



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Tuesday, 23 April 2024 — No. 119

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

The Assembly was called to order at 1:40 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Mr. Lévesque (Chauveau) made a statement to pay tribute to Ms. Marie-Eve Brassard.

Ms. McGraw (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce) made a statement to underline the work of the organization The Climate Reality Project Canada for Earth Day.

Mr. Martel (Nicolet-Bécancour) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Jean Claude Dubuc.

Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Michel Pilon.

Ms. Gendron (Châteauguay) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. David Bergeron.

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Mr. Benjamin (Viau) made a statement to congratulate the winners of the Point-virgule writing contest.

Ms. Blanchette Vézina (Rimouski) made a statement to congratulate Ms. Marie France Marin, recipient of the Hubert-Reeves award.

Mr. Paradis (Jean-Talon) made a statement to underline the work of the Centre pour l'intelligence émotionnelle en ligne.

Ms. Boivin Roy (Anjou–Louis-Riel) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Serge Lamontagne.

Mr. Provençal (Beauce-Nord) made a statement to congratulate the company Revtech Systèmes, recipient of the Jeune entreprise award.

Mr. Jacques (Mégantic) made a statement to underline the 50th anniversary of the Club Âge d'or Lambton.

Ms. Lachance (Bellechasse) made a statement to underline the 30th anniversary of the company La Pralinière.

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At 1:56 p.m., Ms. Soucy, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 2:03 p.m.

Moment of reflection

Introduction of Bills

Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine) moved that leave be granted to introduce the following bill:

697 An Act to combat waste

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, Bill 697 was introduced in the Assembly.

Presenting Papers

Mr. Lacombe, Minister of Culture and Communications, tabled the following:

The 2023–2027 strategic plan of the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles (SODEC).

(Sessional Paper No. 1532-20240423)

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

The reply to a written question from Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) on electric city buses – Question No. 109, *Order Paper and Notices* of 19 March 2024;
(Sessional Paper No. 1533-20240423)

The reply to a written question from Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) on tax measures for the construction of housing – Question No. 112, *Order Paper and Notices* of 21 March 2024.
(Sessional Paper No. 1534-20240423)

The President tabled the following:

Tables indicating the distribution of measures and allocation of speaking times for Statements by Members, limited debates and debates on Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.
(Sessional Paper No. 1535-20240423)

Presenting Reports from Committees

By leave of the Assembly to set aside section 4.4 of the *Rules for the Conduct of Proceedings*, the President tabled the following:

The report from the steering committee of the Committee on the National Assembly, which met on 22 April 2024 to discuss a request from the parliamentary group forming the Government concerning changes to the membership of the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources and the Committee of Transportation and the Environment and to decide on the appointment of the Vice-Chairs of the Committees.
(Sessional Paper No. 1536-20240423)

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 129 and 134, Ms. Soucy, First Vice-President, moved:

THAT the changes in the membership of the standing committees as provided for in the report from the steering committee of the Committee on the National Assembly be adopted.

The motion was carried.

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia), together with Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Minister of Justice, moved a motion on the *Act respecting the laicity of the State*; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Skeete, Minister Responsible for the Fight Against Racism, together with Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia), moved:

THAT the National Assembly denounce the federal government's intention to broaden access to halal mortgages;

THAT it affirm that treating people differently according to their religious beliefs is discriminatory and contradicts the notion of laicity of the State.

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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. **262** in Appendix)

Yeas: **99** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **10**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Beauchemin (Marguerite-Bourgeoys), together with Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved:

THAT the National Assembly ask the CAQ government to honour its commitment to not increase the tax burden on middle-class Quebecers.

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

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **263** in Appendix)

Yeas: **109** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Grandmont (Taschereau), together with Ms. Guilbault, Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility, Mr. Derraji, Official Opposition House Leader, Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine) and Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil), moved:

THAT the National Assembly recall that, according to a 2020 study on the state of cycling in Québec, there are over 4.5-million utilitarian, recreational and athletic cyclists in Québec;

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THAT it underline the considerable contribution of cycling to Québec's economy, whether for recreation, tourism, territorial development or transportation, and its importance in greenhouse gas reduction and health prevention in Québec;

THAT it recall that according to a study on the economic benefits of bicycle tourism and of the bicycle market in Québec, cycling contributes \$1.2 billion to tourism and retail spending every year and, according to the state of cycling in Québec, it represents \$2 billion in savings for our health systems through the adoption of a healthy, active lifestyle;

THAT it recognize that cycling is a vehicle for inclusivity, equity and emancipation, and is one of the most straightforward and efficient means to meet our sustainable mobility objectives;

THAT it underline that May is the month when many municipalities and civil society organizations organize activities to promote cycling, and when most Quebecers resume cycling;

THAT, lastly, the National Assembly ask the Québec government to designate May as Québec Cycling Month.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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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 Planning and the Public Domain within the framework of the consideration of Bill 57, An Act to enact the Act to protect elected officers and to facilitate the unhindered exercise of their functions and to amend various legislative provisions concerning municipal affairs, to hold special consultations and public hearings on Tuesday, 30 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.; on Wednesday, 1 May 2024 after Notices of Proceedings in Committees from approximately 11:15 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. and from 3:00 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.; and on Thursday, 2 May 2024 after Notices of Proceedings in Committees from approximately 11:15 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.;

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

Union des municipalités du Québec
Fédération québécoise des municipalités
Ville de Québec
Ville de Montréal
Réseau des jeunes mères au municipal
Ligue des droits et libertés
Table de travail sur la civilité en politique municipale
Philippe Dubois, Associate Professor, École nationale
d'administration publique
Commission municipale du Québec
Coalition Faut que ça change
Ville de Gatineau
Association des directeurs généraux des MRC du Québec
Association des directeurs généraux des municipalités du
Québec
Chief Electoral Officer of Québec
Ville de Laval
Catherine Fournier, Mayor of Longueuil;

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THAT a period of 12 minutes be set aside for opening statements, allocated as follows: 6 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government, 4 minutes 30 seconds to the Official Opposition and 1 minute 30 seconds to the Second Opposition Group;

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, 13 minutes 8 seconds to the Official Opposition and 4 minutes 23 seconds to the Second Opposition Group;

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

THAT the Minister of Municipal Affairs 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.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- the Committee on Culture and Education, to undertake examination of the “Culture and Communications” component of the 2024–2025 estimates of expenditure of the “Culture et communications” portfolio;
- the Committee on Citizen Relations, to undertake examination of the “Anti-Bullying” component of the 2024–2025 estimates of expenditure of the “Famille” portfolio;
- the Committee on Citizen Relations, to undertake examination of the “Seniors” component of the 2024–2025 estimates of expenditure of the “Santé et Services sociaux” portfolio;

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- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to undertake examination of the “Employment” component of the 2024–2025 estimates of expenditure of the “Emploi et Solidarité sociale” portfolio;
- the Committee on Public Finance, to undertake examination of the “Retraite Québec” component of the 2024–2025 estimates of expenditure of the “Finances” portfolio;
- the Committee on Public Finance, to undertake examination of the “Institut de la statistique” component of the 2024–2025 estimates of expenditure of the “Finances” portfolio;
- the Committee on Public Finance, to undertake examination of the “Société des alcools du Québec” component of the 2024–2025 estimates of expenditure of the “Finances” portfolio;
- the Committee on Public Finance, to undertake examination of the “Loto-Québec” component of the 2024–2025 estimates of expenditure of the “Finances” portfolio;
- the Committee on Institutions, to undertake examination of the 2024–2025 estimates of expenditure of the “Sécurité publique” portfolio.

At 3:08 p.m., pursuant to Standing Order 282, Ms. Soucy, First Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 24 April 2024 at 9:40 a.m.

NATHALIE ROY

President

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APPENDIX

Electronic Divisions

On the motion moved by Mr. Skeete, Minister Responsible for the Fight Against Racism, together with Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia):

(Division No. 262)

YEAS - 99

Abou-Khalil (CAQ)	Charest (CAQ)	Guillemette (CAQ)	Morin (QLP)
Allaire (CAQ)	Charette (CAQ)	Haytayan (CAQ)	Nichols (IND)
Arseneau (PQ)	Chassin (CAQ)	Jacques (CAQ)	Paradis (PQ)
Asselin (CAQ)	Ciccone (QLP)	Jolin-Barrette (CAQ)	Picard (CAQ)
Bachand (CAQ)	D'Amours (CAQ)	Julien (CAQ)	Poulet (CAQ)
Beauchemin (QLP)	Derraji (QLP)	Kelley (QLP)	Poulin (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Dionne (CAQ)	Lachance (CAQ)	Provençal (CAQ)
(Prévost)	Dorismond (CAQ)	Lacombe (CAQ)	Reid (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Drainville (CAQ)	Laforest (CAQ)	Rivest (CAQ)
(Orford)	Dubé (CAQ)	Laframboise (CAQ)	Roberge (CAQ)
Bernard (CAQ)	Dufour (CAQ)	Lafrenière (CAQ)	Rotiroti (QLP)
Bérubé (PQ)	(Abitibi-Est)	Lakhoyan Olivier (QLP)	Rouleau (CAQ)
Biron (CAQ)	Dufour (QLP)	Lamontagne (CAQ)	Roy (CAQ)
Blais (CAQ)	(Mille-Îles)	LeBel (CAQ)	Sainte-Croix (CAQ)
Blanchette Vézina (CAQ)	Duranceau (CAQ)	Lecours (CAQ)	Schmaltz (CAQ)
Blouin (CAQ)	Émond (CAQ)	(Les Plaines)	Schneeberger (CAQ)
Bogemans (CAQ)	Fitzgibbon (CAQ)	Lecours (CAQ)	Setlakwe (QLP)
Boivin Roy (CAQ)	Fortin (QLP)	(Lotbinière-Frontenac)	Simard (CAQ)
Bonnardel (CAQ)	Fréchette (CAQ)	Lefebvre (IND)	Skeete (CAQ)
Boulet (CAQ)	Gagnon (CAQ)	Lemay (CAQ)	St-Pierre Plamondon (PQ)
Bourassa (CAQ)	Garceau (QLP)	Lemieux (CAQ)	Tanguay (QLP)
Bussière (CAQ)	Gendron (CAQ)	Lévesque (CAQ)	Tardif (CAQ)
Cadet (QLP)	Girard (CAQ)	(Chapleau)	Thouin (CAQ)
Caire (CAQ)	(Lac-Saint-Jean)	Maccarone (QLP)	Tremblay (CAQ)
Carmant (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ)	Malette (CAQ)	(Dubuc)
Caron (CAQ)	(Groulx)	Martel (CAQ)	Tremblay (CAQ)
(Portneuf)	Grondin (CAQ)	McGraw (QLP)	(Hull)
Caron (QLP)	Guilbault (CAQ)	Montigny (CAQ)	
(La Pinière)			

ABSTENTIONS - 10

Bouazzi (QS)	Ghazal (QS)	Leduc (QS)	Zaga Mendez (QS)
Cliche-Rivard (QS)	Grandmont (QS)	Marissal (QS)	
Fontecilla (QS)	Labrie (QS)	Nadeau-Dubois (QS)	

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On the motion moved by Mr. Beauchemin (Marguerite-Bourgeois), together with Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil):

(Division No. 263)

YEAS - 109

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