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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

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FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

## **Votes and Proceedings**

**of the Assembly**

**Wednesday, 1 November 2023 — No. 75**

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

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

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## **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

### **Statements by Members**

Ms. Dionne (Rivière-du-Loup–Témiscouata) made a statement to underline the 50th anniversary of the Centre local de développement de la région de Rivière-du-Loup.

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Mr. Benjamin (Viau) made a statement to underline the 50th anniversary of the Centre de la petite enfance populaire St-Michel.

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Ms. Hébert (Saint-François) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Claude Hardy.

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Ms. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques) made a statement to underline the 50th anniversary of the Centre St-Pierre.

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Mr. Lemay (Masson) made a statement to underline the 10th anniversary of the Bowvember fundraising and awareness campaign.

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Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis) made a statement to underline National Adoption Awareness Month.

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Ms. Bourassa (Charlevoix–Côte-de-Beaupré) made a statement to pay tribute to Ms. Louise Thouin.

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Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) made a statement to underline the 50th anniversary of the organization Le groupe de personnes handicapées Les Alcyons.

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Ms. Soucy (Saint-Hyacinthe) made a statement to underline the 275th anniversary of Ville de Saint-Hyacinthe.

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Mr. Rivest (Côte-du-Sud) made a statement to underline the 30th anniversary of the organization Services Kam-Aide.

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Ms. Guillemette (Roberval) made a statement to underline the 100th anniversary of the Knights of Columbus of Anjou – Council 2442.

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Ms. Poulet (Laporte) made a statement to underline the 25th anniversary of the social economy enterprise Amélys.

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

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The proceedings resumed at 10:03 a.m.

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Moment of reflection

### **Introduction of Bills**

Mr. Caire, Minister of Cybersecurity and Digital Technology, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following bill:

38      An Act to amend the Act respecting the governance and management of the information resources of public bodies and government enterprises and other legislative provisions

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, Bill 38 was introduced in the Assembly.

### **Presenting Papers**

Ms. Fréchette, Minister of Immigration, Francization and Integration, tabled the following:

Québec's 2024 immigration plan;

(Sessional Paper No. 1058-20231101)

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The multi-year guidelines for Québec's immigration planning for 2024 and 2025.  
(Sessional Paper No. 1059-20231101)

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Ms. Roy, Minister of Families, tabled the following:

The 2022–2023 annual management report of the Curateur public du Québec.  
(Sessional Paper No. 1060-20231101)

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

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 3 October 2023 by Ms. Bogemans (Iberville) on reimbursing Semaglutide and Tirzepatide for weight management;  
(Sessional Paper No. 1061-20231101)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 5 October 2023 by Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) on prohibiting the use of personal electronic devices in schools.

(Sessional Paper No. 1062-20231101)

### **Oral Questions and Answers**

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

At the request of the President, Ms. Bélanger, Minister Responsible for Seniors, withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

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**Motions Without Notice**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine), together with Mr. Dubé, Minister of Health, Mr. Fortin (Pontiac), Mr. Cliche-Rivard (Saint-Henri–Sainte-Anne), Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) and Mr. Beauchemin (Marguerite-Bourgeoys), moved:

THAT the National Assembly recognize that immunocompromised people are vulnerable at all times to bacteria, viruses and their variants;

THAT it acknowledge that, out of solidarity and respect for these people, it must increase public awareness of the challenges they face;

THAT it consider establishing a national day for that a national day of immunocompromised people be established;

THAT, lastly, it recognize the slanted red “i” as the official symbol of prevention with regard to immunocompromised individuals, in order to encourage people to respect social distancing when they see someone wearing this symbol.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Ms. Guilbault, Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility, together with Mr. Morin (Acadie), Mr. Grandmont (Taschereau), Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine), Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) and Mr. Beauchemin (Marguerite-Bourgeoys), moved:

THAT the Assembly underline the 40th anniversary of Operation Red Nose;

THAT it recognize the importance of this non-profit organization in preventing impaired driving;

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THAT it recognize that Operation Red Nose has greatly contributed to making our roads safer over the years;

THAT it underline the unwavering commitment of the Québec government as the main partner of Operation Red Nose since its creation;

THAT, lastly, it thank all the volunteers who have participated in Operation Red Nose over the past four decades.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Ms. Cadet (Bourassa-Sauvé), together with Mr. Roberge, Minister of the French Language, Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia), Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) and Mr. Beauchemin (Marguerite-Bourgeoys), moved:

THAT the National Assembly take note that for over 25 years, the “Parlez-moi d’une langue!” program has enabled hundreds of public speakers to meet tens of thousands of students in college, university and adult education institutions every year to discuss the importance of the French language and reaffirm the desire to speak, write and live in French;

THAT it underline that this program helps promote and enhance the quality of written and spoken French among young Quebecers throughout all our regions;

THAT it emphasize that this program is a direct result of the government priorities set out in the language policy to promote the use of the French language and to improve its quality in all sectors of activity of Québec society;

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THAT it declare that the continuation of this program is highly desirable for the protection and promotion of the French language in Québec and for the sharing and development of Québec culture;

THAT, lastly, it ask the Québec government to renew the funding for the “Parlez-moi d’une langue!” program without delay.

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

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **150** in Appendix)

Yeas: **105** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

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Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), together with Mr. Paradis (Jean-Talon), moved a motion on the conflict in Israel and Palestine; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

### **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;

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- the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 31, An Act to amend various legislative provisions with respect to housing;
- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 22, An Act respecting expropriation.

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**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**Government Bills**

*Passage*

Mr. Carmant, Minister Responsible for Social Services, moved the passage of Bill 36, Opioid-related Damages and Health Care Costs Recovery Act.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and, accordingly, Bill 36 was passed.

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At 11:35 a.m., at the request of Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, Ms. Soucy, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3:00 p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 3:00 p.m.

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### **Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition**

Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent) moved:

THAT the National Assembly acknowledge that the proposed changes to tuition fees for out-of-province Canadian students will decrease the economic benefits generated by their presence in Québec, hinder the development of certain Québec universities and promote the growth of universities elsewhere in Canada, notably in Toronto;

THAT it note that no impact study supports this decision and that it is unreasonable for the Government to claim that this measure will help recover additional sums to fund the university network;

THAT, lastly, it ask the CAQ government to reconsider this measure.

Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this limited debate: 10 minutes to the mover of the motion for her reply; 53 minutes 30 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 28 minutes 19 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 18 minutes 53 seconds to the Second Opposition Group; 6 minutes 18 seconds to the Third Opposition Group; and 1 minute 30 seconds to each independent Member. Within this framework, any time not used by the independent Members 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.

At the request of Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

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At the beginning of his address, Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) moved:

THAT the motion moved by the Member for Saint-Laurent be amended as follows:

By adding the following paragraph after the second paragraph:

“THAT it note that the 2018 decision to deregulate tuition fees for international students was bad public policy;”.

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly acknowledge that the proposed changes to tuition fees for out-of-province Canadian students will decrease the economic benefits generated by their presence in Québec, hinder the development of certain Québec universities and promote the growth of universities elsewhere in Canada, notably in Toronto;

THAT it note that no impact study supports this decision and that it is unreasonable for the Government to claim that this measure will help recover additional sums to fund the university network;

THAT it note that the 2018 decision to deregulate tuition fees for international students was bad public policy;

THAT, lastly, it ask the CAQ government to reconsider this measure.

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Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) then proposed a second amendment:

THAT the motion moved by the Member for Saint-Laurent be amended as follows:

By adding the following paragraph after the second paragraph:

“THAT it ask the CAQ government to reform the method of funding French and English-language universities to ensure it corresponds to the respective demographic weight of Francophones and Anglophones;”.

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly acknowledge that the proposed changes to tuition fees for out-of-province Canadian students will decrease the economic benefits generated by their presence in Québec, hinder the development of certain Québec universities and promote the growth of universities elsewhere in Canada, notably in Toronto;

THAT it note that no impact study supports this decision and that it is unreasonable for the Government to claim that this measure will help recover additional sums to fund the university network;

THAT it ask the CAQ government to reform the method of funding French and English-language universities to ensure it corresponds to the respective demographic weight of Francophones and Anglophones;

THAT, lastly, it ask the CAQ government to reconsider this measure.

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Lastly, Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) proposed a third amendment:

THAT the motion moved by the Member for Saint-Laurent be amended as follows:

By adding the following paragraph after the second paragraph:

“THAT it ask the CAQ government to start catching up on funding for French-language universities as of the 2024–2025 budget;”.

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly acknowledge that the proposed changes to tuition fees for out-of-province Canadian students will decrease the economic benefits generated by their presence in Québec, hinder the development of certain Québec universities and promote the growth of universities elsewhere in Canada, notably in Toronto;

THAT it note that no impact study supports this decision and that it is unreasonable for the Government to claim that this measure will help recover additional sums to fund the university network;

THAT it ask the CAQ government to start catching up on funding for French-language universities as of the 2024–2025 budget;

THAT, lastly, it ask the CAQ government to reconsider this measure.

The debate continued on the main motion moved by Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent) and on the amendment motions moved by Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve), subject to the permission of its author.

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Pursuant to Standing Order 98.1, Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent) refused the amendments proposed by Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve).

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

At the request of Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, the division on the motion moved by Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent) was deferred until Routine Proceedings on the next sitting day.

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Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Thursday, 2 November 2023 at 9:40 a.m.

The motion was carried.

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According, at 5:00 p.m., Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 2 November 2023 at 9:40 a.m.

**NATHALIE ROY**

*President*

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## APPENDIX

### Electronic Divisions

On the motion moved by Ms. Cadet (Bourassa-Sauvé), together with Mr. Roberge, Minister of the French Language, Ms. Ghazal (Mercier), Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia), Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) and Mr. Beauchemin (Marguerite-Bourgeoys):

#### (Division No. 150)

#### YEAS - 105

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