



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

SECOND SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Tuesday, 30 September 2025 — No. 1

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

The Assembly was called to order at 2:10 p.m.

At the request of the President, the Assembly observed a moment of silence in memory of Mr. Paul Shooner, former Member for Yamaska, Mr. Michel Gratton, former Member for Gatineau, Mr. Rodrigue Biron, former Member for Lotbinière, Mr. Marcel Gagnon, former Member for Champlain, and Mr. Guy Rivard, former Member for Rosemont.

The President read an excerpt of a letter, dated 18 August 2025, to Mr. Siegfried Peters, Secretary General of the National Assembly, from Mr. Jean-François Blanchet, Chief Electoral Officer of Québec, about the by-election held on 11 August 2025 in the electoral division of Arthabaska.

The President then tabled the following:

The aforementioned letter accompanied by a notice proclaiming Mr. Alex Boissonneault the candidate elected in the electoral division of Arthabaska;
(Sessional Paper No. 1-20250930)

The detailed report from the Chief Electoral Officer of Québec on the official results of the by-election held on 11 August 2025 in the electoral division of Arthabaska.
(Sessional Paper No. 2-20250930)

She then tabled the following:

A letter, dated 19 June 2025, she had received from Ms. Marwah Rizqy, Leader of the Official Opposition, informing her of her appointment.
(Sessional Paper No. 3-20250930)

She then tabled the following:

A letter, dated 18 June 2025, she had received from Ms. Filomena Rotiroti, then Chief Whip of the Official Opposition, informing her that Ms. Marie-Claude Nichols, Member for Vaudreuil, had rejoined the caucus of the Official Opposition, effective 19 June 2025.
(Sessional Paper No. 4-20250930)

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She then tabled letters, dated 27 June 2025, she had received from Ms. Marwah Rizqy, Leader of the Official Opposition, informing her of the following appointments effective as of 26 June 2025:

Ms. Michelle Setlakwe, Member for Mont-Royal–Outremont, as Official Opposition House Leader;

(Sessional Paper No. 5-20250930)

Mr. André Fortin, Member for Pontiac, as Chief Whip of the Official Opposition;

(Sessional Paper No. 6-20250930)

Mr. Frédéric Beauchemin, Member for Marguerite-Bourgeoys, as Deputy House Leader of the Official Opposition;

(Sessional Paper No. 7-20250930)

Ms. Filomena Rotiroti, Member for Jeanne-Mance-Viger, as Chair of the Official Opposition Caucus.

(Sessional Paper No. 8-20250930)

She then tabled the following:

A letter, dated 4 September 2025, she had received from Ms. Andrée Laforest, Member for Chicoutimi, informing her of her resignation;

(Sessional Paper No. 9-20250930)

A letter, dated 5 September 2025, she had received from Mr. François Jacques, then Government Caucus Chair, informing her that Mr. Pierre Dufour, Member for Abitibi-Est, is no longer a member of the Government Caucus.

(Sessional Paper No. 10-20250930)

She then tabled letters, dated 10, 17 and 18 September 2025, she had received from Mr. François Legault, Premier, informing her of the following appointments:

Mr. François Jacques, Member for Mégantic, as Chief Government Whip, effective as of 10 September 2025;

(Sessional Paper No. 11-20250930)

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Mr. Yves Montigny, Member for René-Lévesque, as Government Caucus Chair, as of 10 September 2025;

(Sessional Paper No. 12-20250930)

Ms. Marie-Belle Gendron, Member for Chateauguay, as Assistant Government Whip, as of 17 September 2025;

(Sessional Paper No. 13-20250930)

Ms. Sonia LeBel, Minister of Education and Member for Champlain, as Deputy Government House Leader, as of 18 September 2025.

(Sessional Paper No. 14-20250930)

She then tabled the following:

A letter, dated 19 September 2025, she had received from Ms. Maïté Blanchette Vézina, Member for Rimouski, informing her of her decision to sit as an independent Member, effective 18 September 2025.

(Sessional Paper No. 15-20250930)

Lastly, she tabled the new seating plan of the National Assembly, dated 30 September 2025.

(Sessional Paper No. 16-20250930)

At the invitation of the President, Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, welcomed Mr. Alex Boissonneault, the new Member for Arthabaska.

Mr. St-Pierre Plamondon, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, Mr. Legault, Premier, Ms. Rizqy, Leader of the Official Opposition, and Ms. Ghazal, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, made some comments.

Mr. Boissonneault (Arthabaska) then took the floor.

Lastly, the President welcomed the new Member.

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The President informed the Assembly that Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Québec would deliver the Opening Address of the Session.

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor entered the National Assembly and, once seated in the Chair, read the following Opening Address:

Gwe, Hello,

Madam President,
Mr. Premier,
Madam Leader of the Official Opposition,
Madam Leader of the Second Opposition Group,
Mr. Leader of the Third Opposition Group,
Members of the Executive Council,
Members of the National Assembly,
Distinguished Guests,

As fate would have it, my first Opening Address coincides with the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

This day is especially important to me because it recognizes the painful legacy of residential schools, the missing children, the grief of families left without answers, and the courage of survivors whose voices illuminate our path to reconciliation.

Today is also associated with Orange Shirt Day, in remembrance of Phyllis, who was deprived of the orange shirt given to her by her grandmother on her very first day at residential school.

So, on this 30th of September, I felt it was important to wear my ribbon skirt, a traditional garment worn for 300 years that has become a symbol of resilience and reconciliation, and to wear as a necklace a beaded pin representing an orange shirt.

As the first Indigenous woman to hold the office of Lieutenant-Governor of Québec, I am well aware of the symbolic importance of this moment and of my responsibility to embody reconciliation, a core value I have chosen to uphold throughout my term of office.

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I would also like to take a moment to acknowledge the tragic loss of Joyce Echaquan five years ago. Let us take a moment to remember, but also to pave the way for healing on this National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

A moment to remember that this journey must be taken together, with mutual understanding, and that both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people can do their part. This calls for courage, listening, respect and goodwill, but also the time to understand, respond, heal and accept change.

Today is also an opportunity to recognize the progress made in recent years thanks to our collective awareness, while looking to the future and embracing the path ahead of us together.

Dear Members of the National Assembly, I would now like to acknowledge the work done by each and every one of you during the First Session of the 43rd Legislature.

Serving Québec is an immense privilege, yet it also comes with a responsibility commensurate with the honour.

Your presence here is a testament to the trust citizens have placed in you to represent them and work for the benefit of all Quebecers.

Each parliamentary session, with its debates, projects and achievements, reminds us that democracy is a daily commitment and a collective effort that requires listening, dialogue and the pursuit of long-term solutions to current challenges.

It is through active participation and open dialogue that we can build a more just, resilient and forward-looking society.

By contributing to institutional continuity, you are shaping our shared future and are standard-bearers of values, ideas and actions. You can take pride in the essential role you fulfil, and I invite all citizens to recognize the importance of the work you have done and will continue to do every day.

But now is not the time to be complacent in our efforts. We can turn today's challenges into opportunities to build a more just and sustainable society. Future generations will remember your commitment and your ability to listen, collaborate and take action on the major issues of our time.

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These issues, which are numerous, are not limited to the social and environmental spheres. They also affect the political climate and too often fuel disinformation, which can weaken civic engagement and trust in our institutions.

That is why elected officials have a great responsibility to encourage citizen participation and support our democracy.

This responsibility requires integrity, transparency, equality, justice, solidarity, respect, and goodwill. These values remind us that public trust is the foundation of our democracy; although this trust is demanding, we must preserve it by embodying and transmitting these fundamental values.

In a world where institutions sometimes falter and polarization seems to prevail over dialogue, our democratic model remains strong.

It reminds us that democracy is a fragile garden that must be cultivated daily, a legacy that must be protected, and a space where our actions can be guided by reflection, respect and collective responsibility, regardless of the vagaries of the moment.

In the coming months, I hope to see debates that are lively but always marked by goodwill and respect.

May they spark new, bold and inspiring ideas.

But above all, I hope that each and every one of you keep in mind the interests of the next seven generations, so that the decisions you make today help create a just, sustainable and bright future.

Québec is cherished by all of us, and it is together that we will build its future.

I wish you all an excellent session and assure you that you have my full collaboration. My door is always open to all parties.

Wela'liq. Thank you.

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor withdrew.

The President took the Chair.

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Mr. Legault, Premier, then delivered the Opening Speech of the Second Session of the 43rd Legislature.

At the end of his speech, Mr. Legault, Premier, moved that the Assembly approve the Government's general policy.

At 3:35 p.m., the President adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 1 October 2025 at 9:40 a.m.

NATHALIE ROY

President