



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Tuesday, 27 May 1997 — No. 106

**President of the National Assembly:
Mr. Jean-Pierre Charbonneau**

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 10.02 o'clock a.m.

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Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Presenting Papers

Mr. Ménard, Minister of State for Greater Montréal, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Agence métropolitaine de transport for the fiscal year ended 31 December 1996.

(Sessional Paper No. 891-970527)

Mr. Cliche, Minister of the Environment and Wildlife, tabled the following:

The annual report of the James Bay Environmental Advisory Committee for the fiscal year

ended 31 March 1996.

(Sessional Paper No. 892-970527)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Garon (Lévis) tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Culture, which held special consultations on 6 April 1995, issued a consultation paper in June 1996, held a general consultation on 1, 8, 9, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 30 and 31 October 1996 and held deliberative meetings on 2 February, 30 March, 17 May and 21 November 1995, on 21 and 22 February, 14 and 29 May, 18 and 19 June, 12 and 20 November 1996, as well as on 22 and 23 January, 11, 12, 18, 19 and 20 February, 5 March, 9 April, 6, 7, 14, 21 and 22 May 1997 within the framework of its order of initiative on the issues regarding the information highway. The report contains recommendations.

(Sessional Paper No. 893-970527)

Mr. Lachance (Bellechasse) tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, which met on 22 May 1997 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

105 An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act – Reported without amendment.

(Sessional Paper No. 894-970527)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

Deferred Divisions

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The Assembly took the division, which had been deferred at the sitting of 22 May 1997, on the want of confidence motion moved by Mr. Chagnon (Westmount–Saint-Louis). This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Parti Québécois Government for devoting more time and energy to efforts to save the Bloc Québécois than to efforts to solve the real problems of Quebeckers, particularly for abandoning some 800,000 welfare recipients and some 400,000 unemployed and:

- for having offloaded its deficit on the school boards, the universities, the hospitals, the municipalities and, ultimately, on all citizens, on whom increases in taxes and fees of all kinds are being imposed;
- for having weakened the health system by closing hospitals, reducing the number of beds and cutting personnel, all of which add to the waiting lists for surgery;
- for having destabilized the education system through its bungling of the establishment of both linguistic school boards and compulsory full-time kindergarten, while forcing school boards to raise school taxes by over 100 million dollars this year and denying parents freedom of choice with regard to day care centres;
- for having destabilized the municipal sector by announcing, without consultation and in an incoherent fashion, reductions in the number of regional municipalities and by announcing a transfer of responsibilities to the municipalities in the amount of 500 million dollars without consultation and without granting them the necessary resources to do so, thus forcing them to raise municipal taxes by an average of 17 to 18 cents per \$100, or \$150 to \$200 per household in Québec;
- for having abandoned the agricultural sector, particularly producers of pork and milk, through its unfulfilled promises, thus instilling an enormous sense of insecurity in producers;
- for having cut back by more than 253 million dollars the budget for senior citizens and by close to 38 million dollars that of the poorest members of society, by forcing them to pay more for their prescription drugs;

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- for having discredited the police and the justice systems, by destroying evidence of the illegal cultivation of marijuana in Oka in 1995; by destabilizing the Sûreté du Québec, twice leaving it without a leader, which resulted in the appointment of three different directors over a three-year span; and by its destabilization of the judicial system, denounced by the President of the Bar Association and by one of the most respected lawyers in Québec, Mr. Guy Pépin, who has resigned from the Conseil de la magistrature du Québec in order to have complete freedom to criticize the attitude of the Minister of Justice;

- for having divided Québec society as a whole, among other things, by its stubborn refusal to recognize the results of the referendum it had itself held on 30 October 1995.

The motion was negated on the following vote:

(Division No. 138 in Appendix)

Yeas: **40** Nays: **61** Abstentions: **0**

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Bouchard, Prime Minister, moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark the 150th anniversary of Jonquière as the event that shall serve to remind us, throughout 1997, of the history, the achievements and the pride of the people of Jonquière, a dynamic community that is resolutely looking to the future.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

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Mrs. Marois, Minister of Education and Minister responsible for Family Policy, moved:

THAT the National Assembly, within the framework of Day Care Week, mark the educational function of Québec's early childhood care services and that it recognize the key role played by these services in allowing parents to conciliate family life with work.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, the motion was carried.

Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the Committee on Education hold a general consultation and public hearings on the draft bill entitled "An Act to amend the Education Act" beginning on 26 August 1997;

THAT all briefs be submitted to the secrétariat des commissions by 12 August 1997;

The Minister of Education shall be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, the motion was carried.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 170 to 173, Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the Committee on Institutions hold special consultations and public hearings on Bill 138, An Act to amend the Act respecting lotteries, publicity contests and amusement machines, on Tuesday, 3 June 1997, and, for this purpose, hear the following groups and persons according to the schedule indicated

hereafter:

- from 11.00 o'clock a.m. to 11.30 o'clock a.m., opening statements;
- from 11.30 o'clock a.m. to 12.30 o'clock p.m., the Fédération québécoise des centres communautaires de loisirs;
- from 12.30 o'clock p.m. to 1.00 o'clock p.m., the Table de concertation des licences de bingo (Gatineau);
- from 3.00 o'clock p.m. to 4.00 o'clock p.m., the Association des radiodiffuseurs communautaires du Québec;
- from 4.00 o'clock p.m. to 5.00 o'clock p.m., the Regroupement des organismes bénéficiaires de bingo (ROBIN);
- from 5.00 o'clock p.m. to 6.00 o'clock p.m., the Association des locateurs de salles;
- from 8.00 o'clock p.m. to 9.00 o'clock p.m., Loto-Québec;
- from 9.00 o'clock p.m. to 10.00 o'clock p.m., the archbishopric of Montreal;
- from 10.00 o'clock p.m. to 11.00 o'clock p.m., the Fédération des clubs de l'âge d'or;
- from 11.00 o'clock p.m. to 11.30 o'clock p.m., the Rencontre châteaugoïse;
- from 11.30 o'clock p.m. to 12.00 o'clock a.m., closing statements.

THAT a period of thirty minutes shall be allotted for the opening statements, which time shall be shared equally among the members of the parliamentary group forming the Government and the Members sitting in Opposition;

THAT a period of thirty minutes shall be allotted for the closing statements, which time shall be shared equally among the members of the parliamentary group forming the Government and the Members sitting in Opposition;

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The presentation by each group granted a sixty-minute hearing shall not last more than twenty minutes and its exchange with the members of the Committee shall not last more than forty minutes, which time shall be shared equally among the members of the parliamentary group forming the Government and the Members sitting in Opposition;

The presentation by each group granted a thirty-minute hearing shall not last more than ten minutes and its exchange with the members of the Committee shall not last more than twenty minutes, which time shall be shared equally among the members of the parliamentary group forming the Government and the Members sitting in Opposition;

The Minister of Public Security shall be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, the motion was carried.

Pursuant to Standing Order 129, Mr. Farrah, Chief Opposition Whip, moved:

THAT Mrs. Diane Leblanc, the Member for Beauce-Sud, replace Mr. Robert LeSage, the Member for Hull, as member of the Standing Committee on Planning and the Public Domain;

THAT Mr. Réjean Lafrenière, the Member for Gatineau, replace Mr. Jean-Claude Gobé, the Member for LaFontaine, as member of the Standing Committee on Transportation and the Environment;

THAT Mr. Robert LeSage, the Member for Hull, replace Mr. Russell Copeman, the Member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, as member of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs.

The motion was carried.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- X the Committee on Education, to continue its special consultations on Bill 109, An Act to amend the Education Act, the Act respecting school elections and other legislative provisions;
- X the Committee on Culture, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 40, An Act to amend the Charter of the French language;
- X the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 79, An Act to establish the Commission des lésions professionnelles and amending various legislative provisions, and to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 103, An Act to amend the Act to foster the development of manpower training and other legislative provisions;
- X the Committee on Institutions, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 125, An Act to amend various legislation in order to prevent crime and ensure public security.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mr. Ménard, Minister of State for Greater Montréal, moved, —That Bill 92, An Act respecting

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the Greater Montréal Development Commission, do now pass in principle.

And debate arising;

On motion by Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, the debate was adjourned.

Mr. Ménard, Minister of State for Greater Montréal, moved, —That Bill 148, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Agence métropolitaine de transport, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 148 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, Bill 148 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment.

At 12.51 o'clock p.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, having left the Chair, the proceedings were suspended until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 3.01 o'clock p.m.

Passage in Principle

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Resuming the debate on the motion by Mr. Ménard, Minister of State for Greater Montréal,
—That Bill 92, An Act respecting the Greater Montréal Development Commission, do now
pass in principle;

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 21, the proceedings continued beyond
6.00 o'clock p.m.

At 6.13 o'clock p.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, having left the Chair, the proceedings were
suspended until 8.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 8.06 o'clock p.m.

Passage in Principle

And debate continuing on the motion by Mr. Ménard, Minister of State for Greater Montréal,
—That Bill 92, An Act respecting the Greater Montréal Development Commission, do now
pass in principle;

On motion by Mrs. Caron, Deputy Government House Leader, the debate was adjourned.

Mrs. Marois, Minister of Education and Minister responsible for Family Policy, moved,

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—That Bill 145, An Act respecting the Ministère de la Famille et de l'Enfance and amending the Act respecting child day care, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the question was put on this motion; a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

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

Mrs. Marois, Minister of Education and Minister responsible for Family Policy, informed the Assembly that Her Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor recommended to its consideration Bill 144, An Act respecting family benefits, and then moved —That this Bill do now pass in principle.

And debate arising;

At 11.59 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 29 May 1997, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU

President

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APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the want of confidence motion moved by Mr. Chagnon (Westmount–Saint-Louis) at the sitting of Thursday, 22 May 1997:

(Division No. 138)

YEAS - 40

Beaudet	Cusano	Kelley	Mulcair
Bélanger	Delisle	Lafrenière	Ouimet
<i>(Mégantic-Compton)</i>	Dumont	Laporte	Parent
Benoit	Farrah	Leblanc	Poulin
Bergman	Fournier	Lefebvre	Sirros
Bordeleau	Frulla	LeSage	Vaive
Bourbeau	Gagnon-Tremblay	Loiselle	Vallières
Chagnon	Gautrin	Maciocia	Williams
Cherry	Gauvin	MacMillan	
Ciaccia	Houda-Pepin	Marsan	
Copeman	Johnson	Middlemiss	

NAYS - 61

Barbeau	Boulerice	Garon	Laurin
Baril	Campeau	Gaulin	Leduc
<i>(Arthabaska)</i>	Caron	Gendron	Léonard
Beaudoin	Carrier-Perreault	Harel	Létourneau
Beaumier	Charest	Jolivet	Malavoy
Bégin	Chevrette	Julien	Marois
Bélanger	Cliche	Jutras	Ménard
<i>(Anjou)</i>	Côté	Kieffer	Morin
Bertrand	Désilets	Lachance	<i>(Dubuc)</i>
<i>(Portneuf)</i>	Deslières	Landry	Morin
Blais	Dion	<i>(Bonaventure)</i>	<i>(Nicolet-Yamaska)</i>
Boisclair	Dionne-Marsolais	Landry	Papineau
Bouchard	Facal	<i>(Verchères)</i>	Paquin
Boucher	Gagnon	Laprise	Paré

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Payne
Pelletier
Perreault
Rioux

Rivard
Robert
Rochon
Saint-André

Signori
Simard
(Richelieu)
Trudel

Vermette

ABSTENTIONS - 0