



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Order Paper and Notices

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 31 May 2023 – No. 49

Nine forty a.m.

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

Part 1

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

- The Member for Charlevoix–Côte-de-Beaupré on the following subject: *Cassis Mona & Filles, a family business that shines!*
- The Member for Acadie on the following subject: *Congratulate Ms. Nathalie Cadotte for a long and successful teaching career at the Cégep de Saint-Laurent.*
- The Member for Saint-François on the following subject: *Kruger Products, winner and finalist at the Mercuriades.*
- The Member for Mercier on the following subject: *The Semaine du travail de rue and the work done by the organization Plein Milieu.*
- The Member for Saint-Jean on the following subject: *A medal from the Member for Mr. Alain Durivage... a modern-day patriot.*
- The Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on the following subject: *Congratulations to the recipients of the third edition of the Bursary of the MNA for Westmount–Saint-Louis.*
- The Member for Iberville on the following subject: *Tribute for the 50th anniversary of the FADOQ Club Henryville.*
- The Member for Gaspé on the following subject: *Gaspesian Day.*
- The Member for Laporte on the following subject: *20th anniversary of the Conservatoire de musique de la Montérégie.*
- The Member for Lotbinière-Frontenac on the following subject: *Polyvalente de Thetford Mines is designated as a Chain of Life school.*
- The Member for Portneuf on the following subject: *Mr. Jules Savoie: a passion for the most beautiful villages of Québec.*
- The Member for Borduas on the following subject: *Recognition of Mr. Shawn Burnett.*

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

- PRESENTING**
- (a) **Papers**
 - (b) **Reports from committees**
 - (c) **Petitions**

ORAL ANSWERS TO PETITIONS

**COMPLAINTS OF BREACH OF PRIVILEGE OR CONTEMPT AND
PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS**

ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

DEFERRED DIVISIONS

Motion moved by the Minister of Health for the passage in principle of Bill 15, An Act to make the health and social services system more effective.

MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

NOTICES OF PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEES

INFORMATION ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Part 2

ORDERS OF THE DAY

BUSINESS HAVING PRECEDENCE

URGENT DEBATES

DEBATES ON REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

- (1) Report from the Committee on Culture and Education, which, on 22 February and 21, 22 and 23 March 2023, held public hearings within the framework of special consultations on the revelations of violence during hazing in the junior hockey league and the potential situation in other sports. The report contains 23 recommendations.
Report tabled on **30 May 2023**.
Subject to the provisions of the second paragraph of Standing Order 94, this report shall be taken into consideration not later than **14 June 2023**.

OTHER BUSINESS

I. Government Bills

Passage in Principle

- (2) Bill 15
An Act to make the health and social services system more effective
Introduced by the Minister of Health on 29 March 2023
Report from the Committee on Health and Social Services (consultations) tabled on 24 May 2023
Vote deferred on **30 May 2023**
- (3) Bill 17
An Act to amend various provisions for the main purpose of reducing regulatory and administrative burden
Introduced by the Minister for the Economy on **24 May 2023**
- (4) Bill 22
An Act respecting expropriation
Introduced by the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility on **25 May 2023**

- (5) Bill 23*
An Act to amend mainly the Education Act and to enact the Act respecting the Institut national d'excellence en éducation
Introduced by the Minister of Education on **4 May 2023**

*** Recommendation of the Lieutenant-Governor**

- (6) Bill 27
An Act to amend the Taxation Act, the Act respecting the Québec sales tax and other provisions
Introduced by the Minister of Finance on **30 May 2023**

Committee Stage

- (7) Bill 11
An Act to amend the Act respecting end-of-life care and other legislative provisions
Introduced by the Minister for Health and for Seniors on 16 February 2023
Report from the Committee on Citizen Relations (consultations) tabled on 30 March 2023
Passed in principle on **4 April 2023**, and
Referred to the Committee on Citizen Relations

- (8) Bill 14
An Act to amend various provisions relating to public security and to enact the Act to assist in locating missing persons
Introduced by the Minister of Public Security on 15 March 2023
Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on 18 April 2023
Passed in principle on **19 April 2023**, and
Referred to the Committee on Institutions

- (9) Bill 20
An Act to establish the Blue Fund and to amend other provisions
Introduced by the Minister of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks on 6 April 2023
Report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment (consultations) tabled on 23 May 2023
Passed in principle on **25 May 2023**, and
Referred to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment

- (10) 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
Introduced by the Government House Leader and Minister of Justice on 11 May 2023
Passed in principle on **25 May 2023**, and
Referred to the Committee on Institutions
- (11) Bill 25
An Act to fight illegal tourist accommodation
Introduced by the Minister of Tourism on 9 May 2023
Report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy (consultations) tabled on 25 May 2023
Passed in principle on **30 May 2023**, and
Referred to the Committee on Labour and the Economy
- (12) 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
Introduced by the Minister of Justice on 9 May 2023
Passed in principle on **25 May 2023**, and
Referred to the Committee on Institutions

Report Stage

- (13) Bill 16
An Act to amend the Act respecting land use planning and development and other provisions
Introduced by the Minister of Municipal Affairs on 21 March 2023
Report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain (consultations) tabled on 20 April 2023
Passed in principle on 9 May 2023
Report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain tabled on **30 May 2023** (Amend. handed in under Standing Order 252)
- (14) Bill 19
An Act respecting the regulation of work by children
Introduced by the Minister of Labour on 28 March 2023
Report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy (consultations) tabled on 20 April 2023
Passed in principle on 9 May 2023
Report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy tabled on **30 May 2023**

Passage

- (15) Bill 7*
An Act respecting the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speech of 22 March 2022 and amending other legislative provisions
Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 1 February 2023
Passed in principle on 15 February 2023
Report from the Committee on Public Finance tabled on **25 May 2023**

*** Recommendation of the Lieutenant-Governor**

- (16) 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
Introduced by the Minister of Justice on 23 February 2023
Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on 30 March 2023
Passed in principle on 30 March 2023
Report from the Committee on Institutions tabled on **23 May 2023**

II. Private Members' Public Bills

Passage in Principle

- (17) Bill 190
An Act to recognize the Members' oath to the people of Québec as the sole oath required for Members to take office
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **1 December 2022**
- (18) Bill 191
An Act to amend the Act respecting safety in sports to prohibit fighting in sports activities in which persons under 18 years of age participate
Introduced by the Member for Marquette on **8 December 2022**
- (19) Bill 192
An Act to ensure student health and safety in the classroom by regulating ambient air quality in schools
Introduced by the Member for Saint-Laurent on **7 December 2022**

- (20) Bill 193
An Act to amend the Charter of human rights and freedoms to recognize the right to a healthful environment as a fundamental right
Introduced by the Member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce on **1 February 2023**
- (21) Bill 194
An Act to establish a presumption of consent to organ or tissue donation after death
Introduced by the Member for Pontiac on **26 April 2023**
- (22) Bill 195
An Act to amend the Consumer Protection Act to fight planned obsolescence and assert the right to repair goods
Introduced by the Member for Saint-Laurent on **2 February 2023**
- (23) Bill 196
An Act to amend the Educational Childcare Act to guarantee the right to receive childcare services
Introduced by the Member for Robert-Baldwin on **14 March 2023**
- (24) Bill 197
An Act to improve the quality of care through the setting of ratios in certain institutions governed by the Act respecting health services and social services
Introduced by the Member for Pontiac on **6 December 2022**
- (25) Bill 198
An Act to amend the Civil Code to ensure greater protection of seniors as lessees against repossession of dwellings and evictions
Introduced by the Member for Sherbrooke on **21 February 2023**
- (26) Bill 199
An Act to better protect consumers against abusive credit contracts
Introduced by the Member for Saint-Laurent on **23 February 2023**
- (27) Bill 390
An Act to promote taking gender equality and diversity in an intersectional perspective into account in the budgetary process
Introduced by the Member for Mercier on **21 March 2023**

- (28) Bill 391
An Act to amend the Education Act to enshrine the right to free special school projects offered in schools providing preschool or elementary and secondary education and to limit the distance between immovables of a school with a special project
Introduced by the Member for Saint-Laurent on **16 March 2023**
- (29) Bill 392
An Act respecting the suspension of the issuing of new mining claims and ending the precedence of mining and gas rights over other land uses
Introduced by the Member for Verdun on **18 April 2023**
- (30) Bill 393
An Act to combat food waste
Introduced by the Member for Verdun on **6 April 2023**
- (31) Bill 396
An Act to amend the Act to reduce the debt and establish the Generations Fund to provide for the achievement of a capitalization of one hundred billion dollars
Introduced by the Member for Marguerite-Bourgeoys on **16 March 2023**
- (32) Bill 397
An Act to prevent and fight sexual violence in educational institutions that provide preschool education services, elementary school instructional services or secondary school instructional services in general or vocational education, including adult education services
Introduced by the Member for Mercier on **27 April 2023**
- (33) Bill 398
An Act to amend the Education Act to enshrine the right of handicapped students and students with social maladjustments or learning disabilities to receive educational services equivalent to those provided by the school
Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on **20 April 2023**

- (34) Bill 399
An Act to amend the Act respecting the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec to require the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec to make and to report on investments with sustainable social and environmental impacts
Introduced by the Member for Maurice-Richard on **27 April 2023**
- (35) Bill 490
An Act to reinforce the qualified majority required for the appointment and removal of persons appointed by the National Assembly
Introduced by the Member for Nelligan on **18 April 2023**
- (36) Bill 492
An Act to combat waste
Introduced by the Member for Îles-de-la-Madeleine on **18 April 2023**
- (37) Bill 493
An Act to amend the Québec Immigration Act to take temporary residents into account for immigration planning purposes
Introduced by the Member for Nelligan on **10 May 2023**
- (38) Bill 494
An Act to amend the Civil Code to render without effect the clauses of a lease of a dwelling tending to prohibit companion animals
Introduced by the Member for Laurier-Dorion on **25 May 2023**

Committee Stage

Report Stage

Passage

III. Private Bills

Hearings and Clause-by-Clause Consideration

- (39) Bill 200
An Act respecting the cancellation of a servitude encumbering certain lots situated in Ville de Carignan
Introduced by the Member for Richelieu on **26 April 2023**, and
Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

- (40) Bill 201
An Act respecting Municipalité de Morin-Heights
Introduced by the Member for Argenteuil on **20 April 2023**, and
Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain
- (41) Bill 202
An Act respecting Ville de Saint-Jérôme
Introduced by the Member for Saint-Jérôme on **26 April 2023**, and
Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain
- (42) Bill 203
An Act respecting the objects and powers of the Roman Catholic
Archiepiscopal corporation of Montreal
Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on **19 April 2023**,
and
Referred to the Committee on Institutions

Passage in Principle

Passage

IV. Government Motions

V. Estimates of Expenditure

VI. Statutory Debates

BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION

Part 3

BILLS PASSED

(Bills awaiting Royal Assent)

Part 4

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEES

The detailed calendar of the proceedings of each committee is available on the Internet site of the Assembly.

COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Orders in compliance with the Standing Orders

- Hearing of the Auditor General of Québec on its annual management report and financial commitments.
- Hearing of the Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor on its administrative management and financial commitments, as well as on the Report on the application of the Public Administration Act.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

Orders of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 200**, An Act respecting the cancellation of a servitude encumbering certain lots situated in Ville de Carignan (Order of reference given on 26 April 2023).
- **Bill 201**, An Act respecting Municipalité de Morin-Heights (Order of reference given on 20 April 2023).
- **Bill 202**, An Act respecting Ville de Saint-Jérôme (Order of reference given on 26 April 2023).

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

Orders of reference

Special consultations:

- **Bill 23**, An Act to amend mainly the Education Act and to enact the Act respecting the Institut national d'excellence en éducation (Order of reference given on 23 May 2023).

COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND THE ECONOMY

Orders of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 25**, An Act to fight illegal tourist accommodation (Order of reference given on 30 May 2023).

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC FINANCE

Orders of reference

Special consultations:

- Report on the application of the Act to facilitate the disclosure of wrongdoings relating to public bodies (Order of reference given on 25 May 2023).

COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

Orders of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 14**, An Act to amend various provisions relating to public security and to enact the Act to assist in locating missing persons (Order of reference given on 19 April 2023).
- **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 (Order of reference given on 25 May 2023).

- **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 (Order of reference given on 25 May 2023).
- **Bill 203**, An Act respecting the objects and powers of the Roman Catholic Archiepiscopal corporation of Montreal (Order of reference given on 19 April 2023).

COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS

Orders of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 11**, An Act to amend the Act respecting end-of-life care and other legislative provisions (Order of reference given on 4 April 2023).

General Consultation:

- Consultation document entitled “Québec Immigration Planning for the 2024-2027 Period” (Order of reference given on 30 May 2023).

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Orders of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 20**, An Act to establish the Blue Fund and to amend other provisions (Order of reference given on 25 May 2023).

Part 5

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

*Questions already placed on the Order Paper
are published each Wednesday*

(25) Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) – **19 April 2023**
To the Premier

On two occasions, first on 23 April 2021 and then on 1 October 2021, Mr. Michel Lépine, President of NOBCO Micro-systèmes, sent the Premier a formal request for a public inquiry into a matter involving Mr. Lépine and his company, National Bank and, at the time, the CSST.

Mr. Lépine alleges there may be embezzlement, even fraud, in the performance of a \$130 million contract involving at least the three above-mentioned parties, the result of which he was defrauded.

Without passing judgment on the substance of the allegations, it appears to me that Mr. Lépine has legitimate reason to consider himself in the position of a whistleblower and to expect a follow-up on his request.

Faced with a lack of response following his correspondence, Mr. Lépine also sent an affidavit concerning his allegations to the Premier's office, specifically on 8 March 2022.

Allegations of fraud, corruption, fabrication, and even destruction of evidence – this situation, if proven true, and given Mr. Lépine's professional background as an SPVM investigator, necessitates the Premier's attention.

My questions are the following:

- 1) Can the Premier assure me that a detailed response will be given to Mr. Lépine as soon as possible?
- 2) Can the Premier give the House an update on this matter? Has an assessment been carried out, and if so, what are its conclusions and how does the Premier intend to follow up on it?

(27) Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) – **26 April 2023**
To the Minister Responsible for Housing

On 30 December 2022, tenants Jean-François Raymond and Joseph Picard, residents of Rue Ontario Est, in Montréal, for 22 years and 54 years respectively, received a notice of eviction asking them to vacate their apartments. Their new landlord wants to evict them in order to change the destination of the dwellings by converting them into short-term tourist accommodations of the Airbnb type.

On 8 March 2023, during a press conference alongside Mr. Raymond, the Member for Gouin and I asked the Government to move rapidly to amend article 1959 of the *Civil Code of Québec* so that evictions are no longer permitted to create tourist accommodations. At the time, we pointed out that this straightforward legislative amendment could be done in a day or even in just a few hours, without costing taxpayers a single penny, and that it had the potential to prevent the eviction of countless tenants.

We would like to recall a few remarks made by Mr. Raymond, which were reported on by a number of Québec media outlets. He said that that he was experiencing a lot of stress and was fearful not knowing where his family would go believing they would no longer have the means to live on the island. He added that tenants are being evicted to create tourist accommodations, yet many hotels are struggling with low hotel room occupancy rates.

During a March 10th press conference, in response to a journalist's question relating to changing the destination of dwellings, the Minister Responsible for Housing said that she found it deplorable that vulnerable people are being evicted from their housing after years of living there for very questionable reasons and that she had no intention of letting the situation continue. She also said that she was ready to take action, whether it be for evictions to create Airbnbs, section F of leases or brutal renovations.

On April 12th, Mr. Raymond sent the Minister a letter by email, of which I also received a certified copy. In the letter, he thanks the Minister for having publicly shared her intention to take action against evictions made to change the destination of dwellings and urges her to act quickly on her commitment to introduce amending legislation that would be retroactive. Indeed, Mr. Raymond indicates that he wants to benefit, like many other Québec households, from the legislative change to be made to article 1959 of the *Civil Code of Québec* in order to be able to keep the apartment he has lived in for 22 years, but that he will most likely have to leave on June 30th. Lastly, he asks the Minister to use her discretionary power to counter his eviction and that of Mr. Picard.

While Québec is currently undergoing an unprecedented housing crisis, evicting tenants to create tourist accommodations should not be permitted by law. Hundreds of Québec households are currently struggling to find affordable housing, and that number is likely to increase substantially as 1 July 2023 approaches.

In light of the above, my questions are the following:

1. Will the Minister reaffirm her willingness to act quickly to legislate on the issue of evictions resulting from a change in the destination of dwellings to make way for Airbnb-type tourist accommodations?
2. If such is the will of the Minister, what timetable does she recommend for tackling such evictions, since she declared on 9 March 2023 that she had no intention of allowing the situation continue?
3. Will the Minister commit to legislating on the issue of evictions resulting from a change made to the destination of dwellings to create Airbnb-type tourist accommodations by the end of the current parliamentary sessional period?
4. Does the Minister intend to reply by June 30th to the letter emailed to her by Mr. Raymond on 12 April 2023?
5. Can the Minister explain the reasons preventing her from quickly passing legislative amendments to article 1959 of the *Civil Code of Québec*?
6. Will the Minister commit to passing legislative amendments to article 1959 of the *Civil Code of Québec*, with retroactive effect, by June 30th?
7. If this is not the case, why can't the Minister, to alleviate the unfortunate consequences of her inaction, commit to ensuring that the legislative amendments meant to protect tenants, including the amendment of article 1959 of the *Civil Code of Québec*, will be applicable retroactively?

(28) Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine) – **3 mai 2023**
To the Minister of Health

During the examination of the estimates of expenditure on 26 April 2023, the Minister of Health indicated that the Ministère de la Santé would publish, in the coming days, an indexation policy regarding the User Travel Policy.

In addition, on 3 March 2023, the Member for Gaspé presented a petition on revising the health and social services network's User Travel Policy.

Given the above, our questions to the Minister of Health are the following:

- When will this indexation policy be published?
- Will this policy apply retroactively to 1 January 2023?
- Does the Minister intend to revise the User Travel Policy, in particular to increase the compensation for accommodation and travel expenses so that it covers the actual expenses incurred by patients?

(29) Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) – **11 May 2023**

To the Minister for Health and for Seniors

According to a news article by journalists Thomas Gerbet and Daniel Boily published on 10 May 2023 and a document produced by the Québec government's Secrétariat aux aînés and made public on 3 May, Coalition avenir Québec (CAQ) ridings have more seniors' housing than the party's relative weight. The two documents also show that in many CAQ regions, there are more spaces available than there are seniors who need them. Furthermore, there are no plans to build seniors' housing in the Matane-Matapédia riding, which has one of the highest average ages in Québec with a median age of 52 years. Meanwhile, the Hull, Mirabel, Les Plaines and Jean-Talon ridings, which have a median age of 38 years, lower than the rest of Québec (43 years), will get seniors' housing.

My question is the following: why is there no seniors' housing in the Matane-Matapédia riding, and why are there no plans to build one despite its population's high average age?

(30) Ms. Labrie (Sherbrooke) – **23 May 2023**

To the Minister of Health

Under the Regulation respecting hearing devices and insured services, retired people are entitled to reimbursement for one hearing aid, while people who are employed and have an income are entitled to reimbursement for two hearing aids. This situation increases retired people's financial insecurity.

In 2019, the office of the Minister responsible for Seniors and Informal Caregivers stated that a review of the Regulation was underway. This review was not completed while Québec government departments were busy managing the COVID-19 crisis. However, in May 2022, the office of the Minister of Health, which is now responsible for reviewing the Regulation, stated that this review was planned for the next few months. One year later, the Regulations have still not been reviewed and retirees are still financially vulnerable.

In light of the above, my question to the Minister of Health is the following:

When will the Minister change this policy to end this age discrimination?

(31) Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) – **23 May 2023**
To the Minister of Labour

The Association Québécoise des Entrepreneurs en Infrastructure (AQEI) is concerned about the increasing number of accidents and deaths of road workers and flag persons, which are largely due to the negligent behaviour of drivers. Flag persons are essential to the safety of both road users and construction workers. Unfortunately, their work is constantly questioned and criticized, which ultimately puts their safety at risk. All too often, the Move-Over Law is not complied with, drivers do not slow down and flag persons are insulted.

As this is an issue that affects several government bodies, such as the Ministère du Travail, the Ministère des Transports et de la Mobilité durable, the Ministère de la Sécurité publique and the SAAQ, they tend to pass the buck to each other. Meanwhile, the lives of flag persons are still at risk. On 27 March 2023, a flag person was hit by an impatient driver who fled the scene.

For this reason, the AQEI would like the Government to implement several measures to better protect the safety of road workers and flag persons. Firstly, the AQEI proposes the establishment of a joint panel where all those affected by this issue can discuss the measures to be implemented to increase the safety of flag persons. Secondly, it proposes the launch of an awareness campaign to make drivers aware that their actions can endanger the lives and safety of flag persons. Thirdly, the AQEI proposes that the fines for failure to comply with the Move-Over Law and speed limit be increased to encourage compliance with the regulations. In addition, it proposes that the SAAQ update its training for future drivers to include safety around work sites. Lastly, the AQEI proposes that police officers be assigned to work sites to ensure that drivers are more compliant with the regulations.

Considering the above, my question is the following:

Given that there are already several panels (in particular at the Ministère des Transports et de la Mobilité durable) where this issue is discussed, but that a global and common dialogue between all stakeholders is more than necessary, will the Minister of Labour commit as of today to set up a joint advisory panel where all the stakeholders concerned by this matter, including those mentioned above, can finally hold discussions in order to implement solutions to ensure that the lives of flag persons are better protected?

(32) Ms. Lakhoyan Olivier (Chomedey) – **23 May 2023**
To the Minister of Tourism

I recently met with representatives of the Maison du tourisme de Tadoussac to hear their concerns.

Tadoussac, a municipality of about 800 people, welcomes between 250,000 and 300,000 tourists annually who come to enjoy the region's natural resources. In fact, delegates from the international association of the Most Beautiful Bays in the World Club will visit the municipality in 2025 for their annual convention.

However, Tadoussac needs support to be able to continue receiving a large number of visitors each year. The authorities need an estimated \$15 million to upgrade their washroom facilities.

In addition, the building that houses the Maison du tourisme de Tadoussac needs work, especially on the roof and exterior walls, in order to keep the building in good condition. Financial support is also necessary in this regard.

The Maison du tourisme de Tadoussac's representatives do not feel adequately supported by the Minister of Tourism. Will the Minister listen to Tadoussac's concerns so that the municipality can continue to be an attractive tourist destination?

- (33) Mr. Bouazzi (Maurice-Richard) – **24 May 2023**
To the Minister of Finance

The Act respecting the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speech of 25 March 2021 and amending other provisions (Bill 17) was assented to on 24 February 2022. It amended the *Act respecting the Québec Pension Plan* (the Act), in particular the application of a penalty on the retirement pensions of disability pension beneficiaries.

This unexpected amendment was part of a bill that amended over 20 legislative texts and was adopted without consultations. Furthermore, this was done at a time when proceedings on this penalty's compliance with the charters were, and still are, being brought before the Administrative Tribunal of Québec, with special consultations on the Québec Pension Plan (QPP) planned the following year.

Before the coming into force of these amendments, the Act reduced by 36% the retirement pensions of people who had received a disability pension between the ages of 60 and 65. This was the same exclusion applied to the retirement pensions of workers who retire early and who start receiving their pension at the age of 60 instead of 65. Since the coming into force of Bill 17, the reduction imposed on the retirement pensions of disability pension beneficiaries remains, although it varies between 18 and 24%. Other measures, which will come into force in 2024, intend to cap the disability pension at 60 years of age, thereby forcing beneficiaries to “choose” an early retirement pension.

This penalty was maintained despite the fact that we are the only jurisdiction in Canada that imposes it and that, in February 2017, the Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse (CDPDJ) published the document “Avis concernant la pénalité à la rente de retraite du RRQ que subissent les personnes qui reçoivent une rente d'invalidité en vertu du même régime”, in which it formally declared the penalty to be discriminatory in nature.

Thus, the QPP deprives affected individuals of almost a quarter of their retirement pension, despite it being established that they are generally no longer able to significantly contribute to the QPP, that disabilities lead to an important reduction in income and that the costs related to the condition of people with disabilities increase as they age. Furthermore, this loss is not compensated, or is compensated only in part, by the Guaranteed Income Security federal programs, despite Retraite Québec's claims.

In view of the above, my questions to the Minister of Finance are as follows:

- Considering the CDPDJ found that a penalty of 36% on the retirement pensions of people who had received a disability pension between the ages of 60 and 65 was discriminatory, does the Minister deem that it is no longer discriminatory at a rate of 24%?
- Does the Minister acknowledge that this penalty, denounced by the community, by the Office des personnes handicapées du Québec, by opposition parties and by the CDPDJ, is an injustice towards seniors with a severe limitation for employment and who benefit from a disability pension?
- Will the Minister commit to meeting the groups interested in this issue during the hearings which will precede the passage of the bill that will follow up on the consultations held in 2023 on the future of the QPP?

Part 6
NOTICES

I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

Government Bills

Private Members' Public Bills

Private Bills

II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME

- (aa)** An Act to protect consumers from planned obsolescence and to promote the durability, repairability and maintenance of goods – *Minister of Justice*