



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Tuesday, 18 November 1997 — No. 134

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

QUÉBEC

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Report Stage

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 158, An Act to repeal certain Acts permitting the constitution of legal persons in the agricultural sector and to amend various legislative provisions.

After debate thereon, the report was concurred in on division.

Passage in Principle

Resuming the debate on the motion by Mr. Brassard, Minister of Transport, —That Bill 159, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère des Transports in order to establish the rolling stock management fund, do now pass in principle;

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

At 11.58 o'clock a.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, having left the Chair, the proceedings were suspended until 2.00 o'clock p.m.
The proceedings resumed at 2.03 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Introduction of Bills

Mr. President communicated to the Assembly and then laid upon the Table the report from the Law Clerk on the following Private Bill:

261 An Act respecting Ville de Shawinigan X This Bill may be introduced in the Assembly and it may receive final passage before the twenty-first day of December 1997, except as Standing Order 22 may otherwise provide.
(Sessional Paper No. 1256-971118)

Mr. Beaumier (Champlain) then moved that leave be granted to introduce Private Bill 261, An Act respecting Ville de Shawinigan.

This motion was carried.

On motion by Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader, Private Bill 261 was referred for consultations and clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, of which the Minister of Municipal Affairs shall be a member during its deliberations in respect of the said Bill.

Presenting Papers

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Mrs. Marois, Minister of Education, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Commission consultative de l'enseignement privé for the fiscal year ended 3 July 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1257-971118)

The annual report of the Commission d'évaluation de l'enseignement collégial for the fiscal year ended 30 June 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1258-971118)

The annual report of the Conseil supérieur de l'éducation for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1259-971118)

The annual report of the Conseil supérieur de l'éducation on the state and needs of education for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1260-971118)

The financial statements, including the statements of salaries, the performance reports and the reports on development prospects, of Laval University (in two volumes) for the fiscal year ended 31 May 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1261-971118)

Mr. Rochon, Minister of Health and Social Services, tabled the following:

The activities report of the Conseil médical du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1262-971118)

An addition to the activities report of the Mauricie-Bois-Francs Regional Health and Social Services Board for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1263-971118)

The annual reports, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1997, with regard to the implementation of the complaints examination procedure of the Lanaudière and Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean Regional Health and Social Services Boards.

(Sessional Paper No. 1264-971118)

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The annual report, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1997, of the Lanaudière Regional Health and Social Services Board.

(Sessional Paper No. 1265-971118)

Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT, pursuant to section 392 of the *Act respecting health services and social services*, the 1996-97 annual report of the Lanaudière Regional Health and Social Services Board be referred to the Committee on Social Affairs for consideration;

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

This motion was carried.

Mr. Bertrand, Minister for Industry and Trade, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Société du parc industriel et portuaire de Bécancour for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1266-971118)

Mr. President tabled the following:

Pursuant to Standing Order 97.1, copy of the notice of motion, by Mr. Williams (Nelligan), to be placed on the Order Paper and Notices of Wednesday, 19 November 1997, under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.

(Sessional Paper No. 1267-971118)

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Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Baril (Arthabaska) tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on the Budget and Administration, now designated as the Committee on Public Finance, which, on 5 March 1997, heard the Deputy Minister of Revenue, pursuant to section 8 of the *Act respecting the accountability of deputy ministers and chief executive officers of public bodies*.

(Sessional Paper No. 1268-971118)

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Brien (Rousseau) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the Saint-Esprit pig slaughterhouse and signed by 147 citizens from the riding of Rousseau.

(Sessional Paper No. 1269-971118)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mrs. Papineau (Prévost) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the social welfare reform and signed by 165 citizens from the riding of Labelle.

(Sessional Paper No. 1270-971118)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mrs. Leblanc (Beauce-Sud) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the reform of the *Education Act* and signed by 594

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citizens from the riding of Beauce-Sud.

(Sessional Paper No. 1271-971118)

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 63 and 64, Mr. Gobé (LaFontaine) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the attainment of the zero deficit objective and signed by 12,135 citizens of Rivière-des-Prairies and Montréal.

(Sessional Paper No. 1272-971118)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT, pursuant to section 21.3 of the *Hydro-Québec Act*, as amended by section 122 of the *Act respecting the Régie de l'énergie*, the Committee on Labour and the Economy examine the 1998-2002 strategic plan of Hydro-Québec, on 20 January 1998 from 9.00 o'clock a.m. to 12 o'clock p.m. and from 2.00 o'clock p.m. to 6.00 o'clock p.m., on 21 January 1998 from 2.00 o'clock p.m. to 6.00 o'clock p.m., and on 22 January 1998 from 9.00 o'clock a.m. to 11.15 o'clock a.m. and from 2.00 o'clock p.m. to 4.45 o'clock p.m.;

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

This motion was carried.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- X the Committee on Public Finance, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 165, An Act to amend the Taxation Act, the Act respecting the Ministère du Revenu, the Act to facilitate the payment of support and the Act respecting the Québec Pension Plan;

- X the Committee on Culture, to continue its special consultations on the report from the committee on the establishment of a very large library entitled "Une grande bibliothèque pour le Québec" (A large library for Québec).

Mr. President gave the following notices with respect to the Committee on Public Administration, which shall meet:

- X to examine the financial commitments of the Ministère des Ressources naturelles contained in the lists for the months of January 1995 to March 1997;

- X to hear the secretary of the Conseil du Trésor regarding internal auditing in the Québec Government, pursuant to the *Act respecting the accountability of deputy ministers and chief executive officers of public bodies*;

- X to hear the Deputy Minister of Revenue on the measures taken to ensure confidentiality of information at the Ministère du Revenu.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. President informed the Assembly that on Wednesday, 19 November 1997, during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, a debate will be held on the motion by Mr. Williams (Nelligan). This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly demand that the Parti Québécois Government

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withdraw from Bill 161, An Act to again amend the Taxation Act, the Act respecting the Québec sales tax and other legislative provisions, the sections that impose an increase in income and other taxes on Québec taxpayers.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mr. Boisclair, Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration, moved, —That Bill 163, An Act to amend the Public Curator Act and other legislative provisions relating to property under the provisional administration of the Public Curator, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried on division and Bill 163 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mr. Brassard, Deputy Government House Leader, Bill 163 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Institutions.

Resuming the debate on the motion by Mr. Brassard, Minister of Transport, —That Bill 159, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère des Transports in order to establish the rolling stock management fund, do now pass in principle;

The debate being concluded, the question was put on this motion; a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

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

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By leave of the Assembly, Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 6.00 o'clock p.m.

Debates Upon Adjournment

The Assembly held two debates upon adjournment:

- the first on a question by Mr. Mulcair (Chomedey) to Mr. Bélanger, Minister of Public Security, on behalf of Mr. Boisclair, Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration, about the follow-up regarding the inquiry on the allegations of confidential information circulating between the Government and its agencies;
- the second on a question by Mr. Williams (Nelligan) to Mrs. Dionne-Marsolais, Minister for Revenue, about the confidential information circulating inside the Ministère du Revenu.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mrs. Dionne-Marsolais, Minister for Revenue, tabled the following:

A copy of the "Declaration of discretion, commitment of confidentiality" that the employees at the Ministère du Revenu are required to sign.

(Sessional Paper No. 1273-971118)

At 6.30 o'clock p.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 19 November 1997, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

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JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU

President