



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 24 May 2023 — No. 46

**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. Cadet (Bourassa-Sauvé) made a statement to underline the accomplishments of the Centre d'excellence en karaté du Québec and its members.

Mr. Asselin (Vanier-Les Rivières) made a statement to underline the inauguration of an outdoor class at École Notre-Dame-du-Canada.

Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin) made a statement to congratulate the Génies en herbe team from École secondaire Père-Marquette, winner of the regional competition.

Ms. Boivin Roy (Anjou-Louis-Riel) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Marcel Brouillard, journalist, columnist and author.

Ms. Prass (D'Arcy-McGee) made a statement to underline Canadian Jewish Heritage Month.

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Ms. Gendron (Châteauguay) made a statement to underline the success of the annual review of the Corps de cadets 2972 Mercier.

Ms. Dionne (Rivière-du-Loup–Témiscouata) made a statement to underline the success of the Le Tremplin song and comedy festival in Dégelis.

Ms. Bogemans (Iberville) made a statement to underline the work of the Association québécoise de défense des droits des personnes retraitées et préretraitées.

Mr. Laframboise (Blainville) made a statement to underline the 35th anniversary of the organization Moisson Laurentides.

Mr. Lévesque (Chapleau) made a statement to underline the presence of members of Radio Jeunesse, who were visiting the National Assembly.

Ms. LeBel (Champlain) made a statement to congratulate the dance troupe Conversion, winner of the television show *Canada's Got Talent*.

Ms. D'Amours (Mirabel) made a statement to congratulate the winners of the Championnat des débats d'étudiants du centre de services scolaire de la Rivière-du-Nord.

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At 9:55 a.m., Ms. Soucy, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 10:04 a.m.

Moment of reflection

Introduction of Bills

Mr. Skeete, Minister for the Economy, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following bill:

17 An Act to amend various provisions for the main purpose of reducing regulatory and administrative burden

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, Bill 17 was introduced in the Assembly.

Presenting Papers

Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, tabled the following:

The 2022 annual report of the Organisme d'autoréglementation du courtage immobilier du Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 589-20230524)

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

The reply to a written question from Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion) on the establishment of a Québec renovation program under the Canada-Québec Housing Agreement – Question No. 21, *Order Paper and Notices* of 5 April 2023.

(Sessional Paper No. 590-20230524)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Provençal (Beauce-Nord), Committee Chair, tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on Health and Social Services, which held public hearings on 19 and 20 April and on 9, 10, 11 and 23 May 2023 within the framework of special consultations on Bill 15, An Act to make the health and social services system more effective.

(Sessional Paper No. 591-20230524)

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Allaire (Maskinongé) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition on implementing measures to support potentially violent individuals in a perturbed mental state, signed by 23,650 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 592-20230524)

24 May 2023

Ms. Labrie (Sherbrooke) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition on resolving complaints related to the maintenance of pay equity in the health and social services network, signed by 5,632 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 593-20230524)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mr. Allaire (Maskinongé) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition on implementing measures to support potentially violent individuals in a perturbed mental state, signed by 350 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 594-20230524)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Ms. Labrie (Sherbrooke) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition on resolving complaints related to the maintenance of pay equity in the health and social services network, signed by 2,936 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 595-20230524)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

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Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Ms. Prass (D'Arcy-McGee), together with Ms. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques), Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved:

THAT the National Assembly acknowledge that the subsidy program to support families was created in 1995 to provide financial support to families who reside with a child who has a physical or intellectual disability or autism spectrum disorder (ASD);

THAT it note that one of the main objectives of this program is to prevent parents from suffering burnout by subsidizing respite and that it also contributes to keeping children in their home environment;

THAT it acknowledge that the amounts granted to families through this program have not been indexed since 1995;

THAT the National Assembly recall that the inflation rate and consumer prices have significantly increased in Canada since 1995 and that more and more families are struggling to make ends meet;

THAT, lastly, it ask the CAQ government to present by the fall a review of the program including, in particular, an increase in the amounts granted to families for respite.

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

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 96 in Appendix)

Yeas: **103** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

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Mr. Bouazzi (Maurice-Richard), together with Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, Mr. Kelley (Jacques-Cartier) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved a motion on the examination of Hydro-Québec's Strategic Plan 2022–2026 by the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia), together with Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent), Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved a motion on the remuneration of teachers; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Ms. Biron, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, together with Ms. Garceau (Robert-Baldwin), Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the 50th anniversary of the Conseil du statut de la femme;

THAT it recognize that the Conseil has developed a unique expertise on gender equality issues;

THAT it applaud the Québec government's decision to register its creation in the Répertoire du patrimoine culturel du Québec as a historic event.

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

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 97 in Appendix)

Yeas: **93** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

24 May 2023

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 25, An Act to fight illegal tourist accommodation;
- the Committee on Institutions, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 14, An Act to amend various provisions relating to public security and to enact the Act to assist in locating missing persons;
- the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 16, An Act to amend the Act respecting land use planning and development and other provisions;
- the Committee on Public Finance, to undertake clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 7, An Act respecting the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speech of 22 March 2022 and amending other legislative provisions;
- the Committee on Citizen Relations, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 11, An Act to amend the Act respecting end-of-life care and other legislative provisions;
- the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, to hear the interested parties and undertake clause-by-clause consideration of these private bills in the following order: Bill 200, An Act respecting the cancellation of a servitude encumbering certain lots situated in Ville de Carignan; Bill 201, An Act respecting Municipalité de Morin-Heights; Bill 202, An Act respecting Ville de Saint-Jérôme.

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

- the Committee on Citizen Relations shall hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the possibility of examining a petition on appointing a minister responsible for the fight against homophobia and transphobia.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned on 23 May 2023, on the motion moved by Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader and Minister of Justice, that Bill 24, An Act to follow up on the recommendations of the report of the Comité consultatif indépendant sur la révision de l'indemnité annuelle des membres de l'Assemblée nationale, do now pass in principle.

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

Accordingly, pursuant to Standing Order 97, the debate on the motion moved by Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader and Minister of Justice, was adjourned in the name of Ms. Zaga Mendez (Verdun).

The proceedings resumed at 3:00 p.m.

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Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition

Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, moved:

THAT the National Assembly affirm that full compliance with the laws democratically passed by the Parliament of Québec, in particular Québec's *Election Act* and the *Referendum Act*, is an essential condition for maintaining the Québec nation's democratic health and respect for its democratically expressed will;

THAT it recall that the conclusions of Commissioner Bernard Grenier's report, published in May 2007, state that a total of \$539,460 was spent illegally by Option Canada and the Council for Canadian Unity during the 1995 referendum period;

THAT it recall that the Grenier Commission was not mandated to look into other potentially fraudulent expenses, such as the organization of the "love-in" and the advertising placement funded by Canadian Heritage;

THAT it affirm that nearly 30 years have passed since the 1995 referendum campaign and that the right to freedom of expression, the right to freedom of the press, the right to information and the open court principle require that the documents compiled as part of Commissioner Grenier's work be publicly disclosed to ensure future generations' right to know Québec's history;

THAT it therefore order the Government of Québec to introduce as soon as possible a bill to declassify all the Grenier Commission documents and initiate all legislative procedures necessary for this purpose.

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Mr. Lévesque, Second Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time with respect to this limited debate: 10 minutes to the mover of the motion for his reply; 49 minutes 15 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 26 minutes 30 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 16 minutes 45 seconds to the Second Opposition Group; 16 minutes to the Third Opposition Group; and 1 minute 30 seconds to the independent Member. Within this framework, any time not used by the independent Member or by a parliamentary group shall be redistributed among the parliamentary groups in the proportions established above. Lastly, individual addresses shall not be limited.

A debate arose thereon.

During his address, Mr. Derraji, Official Opposition House Leader, moved:

THAT the motion moved by the Leader of the Third Opposition Group be amended as follows:

By replacing the third paragraph by the following paragraph:

“THAT it recall that the Grenier Commission was mandated to conduct an inquiry into all the facts contained and described in the book *Les Secrets d’Option Canada* and in all the documents that had been provided by the authors of this book to the Chief Electoral Officer, as well as into any other information or document he could become aware of in the exercise of his mandate;”;

By adding “ while respecting the privileges recognized in law,” after “publicly disclosed” in the fourth paragraph;

By replacing “declassify” by “establish a process to declassify” in the fifth paragraph.

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The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly affirm that full compliance with the laws democratically passed by the Parliament of Québec, in particular Québec's *Election Act* and the *Referendum Act*, is an essential condition for maintaining the Québec nation's democratic health and respect for its democratically expressed will;

THAT it recall that the conclusions of Commissioner Bernard Grenier's report, published in May 2007, state that a total of \$539,460 was spent illegally by Option Canada and the Council for Canadian Unity during the 1995 referendum period;

THAT it recall that the Grenier Commission was mandated to conduct an inquiry into all the facts contained and described in the book *Les Secrets d'Option Canada* and in all the documents that had been provided by the authors of this book to the Chief Electoral Officer, as well as into any other information or document he could become aware of in the exercise of his mandate;

THAT it affirm that nearly 30 years have passed since the 1995 referendum campaign and that the right to freedom of expression, the right to freedom of the press, the right to information and the open court principle require that the documents compiled as part of Commissioner Grenier's work be publicly disclosed, while respecting the privileges recognized in law, to ensure future generations' right to know Québec's history;

THAT it therefore order the Government of Québec to introduce as soon as possible a bill to establish a process to declassify all the Grenier Commission documents and initiate all legislative procedures necessary for this purpose.

The debate continued on the main motion moved by Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, and on the amendment motion moved by Mr. Derraji (Nelligan), subject to the permission of its author.

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At the beginning of his address, Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) moved:

THAT the motion moved by the Leader of the Third Opposition Group be amended as follows:

1. By striking out the first paragraph;
2. By striking out the second paragraph;
3. By striking out the third paragraph;
4. By striking out the fourth paragraph;
5. By replacing the fifth paragraph by the following:

“THAT the National Assembly ask the Chief Electoral Officer of Québec to disclose and make public all the testimonies and documents from the Grenier Commission as soon as possible.”

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly ask the Chief Electoral Officer of Québec to disclose and make public all the testimonies and documents from the Grenier Commission as soon as possible.

The debate continued on the main motion moved by Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, and on the amendment motions moved by Mr. Derraji, Official Opposition House Leader, and by Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia), subject to the permission of its author.

Pursuant to Standing Order 98.1, Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, refused the amendment proposed by Mr. Derraji, Official Opposition House Leader, and accepted the amendment proposed by Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia).

The debate being concluded, the question was first put on the amendment motion moved by Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia).

The motion was carried.

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The question was then put on the motion moved by Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, as amended; a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

At the request of Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, the division was deferred until Routine Proceedings on the next sitting day.

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned earlier in the sitting, on the motion moved by Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader and Minister of Justice, that Bill 24, An Act to follow up on the recommendations of the report of the Comité consultatif indépendant sur la révision de l'indemnité annuelle des membres de l'Assemblée nationale, do now pass in principle.

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

At the request of Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, the division was deferred until Routine Proceedings on the next sitting day.

Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Minister of Justice, moved that Bill 26, An Act to amend the Courts of Justice Act to, in particular, give effect to the agreement between the chief judge of the Court of Québec and the Minister of Justice, do now pass in principle.

A debate arose thereon.

The debate was adjourned in the name of Ms. Setlakwe (Mont-Royal–Outremont).

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At 6:30 p.m., Mr. Lévesque, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 25 May 2023 at 9:40 a.m.

NATHALIE ROY

President

APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion moved by Ms. Prass (D’Arcy-McGee), together with Ms. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques), Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil):

(Division No. 96)

YEAS - 103

Abou-Khalil (CAQ)	Charest (CAQ)	Jacques (CAQ)	Nichols (IND)
Allaire (CAQ)	Charette (CAQ)	Jeannotte (CAQ)	Poulet (CAQ)
Arseneau (PQ)	Chassin (CAQ)	Jolin-Barrette (CAQ)	Poulin (CAQ)
Asselin (CAQ)	Ciccone (QLP)	Julien (CAQ)	Prass (QLP)
Bachand (CAQ)	Cliche-Rivard (QS)	Labrie (QS)	Proulx (CAQ)
Beauchemin (QLP)	Derraji (QLP)	Lachance (CAQ)	Provençal (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Déry (CAQ)	Lacombe (CAQ)	Rivest (CAQ)
(Orford)	Dionne (CAQ)	Laforest (CAQ)	Roberge (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Dorismond (CAQ)	Laframboise (CAQ)	Rotiroti (QLP)
(Prévost)	Drainville (CAQ)	Lafrenière (CAQ)	Rouleau (CAQ)
Bernard (CAQ)	Dufour (QLP)	Lakhoyan Olivier (QLP)	Roy (CAQ)
Bérubé (PQ)	(Mille-Îles)	Lamontagne (CAQ)	(Verchères)
Biron (CAQ)	Dufour (CAQ)	Lamothe (CAQ)	Sainte-Croix (CAQ)
Blanchette Vézina (CAQ)	(Abitibi-Est)	LeBel (CAQ)	Schmaltz (CAQ)
Bogemans (CAQ)	Duranceau (CAQ)	Lecours (CAQ)	Schneeberger (CAQ)
Boivin Roy (CAQ)	Émond (CAQ)	(Les Plaines)	Setlakwe (QLP)
Bonnardel (CAQ)	Fitzgibbon (CAQ)	Leduc (QS)	Simard (CAQ)
Bouazzi (QS)	Fontecilla (QS)	Lefebvre (CAQ)	Skeete (CAQ)
Boulet (CAQ)	Fortin (QLP)	Lemay (CAQ)	St-Louis (CAQ)
Bourassa (CAQ)	Fréchette (CAQ)	Lemieux (CAQ)	St-Pierre Plamondon (PQ)
			Tardif (CAQ)
Boutin (CAQ)	Garceau (QLP)	Lévesque (CAQ)	Tremblay (CAQ)
Bussière (CAQ)	Gendron (CAQ)	(Chapleau)	(Hull)
Cadet (QLP)	Ghazal (QS)	Maccarone (QLP)	Zaga Mendez (QS)
Caire (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ)	Mallette (CAQ)	Zanetti (QS)
Carmant (CAQ)	(Lac-Saint-Jean)	Marissal (QS)	
Caron (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ)	Martel (CAQ)	
(Portneuf)	(Groulx)	Massé (QS)	
Caron (QLP)	Grandmont (QS)	McGraw (QLP)	
(La Pinière)	Groncin (CAQ)	Montigny (CAQ)	
Champagne Jourdain (CAQ)	Guillemette (CAQ)	Morin (QLP)	

24 May 2023

On the motion moved by Ms. Biron, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, together with Ms. Garceau (Robert-Baldwin), Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), Mr. St - Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil):

(Division No. 97)

YEAS - 93

Abou-Khalil (CAQ)	Charette (CAQ)	Julien (CAQ)	Poulin (CAQ)
Allaire (CAQ)	Ciccone (QLP)	Labrie (QS)	Prass (QLP)
Asselin (CAQ)	Cliche-Rivard (QS)	Lachance (CAQ)	Proulx (CAQ)
Bachand (CAQ)	Derraji (QLP)	Lacombe (CAQ)	Provençal (CAQ)
Beauchemin (QLP)	Dionne (CAQ)	Laforest (CAQ)	Rivest (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Dorismond (CAQ)	Laframboise (CAQ)	Roberge (CAQ)
(Prévost)	Dufour (QLP)	Lafrenière (CAQ)	Rotiroti (QLP)
Bernard (CAQ)	(Mille-Îles)	Lakhoyan Olivier (QLP)	Rouleau (CAQ)
Biron (CAQ)	Dufour (CAQ)	Lamontagne (CAQ)	Roy (CAQ)
Blanchette Vézina (CAQ)	(Abitibi-Est)	Lamothe (CAQ)	(Verchères)
Bogemans (CAQ)	Duranceau (CAQ)	LeBel (CAQ)	Sainte-Croix (CAQ)
Boivin Roy (CAQ)	Émond (CAQ)	Leduc (QS)	Schmaltz (CAQ)
Bonnardel (CAQ)	Fontecilla (QS)	Lefebvre (CAQ)	Schneeberger (CAQ)
Bouazzi (QS)	Fortin (QLP)	Lemay (CAQ)	Setlakwe (QLP)
Boulet (CAQ)	Fréchette (CAQ)	Lemieux (CAQ)	Simard (CAQ)
Bourassa (CAQ)	Garceau (QLP)	Lévesque (CAQ)	Skeete (CAQ)
Boutin (CAQ)	Gendron (CAQ)	(Chapleau)	St-Louis (CAQ)
Bussière (CAQ)	Ghazal (QS)	Maccarone (QLP)	Tardif (CAQ)
Cadet (QLP)	Girard (CAQ)	Mallette (CAQ)	Tremblay (CAQ)
Caire (CAQ)	(Lac-Saint-Jean)	Marissal (QS)	(Hull)
Carmant (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ)	Martel (CAQ)	Zaga Mendez (QS)
Caron (QLP)	(Groulx)	Massé (QS)	Zanetti (QS)
(La Pinière)	Grandmont (QS)	McGraw (QLP)	
Caron (CAQ)	Grondin (CAQ)	Montigny (CAQ)	
(Portneuf)	Guillemette (CAQ)	Morin (QLP)	
Champagne Jourdain (CAQ)	Jacques (CAQ)	Nichols (IND)	
Charest (CAQ)	Jeannotte (CAQ)	Poulet (CAQ)	