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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

SECOND SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 18 February 2026 — No. 38

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

The Assembly was called to order at 9:40 a.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Ms. Tremblay (Hull) made a statement to underline the 30th anniversary of the Mission catholique portugaise du Saint-Esprit.

Ms. Cadet (Bourassa-Sauvé) made a statement to underline Hooked on School Days.

Mr. Asselin (Vanier-Les Rivières) made a statement to underline the Semaine des entrepreneurs à l'école.

Mr. Fontecilla (Laurier-Dorion) made a statement to underline Scout-Guide Week.

Ms. Lachance (Bellechasse) made a statement to underline Scout-Guide Week.

18 February 2026

Mr. Morin (Acadie) made a statement to underline Scout-Guide Week.

Mr. Lemieux (Saint-Jean) made a statement to underline the impact of the recruitment efforts announced by the Canadian Armed Forces on Haut-Richelieu.

Mr. Paradis (Jean-Talon) made a statement to express solidarity with and support for the Iranian people.

Ms. Abou-Khalil (Fabre) made a statement to underline Scout-Guide Week.

Mr. Sainte-Croix (Gaspé) made a statement to underline the 30th anniversary of the Maison de la famille Parenfant de Gaspé.

Mr. Lévesque (Chauveau) made a statement to underline Hooked on School Days.

At 9:54 a.m., Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

18 February 2026

The proceedings resumed at 10:08 a.m.

Moment of reflection

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

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

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At the request of the President, Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) withdrew certain comments deemed unparliamentary.

At the request of the President, Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader, withdrew certain comments deemed unparliamentary.

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18 February 2026

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Ms. Gentilcore (Terrebonne), together with Mr. Poulin, Minister for the Economy and Small and Medium Entreprises, Ms. Rotiroti (Jeanne-Mance–Viger), Ms. Zaga Mendez (Verdun), Ms. Poulet (Laporte), Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) and Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent), moved:

THAT the National Assembly highlight that businesses with fewer than five employees represent 52% of all Québec employer businesses, while those with fewer than fifty employees represent 94% of employer businesses;

THAT it underline the key role of SMEs in our economy, as they generate over 50% of Québec's gross domestic product (GDP) and are responsible for the majority of jobs in the private sector;

THAT it express its gratitude for Québec entrepreneurs for their essential and constant contribution to the economic, social and regional development of Québec;

THAT it reaffirm its commitment to working with all stakeholders of civil society to create a business environment that fosters the sustainable prosperity of both SMEs and Quebecers;

THAT, lastly, it underline the importance of maintaining efforts to support innovation, investments and the growth of Québec SMEs.

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

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 106 in Appendix)

Yeas: **102** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

18 February 2026

Mr. Lévesque (Chapleau), together with Mr. Carmant (Taillon), moved a motion on the fiscal statistics of 2023; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Ms. Cadet (Bourassa-Sauvé), together with Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage), Ms. Gentilcore (Terrebonne), Mr. Dufour (Abitibi-Est), Ms. Poulet (Laporte), Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent) and Ms. Lakhoyan Olivier (Chomedey), moved:

THAT the National Assembly recognize the undeniable contribution of dailies, weeklies and printed magazines that notify, inform and entertain millions of Quebecers;

THAT it recognize that these printed works serve as a protection against cultural homogenization on a global scale and act as a shield against disinformation, all while respecting and protecting cultural diversity;

THAT it acknowledge that the current geopolitical context is marked by fake news and increasingly vulnerable institutions, in particular fuelled by social media and international digital giants;

THAT it declare that preserving local print media should be a priority;

THAT, lastly, it affirm that these printed works play an essential role in the lives of Quebecers affected by the digital divide, in particular seniors and low-income households.

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

18 February 2026

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **107** in Appendix)

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

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve), together with Ms. Cadet (Bourassa-Sauvé), Ms. Gentilcore (Terrebonne), Ms. Poulet (Laporte), Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) and Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent), moved:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec recognize that artificial intelligence directly threatens the work and economic stability of Québec artists and creators;

THAT it recall that the use of such a technology replaces the works of our artists by imitations based on their original work;

THAT it affirm that the public funds allocated to cultural productions must prioritize support for Québec artistic creation and the protection of jobs in the cultural sector;

THAT, lastly, it ask the Québec government to assess the regulation of the use of generative artificial intelligence for the creation of illustrations, images or visual works in the context of projects, organizations or institutions that receive public funding.

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

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **108** in Appendix)

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

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- the Committee on Institutions, to continue its public hearings within the framework of a general consultation on Bill 1, Québec Constitution Act, 2025;
- the Committee on Citizen Relations, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 9, An Act respecting the reinforcement of laicity in Québec;
- the Committee on Health and Social Services, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 19, An Act to, in particular, improve access to medical services and provide for the medical taking in charge of the population;
- the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 13, An Act to promote the population's safety and sense of security and to amend various provisions;
- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 3, An Act to improve the transparency, governance and democratic process of various associations in the workplace;
- the Committee on Public Finance, to undertake clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 5, An Act to accelerate the granting of the authorizations required to carry out priority national-scale projects;
- the Committee on Public Finance, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 7, An Act to reduce bureaucracy, increase state efficiency and reinforce the accountability of senior public servants.

18 February 2026

ORDERS OF THE DAY

At 11:09 a.m., at the request of Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, and by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 20, Mr. Benjamin, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3:00 p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 3:00 p.m.

Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition

Mr. Grandmont (Taschereau) moved:

THAT the National Assembly affirm its opposition to Marinvest Energy's gas pipeline and liquefied natural gas plant project.

Ms. Soucy, First Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this limited debate: 10 minutes to the mover of the motion for his reply; 45 minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 21 minutes 58 seconds to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 25 minutes 43 seconds to the Second Opposition Group; 7 minutes 19 seconds to the Third Opposition Group; and 10 minutes to the independent Members, subject to a maximum of 1 minute 30 seconds each. 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. Lastly, individual addresses shall not be limited.

A debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the question was put on this motion, and an electronic division was thereupon demanded.

At the request of Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, the division was deferred until Routine Proceedings on the next sitting day.

18 February 2026

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Ms. Champagne Jourdain, Minister of Families, moved that Bill 12, An Act to establish the provision of educational childcare by recognized persons responsible for a community educational childcare service, do now pass in principle.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried and Bill 12 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 12 be referred to the Committee on Citizen Relations for clause-by-clause consideration.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Lévesque, Deputy Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Thursday, 19 February 2026 at 9:40 a.m.

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, at 5:33 p.m., Ms. D'Amours, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 19 February 2026 at 9:40 a.m.

NATHALIE ROY

President

18 February 2026

APPENDIX

Electronic Divisions

On the motion moved by Ms. Gentilcore (Terrebonne), together with Mr. Poulin, Minister for the Economy and Small and Medium Entreprises, Ms. Rotiroti (Jeanne-Mance–Viger), Ms. Zaga Mendez (Verdun), Ms. Poulet (Laporte), Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) and Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent):

(Division No. 106)

YEAS - 102

Abou-Khalil (CAQ)	Derraji (QLP)	Kelley (QLP)	Nichols (QLP)
Allaire (CAQ)	Déry (CAQ)	Labrie (QS)	Paradis (PQ)
Arseneau (PQ)	Dionne (CAQ)	Lachance (CAQ)	Picard (CAQ)
Asselin (CAQ)	Dorismond (CAQ)	Laframboise (CAQ)	Poulet (IND)
Bachand (CAQ)	Drainville (CAQ)	Lafrenière (CAQ)	Poulin (CAQ)
Beauchemin (QLP)	Dubé (IND)	Lakhoyan Olivier (IND)	Provençal (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ) (Orford)	Dufour (IND) (Abitibi-Est)	Lamontagne (CAQ)	Reid (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ) (Prévost)	Dufour (QLP) (Mille-Îles)	Lamothe (CAQ)	Rivest (CAQ)
Bernard (CAQ)	Duranceau (CAQ)	LeBel (CAQ)	Rizqy (IND)
Bérubé (PQ)	Fontecilla (QS)	Lecours (CAQ) (Les Plaines)	Roberge (CAQ)
Biron (CAQ)	Fortin (QLP)	Lecours (CAQ) (Lotbinière-Frontenac)	Rotiroti (QLP)
Blais (CAQ)	Fréchette (CAQ)	Leduc (QS)	Rouleau (CAQ)
Blouin (CAQ)	Gagnon (CAQ)	Lemay (CAQ)	Roy (CAQ)
Bogemans (CAQ)	Garceau (QLP)	Lemieux (CAQ)	Sainte-Croix (CAQ)
Boissonneault (PQ)	Gendron (CAQ)	Lévesque (CAQ) (Chauveau)	Schmaltz (CAQ)
Boivin Roy (CAQ)	Gentilcore (PQ)	Lévesque (CAQ) (Chapleau)	Schneeberger (CAQ)
Bouzazi (QS)	Girard (CAQ) (Lac-Saint-Jean)	Maccarone (QLP)	Setlakwe (QLP)
Boulet (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ) (Groulx)	Mallette (CAQ)	Simard (CAQ)
Bussière (CAQ)	Grandmont (QS)	Marissal (IND)	Skeete (CAQ)
Cadet (QLP)	Grondin (CAQ)	Martel (CAQ)	St-Louis (CAQ)
Caron (QLP) (La Pinière)	Guillemette (CAQ)	Massé (QS)	Tanguay (QLP)
Champagne Jourdain (CAQ)	Hébert (CAQ)	McGraw (QLP)	Tardif (CAQ)
Charest (CAQ)	Jacques (CAQ)	Montigny (CAQ)	Thouin (CAQ)
Charette (CAQ)	Jeannotte (CAQ)	Morin (QLP)	Tremblay (CAQ) (Hull)
Ciccone (QLP)	Jolin-Barrette (CAQ)	Nadeau-Dubois (QS)	Zaga Mendez (QS)
Cliche-Rivard (QS)			Zanetti (QS)

18 February 2026

On the motion moved by Ms. Cadet (Bourassa-Sauvé), together with Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage), Ms. Gentilcore (Terrebonne), Mr. Dufour (Abitibi-Est), Ms. Poulet (Laporte), Mr. Marissal (Rosemont), Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent) and Ms. Lakhoyan Olivier (Chomedey):

(Division No. 107)

YEAS - 101

Abou-Khalil (CAQ)	Derraji (QLP)	Kelley (QLP)	Paradis (PQ)
Allaire (CAQ)	Déry (CAQ)	Labrie (QS)	Picard (CAQ)
Arseneau (PQ)	Dionne (CAQ)	Lachance (CAQ)	Poulet (IND)
Asselin (CAQ)	Dorismond (CAQ)	Laframboise (CAQ)	Poulin (CAQ)
Bachand (CAQ)	Drainville (CAQ)	Lafrenière (CAQ)	Provençal (CAQ)
Beauchemin (QLP)	Dubé (IND)	Lakhoyan Olivier (IND)	Reid (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ) (Orford)	Dufour (IND) (Abitibi-Est)	Lamontagne (CAQ)	Rivest (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ) (Prévost)	Dufour (QLP) (Mille-Îles)	Lamothe (CAQ)	Rizqy (IND)
Bernard (CAQ)	Duranceau (CAQ)	LeBel (CAQ)	Roberge (CAQ)
Bérubé (PQ)	Fontecilla (QS)	Lecours (CAQ) (Les Plaines)	Rotiroti (QLP)
Biron (CAQ)	Fortin (QLP)	Lecours (CAQ) (Lotbinière-Frontenac)	Rouleau (CAQ)
Blais (CAQ)	Fréchette (CAQ)	Leduc (QS)	Roy (CAQ)
Blouin (CAQ)	Gagnon (CAQ)	Lemay (CAQ)	Sainte-Croix (CAQ)
Bogemans (CAQ)	Garceau (QLP)	Lemieux (CAQ)	Schmaltz (CAQ)
Boissonneault (PQ)	Gendron (CAQ)	Lévesque (CAQ) (Chauveau)	Schneeberger (CAQ)
Boivin Roy (CAQ)	Gentilcore (PQ)	Lévesque (CAQ) (Chapleau)	Setlakwe (QLP)
Bouazzi (QS)	Girard (CAQ) (Lac-Saint-Jean)	Lévesque (CAQ) (Maccarone) (QLP)	Simard (CAQ)
Boulet (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ) (Groulx)	Mallette (CAQ)	Skeete (CAQ)
Bussière (CAQ)	Grandmont (QS)	Marissal (IND)	St-Louis (CAQ)
Cadet (QLP)	Grondin (CAQ)	Martel (CAQ)	Tanguay (QLP)
Caron (QLP) (La Pinière)	Guillemette (CAQ)	Massé (QS)	Tardif (CAQ)
Champagne Jourdain (CAQ)	Hébert (CAQ)	McGraw (QLP)	Thouin (CAQ)
Charest (CAQ)	Jacques (CAQ)	Montigny (CAQ)	Tremblay (CAQ) (Hull)
Charette (CAQ)	Jeannotte (CAQ)	Morin (QLP)	Zaga Mendez (QS)
Ciccone (QLP)	Jolin-Barrette (CAQ)	Nadeau-Dubois (QS)	Zanetti (QS)
Cliche-Rivard (QS)			

18 February 2026

On the motion moved by Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve), together with Ms. Cadet (Bourassa-Sauvé), Ms. Gentilcore (Terrebonne), Ms. Poulet (Laporte), Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) and Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent):

(Division No. 108)

YEAS - 101

Abou-Khalil (CAQ)	Derraji (QLP)	Kelley (QLP)	Paradis (PQ)
Allaire (CAQ)	Déry (CAQ)	Labrie (QS)	Picard (CAQ)
Arseneau (PQ)	Dionne (CAQ)	Lachance (CAQ)	Poulet (IND)
Asselin (CAQ)	Dorismond (CAQ)	Laframboise (CAQ)	Poulin (CAQ)
Bachand (CAQ)	Drainville (CAQ)	Lafrenière (CAQ)	Provençal (CAQ)
Beauchemin (QLP)	Dubé (IND)	Lakhoyan Olivier (IND)	Reid (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ) (Orford)	Dufour (IND) (Abitibi-Est)	Lamontagne (CAQ)	Rivest (CAQ)
Bélanger (CAQ) (Prévost)	Dufour (QLP) (Mille-Îles)	Lamothe (CAQ)	Rizqy (IND)
Bernard (CAQ)	Duranceau (CAQ)	LeBel (CAQ)	Roberge (CAQ)
Bérubé (PQ)	Fontecilla (QS)	Lecours (CAQ) (Les Plaines)	Rotiroti (QLP)
Biron (CAQ)	Fortin (QLP)	Lecours (CAQ) (Lotbinière-Frontenac)	Rouleau (CAQ)
Blais (CAQ)	Fréchette (CAQ)	Leduc (QS)	Roy (CAQ)
Blouin (CAQ)	Gagnon (CAQ)	Lemay (CAQ)	Sainte-Croix (CAQ)
Bogemans (CAQ)	Garceau (QLP)	Lemieux (CAQ)	Schmaltz (CAQ)
Boissonneault (PQ)	Gendron (CAQ)	Lévesque (CAQ) (Chauveau)	Schneeberger (CAQ)
Boivin Roy (CAQ)	Gentilcore (PQ)	Lévesque (CAQ) (Chapleau)	Setlakwe (QLP)
Bouazzi (QS)	Girard (CAQ) (Lac-Saint-Jean)	Lévesque (CAQ) (Chapleau)	Simard (CAQ)
Boulet (CAQ)	Girard (CAQ) (Groulx)	Maccarone (QLP)	Skeete (CAQ)
Bussière (CAQ)	Grandmont (QS)	Mallette (CAQ)	St-Louis (CAQ)
Cadet (QLP)	Grondin (CAQ)	Marissal (IND)	Tanguay (QLP)
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Charette (CAQ)	Jeannotte (CAQ)	Montigny (CAQ)	Zaga Mendez (QS)
Ciccone (QLP)	Jolin-Barrette (CAQ)	Morin (QLP)	Zanetti (QS)
Cliche-Rivard (QS)		Nadeau-Dubois (QS)	