



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Thursday, 1 April 2010 — No. 102

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

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 9.45 o'clock a.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière) made a statement about Political Book Day.

Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) made a statement about the Rio Tinto Alcan company in Jonquière.

Mrs. Blais (Saint-Henri–Sainte-Anne) made a statement about Invisible Work Day, which will be observed on 6 April 2010.

Mr. Pelletier (Saint-Hyacinthe) made a statement about the 175th anniversary of Saint-Damase.

Mr. Khadir (Mercier) made a statement against the fee-for-services budget.

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Mrs. Champagne (Champlain) made a statement about the Poudrier method.

Mrs. Thériault (Anjou) made a statement about Éduc'alcool's 20 years.

Mr. Kotto (Bourget) made a statement about Mr. René Malo.

Mr. Reid (Orford) made a statement about Mr. Pat Burns.

At 9.56 o'clock a.m., Mr. Chagnon, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 10.11 o'clock a.m.

Moment of reflection

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Presenting Papers

Mr. Dupuis, Minister of Public Security, tabled the following:

The activities report from the Commissariat des incendies de la Ville de Québec for the year 2009.

(Sessional Paper No. 1165-20100401)

Mrs. Beauchamp, Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks, tabled the following:

The annual report from the Comité consultatif de l'environnement Kativik for the fiscal year ended on 31 March 2009.

(Sessional Paper No. 1166-20100401)

Mrs. Ménard, Minister of Tourism, tabled the following:

The annual report from the Régie des installations olympiques for the fiscal year ended on 31 October 2009.

(Sessional Paper No. 1167-20100401)

Mr. Dupuis, Government House Leader, tabled the following:

The reply from the Government to the petitions tabled on 11 February 2010 by the Member for Chambly, on 18 February 2010 by the Members for Verchères and Bourget, on 9 March 2010 by the Member for René-Lévesque, on 10 March 2010 by the Member for Duplessis, on 11 March 2010 by the Member for Berthier, on 16 March 2010 by the Member for Lac-Saint-Jean, and on 17 March 2010 by the Member for Roberval regarding a request for a public inquiry into the construction industry.

(Sessional Paper No. 1168-20100401)

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The reply from the Government to the petition tabled on 11 February 2010 by the Member for Mercier regarding the construction projects at the Centre universitaire de santé McGill and the Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal.

(Sessional Paper No. 1169-20100401)

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Ferland (Ungava) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting a request for a public inquiry into the construction industry, and signed by 264 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1170-20100401)

Mr. Chevarie (Îles-de-la-Madeleine) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the Financial Assistance Domestic Help Services Program, and signed by 34 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1171-20100401)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, the abstracts of two petitions respecting the Financial Assistance Domestic Help Services Program were tabled:

- the first, being the abstract of a petition signed by 91 citizens of the Electoral Division of René-Lévesque, by Mr. Dufour (René-Lévesque);
(Sessional Paper No. 1172-20100401)
 - the second, being the abstract of a petition signed by 306 citizens of Québec, by Mr. Pelletier (Rimouski).
(Sessional Paper No. 1173-20100402)
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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the transfer out of the region of jobs at Rio Tinto Alcan in the Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean, and signed by 912 citizens of the Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean.

(Sessional Paper No. 1174-20100401)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mr. Pelletier (Saint-Hyacinthe) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the Farm Income Stabilisation Insurance program, and signed by 47 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1175-20100401)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mr. Khadir (Mercier) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the construction projects at the Centre universitaire de santé McGill and the Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal, and signed by 3,247 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1176-20100401)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

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

At the request of Mr. President, Mr. Charest, Premier, withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary on two occasions.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mr. Charest, Premier, tabled the following:

Copy of a table showing total expenditures for health and sources of financing from 2009-2010 to 2013-2014;

(Sessional Paper No. 1177-20100401)

Copy of a table showing the tax gains for a person living alone, taking into consideration the measures of the Government of Québec and those of the Federal Government.

(Sessional Paper No. 1178-20100401)

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 84.1 and 185, Mrs. St-Pierre, Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, Mr. Drainville (Marie-Victorin), Mr. Deltell, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, Mr. Picard (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière), and Mr. Caire (La Peltre) jointly moved:

THAT the National Assembly take note of the fifteenth anniversary of the Réseau de l'information (RDI), the first French-language continuous news network in North America.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate concluded, the motion was carried.

Mrs. Beaudoin (Rosemont) moved a motion concerning health measures for women in developing countries; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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

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THAT the Committee on Public Finance, within the framework of its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 87, An Act respecting the legal publicity of enterprises, hold special consultations on Tuesday, 13 April 2010, from 3.00 o'clock to 6.00 o'clock p.m., and that for this purpose it hear the following bodies:

- Barreau du Québec
- Ordre des comptables agréés du Québec
- Canadian Federation of Independent Business;

THAT the presentation by each body not exceed 15 minutes and the exchange with the members of the committee not exceed 45 minutes, to be shared equally between the parliamentary group forming the Government and the Members sitting in opposition ;

THAT the Minister of Revenue be a member of the said committee during its execution of this order.

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. Dupuis, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources, within the framework of its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 84, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Régie de l'énergie as regards the reliability of electric power transmission, hold special consultations, on 13 April 2010, from 7.30 o'clock to 9.40 o'clock p.m., and that for this purpose it hear the following bodies:

- Hydro-Québec
- Énergie Brookfield;

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THAT a period of 15 minutes be set aside for preliminary remarks, to be shared equally between the parliamentary group forming the Government and the Members sitting in opposition;

THAT the presentation by Hydro-Québec not exceed 40 minutes and the exchange with the members of the committee not exceed 30 minutes, to be shared equally between the parliamentary group forming the Government and the Members sitting in opposition;

THAT the presentation by Énergie Brookfield not exceed 15 minutes and the exchange with the members of the committee not exceed 15 minutes, to be shared equally between the parliamentary group forming the Government and the Members sitting in opposition;

THAT a period of 15 minutes be set aside for closing remarks, to be shared equally between the parliamentary group forming the Government and the Members sitting in opposition;

THAT the Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife be a member of the said committee during its execution of this order.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to begin public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 88, An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act as regards residual materials management and to amend the Regulation respecting compensation for municipal services provided to recover and reclaim residual materials.

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Mr. Chagnon, Second Vice-President, gave the following notices:

- the Committee on Public Administration will hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of preparing its hearing of Investissement Québec; then a public meeting to hear the chief executive officer of Investissement Québec regarding the Auditor General's special report on the Regional Economic Intervention Fund; and, finally, a deliberative meeting to determine its observations, conclusions, and, if necessary, recommendations as a result of this hearing;
- the Special Committee on the Right to Die with Dignity will hold a deliberative meeting.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

At the request of Mr. Chagnon, Second Vice-President, Mr. Bédard, Official Opposition House Leader, withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

Mr. Chagnon, Second Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Friday, 16 April 2010, the Member for Verchères would question the Minister of Transport during an interpellation on "the letting of contracts by the Ministère des Transports du Québec."

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Debate on the Budget Speech

The Assembly entered upon the debate on the motion by Mr. Bachand, Minister of Finance, —That this Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government.

After a meeting with the House leaders, Mr. Chagnon, Second Vice-President, informed the Assembly that the allocation of speaking time for the 13 hours and 30 minutes provided for in the first part of this debate had been determined as follows: a period of four hours 28 minutes and 39 seconds is set aside for the group forming the Government, excluding the Budget Speech; a period of five hours 44 minutes and 30 seconds is set aside for the group forming the Official Opposition, excluding the comments made by the representative of this group on 30 March 2010; 47 minutes and 59 seconds are allotted to the Members from the Second Opposition Group, excluding the comments by the representative of this group on 30 March 2010; 20 minutes are allotted to the Member for Mercier; 12 minutes and nine seconds are allotted to each of the other independent Members. Within this framework any time not used by the independent Members or by the Members from the Second Opposition Group shall be redistributed equally between the parliamentary group forming the Government and the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; and any time not used by the parliamentary group forming the Government will be transferred, or may be transferred, to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition, and vice versa. Finally, individual addresses will not be limited.

A debate arose on the motion by Mr. Bachand, Minister of Finance.

At the end of his speech Mr. Marceau (Rousseau) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly censure the Liberal government severely for its 2010-2011 budget, which considerably increases the tax burden on Quebeckers with no guarantee of better control over government expenditures.

The debate continued on the motion by Mr. Bachand, Minister of Finance, and on the motion stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau).

At the end of his speech Mr. Khadir (Mercier) moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly censure the Government severely for having presented a budget whose consequence will be to durably impoverish the great majority of the population of Québec and to outrageously favour the well-to-do minority and private interests, who exercise an antidemocratic influence on public decision-makers.

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The debate continued on the motion by Mr. Bachand, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier).

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 20, the proceedings continued beyond 1.00 o'clock p.m.

At 1.11 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 3.04 o'clock p.m.

Debate on the Budget Speech

The debate continued on the motion by Mr. Bachand, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau) and Mr. Khadir (Mercier).

At the end of her speech Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Official Opposition, moved the following motion stating a grievance:

THAT the National Assembly condemn the Liberal government for its 2010-2011 budget, which is not true to the Premier's electoral promises.

The debate continued on the motion by Mr. Bachand, Minister of Finance, and on the motions stating a grievance moved by Mr. Marceau (Rousseau), Mr. Khadir (Mercier), and Mrs. Marois, Leader of the Official Opposition.

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At 5.55 o'clock p.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Tuesday, 13 April 2010, at 1.45 o'clock p.m.

ROYAL ASSENT

On Thursday, 1 April 2010, at 3.09 o'clock p.m., in the Office of the Lieutenant-Governor, in the presence of Mrs. Normandeau, Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife, the Delegate of the Premier, of Mr. Gagnon, Director of the Secretariat of the Assembly and Delegate of the Secretary General, Paul-Arthur Gendreau, Administrator of Québec, was pleased to assent to the following Bills:

- 57 Sustainable Forest Development Act (*modified title*)
- 77 An Act to amend the Cadastre Act and the Civil Code

YVON VALLIÈRES

President