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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

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FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

## **Votes and Proceedings**

**of the Assembly**

**Wednesday, 6 December 2023 — No. 88**

**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**

Mr. St-Louis (Joliette) made a statement to invite the public to visit the Marché de Noël de Joliette.

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Mr. Morin (Acadie) made a statement to underline the 125th anniversary of the Young Bar Association of Montreal.

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Ms. Hébert (Saint-François) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Yves Montour.

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Mr. Cliche-Rivard (Saint-Henri–Sainte-Anne) made a statement to underline the 50th anniversary of Centre d'accueil Le Programme de Portage.

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

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Ms. Cadet (Bourassa-Sauvé) made a statement to congratulate Ms. Sophie Pineault and Mr. Mathias Da Costa, gold medalists at the Québec Games.

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Mr. Bélanger (Orford) made a statement to underline the work of the organization Villa Pierrot.

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Mr. Paradis (Jean-Talon) made a statement to applaud the entertainment offered in public places in the Jean-Talon riding during the holiday season.

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Ms. Boivin Roy (Anjou–Louis-Riel) made a statement to underline the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

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Ms. Rouleau (Pointe-aux-Trembles) made a statement to congratulate the Université de Montréal Carabins football team, winner of the Vanier Cup.

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Ms. Charest (Brome-Missisquoi) made a statement to underline the 35th anniversary of the Association des personnes handicapées physiques de Brome-Missisquoi.

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At 9:54 a.m., Ms. Soucy, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

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The proceedings resumed at 10:04 a.m.

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Moment of reflection

### **Introduction of Bills**

Mr. Drainville, Minister of Education, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following bill:

47      An Act to reinforce the protection of students

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, Bill 47 was introduced in the Assembly.

### **Presenting Reports from Committees**

Mr. Bachand (Richmond), Committee Chair, tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on Institutions, which met on 30 November; and on 1 and 5 December 2023 for clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 40, An Act mainly to reform municipal courts and to improve the justice system's efficiency, accessibility and performance. The report contains amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 1190-20231206)

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### **Presenting Petitions**

Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition on the granting of a budget for the demolition and reconstruction of École Saint-Noël-Chabanel's Pavillon des Bâisseurs, signed by 114 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1191-20231206)

### **Oral Questions and Answers**

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Ms. Fréchette, Minister of Immigration, Francization and Integration, tabled the following:

A chart on the number of immigrants admitted to Québec by immigration category for the 2013–2022 period entitled “Nombre de personnes immigrantes admises au Québec selon la catégorie d’immigration, 2013 à 2022”.

(Sessional Paper No. 1192-20231206)

### **Motions Without Notice**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Legault, Premier, together with Mr. Tanguay, Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Nadeau-Dubois, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) and Mr. Beauchemin (Marguerite-Bourgeoys), moved:

THAT the National Assembly honour the memory of the  
14 women who lost their lives at Polytechnique Montréal on  
6 December 1989, just for being women;

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THAT it reiterate its support for their families and loved ones, and for the numerous people who were injured and witnessed these femicides;

THAT it strongly condemn all forms of violence against women and that it encourage all Quebecers to denounce such violence;

THAT it recall that gender equality and respect between women and men are fundamental values of Québec society;

THAT the National Assembly observe a minute of silence in memory of the victims.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

At the request of Ms. Soucy, First Vice-President, the Assembly observed a minute of silence.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Ms. Garceau (Robert-Baldwin), together with Ms. Labrie (Sherbrooke), Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) and Mr. Beauchemin (Marguerite-Bourgeoys), moved:

THAT the National Assembly underline the vital role of first- and second-stage shelters in supporting women who are victims of domestic violence;

THAT it recall the Government's commitment in 2021 to create additional units in the shelter network;

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THAT it note the comments made by Alliance MH2, Regroupement des maisons pour femmes victimes de violence conjugale and SOS violence conjugale with regard to the lack of adaptation of government programs;

THAT, lastly, it ask the Government to settle the administrative difficulties in partnership with the organizations in the field and to take any and all steps necessary to make these additional units available quickly.

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

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 174 in Appendix)

Yeas: 98 Nays: 0 Abstentions: 0

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Ms. Labrie (Sherbrooke), together with Ms. Roy, Minister of Families, Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis), Mr. Paradis (Jean-Talon) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved:

THAT the National Assembly recognize Québec's major legislative progress with regard to new rights for transgender and non-binary people;

THAT it recall with pride the unanimous adoption of the *Act to strengthen the fight against transphobia and improve the situation of transgender minors in particular*;

THAT it reiterate the importance of safeguarding all the rights of Quebecers, in particular those of members of the LGBTQI2S+ community;

THAT, lastly, it ask the Government to ensure that the work of the gender identity advisory committee does not cause any setback to the rights of members of the LGBTQI2S+ community.

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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. **175** in Appendix)

Yeas: **96** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

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

THAT the National Assembly acknowledge that Radio-Canada's revenue was higher than that of its English-language counterpart in the Crown corporation's latest fiscal year;

THAT it recall that ICI Télé's audience share is 23.2%, which is five times higher than that of the CBC;

THAT it also recall the importance of Radio-Canada's journalistic work and audiovisual production for the promotion of Québec culture and francophone minority cultures, and for our regions' media coverage;

THAT it affirm its concerns about the Radio-Canada budget cuts announced by Radio-Canada–CBC's management, even though the corporation paid out \$16 million in bonuses in 2022 and is still considering paying out bonuses for the current year;

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THAT, accordingly, the National Assembly condemn the announcement of equal cuts for Radio-Canada–CBC’s French- and English-language networks despite Radio-Canada’s superior performance.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

### **Notices of Proceedings in Committees**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 143.1, Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following committees:

- 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 Planning and the Public Domain, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of these bills in the following order: Bill 39, An Act to amend the Act respecting municipal taxation and other legislative provisions; Bill 31, An Act to amend various legislative provisions with respect to housing.

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

- the Committee on Health and Social Services shall hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the possibility of carrying out an order of initiative on examining ways to facilitate organ and tissue donation, in particular the adoption of presumed consent to organ and tissue donation.
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## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### Government Bills

#### *Passage*

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned on 5 December 2023, on the motion moved by Mr. Drainville, Minister of Education, for the passage 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 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 was deferred until Routine Proceedings on the next sitting day.

### Government Motions

The Assembly held the debate on the motion that arose from the tabling of the agreement between the Government of Québec and the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie entitled “Entente entre le gouvernement du Québec et l’Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) relative à l’établissement au Québec de la Représentation de l’OIF pour les Amériques (REPAM) ainsi qu’au siège de l’Institut de la Francophonie pour le développement durable (IFDD), concernant les exemptions, les exonérations et les prérogatives de courtoisie qui leur sont consenties, ainsi qu’à leurs membres du personnel”, on 21 November 2023, by Ms. Biron, Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie.

This motion reads as follows:

THAT, pursuant to section 22.3 of the *Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales*, the National Assembly approve the “Entente entre le gouvernement du Québec et l’Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) relative à l’établissement au Québec de la Représentation de l’OIF pour les Amériques (REPAM) ainsi qu’au siège de l’Institut de la Francophonie pour le développement durable (IFDD), concernant les exemptions, les exonérations et les prérogatives de courtoisie qui leur sont consenties, ainsi qu’à leurs membres du personnel”.

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Ms. Soucy, First Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this limited debate: 60 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 28 minutes 46 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 21 minutes 11 seconds to the Second Opposition Group; 7 minutes 4 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 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.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried. Accordingly, this commitment was approved.

### **Government Bills**

#### *Passage*

Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, moved the passage of Bill 35, An Act respecting the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speech of 21 March 2023 and amending other provisions.

At 12:50 p.m., at the request of Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, and by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 21, 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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The Assembly continued the debate on the motion moved by Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, for the passage of Bill 35, An Act respecting the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speech of 21 March 2023 and amending other provisions.

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The debate being concluded, the motion was carried on division and, accordingly, Bill 35 was passed.

### **Debates on Reports from Committees**

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Public Administration, which met on 5 October; and on 7 November 2023 to hear the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux, the CIUSSS de la Capitale-Nationale and the CIUSSS de l'Est-de-l'Île-de-Montréal on Chapter 4 of the Auditor General of Québec's May 2023 report entitled "Santé mentale: efficacité du continuum de soins et de services pour les usagers ayant des troubles mentaux graves" (Mental health: Effectiveness of the continuum of care and services for users with serious mental health disorders) and to hear the Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs, the Ministère de la Sécurité publique and the Ministère des Transports et de la Mobilité durable on Chapter 2 of the Sustainable Development Commissioner's April 2023 report entitled "Adaptation aux changements climatiques : risques liés à l'érosion et à la submersion côtières" (Adapting to climate change: Risks associated with coastal erosion and flooding). The report contains observations, conclusions and eight recommendations.

Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this limited debate: 60 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 28 minutes 46 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 21 minutes 11 seconds to the Second Opposition Group; 7 minutes 4 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.

The debate expired and, pursuant to Standing Order 95, no question was put.

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Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Thursday, 7 December 2023 at 9:40 a.m.

The motion was carried.

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Accordingly, at 4:22 p.m., Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 7 December 2023 at 9:40 a.m.

#### ROYAL ASSENT

On Wednesday, 6 December 2023 at 3:30 p.m., in the Office of the Lieutenant-Governor, in the presence of Mr. Caire, Minister of Cybersecurity and Digital Technology, and Ms. Abou-Khalil (Fabre), Delegates of the Premier, and of Ms. Aubé, Sittings and Parliamentary Procedure Advisor and Delegate of the Secretary General, the Honourable J. Michel Doyon, Lieutenant-Governor of Québec, was pleased to assent to the following bills:

- 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
- 43 An Act respecting Apostilles for documents to be produced in a foreign State party to the Hague Convention of 5 October 1961 Abolishing the Requirement of Legalisation for Foreign Public Documents

**NATHALIE ROY**

*President*

APPENDIX

Electronic Divisions

On the motion moved by Ms. Garceau (Robert-Baldwin), together with Ms. Labrie (Sherbrooke), Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) and Mr. Beauchemin (Marguerite-Bourgeoys):

(Division No. 174)

YEAS - 98

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

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On the motion moved by Ms. Labrie (Sherbrooke), together with Ms. Roy, Minister of Families, Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis), Mr. Paradis (Jean-Talon) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil):

**(Division No. 175)**

**YEAS - 96**

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