



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Thursday, 2 April 1998 — No. 164

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

QUÉBEC

1903

The Assembly was called to order at 10.03 o'clock a.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Debate on the Budget Speech

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

At the end of his speech, Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte) moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Parti Québécois Government for its 1998-99 budget, which contains no measures to improve health and education services, which contains no real prospect for employment improvement, more specifically with regard to our youth, whose unemployment level has reached close to 20 %, and which does not take on the impoverishment of Quebecers, owing to the continued political uncertainty linked to the Parti Québécois= separatist option.

Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, interrupted the debate to inform the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for the thirteen hours and thirty minutes that are provided for the first part of this debate:

The group forming the Government may speak for up to six hours and thirty minutes, including the Budget Speech.

The Official Opposition may also speak for up to six hours and thirty minutes, including the speech previously delivered by the Finance critic of the Official Opposition and the comments he made last Tuesday immediately after the Budget Speech of the Minister of Finance.

The independent Members may each speak for up to ten minutes, and any time not used shall be redistributed equally amongst the two parliamentary groups.

Members of the Government and of the Official Opposition may each speak for up to twenty minutes, provided that the Prime Minister or his representative and the Leader of the Official Opposition or his representative may each speak for up to sixty minutes.

And debate continuing on the motion by Mr. Landry, Minister of Finance, and on the want of confidence motion moved by Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte);

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 20, the proceedings continued beyond 12.00 o'clock p.m.

At 12.12 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, having left the Chair, the proceedings were suspended until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 2.02 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Ministers

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Mr. Chevrette, Minister of State for Natural Resources, made a statement about the Québec Government=s orientation with regard to Native peoples.

Introduction of Bills

Mr. Rochon, Minister of Health and Social Services, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

417 An Act to extend the effect of certain provisions of the Act respecting the practice of midwifery within the framework of pilot projects.

The motion was carried.

Presenting Papers

Mr. Chevrette, Minister of State for Natural Resources, tabled the following:

A document concerning the Québec Government=s orientation with regard to Native peoples.
(Sessional Paper No. 1542-980402)

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

The annual report of the Régie des installations olympiques for the fiscal year ended 31 October 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1543-980402)

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

A report on the practice of midwifery, with ministerial recommendations.

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(Sessional Paper No. 1544-980402)

The final report by the Conseil d'évaluation des projets-pilotes and its recommendations on the practice of midwifery within the framework of pilot projects.

(Sessional Paper No. 1545-980402)

Mr. Ménard, Minister of Justice, tabled the following:

The report of the Office des professions du Québec on the professional organization of midwives in Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1546-980402)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Landry (Bonaventure) tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Institutions, which, on 25 March 1998, heard the Public Protector within the framework of the examination of his 1996-97 annual report, pursuant to Standing Order 294.1.

(Sessional Paper No. 1547-980402)

Mr. Vallières (Richmond) tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, which, on 25 March 1998, heard the head officers of the Commission de protection du territoire agricole du Québec (CPTAQ) within the framework of an order of surveillance of this agency, pursuant to Standing Order 294.

(Sessional Paper No. 1548-980402)

Oral Questions and Answers

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The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. Boulerice, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

- X the Committee on Education, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 401, An Act to amend the Consumer Protection Act with respect to itinerant merchants;
- X the Committee on Institutions, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on the report by Mr. Pierre-F. Côté, Q.C., on the effects of the Supreme Court decision with respect to the Libman case and on amendments to electoral legislation.

Mr. President gave the following notice:

- X the Committee on Culture shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of continuing its examination of the draft report on the five-year report from the Commission d'accès à l'information.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

2 April 1998

Debate on the Budget Speech

The Assembly continued the debate on the motion by Mr. Landry, Minister of Finance, —That the Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government, and on the want of confidence motion moved by Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte).

At the end of his speech, Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Parti Québécois Government for its interventionist economic orientation and its refusal to take on the main obstacle to economic growth brought on by Quebecers= tax burden, which is the highest in North America.

And debate continuing on the motion by the Minister of Finance and on the want of confidence motions moved by Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte) and Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup);

At the end of his speech, Mr. Gauthrin (Verdun) moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Parti Québécois Government for its lack of transparency with regard to the effect of the Government accounting reform modifications on the financial framework.

And debate continuing on the motion by the Minister of Finance and on the want of confidence motions moved by Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte), Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) and Mr. Gauthrin (Verdun);

At 6.00 o'clock p.m., the debate on these motions was adjourned.

Debates Upon Adjournment

The Assembly held a debate upon adjournment between Mr. Gauthrin (Verdun) and Mr. Rochon, Minister of Health and Social Services, on behalf of Mrs. Marois, Minister of Education, about nursing education.

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

A facsimile, dated 20 March 1998, he had received from Mrs. Manon Corbeil, executive secretary of the Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec, concerning the nursing training programmes in the Canadian provinces.

(Sessional Paper No. 1549-980402)

A copy of a letter, dated 4 March 1998, sent to Mrs. Pauline Marois, Minister of Education, from Mr. Bernard Shapiro, president of the Conférence des recteurs et des principaux des universités du Québec (CREPUQ), concerning nursing university training.

(Sessional Paper No. 1550-980402)

A copy of a letter, dated 2 March 1998, sent to Mrs. Pauline Marois, Minister of Education, from Mrs. Suzanne Kérouac, president of the Canadian Association of University Schools of Nursing, Québec Region, concerning the admission to the bachelor=s programme in nursing.

(Sessional Paper No. 1551-980402)

At 6.14 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Tuesday, 7 April 1998, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU

President