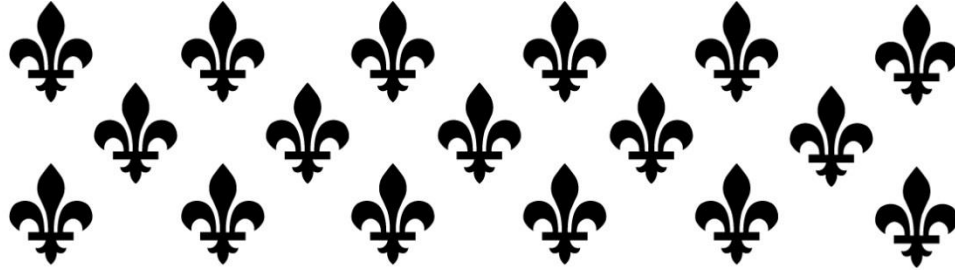


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# **NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC**

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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**

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

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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 on the report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment was deferred until Routine Proceedings of today's 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.

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**ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

**Statements by Members**

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

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

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

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

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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.

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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).

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

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

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

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

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Mr. Lévesque (Chapleau) made a statement to underline the 75th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Legion – Branch 058, Pointe-Gatineau.

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

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The proceedings resumed at 2:05 p.m.

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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)

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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)

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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, Leader of the Third Opposition, 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 report was concurred in on the following vote:

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

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

### **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 the *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 1966, the *La Patrie* newspaper, where he served as editor-in-chief and executive director from 1962 to 1966, and 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 Best Editorial of the Year awards in 1963 and 1964;

THAT it applaud his important contribution to the defence 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.

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

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Ms. Setlakwe (Mont-Royal–Outremont), together with Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage), Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) 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.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 84.1 and pursuant to Standing Order 146, Mr. Lévesque, 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 Québec 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, Université Laval  
Mr. Guillaume Rousseau, Professor, Faculty of Law, Université 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 young children's development;

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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 children's development of cognitive abilities, health, in particular vision 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 children's overexposure to 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 negative impacts of children's overexposure to 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 limit children's exposure to screen time, and that the plan be implemented for 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.

#### *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.

#### *Passage*

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

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

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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 report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment:

#### (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)
Bussière (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)	Mallette (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)