



---

# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

---

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

## **Order Paper and Notices**

**of the Assembly**

**Wednesday, 31 January 2024 – No. 93**

*Nine forty a.m.*

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

---



Part 1  
**ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

**STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS**

- The Member for Rivière-du-Loup–Témiscouata on the following subject: *Groupe Morneau – 4th generation.*
- The Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on the following subject: *International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust.*
- The Member for Anjou–Louis-Riel on the following subject: *The 35th anniversary of the organization L’Anonyme.*
- The Member for Rosemont on the following subject: *Ms. Caroline Ouellette in the Hall of Fame.*
- The Member for Charlevoix–Côte-de-Beaupré on the following subject: *Lieutenant Bouchard: from Charlevoix to the FBI.*
- The Member for Vaudreuil on the following subject: *The APACO underlines Black History Month under the theme “One community, one municipality, one region”.*
- The Member for Saint-François on the following subject: *Tribute to Ms. Lyssa Paquette, graduate of Bishop’s University and future leader.*
- The Member for Joliette on the following subject: *Posthumous tribute to Mr. André Hénault.*
- The Member for Saint-Jean on the following subject: *The land for the new Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu elementary school has been found and the work can get underway.*
- The Member for Abitibi-Est on the following subject: *Tribute to Mr. Jean Massicotte.*
- The Member for Huntingdon on the following subject: *Sharing of security and firefighting services in Sherrington and Saint-Édouard.*
- The Member for Vachon on the following subject: *The 25th anniversary of the Junior Canadian Rangers.*

**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**

**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**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**I. Government Bills**

*Passage in Principle*

- (1) Bill 32  
An Act to establish the cultural safety approach within the health and social services network  
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Relations with the First Nations and the Inuit on 9 June 2023  
Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on **14 September 2023**
- (2) Bill 37  
An Act respecting the Commissioner for Children’s Well-Being and Rights  
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Social Services on **26 October 2023**
- (3) Bill 41  
An Act to enact the Act respecting the environmental performance of buildings and to amend various provisions regarding energy transition  
Introduced by the Minister of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks on **22 November 2023**
- (4) Bill 42  
An Act to prevent and fight psychological harassment and sexual violence in the workplace  
Introduced by the Minister of Labour on **23 November 2023**
- (5) Bill 46  
An Act to improve the protection of children receiving educational childcare services  
Introduced by the Minister of Families on **7 December 2023**

- (6) Bill 47  
An Act to reinforce the protection of students  
Introduced by the Minister of Education on **6 December 2023**
- (7) Bill 48  
An Act to amend mainly the Highway Safety Code to introduce provisions relating to detection systems and other highway safety-related provisions  
Introduced by the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility on **8 December 2023**

*Committee Stage*

- (8) Bill 30  
An Act to amend various provisions mainly with respect to the financial sector  
Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 7 June 2023  
Passed in principle on **12 September 2023**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Public Finance
- (9) Bill 31  
An Act to amend various legislative provisions with respect to housing  
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Housing on 9 June 2023  
Report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain (consultations) tabled on 21 September 2023  
Passed in principle on **26 September 2023**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

*Report Stage*

*Passage*

**II. Private Members' Public Bills**

*Passage in Principle*

- (10) 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**

- (11) 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**
- (12) 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**
- (13) 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**
- (14) 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**
- (15) 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**
- (16) 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**
- (17) 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**
- (18) Bill 199  
An Act to better protect consumers against abusive credit contracts  
Introduced by the Member for Saint-Laurent on **23 February 2023**
- (19) 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**

- (20) 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**
- (21) 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**
- (22) Bill 393  
An Act to combat food waste  
Introduced by the Member for Verdun on **6 April 2023**
- (23) Bill 394  
An Act respecting the implementation of study-family-work balance policies in particular in higher education institutions  
Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on **5 December 2023**
- (24) 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**
- (25) 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**
- (26) 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**

- (27) 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**
- (28) 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**
- (29) Bill 491  
491, An Act amending the Public Infrastructure Act to submit projects included in the Québec infrastructure plan to a climate test  
Introduced by the Member for Taschereau on **14 September 2023**
- (30) Bill 492  
An Act to combat waste  
Introduced by the Member for Îles-de-la-Madeleine on **18 April 2023**
- (31) 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**
- (32) 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**
- (33) Bill 495  
Anti-Farm Land Grabbing Act  
Introduced by the Member for Verdun on **26 September 2023**
- (34) Bill 496  
An Act to recognize the white admiral as the emblematic insect of Québec  
Introduced by the Member for Argenteuil on **9 June 2023**
- (35) Bill 498  
498, An Act to proclaim National Maple Day  
Introduced by the Member for Beauce-Sud on **8 December 2023**

- (36) Bill 499  
An Act to establish a new electoral system  
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **5 October 2023**
- (37) Bill 593  
An Act to amend the Civil Code to prohibit evictions carried out with a view to converting a dwelling into short-term tourist accommodation  
Introduced by the Member for Mille-Îles on **4 October 2023**
- (38) Bill 595  
An Act to proclaim Québec Perinatal Bereavement Awareness Day  
Introduced by the Member for Ms. McGraw (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce) on **5 October 2023**
- (39) Bill 596  
An Act amending mainly the Act respecting land use planning and development so that municipalities may adopt a differentiated zoning by-law aimed at increasing and sustaining the supply of social housing or affordable housing  
Introduced by the Member for Mille-Îles on **24 October 2023**
- (40) Bill 690  
An Act to amend the Act respecting the Québec Pension Plan to rectify an inequity toward disabled retirees  
Introduced by the Member for La Pinière on 23 November 2023  
Resuming the debate ajourned on **7 December 2023**
- (41) Bill 691  
An Act to amend various legislative provisions regarding financial assistance for education expenses  
Introduced by the Member for Matane-Matapédia on **7 December 2023**

*Committee Stage*

- (42) 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  
Passed in principle on **9 June 2023**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Health and Social Services

*Report Stage*

*Passage*

### **III. Private Bills**

#### *Hearings and Clause-by-Clause Consideration*

- (43) 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
- (44) 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
- (45) Bill 204  
An Act respecting Ville de Longueuil  
Introduced by the Member for Laporte on **9 November 2023**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

#### *Passage in Principle*

#### *Passage*

### **IV. Government Motions**

### **V. Estimates of Expenditure**

### **VI. Statutory Debates**

## **BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION**

- (46) 30 January 2024  
Motion by the Member for Jacques-Cartier

THAT the National Assembly acknowledge that the CAQ government's inadequate planning regarding energy needs is hindering the development of Québec's small and medium-sized businesses;

THAT, given the scope of the issues Québec is facing, it once again ask the CAQ government to hold a real province-wide consultation on energy so that Quebecers can voice their opinions on possible solutions.

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**

**Statuary Order**

- Examining the preliminary report of the Commission de la représentation électorale.

**COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

**Orders in compliance with the Standing Orders**

- Hearing of Hydro-Québec on Chapter 5 of the Auditor General’s December 2022 report entitled “Hydro-Québec: maintenance des actifs du réseau de distribution d’électricité” (Hydro-Québec: Maintenance of electricity distribution network assets).
- Hearing of the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux, the CISSS de la Montérégie-Centre, the CIUSSS de l’Estrie-CHUS and the CIUSS de l’Ouest-de-l’Île-de-Montréal on Chapter 2 of the Auditor General’s May 2023 report entitled “Octroi de contrats de gré à gré : en vertu du décret d’urgence sanitaire, ou pour obtenir des places d’hébergement et de la main-d’œuvre indépendante” (Awarding untendered contracts: Under public health emergency orders, or to obtain residential and long term care beds and independent labour).
- Hearing of the Auditor General of Québec on its annual management report and financial commitments.

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

## COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

### Orders of reference

#### Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 31**, An Act to amend various legislative provisions with respect to housing (Order of reference given on 26 September 2023).
- **Bill 201**, An Act respecting Municipalité de Morin-Heights (Order of reference given on 20 April 2023).
- **Bill 204**, An Act respecting Ville de Longueuil (Order of reference given on 9 November 2023).

## COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

### Orders of reference

#### Special consultations:

- **Bill 47**, An Act to reinforce the protection of students (Order of reference given on 30 January 2024).

## COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND THE ECONOMY

### Orders of reference

#### Special consultations:

- **Bill 42**, An Act to prevent and fight psychological harassment and sexual violence in the workplace (Order of reference given on 30 January 2024).

## COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC FINANCE

### Orders of reference

#### Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 30**, An Act to amend various provisions mainly with respect to the financial sector (Order of reference given on 12 September 2023).

## COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

### Orders of reference

#### Consideration of Bills:

- **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

#### Special consultations:

- **Bill 46**, An Act to improve the protection of children receiving educational childcare services (Order of reference given on 30 January 2024).

## COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

### Orders of reference

#### Special consultations:

- **Bill 37**, An Act respecting the Commissioner for Children’s Well-Being and Rights (Order of reference given on 30 January 2024).

#### Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 194**, An Act to establish a presumption of consent to organ or tissue donation after death (Order of reference given on 9 June 2023).

### Orders of initiative

- The ways to facilitate organ and tissue donation, in particular the adoption of presumed consent to organ and tissue donation.

## COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### Orders of reference

#### Special consultations:

- **Bill 41**, An Act to enact the Act respecting the environmental performance of buildings and to amend various provisions regarding energy transition students (Order of reference given on 30 January 2024).
- **Bill 48**, An Act to amend mainly the Highway Safety Code to introduce provisions relating to detection systems and other highway safety-related provisions (Order of reference given on 30 January 2024).

Part 5

**WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

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

(70) Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage) – **9 November 2023**

To the Minister Responsible for Canadian Relations and the Canadian Francophonie

At the end of October, the Francophone and Acadian communities said they were “deeply disappointed” by the Francophone immigration targets adopted by the federal government, which keep these communities in demographic decline.

Indeed, the Federation of Francophone and Acadian Communities of Canada called for the federal government to adopt a target of 12% for francophone immigration outside Québec by 2024, but the federal government instead settled on a target of 6% for the coming year.

The Minister Responsible for Canadian Relations and the Canadian Francophonie publicly supported the Francophone and Acadian communities’ call for a federal francophone immigration target of 12%, for which we thank him.

My question to the Minister Responsible for Canadian Relations and the Canadian Francophonie is the following:

What does the Minister intend to do to support the Canadian Francophonie in this moment of profound disappointment?

(71) Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage) – **9 November 2023**

To the Minister Responsible for Canadian Relations and the Canadian Francophonie

The Government recently decided to increase the tuition fees for out-of-province Canadian students.

Every year, thousands of francophones and francophiles from other provinces and territories study in French in Québec’s universities and CEGEPs.

Section 29.7 of Bill 96 provides that the Minister of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology is responsible for contributing to “the mobility of francophone students across Canada”.

My questions to the Minister Responsible for Canadian Relations and the Canadian Francophonie are the following:

- 1) How will the increase in tuition fees, from \$9,000 to \$17,000 per year, contribute to the promotion of francophone students’ mobility in the country?
- 2) How does the Minister reconcile this measure with Bill 96?
- 3) Was the Federation of Francophone and Acadian Communities of Canada consulted before this measure was adopted?

(72) Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) – **9 November 2023**

To the Minister of Higher Education

Thousands of Quebecers have seen the Radio-Canada report on the bullying of students at the Centre québécois de formation aéronautique.

A citizen of the Vaudreuil riding, worried about a family member who is planning to receive training at this institution, is asking for explanations.

We have learned that there has been frequent bullying, harassment and sexual abuse by certain instructors at this flight school affiliated with the Cégep de Chicoutimi. Unfortunately, the students cannot count on support from the administration, which is accused of being very complacent.

Québec can rely on the *Education Act*, and in this regard we ask that the Minister inform us whether the Centre québécois de formation aéronautique has an action plan to prevent and fight bullying and violence.

We would also like the Minister to provide the title of the person responsible for implementing this plan and to inform us whether the plan has been distributed to staff, students and parents of students who are minors.

As regards prevention, we would like the Minister to send us the data on the anti-bullying and anti-harassment training given to students, staff and the administration. We would like to know how many people have been trained and with what frequency.

And, lastly, can the Minister make public all the measures she intends to take, further to the report in question, to prevent such behaviour from happening again, identify the culprits, and ensure that they are held accountable for their actions?

(73) Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) – **21 November 2023**

To the Minister of Culture and Communications

In 2018, following the election of the CAQ government, the new Minister of Culture and Communications decided to retain the 2018–2023 government action plan on culture introduced by the Quebec Liberal Party a few days prior to the end of the previous legislature. This action plan, tabled together with the new cultural policy, was long overdue.

The Minister of Culture and Communications improved the action plan by enhancing the content of school libraries and providing recurrent funding for school cultural outings, which was applauded by many. This action plan involved 34 departments and bodies committed to working with the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications and its network of 13 state-owned enterprises and bodies. It was designed to implement the objectives set out in the cultural policy.

This action plan will expire at the end of the year.

My question to the Minister of Culture and Communications is quite simple:

Does he intend to table a new government action plan on culture for the years 2024 to 2029?

(75) Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) – **29 November 2023**

Minister of Health

On 25 October 2023, we sent a letter to the Minister of Health to formally ask the Institut national d'excellence en santé et en services sociaux (INESSS) to address the disease called lipedema.

Lipedema is a disease that affects only women and which consists of an abnormal buildup of fat in the legs and intense chronic pain. The World Health Organization (WHO) has recognized it as a chronic disease since 2018.

For five years now, women with lipedema have been anxiously waiting for Québec to follow in the WHO's footsteps. Their daily lives are painful, which has impacts on their mental health, ranging from psychological distress to eating disorders.

The fact that lipedema has not yet been recognized as a condition in Québec means that women cannot get the medical care they need in Québec. We are referring to mitigation measures, such as the purchase of stockings and lymphatic drainage treatments, but also to making treatments such as surgery available. Currently, women with lipedema have very few options and they are very expensive. Testimonials in this regard show that treatments abroad lead to expenses of tens of thousands of dollars for women with this disease.

Québec does not have to start from scratch on this issue, as it can examine what has been done elsewhere, such as in Germany, which has been treating this disease for approximately fifteen years. We can also rely on the expertise of a leading expert on the subject in Québec, Dr. Michel Alain Danino, head of plastic surgery at the Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal.

The Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux is responsible for deciding whether to cover the costs of treatments for a disease. However, the Ministère draws on the recommendations of the Institut national d'excellence en santé et en services sociaux. In this particular case, the INESSS has no recommendations for the Ministère, since it is currently waiting for a mandate from the Ministère to begin the analysis and assessment required to take a stance on the matter.

Too many women suffer from the effects of lipedema in their daily lives, and it is time for this situation to be remedied.

On behalf of all the women who suffer from this disease and who are helpless in the face of the many financial and human obstacles before them, can the Minister of Health formally mandate the INESSS to quickly address this disease and its treatments?

(78) Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) – **5 December 2023**  
To the Minister of Public Security

The SPHÈRES project aims to support people aged 12 to 24 who are being sexually exploited. It does so through a personalized approach that focuses on their needs and aspirations. The project is a community initiative carried out in collaboration with several partners: the Marie-Vincent Foundation, L'Anonyme, En Marge 12–17, the SPVM and the CIUSSS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal. These organizations have been able to generate a community practice and a social net tailored to supporting victims through a continuum of services.

This project is in line with several recommendations of the Select Committee on the Sexual Exploitation of Minors, on which I sat for many months during the previous legislature. For example, the SPHÈRES project meets recommendations 14, 19 and 20 of Chapter 3, Prevention and training. It also meets recommendations 49, 51, 54 and 56 of Chapter 5, Reconstruction and rehabilitation: breaking the cycle of exploitation.

In addition, the project has succeeded in joining both institutional and community practices for the well-being of young minors, which is already an important victory in the fight against this scourge that is sexual exploitation. To better depict the extent of the phenomenon, 95% of young people who access the project's support services are minors. Though it is a distressing statistic, it clearly shows that the project's target audience has been reached.

Lastly, there is the issue of the time required for a minor to break the cycle of sexual exploitation. The SPHÈRES project has existed for nearly 7 years now, and the lack of funding raises fears that the project will end. In the fight against the sexual exploitation of minors, the SPHÈRES project deserves all the support it needs.

Considering the above, my questions are the following:

1. The Government's goal is to protect young victims of sexual exploitation, and to do so, it created the Select Committee on the Sexual Exploitation of Minors. Having myself sat on this committee, I take pride in having done my work as a legislator in a non-partisan manner. Considering that the recommendations of the Select Committee line up with the SPHÈRES project as the path forward in the fight against the sexual exploitation of minors, how does the Minister intend to maintain the continuum of services?

2. The SPHÈRES project is extremely innovative, so much so that it has problems fitting into the frameworks of the different funding programs. Consequently, we are left with having to fund a project that has proven its worth with non-recurring funding. Will the Minister commit to finding a solution that provides recurring funding to the SPHÈRES project to the level required to protect our youth?

(79) Ms. Cadet (Bourassa-Sauvé) – **5 December 2023**  
To the Minister of Labour

The goal of the CNESST's hearing aid program is to fulfill the needs of workers with hearing loss caused by exposure to noise in their work environment. In its current form, the program ensures that its beneficiaries have access to a variety of hearing aids that use disposable batteries.

However, the rechargeable hearing aid is a technology that will soon dominate that entire market. In other words, companies that make hearing aids will abandon the production of devices that use disposable batteries in the coming months.

Currently, there is nothing in the CNESST's hearing aid program to ensure that rechargeable hearing aids have the same certification and selection criteria as hearing aids that use disposable batteries.

Can the Minister tell us what specific measures he intends to put in place with the CNESST to ensure that the beneficiaries of the CNESST's hearing aid program can make the mandatory transition from hearing aids that use disposable batteries to rechargeable hearing aids as smoothly as possible?

82) Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis) – **7 December 2023**  
To the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women

The 2017–2022 government action plan to fight against homophobia and transphobia expired on 31 March 2022. It was then extended until 31 March 2023 but has been out of date for nearly two years now. We are still waiting for the the 2023–2027 government action plan to be tabled.

During the examination of the 2023 estimates of expenditure, the Minister answered a question by mentioning that the consultations on the new government action plan had been completed and that the action plan would therefore be made public quickly, in June.

We are now at the end of 2023, and a new action plan has not yet been tabled, nor has the old action plan been renewed.

Can the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women explain this delay and the specific measures she has taken to ensure that the 2023–2027 government action plan to fight against homophobia and transphobia is tabled as soon as possible, and can she tell us her new timetable?

(83) Mr. Kelley (Jacques-Cartier) –**8 December 2023**

To the Minister of Natural Resources and Forests

We recently learned, in articles published by ICI Radio-Canada, that the municipality of Gatineau had experienced an explosion in the number of mineral titles, also called “mining claims”.

In May 2023, 829 lots were the subject of mining claims, including 250 lots within the urban perimeter. Given the scope of the phenomenon, in June 2023, the municipality of Gatineau sent a letter to 722 property owners to inform them that their land had been claimed for potential exploration.

The mayor of Gatineau would like the Québec government to grant more power to municipalities so that they are able to declare which territories are incompatible with mining activities. This request is in line with that of the Union des municipalités du Québec (UMQ), which would also like municipalities to have real power to designate portions of their territory that are incompatible with mining activities.

The municipalities recognize that the current law technically allows them to delimit territory that they want to exclude from any mining activities. However, they deplore the fact that the law does not grant them any real power and they denounce the fact that the Ministère des Ressources naturelles has so far refused the majority of their requests.

Can the Minister tell us what specific measures she intends to put in place so that municipalities can truly designate portions of their territory that are incompatible with mining activities?

(85) Mr. Morin (Acadie) –**8 December 2023**

To the Minister Responsible for Relations with the First Nations and the Inuit

I recently met with union representatives whose members work in the north, including some in Indigenous communities.

Sadly, they are experiencing staff retention issues in the health and education sectors, which is notably caused by the limited or insufficient access to health services in remote regions. These resignations have a negative impact on the educational success of students in Indigenous and Inuit communities and worsen the problem of access to healthcare in those communities.

Still on the subject of health, many people struggle with difficulties in accessing medications for treatment. They have no choice but to leave their community for the major centres and obtain their medications themselves, all while being ill.

Furthermore, the representatives have told me of the major drinking water supply issue faced by the Inuit and Cree communities. The crisis is so serious that some use snow or non-potable river water and get sick as a result.

What actions does the Minister intend to take to improve access to health services, drinking water and education in the northern regions and in the First Nations and Inuit communities?

(86) Mr. Kelley (Jacques-Cartier) – **8 December 2023**

To the Minister for the Economy

During the interpellation by the Member for Jacques-Cartier to the Minister of Economy, Innovation and Energy on “Energy challenges: an issue for our society and our economy”, the Minister for the Economy mentioned that in order to quickly build new sources of energy production, we would have to resist the forces of inaction.

Can the Minister for the Economy explain what forces of inaction are present in Québec with regard to the construction of new energy sources, and what does he intend to do to resist them?

(87) Ms. Cadet (Bourassa-Sauvé) – **8 December 2023**

To the Minister of Labour

The Faubourg Boisbriand is a residential area no older than 15 years that was built on the grounds of the former GM plant in Boisbriand. It includes 27 buildings with six condo units each, for a total of 162 condominiums.

This residential area is affected by major water-related problems. All of the buildings are, to varying degrees, affected by rotting wooden structures and mould. Furthermore, these issues arising from the premature aging of the buildings' structure is causing serious public health problems. The firm Bâtisso published an air quality assessment report which noted that all the surface samples contained a fungal contamination indicating the presence of a problematic fungal flora.

In the face of such issues, the condo owners must decide between rectifying the existing buildings or tearing it all down. The architect André Flora-Velinho conducted an analysis on the rehabilitation costs of the buildings. According to him, the task would cost nearly \$54 million in total. This works out to \$2.9 million per building, which is nearly \$500,000 per condo owner.

These problems cause considerable anxiety and frustration among the condo owners. Families can no longer reside in their home, and yet they must still pay for their syndicate and their hypothec. When questioned on this issue, the Minister of Labour said that he was extremely concerned and that everyone was working hard to find the best solutions possible to support the affected citizens and review the building inspection practises in Québec.

Can the Minister tell us what specific measures he intends to put in place to help the condo owners of the Faubourg Boisbriand, as well as his deadline for doing so? Can he also provide the current status of his application for the review of the inspection model, undertaken with the Régie du bâtiment du Québec and its partners, and specify the relevant deadline?

(88) Mr. Bouazzi (Maurice-Richard) –**30 January 2024**  
To the Minister of Finance

The viable income index, which has been developed by the Institut de recherche et d'informations socioéconomiques (IRIS), allows us to precisely and exhaustively determine the income required to meet basic needs (food, clothing, housing, transportation and other staple goods), and thus enables Québec households to enjoy a decent life free of poverty. In 2023, this income ranged from \$27,047 to \$37,822 for a single person, depending on their region of residence.

In November 2022, the Association québécoise de défense des droits des personnes retraitées et préretraitées (AQDR) and the Observatoire québécois des inégalités published an alarming report in which they revealed that 49.2%, or nearly half of seniors aged 60 and older, live below the viable income threshold. In 2023, the IRIS published a study entitled “Vieillir au Québec, constats et solutions pour un meilleur système de retraite” (“aging in Québec: findings and solutions for a better retirement system”), in which it was revealed that 409,860 people aged 65 and older were living on less than a “viable income”.

Tax measures such as the senior assistance tax credit, the solidarity tax credit and the tax credit for home-support services for seniors are designed to effectively redistribute income to support seniors living in precarious situations. However, these measures do not guarantee a decent standard of living, despite the 2022 increase in the senior assistance tax credit.

My questions are the following:

- Does the Minister take the viable income index into account in his tax policies?
- Considering that close to half of seniors live below the viable income threshold, does the Minister intend to extend the non-refundable tax credit to seniors under 70?
- What additional measures does the Minister intend to implement to ensure that every senior in Québec can live a decent life, free from poverty?

(89) Mr. Morin (Acadie) – **30 January 2024**

To the Minister of Immigration, Francization and Integration

Québec immigrant admission delays constitute a considerable issue. Indeed, according to files held by the federal government and the immigration targets set by the Québec government, several years may elapse between Québec’s approval of an application and the arrival of the immigrants on our soil.

Can the Minister once again inform us on the number of Québec files awaiting processing by the federal department of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, as well as give us a breakdown by category and immigration program so that we may monitor their progress?

Part 6  
**NOTICES**

**I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN**

**Government Bills**

- (a) 30 January 2024  
An Act to enact the Act respecting civil protection to promote disaster resilience and to amend various provisions relating in particular to emergency communication centres and to forest fire protection – *Minister of Public Security*

**Private Members' Public Bills**

- (b) 12 September 2023  
An Act to make available the documents from the inquiry conducted by Investigation Commissioner Bernard Grenier concerning the unlawful activities of Option Canada in the 1995 Québec Referendum – *Member for Camille-Laurin*
- (c) 5 December 2023  
An Act to amend mainly the Act respecting the Québec Pension Plan to abolish the reduction of the retirement pension of a person who receives a disability pension between 60 and 65 years of age – *Member for Maurice-Richard*

**Private Bills**

**II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME**

- (aa) An Act to modernize the construction industry – *Minister of Labour*
- (bb) An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act to establish a right of citizen initiative in environmental matters and reinforce the powers and independence of the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement – *Member for Verdun*