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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

FORTIETH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 20 February 2013 — No. 25

President of the National Assembly:
Mr. Jacques Chagnon

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 9.45 o'clock a.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Mr. Gendron (Abitibi-Ouest) made a statement about Québec Spay Day.

Mrs. de Santis (Bourassa-Sauvé) made a statement about the Société d'histoire et de généalogie de Montréal-Nord.

Mrs. Beaudoin (Mirabel) made a statement about the 40th anniversary of the Club de l'âge d'or de Sainte-Marthe-sur-le-Lac.

Mr. Dubourg (Viau) made a statement about the 20th anniversary of the Maison de la Famille de Saint-Michel.

Mr. Spénard (Beauce-Nord) made a statement to underline the launching of the 10th edition of the Chaudière-Appalaches art competition.

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Mrs. Bouillé (Iberville) made a statement about a historical agreement between the Union des producteurs agricoles and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Mr. Marsan (Robert-Baldwin) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Henri Lépine.

Mr. Richer (Argenteuil) made a statement to congratulate the snow sculptors from Saint-André-d'Argenteuil within the framework of the Québec Winter Carnival's International Snow Sculpture Competition.

Mrs. Vallières (Richmond) made a statement about the Grand Prix de Valcourt.

Mr. Bergeron (Verchères) made a statement about the 20th anniversary of the Fondation Lajemmerais.

At 9.57 o'clock a.m., Mr. Ouimet, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 10.12 o'clock a.m.

Moment of reflection

Presenting Papers

Mr. Marceau, Minister of Finance and the Economy, tabled the following:

The 2011-2012 annual management report of Revenu Québec.
(Sessional Paper No. 424-20130220)

Mr. Kotto, Minister of Culture and Communications, tabled the following:

The 2011-2012 annual report of the Société de télédiffusion du Québec;
(Sessional Paper No. 425-20130220)

The 2011-2012 annual activity report of the Conservatoire de musique et d'art
dramatique de Québec;
(Sessional Paper No. 426-20130220)

The 2011-2012 annual report of the Société de la Place des Arts de Montréal.
(Sessional Paper No. 427-20130220)

Mr. President tabled the following:

The report from the Commissioner of Sustainable Development that is part of the
report from the Auditor General of Québec to the National Assembly, for the year
2012-2013. This report is accompanied by a presentation of the report's contents.
(Sessional Paper No. 428-20130220)

He then communicated to the Assembly and tabled the following:

A letter, dated 19 February 2013, he had received from Mr. Amir Khadir,
Member for Mercier, concerning the participation of the independent
Members in the consideration of the estimates of expenditure in committee.
(Sessional Paper No. 429-20130220)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. President tabled the reports from the standing committees that considered the estimates of expenditure of the departments for the 2013-2014 fiscal year:

The report from the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources;

(Sessional Paper No. 430-20130220)

The report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain;

(Sessional Paper No. 431-20130220)

The report from the Committee on Culture and Education;

(Sessional Paper No. 432-20130220)

The report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy;

(Sessional Paper No. 433-20130220)

The report from the Committee on Public Finance;

(Sessional Paper No. 434-20130220)

The report from the Committee on Institutions;

(Sessional Paper No. 435-20130220)

The report from the Committee on Citizen Relations;

(Sessional Paper No. 436-20130220)

The report from the Committee on Health and Social Services;

(Sessional Paper No. 437-20130220)

The report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment.

(Sessional Paper No. 438-20130220)

Presenting Petitions

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mr. Marsan (Robert-Baldwin) tabled the following:

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The abstract of a petition respecting the increase in welfare benefits paid to disabled persons living alone, and signed by 1043 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 439-20130220)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mr. Duchesne, Minister of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology, tabled the following:

Copy of a letter, dated 27 June 2012, addressed to Mrs. Louise Pagé, deputy minister at the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport, from Mr. Marc Lacroix, secretary and chief information officer at the Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor, concerning the suspension of the right to commit appropriations for the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

(Sessional Paper No. 440-20130220)

Motions Without Notice

Mrs. Boulet (Laviolette), together with Mr. Caire (La Peltrie), moved a motion concerning the budget cuts at the Ministère des Transports; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Mr. Dubé (Lévis), together with Mrs. David (Gouin), moved a motion concerning non-budgetary organizations; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Mr. Hébert, Minister of Health and Social Services, together with Mrs. Daneault (Groulx), moved a motion concerning unbudgeted health sector investments in the five-year capital plan; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mrs. David (Gouin), together with Mrs. De Courcy, Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities, Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière) and Mr. Duchesneau (Saint-Jérôme), moved:

THAT the National Assembly offers its deepest condolences to the family and friends of Mrs. Louise Laurin;

THAT it recognize this compassionate woman's commitment to the French language, education and the secularization of Québec schools, as well as her determination to make Québec a land of inclusion and openness toward others.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

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

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. Ouimet, Third Vice-President, gave the following notices:

- the Committee on Health and Social Services shall hold a public meeting to examine the annual reports of the Outaouais Health and Social Services Agency; it shall then hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the Committee's observations, conclusions and recommendations following the hearings held within the framework of the examination of the annual management reports of the health and social services agencies;
- the Committee on Institutions shall hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the possibility of taking up certain mandates;

- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment shall hold a deliberative meeting to continue organizing its proceedings with respect to the order given by the Assembly aiming to shed light on the events of last 24 October concerning the action taken by the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Wildlife and Parks with regard to the independent public body known as the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement (BAPE).

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Estimates of Expenditure

Estimates of the National Assembly

On the motion by Mr. Traversy, Deputy Government House Leader, and pursuant to Standing Order 286, the Assembly resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the estimates of expenditure for the National Assembly for the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

After a meeting held with the House leaders of the parliamentary groups in pursuance of Standing Order 285, Mrs. Poirier, Chair of the Committee of the Whole, informed the committee that the period allotted for the consideration of the estimates shall not exceed two hours and that the speaking time shall be apportioned as follows: 20 minutes shall be allotted to the President for his opening remarks; approximately 45 minutes shall be allotted to the parliamentary group forming the Government; approximately 40 minutes shall be allotted to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; approximately 10 minutes shall be allotted to the Second Opposition Group; and 5 minutes shall be allotted to the independent Members.

The Committee of the Whole entered upon the consideration of the estimates of expenditure for the National Assembly.

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The consideration of the estimates of expenditure for the National Assembly being concluded, Mr. Turcotte (Saint-Jean), member of the Committee of the Whole, reported to the Assembly.

At 1.02 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Poirier, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 3.02 o'clock p.m.

Mrs. Poirier, First Vice-President, informed the Assembly that she had received a request for a debate upon adjournment to be held on Thursday, 21 February 2013, on a question by Mr. Kelley (Jacques-Cartier) to Mrs. Marois, Premier, about consultations with the First Nations regarding the cancellation of mini hydro-electric projects.

Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition

Mr. Sklavounos (Laurier-Dorion) moved:

THAT the National Assembly demand that the PQ Government renounce the \$250 million in budget cuts imposed on universities by 2013-2014;

THAT it demand that the Government renounce all means of financing universities that would increase the tax burden on taxpayers and that would constrain business competitiveness, particularly the revision of tax measures to help businesses.

Mrs. Poirier, First Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this motion: 10 minutes shall be allotted to the mover of the motion for his reply; approximately 46 minutes shall be allotted to the parliamentary group forming the Government; approximately 42 minutes shall be allotted to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; approximately 16 minutes shall be allotted to the Second Opposition Group; and 5 minutes shall be allotted to the independent Members. Within this framework, any time not used by the independent Members or by any of the parliamentary groups shall be redistributed among the parliamentary groups in proportion to their representation in the Assembly. Lastly, individual addresses shall not be limited.

The debate arose thereon.

At the end of his address, Mr. Le Bouyonnec (La Prairie) moved:

THAT the motion be amended as follows: by removing, in the second line, the words "and that would constrain business competitiveness, particularly the revision of tax measures to help businesses".

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly demand that the PQ Government renounce the \$250 million in budget cuts imposed on universities by 2013-2014;

THAT it demand that the Government renounce all means of financing universities that would increase the tax burden on taxpayers.

The debate continued on the main motion by Mr. Sklavounos (Laurier-Dorion) and on the amendment by Mr. Le Bouyonnec (La Prairie), subject to the permission of its author.

Mr. Sklavounos (Laurier-Dorion) refused the amendment proposed by Mr. Le Bouyonnec (La Prairie).

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

The motion was negated on the following vote:

(Division No. **15** in Appendix)

Yeas: **43** Nays: **69** Abstentions: 0

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mrs. Ouellet, Minister of Natural Resources, moved, —That Bill 7, An Act to amend the Sustainable Forest Development Act and other legislative provisions, do now pass in principle.

A debate arose thereon.

The debate was adjourned in the name of Mr. Bolduc (Mégantic).

At 6.00 o'clock p.m., Mr. Cousineau, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 21 February 2013, at 9.45 o'clock a.m.

JACQUES CHAGNON

President

APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion moved by Mr. Sklavounos (Laurier-Dorion):

(Division No. 15)

YEAS - 43

Arcand (PLQ)	de Santis (PLQ)	Kelley (PLQ)	St-Amand (PLQ)
Bergman (PLQ)	Diamond (PLQ)	L'Écuyer (PLQ)	St-Pierre (PLQ)
Billette (PLQ)	Drolet (PLQ)	Lessard (PLQ)	Tanguay (PLQ)
Blais (PLQ)	Dubourg (PLQ)	Marcoux (PLQ)	Thériault (PLQ)
Bolduc (PLQ)	Dutil (PLQ)	Ménard (PLQ)	Vallée (PLQ)
(Mégantic)	Fournier (PLQ)	Morin (PLQ)	Vallières (PLQ)
Bolduc (PLQ)	Gaudreault (PLQ)	Ouimet (PLQ)	Vien (PLQ)
(Jean-Talon)	(Hull)	(Fabre)	Weil (PLQ)
Boulet (PLQ)	Gautrin (PLQ)	Paradis (PLQ)	
Carrière (PLQ)	Hamad (PLQ)	Poëti (PLQ)	
Charbonneau (PLQ)	Houda-Pepin (PLQ)	Rotiroti (PLQ)	
Charlebois (PLQ)	Iracà (PLQ)	Rousselle (PLQ)	
D'Amour (PLQ)	James (PLQ)	Sklavounos (PLQ)	

NAYS - 69

Beaudoin (PQ)	Gadoury-Hamelin (PQ)	Marois (PQ)	Roy (CAQ)
Bédard (PQ)	Gaudreault (PQ)	Martel (CAQ)	(Arthabaska)
Bérubé (PQ)	(Jonquière)	McKay (PQ)	Schneeberger (CAQ)
Blanchet (PQ)	Gendron (PQ)	Ouellet (PQ)	Spénard (CAQ)
Bouillé (PQ)	Goyer (PQ)	Pagé (PQ)	St-Arnaud (PQ)
Breton (PQ)	Hébert (PQ)	Pelletier (PQ)	St-Laurent (CAQ)
Bureau-Blouin (PQ)	Hivon (PQ)	(Saint-Hyacinthe)	Therrien (PQ)
Caire (CAQ)	Khadir (IND)	Pelletier (PQ)	Traversy (PQ)
Cardin (PQ)	Kotto (PQ)	(Rimouski)	Trottier (PQ)
Champagne (PQ)	Larouche (PQ)	Picard (CAQ)	Trudel (CAQ)
Chapadeau (PQ)	Le Bouyonnec (CAQ)	Proulx (PQ)	(Charlesbourg)
Claveau (PQ)	Leclair (PQ)	Ratthé (CAQ)	Trudel (PQ)
Cloutier (PQ)	Legault (CAQ)	Richard (PQ)	(Saint-Maurice)
Daneault (CAQ)	Léger (PQ)	(Duplessis)	Turcotte (PQ)
De Courcy (PQ)	Lelièvre (PQ)	Richard (PQ)	Villeneuve (PQ)
Deltell (CAQ)	Lévesque (CAQ)	(Îles-de-la-Madeleine)	Zakaïb (PQ)
Drainville (PQ)	Lisée (PQ)	Richer (PQ)	
Dubé (CAQ)	Malavoy (PQ)	Roy (PQ)	
Duchesne (PQ)	Maltais (PQ)	(Bonaventure)	
Duchesneau (CAQ)	Marceau (PQ)	Roy (CAQ)	
Dufour (PQ)	Marcotte (CAQ)	(Montarville)	