



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Order Paper and Notices

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 19 March 2025 – No. 190

Nine forty a.m.

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

Part 1
ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

- The Member for Masson on the following subject: *Underline the 35th anniversary of Association de parents d'enfants présentant une trisomie-21 Lanaudière.*
- The Member for Mille-Îles on the following subject: *Underline the 15th anniversary of La Maison de la Sérénité.*
- The Member for Iberville on the following subject: *Centre d'interprétation du milieu écologique Haut-Richelieu in the spotlight.*
- The Member for Maurice-Richard on the following subject: *Underline Mr. Martin Longchamps' 30 years of involvement in amateur sports.*
- The Member for Côte-du-Sud on the following subject: *One river, one dance, Ms. Chantal Caron makes us shine.*
- The Member for D'Arcy-McGee on the following subject: *Underline Quebec Intellectual Disability Week.*
- The Member for Laval-des-Rapides on the following subject: *The 30th anniversary of Maison des enfants le Dauphin.*
- The Member for Laporte on the following subject: *Sugar shack brunch.*
- The Member for Bellechasse on the following subject: *The 50th anniversary of Club FADOQ Saint-Magloire.*
- The Member for Vachon on the following subject: *Tribute to Ms. Yvonne Orneau.*
- The Member for Granby on the following subject: *Fondation Pierre-Jules Crevier celebrates its 60th anniversary!*
- The Member for Borduas on the following subject: *The 85th anniversary of Cercle de fermières de Belœil.*

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

PRESENTING (a) Papers
 (b) Reports from committees
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ORAL ANSWERS TO PETITIONS

**COMPLAINTS OF BREACH OF PRIVILEGE OR CONTEMPT AND
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ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

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Part 2
ORDERS OF THE DAY

BUSINESS HAVING PRECEDENCE

URGENT DEBATES

DEBATES ON REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

OTHER BUSINESS

I. Government Bills

Passage in Principle

- (1) Bill 84
An Act respecting national integration
Introduced by the Minister of the French Language on **30 January 2025**
- (2) Bill 89
An Act to give greater consideration to the needs of the population in the event of a strike or a lock-out
Introduced by the Minister of Labour on **20 February 2025**
- (3) Bill 91
Act establishing the Unified Family Tribunal within the Court of Québec
Introduced by the Minister of Justice on **25 February 2025**
- (4) Bill 93*
An Act respecting, in particular, the transfer of ownership of an immovable of Ville de Blainville
Introduced by the Minister of Natural Resources and Forests on **27 February 2025**

* **Recommendation of the Lieutenant-Governor**

Committee Stage

- (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
Passed in principle on **3 October 2024**, and
Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources
- (6) Bill 81
An Act to amend various provisions relating to the environment
Introduced by the Minister of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks on 20 November 2024
Report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment (consultations) tabled on 4 February 2025
Passed in principle on **11 February 2025**, and
Referred to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment
- (7) Bill 82
An Act respecting the national digital identity and amending other provisions
Introduced by the Minister of Cybersecurity and Digital Technology on 21 November 2024
Report from the Committee on Public Finance (consultations) tabled on 30 January 2025
Passed in principle on **4 February 2025**, and
Referred to the Committee on Public Finance
- (8) Bill 83
An Act to foster the practice of medicine in the public health and social services network
Introduced by the Minister of Health on 3 December 2024
Report from the Committee on Health and Social Services (consultations) tabled on 12 February 2025
Passed in principle on **18 February 2025**, and
Referred to the Committee on Health and Social Services

- (9) Bill 85
An Act to amend various provisions for the main purpose of reducing regulatory and administrative burden
Introduced by the Minister for the Economy on 4 December 2024
Report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy (consultations) tabled on 13 February 2025
Passed in principle on **18 February 2025**, and
Referred to the Committee on Labour and the Economy

Report Stage

- (10) Bill 86
An Act to ensure the long-term preservation and vitality of agricultural land
Introduced by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 5 December 2024
Report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain (consultations) tabled on 4 February 2025
Passed in principle on 5 February 2025
Report from to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain tabled on **18 March 2025** (amend. handed in under Standing Order 252)

Passage

II. Private Members' Public Bills

Passage in Principle

- (11) 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**
- (12) 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**
- (13) 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**

- (14) 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**
- (15) 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**
- (16) 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**
- (17) 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**
- (18) 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**
- (19) Bill 199
An Act to better protect consumers against abusive credit contracts
Introduced by the Member for Saint-Laurent on **23 February 2023**
- (20) 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**

- (21) 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**
- (22) 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**
- (23) Bill 393
An Act to combat food waste
Introduced by the Member for Verdun on **6 April 2023**
- (24) 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**
- (25) 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**
- (26) 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**
- (27) 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**

- (28) 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**
- (29) 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**
- (30) 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**
- (31) Bill 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**
- (32) Bill 492
An Act to combat waste
Introduced by the Member for Îles-de-la-Madeleine on **18 April 2023**
- (33) 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**
- (34) 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**
- (35) 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**

- (36) 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**
- (37) Bill 499
An Act to establish a new electoral system
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **5 October 2023**
- (38) 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**
- (39) 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**
- (40) 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**
- (41) 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**
- (42) 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**

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

- (51) 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**
- (52) Bill 792
An Act to enhance the presence of the flag of Québec
Introduced by the Member for Matane-Matapédia on **30 May 2024**
- (53) Bill 793
An Act respecting the process for publishing the documents from the inquiry conducted by Bernard Grenier concerning the activities of Option Canada in the referendum held in Québec in October 1995
Introduced by the Member for Matane-Matapédia on **27 November 2024**
- (54) Bill 794
An Act to declare Québec’s commitment to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050
Introduced by the Member for Verdun on **7 November 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**
- (56) Bill 892
An Act to prohibit offering supervised consumption services near an educational childcare facility or an educational institution providing preschool-, elementary- or secondary-level education
Introduced by the Member for Saint-Laurent on **27 November 2024**
- (57) Bill 893
An Act respecting maintaining seniors’ autonomy
Introduced by the Member for Îles-de-la-Madeleine on **3 December 2024**
- (58) Bill 894
An Act to extend health insurance plan and basic prescription drug insurance plan eligibility to all women or persons who are pregnant and living in Québec regardless of their migratory status
Introduced by the Member for Saint-Henri–Sainte-Anne on **4 December 2024**

(59) Bill 895
An Act to establish a common school network to guarantee equal opportunities
Introduced by the Member for Mercier on **20 February 2025**

(60) Bill 896
An Act to indemnify local municipalities when land intended for building or enlarging schools is transferred
Introduced by the Member for Sherbrooke on **13 February 2025**

Committee Stage

(61) 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

(62) 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

(63) Bill 203
An Act respecting the objects and powers of the Roman Catholic Archiepiscopal corporation of Montreal
Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on **19 April 2023**, and
Referred to the Committee on Institutions

Passage in Principle

Passage

IV. Government Motions

V. Estimates of Expenditure

VI. Statutory Debates

BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION

(64) 18 March 2025
Motion by the Member for Laurier-Dorion

THAT the National Assembly recognize that the increase in rent costs represent a major financial burden for many Québec lessees;

THAT it acknowledge rent increases that greatly exceed the recommendations of the Tribunal administratif du logement and exacerbate the insecurity of many households;

THAT, lastly, it ask the Québec government to immediately intervene to cap rent increases at inflation rate for the current year.

Part 3
BILLS PASSED
(Bills awaiting Royal Assent)

Bill 79

An Act to enact the Act respecting contracting by municipal bodies and to amend various provisions mainly for the purpose of reducing the administrative burden of municipal bodies

Passed on **18 March 2025**

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

Inquiry arising from the motion moved by the Official Opposition House Leader and Member for Nelligan pursuant to Standing Orders 315 to 321 on the failure to table, within the prescribed time, the 2023 annual management report of the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec

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.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Orders of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 69**, An Act to ensure the responsible governance of energy resources and to amend various legislative provisions (Order of reference given on 3 October 2024).

COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

Orders of reference

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 93**, An Act respecting, in particular, the transfer of ownership of an immovable of Ville de Blainville (Order of reference given on 18 March 2025).

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 201**, An Act respecting Municipalité de Morin-Heights (Order of reference given on 20 April 2023).

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND THE ECONOMY

Orders of reference

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 89**, An Act to give greater consideration to the needs of the population in the event of a strike or a lock-out (Order of reference given on 18 March 2025).

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 85**, An Act to amend various provisions for the main purpose of reducing regulatory and administrative burden (Order of reference given on 18 February 2025).

Orders in compliance with the Standing Orders

Interpellation:

- By the Member for Bourassa-Sauvé to the Minister of Employment on the following subject: *Termination of employment: the impact of the CAQ cuts on employability* (notice given on 27 February 2025).

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC FINANCE

Orders of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 82**, An Act respecting the national digital identity and amending other provisions (Order of reference given on 4 February 2025).

COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

Orders of reference

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 91**, Act establishing the Unified Family Tribunal within the Court of Québec (Order of reference given on 18 March 2025).

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 203**, An Act respecting the objects and powers of the Roman Catholic Archiepiscopal corporation of Montreal (Order of reference given on 19 April 2023).

COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS

Orders of reference

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 84**, An Act respecting national integration (Order of reference given on 18 February 2025).

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Orders of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 83**, An Act to foster the practice of medicine in the public health and social services network (Order of reference given on 18 February 2025).
- **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).

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 81**, An Act to amend various provisions relating to the environment (Order of reference given on 11 February 2025).

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*

(223) Mr. Ciccone (Marquette) – **28 January 2025**

To the Minister Responsible for the Metropolis and the Montréal Region

It is obvious to anyone who has had to catch a flight from Montréal in the last few months that the airport's facilities and access roads are no longer up to the task. There were reports last summer of travellers waiting for hours to reach the terminal gates. There was even footage of people, suitcase in tow, walking towards the Montréal-Trudeau access ramp in fear of missing their flight.

Aéroports de Montréal and their partners have proposed various measures to improve traffic flow around the facilities, including the implementation of a people mover or an automated shuttle to link Montréal-Trudeau Airport and VIA Rail's Dorval station. This solution would help connect the mere 700 metres between these two transit hubs while also meeting intermodality and decarbonation target goals.

Such a solution would link the Via Rail and Exo train stations with the Société de transport de Montréal's nearby terminus, which would improve access to the REM for not only the 40,000 public transportation users who transit there, but also the 55,000 airport passengers, 30,000 workers and 150,000 motorists who use the Dorval interchange daily.

Can the Minister tell us what specific measures she intends to implement to link the various transport hubs around the airport and help improve traffic flow in the area? Also, what is her opinion on the proposal of Aéroports de Montréal and their partners for a people mover or an automated shuttle?

(240) Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) – **6 February 2025**

To the Minister of Education

The Association québécoise pour l'éducation à domicile represents 1,500 homeschooling families. To date, more than 8,000 students are homeschooled in 2024–2025. These students have legal rights regarding access to educational institutions and resources under the *Homeschooling Regulation*.

Section 22 of the Regulation sets out the following:

“The school service centre that has jurisdiction must provide the student receiving homeschooling, subject to availability and on the conditions it determines, with free access to

- (1) the library of at least one of its schools and the reference and reading material in it;
- (2) the science laboratory of at least one of its schools and the related material and equipment used in the laboratory;
- (3) the computer laboratory of at least one of its schools and the related material and equipment used in the laboratory;
- (4) the auditorium and art rooms of at least one of its schools and the related material and equipment used in the laboratory; and
- (5) the sports and recreational facilities of at least one of its schools and the related material and equipment used in the facilities.”

According to documents sent by the school service centres to the parents of homeschooled students, it appears that, for the year 2022–2023, the school service centres were able to provide justification for \$1.7 million in expenditures out of a total of \$12 million in subsidies received for homeschooling.

This is reflected in the results of a survey to which approximately 200 homeschooling families responded. Not taking into account the compulsory examination services not requested by families and not deemed to have relevant educational value for families, homeschooling families said that 68% of requests for services were denied. Requests concerned access to the instructional material, gymnasium, laboratory, professional support staff and artistic material. Even for services related to the certification of studies (obtaining a secondary school diploma), families’ requests were denied in 31% of cases.

My questions to the Minister of Education are as follows:

1. Can the Minister produce a report on the use of sums paid for homeschooling in all school service centres for the year 2023–2024?
2. Considering the difficulties in accessing services and the recent developments in homeschooling trends since the pandemic, can the Minister commit to convening the Québec-wide advisory panel on homeschooling?

(242) Mr. Paradis (Jean-Talon) – **11 February 2025**

To the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor

As experts in the spread of harmful micro-organisms, pathogens and viruses, microbiologists perform delicate tasks on a daily basis that can have serious impacts if not done with the utmost rigor. However, microbiologists are not regulated by the Québec professional system and, as a result, there are significant public protection risks.

Integrating microbiologists into the professional system would greatly reduce these risks of harm to the public, in particular by imposing disciplinary measures for usurpation of title, proficiency audits, professional development and more.

Better oversight of microbiologists, after they have integrated into the professional system, can reduce the long list of risks that could arise from maintaining the status quo, such as bacterial disease outbreaks, contamination of drinking and bathing water, and even inaccurate air quality analyses.

In 2023, the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, and Minister responsible for the administration of legislation respecting the professions, undertook a major modernization project for Québec's professional system to better meet our society's current needs.

At the time, the Minister planned to implement the modernization project in three separate phases, starting with regulatory streamlining, followed by modernization of the *Professional Code*, and ending with the broadening of professional practices.

A first milestone was reached with 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, assented to on 7 November 2024.

The next phases are still to be completed. The third phase, if it is implemented as announced, could be an opportunity to integrate microbiologists into the Québec professional system.

Given the above, my questions are the following:

- What is the current timetable for implementing the second and third phases of the project to modernize the professional system?
- Is the Québec government formally committed to implementing the third phase of the project to modernize the professional system, and to introducing a bill in time for it to reach the assent stage during the current legislature?
- Between the second and third phases of the project to modernize the professional system, which phase would be most conducive to integrating microbiologists into the Québec professional system?

(243) Ms. Labrie (Sherbrooke) – **12 February 2025**

To the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility

Over the past year, several Québec towing companies have been faced with unpaid bills after police forces requested their services to clear heavy vehicles from public highways. These unpaid bills represent very substantial sums for the towing companies, to the extent of jeopardizing their services. Since 2007, the Ontario Ministry of Transportation, in consultation with the provincial police and the towing industry, has implemented a limited financial protection program for accident management on provincial highways. This program helps the heavy-duty towing industry cover costs associated with incidents on provincial highways, after exhausting all efforts to recover costs from the responsible party.

My questions to the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility are the following:

In light of the situation experienced by Québec towing companies, will the Minister consider adopting Ontario's approach and developing a policy for recovering towing costs in the event of unpaid bills? What solutions is the department considering to solve this problem?

(246) Mr. Fortin (Pontiac) – **20 February 2025**

To the Minister of Health

On 31 January 2025, Santé Québec published the results of the fourth report on the situation in emergency rooms in Québec, which revealed that the use of emergency services remained extremely high across Québec. In fact, the occupancy rate of stretchers for the period was the highest recorded in five years.

We also learned from Dr. Gilbert Boucher, president of the Association des spécialistes en médecine d'urgence du Québec, that several reasons can explain this considerable demand, notably a late flu season and older, sicker patients.

In a *La Presse* article on 26 November 2024, it was stated that the arrival of colder temperatures would herald the return of respiratory diseases, such as the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). Dr. Luc Boileau, Québec's National Public Health Director, had then warned that RSV was the virus spreading most quickly and that it had yet to reach its peak.

The virus is gaining ground across Québec. For the week of 18 November 2024, more than 9% of tests were positive, up from less than 7% the week before that. One month earlier, only 3% of tests were positive. Each year, RSV circulates during the cold season, causing lung and respiratory tract infections.

As is the case every year, the department planned vaccination coverage for the holiday season. This year, it was decided to also provide free RSV vaccines to persons aged 60 and over living in CHSLDs and in intermediate resources, as well as to persons aged 75 and over living in private seniors' residences.

Given the "Description of vaccine-preventable diseases" section of Québec's immunization protocol, which includes influenza and respiratory syncytial virus infections, and the fact that these viruses are the cause of yearly crises in Québec emergency rooms, can the Minister explain why he has not considered expanding vaccination to these age groups, regardless of their place of residence, and thus ensure increased protection?

(247) Mr. Fortin (Pontiac) – **20 February 2025**
To the Minister of Health

On 10 May 2023, during the presentation of the third plan to make up for delayed surgeries, we learned that more than \$400 million will be allocated to the implementation of various measures meant to catch up on the backlog of surgeries. This sum comes from the work of the IPAM in collaboration with the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux and the FMSQ. The amounts are the result of the 2019 agreement made between the Québec government and the FMSQ and come from savings made within the budgetary envelope allocated to the FMSQ.

In the announcement, the Minister stated that the measures were intended to close the gap and return to pre-pandemic levels, or approximately 2,500 people waiting for surgery for more than a year. An intermediate target was also set to reduce the list to 7,600 by 31 March 2024.

On 9 January 2025, a Radio-Canada article revealed that the funds announced in May 2023 had still not been spent, and that more than \$450 million was still available to bridge the backlog in surgeries. It was also mentioned that the fund created by the Government and the medical specialists could be used as early as January to gradually reopen several daytime operating rooms.

Even with the latest data on the MSSS’s dashboard showing a decrease in the number of patients waiting for surgery, it is important to note that we are nowhere near the objective of 2,300 patients on the wait list by 31 March 2025.

What’s most worrying is that, in all likelihood, it will be impossible to hit the target in these regions:

Region	Target 31 Dec. 2024	Results 11 Jan. 2025
Capitale-Nationale	83	569
Mauricie-et-du-Centre-du-Québec	36	287
Estrie	216	863
Montréal	676	2515
Outaouais	605	1273
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	0	240
Chaudière-Appalaches	20	254
Lanaudière	271	1122
Laurentides	175	646
Montérégie	295	864

Given the data above, which show that the catch-up plan is missing its target in 10 regions of Québec, can the Minister tell us what measures he intends to take quickly to rectify the situation, and what his new targets will be?

(248) Mme Labrie (Sherbrooke) – **25 February 2025**
To the Minister of Health

The *Regulation respecting hearing devices and insured services* provides for the reimbursement of a single hearing aid, except in certain circumstances. The Regulation provides for the reimbursement of a second hearing aid for persons 18 years of age or under, persons 19 years of age or older who are students or employed, and persons with a visual deficiency.

Those who do not meet any of the criteria established by the Regulation do not qualify for the reimbursement of a second hearing aid. This leads to increased financial insecurity for retirees and persons with disabilities. The situation also constitutes an impediment to their quality of life, their social participation and even their own safety when getting around in public spaces.

In 2019, the office of the Minister Responsible for Seniors and Informal Caregivers stated that a review of the Regulation was underway. This review was not completed while Québec government departments were busy managing the COVID-19 crisis.

In May 2022, the office of the Minister of Health, which is now responsible for reviewing the Regulation, stated that this review was planned for the next few months.

In May 2023, I placed a question on the *Order Paper* asking the Minister of Health when he expected the Regulation to be amended. In his September 2023 reply, he affirmed that proposals to undertake the regulatory amendment process were expected to take place in Winter 2024.

In October 2023, the Minister Responsible for Social Services replied to a petition tabled by the Member for Roberval requesting an improvement to the support program on hearing devices and insured services. The Minister also reiterated that review work was underway.

In April 2024, when questioned on the matter during the 2024–2025 estimates of expenditure, the Minister Responsible for Seniors confirmed that work was underway to assess the Regulation’s conditions for subsidies.

To date, the Regulation has yet to be reviewed, which worsens the financial insecurity of retirees and persons with disabilities.

In light of the above, my question to the Minister of Health is the following:

Can the Minister provide a clear timeline for the amendment of the Regulation in order to put an end to this discrimination?

(249) Mr. Ciccone (Marquette) – **25 February 2025**

To the Minister Responsible for Sports, Recreation and the Outdoors

On 25 November 2024, the Institut de la statistique du Québec announced the results of the 2022–2023 Québec Health Survey of High School Students, which polled 70,825 students in 483 schools.

Unfortunately, there is evidence of deteriorating health among high school students. Indeed, the percentage of students who consider themselves to be in excellent or very good health has decreased.

	2010–2011	2016–2017	2022–2023
Total	71%	72%	62%
Girls	67%	69%	54%
Boys	75%	76%	70%

Though the survey shows a decrease in cigarette smoking among high school teenagers, the rise in popularity of e-cigarettes, in particular among young girls, is disturbing.

	2016–2017	2022–2023
Total	11%	16%
Girls	8%	19%
Boys	13%	13%

Another worrying aspect of this survey is that nearly a quarter of students claim to have a sedentary lifestyle. Furthermore, a higher proportion of girls are inactive during their leisure time and travel.

	2016–2017	2022–2023
Total	20%	23%
Girls	22%	27%
Boys	19%	20%

The survey also confirms our finding that the pandemic has significantly altered the lifestyles of our teenagers, as nearly half of them (43%) reported a decrease in physical activity.

In light of the Québec Health Survey of High School Students, the purpose of which is to help those who work with youth, including school professionals and health and social service specialists, develop programs that meet young people's specific needs and implement measures to support their progress while promoting their well-being, my question is the following: what concrete measures has the Minister taken since the disclosure of this information to foster the personal fulfilment of our youth?

(250) Mr. Ciccone (Marquette) – **25 February 2025**

To the Minister of Health

Following several of our addresses, the Minister of Health finally decided to follow up on one of the recommendations of the National Public Health Director on 31 October 2023. The purpose of this recommendation is to better regulate vaping by prohibiting the sale of non-tobacco flavoured vaping products, as is currently the case for tobacco products.

Unfortunately, since the implementation of this prohibition, various persons from a wide range of backgrounds have expressed displeasure at how easy it is to obtain flavours for e-cigarettes, despite the prohibition.

On 25 November 2024, the Institut de la statistique du Québec announced the results of the Québec Health Survey of High School Students, which polled 70,825 students in 483 schools.

Though the results of the survey show an encouraging decrease in cigarette smoking among high school students, it is undermined by an increase in e-cigarette smoking, in particular among young girls. It is crucial that the adverse effects of these products on health be acknowledged.

	2016–2017	2022–2023
Total	11%	16%
Girls	8%	19%
Boys	13%	13%

In light of the Québec Health Survey of High School Students, the purpose of which is to help those who work with youth, including school professionals and health and social service specialists, develop programs that meet young people's specific needs and implement measures to support their progress while promoting their well-being, my question is the following: what concrete measures has the Minister taken since the disclosure of this information to foster the personal fulfilment of our youth?

(251) Mr. Fortin (Pontiac) – **25 February 2025**

To the Minister of Health

The Québec government made the administrative decision to restrict access to the insulin pump access program to Quebecers with type 1 diabetes who were under 18 years of age at the time of applying to the program. These people are eligible for reimbursement of insulin pumps and their supplies by the Québec State for the entirety of their adult lives. Insulin pumps play a crucial role in the treatment of diabetes, in particular for people with type 1 and LADA diabetes. This technology enables them to live longer, healthier lives, reducing the likelihood of costly long-term complications.

This administrative decision creates a discriminatory distinction between Quebecers with type 1 diabetes whose treatment with insulin pumps is reimbursed by the Québec State for life, and Quebecers with type 1 diabetes who are not eligible because they did not apply to the program before the age of 18, or were unable to do so because the program was only introduced in 2011.

Could the Minister of Health explain what measures have been taken and what consultations have been held by his department to ensure that the administrative decision to continue restricting eligibility, i.e., to restrict access to the insulin pump access program to Quebecers with type 1 diabetes who were under 18 years of age at the time of applying to the program, does not violate the Québec *Charter of human rights and freedoms* and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*?

More precisely, could the Minister of Health explain what measures have been taken and what consultations have been held to ensure that the current criteria for eligibility to the insulin pump access program does not violate section 1 of the Québec Charter protecting the right to life, and to personal security, inviolability and freedom, as well as section 4, protecting the right to the safeguard of one's dignity, in relation to discrimination based on prohibited characteristics as listed in section 10, namely age or disability?

Furthermore, could the Minister of Health clarify what measures have been taken and what consultations have been held to ensure that the administrative decision to restrict access to the insulin pump access program does not violate section 15 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* with regard to age and physical disability?

(252) Mr. Grandmont (Taschereau) – **26 February 2025**

To the Minister of Health

In a few years, the CHU de Québec services currently provided at Hôtel-Dieu de Québec will be transferred to the new hospital complex (NCH).

Since 2018, various committees have been established to decide on what to do with the vacant premises in the Hôtel-Dieu de Québec building, following the relocation of activities to the NCH. In 2018, one committee was created to conduct a preliminary study on the future use of the Hôtel-Dieu de Québec. In 2019, this committee carried out a project to repurpose the premises of the Hôtel-Dieu de Québec, to identify services that could be provided in the building.

In 2021, a third working group published ideas for potential new activities at Hôtel-Dieu de Québec. As a result, a proposal was submitted to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

It is extremely important for the local population to maintain local health services at this major establishment, and to ensure healthcare for the many people who visit Vieux-Québec and Parliament Hill every year. As such, the project to create ambulatory services, including medical and nursing services, psychosocial care services, a community dental clinic and a sexual health clinic met the needs and expectations of the local population.

Since 2021, the citizens involved in the project have not heard from the CIUSSS de la Capitale-Nationale or the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux about the matter. The CIUSSS informed us that, given the new deadlines for the NCH project, if the CIUSSS de la Capitale-Nationale were to continue its work to develop services that meet the needs of the local population, it should have its mandate renewed by the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux and consult its partners to devise a common vision for a future project.

My question to the Minister is the following:

Can the Minister of Health reactivate the follow-up committee on the future of Hôtel-Dieu de Québec and confirm that he still intends to give the CIUSSS de la Capitale-Nationale the mandate to develop services that meet the needs of the local population in the Hôtel-Dieu de Québec building?

(253) Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) – **26 February 2025**

To the Minister of Health

Since 8 November 2022, the Optune™ device has been officially approved by Health Canada for the treatment of glioblastoma, a rare and aggressive form of brain cancer. Developed in the early 2000s, this helmet-like device with electrodes sends electric fields into the brain to target cancer cells and slow down their division.

Considered a promising treatment with significant benefits for patients, including progression-free survival, the Optune™ device is already approved in many other countries, including the United States (since 2015), France, Germany and Switzerland. In these and many other countries, Optune™ is already integrated into the standards of care and funded through manufacturer agreements for newly diagnosed glioblastoma patients.

In its September 2023 advisory opinion, the INESSS clearly recognized the relevance and therapeutic value of the Optune™ device, as well as the lack of alternatives for patients diagnosed with glioblastoma. However, the INESSS concluded in its opinion that despite the significant need for options to prolong life and reduce the risk of recurrence, public coverage of the Optune™ device for the treatment of newly diagnosed glioblastoma patients in combination with standard therapies was not a fair and reasonable option at the time.

The INESSS also added in this opinion that re-evaluation work on the Optune™ device could be carried out by the INESSS, at the request of the MSSS, when more information became available. In this regard, in March 2024, Canada's Drug Agency (CDA) recommended reimbursement of the Optune™ device and invited the provinces to negotiate with the manufacturer. Several clinical studies continue to be carried out with glioblastoma patients, with very encouraging results overall. Dr. David Roberge, a CHUM radiation oncologist who has been treating patients with this device in clinical studies since 2013, has been fighting for years to make this treatment, which significantly reduces tumour size and is minimally invasive, available for free to all glioblastoma patients.

Considering that the INESSS opinion is in no way an obstacle to public funding of the Optune™ device, and considering the above facts, my questions are as follows:

- 1) In March 2024, the CDA recommended that the provinces negotiate with Novocure, the manufacturer of the Optune™ device. Does the Minister of Health intend to begin negotiations with the manufacturer and, if so, when?
- 2) Considering that re-evaluation of the Optune™ device by INESSS is to be done at the request of MSSS, can the Minister formally ask the INESSS to re-evaluate the device in light of the new information available regarding the treatment and, if so, when?
- 3) Pending re-evaluation of the Optune™ device by the INESSS, can the Minister of Health take discretionary action to authorize coverage of the Optune™ device so that people who have a prescription from their doctor can have access to the treatment, in a context where the INESSS has already recognized the therapeutic value of the Optune™ device?
- 4) Can patient exemption measures be used so that patients with glioblastoma, a very rare disease (approximately 3 cases per 100,000 people in Canada), can have access to the Optune™ device?

(254) Ms. Lakhoyan Olivier (Chomedey) – **27 February 2025**
To the Minister of Tourism

Since December 2024, neither the elected municipal officials nor the citizens of Beupré and Saint-Ferréol-les-Neiges have had access to the \$100 million agreement between the Québec government and Resorts of the Canadian Rockies, operator of the Mont-Sainte-Anne resort.

Why does the agreement remain confidential despite repeated requests from local stakeholders and concerned citizens?

Why do Sépaq and the Québec government refuse to make public the investment plans related to this agreement, even though they involve public property?

Can the Minister of Tourism commit to disclosing the relevant information on this agreement and to ensuring better transparency on this matter?

(255) Ms. Lakhoyan Olivier (Chomedey) – **27 February 2025**

To the Minister of Tourism

The labour shortage in the hotel sector continues to pose a major challenge for Québec's tourism industry.

Many establishments are struggling to fill vacant positions, in particular in preparation for the summer season.

With the recent regulatory changes concerning temporary foreign workers and the moratorium on certain permanent immigration programs in effect until 30 June 2025, many hotel operators are up against even greater obstacles with regard to recruiting the workforce that is necessary for their operations.

What concrete measures does the Minister have planned to support the hotel sector in the face of this growing staff shortage?

(256) Ms. Prass (D'Arcy-McGee) – **27 February 2025**

To the Minister Responsible for Social Services

With the closure of winter shelters at the end of March, hundreds of homeless people may not have a shelter solution, at a time when the weather conditions are not yet safe for living outdoors.

This situation increases pressure on public infrastructures, in particular the Société de transport de Montréal (STM) network, where many people seek shelter, which raises cohabitation and user safety issues.

Can the Minister specify what concrete measures will be implemented to ensure that these people are not without shelter in April?

Is the Government planning to allocate additional resources or to extend certain measures to support these vulnerable people?

How is the department working with the STM and other stakeholders to minimize the impact on public transit and ensure effective care for people experiencing homelessness during this critical period?

Lastly, does the Government plan to implement temporary housing solutions or adapt existing infrastructures in order to offer viable alternatives to homeless people?

(257) Mr. Fortin (Pontiac) – **18 March 2025**

To the Minister of Health

Since its official launch on 1 December 2024, Santé Québec has undertaken a series of streamlining efforts to eliminate a \$1.5 billion deficit in the health system. On 14 February, Radio-Canada revealed that 1,700 jobs had been cut in Québec's health network in just two months. These positions include orderlies, nursing assistants and nurses.

Many caregiver representatives have expressed their concern about the impact of these budget cuts on caregivers and have also pointed out that these cuts directly affect services to the population.

It is crucial to underscore that the Minister of Health has repeatedly stated that the budget cuts should have little or no impact on the population. Such a statement from the Minister must have been based on a thorough examination of the number of medical staff required to ensure the continuous operation of health services.

Can the Minister share with us the exact number of departures that have taken place across the network over the past six months, and their distribution by position, region and institution?

(258) Mr. Fortin (Pontiac) – **18 March 2025**

To the Minister of Health

On 23 February, Radio-Canada reported the alarming news that the Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital had temporarily closed many of its emergency room stretchers because of a labour shortage. According to the union, at least 30 of the 54 available stretchers were not accessible.

For many years, the Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital has been experiencing ongoing labour difficulties in the emergency room. These problems include a shortage of nurses and nursing staff, which has resulted in stretchers being closed and hospital units that are overwhelmed. These problems have a direct impact on the hospital's ability to meet patient needs, and temporary measures, such as the reorganization of teams, have been required to address the situation.

This ongoing issue is having a major impact on healthcare. Can the Minister share with us the plan that the HR team has developed and implemented over the past year to address this issue and prevent any service disruptions?

(259) Mr. Kelley (Jacques-Cartier) – **18 March 2025**

To the Minister of Natural Resources and Forests

Considering that the U.S. Department of Defense has invested nearly \$12 million in a graphite mine project in Québec, that U.S. technology industries are completely dependent on graphite imports and that the U.S. imports many strategic minerals from Canada, including nickel, niobium, uranium and 70% of its aluminum.

Can the Minister of Natural Resources and Forests specify the Government's position on securing and locally processing these resources, and the measures in place to protect Québec's autonomy against the increasing U.S. interest in these strategic minerals?

(260) Mr. Grandmont (Taschereau) – **18 March 2025**

To the Minister Responsible for Social Services

As is the case elsewhere in Québec, the issue of homelessness in the city of Québec has intensified in the last few years due to complex social, economic and environmental factors. The epicentre of this humanitarian crisis in the city of Québec is in the Saint-Roch district, at the heart of the Taschereau riding.

Several factors contribute to homelessness in the city of Québec, including the shortage of affordable social housing, poverty, and mental health and addiction problems.

In collaboration with community organizations, Ville de Québec has implemented projects to improve the living conditions of homeless people. These projects include temporary housing programs and emergency services for persons living in precarious situations.

On the Québec government level, the Minister Responsible for Social Services has announced a number of new measures in recent years to tackle the rise of homelessness in the city of Québec.

My questions to the Minister are the following:

- 1) Can the Minister provide the list of the public announcements he has made on the issue of homelessness in the city of Québec since the beginning of 2024?
- 2) Can the Minister specify what each announcement represents in terms of new emergency beds for homeless people?

Part 6
NOTICES

I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

Government Bills

Private Members' Public Bills

- (a) 25 February 2025
An Act to amend the Highway Safety Code to provide for the mandatory issue of notices of payment to owners of registered road vehicles and to holders of certain licences – *Member for Nelligan*

Private Bills

II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME

- (aa) An Act to, in particular, reinforce laicity in the education network and to amend various legislative provisions – *Minister of Education*
- (bb) An Act to amend the Highway Safety Code to require the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec to enter into agreements with government departments or bodies for the application of certain Acts – *Member for Nelligan*