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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

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FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

## **Votes and Proceedings**

**of the Assembly**

**Wednesday, 13 March 2024 — No. 105**

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

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

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## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

### Statements by Members

Ms. Dionne (Rivière-du-Loup–Témiscouata) made a statement to underline the Bas-Saint-Laurent tourism industry conference.

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Mr. Benjamin (Viau) made a statement to underline the 30th anniversary of the organization Mon Resto Saint-Michel.

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Mr. Lemay (Masson) made a statement to pay tribute to Ms. Maoly St-Germain.

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Mr. Bouazzi (Maurice-Richard) made a statement to underline the work of the Association québécoise de défense des droits des personnes retraitées et préretraitées.

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Ms. Bourassa (Charlevoix–Côte-de-Beaupré) made a statement to underline the company Fairmont Le Manoir Richelieu's achievement of receiving two environmental certifications.

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Ms. Prass (D'Arcy-McGee) made a statement to underline National Day for the Promotion of Positive Mental Health.

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Ms. Hébert (Saint-François) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Jean Lippé.

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Mr. Lemieux (Saint-Jean) made a statement to underline the Chambre de commerce et de l'industrie du Haut Richelieu's Dîner Grande Rencontre event.

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Ms. Lecours (Lotbinière-Frontenac) made a statement to underline the creation of the La Borne Appalaches web platform.

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Mr. Dufour (Abitibi-Est) made a statement to underline Mr. David Leblond's act of heroism.

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Mr. Caron (Portneuf) made a statement to pay tribute to Ms. Marie-Claude Bertrand.

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Ms. Guillemette (Roberval) made a statement to underline the 20th anniversary of the Village sur glace de Roberval.

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

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The proceedings resumed at 10:03 a.m.

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Moment of reflection

### **Presenting Papers**

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

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 1 February 2024 by Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) on eliminating the interest on student loans for student financial assistance;

(Sessional Paper No. 1424-20240313)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 30 January 2024 by Mr. Bouazzi (Maurice-Richard) on abolishing penalties applied to the retirement pensions of disability pension beneficiaries;

(Sessional Paper No. 1425-20240313)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 1 February 2024 by Mr. Bouazzi (Maurice-Richard) on carrying out a BAPE inquiry prior to the establishment of the Northvolt battery factory;

(Sessional Paper No. 1426-20240313)

The reply to a written question from Mr. Morin (Acadie) on the number of Québec files awaiting processing by the federal department of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada – Question No. 89, *Order Paper and Notices* of 30 January 2024;

(Sessional Paper No. 1427-20240313)

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The reply to a written question from Mr. Morin (Acadie) on the oversight of microbiologists through the creation of a professional order – Question No. 93, *Order Paper and Notices* of 7 February 2024;

(Sessional Paper No. 1428-20240313)

The reply to a written question from Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage) on source sampling of incinerators – Question No. 103, *Order Paper and Notices* of 22 February 2024.

(Sessional Paper No. 1429-20240313)

### **Presenting Reports from Committees**

Ms. Lecours (Les Plaines), Committee Chair, tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on Citizen Relations, which met on 13, 14, 15, 20 and 22 February, and on 12 March 2024 for clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 46, An Act to improve the protection of children receiving educational childcare services. The report contains amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 1430-20240313)

### **Oral Questions and Answers**

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

At the request of the President, Mr. Beauchemin (Marguerite-Bourgeoys) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

### **Motions Without Notice**

Mr. Beauchemin (Marguerite-Bourgeoys), together with Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved a motion on the state of Québec's public finances; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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Mr. Cliche-Rivard (Saint-Henri–Sainte-Anne) moved a motion on places for family members of Canadian citizens and permanent residents who reside in the Gaza Strip; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, moved a motion on the method remunerating physicians and on them becoming incorporated; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Bonnardel, Minister of Public Security, together with Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis), Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion), Mr. Paradis (Jean-Talon) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Québec’s national day to recognise the fight against the sexual exploitation of minors, held on 4 March 2024;

THAT the Members of this Assembly recognize the importance of conveying a strong message that the sexual exploitation of minors will never be tolerated in our society and that all government stakeholders, community organizations, citizens and businesses must continue to mobilize to prevent and combat this scourge;

THAT it reiterate that this fight remains a national priority and that we must continue to take action on multiple fronts, as stated in response to recommendations by the Select Committee on the Sexual Exploitation of Minors in the 2021–2026 government action plan entitled “Briser le cycle de l’exploitation sexuelle”;

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THAT the Assembly recognize and applaud the work of stakeholders in the field, particularly that of the community organizations that complement government actions in order to help people who have been or are at risk of being sexually exploited, and those close to them;

THAT it also recognize and applaud the work done by police forces and their steadfast efforts to crack down on this phenomenon.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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

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

- the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources, to undertake clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 498, An Act to proclaim National Maple Day;
- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 51, An Act to modernize the construction industry;
- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to continue its 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 Culture and Education, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 47, An Act to reinforce the protection of students.

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And, by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 143, he convened the following committee:

- the Committee on Institutions, to hold public hearings within the framework of special consultations on 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.

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Mr. Lévesque, Second Vice-President, gave the following notices:

- the Committee on Public Finance shall hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the possibility of carrying out an order of initiative on the Québec government's digital transition;
- the Committee on Health and Social Services shall hold a deliberative meeting to organize its proceedings following the hearings held within the framework of the order of initiative on examining ways to facilitate organ and tissue donation, in particular the adoption of presumed consent.

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## **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

### **Business Having Precedence**

### **Estimates of Expenditure**

#### *Interim Supply*

Pursuant to the order adopted on 12 March 2024, the Assembly resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

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At 11:00 a.m., Mr. Lévesque, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

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The proceedings resumed at 11:07 a.m.

*Consideration in Committee of the Whole*

The Committee of the Whole entered upon consideration of Interim Supply for the 2024–2025 fiscal year.

At 12:10 p.m., Mr. Lévesque, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

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The proceedings resumed at 12:15 p.m.

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Mr. Lévesque, Chair of the Committee of the Whole, informed the Assembly that he had received a request for a debate upon adjournment to be held on Thursday, 14 March 2024, on a question from Mr. Bouazzi (Maurice-Richard) to Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, about tax reductions and the 2024–2025 budget.

The Committee of the Whole continued its consideration of Interim Supply for the 2024–2025 fiscal year.

At 1:19 p.m., Mr. Lévesque, Chair of the Committee of the Whole, suspended the proceedings until 3:00 p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 3:00 p.m.

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The Committee of the Whole continued its consideration of Interim Supply for the 2024–2025 fiscal year.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 53 and 59, Mr. Grandmont (Taschereau) tabled the following:

A copy of a Radio-Canada article, dated 23 February 2024, entitled “13 G\$ pour électrifier le transport collectif : Québec fait fausse route, dit une experte”.  
(Sessional Paper No. 1431-20240313)

At 4:35 p.m., Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

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The proceedings resumed at 4:44 p.m.

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The Committee of the Whole continued its consideration of Interim Supply for the 2024–2025 fiscal year.

The consideration being concluded, the question was put on concurrence in Interim Supply for the year 2024–2025, and an electronic division was thereupon demanded.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **212** in Appendix)

Yeas: **74** Nays: **20** Abstentions: **0**

Accordingly, Interim Supply for the year 2024–2025 was granted.

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The Chairman of the Committee of the Whole reported to the Assembly as follows:

The Committee of the Whole adopted a portion of the estimates of expenditure as a unit, i.e., a maximum amount of \$30,826,709,940.00, to cover part of Québec's expenditure budget presented in the National Assembly for the fiscal year 2024–2025, which was not otherwise provided for.

The question was put on the report, and an electronic division was thereupon demanded.

The report was concurred in on the following vote:

(Division No. **213** in Appendix)

Yeas: **74** Nays: **20** Abstentions: **0**

Ms. LeBel, Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, moved:

THAT Bill 55, Appropriation Act No. 1, 2024–2025, be brought before the Assembly;

THAT this bill do now pass in principle;

THAT this bill do now pass.

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

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **214** in Appendix)

Yeas: **74** Nays: **20** Abstentions: **0**

Accordingly, Bill 55, Appropriation Act No. 1, 2024–2025, was passed.

Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the estimates of expenditure for the year 2024–2025, save those of the National Assembly, be referred to the Standing Committees.

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

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **215** in Appendix)

Yeas: **94** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

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At 6:34 p.m., Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 14 March 2024 at 9:40 a.m.

**NATHALIE ROY**

*President*

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**APPENDIX**

**Electronic Divisions**

On the motion for concurrence in Interim Supply for the year 2024–2025:

**(Division No. 212)**

**YEAS - 74**

Abou-Khalil (CAQ)	Charette (CAQ)	Haytayan (CAQ)	Martel (CAQ)
Allaire (CAQ)	Chassin (CAQ)	Hébert (CAQ)	Montigny (CAQ)
Asselin (CAQ)	D'Amours (CAQ)	Jacques (CAQ)	Picard (CAQ)
Bachand (CAQ)	Déry (CAQ)	Jeannotte (CAQ)	Poulet (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Dorismond (CAQ)	Jolin-Barrette (CAQ)	Poulin (CAQ)
(Orford)	Drainville (CAQ)	Julien (CAQ)	Proulx (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Dubé (CAQ)	Lachance (CAQ)	Provençal (CAQ)
(Prévost)	Dufour (CAQ)	Lacombe (CAQ)	Reid (CAQ)
Biron (CAQ)	(Abitibi-Est)	Laforest (CAQ)	Rivest (CAQ)
Blais (CAQ)	Émond (CAQ)	Laframboise (CAQ)	Roberge (CAQ)
Blouin (CAQ)	Fitzgibbon (CAQ)	Lafrenière (CAQ)	Rouleau (CAQ)
Boivin Roy (CAQ)	Fréchette (CAQ)	Lamontagne (CAQ)	Roy (CAQ)
Bonnardel (CAQ)	Gagnon (CAQ)	LeBel (CAQ)	Sainte-Croix (CAQ)
Bourassa (CAQ)	Gendron (CAQ)	Lecours (CAQ)	Schmaltz (CAQ)
Bussière (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ)	(Les Plaines)	Schneeberger (CAQ)
Caire (CAQ)	(Lac-Saint-Jean)	Lecours (CAQ)	Simard (CAQ)
Carmant (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ)	(Lotbinière-Frontenac)	Skeete (CAQ)
Caron (CAQ)	(Groulx)	Lefebvre (CAQ)	Tardif (CAQ)
(Portneuf)	Grondin (CAQ)	Lemay (CAQ)	Tremblay (CAQ)
Champagne Jourdain	Guilbault (CAQ)	Lemieux (CAQ)	(Hull)
(CAQ)			
Charest (CAQ)	Guillemette (CAQ)	Lévesque (CAQ)	
		(Chapleau)	

**NAYS - 20**

Arseneau (PQ)	Fortin (QLP)	Morin (QLP)
Cadet (QLP)	Garceau (QLP)	Prass (QLP)
Caron (QLP)	Ghazal (QS)	Rizqy (QLP)
(La Pinière)	Labrie (QS)	Rotiroti (QLP)
Ciccone (QLP)	Leduc (QS)	Setlakwe (QLP)
Derraji (QLP)	Maccarone (QLP)	Tanguay (QLP)
Dufour (QLP)	McGraw (QLP)	Zaga Mendez (QS)
(Mille-Îles)		

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On the report from the Committee of the Whole:

**(Division No. 213)**

*(Identical to Division No. 212)*

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On the motion moved by Ms. LeBel, Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor:

**(Division No. 214)**

*(Identical to Division No. 212)*

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On the motion moved by Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader:

**(Division No. 215)**

**YEAS - 94**

Abou-Khalil (CAQ)	Ciccone (QLP)	Hébert (CAQ)	Morin (QLP)
Allaire (CAQ)	D'Amours (CAQ)	Jacques (CAQ)	Picard (CAQ)
Arseneau (PQ)	Derraji (QLP)	Jeannotte (CAQ)	Poulet (CAQ)
Asselin (CAQ)	Déry (CAQ)	Jolin-Barrette (CAQ)	Poulin (CAQ)
Bachand (CAQ)	Dorismond (CAQ)	Julien (CAQ)	Prass (QLP)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Drainville (CAQ)	Labrie (QS)	Proulx (CAQ)
(Orford)	Dubé (CAQ)	Lachance (CAQ)	Provençal (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Dufour (CAQ)	Lacombe (CAQ)	Reid (CAQ)
(Prévost)	(Abitibi-Est)	Laforest (CAQ)	Rivest (CAQ)
Biron (CAQ)	Dufour (QLP)	Laframboise (CAQ)	Rizqy (QLP)
Blais (CAQ)	(Mille-Îles)	Lafrenière (CAQ)	Roberge (CAQ)
Blouin (CAQ)	Émond (CAQ)	Lamontagne (CAQ)	Rotiroti (QLP)
Boivin Roy (CAQ)	Fitzgibbon (CAQ)	LeBel (CAQ)	Rouleau (CAQ)
Bonnardel (CAQ)	Fortin (QLP)	Lecours (CAQ)	Roy (CAQ)
Bourassa (CAQ)	Fréchette (CAQ)	(Les Plaines)	Sainte-Croix (CAQ)
Bussière (CAQ)	Gagnon (CAQ)	Lecours (CAQ)	Schmaltz (CAQ)
Cadet (QLP)	Garceau (QLP)	(Lotbinière-Frontenac)	Schneeberger (CAQ)
Caire (CAQ)	Gendron (CAQ)	Leduc (QS)	Setlakwe (QLP)
Carmant (CAQ)	Ghazal (QS)	Lefebvre (CAQ)	Simard (CAQ)
Caron (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ)	Lemay (CAQ)	Skeete (CAQ)
(Portneuf)	(Groulx)	Lemieux (CAQ)	Tanguay (QLP)
Caron (QLP)	Girard (CAQ)	Lévesque (CAQ)	Tardif (CAQ)
(La Pinière)	(Lac-Saint-Jean)	(Chapleau)	Tremblay (CAQ)
Champagne Jourdain	Grondin (CAQ)	Maccarone (QLP)	(Hull)
(CAQ)			
Charest (CAQ)	Guilbault (CAQ)	Martel (CAQ)	Zaga Mendez (QS)
Charette (CAQ)	Guillemette (CAQ)	McGraw (QLP)	
Chassin (CAQ)	Haytayan (CAQ)	Montigny (CAQ)	