



---

# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

---

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

## **Votes and Proceedings**

**of the Assembly**

**Tuesday, 20 February 2024 — No. 101**

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

---



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

\_\_\_\_\_

Moment of reflection

### ORDERS OF THE DAY

#### Government Bills

##### *Passage*

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned on 15 February 2024, on the motion moved by Ms. Duranceau, Minister Responsible for Housing, for the passage of Bill 31, An Act to amend various legislative provisions with respect to housing.

At 11:59 a.m., Mr. Lévesque, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 1:40 p.m.

Accordingly, pursuant to Standing Order 52, the debate on the motion moved by Ms. Duranceau, Minister Responsible for Housing, was adjourned.

\_\_\_\_\_

The proceedings resumed at 1:40 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_

20 February 2024

---

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

### Statements by Members

Mr. Martel (Nicolet-Bécancour) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Guy Rousseau-Jetté.

---

Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis) made a statement to underline National Fight Against the Sexual Exploitation of Minors Week.

---

Mr. Lévesque (Chauveau) made a statement to underline the 60th anniversary of Manoir du Lac Delage.

---

Ms. Zaga Mendez (Verdun) made a statement to convey the message of the young people at Maison des jeunes Point de Mire.

---

Ms. Boivin Roy (Anjou–Louis-Riel) made a statement to underline the 40th anniversary of the Association coopérative d'économie familiale de l'Est de Montréal.

---

Ms. Lakhoyan Olivier (Chomedey) made a statement to ask the Government to make the third Monday of February a statutory holiday devoted to the celebration of family.

---

**20 February 2024**

---

Mr. Chassin (Saint-Jérôme) made a statement to underline the 35th anniversary of the Académie Lafontaine.

\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Provençal (Beauce-Nord) made a statement to pay tribute to Ms. Emmy Fecteau.

\_\_\_\_\_

Ms. Guillemette (Roberval) made a statement to underline the participation of the Lac-Saint-Jean-Nord Rapides in the Québec International Pee-Wee Hockey Tournament.

\_\_\_\_\_

Ms. Blanchette Vézina (Rimouski) made a statement to pay tribute to Ms. Mireille Parent.

\_\_\_\_\_

Ms. Roy (Verchères) made a statement to underline the 80th anniversary of the Cercle de fermières Contrecoeur.

\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Lévesque (Chapleau) made a statement to pay tribute to Ms. Monique St-Laurent.

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

20 February 2024

---

The proceedings resumed at 2:02 p.m.

---

Moment of reflection

### **Introduction of Bills**

Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Minister of Justice, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following 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

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, Bill 54 was introduced in the Assembly.

---

Mr. Bouazzi (Maurice-Richard) moved that leave be granted to introduce the following 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

Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader, raised a point of privilege. He alleged that the Second Opposition Group acted in contempt of Parliament by implying that 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, had already been introduced, by presuming the Assembly's decision to carry the bill's introduction and by disclosing certain elements before its introduction.

**20 February 2024**

---

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader, tabled the following:

Copy of a press release issued by Québec solidaire's parliamentary wing on 20 February 2024.

(Sessional Paper No. 1356-20240220)

The President informed the Assembly that she would hear arguments at a later sitting.

The motion moved that leave be granted to introduce Bill 599 was then carried.

Accordingly, Bill 599 was introduced in the Assembly.

### **Presenting Papers**

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

The Government's reply to the petitions tabled on 28 November 2023 by Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon (Camille-Laurin) on the excessive profits of large food companies;

(Sessional Paper No. 1357-20240220)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 29 November 2023 by Ms. Lachance (Bellechasse) on adding pedestrian lights at the intersection of Route du Président-Kennedy and Avenue des Ruisseaux;

(Sessional Paper No. 1358-20240220)

The Government's reply to the petitions tabled on 29 November 2023 by Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon (Camille-Laurin) on equal treatment between CISSS and CIUSSS lawyers and their counterparts;

(Sessional Paper No. 1359-20240220)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 5 December 2023 by Ms. Maccarone (Westmount-Saint-Louis) on additional consultations and amendments to Bill 15, An Act to make the health and social services system more effective;

(Sessional Paper No. 1360-20240220)

**20 February 2024**

---

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 5 December 2023 by Ms. Zaga Mendez (Verdun) on assessing the impacts of campfires on health;  
(Sessional Paper No. 1361-20240220)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 6 December 2023 by Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent) on the granting of a budget for the demolition and reconstruction of École Saint-Noël-Chabanel's Pavillon des Bâtitseurs;  
(Sessional Paper No. 1362-20240220)

The Government's reply to the petitions tabled on 8 December 2023 by Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) on increasing visibility of gender and sexual diversity and family configurations in school materials;  
(Sessional Paper No. 1363-20240220)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 8 December 2023 by Mr. Bélanger (Orford) on the discharging of American leaching waters into Lake Memphremagog and its watershed;  
(Sessional Paper No. 1364-20240220)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 31 January 2024 by Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) on maintaining emergency overnight services at the Rivière-Rouge hospital centre.  
(Sessional Paper No. 1365-20240220)

---

The President tabled the following:

A copy of the notice of motion by Mr. Bouazzi (Maurice-Richard) to be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* of Wednesday, 21 February 2024 under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.  
(Sessional Paper No. 1366-20240220)

20 February 2024

---

### **Presenting Reports from Committees**

The President tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on the National Assembly, which, on 13, 14 and 15 February 2024, examined the preliminary report of the Commission de la représentation électorale.

(Sessional Paper No. 1367-20240220)

### **Presenting Petitions**

Mr. Bouazzi (Maurice-Richard) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition on the penalties applied to the retirement pensions of disability pension beneficiaries, signed by 84 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1368-20240220)

---

### **Oral Questions and Answers**

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

At the request of the President, Mr. Legault, Premier, withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

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

At the request of the President, Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

**20 February 2024**

---

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 53 and 59, Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) tabled the following:

A copy of a letter, dated 19 February 2024, to Mr. Carmant, Minister Responsible for Social Services, from Mr. Guy Pilon, mayor of Vaudreuil-Dorion, on the *Act respecting the protection of persons whose mental state presents a danger to themselves or to others*.  
(Sessional Paper No. 1369-20240220)

### **Deferred Divisions**

The Assembly took the division, which had been deferred at the sitting of 15 February 2024, on the motion moved by Ms. Guilbault, Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility, that Bill 48, An Act to amend mainly the Highway Safety Code to introduce provisions relating to detection systems and other highway safety-related provisions, do now pass in principle.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **204** in Appendix)

Yeas: **116** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

Accordingly, Bill 48 was passed in principle.

Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 48 be referred to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment for clause-by-clause consideration.

The motion was carried.

### **Motions Without Notice**

Ms. Rotiroti (Jeanne-Mance–Viger), together with Mr. Grandmont (Taschereau), Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved a motion on the forecast of economic benefits related to the replacement of the Olympic Stadium roof; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

**20 February 2024**

---

Mr. Grandmont (Taschereau), together with Mr. Derraji, Official Opposition House Leader, Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved a motion on investment in public transportation in the regions; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

---

Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, together with Mr. Roberge, Minister Responsible for Canadian Relations and the Canadian Francophonie, moved a motion on the repatriation of all immigration powers from the Government of Canada; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

---

Ms. Déry, Minister of Higher Education, moved a motion on the presence of a Québec government office abroad; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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

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

- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to undertake clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 48, An Act to amend mainly the Highway Safety Code to introduce provisions relating to detection systems and other highway safety-related provisions;
- the Committee on Citizen Relations, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 46, An Act to improve the protection of children receiving educational childcare services;

20 February 2024

---

- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 42, An Act to prevent and fight psychological harassment and sexual violence in the workplace;
- the Committee on Health and Social Services, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 37, An Act respecting the Commissioner for Children’s Well-Being and Rights.

---

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

- the Committee on Public Administration shall hold a deliberative meeting to follow up on Recommendation 1.3 of the Committee’s 2021 spring report, “THAT the Committee on Public Administration initiate reflection on the opportunity to examine the Government’s consolidated financial statements in parliamentary committee”.

### **Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly**

Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Wednesday, 21 February 2024, during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, a debate would be held on the motion moved by Mr. Bouazzi (Maurice-Richard).

This motion reads as follows:

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.

20 February 2024

---

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### Government Bills

#### *Passage*

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned earlier in the sitting, on the motion moved by Ms. Duranceau, Minister Responsible for Housing, for the passage of Bill 31, An Act to amend various legislative provisions with respect to housing.

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.

---

#### *Passage in Principle*

Mr. Fitzgibbon, Minister of Economy, Innovation and Energy, moved that Bill 44, An Act to amend mainly the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation with respect to research, do now pass in principle.

Mr. Skeete, Minister for the Economy, informed the Assembly that the Honourable Manon Jeannotte, Lieutenant-Governor of Québec, recommended Bill 44 for its consideration.

A debate arose thereon.

At 4:56 p.m., Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

---

The proceedings resumed at 5:04 p.m.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried on division and Bill 44 was accordingly passed in principle.

20 February 2024

---

Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 44 be referred to the Committee on Labour and the Economy for clause-by-clause consideration and that the Minister for the Economy be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

The motion was carried.

---

*Passage in Principle*

Mr. Roberge, Minister Responsible for Laicity, moved that 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, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried on division and Bill 52 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 52 be referred to the Committee on Citizen Relations for clause-by-clause consideration.

The motion was carried.

---

*Passage in Principle*

Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, moved that 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, do now pass in principle.

A debate arose thereon.

Ms. Proulx, Minister of Tourism, informed the Assembly that the Honourable Manon Jeannotte, Lieutenant-Governor of Québec, recommended Bill 49 for its consideration.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried on division and Bill 49 was accordingly passed in principle.

**20 February 2024**

---

Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 49 be referred to the Committee on Public Finance for clause-by-clause consideration.

The motion was carried.

### **Debates upon Adjournment**

At 6:30 p.m., the Assembly held a debate upon adjournment on a question from Ms. Rotiroti (Jeanne-Mance–Viger) to Ms. Proulx, Minister of Tourism, about the CAQ government's investment in the Olympic Stadium.

---

At 6:43 p.m., Ms. Soucy, First Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 21 February 2024 at 9:40 a.m.

**NATHALIE ROY**

*President*

20 February 2024

APPENDIX

Electronic Divisions

On the motion moved by Ms. Guilbault, Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility:

(Division No. 204)

YEAS - 116

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