



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Tuesday, 22 September 2009 — No. 53

**President of the National Assembly:
Mr. Yvon Vallières**

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 1.48 o'clock p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Mrs. Blais (Saint-Henri–Sainte-Anne) made a statement about World Alzheimer's Day.

Mr. Gendron (Abitibi-Ouest) made a statement about the Festival de musique émergente en Abitibi-Témiscamingue.

Mr. Hamad (Louis-Hébert) made a statement about the Capitales de Québec.

Mr. Bérubé (Matane) made a statement about the winner of the Festival international de la chanson de Granby.

Mrs. Gaudreault (Hull) made a statement about the International Day of Peace.

Mr. Bouchard (Vachon) made a statement about the 90th birthday anniversary of Émile "Butch" Bouchard.

22 September 2009

Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) made a statement about the Montreal subway development office.

Mrs. Maltais (Taschereau) made a statement about the victory of the Capitales de Québec.

Mr. Lehouillier (Lévis) made a statement about the 25th anniversary of TV5.

At 2.00 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 2.08 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

Presenting Papers

Mr. Béchard, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, tabled the following:

The annual report and the financial statements of La Financière agricole du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2009.

(Sessional Paper No. 603-20090922)

22 September 2009

Mrs. Weil, Minister of Justice, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Office de la protection du consommateur, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2009.

(Sessional Paper No. 604-20090922)

Mr. Hamad, Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity, tabled the following:

The 2009-2010 Action Plan of Emploi-Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 605-20090922)

Mrs. James, Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Conseil des relations interculturelles, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2009.

(Sessional Paper No. 606-20090922)

Mrs. St-Pierre, Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2009, including the annual management report of the Secrétariat à la politique linguistique, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2009;

(Sessional Paper No. 607-20090922)

The annual report of Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2009;

(Sessional Paper No. 608-20090922)

The annual management report of the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2009;

(Sessional Paper No. 609-20090922)

22 September 2009

The annual management report of the Régie du cinéma, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2009;

(Sessional Paper No. 610-20090922)

The annual management report of the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2009.

(Sessional Paper No. 611-20090922)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Whissell (Argenteuil) tabled the following:

Copies of two letters, dated 18 September 2009, he had sent to Mr. Pierre A. Charlebois and Mr. Jean Deschamps, concerning the recommendation of the jurisconsult to avoid any allegations of conflict of interest.

(Sessional Paper No. 612-20090922)

Mr. President tabled the following:

Copy of the notice of motion by Mrs. Roy, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, which will be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* of Wednesday, 23 September 2009, under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.

(Sessional Paper No. 613-20090922)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Bernier (Montmorency), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Citizen Relations, which met on 16 and 17 September 2009 for clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 7, An Act to establish an early childhood development fund. The report contains certain amendments to the bill, including one to its title.

(Sessional Paper No. 614-20090922)

22 September 2009

Mrs. Doyer (Matapédia), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, which, on 27 August and on 2 and 3 September 2009, held public hearings within the framework of special consultations with reference to the document entitled "A first list of sustainable development indicators". The Committee also held a deliberative meeting on 17 September 2009 with regard to this mandate. The report contains 4 recommendations.

(Sessional Paper No. 615-20090922)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. St-Pierre, Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, Mr. Kotto (Bourget), Mr. Deltell (Chauveau) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly congratulate the winners,
as well as all of the nominees at the 24th edition of the Prix
Gémeaux 2009.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

22 September 2009

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 84.1 (2), 84.1 (3) and 185, Mr. Deltell (Chauveau), Mr. Béchard, Minister responsible for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs and the Reform of Democratic Institutions, Mr. Cloutier (Lac-Saint-Jean) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly pay tribute to Private Jonathan Couturier, 23 years old, of the 2nd Battalion, Royal 22nd Regiment based at Valcartier, who was killed in the line of duty on 17 September 2009, in Afghanistan;

THAT it extend its sincerest condolences to his family, as well as to his friends and brothers in arms;

THAT it wish a speedy recovery to the eleven other soldiers who were injured during the same attack.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

At the invitation of Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, the Assembly observed a minute of silence.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

- the Committee on Agriculture, Energy and Natural Resources, to continue its public hearings within the framework of a general consultation on Bill 57, Forest Occupancy Act;
- the Committee on Culture and Education, to continue its public hearings within the framework of a general consultation on Bill 44, An Act to amend the General and Vocational Colleges Act with respect to governance, and on Bill 38, An Act to amend the Act respecting educational institutions at the university level and the Act respecting the Université du Québec with respect to governance;

22 September 2009

- the Committee on Institutions, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 18, An Act respecting the Compilation of Québec Laws and Regulations;
- the Committee on Health and Social Services, to continue its public hearings within the framework of a general consultation with reference to the document entitled "Toward a Stronger and Fairer Québec Pension Plan".

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Wednesday, 23 September 2009, during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, a debate will be held on the motion by Mrs. Roy, Leader of the Second Opposition Group.

This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly demand that the Government direct an independent public commission of inquiry to shed light on the allegations of corruption, embezzlement, collusion and organized crime infiltration in Québec's construction industry.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 298, Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, also informed the Assembly that the interpellation scheduled for Friday, 25 September 2009, between Mrs. Hivon (Joliette) and Mrs. Weil, Minister of Justice, on "efficient measures to fight economic crime", will be held from 8.00 o'clock a.m. to 10.00 o'clock a.m.

22 September 2009

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mr. Hamad, Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity, moved, –That Bill 55, An Act respecting the implementation of the Ninth Protocol of Amendment to the Agreement on Internal Trade, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 55 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved that Bill 55 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Labour and the Economy.

The motion was carried.

Mrs. James, Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities, moved, –That Bill 16, An Act to promote action by the Administration with respect to cultural diversity, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 16 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved that Bill 16 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Citizen Relations.

The motion was carried.

22 September 2009

Debates on Reports from Committees

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Public Administration, which, in pursuance of the *Public Administration Act*, heard: on 20 May 2009, the Chairman of the Régie des alcools, des courses et des jeux on its performance, the issuing of permits and supervision; and on 3 June 2009, the Deputy Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, the Chief Executive Officer of the Collège d'enseignement général et professionnel de Lévis-Lauzon, and the Director General of the Collège d'enseignement général et professionnel de Chicoutimi, concerning the business relations of general and vocational colleges with partners. The Committee also held deliberative meetings on 31 March 2009, on 19 and 20 May 2009, and on 2 and 3 June 2009 with reference to this mandate. The report contains 14 recommendations.

Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this limited debate. A set time of 12 minutes shall be set aside for the Second Opposition Group and 5 minutes shall be allotted to the independent Member, while the parliamentary group forming the Government and the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition shall share equally the rest of the time allotted for this debate. Within this framework, any time not used by the independent Member or by the Members of the Second Opposition Group shall be redistributed equally among the parliamentary group forming the Government and the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition. Any time not used by the parliamentary group forming the Government shall go the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition and vice versa. Lastly, individual addresses shall not be limited.

The debate arose thereon.

The debate expired and, pursuant to Standing Order 95, no question was put.

At 5.31 o'clock p.m., at the request of Mr. Gautrin, Deputy Government House Leader, Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 6.00 o'clock p.m.

22 September 2009

The proceedings resumed at 6.00 o'clock p.m.

Debates Upon Adjournment

The Assembly held three debates upon adjournment:

- the first, on a question by Mr. Aussant (Nicolet-Yamaska) to Mr. Gignac, Minister of Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade, about AbitibiBowater Inc.;
 - the second, on a question by Mr. Simard (Richelieu) to Mr. Bolduc, Minister of Health and Social Services, about hospital construction procedures;
 - the third, on a question by Mrs. Malavoy (Taillon) to Mrs. Courchesne, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, about the costs related to Master of Business Administration (MBA) degrees at McGill University.
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Mrs. Courchesne, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Wednesday, 23 September 2009, at 9.45 o'clock a.m.

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, at 6.37 o'clock p.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 23 September 2009, at 9.45 o'clock a.m.

22 September 2009

ROYAL ASSENT

On Monday, 21 September 2009, at 10.41 o'clock a.m., in the Office of the Lieutenant-Governor, in the presence of Mr. Gagnon, Director of the Secretariat of the Assembly and Delegate of the Secretary General, the Honourable Pierre Duchesne, Lieutenant-Governor of Québec, was pleased to assent to the following Bill:

- 40 An Act to amend the Balanced Budget Act and various legislative provisions concerning the implementation of the accounting reform

YVON VALLIÈRES

President