of legislation to add a coercive and controlling behaviour offence in the *Criminal Code*, as recommended in the report of the House of Commons of Canada's Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, together with Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage), moved a motion on implementing a single, pre-completed income tax return; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 143, Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following committees:

- the Committee on Institutions, to undertake public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 12, An Act to reform family law with regard to filiation and to protect children born as a result of sexual assault and the victims of that assault as well as the rights of surrogates and of children born of a surrogacy project;
- the Committee on Health and Social Services, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 10, An Act limiting the use of personnel placement agencies' services and independent labour in the health and social services sector.

Mr. Lévesque, Second Vice-President, gave the following notices:

- the Committee on Culture and Education shall hold a public meeting to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on the order of initiative on the revelations of violence during hazing in the junior hockey league and the potential situation in other sports;

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- the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources shall hold deliberative meetings to discuss the possibility of carrying out an order of initiative to hear the person who will be the next President and Chief Executive Officer of Hydro-Québec and to discuss the possibility of carrying out an order of initiative on the increase in the cost of food in Québec;
- the Committee on Labour and the Economy shall hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the possibility of carrying out an order of initiative on remote monitoring software.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Estimates of Expenditure

Interim Supply

Pursuant to the order adopted on 21 March 2023, the Assembly resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

At 11:07 a.m., Mr. Lévesque, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

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The proceedings resumed at 11:15 a.m.

Consideration in Committee of the Whole

The Committee of the Whole entered upon consideration of Interim Supply for the 2023–2024 fiscal year.

At 12:18 p.m., Mr. Lévesque, Chair of the Committee of the Whole, suspended the committee proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 12:24 p.m.

The Committee of the Whole continued its consideration of Interim Supply for the 2023–2024 fiscal year.

At 1:00 p.m., Mr. Lévesque, Chair of the Committee of the Whole, suspended the committee proceedings until 3:00 p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 3:02 p.m.

Mr. Benjamin, Chair of the Committee of the Whole, informed the Assembly that he had received three requests for debate upon adjournment to be held on Thursday, 23 March 2023:

- the first, on a question from Ms. Cadet (Bourassa-Sauvé) to Ms. Champagne Jourdain, Minister of Employment, on the lack of effective measures in the 2023–2024 budget to counter the labour shortage;

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- the second, on a question from Mr. Bouazzi (Maurice-Richard) to Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, on the deterioration of our public services;
- the third, on a question from Mr. Grandmont (Taschereau) to Ms. Laforest, Minister of Municipal Affairs, on the cities' disappointment with the budget.

The Committee of the Whole continued its consideration of Interim Supply for the 2023–2024 fiscal year.

At 3:29 p.m., Mr. Benjamin, Chair of the Committee of the Whole, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 3:36 p.m.

The Committee of the Whole continued its consideration of Interim Supply for the 2023–2024 fiscal year.

At 5:45 p.m., Ms. Soucy, Chair of the Committee of the Whole, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 5:51 p.m.

The Committee of the Whole continued its consideration of Interim Supply for the 2023–2024 fiscal year.

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The consideration being concluded, the question was put on concurrence in Interim Supply for the year 2023–2024, and a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **40** in Appendix)

Yeas: **73** Nays: **19** Abstentions: **0**

Accordingly, Interim Supply for the year 2023–2024 was granted.

The Chairman of the Committee of the Whole reported to the Assembly as follows:

The Committee of the Whole adopted a portion of the estimates of expenditure as a unit, i.e., a maximum amount of \$27,380,298,200.00, to cover part of Québec's expenditure budget presented in the National Assembly for the fiscal year 2023–2024, which was not otherwise provided for.

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

The report was concurred in on the following vote:

(Division No. **41** in Appendix)

Yeas: **73** Nays: **19** Abstentions: **0**

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

THAT Bill 18, Appropriation Act No. 1, 2023–2024, be brought before the Assembly;

THAT this bill do pass in principle;

THAT this bill do pass.

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

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **42** in Appendix)

Yeas: **73** Nays: **19** Abstentions: **0**

Accordingly, Bill 18, Appropriation Act No. 1, 2023–2024, was passed.

Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader, then moved:

THAT the estimates of expenditure for the year 2023–2024, save those of the National Assembly, be referred to the Standing Committees.

The motion was carried.

At 7:15 p.m., Ms. Soucy, First Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 23 March 2023 at 9:40 a.m.

NATHALIE ROY

President

APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion for concurrence in Interim Supply for the year 2023–2024:

(Division No. 40)

YEAS - 73

Allaire (CAQ)	Chassin (CAQ)	Jeannotte (CAQ)	Poulet (CAQ)
Asselin (CAQ)	D'Amours (CAQ)	Jolin-Barrette (CAQ)	Poulin (CAQ)
Bachand (CAQ)	Déry (CAQ)	Julien (CAQ)	Provençal (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Dionne (CAQ)	Lachance (CAQ)	Reid (CAQ)
(Prévost)	Dorismond (CAQ)	Lacombe (CAQ)	Rivest (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Drainville (CAQ)	Laframboise (CAQ)	Roberge (CAQ)
(Orford)	Dubé (CAQ)	Lafrenière (CAQ)	Rouleau (CAQ)
Bernard (CAQ)	Duranceau (CAQ)	Lamontagne (CAQ)	Roy (CAQ)
Biron (CAQ)	Émond (CAQ)	Lamothe (CAQ)	(Verchères)
Blais (CAQ)	Fréchette (CAQ)	LeBel (CAQ)	Sainte-Croix (CAQ)
Blanchette Vézina (CAQ)	Gagnon (CAQ)	Lecours (CAQ)	Schmaltz (CAQ)
Blouin (CAQ)	Gendron (CAQ)	(Les Plaines)	Schneeberger (CAQ)
Bogemans (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ)	Lecours (CAQ)	Skeete (CAQ)
Bonnardel (CAQ)	(Lac-Saint-Jean)	(Lotbinière-Frontenac)	St-Louis (CAQ)
Boulet (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ)	Lefebvre (CAQ)	Tardif (IND)
Bussière (CAQ)	(Groulx)	Legault (CAQ)	Tremblay (CAQ)
Caire (CAQ)	Groncin (CAQ)	Lemay (CAQ)	(Dubuc)
Carmant (CAQ)	Guilbault (CAQ)	Lévesque (CAQ)	
Caron (CAQ)	Guillemette (CAQ)	(Chapleau)	
(Portneuf)	Haytayan (CAQ)	Mallette (CAQ)	
Charest (CAQ)	Hébert (CAQ)	Montigny (CAQ)	
Charette (CAQ)	Jacques (CAQ)	Picard (CAQ)	

NAYS - 19

Beauchemin (QLP)	Derraji (QLP)	Lakhoyan Olivier (QLP)	Rotiroti (QLP)
Bérubé (PQ)	Dufour (QLP)	Maccarone (QLP)	Setlakwe (QLP)
Cadet (QLP)	(Mille-Îles)	McGraw (QLP)	Tanguay (QLP)
Caron (QLP)	Fortin (QLP)	Morin (QLP)	
(La Pinière)	Garceau (QLP)	Nichols (IND)	
Ciccone (QLP)	Labrie (QS)	Rizqy (QLP)	

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On the report from the Committee of the Whole:

(Division No. 41)

(Identical to Division No. 40)

On the motion moved by Ms. LeBel, Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor:

(Division No. 42)

(Identical to Division No. 40)