



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Tuesday, 3 October 2023 — No. 65

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

The Assembly was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Moment of reflection

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage

Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Minister of Justice, moved the passage of Bill 29, An Act to protect consumers from planned obsolescence and to promote the durability, repairability and maintenance of goods.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and, accordingly, Bill 29 was passed.

Report Stage

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Institutions on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 33, An Act respecting the collective agreements of the special constables and the bodyguards of the Gouvernement du Québec.

After debate thereon, the report was concurred in.

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Passage

Mr. Bonnardel, Minister of Public Security, moved the passage of Bill 14, An Act to amend various provisions relating to public security and to enact the Act to assist in locating missing persons.

A debate arose thereon.

At 12:00 p.m., Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 1:40 p.m.

Accordingly, pursuant to Standing Order 52, the debate was adjourned in the name of Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis).

The proceedings resumed at 1:40 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Mr. Lévesque (Chauveau) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Régis Beaulieu, a member of the Knights of Columbus of Montcalm – Council 5529, for his volunteer work.

Ms. Dufour (Mille-Îles) made a statement to underline the 280th anniversary of the Saint-Vincent-de-Paul parish.

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Mr. Jacques (Mégantic) made a statement to underline the 50th anniversary of Comité culturel de Disraëli.

Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion) made a statement to underline the work of organizations helping the homeless in the Laurier-Dorion riding.

Ms. Lachance (Bellechasse) made a statement to underline the work of the organization Accueil-Sérénité.

Mr. Fortin (Pontiac) made a statement to underline Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Mr. Rivest (Côte-du-Sud) made a statement to underline the Concert des familles of the Fondation André-Côté

Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) made a statement to ask that educational activities for seniors be maintained in La Matanie and La Matapédia.

Mr. Allaire (Maskinongé) made a statement to pay tribute to Ms. Karine Trahan and Mr. Martin Fiset, co-founders of the organization Escouade itinérance.

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Mr. Tremblay (Dubuc) made a statement to pay posthumous tribute to Mr. Ivonick Desbiens, musician and entrepreneur.

Mr. Carmant (Taillon) made a statement to underline the Journée dédiée au bien-être et à la protection de la jeunesse.

Ms. Roy (Verchères) made a statement to underline the presence of elected municipal officials from Ville de Sainte-Julie visiting the National Assembly.

At 1:54 p.m., Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 2:01 p.m.

Moment of reflection

Presenting Papers

Ms. Rouleau, Minister Responsible for Social Solidarity and Community Action, tabled the following:

The 2022–2023 activity report of the Comité consultatif de lutte contre la pauvreté et l'exclusion sociale.

(Sessional Paper No. 857-20231003)

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

The reply to a written question from Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) on Québec's grain sector – Question No. 38, *Order Paper and Notices* of 9 June 2023;
(Sessional Paper No. 858-20231003)

The reply to a written question from Ms. Zaga Mendez (Verdun) on Québec's grain sector – Question No. 41, *Order Paper and Notices* of 9 June 2023;
(Sessional Paper No. 859-20231003)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 25 May 2023 by Mr. Dufour (Abitibi-Est) on implementing measures on grade repetition;
(Sessional Paper No. 860-20231003)

The Government's reply to the petitions tabled on 6 June 2023 by Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) on integrating the REM with the new Île-aux-Tourtes bridge;
(Sessional Paper No. 861-20231003)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 8 June 2023 by Ms. Labrie (Sherbrooke) on fair wage increases in the public sector.
(Sessional Paper No. 862-20231003)

Ms. Soucy, First Vice-President, tabled the following:

The 2022–2023 annual management report of Élections Québec and of the Commission de la représentation électorale;
(Sessional Paper No. 863-20231003)

A copy of the notice of motion by Mrs. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis) to be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* of 4 October 2023 under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.
(Sessional Paper No. 864-20231003)

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Presenting Petitions

Ms. Bogemans (Iberville) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition on reimbursing Semaglutide and Tirzepatide for weight management, signed by 1,894 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 865-20231003)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

At the request of Ms. Soucy, First Vice-President, Mr. Fitzgibbon, Minister of Economy, Innovation and Energy, withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Ciccone (Marquette), together with Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved:

THAT the National Assembly acknowledge that Québec's obesity rate is rising sharply, and that obesity now affects 27.6% of Québec adults;

THAT it note that obesity rates among Québec children and adolescents have more than tripled over the past 40 years;

THAT it recognize that childhood obesity is associated with a marked increase in the risk of type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease in adulthood;

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THAT it also recognize that fatphobia has negative impacts on mental health and on access to health care, and that it is important to raise awareness of these issues;

THAT, lastly, to prevent an epidemic of cardiometabolic diseases in the coming years, it ask the Government to implement a clear prevention and management policy for people who are obese.

The question was put on this motion, and an electronic division was thereupon demanded.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **134** in Appendix)

Yeas: **107** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), together with Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent), Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved:

THAT the National Assembly recall that the Government wishes for the Québec State to remain an employer of choice;

THAT it acknowledge the fact that, according to a survey carried out by their union, 12% of the 35,000 school support staff members resort to food banks to feed themselves adequately;

THAT it affirm that all employees of the Québec State should be able to provide for their basic needs in dignity;

THAT, lastly, it ask the Government to continue negotiations in order to improve the conditions of employment of school support staff and eliminate their financial insecurity.

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The question was put on this motion, and an electronic division was thereupon demanded.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **135** in Appendix)

Yeas: **109** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine), together with Ms. McGraw (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce), Mr. Bouazzi (Maurice-Richard) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved a motion on the Northvolt battery factory project; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Ms. Proulx, Minister of Tourism, together with Ms. Setlakwe (Mont-Royal–Outremont), Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the career of Mr. Mario Lefebvre, Vice-President of Feeling Productions from 2000 to 2009 and Flair MIC from 2009 to 2021;

THAT it recall that over the years, he accompanied and worked with some of the greatest Québec artists, from Céline Dion and René Angélil to Ginette Reno, Garou and Roch Voisine;

THAT, lastly, it recognize his contribution to the dissemination and outreach of Québec culture worldwide and in the Francophonie.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

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

THAT the National Assembly give effect to the order of reference given to the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources within the framework of the consideration of Bill 28, An Act to amend the Act respecting the marketing of agricultural, food and fish products and the Farm Producers Act, to hold special consultations and public hearings on Thursday, 19 October 2023 after Notices of Proceedings in Committees from approximately 11:15 a.m. to 1:05 p.m. and from 2:00 p.m. to 4:25 p.m.;

THAT, for this purpose, the Committee hear the following organizations:

Union des producteurs agricoles
Fédération de la relève agricole
Coop pour l'agriculture de proximité écologique
Association des producteurs maraîchers du Québec
Association des producteurs de fraises et framboises du Québec;

THAT a period of 12 minutes be set aside for opening statements, allocated as follows: 6 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government, 4 minutes 30 seconds to the Official Opposition and 1 minute 30 seconds to the Second Opposition Group;

THAT the presentation by each organization last no longer than 10 minutes and the exchange with the Committee members last no longer than 35 minutes, allocated as follows: 17 minutes 30 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Government, 13 minutes 8 seconds to the Official Opposition and 4 minutes 23 seconds to the Second Opposition Group;

THAT a 5-minute interval be scheduled between discussions with each organization;

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THAT the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food 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.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- the Committee on Culture and Education, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 23, An Act to amend mainly the Education Act and to enact the Act respecting the Institut national d'excellence en éducation;
- the Committee on Health and Social Services, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 15, An Act to make the health and social services system more effective;
- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 17, An Act to amend various provisions for the main purpose of reducing regulatory and administrative burden.

And, by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 143, he convened the following committee:

- the Committee on Institutions, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 34, An Act to modernize the notarial profession and to promote access to justice.

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Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, gave the following notice:

- the Committee on Citizen Relations shall hold a deliberative meeting to establish the Committee’s observations, conclusions and recommendations following the general consultation and public hearings on the consultation document entitled “Planning of Immigration to Québec for the 2024–2027 Period”.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Wednesday, 4 October 2023, during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, a debate would be held on the motion moved by Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis).

This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly recall that on 24 May, following the death of Sergeant Maureen Breau, the Member for Maskinongé tabled a petition with 24,000 signatures asking the Québec government for better support for police interventions involving potentially violent individuals in a perturbed mental state;

THAT it recall that on 13 September, the CAQ Members refused to examine this petition in parliamentary committee;

THAT it note that over the last five years, the number of police interventions involving a person in a perturbed mental state has increased dramatically;

THAT it recall that on 2 April, the Official Opposition tabled an order of initiative to study this issue, which affects the safety of police officers and the public;

THAT, lastly, it ask the CAQ government to hold, without delay, a public debate in parliamentary committee on the issue of perturbed mental states and police interventions.

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ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned earlier in the sitting, on the motion moved by Mr. Bonnardel, Minister of Public Security, for the passage 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 debate being concluded, the motion was carried on division and, accordingly, Bill 14 was passed.

At 4:12 p.m., at the request of Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 6:30 p.m.

Debates upon Adjournment

At 6:30 p.m., the Assembly held three debates upon adjournment:

- the first, on a question from Mr. Beauchemin (Marguerite-Bourgeoys) to Mr. Fitzgibbon, Minister of Economy, Innovation and Energy, about the Premier's comments towards Québec SMEs;
- the second, on a question from Mr. Grandmont (Taschereau) to Ms. Guilbault, Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility, about interurban transit;
- the third, on a question from Ms. McGraw (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce) to Mr. Fitzgibbon, Minister of Economy, Innovation and Energy, about holding a BAPE inquiry on the Northvolt project.

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At 7:09 p.m., Mr. Lévesque, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 4 October 2023 at 9:40 a.m.

NATHALIE ROY

President

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APPENDIX

Electronic Divisions

On the motion moved by Mr. Ciccone (Marquette), together with Ms. Marissal (Rosemont), Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil):

(Division No. 134)

YEAS - 107

Abou-Khalil (CAQ)	Chassin (CAQ)	Haytayan (CAQ)	Nadeau-Dubois (QS)
Allaire (CAQ)	Ciccone (QLP)	Hébert (CAQ)	Nichols (IND)
Arseneau (PQ)	Cliche-Rivard (QS)	Jacques (CAQ)	Picard (CAQ)
Asselin (CAQ)	D'Amours (CAQ)	Jeannotte (CAQ)	Poulet (CAQ)
Bachand (CAQ)	Derraji (QLP)	Jolin-Barrette (CAQ)	Poulin (CAQ)
Beauchemin (QLP)	Déry (CAQ)	Julien (CAQ)	Proulx (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Dionne (CAQ)	Labrie (QS)	Provençal (CAQ)
(Prévost)	Dorismond (CAQ)	Lachance (CAQ)	Rivest (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Drainville (CAQ)	Lacombe (CAQ)	Roberge (CAQ)
(Orford)	Dubé (CAQ)	Laframboise (CAQ)	Rotiroti (QLP)
Bérubé (PQ)	Dufour (CAQ)	Lafrenière (CAQ)	Rouleau (CAQ)
Biron (CAQ)	(Abitibi-Est)	Lakhoyan Olivier (QLP)	Roy (CAQ)
Blais (CAQ)	Dufour (QLP)	Lamontagne (CAQ)	Sainte-Croix (CAQ)
Blanchette Vézina (CAQ)	(Mille-Îles)	LeBel (CAQ)	Schmaltz (CAQ)
Blouin (CAQ)	Émond (CAQ)	Lecours (CAQ)	Schneeberger (CAQ)
Bogemans (CAQ)	Fitzgibbon (CAQ)	(Les Plaines)	Setlakwe (QLP)
Boivin Roy (CAQ)	Fontecilla (QS)	Lecours (CAQ)	Simard (CAQ)
Bonnardel (CAQ)	Fortin (QLP)	(Lotbinière-Frontenac)	Skeete (CAQ)
Bouazzi (QS)	Fréchette (CAQ)	Leduc (QS)	St-Louis (CAQ)
Boulet (CAQ)	Gagnon (CAQ)	Lefebvre (CAQ)	St-Pierre Plamondon (PQ)
Bourassa (CAQ)	Garceau (QLP)	Lemieux (CAQ)	Tanguay (QLP)
Bussière (CAQ)	Gendron (CAQ)	Lévesque (CAQ)	Thouin (CAQ)
Cadet (QLP)	Ghazal (QS)	(Chapleau)	Tremblay (CAQ)
Caire (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ)	Maccarone (QLP)	(Dubuc)
Carmant (CAQ)	(Groulx)	Malette (CAQ)	Zaga Mendez (QS)
Caron (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ)	Marissal (QS)	Zanetti (QS)
(Portneuf)	(Lac-Saint-Jean)	Martel (CAQ)	
Caron (QLP)	Grandmont (QS)	Massé (QS)	
(La Pinière)	Grondin (CAQ)	McGraw (QLP)	
Champagne Jourdain (CAQ)	Guilbault (CAQ)	Montigny (CAQ)	
Charest (CAQ)	Guillemette (CAQ)	Morin (QLP)	

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On the motion moved by Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), together with Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent), Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil):

(Division No. 135)

YEAS – 109

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