



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Thursday, 14 May 1998 — No. 179

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

QUÉBEC

2017

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Debates on Reports from Committees

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Culture, which, on 7, 8, 16, 22, 23, 28, 30 October and 6 November 1997, held a general consultation and public hearings on the five-year report of the Commission d'accès à l'information on the implementation of the *Act respecting Access to documents held by public bodies and the Protection of personal information* and of the *Act respecting the protection of personal information in the private sector*. This report contains recommendations.

Before the debate began and following a meeting with the House leaders, Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, announced the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this limited debate: five minutes shall be set aside for each of the independent Members; the two parliamentary groups shall share equally the rest of the period allotted for this debate; within this framework, any time not used by a parliamentary group or by the independent Members may be redistributed, and individual speeches will not otherwise be limited.

And debate arising;

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

At 11.08 o'clock a.m., by leave of the Assembly, Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

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

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Introduction of Bills

Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader, on behalf of Mr. Landry, Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

442 An Act respecting the combination of certain state enterprises.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Chevrette, Minister responsible for Electoral and Parliamentary Reform, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

450 An Act to amend the Election Act, the Referendum Act and other legislative provisions.

The motion was carried.

14 May 1998

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

444 Tobacco Act.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Perreault, Minister of State for Greater Montréal, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

434 An Act respecting Société Innovatech du Grand Montréal.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Perreault, Minister of State for Greater Montréal, on behalf of Mr. Bertrand, Minister for Industry and Trade, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bills:

435 An Act respecting Société Innovatech Régions ressources.

The motion was carried.

436 An Act respecting Société Innovatech Québec et Chaudière-Appalaches.

The motion was carried.

437 An Act respecting Société Innovatech du Sud du Québec.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Léonard, Minister for Administration and the Public Service, Chairman of the Conseil du Trésor, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

441 An Act respecting the Institut de la statistique du Québec.

14 May 1998

The motion was carried.

Mr. Brassard, Minister of Transport, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

430 An Act respecting owners and operators of heavy vehicles.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Trudel, Minister of Municipal Affairs, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

440 An Act to amend the Act respecting municipal taxation.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Bélanger, Minister of Public Security, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bills:

419 An Act to amend the Act to promote the parole of inmates.

The motion was carried.

420 An Act to amend the Act respecting correctional services and other legislative provisions.

The motion was carried.

14 May 1998

Mr. Rioux, Minister of Labour, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bills:

445 An Act to amend various legislative provisions relating to building and the construction industry.

The motion was carried.

446 An Act to amend the Labour Code.

The motion was carried.

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

269 An Act respecting Municipalité régionale de comté du Bas-Richelieu X This Bill may be introduced in the Assembly and it may receive final passage before the twenty-third day of June 1998.

(Sessional Paper No. 1627-980514)

Mr. Deslières (Salaberry-Soulanges) then moved that leave be granted to introduce Private Bill 269, An Act respecting Municipalité régionale de comté du Bas-Richelieu.

This motion was carried.

On motion by Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader, Private Bill 269 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

14 May 1998

Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, tabled the following:

Pursuant to section 45 of the *Auditor General Act*, the Auditor General's special report to the National Assembly on the Québec Public Curator.

(Sessional Paper No. 1628-980514)

Statements by Ministers

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mr. Boisclair, Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration, made a statement about the Auditor General's special report on the Québec Public Curator.

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the Société d'habitation du Québec and the protection of low-cost housing and signed by 190 citizens from the riding of Rivière-du-Loup.

(Sessional Paper No. 1629-980514)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

Deferred Divisions

The Assembly took the division, which had been deferred during Government Motions at the sitting of 13 May 1998, on the motion moved by Mr. Brassard, Minister for Canadian

14 May 1998

Intergovernmental Affairs and Deputy Government House Leader, on behalf of Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader. This motion reads as follows:

THAT the Committee on Institutions hold special consultations and public hearings on the "Calgary Declaration, more particularly with respect to a prospective general social alliance agreement, and this while taking into account the rights and powers of the National Assembly and of the Québec Government, as well as their historical claims", beginning on 2 June 1998, and, for this purpose, hear the following individuals and groups;

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| - Jean Allaire | - Jacques-Yvan Morin |
| - Pierre Blache | - Pierre Noreau |
| - Henri Brun | - Ghyslain Otis |
| - André Burelle | - Pierre Patenaude |
| - François Chevrette | - Réjean Pelletier |
| - Jean-François Desbiens | - Daniel Proulx |
| - Christian Dufour | - Guy Rocher |
| - Nicole Duplé | - Claude Ryan |
| - Jacques Frémont | - Charles Taylor |
| - Alain Gagnon | - André Tremblay |
| - Patrice Garant | - Luc Tremblay |
| - Micheline Labelle | - Yves Vaillancourt |
| - Guy Lachapelle | - José Woehrling |
| - Guy Laforest | - Action Démocratique
du Québec Party |
| - Andrée Lajoie | - Parti Québécois |
| - Simon Langlois | - Québec Liberal Party |
| - Vincent Lemieux | |

THAT a period of sixty 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;

The presentation by each individual shall not last more than twenty minutes and the 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 shall not last more than thirty minutes and its

14 May 1998

exchange with the members of the committee shall not last more than sixty 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 for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs shall be a member of the committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference;

Furthermore, the Minister of Education, the Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, and the Minister of State for Employment and Solidarity shall also be members of the said committee with respect to this order of reference;

THAT all briefs by individuals and groups be submitted to the Secrétariat des commissions by Thursday, 28 May 1998.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 214 in Appendix)

Yeas: **52** Nays: **31** Abstentions: **0**

Following the decision taken by Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, to suspend the proceedings while a recorded division was under way, Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader, raised a point of order regarding the validity of this suspension, and this, in view of the provisions of Standing Order 103. Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, took the question under advisement.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

- X the Committee on Institutions, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 406, An Act to amend the Professional Code;

14 May 1998

- X the Committee on Social Affairs, to hold public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 186, An Act respecting income support, employment assistance and social solidarity.

Motions Without Notice

Mrs. Gagnon-Tremblay, Leader of the Official Opposition, moved a motion concerning public hearings on the state of Québec's health system; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

—————

Pursuant to Standing Order 129, Mrs. Caron, Chief Government Whip, moved:

THAT Mr. Guy Lelièvre, the Member for Gaspé, replace the former Member for La Prairie as member of the Standing Committee on Institutions;

THAT Mr. Benoît Laprise, the Member for Roberval, replace the former Member for La Prairie as member of the Standing Committee on Labour and the Economy;

THAT Mrs. Solange Charest, the Member for Rimouski, replace Mr. Lévis Brien, the Member for Rousseau, as member of the Standing Committee on Public Administration;

THAT Mrs. Nicole Léger, the Member for Pointe-aux-Trembles, replace Mr. Benoît Laprise, the Member for Roberval, as member of the Standing Committee on Public Administration;

THAT Mr. Normand Duguay, the Member for Duplessis, replace Mr. Joseph Facal, the Member for Fabre, as member of the Standing Committee on Public Finance;

THAT Mr. Joseph Facal, the Member for Fabre, replace Mr. Robert Kieffer, the Member for Groulx, as member of the Standing Committee on Education;

14 May 1998

THAT Mrs. Lucie Papineau, the Member for Prévost, replace Mrs. Solange Charest, the Member for Rimouski, as member of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs.

THAT these modifications be effective immediately.

The motion was carried.

Mrs. Marois, Minister of Education and Minister of Child and Family Welfare, moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Québec Families Week, which is being held from 11 to 17 May 1998, and, more particularly, recognize the essential contribution made by all Quebeckers who daily, through their commitment, their actions and their solidarity, contribute as a whole to the development and fulfillment of Québec families.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Mr. Gauthrin (Verdun) moved:

THAT, for the benefit of Québec students, the National Assembly urgently ask the Federal Government and the Québec Government to resume the negotiations regarding the millennium scholarship in order that an agreement respecting the following principles may be reached:

- a) The part granted each year to Québec students is determined by means of a formula based on demographic parameters;
- b) Québec selects the students who shall receive a scholarship and provides the foundation with this list;
- c) The foundation sends, according to the methods agreed upon with the Québec Government, the scholarships to the recipients.

14 May 1998

Furthermore, the National Assembly acknowledges the Québec Government's intention to allocate the amounts thus saved in its scholarship programme to the funding of colleges and universities.

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

At the end of her speech, Mrs. Marois, Minister of Education, moved:

THAT the motion being discussed be amended:

- 1° by adding, in the first paragraph, after the words "an agreement", the words "on legislative amendments";
- 2° by the withdrawal in subparagraph b) of the words "and provides the foundation with this list";
- 3° by replacing subparagraph c) by the following subparagraph: "The scholarships are forwarded to the recipients in such manner so as to avoid all duplication and to ensure the necessary visibility to the Federal Government".

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT, for the benefit of Québec students, the National Assembly urgently ask the Federal Government and the Québec Government to resume the negotiations regarding the millennium scholarship in order that an agreement on legislative amendments respecting the following principles may be reached:

- a) The part granted each year to Québec students is determined by means of a formula based on demographic parameters;
- b) Québec selects the students who shall receive a scholarship;
- c) The scholarships are forwarded to the recipients in such manner so as to avoid all duplication and to ensure the necessary visibility to the Federal

14 May 1998

Government.

Furthermore, the National Assembly acknowledges the Québec Government's intention to allocate the amounts thus saved in its scholarship programme to the funding of colleges and universities.

The amendment was declared in order.

And debate continuing on the amendment by Mrs. Marois;

The debate being concluded, the amendment was carried and, accordingly, the motion, as amended, was carried.

Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the Committee on Public Administration be granted leave to examine, at the sitting of Wednesday, 20 May 1998, from 9.30 o'clock a.m. to 12.30 o'clock p.m., the Auditor General's special report to the National Assembly on the Québec Public Curator that was tabled today, and, for this purpose, hear the Auditor General and the Public Curator.

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

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Friday, 22 May 1998, Mr. Gobé (LaFontaine) would question Mr. Cliche, Minister for Tourism, during an interpellation on "the management of tourism in Québec".

ORDERS OF THE DAY

14 May 1998

Government Bills

Report Stage

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Public Finance on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 415, An Act to establish a fund in respect of the ice storm of 5 to 9 January 1998.

After debate thereon, the report was concurred in.

At 6.01 o'clock p.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Tuesday, 19 May 1998, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU

President

14 May 1998

APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion by Mr. Brassard, Minister for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs and Deputy Government House Leader, on behalf of Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader, moved during Government Motions at yesterday=s sitting:

(Division No. 214)

YEAS - 52

Barbeau	Chevrette	Julien	Morin
Beaulne	Cliche	Jutras	<i>(Nicolet-Yamaska)</i>
Beaumier	Côté	Lachance	Paquin
Bélanger	Désilets	Landry	Paré
<i>(Anjou)</i>	Deslières	<i>(Bonaventure)</i>	Perreault
Bertrand	Dion	Laprise	Rioux
<i>(Charlevoix)</i>	Dionne-Marsolais	Laurin	Rivard
Boisclair	Doyer	Leduc	Robert
Boucher	Duguay	Léger	Rochon
Boulerice	Facal	Lelièvre	Saint-André
Brassard	Gagnon	Léonard	Signori
Brien	Gaulin	Malavoy	Simard
Caron	Harel	Marois	Trudel
Charest	Jolivet	Ménard	Vermette

NAYS - 31

Bélanger	Chagnon	Farrah	Houda-Pepin
<i>(Mégantic-Compton)</i>	Chenail	Fournier	Lamquin-Éthier
Benoit	Cherry	Gagnon-Tremblay	Leblanc
Bergman	Copeman	Gautrin	Lefebvre
Bordeleau	Delisle	Gauvin	Loiselle
Brodeur	Dumont	Gobé	Maciocia

14 May 1998

Marsan
Mulcair

Ouimet
Paradis

Parent
Poulin

Sirros
Vallières

ABSTENTIONS - 0