



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Tuesday, 26 March 2024 — No. 110

**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 21 March 2024, on the motion moved by Mr. Charette, Minister of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks, for the passage of Bill 41, An Act to enact the Act respecting the environmental performance of buildings and to amend various provisions regarding energy transition.

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 of the sitting.

Report Stage

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Culture and Education on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 47, An Act to reinforce the protection of students, together with the amendments transmitted by Mr. Drainville, Minister of Education, and Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent).

The amendments were declared in order.

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After debate thereon, the question was put on the amendments proposed by Mr. Drainville, Minister of Education.

The amendments were carried.

By leave of the Assembly, Mr. Lévesque, Second Vice-President, read the text of the amendment proposed by Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent) before the question was put on the amendment.

The amendment was negatived.

The amended report was concurred in.

Report Stage

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Institutions on its clause-by-clause consideration of 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.

After debate thereon, the report was concurred in.

Passage in Principle

Mr. Bonnardel, Minister of Public Security, moved that 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, do now pass in principle.

A debate arose thereon.

Ms. Roy, Minister of Families, informed the Assembly that the Honourable Manon Jeannotte, Lieutenant-Governor of Québec, recommended Bill 50 for its consideration.

The debate continued.

At 12:00 p.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 Mr. Bonnardel, Minister of Public Security, was adjourned in the name of Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis).

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The proceedings resumed at 1:40 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Ms. Gendron (Châteauguay) made a statement to underline the success of the Châteauguay Irish Festival.

Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis) made a statement to underline the 50th anniversary of the École de technologie supérieure.

Mr. Jacques (Mégantic) made a statement to underline the work of food aid organizations in the Mégantic riding.

Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion) made a statement to underline the establishment of the Commerce solidaire initiative of the organization PACT de rue.

Ms. Blanchette Vézina (Rimouski) made a statement to pay tribute to Ms. Lucille Porlier.

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Ms. Caron (La Pinière) made a statement to underline the 50th anniversary of the Club FADOQ de Brossard.

Ms. Roy (Verchères) made a statement to underline the Journée nationale des cadres des centres de la petite enfance et des bureaux coordonnateurs (national day for managers of childcare centres and coordinating offices).

Mr. Lefebvre (Arthabaska) made a statement to pay tribute to Ms. Madeleine Gosselin Dusseault.

Ms. Rouleau (Pointe-aux-Trembles) made a statement to pay tribute to Ms. Ally Neah.

Ms. Tardif (Laviolette–Saint-Maurice) made a statement to underline the work of the Service d'intégration au travail Mauricie.

Ms. Déry (Repentigny) made a statement to underline the 50th anniversary of the École de technologie supérieure.

Mr. Lévesque (Chapleau) made a statement to underline the 75th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Legion – Branch 58, Pointe-Gatineau.

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At 1:55 p.m., Mr. Lévesque, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 2:05 p.m.

Moment of reflection

Presenting Papers

Mr. Girard, Minister of Finance, tabled the following:

The 2024–2027 strategic plan of Retraite Québec.
(Sessional Paper No. 1465-20240326)

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

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 20 February 2024 by Mr. Bouazzi (Maurice-Richard) on abolishing penalties applied to the retirement pensions of disability pension beneficiaries;
(Sessional Paper No. 1466-20240326)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 21 February 2024 by Ms. Schmaltz (Vimont) on protecting the Saint-Saëns Ouest woods in Laval;
(Sessional Paper No. 1467-20240326)

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The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 21 February 2024 by Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) on adding measures to prevent alcohol-impaired driving;
(Sessional Paper No. 1468-20240326)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 22 February 2024 by Mr. Grandmont (Taschereau) on completion of the tramway project by Ville de Québec;
(Sessional Paper No. 1469-20240326)

The reply to a written question from Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon (Camille-Laurin) on the impact of the Louis-Hippolyte-La Fontaine tunnel repair work on Montréal's local network – Question No. 99, *Order Paper and Notices* of 20 February 2024.
(Sessional Paper No. 1470-20240326)

The President tabled the following:

The 2024–2027 strategic plan of the French Language Commissioner.
(Sessional Paper No. 1471-20240326)

Then, by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 143 and 285, she tabled the following:

The calendar for consideration of the 2024–2025 estimates of expenditure.
(Sessional Paper No. 1472-20240326)

Lastly, the President tabled the following:

A copy of the notice of motion by Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon (Camille-Laurin), to be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* of Wednesday, 27 March 2024 under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.
(Sessional Paper No. 1473-20240326)

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Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

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

Deferred Divisions

The Assembly took the division, which had been deferred earlier in the sitting, on the motion moved by Mr. Charette, Minister of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks, for the passage of Bill 41, An Act to enact the Act respecting the environmental performance of buildings and to amend various provisions regarding energy transition.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **226** in Appendix)

Yeas: **90** Nays: **18** Abstentions: **0**

Accordingly, Bill 41 was passed.

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) moved a motion on the use of paid health services; 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. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, together with Mr. Roberge, Minister of the French Language, Ms. Cadet (Bourassa-Sauvé), Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved:

THAT the National Assembly pay tribute to Mr. Yves Michaud, Member for Gouin from 1966 to 1970, High Commissioner for Cooperation for the Ministère des Affaires intergouvernementales from 1970 to 1973, Québec's delegate to international organizations in 1977, advisor to the Premier on international affairs in 1978 and 1979, delegate-general of Québec in Paris from 1979 to 1984, and recipient of the Medal of the National Assembly, for his unwavering commitment to the Québec nation, the French language and the political independence of Québec;

THAT it underline his contribution to the development of Québec journalism, in particular at the *Le Clairon maskoutain* newspaper, where he served as editor-in-chief from 1954 to 1960, director from January 1960 to January 1961, and managing editor from January 1961 to May 1962, at the *La Patrie* newspaper, where he served as editor-in-chief and executive director from 1962 to 1966, and at the *Le Jour* newspaper, where he served as director from 1973 to 1976;

THAT it recall that he also received a number of journalism awards, including a Best Report award in 1957, a Best French-Language Weekly Newspaper award in 1958 and a Best Editorial of the Year award in 1963 and 1964;

THAT it applaud his important contribution to the protection of small investors and shareholders by founding and overseeing the Association de protection des épargnants et investisseurs du Québec, now known as the Mouvement d'éducation et de défense des actionnaires;

THAT the Members of the Assembly observe a minute of silence in his memory.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

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The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

At the request of Mr. Lévesque, Second Vice-President, the Assembly observed a minute of silence.

Mr. Lemay (Masson) moved a motion on the production of electric vehicle batteries and their electric vehicle components; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Ms. Cadet (Bourassa-Savu ), together with Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage), Mr. B rub  (Matane-Matap dia) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved a motion on the remuneration of internships in the public sector; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 84.1 and pursuant to Standing Order 146, Mr. L vesque, Deputy Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the National Assembly give effect to the order of reference given to the Committee on Citizen Relations within the framework of the consideration of Bill 52, An Act to enable the Parliament of Qu bec to preserve the principle of parliamentary sovereignty with respect to the Act respecting the laicity of the State, to hold special consultations and public hearings on Tuesday, 9 April 2024 from 9:45 a.m. to 12:25 p.m. and after Notices of Proceedings in Committees from approximately 3:15 p.m. to 7:20 p.m.;

THAT, for this purpose, the Committee hear the following individuals and organizations:

Mr. Patrick Taillon, Professor, Faculty of Law, Universit  Laval
Mr. Guillaume Rousseau, Professor, Faculty of Law, Universit  de Sherbrooke

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Mr. Benoît Pelletier, Professor, Faculty of Law, University
of Ottawa
Droits collectifs Québec
Me Christiane Pelchat
Me Frédéric Bérard, Lawyer specializing in constitutional
law
Barreau du Québec
Ligue des droits et libertés;

THAT a period of 12 minutes be set aside for opening
statements, allocated as follows: 6 minutes to the parliamentary
group forming the Government, 3 minutes 36 seconds to the
Official Opposition, 1 minute 12 seconds to the Second Opposition
Group and 1 minute 12 seconds to the independent Member;

THAT the presentation by each organization last no longer
than 10 minutes and the exchange with the Committee members
last no longer than 35 minutes, allocated as follows: 17 minutes
30 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Government,
10 minutes 30 seconds to the Official Opposition, 3 minutes
30 seconds to the Second Opposition Group and 3 minutes
30 seconds to the independent Member;

THAT a 5-minute interval be scheduled between
discussions with each individual or organization;

THAT the Minister Responsible for Laicity be a member
of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this
order of reference.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- 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 Public Finance, to continue the debate on the Budget Speech.

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

- the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 45, An Act to amend the Act respecting safety in sports mainly to better protect the integrity of persons in recreation and sports.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. Lévesque, Second Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Wednesday, 27 March 2024, during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, a debate would be held on the motion moved by Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group.

This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly note that an Australian study published on 4 March 2024 in the scientific journal *JAMA Pediatrics* confirms that screen time is harmful to the development of young children;

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THAT it underline that the Institut de la Statistique du Québec's longitudinal study has also established a correlation between exposure to screen time at a young age and academic performance in elementary school;

THAT it acknowledge that overexposure to screen time has a proven impact on the development of children's cognitive abilities, health, in particular eyesight problems, and attention and behavioural problems;

THAT it note that many countries, including France, the Netherlands and the Scandinavian countries, have taken measures to address this issue;

THAT it affirm that exposing children to too much screen time is a public health issue;

THAT it note that the Digital Action Plan for Education and Higher Education, which has been out of date since 2023, is insufficient and must be improved to effectively address the harmful effects of exposing children to excess screen time;

THAT, accordingly, the National Assembly ask the Government to table a new and improved Digital Action Plan for Education and Higher Education to better manage children's exposure to screens, to be implemented at the start of the next school year.

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ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned earlier in the sitting, on the motion moved by Mr. Bonnardel, Minister of Public Security, that 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, do now pass in principle.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried, and Bill 50 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 50 be referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain for clause-by-clause consideration.

The motion was carried.

Private Members' Public Bills

Report Stage

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 498, An Act to proclaim National Maple Day.

After debate thereon, the report was concurred in.

Government Bills

Passage

Ms. Roy, Minister of Families, moved the passage of Bill 46, An Act to improve the protection of children receiving educational childcare services.

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After debate thereon, the motion was carried and, accordingly, Bill 46 was passed.

At 5:17 p.m., at the request of Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 6:30 p.m.

Debates upon Adjournment

At 6:30 p.m., the Assembly held three debates upon adjournment:

- the first, on a question from Ms. Cadet (Bourassa-Sauvé) to Ms. Champagne Jourdain, Minister of Employment, about the consequences of the labour shortage hampering the growth of Québec businesses;
 - the second, on a question from Mr. Kelley (Jacques-Cartier) to Mr. Fitzgibbon, Minister of Economy, Innovation and Energy, about the lack of vision as regards the implementation of solar energy;
 - the third, on a question from Ms. Setlakwe (Mont-Royal–Outremont) to Mr. Caire, Minister of Cybersecurity and Digital Technology, about the framework required for the implementation of facial recognition at the SAAQ.
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At 7:08 p.m., Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 27 March 2024 at 9:40 a.m.

NATHALIE ROY

President

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APPENDIX

Electronic Divisions

On the motion moved by Mr. Charette, Minister of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks, for the passage of Bill 41, An Act to enact the Act respecting the environmental performance of buildings and to amend various provisions regarding energy transition:

(Division No. 226)

YEAS - 90

Allaire (CAQ)	Dionne (CAQ)	Julien (CAQ)	Paradis (PQ)
Arseneau (PQ)	Dorismond (CAQ)	Labrie (QS)	Picard (CAQ)
Asselin (CAQ)	Drainville (CAQ)	Lachance (CAQ)	Poulet (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Dubé (CAQ)	Laforest (CAQ)	Poulin (CAQ)
(Orford)	Duranceau (CAQ)	Laframboise (CAQ)	Proulx (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Émond (CAQ)	Lafrenière (CAQ)	Provençal (CAQ)
(Prévost)	Fitzgibbon (CAQ)	Lamontagne (CAQ)	Rivest (CAQ)
Bérubé (PQ)	Fontecilla (QS)	Lamothe (CAQ)	Roberge (CAQ)
Blanchette Vézina (CAQ)	Fréchette (CAQ)	LeBel (CAQ)	Rouleau (CAQ)
Blouin (CAQ)	Gagnon (CAQ)	Lecours (CAQ)	Roy (CAQ)
Bogemans (CAQ)	Gendron (CAQ)	(Les Plaines)	Sainte-Croix (CAQ)
Bouazzi (QS)	Ghazal (QS)	Lecours (CAQ)	Schmaltz (CAQ)
Boulet (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ)	(Lotbinière-Frontenac)	Schneeberger (CAQ)
Bourassa (CAQ)	(Lac-Saint-Jean)	Leduc (QS)	Simard (CAQ)
Bussièrre (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ)	Lefebvre (CAQ)	Skeete (CAQ)
Caire (CAQ)	(Groulx)	Legault (CAQ)	St-Louis (CAQ)
Carmant (CAQ)	Grandmont (QS)	Lemay (CAQ)	St-Pierre Plamondon (PQ)
Caron (CAQ)	Grondin (CAQ)	Lemieux (CAQ)	Tardif (CAQ)
(Portneuf)	Guilbault (CAQ)	Lévesque (CAQ)	Thouin (CAQ)
Champagne Jourdain (CAQ)	Guillemette (CAQ)	(Chapleau)	Tremblay (CAQ)
Charest (CAQ)	Haytayan (CAQ)	Malette (CAQ)	(Dubuc)
Chassin (CAQ)	Hébert (CAQ)	Marissal (QS)	Tremblay (CAQ)
Cliche-Rivard (QS)	Jacques (CAQ)	Martel (CAQ)	(Hull)
D'Amours (CAQ)	Jeannotte (CAQ)	Montigny (CAQ)	Zaga Mendez (QS)
Déry (CAQ)	Jolin-Barrette (CAQ)	Nadeau-Dubois (QS)	Zanetti (QS)

NAYS - 18

Beauchemin (QLP)	Derraji (QLP)	Kelley (QLP)	Nichols (IND)
Cadet (QLP)	Dufour (QLP)	Lakhoyan Olivier (QLP)	Prass (QLP)
Caron (QLP)	(Mille-Îles)	Maccarone (QLP)	Rotiroti (QLP)
(La Pinière)	Fortin (QLP)	McGraw (QLP)	Setlakwe (QLP)
Ciccone (QLP)	Garceau (QLP)	Morin (QLP)	Tanguay (QLP)