



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Order Paper and Notices

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 25 September 2024 – No. 146

Nine forty a.m.

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

Part 1
ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

- The Member for Châteauguay on the following subject: *Virginie’s courage.*
- The Member for D’Arcy-McGee on the following subject: *Underline the 25th anniversary of Le Phare.*
- The Member for Saint-Jean on the following subject: *Congratulations to Ms. Aurélie Rivard, Paralympian, who returns from the Paris Games with three more medals.*
- The Member for Taschereau on the following subject: *Thanking school support staff members for the educational success of our children.*
- The Member for Laporte on the following subject: *The Triathlon de Saint-Lambert.*
- The Member for Bourassa-Sauvé on the following subject: *Closure of Charcuterie Noël.*
- The Member for Rivière-du-Loup–Témiscouata on the following subject: *The 70th anniversary of the restaurant Cantine D’Amours.*
- The Member for Matane-Matapédia on the following subject: *Underline Ms. Marie-Josée Blanchette’s and Mr. Patrice Didier’s act of bravery.*
- The Member for Saint-Hyacinthe on the following subject: *A new LNAH team, the Bataillon de Saint-Hyacinthe.*
- The Member for Bonaventure on the following subject: *Underline the contribution of the Quebec Cancer Foundation as a partner to the health network in the context of World Cancer Day.*
- The Member for Fabre on the following subject: *Underline the week against bullying and violence in school.*
- The Member for Mégantic on the following subject: *Concrete projects for the downtown revitalization of Lac-Mégantic.*

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

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Part 2
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BUSINESS HAVING PRECEDENCE

URGENT DEBATES

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OTHER BUSINESS

I. Government Bills

Passage in Principle

- (1) Bill 61
An Act enacting the Act respecting Mobilité Infra Québec and amending certain provisions relating to shared transportation
Introduced by the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility on 9 May 2024
Report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment (consultations) tabled on 18 September 2024
Resuming the debate adjourned in the name of the Member for Chomedey on **24 September 2024**

- (2) Bill 63
An Act to amend the Mining Act and other provisions
Introduced by the Minister of Natural Resources and Forests on **28 May 2024**

- (3) Bill 64
An Act to establish the Musée national de l'histoire du Québec
Introduced by the Minister of Culture and Communications on 22 May 2024
Report from the Committee on Culture and Education (consultations) tabled on **24 September 2024**

- (4) Bill 67
An Act to amend the Professional Code for the modernization of the professional system and to broaden certain professional practices in the field of health and social services
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on 4 June 2024
Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on **24 September 2024**
- (5) Bill 69
An Act to ensure the responsible governance of energy resources and to amend various legislative provisions
Introduced by the Minister of Economy, Innovation and Energy on 6 June 2024
Report from the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources (consultations) tabled on **24 September 2024**
- (6) Bill 71
An Act to improve support for persons and to simplify the social assistance regime
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Social Solidarity and Community Action on **11 September 2024**

Committee Stage

- (7) 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
Passed in principle on **4 June 2024**, and
Referred to the Committee on Institutions
- (8) Bill 62
An Act mainly to diversify the acquisition strategies of public bodies and increase their agility in carrying out infrastructure projects
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Infrastructure on 9 May 2024
Report from the Committee on Public Finance (consultations) tabled on 30 May 2024
Passed in principle on **5 June 2024**, and
Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

- (9) Bill 66
An Act to reinforce the supervision of persons in respect of whom has been rendered a verdict of not criminally responsible by reason of mental disorder or of unfit to stand trial
Introduced by the Minister of Public Security on 30 May 2024
Passed in principle on 6 June 2024, and
Referred to the Committee on Health and Social Services
Report from the Committee on Health and Social Services (consultations) tabled on **12 September 2024**
- (10) Bill 68
An Act mainly to reduce the administrative burden of physicians
Introduced by the Minister of Labour on 31 May 2024
Report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy (consultations) tabled on 12 September 2024
Passed in principle on **19 September 2024**, and
Referred to the Committee on Labour and the Economy
- (11) Bill 70
An Act to amend the Animal Health Protection Act
Introduced by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 7 June 2024
Report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain (consultations) tabled on 17 September 2024
Passed in principle on **19 September 2024**, and
Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain
- (12) Bill 72
An Act to protect consumers against abusive commercial practices and to offer better transparency with respect to prices and credit
Introduced by the Minister of Justice on 12 September 2024
Passed in principle on **19 September 2024**, and
Referred to the Committee on Institutions

Report Stage

Passage

II. Private Members' Public Bills

Passage in Principle

- (13) 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**
- (14) 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**
- (15) 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**
- (16) 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**
- (17) 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**
- (18) 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**
- (19) 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**

- (20) 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**
Resuming the debate adjourned in the name of the Member for Vimont on **28 March 2024**
- (21) Bill 199
An Act to better protect consumers against abusive credit contracts
Introduced by the Member for Saint-Laurent on **23 February 2023**
- (22) 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**
- (23) 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**
- (24) 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**
- (25) Bill 393
An Act to combat food waste
Introduced by the Member for Verdun on **6 April 2023**
- (26) 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**
- (27) Bill 395
An Act to replace the name of the electoral division of Matane-Matapédia by Matane-Matapédia-Mitis
Introduced by the Member for Matane-Matapédia on **11 April 2024**

- (28) 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**
- (29) 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**
- (30) 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**
- (31) 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**
- (32) 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**
- (33) 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**
- (34) Bill 492
An Act to combat waste
Introduced by the Member for Îles-de-la-Madeleine on **18 April 2023**

- (35) 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**
- (36) 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**
- (37) 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**
- (38) 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**
- (39) Bill 499
An Act to establish a new electoral system
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **5 October 2023**
- (40) Bill 591
An Act mainly to reinforce Members' oversight of government action by recognizing their right to visit administrative institutions
Introduced by the Member for Sherbrooke on **21 March 2024**
- (41) 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**
- (42) Bill 596
An Act amending mainly the Act respecting land use planning and development so that municipalities may adopt a differentiated zoning by-law aimed at increasing and sustaining the supply of social housing or affordable housing
Introduced by the Member for Mille-Îles on **24 October 2023**

- (43) 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**
- (44) 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**
- (45) 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**
- (46) 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**
- (47) 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**
- (48) 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**
- (49) Bill 695
Parliamentary Budget Officer Act
Introduced by the Member for Nelligan on **14 March 2024**
- (50) Bill 697
An Act to combat waste
Introduced by the Member for Îles-de-la-Madeleine on **23 April 2024**

- (51) Bill 699
An Act to amend the Charter of human rights and freedoms to enshrine the right to decent housing
Introduced by the Member for Laurier-Dorion on **4 June 2024**
- (52) Bill 790
An Act to extend to users sheltered in a continuous assistance residence the application of the Regulation respecting the terms governing the use of monitoring mechanisms by a user sheltered in a facility maintained by an institution operating a residential and long-term care centre
Introduced by the Member for D'Arcy-McGee on **22 May 2024**
- (53) Bill 791
An Act to allow public transit authorities to develop real estate projects near or above their public transit infrastructures
Introduced by the Member for Nelligan on **1 May 2024**
- (54) Bill 792
An Act to enhance the presence of the flag of Québec
Introduced by the Member for Matane-Matapédia on **30 May 2024**
- (55) Bill 796
An Act to replace the name of the electoral division of Arthabaska by the name "Arthabaska-L'Érable"
Introduced by the Member for Arthabaska on **30 May 2024**

Committee Stage

- (56) 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

Passage

III. Private Bills

Hearings and Clause-by-Clause Consideration

- (57) 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
- (58) 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

- (59) 11 September 2024
Motion moved by the Minister of International Relations and La
Francophonie:

THAT the National Assembly approve the Agreement between
Québec and the Kingdom of Belgium, signed on 19 April 2023, to amend
the Agreement on social security between Québec and the Kingdom of
Belgium signed on 28 March 2006.

In compliance with section 22.3 of the *Act respecting the Ministère
des Relations internationales*, this motion cannot be debated before
21 September 2024.

V. Estimates of Expenditure

VI. Statutory Debates

BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION

(60) 25 September 2024
Motion by the Member for Saint-Laurent

THAT the National Assembly acknowledge that the Québec government granted a 354-megawatt energy block to Swedish start-up Northvolt for its battery manufacturing plant project in the Montérégie region and that it committed nearly \$1.4 billion to the project;

THAT it take note of the financial challenges faced by Northvolt, in particular the loss of a major \$3 million contract with BMW, problems paying suppliers, expansion projects put on hold, the refusal of two important shareholders, Volkswagen and Goldman Sachs, to invest additional funding, the Swedish government's refusal to put another cent into the project, and, most recently, the bank restructuring that led to the loss of 1,600 jobs, or 20% of its workforce;

THAT it acknowledge that the Québec government forecasts that the Northvolt project in the Montérégie region will be commissioned at least 18 months late, not before 2028, and that further delays cannot be ruled out;

THAT it recall that numerous companies already established in Québec and offering lucrative employment were denied energy blocks;

THAT it acknowledge that this situation jeopardizes investments and employment in the region;

THAT it recall and support the words of the President and Director General of Hydro-Québec, Mr. Michael Sabia, to the effect that it is necessary to rebalance the allocation of available megawatts to Québec companies carrying out industrial projects with an aim to decarbonize;

THAT, lastly, it ask the CAQ government to grant the 354-megawatt energy block currently allocated to the Northvolt project to other companies, while ensuring that an identical amount will be available to Northvolt in 2028 when the plant in the Montérégie region is scheduled for commissioning.

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 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.
- Hearing of the Tribunal administratif du logement on its administrative management, on its financial commitments and on the annual report of the Public Protector.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Orders of reference

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 63**, An Act to amend the Mining Act and other provisions (Order of reference given on 10 September 2024).

COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

Orders of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 70**, An Act to amend the Animal Health Protection Act (Order of reference given on 19 September 2024).
- **Bill 201**, An Act respecting Municipalité de Morin-Heights (Order of reference given on 20 April 2023).

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND THE ECONOMY

Orders of reference

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 71**, An Act to improve support for persons and to simplify the social assistance regime (Order of reference given on 10 September 2024).

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 68**, An Act mainly to reduce the administrative burden of physicians (Order of reference given on 19 September 2024).

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC FINANCE

Orders of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 62**, An Act mainly to diversify the acquisition strategies of public bodies and increase their agility in carrying out infrastructure projects (Order of reference given on 5 June 2024).

COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

Orders of reference

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 72**, An Act to protect consumers against abusive commercial practices and to offer better transparency with respect to prices and credit (Order of reference given on 24 September 2024).

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 32**, An Act to establish the cultural safety approach within the health and social services network (Order of reference given on 4 June 2024).
- **Bill 72**, An Act to protect consumers against abusive commercial practices and to offer better transparency with respect to prices and credit (Order of reference given on 19 September 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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Orders of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 66**, An Act to reinforce the supervision of persons in respect of whom has been rendered a verdict of not criminally responsible by reason of mental disorder or of unfit to stand trial (Order of reference given on 6 June 2024).
- **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 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

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

Interpellation:

- By the Member for Taschereau to the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility, on the following subject: *When will the implementation of the city of Québec tramway get under way?* (Notice given on 19 September 2024).

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE IMPACTS OF SCREENS AND SOCIAL MEDIA ON YOUNG PEOPLE'S HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Special Consultations:

- The Impacts of Screens and Social Media on Young People's Health and Development.

Part 5

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

*Questions already placed on the Order Paper
are published each Wednesday*

- (131) Ms. Lakhoyan Olivier (Chomedey) – **21 May 2024**
To the Minister of Economy, Innovation and Energy

Three former elected officials from the Côte-de-Beaupré region are urging the government to break the impasse at the Mont-Sainte-Anne ski resort, whose dilapidated state has been denounced for several years.

They would like Québec to consider the offer from the Franco-Swiss e-Liberty Group and certain regional investors, who say they are ready to acquire the mountain and invest millions of dollars in its revitalization.

The Minister indicated last month that the Government was prepared to give financial assistance to Resorts of the Canadian Rockies to revitalize Mont-Sainte-Anne. However, no plan or investment have been announced by Québec or the company since then.

When will new developments be announced to save Mont-Sainte-Anne?

- (140) Ms. Caron (La Pinière) – **30 May 2024**
To the Minister Responsible for Seniors and Minister for Health

Over 200,000 people in Québec are living with a neurodegenerative disorder. Life after diagnosis has profound impacts on the affected individuals, their families, caregivers and our health system.

It is therefore essential to address the issue of degenerative disorders as constructively as possible. To do this, Québec should have a clear portrait of the situation and develop a strategy for accessing innovative treatments and advancing research.

In this regard, is the Minister willing to create an advisory committee to mobilize, in particular, the best experts in innovative treatments, research, patient organizations and caregiving?

(143) Ms. Prass (D'Arcy-McGee) – **5 June 2024**
To the Minister Responsible for Social Services

With regard to homelessness, it is important to have an accurate portrait of the situation.

Can the Minister provide us with the number of places available in Québec by region for people experiencing homelessness?

Can he let us know how many places were available between 31 December 2023 and 31 May 2024?

Can he tell us how many of these places are open 24/7, 365 days a year?

(146) Mr. Bouazzi (Maurice-Richard) – **6 June 2024**
To the Minister of Cybersecurity and Digital Technology

Implementing a centralized medical record presents major challenges in terms of digital security. The centralization of Quebecers' health data in a single digital infrastructure would make it a prime target for hackers, and any breach could have catastrophic consequences given the quantity and sensitive nature of the data stored. Epic Systems Corporation, the firm chosen by the Québec government to build the future digital health record, has been affected by data breaches on several occasions, which does not alleviate the cybersecurity concerns this project raises.

Furthermore, the easier access to and circulation of health data made possible when Bill 3 came into force has multiplied the potential gateways through which malicious actors could gain access to Quebecers' health data. One of the aims of Bill 3 is to facilitate the training of artificial intelligence programs in health care, which requires large databases.

Québec currently has no legislative framework or approval process with respect to the use of artificial intelligence technologies in health care, which raises a number of issues, in particular with regard to language. Since artificial intelligence is largely trained on English-language databases, there is no guarantee that its performance will be the same in French as in English without making corrections.

In Canada, Health Canada, which approves medical technologies proposed by companies, has so far only authorized a few medical programs based on artificial intelligence, mainly in the field of imaging. Health Canada's approval process does not differentiate between French and English when evaluating artificial intelligence programs, which could create inequalities in terms of effectiveness and safety.

My questions to the Minister of Cybersecurity and Digital Technology are the following:

1. What measures does the Minister intend to implement to ensure the integrity of health data as part of the deployment of the digital health record?
2. Are initiatives being taken to legislate and oversee the use and security of Quebecers' health data in the research and development of artificial intelligence projects in health care?
3. Does the Minister of Cybersecurity and Digital Technology support the creation of a Francophone approval channel for evaluating artificial intelligence projects with a linguistic component?

(147) Mr. Bouazzi (Maurice-Richard) – **6 June 2024**

To the Minister of Health

Several departments are already funding the implementation of artificial intelligence in the healthcare network, including the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux, the Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor and the Ministère de l'Économie, de l'Innovation et de l'Énergie.

In addition, artificial intelligence is funded by the public sector through public research funds and public investment funds, such as the Fonds de recherche du Québec, Investissement Québec and the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec.

Most government funding is invested in private consortia, which in turn invest the funds in various research projects or start-ups in accordance with their own investment policies. The financial statements of these consortia are not in the public domain, which makes it difficult to track their investments.

Moreover, the objectives of these companies may not be consistent with the interests of Quebecers. These funds pursue an investment strategy focused on profit, innovation and commercialisation, and concentrate on healthcare sectors that are likely to drive up healthcare costs. These additional public expenses will not be borne by the investment consortia, but by the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux, which has already had to cope with soaring costs for several years.

My questions to the Minister of Health are the following:

What measures has the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux implemented to ensure that the artificial intelligence technologies funded by the Government are in the best interests of Quebecers, in particular clinical relevance, cost reduction, free circulation of knowledge and citizen representation?

Is the Ministère considering developing its own artificial intelligence investment strategy rather than delegating this task to private consortia?

(153) Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion) – **10 September 2024**

To the Minister Responsible for Housing

Under the AccèsLogis program, two subsidies are available to improve a project's accessibility and adaptability. The housing adaptation subsidy (SUAL) makes it possible to integrate adaptation measures for housing in order to better meet the changing needs of those who live there. The home adaptation subsidy (SAD) allows people who need adaptations to have them made during the construction.

These two subsidies are through the AccèsLogis program and are not part of the Québec affordable housing program (PHAQ).

Currently, people with disabilities can apply to the home adaptation program (PAD). However, they must already be living in the home before applying for the PAD, which means they must wait a long time for their new home to be adapted to their needs. Furthermore, the PAD is intended for specific people and therefore does not apply to temporary housing projects, such as those for victims of domestic violence or people experiencing homelessness.

My question to the Minister Responsible for Housing is the following:

Could the SUAL and SAD subsidies, or other similar measures, be included in the PHAQ program?

(154) Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion) – **10 September 2024**
To the Minister Responsible for Housing

For the AccèsLogis program, project accessibility and adaptability standards are clearly defined in the project development and implementation guide, last updated in 2021.

For example, hallways must be at least 1,500 mm wide, room dimensions are specified and at least 10% of units must be accessible and adaptable. If the building has an elevator, all units must be accessible and adaptable.

There does not appear to be a similar guide or similar standards for the Québec affordable housing program (PHAQ) or for the agreements not covered by programs, such as the Mission Unitainés project. Projects funded by Québec through the PHAQ may therefore have hallways that are 920 mm wide (the minimum under the *Construction Code*). These hallways are not accessible for most people who use mobility aids.

Funding such projects therefore means using public funds to increase systemic exclusion and discrimination against people with disabilities.

My question to the Minister Responsible for Housing is the following:

What measures do you intend to implement to ensure that Québec-funded housing can be visited and lived in by anyone, regardless of their abilities?

(155) Ms. Caron (La Pinière) – **11 September 2024**
To the Minister Responsible for Seniors

On 3 May 2024, the Minister announced that she would restore the reputation of CLSCs and make them the main gateway for seniors to access health care and services. She stated she would launch a pilot project for the ten best-performing CLSCs, create a new job category and implement the project across all 300 facilities by fall 2025.

It has been nearly four months since this response to the report from Ms. Castonguay, Health and Welfare Commissioner, which recommended the creation of a single gateway for seniors with a view to helping users navigate the health system.

Can the Minister provide a list of the CLSCs selected for the pilot project, their respective operating budgets, and the job description for the information agents who will be specialized in programs for seniors?

(156) Ms. Caron (La Pinière) – **11 September 2024**
To the Minister Responsible for Seniors

During the examination of the estimates of expenditure on 23 April, I asked the Minister about the financial contribution of CHSLD residents with regard to their family status. I gave the example of a couple who have been separated for several years, but not divorced, where the income of a former spouse is used to calculate the contribution of the other spouse living in a CHSLD, despite their having been separated for decades. This approach can be unfair and may distort the financial reality of some users.

In his response, Mr. Sylvain Gagnon, Assistant Deputy Minister, said that work is underway internally with the MSSS Finance Directorate to examine the financial capacity of users and update the contributions being charged, taking into account family circumstances, in particular.

Mr. Gagnon also confirmed that the work underway would be completed with a final proposal in the coming months.

It has been almost five months since the examination of the estimates of expenditure. Can the Minister table the results of this work and a timeline for implementing the new rates to be considered by her department for accommodation in CHSLDs, seniors' homes and alternative homes?

(157) Ms. Prass (D'Arcy-McGee) – **12 September 2024**
To the Minister Responsible for Social Services

According to an article published in the Le Devoir newspaper on 21 March 2024, there are inconsistencies on the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux's dashboard with regard to wait times for psychiatric services. Official data listed 13 people waiting to see a psychiatrist in the Montréal region, while the Îles-de-la-Madeleine region showed five times that number, and the Mauricie and Centre-du-Québec regions each had 2,000 people on a waiting list. Claire Gamache, chair of the Association des médecins psychiatres du Québec, said these statistics were implausible, and confirmed that thousands of patients were waiting in the regions affected by a shortage of psychiatrists.

The CIUSSSs of Montréal appear to remove patients from waiting lists once they have been directed to the Adult Mental Health Access Desk (GASMA), a much-criticized practice that minimizes the real extent of needs. Even though the department recognizes its shortcomings in the way the data is recorded, it nonetheless continues to display these inaccurate statistics.

Can the Minister tell us if the data accurately reflect reality as of today?

How does the Minister make sure that the information is reliable and up to date?

(158) Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) – **17 September 2024**

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

The Government has been working on establishing new maps for flood zones for months now.

According to experts, thousands of homeowners will be affected, in particular by a significant loss of property value, as well as restricted access to mortgage credit and insurability.

Elected municipal officials claim that more than 70,000 homes in Québec will be affected by the Minister's new provisions and could lose an average of nearly one-third of their value.

First, can the Minister confirm whether he has discussed his new maps with certain elected municipal officials? Has he assessed the acceptability of his proposal? Has he taken into account all the criteria put forth by the mayors of Québec? What does the Minister have to say to citizens whose property value will be greatly affected?

Furthermore, for the sake of equity, can the Minister make sure that all elected municipal officials, and especially the people who will have to shoulder this enormous loss in property value, be informed of the Government's intentions at the same time and as soon as possible? Lastly, can the Minister inform the National Assembly if he is ready to table his new maps?

(159) Mr. Beauchemin (Marguerite-Bourgeoys) – **18 September 2024**

To the Minister of Economy, Innovation and Energy

In May 2024, the Conseil de l'innovation du Québec announced the 2024 results for the Grande enquête sur l'innovation québécoise.

Although the proportion of companies with at least one innovation project increased by 18 percentage points since the last survey, a decline in R&D spending was also noted.

As a percentage of GDP, R&D spending by Québec companies decreased by 25%. The Conseil de l'innovation du Québec considers this decline to be worrisome, especially when compared to the OECD average of +32%.

Does the Minister have a plan to reverse this trend in Québec?

(160) Mr. Grandmont (Taschereau) – **19 September 2024**

To the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility

My riding office was approached by a citizen living with a disability. For this citizen to be able to drive a car and thus enjoy autonomous mobility, she has to purchase a minivan with a special system known as Joysteer technology. This system can only be installed on new vehicles, and since these vehicles cost more than \$40,000, the SAAQ charges an additional registration fee for luxury vehicles.

While we support this tax on luxury vehicles for people who buy them by choice, people living with disabilities have no other choice but to buy a minivan so they can get around in their wheelchair. No such vehicle is available for less than \$40,000. These people are being forced to pay additional fees when the choice of vehicle is beyond their control. Most people living with disabilities are already in a precarious financial situation. Therefore, we believe that imposing this additional financial burden every year is unfair to them.

My question to the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility is the following:

Can the department make changes to add specially equipped vehicles to the list of luxury vehicles exempt from additional registration fees?

(161) Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) – **24 September 2024**

To the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility

It is well known that traffic management in the greater Vaudreuil-Soulanges region poses a sizeable challenge, given that the current government removed the Île-aux-Tourtes bridge reconstruction project from the Québec Economic Plan tabled in March 2018.

To further complicate traffic management, the Government still refuses to proceed with the completion of Autoroute 20 from Vaudreuil-Dorion to L'Île-Perrot. As such, Autoroute 20, which barely qualifies as one, is becoming an urban boulevard with traffic lights.

Faced with unmanageable traffic, drivers use the residential road network to try and avoid the constant jams on the main road. This puts the safety of the children in these residential neighbourhoods at risk. Parents and elected municipal officials are worried, and I am as well.

I regularly receive messages from the mayors of the Vaudreuil riding complaining about poor traffic management. Then, I am forced to communicate with the Minister's office to tell them about an incident or an accident or to inform them of the lack of police officers to control traffic, or that the traffic lights are not synchronized, that they are defective or simply not working.

I am glad I can count on the excellent collaboration of the staff at the Minister's office. However, I wonder why mayors have to go through me to get the attention of the department or the police regarding incidents that disrupt traffic.

Therefore, can the Minister tell us if there is a protocol that enables elected officials to report incidents as quickly as possible and directly to the relevant responders? If so, we invite the Minister to share the guidelines established by her department with all stakeholders in this field, in particular elected municipal officials, following such reports.

Moreover, can the Minister share with all stakeholders the contingency plan outlining the measures implemented by the Ministère des Transports et de la Mobilité durable in the event of complete closure of the bridge and the parallel roads? In fact, what concrete measures are being systematically taken by the department and the organizations involved to ensure free-flowing traffic on Autoroute 20, among others, when the Île-aux-Tourtes bridge is completely closed? Also, how often are the traffic lights synchronized and, in the event of a malfunction, how long would the department take to resolve the problem?

(162) Ms. McGraw (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce) – **24 September 2024**

To the Minister Responsible for Social Solidarity and Community Action

The Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale allocated funding to the mission of the Accorderie de Shawinigan and the Accorderie de l'Estrie-Ouest within the framework of the 2022–2027 government action plan on community action.

However, the Accorderie de Sherbrooke has no stable source of funding, which would ensure a certain level of financial predictability.

Can the Minister explain why the Accorderie de Sherbrooke does not receive stable funding like the Accorderie de Shawinigan and the Accorderie de l'Estrie-Ouest?

(163) Ms. Garceau (Robert-Baldwin) – **24 September 2024**

To the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women

In the spring of 2023, the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women established an interdepartmental committee on access to abortion in order to propose concrete measures to the Government to ensure equal access to abortion services across the different regions of Québec.

Can the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women inform us on the progress of the committee's work and the scheduled date for the tabling of its report and recommendations?

(164) Ms. Garceau (Robert-Baldwin) – **24 September 2024**

To the Minister of Culture and Communications

On 4 March 2024, the Government announced the end of the Espaces bleus project, after three years of delays and rising costs. At a press conference, the Minister said that the remaining funds earmarked for this project would be reallocated to other cultural projects.

However, on 7 August 2024, the Government authorized funding of up to \$7 million for the Musée de la civilisation to ensure the maintenance of the four Espaces bleus owned by the Government.

Can the Minister of Culture and Communications tell us the source of the \$7 million and whether he intends to allocate other similar sums in the coming year? Can he also tell us how much is left from the initial budget for the Espaces bleus project?

(165) Ms. Prass (D’Arcy-McGee) – **24 September 2024**

To the Minister Responsible for Social Services

In his announcement in Dolbeau-Mistassini on 6 August 2024, the Minister mentioned a permanent housing project with a “high threshold of acceptability” in Ville de Dolbeau-Mistassini.

Can the Minister specify what is meant by the expression “high threshold of acceptability”? In addition, how is this threshold assessed by the Minister, and what specific criteria are used to define the threshold?

Have any public consultations been held?

(166) Ms. Prass (D’Arcy-McGee) – **25 September 2024**

To the Minister Responsible for Social Services

The number of people experiencing homelessness continues to grow, and an ever-increasing proportion have mental health problems, making it more difficult for them to access services adapted to their needs.

The Minister recently announced additional funding for people experiencing homelessness and who have serious mental health problems.

Can the Minister explain what criteria or conditions are used to define these serious mental health problems?

(167) Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent) – **25 September 2024**

To the Minister of Education

On 19 September 2024, *La Presse* reported that students residing in Québec were attending school in Ontario. As this situation is a cause for concern, we would like to have a clear picture of the situation:

How many students are attending school in Ontario instead of Québec?

How many are in elementary school and how many are in high school?

Have these students left the Québec network or have they simply never attended Québec schools?

Is it because of a lack of services?

Is it because of the program choices?

Can the Minister also tell us what the Ministère is doing to prevent this situation and what it intends to do to avoid an exodus of students from Québec to Ontario?

(168) Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent) – **25 September 2024**

To the Minister of Education

On 19 September 2024, the newspaper *Le Devoir* published an article stating that the Québec government was currently working to simplify the framework for certain protected budget measures, in particular for food aid and tutoring.

We also learned that some school service centres are returning to the government unused funds for issues that are very real.

Can the Minister provide us with a status report for each school service centre and school board and for each measure, with regard to the funds returned to government coffers in 2023–2024?

Can he also provide us with a progress report on the Ministère’s work regarding the process to optimize and simplify current budget rules and the timeframe for the work?

(169) Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis) – **25 September 2024**

To the Minister of Justice

On 15 May 2024, the Minister tabled a regulation on the designation of foreign States where the rules and practices relating to surrogacy meet the requirements prescribed by the *Civil Code*.

Following the Government’s adoption of this position, I worry about the potential consequences for Québec families.

First, the Government’s decision to exclude parts of Canada, in particular New Brunswick, is bewildering. It is well known that Quebecers and New Brunswickers are linguistically united and share undeniable bonds. I believe the exclusion of that province puts francophone Quebecers at a disadvantage, as both parents and children will have trouble developing significant bonds with surrogate mothers.

Second, I noticed that, in spite of the regulation, the exclusion of certain Canadian provinces creates confusion for future parents and may hinder their parental projects. There is a real risk that the filiation of future children will not be recognized in Québec, and that parents may not be eligible for benefits under the Québec Parental Insurance Plan. As such, I believe it is appropriate to provide the best possible support to families getting ready to welcome a child.

Can the Minister tell us if, similar to international adoption, he intends to adapt his regulation to make it more flexible and include more countries of the Francophonie and all Canadian provinces?

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