

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Order Paper and Notices

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 20 March 2024 – No. 108 Nine forty a.m.

President of the National Assembly: Madam Nathalie Roy

Part 1 ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

- The Member for Saint-Hyacinthe on the following subject: *The* 40th anniversary of the SDC centre-ville Saint-Hyacinthe.
- The Member for Marquette on the following subject: Underline Mr. Jocelyn Thibault's retirement from Hockey Québec.
- The Member for Charlevoix–Côte-de-Beaupré on the following subject: *Thanks for everything, Pierre Tremblay.*
- The Member for Taschereau on the following subject: *The 30th anniversary* of the Ligue des droits et libertés, Québec Chapter.
- The Member for Saint-François on the following subject: *The Mamode-Rahimaly couple, a model of integration in eastern Sherbrooke.*
- The Member for Saint-Henri–Sainte-Anne on the following subject: Recognition of Ms. Ghislaine Théoret's 30th anniversary as Executive Director of the organization Le Garde-manger pour tous.
- The Member for Saint-Jean on the following subject: In this month of the Francophonie, Québec will this week celebrate the second Journée québécoise de la francophonie Canadienne.
- The Member for Saint-Jérôme on the following subject: Volunteer involvement, an invaluable asset in Saint-Jérôme.
- The Member for Abitibi-Ouest on the following subject: *Tribute to Mr. Robert Adam.*
- The Member for Vachon on the following subject: *The 45th edition of the JazzFest* des jeunes du Québec.
- The Member for Chambly on the following subject: Sugar shack meals at home.
- The Member for Borduas on the following subject: *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

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NOTICES OF PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEES

INFORMATION ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Part 2

ORDERS OF THE DAY

BUSINESS HAVING PRECEDENCE

(1) Resuming the debate, adjourned on **19 March 2024**, on the motion by the Minister of Finance, –That this Assembly approve the budgetary policy of the Government,

And on the motions stating a grievance moved by:

The Member for Marguerite-Bourgeoys:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for announcing a record deficit of \$11B in its budget without presenting any plan to restore fiscal balance.

The Member for Maurice-Richard:

THAT the National Assembly censure the CAQ government for a budget that fails to prepare for the future by addressing the housing crisis, adapting to climate change and raising new revenue to support State finances.

The Member for Jean-Talon:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ Government for its 2024–2025 budget, which does not account for the financial cost associated with Canada's refusal of Québec's legitimate financial requests.

The Leader of the Official Opposition:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for tabling a 2024–2025 budget that sums up six years of mismanagement without providing for the return to a balanced budget in a context where Quebecers are not receiving the services to which they are entitled.

The Member for Jean-Lesage:

THAT the National Assembly censure the CAQ government for its lack of compassion toward Québec artists, whom it has let down and condemned to disgraceful conditions of life and artistic creation, thus destroying the very core of the Québec's identity that it had promised to defend.

The Member for D'Arcy-McGee:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for its 2024–2025 which does not provide the resources or means needed to ensure the sustainability of social services for the population.

The Member for Sherbrooke:

THAT the National Assembly censure the Government for its inability to prepare Québec for an aging population.

The Member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for failing to provide resources to meet the service delivery needs of community organizations.

The Member for Mille-Îles:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for failing to grasp the extent of the housing crisis and tabling yet another budget that includes no provisions to increase the housing supply or promote access to property.

The Member for Laurier-Dorion:

THAT the National Assembly censure the CAQ government and the Minister Responsible for Housing for their budget, which provides no new investments for social and community housing and no measures to alleviate the impacts of the housing crisis, control the spiralling inflation and speculation in the rental housing sector, promote access to property, and stimulate the construction of new housing.

The Member for La Pinière:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for tabling a budget that fails Québec's intermediate resources, responsible for housing the most vulnerable members of our society, by neglecting to sufficiently fund them in 2024.

The Member for Verdun:

THAT the National Assembly censure the CAQ government for its 2024–2025 budget, which lets down farmers facing the climate crisis and fails to prepare Québec for the adaptation to and the fight against climate change.

The Member for Jacques-Cartier:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for tabling a budget that offers nothing to help citizens buy solar panels and home storage systems.

The Member for Taschereau:

THAT the National Assembly censure the CAQ government for the considerable financial burden it has imposed on the citizens of Québec by underinvesting in urban and intercity public transit in the 2024–2025 budget, in view of the fact that transportation is the second biggest budget item for Québec families.

The Member for Nelligan:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for tabling a budget that offers no solution to the public transit funding crisis.

The Member for Robert-Baldwin:

THAT the National Assembly severely censure the CAQ government for its inaction with regard to the construction of shelters for women who are victims of domestic violence and for blocking the funds it has promised since 2021 to the organizations responsible for these shelters

URGENT DEBATES

DEBATES ON REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

OTHER BUSINESS

I. Government Bills

Passage in Principle

(**2**) 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

(**3**) 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**

(4) 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**

* Recommendation of the Lieutenant-Governor

(**5**) Bill 51

An Act to modernize the construction industry Introduced by the Minister of Labour on **1 February 2024**

(6) 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** 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 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

(**10**) 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

(11) 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

(**12**) 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

(13) 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

(14) 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 Passed in principle on 12 March 2024, and

Referred to the Committee on Institutions

Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on 14 March 2024

Report Stage

(**15**) 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 Report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy tabled on 22 February 2024 (**16**) 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 Report from the Committee on Citizen Relations tabled on 13 March 2024 (amend. handed in under Standing Order 252)

Passage

(17) 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 Report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment adopted on **12 March 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 393An Act to combat food wasteIntroduced 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 492An Act to combat wasteIntroduced 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 499

An Act to establish a new electoral system Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **5 October 2023**

(44) 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**

(**45**) Bill 596

An Act amending mainly the Act respecting land use planning and development so that municipalities may adopt a differentiated zoning bylaw aimed at increasing and sustaining the supply of social housing or affordable housing

Introduced by the Member for Mille-Îles on 24 October 2023

(46) 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**

(47) 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**

(**48**) 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**

(**49**) 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**

(**50**) Bill 693

An Act to foster the active contribution to society of recipients under the Social Solidarity Program Introduced by the Member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce on **22 February 2024**

(**51**) Bill 694

An Act to amend the Highway Safety Code to more effectively fight drinking and driving Introduced by the Member for Nelligan on **19 March 2024**

(52) Bill 695
 Parliamentary Budget Officer Act
 Introduced by the Member for Nelligan on 14 March 2024

Committee Stage

(**53**) 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

(54) Bill 498

An Act to proclaim National Maple Day Introduced by the Member for Beauce-Sud on 8 December 2023 Passed in principle on 21 February 2024 Report from the Committee on Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources tabled on **14 March 2024**

Passage

III. Private Bills

Hearings and Clause-by-Clause Consideration

(55) 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

(56) 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

(57) Estimates of Expenditure for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2025 tabled by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on 12 March 2024 and referred for consideration to the standing committees on 13 March 2024.

VI. Statutory Debates

BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION

(58) 19 March 2024

Motion moved by the Leader of the Third Opposition Group

THAT the National Assembly take note of the Government of Canada's refusal to grant the Québec government full powers over immigration;

THAT it affirm that these powers are essential for ensuring the sustainability of the French language in Québec;

THAT it therefore affirm that Québec is today and always will be a society that is distinct, free and able to fully assume its destiny and development.

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

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 45**, An Act to amend the Act respecting safety in sports mainly to better protect the integrity of persons in recreation and sports (Order of reference given on 12 March 2024).
- **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 (Order of reference given on 12 March 2024).

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

Special Consultations:

- **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 12 March 2024).
- **Bill 51**, An Act to modernize the construction industry (Order of reference given on 12 March 2024).

Consideration of Bills:

 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

Special Consultations:

Bill 53, An Act to enact the Act respecting protection against reprisals related to the disclosure of wrongdoings and to amend other legislative provisions (Order of reference given on 19 March 2024).

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 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 (Order of reference given on 12 March 2024).
- 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 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 in compliance with the Standing Orders

Interpellation:

- By the Member for Rosemont to the Minister of Health on the following subject: *The real cost of health care for Quebecers* (notice given on 14 March 2024).

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 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

<u>Questions already placed</u> on the Order Paper are published each Wednesday

(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 Souligny 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 Souligny 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?
- (100) Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) **22 February 2024** To the Minister of Health

The Minister of Health is aware: the population of the greater Vaudreuil-Soulanges region finds his unilateral decision to build a surface parking lot at the new Vaudreuil-Soulanges hospital incomprehensible.

Rather than building a multi-level parking lot as was initially agreed, the Government decided to move ahead with an enormous 5-hectare parking lot located in an agricultural area.

Guy Pilon, mayor of Ville de Vaudreuil-Dorion, and Olivier Van Neste, director general of that municipality, publicly spoke out against that decision, as have the MRC de Vaudreuil-Soulanges, the Union des municipalités du Québec, the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal, the Chambre de commerce et d'industrie de Vaudreuil-Soulanges and the Conseil régional de l'environnement de la Montérégie.

Representatives from numerous environmental protection organizations are going in the same direction. In particular, Marie-Janick Robitaille, a researcher in Université Laval's geography department who collaborated on the mapping of heat islands around the site of the future Vaudreuil-Soulanges hospital, Dany Doiron, an associate researcher at the MUHC research centre, and the Direction de la santé publique.

La Presse reported, on 19 February 2024, that Santé publique had issued a scientific opinion, a three-page argument dated April 2019, and produced a fact sheet on responsible parking. All these documents favour a multi-level parking lot. However, the Minister has never referred to these numerous documents that go against his decision to keep the surface parking lot. Accordingly, could the Minister of Health make public the three previously cited documents as well as any other document concerning the construction of the parking lot for the new Vaudreuil-Soulanges hospital?

(101) Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) – **22 February 2024**

To the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility

The population of the greater Vaudreuil-Soulanges region finds the Government's unilateral decision to build a surface parking lot for the new Vaudreuil-Soulanges hospital incomprehensible.

Rather than building a multi-level parking lot, as was initially agreed, the Government decided to move ahead with an enormous 5-hectare parking lot located in an agricultural area.

Given that the need for parking space at the Vaudreuil-Soulanges hospital is directly related to the lack of a structuring public transit network in the region, as established by expert Jean-Michel Champagne, can the Minister tell us, first of all, how and when she intends to improve support to the municipality of Vaudreuil-Dorion, which will have to increase its offer of public transport services heading to the new hospital?

Though the arrival of the new Vaudreuil-Soulanges hospital has been eagerly awaited for a long time, it will generate considerable automobile traffic. Traffic which the city's current layout will be unable to manage. As underlined in the 19 February 2024 *La Presse* article entitled "Un état exemplaire (quand ça adonne)", the marginal place of public transport is indeed baffling. Not only will the Île-aux-Tourtes bridge not have any lanes reserved exclusively for public transportation, but the project to integrate the REM on the new Île-aux-Tourtes bridge and to build a REM station in the Vaudreuil-Soulanges region appears to be stalled. According to Guy Pilon, mayor of Vaudreuil-Dorion, the situation is absurd and unacceptable. Given that these two ridings are undergoing an explosion in population, can the Minister explain which studies the Government and the REM project sponsor, CDPQ Infra, used to dismiss the extension of the REM toward Vaudreuil-Dorion?

(102) Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage) – 22 February 2024

To the Minister of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks

In 2021, the World Health Organization (WHO) reviewed its air quality guidelines for certain major air pollutants: fine particulate matter (PM 2.5 and PM 10), ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide and carbon monoxide.

Given that the Clean Air Regulation (CAR) was passed in 2011, the standards applicable in Québec were compared with the reference values developed by the WHO in 2005 and not with those developed in 2021.

In January 2023, the Groupe de travail sur les contaminants atmosphériques (GTCA), established by the Minister, made public its report on the air quality in the Limoilou–Basse-Ville sector entitled *Rapport sur le portrait de la qualité de l'air du secteur Limoilou-Basse-Ville, propositions de mesures d'atténuation et recommandations*. The GTCA targets fine particulate matter as pollutants that are a priority and especially harmful. It also identified total suspended particulates (TSP) as a priority. The report *Mon environnement, ma santé*, presented by the Direction de santé publique de la Capitale-Nationale on 13 March 2023, also points to fine particulate matter.

Note that the CAR does not contain any PM 10 standards, and has no annual standards for PM 2.5 or TSP.

On 6 February 2024, the Association québécoise des médecins pour l'environnement published a frame of reference for healthy air entitled *Cadre de référence pour un air sain*. The Association asks, among other things, for the update of the toxicity threshold of certain air pollutants, including fine particulate matter of 2.5 micrometers.

My questions to the Minister of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks are the following:

- 1. Does the Minister intend to follow the experts' recommendations and reduce the particulate matter (PM 2.5), ozone, nitrogen dioxide and sulfur dioxide standards to be in line with the WHO's new guidelines?
- 2. Does the Minister intend to set a standard (daily and annual) for PM 10, according to the guideline levels from the WHO?
- 3. Does the Minister plan to add a high season standard for ozone, a 24-hour standard for carbon monoxide and an annual standard for PM 2.5, all based on the guideline levels from the WHO?
- 4. Does the Minister intend to set an annual standard for total suspended particulates?

(104) Mr. Morin (Acadie) – **12 March 2024**

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

Last 12 and 13 September, special consultations and public hearings were held on Bill 32, An Act to establish the cultural safety approach within the health and social services network.

Since then, we have heard nothing about the bill.

Can the Minister tell us what his intentions are for the future of this bill?

(105) Mr. Ciccone (Marquette) – **12 March 2024** To the Minister of Health

On 11 January 2024, an article on vaping published in *La Presse* entitled "Vapotage — Y a des limites à se faire niaiser" reported that, although the sale of non-tobacco flavoured vaping products has been banned since 31 October 2023, the Minister of Health's new regulation misses the mark.

Many dépanneurs and specialty shops are flouting the rules by selling a plethora of flavour concentrates that can easily be mixed with a neutral e-liquid base. Considering that merchants admit to not knowing what exactly is in these flavours, with some suggesting the products may be carcinogenic if inhaled, does the Minister have a plan to ensure compliance with his regulation, and especially, to protect the health of young Quebecers?

(106) Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) – 13 March 2024 To the Minister Responsible for Social Solidarity and Community Action

As the Minister knows, people experiencing homelessness who take advantage of the provisions of subsidized housing programs, such as the Rent Supplement Program or low-rental housing, benefit from social support that allows for better reintegration.

However, at the moment, women victims of conjugal violence have no levers for support once they leave the family home. Considering the housing crisis, many women are currently forced to stay in their toxic environment for lack of affordable housing, and especially, housing suitable for their families. In addition to this issue, as mentioned, is the absence of support when they access the Rent Supplement Program or low-rental housing, which greatly reduces their chances of success.

The consequences are disastrous. In the Vaudreuil riding, some women have lost their access to social housing because of a lack of support. It is likely that they and their children have had to return to their toxic environment where violence prevails. To help the women and children stuck in these situations, we ask that, first, the Minister explain to us the services available to women victims of conjugal violence who are rebuilding their lives in subsidized housing.

In addition, is it possible to improve the support services offered to women victims of conjugal violence and the organizations responsible for managing subsidized housing?

(107) Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) – 13 March 2024 To the Minister of Higher Education

For more than thirty years now, the École nationale du meuble et de l'ébénisterie de Montréal (ENME) has offered a unique collegiate woodworking training program.

Gifted with a competent team and modern equipment, the ENME is a true jewel. Its students thrive in programs that are adapted to the business and professional network.

The decision of the Cégep de Victoriaville's board of directors to close the Montréal campus in 2027 seems ill-advised. For the good of our metropolis and its cultural and economic influence, a solution to this closure must be found.

The idea that the Montréal college network could lose such an institution is inconceivable. The ENME is responsible for an important portion of the increasingly needed succession for the carpentry industry in Québec.

As the ENME is in the Mercier riding, which I represent, I can anticipate the impacts of this closure, which will first be felt by the teaching staff, the school support staff and the professional who work at the school, as well as the students. However, this closure will also impact the furniture sector as a whole.

My question to the Minister of Higher Education is the following:

Does the Minister intend to support the École nationale du meuble et de l'ébénisterie de Montréal to prevent its closure? Does she intend to propose alternative solutions to keep the school open?

(108) Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) – **14 March 2024** To the Minister of Health

In Québec, the *Act respecting prescription drug insurance* provides that patients must pay a portion of the costs related to the purchase of prescription drugs. This contribution includes a deductible amount and a coinsurance payment.

For most people, the maximum annual contribution is \$1,196, and this must be adhered to by the RAMQ and private insurers alike, without exception. For patients insured by the RAMQ, this amount is spread over 12 months, with a monthly maximum contribution. This means that patients do not pay more than \$99.65 per month (for a total of \$1,196 per year).

However, when a patient has private insurance, the insurer does not spread the amount payable over 12 months (because there is no monthly maximum contribution) and payment is required in full at the time of purchase at the pharmacy. Since the amount owed depends on the cost of the medication itself and the percentage of the coverage under the patient's plan, there is often a significant amount to be paid for several consecutive months at the start of the year.

This situation can impose a heavy financial burden on vulnerable patients with private insurance compared to patients covered by the public prescription drug insurance plan.

My questions to the Minister of Health are the following:

What measures does the Minister intend to take to require private insurers to set up a process for the monthly distribution of deductible and coinsurance payments similar to that of the RAMQ?

If so, does the Minister intend to apply the Act so as to guarantee that every patient in Québec, regardless of whether they are covered privately or by the RAMQ, can have their deductible and coinsurance payments spread over 12 months?

(109) Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) – **19 March 2024**

To the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility

The Assembly recently held its consideration of Interim Supply for 2024–2025 during which I asked the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility questions about public transit bus electrification. However, several questions have yet to be answered.

Can the Minister tell us the cost of one all-electric bus and the range of a battery? Can she also tell us the cost of retrofitting or building a garage for electric buses for each public transit authority?

(110) Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) – 20 March 2024 To the Minister of Labour

It is now well known that the rising cost of living and the housing crisis have a significant impact on seniors, as they live mainly on fixed incomes. This precarious situation also includes seniors who were victims of work accidents or occupational diseases during their working lives and who now collect a retirement pension at the age of 65.

Currently, however, the *Act respecting the Québec Pension Plan* (AQPP) and the *Act respecting industrial accidents and occupational diseases* (AIAOD) unfairly penalize victims of work accidents and occupational diseases who receive income replacement indemnities over a long period. Indeed, many of them receive a lower pension amount than they would have otherwise received had they not been victims of an employment accident or an occupational disease. This situation is contrary to the purpose of the AIAOD to provide compensation for victims of employment injuries or occupational diseases.

The AQPP does not provide for victims of employment injuries and occupational diseases to fully contribute to the Québec Pension Plan while they receive income replacement indemnities. The AQPP only takes into account an individual's working income to determine their pensionable salary, which excludes income replacement indemnities.

As for the AIAOD, contributions made to the Québec Pension Plan are subtracted from income replacement indemnities without being paid into the Québec Pension Plan. To calculate the net income and the income replacement indemnity equal to 90% of that net income, the CNESST subtracts all contributions made from the gross income. Victims of work accidents and occupational diseases are therefore deprived of their Québec Pension Plan contributions, as well as those made by their employer, for the duration of their total disability. The pensions of victims who hold suitable employment and receive income replacement indemnities to make up for the wage difference between their pre-injury occupation are similarly affected. It is important to point out that this second type of indemnity represents the vast majority of long-term indemnities. As a result, the vast majority of victims of work accidents and occupational diseases cannot benefit from the exclusion measures provided for in the AQPP and are instead penalized when they retire. In many cases, this can represent a loss of several hundreds of dollars per month. However, a solution that has already been considered by the CNESST, or the CSST as it was called at the time, could easily resolve this issue.

Indeed, before the passage of the AIAOD in 1985, injured workers received indemnities from the CSST until their death. These life pensions were abolished with the introduction of the AIAOD. In the 1981 draft bill on compensation for employment injuries, the CSST had considered a measure to make up for the abolition of the life pensions. The draft bill provided that the CSST would pay the pension contribution subtracted from the income replacement indemnity, and the employer's contribution, directly into the Québec Pension Plan. It was agreed that the amounts deducted for this purpose would be taken from the CSST's accident fund. The following excerpt from the draft bill clearly shows the CSST's vision at the time: "The beneficiary of an income replacement indemnity contributes to the pension plan provided for in the Act respecting the Québec Pension Plan (chapter R-9) as if they had continued to work. The Commission deducts the worker's share from the indemnity and assumes the employer's share (...) the worker is then in the same situation they would have been in had they continued to work. This prevents the worker from suffering further harm because of their injury." [Translation]

In other words, it would be possible to apply the CSST's reasoning and amend the AIAOD and the AQPP, in particular sections 63 and 45 respectively, so that victims of work accidents and occupational diseases are no longer unfairly penalized upon their retirement.

Considering the above, my questions are the following:

- 1. Will the Minister of Labour acknowledge that the housing crisis and rising cost of living particularly affect seniors, including seniors who have been victims of work accidents and occupational diseases?
- 2. Will the Minister of Labour acknowledge that, in such circumstances, effective measures must be considered to support seniors?

- 3. Can the Minister of Labour tell us if the CNESST has estimated the costs of implementing the above-mentioned solution, that is, having the CNESST pay the worker and the employer's contributions into the Québec Pension Plan?
- 4. If not, can the Minister of Labour ask the CNESST to estimate the costs of such a measure?
- 5. Will the Minister of Labour commit to legislating so that victims of work accidents and occupational diseases are no longer unfairly penalized upon retirement?
- (111) Ms. Cadet (Bourassa-Sauvé) **20 March 2024** To the Minister Responsible for Youth

We all know that the Maisons des jeunes (youth centres) play an important role for young people.

How does the Minister Responsible for Youth plan to support the infrastructure and equipment needs of the youth centres that are members of the Regroupement des maisons des jeunes du Québec, so that they can provide young people with a safe and stimulating environment?

Similarly, with a view to maintaining and developing the Maisons des jeunes du Québec, does the Minister plan to adopt specific measures to facilitate access for the Maisons des jeunes to funds dedicated to social innovation and the implementation of experimental projects addressing emerging youth issues?

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 mainly to reinforce Members' oversight of government action by recognizing their right to visit administrative institutions – *Member for Sherbrooke*