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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

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FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

## **Order Paper and Notices**

**of the Assembly**

**Wednesday, 21 February 2024 – No. 102**

*Nine forty a.m.*

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

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Part 1  
**ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

**STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS**

- The Member for Charlevoix–Côte-de-Beaupré on the following subject: *The heart and soul of La Grande Traversée passes on the torch!*
- The Member for Bourassa-Sauvé on the following subject: *Tribute to Mr. Jonas Lowa Kouassi.*
- The Member for Saint-François on the following subject: *Tribute to Ms. Marie-Pier Audet, Le Progrès de Coaticook's 2023 person of the year.*
- The Member for Jean-Lesage on the following subject: *Support for Université Laval lecturers.*
- The Member for Gatineau on the following subject: *Tribute to Mr. Jean-Pierre Groulx.*
- The Member for Jacques-Cartier on the following subject: *Underline the success of the 25th Annual Valentine's Ball of the Teresa Dellar Palliative Care Residence.*
- The Member for Joliette on the following subject: *PAX Habitat, practical and enjoyable.*
- The Member for Matane-Matapédia on the following subject: *Construction of a gymnasium at École Lévesque in Saint-Donat.*
- The Member for Saint-Jean on the following subject: *More food aid for the Saint-Jean riding, but there is also a need for more volunteers.*
- The Member for Abitibi-Ouest on the following subject: *Tribute to Mr. Roger Lebreux.*
- The Member for Laval-des-Rapides on the following subject: *Underline the second anniversary of the war between Ukraine and Russia.*
- The Member for Borduas on the following subject: *Underline the 40th anniversary of the Chambre de commerce et d'industrie Vallée-du-Richelieu.*

**STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS**

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

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

**ORAL ANSWERS TO PETITIONS**

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

**ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**DEFERRED DIVISIONS**

Motion moved by the Minister Responsible for Housing for the passage of Bill 31,  
An Act to amend various legislative provisions with respect to housing.

**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 45  
An Act to amend the Act respecting safety in sports mainly to better protect the integrity of persons in recreation and sports  
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Sports, Recreation and the Outdoors, on **6 February 2024**
- (3) Bill 50\*  
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  
Introduced by the Minister of Public Security on **31 January 2024**  

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**\* Recommendation of the Lieutenant-Governor**
- (4) Bill 51  
An Act to modernize the construction industry  
Introduced by the Minister of Labour on **1 February 2024**

- (5) Bill 53  
An Act to enact the Act respecting protection against reprisals related to the disclosure of wrongdoings and to amend other legislative provisions  
Introduced by Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, on **15 February 2024**
- (6) Bill 54  
An Act to follow up on the Table Justice-Québec with a view to reducing processing times in criminal and penal matters and to make the administration of justice more efficient  
Introduced by the Minister of Justice on **20 February 2024**

*Committee Stage*

- (7) 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
- (8) 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  
Report from the Committee on Health and Social Services (consultations) tabled on 13 February 2024  
Passed in principle on **14 February 2024**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Health and Social Services
- (9) 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  
Report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment (consultations) tabled on 6 February 2024  
Passed in principle on **8 February 2024**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment

- (10) 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  
Report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy (consultations) tabled on 6 February 2024  
Passed in principle on **7 February 2024**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Labour and the Economy
- (11) Bill 44  
An Act to amend mainly the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation with respect to research  
Introduced by the Minister of Economy, Innovation and Energy on 7 February 2024  
Passed in principle on **20 February 2024**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Labour and the Economy
- (12) Bill 46  
An Act to improve the protection of children receiving educational childcare services  
Introduced by the Minister of Families on 7 December 2023  
Report from the Committee on Citizen Relations (consultations) tabled on 7 February 2024  
Passed in principle on **8 February 2024**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Citizen Relations
- (13) Bill 47  
An Act to reinforce the protection of students  
Introduced by the Minister of Education on 6 December 2023  
Report from the Committee on Culture and Education (consultations) tabled on 1 February 2024  
Passed in principle on **6 February 2024**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Culture and Education

- (14) 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  
Report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment (consultations) tabled on 13 February 2024  
Passed in principle on **20 February 2024**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment
- (15) Bill 49  
An Act to give effect to fiscal measures announced in the Budget Speech delivered on 21 March 2023 and to certain other measures  
Introduced by the Minister of Finance on **8 February 2024**  
Passed in principle on **20 February 2024**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Public Finance
- (16) Bill 52  
An Act to enable the Parliament of Québec to preserve the principle of parliamentary sovereignty with respect to the Act respecting the laicity of the State  
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Laicity on 8 February 2024  
Passed in principle on **20 February 2024**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Citizen Relations

*Report Stage*

*Passage*

- (17) 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  
Report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain adopted on 13 February 2024  
Vote deferred on **20 February 2024**



## II. Private Members' Public Bills

### *Passage in Principle*

- (18) 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**
- (19) 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**
- (20) 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**
- (21) 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**
- (22) Bill 195  
An Act to amend the Consumer Protection Act to fight planned obsolescence and assert the right to repair goods  
Introduced by the Member for Saint-Laurent on **2 February 2023**
- (23) Bill 196  
An Act to amend the Educational Childcare Act to guarantee the right to receive childcare services  
Introduced by the Member for Robert-Baldwin on **14 March 2023**
- (24) Bill 197  
An Act to improve the quality of care through the setting of ratios in certain institutions governed by the Act respecting health services and social services  
Introduced by the Member for Pontiac on **6 December 2022**

- (25) Bill 198  
An Act to amend the Civil Code to ensure greater protection of seniors as lessees against repossession of dwellings and evictions  
Introduced by the Member for Sherbrooke on **21 February 2023**
- (26) Bill 199  
An Act to better protect consumers against abusive credit contracts  
Introduced by the Member for Saint-Laurent on **23 February 2023**
- (27) Bill 390  
An Act to promote taking gender equality and diversity in an intersectional perspective into account in the budgetary process  
Introduced by the Member for Mercier on **21 March 2023**
- (28) Bill 391  
An Act to amend the Education Act to enshrine the right to free special school projects offered in schools providing preschool or elementary and secondary education and to limit the distance between immovables of a school with a special project  
Introduced by the Member for Saint-Laurent on **16 March 2023**
- (29) Bill 392  
An Act respecting the suspension of the issuing of new mining claims and ending the precedence of mining and gas rights over other land uses  
Introduced by the Member for Verdun on **18 April 2023**
- (30) Bill 393  
An Act to combat food waste  
Introduced by the Member for Verdun on **6 April 2023**
- (31) Bill 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**
- (32) 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**

- (33) 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**
- (34) 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**
- (35) 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**
- (36) 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**
- (37) 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**
- (38) Bill 492  
An Act to combat waste  
Introduced by the Member for Îles-de-la-Madeleine on **18 April 2023**
- (39) 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**
- (40) 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**

- (41) Bill 495  
Anti-Farm Land Grabbing Act  
Introduced by the Member for Verdun on 26 September 2023  
Resuming the debate adjourned in the name of the Member for Jonquière  
on **31 January 2024**
- (42) 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**
- (43) Bill 498  
498, An Act to proclaim National Maple Day  
Introduced by the Member for Beauce-Sud on **8 December 2023**
- (44) Bill 499  
An Act to establish a new electoral system  
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **5 October 2023**
- (45) 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**
- (46) 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**
- (47) Bill 597  
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  
Introduced by the Member for Matane-Matapédia on **1 February 2024**
- (48) Bill 599  
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  
Introduced by the Member for Maurice-Richard on **20 February 2024**

(49) 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**

(50) 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*

(51) 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*

(52) 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

(53) Bill 203  
An Act respecting the objects and powers of the Roman Catholic Archiepiscopal corporation of Montreal  
Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on **19 April 2023**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Institutions

*Passage in Principle*

*Passage*

**IV. Government Motions**

**V. Estimates of Expenditure**

**VI. Statutory Debates**

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

**(54)** 20 February 2024

Motion moved by the Member for Maurice-Richard

THAT the National Assembly recall that the recent tax cut for taxpayers earning more than \$100,000 a year deprives the Québec State of more than \$400 million per year;

THAT the National Assembly recognize that this Government decision contributes to the deficit and undermines the funding of public services.

Part 3

**BILLS PASSED**

*(Bills awaiting Royal Assent)*

Part 4

**PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEES**

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

**COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

**Orders in compliance with the Standing Orders**

- Hearing of 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 201**, An Act respecting Municipalité de Morin-Heights (Order of reference given on 20 April 2023).



### COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

#### Orders of reference

##### Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 47**, An Act to reinforce the protection of students (Order of reference given on 6 February 2024).

### COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND THE ECONOMY

#### Orders of reference

##### Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 42**, An Act to prevent and fight psychological harassment and sexual violence in the workplace (Order of reference given on 7 February 2024).
- **Bill 44**, An Act to amend mainly the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation with respect to research (Order of reference given on 20 February 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).
- **Bill 49**, An Act to give effect to fiscal measures announced in the Budget Speech delivered on 21 March 2023 and to certain other measures (Order of reference given on 20 February 2024).

### 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

#### Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 46**, An Act to improve the protection of children receiving educational childcare services (Order of reference given on 8 February 2024).
- **Bill 52**, An Act to enable the Parliament of Québec to preserve the principle of parliamentary sovereignty with respect to the Act respecting the laicity of the State (Order of reference given on 20 February 2024).

## COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

### Orders of reference

#### Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 37**, An Act respecting the Commissioner for Children’s Well-Being and Rights (Order of reference given on 14 February 2023).
- **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

#### Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 41**, An Act to enact the Act respecting the environmental performance of buildings and to amend various provisions regarding energy transition (Order of reference given on 8 February 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 20 February 2024).

Part 5

**WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

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

- (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?

- (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?

(90) Ms. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques) – **1 February 2024**

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

During the launch of the 2022–2027 Government Action Plan for the Social and Cultural Wellness of the First Nations and Inuit, the Minister Responsible for Relations with the First Nations and the Inuit announced his intention, as well as that of the Government, to take action on the matter of Indigenous languages. Then, on National Indigenous Peoples Day (21 June 2022), the Minister announced his interest in legislating on Indigenous languages in Québec. Accordingly, his Secrétariat established an interdepartmental committee (made up of at least seven different departmental teams) with the mandate of developing a strategy and a bill on Indigenous languages. This interest was also confirmed in the midst of the election campaign (on 30 September 2022) when the Premier promised that his Government would table a bill on Indigenous languages were he to be re-elected.

It is important to point out that the Secrétariat du ministre responsable des Relations avec les Premières Nations et les Inuit and the interdepartmental committee have established and implemented a strategy without having preliminarily consulted First Nations leaders and their associated bodies.

This was clearly denounced by Mr. Ghislain Picard, Chief of the Assembly of First Nations Québec-Labrador, in an open letter sent to the Premier and signed on 16 August 2022. Mr. Picard demands that the Québec government cease all operations aimed at legislating on First Nations languages in Québec and asks that the Government respect and that it not impede on First Nations jurisdiction (Mr. Picard to the Premier, 16 August 2022). First Nations leaders have repeatedly communicated their concerns about the Minister's intentions, including a denunciation by the First Nations Chiefs on 23 November 2022, another letter sent by Chief Picard to the Premier on 8 March 2023, and various communiqués and letters published between March and June 2023.

Despite this, the Minister chose to carry out a series of public representations (between March and June 2023) as the first step in collecting information on his intention to legislate on Indigenous languages.

The First Nations again voiced their discontent by pointing out the Government's paternalistic and colonialist approach and the lack of a co-development approach with First Nations leaders, which is contrary to Article 19 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: "States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them."

Though the Minister appears to have recently offered a path of dialogue to the elected officials and representatives of the First Nations, he has nevertheless tabled a bill on the cultural safety of Indigenous persons (Bill 32) that has been severely criticized both by First Nations leaders and experts.

The First Nations in Québec, just like Quebecers, are proud of their languages and their cultures, and they are therefore better able to solicit and devise the policies required to ensure the protection, the preservation, the strengthening, and the revitalization of their own languages. They hold ancestral rights to self-government and to language and culture, and these rights are recognized and protected under the *Constitution Act, 1982*, the 2019 *Indigenous Languages Act* and international law.

My questions to the Minister Responsible for Relations with the First Nations and the Inuit are the following:

Can the Minister tell us whether his Secrétariat continues to work on the development of a bill relating to Indigenous languages? Will the Minister put a stop to the strategy established by the interdepartmental committee of 2022, and will he commit to not issuing policies or legislating on First Nations languages without the free, prior and informed consent of First Nations leaders? Yes or no?

(91) Ms. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques) – **7 February 2024**  
To the Minister of Finance

Since November 2011, direct deposit registration has been a requirement to receive the solidarity tax credit. Even though the Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse issued a public notice on the very next day after this requirement was imposed, stating that it infringed on economic and social rights, Mr. Charest's Liberal government did not even consider backtracking on this discriminatory practice.

I have been personally asked about this issue by citizens living below the poverty line. It doesn't matter if they meet the eligibility criteria for the solidarity tax credit; if they don't have access to direct deposit, Revenu Québec will deny them the tax credit. However, many people in Québec are illiterate, and even more have difficulty reading and do not have the skills required to complete the direct deposit application forms. This only makes things even more precarious for groups that are already economically vulnerable.

I wanted to know how many people are affected by this requirement each year and, accordingly, how much funding is not provided to the people who should be entitled to it. My team recently submitted an access to information request to Revenu Québec to know the extent of this discrimination.

I was stunned to learn that 55,561 households that were entitled to the solidarity tax credit in 2023 had not received it. This is over \$20 million in funds withheld from people living below the poverty line, funds which they are entitled to, and which remain in the coffers of the government. Of equal concern is the fact that Revenu Québec predicts that the issue will only be exacerbated in 2024. It will more than double, with 106,091 households being denied this financial support for the next tax season, for a total of more than \$47 million in unpaid solidarity tax credits.

In the context of a cost-of-living crisis, and with the new plan to combat poverty and the social assistance reform expected this spring, can people experiencing economic insecurity count on the Minister of Finance to show coherence and cooperate with his colleague, the Minister Responsible for Social Solidarity and Community Action, to put an end to the direct deposit registration requirement? Can the Minister commit to retroactively pay the sums to the people who are entitled to them?

(92) Ms. Massé (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques) – **7 February 2024**

To the Minister Responsible for Social Solidarity and Community Action

Since November 2011, direct deposit registration has been a requirement to receive the solidarity tax credit. Even though the Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse issued a public notice on the very next day after this requirement was imposed, stating that it infringed on economic and social rights, Mr. Charest's Liberal government did not even consider backtracking on this discriminatory practice.

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I wanted to know how many people are affected by this requirement each year and, accordingly, how much funding is not provided to the people who should be entitled to it. My team recently submitted an access to information request to Revenu Québec to know the extent of this discrimination.

I was stunned to learn that 55,561 households that were entitled to the solidarity tax credit in 2023 had not received it. This is over \$20 million in funds withheld from people living below the poverty line, funds which they are entitled to, and which remain in the coffers of the government. Of equal concern is the fact that Revenu Québec predicts that the issue will only be exacerbated in 2024. It will more than double, with 106,091 households being denied this financial support for the next tax season, for a total of more than \$47 million in unpaid solidarity tax credits.

In the context of a cost-of-living crisis, and with the new plan to combat poverty and the social assistance reform expected this spring, can people experiencing economic insecurity count on the Minister Responsible for Social Solidarity and Community Action to show coherence and cooperate with her colleague, the Minister of Finance, to put an end to the direct deposit registration requirement? Can the Minister commit to retroactively pay the sums to the people who are entitled to them?



(93) Mr. Morin (Acadie) – **7 February 2024**

To the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor

For many years, the Association des microbiologistes du Québec has been asking for better oversight of their profession through the creation of a professional order.

The Chair of the Conseil du trésor will agree that microbiologists have an important public health role, in both the public and private spheres.

Unfortunately, the lack of oversight makes it possible for unqualified people to use the title of microbiologist, which presents a risk to Quebecers' health and safety.

An October 2023 survey showed that Quebecers shared the association's concerns about the risks to their health and safety due to the lack of oversight. In fact, 96% of respondents agreed that a professional order should be created for microbiologists.

Can the Chair of the Conseil du trésor tell us the status of the Association des microbiologistes du Québec's request for the creation of a professional order?

(94) Ms. Cadet (Bourassa-Sauvé) – **7 February 2024**

To the Minister of Labour

We recently learned from a *Journal de Montréal* article that many employees of the Commission de la construction du Québec (CCQ) have been dismissed in recent years for professional misconduct.

Examples given in the article to justify these dismissals include conflict of interest, time theft, misrepresentation, disrespectful behavior and even inappropriate language.

Given the CCQ's leading role in the Québec construction industry, we believe this is a troubling situation that must be addressed.

Can the Minister tell us what specific measures he intends to implement at the CCQ to ensure the highest standards of ethics and integrity?

(95) Mr. Morin (Acadie) – **8 February 2024**

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

A group of Innu protestors are occupying an encampment erected at kilometre 59 of Chemin de la Domtar, north of Dolbeau-Mistassini.

They are claiming their right to control the development of natural resources on their family territory.

An injunction was granted to end the blockade on the road. However, the situation is not resolved.

What is the Government's plan regarding entering into a constructive dialogue with the Innu community to take its needs into account?

(96) Ms. Caron (La Pinière) – **8 February 2024**

To the Minister Responsible for Seniors and Minister for Health

On 14 November 2023, members of the Colline's in-patients' committee interpellated Ms. Julie Labbé, Director General of the CIUSSS du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean, on end-of-life care at the Centre d'hébergement de la Colline.

Normally, patients receiving end-of-life care have access to a semi-private room so that they and their families can navigate this final step of life fully and with dignity. However, it appears that, since the beginning of the COVID pandemic, this room has been regularly used for patients waiting for a place in a long-term care centre, apparently on the orders of CIUSSS management.

The result is that there is no place and no alternatives for end-of-life patients of the Centre d'hébergement de la Colline and their families.

Can the Minister call upon the CIUSSS du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean to ensure that end-of-life patients at the Centre d'hébergement de la Colline are given priority?

Is the Minister considering other solutions for patients waiting for a place in the Centre d'hébergement?

- (97) Ms. Lakhoyan Olivier (Chomedey) – **13 February 2024**  
To the Minister of Tourism

In recent weeks, I learned that the Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie would be coming to an end after 90 years of existence, due to financial problems. Rising travel costs and weather-related risks have contributed to these issues, as have the pandemic years.

This event attracted several thousand people to the Rivière Saint-Maurice, bringing economic benefits to local restaurant and business owners.

Does the Minister of Tourism have a plan to save this historic event for tourism in the Mauricie region?

- (98) Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) – **15 February 2024**  
To the Minister of Education

The teacher shortage is very real and its impacts are devastating. The quality of the teaching provided to our children is being affected, but even worse is the fact that in many cases teaching is not happening at all. And “no teaching” means “no evaluation”.

This is the case for many students at École secondaire des Échos in Vaudreuil-Dorion. In their report cards for the first term of the 2023–2024 school year, no results were entered for French, the only reason being that the students have not been evaluated.

These students are preparing for college and are very worried about the negative impacts on their applications. Will their grade point average be negatively affected? Will they be less likely to be accepted by a college?

We therefore ask the Minister of Education to clarify this matter for us. First of all, can the Minister explain why some students have not been evaluated?

Secondly, can the Minister explain what measures he intends to implement in order to not adversely affect the overall average of high school students, in particular that of graduates?

Furthermore, to reassure students and their parents, can the Minister confirm that CEGEP applications will be accepted despite the absence of certain evaluations?

(99) Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon (Camille-Laurin) – **20 February 2024**  
To the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility

The Camille-Laurin riding is a major entry point on Montréal Island. The current work on the Louis-Hippolyte-La Fontaine bridge-tunnel has a significant impact on the daily lives of our fellow citizens, in several areas.

In a letter sent on 6 April 2023, which received no reply, I asked the Minister about the lack of studies justifying the Ministère's decision to implement a one-way street on Honoré-Beaugrand at the Souigny and Dubuisson corners. This layout leads to many misunderstandings and frustration among the neighbourhood's residents.

The situation is all the more problematic since the closure of the ramp between Souigny and Autoroute 25 brings a considerable number of vehicles onto local streets. On this issue as well, there is no justification to explain the section being closed until 2025.

However, as I have already spoken with the Minister on several occasions, traffic congestion is also a problem on Rue Notre-Dame. Despite citizen mobilization and complaints repeated over decades, no mitigation measures are in place to reduce the nuisances related to trucking on this artery leading to the Port of Montréal.

Lastly, in general, the lack of communication from the Ministère on all these issues leads to the frustration of citizens, which is felt not only in our riding office, but also on a recurring basis at the Mercier-Hochelaga-Maisonneuve borough council.

My questions are the following:

- Can the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility consider carrying out a traffic study to respond to the population's incomprehension of several decisions mentioned in that letter?

- Can the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility organize an information session where citizens can ask their questions relating to traffic issues in the neighbourhood?

Part 6  
**NOTICES**

**I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN**

**Government Bills**

**Private Members' Public Bills**

- (a) 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*

**Private Bills**

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

- (aa) An Act to foster the active contribution to society of recipients under the Social Solidarity Program – *Member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce*