



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Tuesday, 4 October 2011 — No. 47

**President of the National Assembly:
Mr. Jacques Chagnon**

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 1.47 o'clock p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Mrs. Weil (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce) made a statement about Québec Week of Intercultural Encounters.

Mrs. Doyer (Matapédia) made a statement about Mr. Paul-Arthur Gendron, recipient of the Medal of the National Assembly of Québec.

Mr. Diamond (Maskinongé) made a statement about World Habitat Day.

Mr. Kotto (Bourget) made a statement about Arcade Fire.

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Mr. Morin (Montmagny-L'Islet) made a statement to congratulate Mr. Luc Létourneau for his pedagogical commitment.

Mr. Bernier (Montmorency) made a statement about the 25th anniversary of Sources Vives.

Mr. Girard (Gouin) made a statement about the survival of 6839 rue Drolet, in Montréal, and the possible eviction of seven community organizations.

Mr. Kelley (Jacques-Cartier) made a statement to pay homage to Mr. Harry Kurtness.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 54.1, Mrs. Malavoy (Taillon) made a statement to pay homage to Mr. Pierre Dansereau.

At 1.59 o'clock p.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

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The proceedings resumed at 2.08 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

Presenting Papers

Mrs. Beauchamp, Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011.

(Sessional Paper No. 511-20111004)

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

The annual activity report of the Direction de l'indemnisation des victimes d'actes criminels, for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2010;

(Sessional Paper No. 512-20111004)

The annual management report of the Ministère de la Justice, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 513-20111004)

The annual report of the Fonds d'aide aux recours collectifs, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 514-20111004)

The activity report of the Registre des lobbyistes, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 515-20111004)

The 2011-2012 action plan of the Bureau des infractions et amendes;

(Sessional Paper No. 516-20111004)

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The annual report of the Directeur des poursuites criminelles et pénales, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 517-20111004)

The annual management report of the Commission des services juridiques, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 518-20111004)

Mrs. Courchesne, Minister responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor and of the Ministère des Services gouvernementaux, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 519-20111004)

The annual management report of Services Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 520-20111004)

The 2009-2010 report from the Chair of the Conseil du trésor and Minister responsible for Government Administration on the application of the *Public Administration Act*.

(Sessional Paper No. 521-20111004)

Mr. Bachand, Minister of Finance, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Institut de la statistique du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011.

(Sessional Paper No. 522-20111004)

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

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The annual management report of the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 523-20111004)

The annual management report of the Institut national d'excellence en santé et en services sociaux, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011.

(Sessional Paper No. 524-20111004)

Mr. Gignac, Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 525-20111004)

The activity report of the Chief Forester, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011.

(Sessional Paper No. 526-20111004)

Mrs. Boulet, Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011.

(Sessional Paper No. 527-20111004)

Mr. Moreau, Minister of Transport, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Ministère des Transports, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 528-20111004)

The combined financial statements of the Agence métropolitaine de transport, for the fiscal year ending 31 December 2011.

(Sessional Paper No. 529-20111004)

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Mr. Lessard, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Regions and Land Occupancy, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Société d'habitation du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 530-20111004)

The annual report of the Régie du logement, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 531-20111004)

The annual management report of the Ministère des Affaires municipales, des Régions et de l'Occupation du territoire, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 532-20111004)

The annual report of the Société québécoise d'assainissement des eaux, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011.

(Sessional Paper No. 533-20111004)

Mr. Hamad, Minister of Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Ministère du Développement économique, de l'Innovation et de l'Exportation, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 534-20111004)

The annual report of the Société Innovatech du Grand Montréal, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 535-20111004)

The annual report of the Société Innovatech du sud du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 536-20111004)

The annual report of the Société Innovatech Régions ressources, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 537-20111004)

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The annual report of the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec (CRIQ), for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 538-20111004)

The annual management report of the Conseil de la science et de la technologie, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 539-20111004)

The annual management report of the Fonds de recherche sur la société et la culture, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 540-20111004)

The annual management report of the Fonds québécois de la recherche sur la nature et les technologies, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011.

(Sessional Paper No. 541-20111004)

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

The annual management report of the Ministère de la Sécurité publique, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 542-20111004)

The annual management report of the Bureau du coroner, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 543-20111004)

The annual management report of the Commission québécoise des libérations conditionnelles, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 544-20111004)

The annual management report of the Sûreté du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 545-20111004)

The annual management report of the Commissaire à la déontologie policière, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011.

(Sessional Paper No. 546-20111004)

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Mr. Arcand, Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;
(Sessional Paper No. 547-20111004)

The annual report of Recyc-Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011.
(Sessional Paper No. 548-20111004)

Mrs. St-Pierre, Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Commission des biens culturels du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;
(Sessional Paper No. 549-20111004)

The annual report of the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;
(Sessional Paper No. 550-20111004)

The annual management report of the Régie du cinéma, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;
(Sessional Paper No. 551-20111004)

The annual management report of the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles (SODEC), for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;
(Sessional Paper No. 552-20111004)

The annual management report, as well as appendices 1 and 2, of the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011.
(Sessional Paper No. 553-20111004)

Mrs. Weil, Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Ministère de l'Immigration et des Communautés culturelles, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011.
(Sessional Paper No. 554-20111004)

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Mrs. Thériault, Minister of Labour, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Ministère du Travail, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 555-20111004)

The annual management report of the Commission de l'équité salariale, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 556-20111004)

The annual management report of the Conseil consultatif du travail et de la main-d'oeuvre, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;

(Sessional Paper No. 557-20111004)

The annual management report of the Conseil des services essentiels, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011.

(Sessional Paper No. 558-20111004)

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

The annual management report of the Société du Centre des congrès de Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011.

(Sessional Paper No. 559-20111004)

Mr. Corbeil, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, tabled the following:

The annual report of La Financière agricole du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011.

(Sessional Paper No. 560-20111004)

Mrs. Blais, Minister responsible for Seniors, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Ministère de la Famille et des Aînés, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011.

(Sessional Paper No. 561-20111004)

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Mr. MacMillan, Minister for Transport, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Société des traversiers du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011.

(Sessional Paper No. 562-20111004)

Mrs. Vien, Minister for Social Services, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Office des personnes handicapées du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011.

(Sessional Paper No. 563-20111004)

Mr. Fournier, Government House Leader, on behalf of Mrs. Gagnon-Tremblay, Minister of International Relations, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Ministère des Relations internationales, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011.

(Sessional Paper No. 564-20111004)

Mr. President tabled the following:

The document entitled "Proposed amendments to the Standing Orders of the National Assembly in light of the adoption of the Code of Ethics and Conduct of the Members of the National Assembly – Proposed amendment to the Standing Orders of the National Assembly concerning the time limit for handing in a notice relating to business standing in the name of members in opposition – Proposed amendments to the Standing Orders of the National Assembly consequential to the adoption of the Code of Ethics and Conduct of the Members of the National Assembly".

(Sessional Paper No. 565-20111004)

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 116 (1), Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, moved:

THAT the Standing Orders of the National Assembly be amended by the provisions contained in the documents entitled "Proposed amendments to the Standing Orders of the National Assembly in light of the adoption of the Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly", "Proposed amendment to the Standing Orders of the National Assembly concerning the time limit for handing in a notice relating to Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition" and "Proposed amendments to the Standing Orders of the National Assembly consequential to the adoption of the Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly";

THAT the amendments contained in the documents "Proposed amendments to the Standing Orders of the National Assembly in light of the adoption of the Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly" and "Proposed amendment to the Standing Orders of the National Assembly concerning the time limit for handing in a notice relating to Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition" enter into force immediately;

THAT the amendments contained in the document "Proposed amendments to the Standing Orders of the National Assembly in light of the adoption of the Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly" enter into force on the day of the entry into force of sections 10 to 36 of the Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly;

THAT these amendments be included in the Votes and Proceedings of the National Assembly as part of this motion.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDING
ORDERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IN LIGHT OF
THE ADOPTION OF THE CODE OF ETHICS AND
CONDUCT OF THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY

THAT Standing Order 8.5 of the Standing Orders of the National Assembly be amended by inserting "the Ethics Commissioner or, if the Ethics Commissioner is unable to act, in the presence of" after "in the presence of";

Standing Order 8.5 as amended would read as follows:

8.5. Counting the votes – The Secretary General shall count the votes, in the presence of the Ethics Commissioner or, if the Ethics Commissioner is unable to act, in the presence of the Jurisconsult, in some place outside the Assembly Chamber. The election of the President having been concluded, the Secretary General shall destroy all ballot papers together with any record that may show the number of votes received by any candidate.

No person present when the ballots are counted shall divulge the number of votes received by any candidate.

THAT Standing Order 294 of the Standing Orders of the National Assembly be amended by inserting the following paragraph after the first paragraph:

"A public body is a body to which the National Assembly, the Government or a minister appoints the majority of the members, to which, by law, the personnel is appointed in accordance with the *Public Service Act* (R.S.Q., chapter F-3.1.1), or whose capital forms part of the domain of the State.";

Standing Order 294 as amended would read as follows:

294. Examination in committee – Every committee shall examine each year the policy directions, activities, and management of at least one public body that is subject to its power of surveillance.

A public body is a body to which the National Assembly, the Government or a minister appoints the majority of the members, to which, by law, the personnel is appointed in accordance with the *Public Service Act* (R.S.Q., chapter F 3.1.1), or whose capital forms part of the domain of the State.

Public bodies shall be selected for examination as provided in Standing Order 149. Failing agreement thereon, the Committee on the National Assembly shall designate the bodies that are to be heard.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CONCERNING THE TIME LIMIT FOR HANDING IN A NOTICE RELATING TO BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION

THAT the first paragraph of Standing Order 97.1 of the Standing Orders of the National Assembly be amended by replacing "three hours before the Routine Proceedings are to be entered upon" by "12.00 o'clock noon";

The first paragraph of Standing Order 97.1 as amended would read as follows:

97.1. Notice — A Member wishing to move a motion under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition shall, not later than 12.00 o'clock noon on the sitting day prior to that on which such business is to be taken, hand in a notice thereof for publication in the Order Paper and Notices.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CONSEQUENTIAL TO THE ADOPTION OF THE CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT OF THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

THAT Standing Order 316 of the Standing Orders of the National Assembly be amended by striking out paragraph (1) and by replacing "in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Standing Order" in paragraph (3) by "in paragraph (2) of this Standing Order or in the Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly";

Standing Order 316 as amended would read as follows:

316. Grounds — A Member may, by means of such motion:

- (1) [repealed];
- (2) complain that some other Member has breached the privileges of the Assembly or one of its members;
- (3) impugn an act, not being a situation envisaged in paragraph (2) of this Standing Order or in the Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly, accomplished by a Member of Parliament in the course of his duties.

THAT Standing Order 317 of the Standing Orders of the National Assembly be amended by striking out "that he holds or has held incompatible offices, or that he has been in a conflict of interest,";

Standing Order 317 as amended would read as follows:

317. Announcement of motion — When it is complained that some Member has breached the privileges of the Assembly or one of its members, the Member so complaining shall first raise a question of privilege and then announce that he intends to move a motion impugning this conduct.

THAT Standing Order 323 of the Standing Orders of the National Assembly be amended by replacing ", or the holding of incompatible offices, or any conflict of interest" by "or a situation envisaged in the Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly";

Standing Order 323 as amended would read as follows:

323. Committee on the National Assembly not convened — When complaint is made of an act accomplished by a Member of Parliament in the course of his duties, not being a breach of the privileges of the Assembly or one of its members or a situation envisaged in the Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly, the Assembly may dispose of the motion to that effect without the Committee on the National Assembly's first having been convened.

Such motion may be neither amended nor divided.

The motion was carried.

Mr. President then tabled the following:

The activity and management report of the Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2011;
(Sessional Paper No. 566-20111004)

Decisions from the Office of the National Assembly, dated 22 September 2011:

Decision 1595 concerning the regulation to amend the regulation respecting financial management;
(Sessional Paper No. 567-20111004)

Decision 1597 concerning the regulation respecting the remuneration, social benefits and other working conditions of the jurisconsult;
(Sessional Paper No. 568-20111004)

Decision 1598 concerning the regulation respecting the administrative organization plan of the National Assembly;
(Sessional Paper No. 569-20111004)

Decision 1599 concerning the regulation respecting the promotion of the Director General of Legal and Parliamentary Affairs;
(Sessional Paper No. 570-20111004)

Decision 1600 concerning the regulation respecting the appointment of the special advisor to the Secretary General and to the Director General of Legal and Parliamentary Affairs of the National Assembly;
(Sessional Paper No. 571-20111004)

Decision 1601 concerning the regulation respecting the promotion of the Director of Parliamentary Proceedings;
(Sessional Paper No. 572-20111004)

Decision 1602 concerning the regulation respecting the promotion of the manager of visitor and information services and the gift shop.
(Sessional Paper No. 573-20111004)

Finally, Mr. President tabled the following:

Copy of the notice of motion by Mr. Aussant (Nicolet-Yamaska) which will be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* of Wednesday, 5 October 2011, under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.
(Sessional Paper No. 574-20111004)

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Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Simard (Richelieu), committee chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Public Administration, which, on 27 September 2011, heard Mr. Jacques Duchesneau, head of the Anti-Collusion Unit of the Ministère des Transports, regarding his report.

(Sessional Paper No. 575-20111004)

Mrs. Malavoy (Taillon), committee chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, which, on 4 October 2011, held public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 30, An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning municipal affairs.

(Sessional Paper No. 576-20111004)

Mr. Marsan (Robert-Baldwin), committee chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Culture and Education, which met on 11, 17 and 19 May, 8 June, 17 and 18 August, and on 20, 27, 28 and 29 September 2011 for clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 82, Cultural Heritage Act. The report contains certain amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 577-20111004)

Complaints of Breach of Privilege or Contempt and Personal Explanations

Mr. President rendered his decision regarding the request to rise on a point of privilege or contempt notified by the Member for Saint-Maurice last 27 September, whereby he alleged that Mr. André Forcier, chairman of the administrative board of La Financière agricole du Québec, was in contempt of Parliament when he failed to appear as a witness before the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources, after having been summoned to do so.

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RULING FROM THE CHAIR

There is no doubt that the Committee acted in compliance with its constitutional power to summon a witness to appear before it. Mr. Forcier had the obligation to comply with the Committee's order and could not take the decision on his own initiative to fail to do so. The fact that he offered to appear before the Committee on some other date in no way changes the Chair's ruling. It is up to the Committee to determine its agenda and not to the witnesses.

The participation of heads and administrators of public agencies is essential to the proceedings of the Assembly and committees. They must, by their behaviour, refrain from undermining their proper conduct. They must at all times keep in mind that the Assembly has the power to demand accounts and they have the duty to give them.

Similarly to the judicial branch of the State, the legislative branch – the Parliament – has the right to respect for the efficient exercise its role, and an order to appear before the Assembly is not less serious than an order to appear before a court.

The fact that Mr. Forcier did not comply with the order to appear before the Committee in spite of the obligation to do so without a doubt constitutes, at first glance, a contravention of paragraph 1 of section 55 of the *Act respecting the National Assembly*. The role of the Chair, at this stage, is to determine whether the facts raised are sufficiently compelling to constitute, at first glance, contempt of Parliament. It is for the Assembly itself to subsequently determine whether there was indeed contempt of Parliament.

In the present case, while the Chair may come to the conclusion that there is, at first glance, contempt of Parliament, no action will be taken since the Member for Saint-Maurice did not mention, in his notice, if he intended to move a motion asking the Assembly to take a decision on the conduct of Mr. Forcier. This by no means takes away from the gravity of the ruling, and the Chair hopes that it will serve as a warning to any person who would choose to disobey an order to appear before a parliamentary committee.

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

At the request of Mr. President, Mr. Drainville (Marie-Victorin) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, the Assembly immediately took Notices of Proceedings in Committees.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 143 and 145, Mr. Gauthrin, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

- the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, to conclude its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 22, An Act to amend the Civil Code as regards the resiliation of a dwelling lease in certain cases;
- the Committee on Public Finance, to hold public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 23, An Act to amend various pension plans in the public sector.

Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, gave the following notice:

- the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources shall hold a public meeting to hear Mr. Norman Johnston, Deputy Minister, and Mr. André Forcier, Chairman of the administrative board of La Financière agricole du Québec, within the framework of an order of surveillance of La Financière agricole du Québec; it shall then hold a deliberative meeting to decide whether it shall examine certain petitions.

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Bolduc, Minister of Health and Social Services, together with Mrs. Doyer (Matapédia), Mr. Deltell, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, Mr. Picard (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière), Mrs. Lapointe (Crémazie), Mr. Caire (La Peltrie), Mr. Khadir (Mercier) and Mr. Aussant (Nicolet-Yamaska), moved:

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THAT the National Assembly mark World Mental Health Day, which will be held next 10 October;

THAT it reiterate the primary importance of ensuring quality care and services with respect and dignity to all citizens.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. Maltais (Taschereau), together with Mr. Bolduc, Minister of Health and Social Services, Mr. Deltell, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, and Mr. Khadir (Mercier), moved:

THAT the National Assembly underline the Nobel Prize for Medicine awarded to Mr. Ralph Steinman;

THAT it express its deepest condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Steinman, who passed away three days before receiving his prize.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

At the invitation of Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, the Assembly observed a minute of silence.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Picard (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière), together with Mr. Bachand, Minister of Finance, Mr. Arcand, Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks, Mr. McKay (L'Assomption), Mr. Bonnardel (Shefford), Mrs. Lapointe (Crémazie), Mr. Caire (La Peltrie), Mr. Khadir (Mercier) and Mr. Aussant (Nicolet-Yamaska), moved:

THAT the National Assembly express its deepest condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Pierre Dansereau, internationally renowned, eminent Québec biologist;

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THAT it recognize the outstanding work carried out by this researcher, professor, philosopher and pioneer of global ecology throughout his long career.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

At the invitation of Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, the Assembly observed a minute of silence.

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

THAT the Committee on Institutions hold a general consultation on the Draft bill to enact the new Code of Civil Procedure and hold public hearings beginning on Tuesday, 17 January 2012;

THAT all briefs and requests to be heard be received by the Committees Secretariat not later than Friday, 18 November 2011;

THAT the Minister of Justice be a member of the said Committee during the execution of this order.

The motion was carried.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Wednesday, 5 October 2011, during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, a debate will be held on the motion by Mr. Aussant (Nicolet-Yamaska).

This motion reads as follows:

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THAT the National Assembly affirm that the best interests of Québec as well as the rights and powers of the National Assembly must be protected within the framework of the Canada-Europe Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement negotiations;

THAT it ask the Government of Québec to instruct its representatives to ensure that all appropriate interventions be carried out, particularly with regard to the protection of cultural and linguistic diversity, protection of the environment, the development of natural resources and the National Assembly's power to adopt public policies in the general interest of the population of Québec;

THAT it may examine the text of the Agreement and comment thereon before it is signed, within the framework of a parliamentary committee.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

The Assembly resumed the debate, which had been adjourned on 29 September 2011, on the motion by Mr. Simard, Minister for Natural Resources and Wildlife, for the passage in principle of Bill 14, An Act respecting the development of mineral resources in keeping with the principles of sustainable development.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mr. Simard, Minister for Natural Resources and Wildlife, tabled the following:

Copy of a document entitled "Rapport 2010 sur les activités minières au Québec – Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune".

(Sessional Paper No. 578-20111004)

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

At the request of Mr. Kelley, Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs, the division was deferred until Routine Proceedings on the next sitting day.

Passage

Mr. Arcand, Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks, moved the passage of Bill 89, An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act in order to reinforce compliance.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and, accordingly, Bill 89 was passed.

Debates on Reports from Committees

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Public Administration, which, on 31 March 2011, held a hearing with regard to the administrative expenses of school boards and which, on 15 and 31 March and on 4 and 19 March 2011, held deliberative meetings with reference to this order. This report contains five recommendations.

Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this limited debate: 8 minutes 24 seconds shall be allotted to the Members of the Second Opposition Group; 10 minutes shall be granted to the independent Members; the rest of the time set aside for this debate shall be shared equally between the parliamentary group forming the Government and the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition. Within this framework, any time not used by the independent Members or by the Members of 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 shall go to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition and vice versa. Lastly, individual addresses shall not be limited.

The debate arose thereon.

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

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mrs. Vien, Minister for Social Services, moved, —That Bill 16, An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning health and social services in order, in particular, to tighten up the certification process for residences for the elderly, do now pass in principle.

A debate arose thereon.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 53 and 59, Mrs. Poirier (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) tabled the following:

A bundle of documents entitled "Lettre d'appui à la Fédération des OSBL d'habitation de Montréal (FOHM) sur le projet de loi n° 16";
(Sessional Paper No. 579-20111004)

A bundle of documents "Lettre d'appui au mémoire de la Fédération des OSBL d'habitation de Montréal (FOHM) sur le projet de loi n° 16".
(Sessional Paper No. 580-20111004)

The debate continued thereon.

Debates Upon Adjournment

At 6.01 o'clock p.m., the Assembly held two debates upon adjournment:

- the first, on a question by Mr. Rathé (Blainville) to Mr. Lessard, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Regions and Land Occupancy, about the holding of a committee of inquiry on the construction industry;
- the second, on a question by Mr. Drainville (Marie-Victorin) to Mr. Gignac, Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife, about Pétrolia.

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At 6.27 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 7.30 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 7.31 o'clock p.m.

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

The Assembly continued the debate on the motion by Mrs. Vien, Minister for Social Services, for the passage in principle of Bill 16, An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning health and social services in order, in particular, to tighten up the certification process for residences for the elderly.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 53 and 59, Mrs. Lapointe (Crémazie) tabled the following:

A document entitled "Avis de décès de patient en établissement – Ministère de la Sécurité communautaire et des Services correctionnels, Bureau du coroner en chef".

(Sessional Paper No. 581-20111004)

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried and Bill 16 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Gauthrin, Deputy Government House Leader, moved that Bill 16 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Health and Social Services.

The motion was carried.

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Mr. Gauthrin, Deputy Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly until Wednesday, 5 October 2011, at 9.45 o'clock a.m.

The motion was carried.

Accordingly, at 8.50 o'clock p.m., Mr. Ouimet, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 5 October 2011, at 9.45 o'clock a.m.

JACQUES CHAGNON

President