



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Tuesday, 20 May 2025 — No. 211

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

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

Moment of reflection

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Estimates of the National Assembly

On the motion moved by Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, and pursuant to Standing Order 286, the Assembly resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to examine the estimates of expenditure for the National Assembly for the 2025–2026 fiscal year.

Committee of the Whole

Ms. D'Amours, Chair of the Committee of the Whole, informed the Committee that the period allotted for the examination of the estimates shall not exceed 2 hours and that the speaking time shall be distributed as follows: 20 minutes to the President for her opening remarks; 50 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 29 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 9 minutes 40 seconds to the Second Opposition Group; 8 minutes 20 seconds to the Third Opposition Group; and 1 minute 30 seconds to each independent Member. Within this framework, any time not used by the independent Members or by a parliamentary group shall be redistributed among the parliamentary groups in the proportions established above.

The Committee of the Whole undertook examination of the estimates of expenditure for the National Assembly.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 20, the proceedings of the Committee of the Whole continued beyond 12:00 p.m.

The examination of the estimates of expenditure for the National Assembly being concluded, Mr. Jacques (Mégantic), member of the Committee of the Whole, reported to the Assembly.

At 12:10 p.m., Ms. D'Amours, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 1:40 p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 1:40 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Mr. Lévesque (Chauveau) made a statement to pay tribute to volunteers at the Comité québécois pour les jeunes en difficulté de comportement.

Mr. Benjamin (Viau) made a statement to pay tribute to Ms. Marjorie Villefranche.

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Mr. Martel (Nicolet-Bécancour) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Jean-Guy Hébert.

Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) made a statement to underline the work of the organization Foyer du monde.

Ms. Dorismond (Marie-Victorin) made a statement to underline the presence of young, aspiring parliamentarians visiting the National Assembly.

Ms. McGraw (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce) made a statement to underline the work of the organization NDG Baseball.

Ms. Roy (Verchères) made a statement to underline the 145th anniversary of Exposition agricole de Calixa-Lavallée.

Ms. Blanchette Vézina (Rimouski) made a statement to pay tribute to three citizens of the Rimouski riding.

Mr. Carmant (Taillon) made a statement to underline Speech and Hearing Month.

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Mr. Lafrenière (Vachon) made a statement to invite the population to participate in the Relay For Life.

Ms. Lecours (Les Plaines) made a statement to underline the 80th anniversary of the company Pied-Mont Dora.

Ms. Biron (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière) made a statement to congratulate the award recipients at the Gala Les Pléiades of the Chambre de commerce et d'industrie du Grand Lévis.

At 1:55 p.m., Ms. D'Amours, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 2:08 p.m.

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Introduction of Bills

The President communicated to the Assembly, and then tabled, the Law Clerk's report on the following private bill:

220 An Act respecting Joseph Paul-Émile Daniel Michel Marcil

The report states that the notice was drafted and published in accordance with the Rules for the Conduct of Proceedings governing private bills.

(Sessional Paper No. 2547-20250520)

Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon (Camille-Laurin) moved that leave be granted to introduce Private Bill 220, An Act respecting Joseph Paul-Émile Daniel Michel Marcil.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader, moved that Private Bill 220 be referred to the Committee on Institutions for consultation and clause-by-clause consideration and that the Minister of Employment be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

The motion was carried.

Presenting Papers

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

The 2024 annual report of the Organisme d'autoréglementation du courtage immobilier du Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 2548-20250520)

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

The reply to a written question from Mr. Fortin (Pontiac) on departures in the health network over the past six months – Question No. 257, *Order Paper and Notices* of 18 March 2025;

(Sessional Paper No. 2549-20250520)

The reply to a written question from Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) on free access to nirsevimab for vulnerable children over 19 months of age – Question No. 278, *Order Paper and Notices* of 9 April 2025;

(Sessional Paper No. 2550-20250520)

The reply to a written question from Ms. Zaga Mendez (Verdun) on the digital transformation of sales recording modules of certain businesses – Question No. 279, *Order Paper and Notices* of 10 April 2025;

(Sessional Paper No. 2551-20250520)

The Government's reply to a petition tabled on 27 March 2025 by Ms. Lecours (Les Plaines) on reviewing the *Act respecting the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal* concerning the vehicle registration tax.

(Sessional Paper No. 2552-20250520)

The President tabled the following:

A copy of the notice of motion by Ms. Zaga Mendez (Verdun) to be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* of Wednesday, 21 May 2025 under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.

(Sessional Paper No. 2553-20250520)

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Presenting Reports from Committees

The President tabled the reports from the parliamentary committees that examined the estimates of expenditure of the government departments for the 2025–2026 fiscal year:

The report from the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources;

(Sessional Paper No. 2554-20250520)

The report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain;

(Sessional Paper No. 2555-20250520)

The report from the Committee on Culture and Education;

(Sessional Paper No. 2556-20250520)

The report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy;

(Sessional Paper No. 2557-20250520)

The report from the Committee on Public Finance;

(Sessional Paper No. 2558-20250520)

The report from the Committee on Institutions;

(Sessional Paper No. 2559-20250520)

The report from the Committee on Citizen Relations;

(Sessional Paper No. 2560-20250520)

The report from the Committee on Health and Social Services;

(Sessional Paper No. 2561-20250520)

The report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment.

(Sessional Paper No. 2562-20250520)

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Ms. Lecours (Les Plaines), Committee Chair, tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on Citizen Relations, which held public hearings on 23 and 24 April; and on 20 May 2025 within the framework of special consultations on Bill 95, An Act to promote equity in access to subsidized educational childcare services provided by permit holders.

(Sessional Paper No. 2563-20250520)

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition on reviewing the social sciences program in elementary schools, signed by 588 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 2564-20250520)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

At the request of the President, Mr. Derraji, Official Opposition House Leader, withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

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Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Ms. Champagne Jourdain, Minister of Employment, together with Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) and Mr. Paradis (Jean-Talon), moved:

THAT the National Assembly denounce the federal government's unilateral cuts in funding for employment measures and services;

THAT it acknowledge that, due to the lack of an indexation formula for labour market transfer agreements, this decision brings funding back to 1997 levels;

THAT it underline that the majority of the funding granted through the labour market agreements comes from the employment insurance contributions of Québec employees and employers;

THAT it recognize that these cuts have an impact on the support provided to the population and to Québec companies;

THAT, lastly, it ask that the federal government increase the funding made available for labour market transfer agreements and that it respect Québec's jurisdiction with regard to labour training, its specific labour market and its unique partnership structure.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Tanguay, Leader of the Official Opposition, together with Mr. Legault, Premier, Ms. Ghazal, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) and Mr. Chassin (Saint-Jérôme), moved:

THAT the National Assembly pay tribute to Ms. Sophie Thibault, journalist and news anchor, on the occasion of her retirement after 37 years with the TVA network;

THAT it underline her journalistic and human qualities, her concern for the quality of the French language, and her great ability to simplify and explain complex issues to inform generations of Quebecers;

THAT it declare that the career of Sophie Thibault, first woman in North America to be the solo anchor for an evening news program, makes her a pioneer who paved the way for many women and girls interested in journalism;

THAT it recall that, throughout her career, she was a firsthand witness to important moments of Québec's history;

THAT it underline the various aspects of Sophie Thibault's contribution to Québec society in the areas of journalism, literature, philanthropy and photography;

THAT it recall the numerous honours she has received over the course of her illustrious career, in particular the title of Knight of the Ordre national du Québec, the title of Knight of the Ordre de la Pléiade, and several Prix Artis awards for best news anchor;

THAT it note Quebecers' affection for her, which stems from her personal background and professional career and for the humanity she brings to her daily life;

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THAT, lastly, the National Assembly offer her the gratitude of the Québec nation and that it wish her a long and tranquil retirement filled with many new projects.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Ms. Ghazal, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, together with Ms. Biron, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis), Mr. Paradis (Jean-Talon), Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) and Mr. Chassin (Saint-Jérôme), moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the 23rd edition of the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia, held on 17 May 2025, a day that originates from a 2003 initiative by Fondation Émergence, a Québec organization;

THAT it acknowledge the disturbing rise of hate speech and hate crimes against sexually and gender diverse people, both in Québec and across the world;

THAT it recognize the crucial role of allies, whether they be individuals, institutions or organizations, in creating inclusive, safe and respectful spaces for sexually and gender diverse people;

THAT it support Fondation Émergence's public awareness campaign, under the theme Ally Effect, to highlight, promote and mobilize allies in a context where the rights of sexually and gender diverse people are being eroded;

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THAT it invite the Québec population to show solidarity and to contribute to the Ally Effect, as each action taken in support of sexually and gender diverse people helps advance their rights and fight back against hatred;

THAT, lastly, it reaffirm Québec's status as a leader in the fight against homophobia and transphobia, both in Canada and internationally.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

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

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 472 in Appendix)

Yeas: **101** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, moved a motion on gasoline prices; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Mr. Chassin (Saint-Jérôme) moved a motion on the carbon charge; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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

THAT the National Assembly give effect to the order of reference given to the Committee on Public Finance within the framework of the consideration of Bill 100, An Act respecting the negotiation and determination of conditions of employment requiring national coordination in particular in the public and parapublic sector, to hold special consultations and public hearings on Wednesday, 21 May 2025 after Notices of Proceedings in Committees from approximately 11:15 a.m. to 1:05 p.m. and from 3:00 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.; on Thursday, 22 May 2025 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:25 p.m.; and on Tuesday, 27 May 2025 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:35 a.m.;

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

Confédération des syndicats nationaux
Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec
Centrale des syndicats du Québec
Alliance du personnel professionnel et technique de la santé et des services sociaux
Fédération autonome de l'enseignement
Syndicat de professionnelles et professionnels du gouvernement du Québec
Fédération des cégeps
Association des gestionnaires des établissements de santé et de services sociaux
Fédération des centres de services scolaires du Québec
Fédération des intervenantes en petite enfance du Québec
Fédération interprofessionnelle de la santé du Québec;

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

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THAT the presentation by each organization last no longer than 10 minutes and the exchange with the Committee members last no longer than 35 minutes, allocated as follows: 17 minutes 30 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Government, 13 minutes 8 seconds to the Official Opposition and 4 minutes 23 seconds to the Second Opposition Group;

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

THAT the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

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

THAT the National Assembly give effect to the order of reference given to the Committee on Health and Social Services within the framework of the consideration of Bill 106, An Act mainly to establish the collective responsibility and the accountability of physicians with respect to improvement of access to medical services, to hold special consultations and public hearings on Tuesday, 27 May 2025 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:50 a.m. and after Notices of Proceedings in Committees from approximately 3:15 p.m. to 5:40 p.m. and from 6:40 p.m. to 9:05 p.m.; on Wednesday, 28 May 2025 after Notices of Proceedings in Committees from approximately 11:15 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. and from 3:00 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. and from 7:30 p.m. to 9:55 p.m.; and on Thursday, 29 May 2025 after Notices of Proceedings in Committees from approximately 11:15 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.;

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

Fédération des médecins omnipraticiens du Québec
Fédération des médecins spécialistes du Québec
Collège des médecins du Québec
Fédération médicale étudiante du Québec
Fédération des médecins résidents du Québec
Ms. Mylaine Breton, Full Professor, Department of
Community Health Sciences, Université de Sherbrooke
Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec
Médecins québécois pour le régime public
Mr. Pierre-Carl Michaud, Full Professor, HEC Montréal,
Jacques-Parizeau Research Chair in Economic Policy,
Vice-President of CIRANO
Ms. Mélanie Bourassa Forcier, Associate Professor,
Faculty of Law, Université de Sherbrooke, expert in law
and health policy
Regroupement provincial des comités des usagers
Conseil pour la protection des malades
Mr. Alexandre Chagnon, Chief Executive Officer of
Vitr.ai
Mr. Damien Contandriopoulos, Ph.D, Full Professor,
School of Nursing, University of Victoria
Ms. Roxanne Borgès Da Silva, Full Professor and Head
of the Department of Management, Evaluation and Health
Policy, École de santé publique de l'Université de
Montréal
Dr. Alexandra Massicotte and Dr. Virginie Dubuc,
Directors, GMF-U de Vaudreuil-Soulanges
Faculty of Medicine, Université de Montréal, Faculty of
Medicine, Université Laval, Faculty of Medicine and
Health Sciences, McGill University, and Faculty of
Medicine, Université de Sherbrooke, together
Institut national d'excellence en santé et services sociaux
Health and Welfare Commissioner;

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

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

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

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

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- the Committee on Citizen Relations, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 84, An Act respecting national integration;
- the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 69, An Act to ensure the responsible governance of energy resources and to amend various legislative provisions;

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- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 89, An Act to give greater consideration to the needs of the population in the event of a strike or a lock-out.

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

- the Committee on Public Finance, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 92, An Act to amend various provisions mainly with respect to the financial sector.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Ms. D'Amours, Second Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Wednesday, 21 May 2025, during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, a debate would be held on the motion moved by Ms. Zaga Mendez (Verdun).

This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly acknowledge that, according to a Léger poll, 72% of Quebecers support the idea of further taxing the rich to adequately fund public services;

THAT it recognize that it is imperative to protect the population from budget cuts in health, education and essential services;

THAT, lastly, it ask the Québec government to examine the possibility of creating a wealth tax, which would affect 0.1% of the richest members of our society, or approximately 4,000 households.

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ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mr. Roberge, Minister Responsible for Democratic Institutions, moved that Bill 98, An Act to amend the Election Act mainly to preserve the integrity of the electoral process, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried, and Bill 98 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 98 be referred to the Committee on Institutions for clause-by-clause consideration.

The motion was carried.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 236, Ms. Roy, Minister of Families, moved that Bill 95, An Act to promote equity in access to subsidized educational childcare services provided by permit holders, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried, and Bill 95 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 95 be referred to the Committee on Citizen Relations for clause-by-clause consideration.

The motion was carried.

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Mr. Drainville, Minister of Education, moved that Bill 94, An Act to, in particular, reinforce laicity in the education network and to amend various legislative provisions, do now pass in principle.

A debate arose thereon.

Pursuant to Standing Order 100, Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the debate.

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, the debate on the motion moved by Mr. Drainville, Minister of Education, was adjourned.

Report Stage

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 81, An Act to amend various provisions relating to the environment, together with the amendments transmitted by Ms. Dufour (Mille-Îles) and Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve).

The amendments were declared in order.

A debate arose thereon.

The debate was adjourned.

Debates upon Adjournment

At 6:30 p.m., the Assembly held a debate upon adjournment on a question from Ms. Setlakwe (Mont-Royal–Outremont) to Mr. Bélanger, Minister of Cybersecurity and Digital Technology, about the Minister's role and powers regarding cost overruns for health in the SIFARH project.

At the request of Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, Mr. Bélanger, Minister of Cybersecurity and Digital Technology, withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

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At 6:43 p.m., Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 21 May 2025 at 9:40 a.m.

NATHALIE ROY

President

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APPENDIX

Electronic Divisions

On the motion moved by Ms. Ghazal, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, together with Ms. Biron, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis), Mr. Paradis (Jean-Talon), Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) and Mr. Chassin (Saint-Jérôme):

(Division No. 472)

YEAS - 101

Abou-Khalil (CAQ)	Charest (CAQ)	Guillemette (CAQ)	Paradis (PQ)
Allaire (CAQ)	Charette (CAQ)	Haytayan (CAQ)	Picard (CAQ)
Arseneau (PQ)	Chassin (IND)	Jacques (CAQ)	Poulet (CAQ)
Asselin (CAQ)	Cliche-Rivard (QS)	Jeannotte (CAQ)	Poulin (CAQ)
Bachand (CAQ)	Derraji (QLP)	Jolin-Barrette (CAQ)	Prass (QLP)
Beauchemin (QLP)	Déry (CAQ)	Julien (CAQ)	Proulx (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Dionne (CAQ)	Kelley (QLP)	Provençal (CAQ)
(Prévost)	Drainville (CAQ)	Lachance (CAQ)	Reid (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Dufour (CAQ)	Laforest (CAQ)	Rivest (CAQ)
(Orford)	(Abitibi-Est)	Laframboise (CAQ)	Roberge (CAQ)
Benjamin (QLP)	Dufour (QLP)	Lafrenière (CAQ)	Rotiroti (QLP)
Bernard (CAQ)	(Mille-Îles)	Lakhoyan Olivier (QLP)	Rouleau (CAQ)
Bérubé (PQ)	Duranceau (CAQ)	Lamothe (CAQ)	Roy (CAQ)
Biron (CAQ)	Émond (CAQ)	LeBel (CAQ)	Sainte-Croix (CAQ)
Blais (CAQ)	Fontecilla (QS)	Leduc (QS)	Schmaltz (CAQ)
Blanchette Vézina (CAQ)	Fréchette (CAQ)	Lemay (CAQ)	Schneeberger (CAQ)
Bogemans (CAQ)	Gagnon (CAQ)	Lemieux (CAQ)	Setlakwe (QLP)
Boivin Roy (CAQ)	Garceau (QLP)	Lévesque (CAQ)	Simard (CAQ)
Bonnardel (CAQ)	Gendron (CAQ)	(Chapleau)	St-Louis (CAQ)
Boulet (CAQ)	Gentilcore (PQ)	Maccarone (QLP)	St-Pierre Plamondon (PQ)
Bourassa (CAQ)	Ghazal (QS)	Malette (CAQ)	Tanguay (QLP)
Bussière (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ)	Marissal (QS)	Tardif (CAQ)
Caire (CAQ)	(Groulx)	Martel (CAQ)	Thouin (CAQ)
Caron (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ)	McGraw (QLP)	Tremblay (CAQ)
(Portneuf)	(Lac-Saint-Jean)	Montigny (CAQ)	(Dubuc)
Caron (QLP)	Grandmont (QS)	Morin (QLP)	Tremblay (CAQ)
(La Pinière)	Grondin (CAQ)	Nadeau-Dubois (QS)	(Hull)
Champagne Jourdain (CAQ)	Guilbault (CAQ)	Nichols (IND)	Zaga Mendez (QS)