



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

FORTIETH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Tuesday, 11 February 2014 — No. 105

President of the National Assembly:
Mr. Jacques Chagnon

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 1.45 o'clock p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Mr. Bureau-Blouin (Laval-des-Rapides) made a statement to underline the 25th anniversary of the Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec (FEUQ).

Mrs. Ménard (Laporte) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Jocelyn Carrier.

Mr. Pelletier (Saint-Hyacinthe) made a statement about the 25th edition of the Music-Hall des aînés.

Mrs. Charlebois (Soulanges) made a statement to congratulate Mr. Marco Rioux, daycare worker, who received the Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Early Childhood Education.

Mr. Deltell (Chauveau) made a statement to pay tribute to Mr. Roland Lachance, photographer.

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Mr. Richer (Argenteuil) made a statement about the Prix Innovation awarded to Orientech.

Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière) made a statement to thank the citizens of the riding of La Pinière for their support.

Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) made a statement about the school bus safety campaign.

Mr. Iracà (Papineau) made a statement about Mr. Norman MacMillan, first Québec Canadian to be honoured by the Council of State Governments (CSG).

Mr. Kotto (Bourget) made a statement to underline the 65th anniversary of the Rideau Vert.

At 1.57 o'clock p.m., Mr. Cousineau, Second Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 2.15 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

At the invitation of Mr. President, the Assembly observed a minute of silence in memory of the victims of the tragedy that unfolded in L'Isle-Verte on 23 January 2014.

Mr. President read an excerpt of a letter, dated 16 December 2013, addressed to Mr. Michel Bonsaint, Secretary General of the National Assembly, from Mr. Jacques Drouin, Chief Electoral Officer of Québec, regarding the by-elections held on 9 December 2013 in the electoral divisions of Viau and Outremont.

Mr. President then tabled the following:

The aforementioned letter accompanied by a notice proclaiming Mr. David Heurtel the candidate returned in the electoral division of Viau and Mr. Philippe Couillard the candidate returned in the electoral division of Outremont;

(Sessional Paper No. 1476-20140211)

A letter, dated 16 December 2013, he had received from Mr. Philippe Couillard, Leader of the Official Opposition, informing him of the appointment of Mr. Jean-Marc Fournier, Member for Saint-Laurent, as Chief Opposition Whip, effective 16 December 2013;

(Sessional Paper No. 1477-20140211)

A letter, dated 20 January 2014, he had received from Mr. Jean-Marc Fournier, Chief Opposition Whip, informing him that Mrs. Fatima Houda-Pepin, Member for La Pinière, was no longer a member of the Official Opposition caucus since 20 January 2014.

(Sessional Paper No. 1478-20140211)

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Fournier, Chief Opposition Whip, welcomed the new Member for Outremont and Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Philippe Couillard.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Couillard, Leader of the Official Opposition, and Mr. Fournier, Chief Opposition Whip, then welcomed the new Member for Viau, Mr. David Heurtel.

Mr. Fournier, Chief Opposition Whip, Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière), Mrs. David (Gouin), Mr. Legault, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, and Mrs. Marois, Premier, made a few comments.

Mr. Heurtel (Viau) took the floor.

Mr. Couillard, Leader of the Official Opposition, then took the floor.

Finally, Mr. President welcomed the new Members.

Presenting Papers

Mr. St-Arnaud, Minister of Justice and Minister responsible for the administration of legislation respecting the professions, tabled the following:

The 2012-2013 annual report of the Ordre des techniciens et techniciennes dentaires du Québec;

(Sessional Paper No. 1479-20140211)

The 2012-2013 annual report of the Ordre professionnel des inhalothérapeutes du Québec;

(Sessional Paper No. 1480-20140211)

The 2012-2013 annual management report of the Conseil de la justice administrative;

(Sessional Paper No. 1481-20140211)

The Government's reply to the report from the Committee on the remuneration of judges for 2013-2016, chaired by M^c Michel Clair.

(Sessional Paper No. 1482-20140211)

Mr. Bédard, Government House Leader, tabled the following:

The reply from the Government to the written question by Mr. Bonnardel (Granby), concerning Division II, section 4, of the Residential Swimming Pool Safety Regulation – Question No. 24, *Order Paper and Notices* of 12 November 2013;

(Sessional Paper No. 1483-20140211)

The reply from the Government to the written question by Mr. Deltell (Chauveau), concerning the public transit services of the Jacques-Cartier Regional County Municipality – Question No. 26, *Order Paper and Notices* of 27 November 2013;

(Sessional Paper No. 1484-20140211)

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The reply from the Government to the written question by Mr. Dubé (Lévis), concerning an overview of the increase in program spending and in consolidated spending, as well as of non-budgetary agencies and the special funds of the Government of Québec – Question No. 23, *Order Paper and Notices* of 7 November 2013.

(Sessional Paper No. 1485-20140211)

Mr. President tabled the following:

Copies of two letters, dated 24 January 2014, he had sent to Mr. Jean D'Amour, Member for Rivière-du-Loup–Témiscouata, and to Mrs. Ursule Thériault, Mayor of the municipality of L'Isle-Verte, concerning the fire that destroyed the Résidence du Havre;

(Sessional Paper No. 1486-20140211)

The report from the Chief Electoral Officer of Québec on the implementation of section 490 of the *Election Act*, within the framework of the by-elections held on 9 December 2013 in the electoral divisions of Viau and Outremont;

(Sessional Paper No. 1487-20140211)

The report from the Chief Electoral Officer of Québec, concerning the official results of the by-elections held on 9 December 2013 in the electoral divisions of Viau and Outremont;

(Sessional Paper No. 1488-20140211)

A letter, dated 15 January 2014, he had received from Mr. Philippe Couillard, Leader of the Official Opposition, informing him of the appointment of Mr. Jean-Marc Fournier, Member for Saint-Laurent, as substitute member of the Office of the National Assembly, to replace Mr. Laurent Lessard, Member for Lotbinière-Frontenac.

(Sessional Paper No. 1489-20140211)

Mr. Cousineau, Second Vice-President, moved that this modification to the composition of the Office of the National Assembly be adopted.

The motion was carried.

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Mr. President communicated to the Assembly and tabled the following:

A letter, dated 5 February 2013, he had received from Mr. Stéphane Bédard, Government House Leader, concerning the disclosure of the briefs regarding Bill 60, Charter affirming the values of State secularism and religious neutrality and of equality between women and men, and providing a framework for accommodation requests, accompanied by his reply to this letter;

(Sessional Paper No. 1490-20140211)

A letter, dated 7 February 2013, he had received from Mr. Pierre Moreau, Official Opposition House Leader, concerning the disclosure of the briefs regarding Bill 60, Charter affirming the values of State secularism and religious neutrality and of equality between women and men, and providing a framework for accommodation requests, accompanied by his reply to this letter.

(Sessional Paper No. 1491-20140211)

Lastly, he tabled the following:

The new seating plan of the National Assembly, dated 11 February 2014;

(Sessional Paper No. 1492-20140211)

A copy of the notice of motion by Mr. Paradis (Brome-Missisquoi), which will be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* of Wednesday, 12 February 2014, under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.

(Sessional Paper No. 1493-20140211)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. President tabled the following:

The report from the steering committee of the Committee on the National Assembly, which met on 9 January 2014 to decide on a request for permanent substitutions in the membership of the standing committees.

(Sessional Paper No. 1494-20140211)

11 February 2013

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 129 and section 4.4 of the Rules for the Conduct of Proceedings, Mr. Cousineau, Second Vice-President, moved:

THAT the change in the membership of the standing committees as provided for in the report from the steering committee of the Committee on the National Assembly be adopted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Ferland (Ungava), committee chairman, tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on Institutions, which, on 10 January 2014, elected its vice-chairman.

(Sessional Paper No. 1495-20140211)

Mr. Bergman (D'Arcy-McGee), committee chairman, tabled the following:

The report from the Committee on Health and Social Services, which, on 21, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29 November, on 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 December 2013, and on 15 and 16 January 2014, gave clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 52, An Act respecting end-of-life care. The report contains certain amendments to the Bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 1496-20140211)

Presenting Petitions

Mrs. Thériault (Anjou–Louis-Riel) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the modernization of Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital, and signed by 415 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1497-20140211)

11 February 2014

Mrs. St-Pierre (Acadie) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the state of finances prior to the next general election, and signed by 36 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1498-20140211)

Mr. Bonnardel (Granby) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting measures to combat poverty, and signed by 545 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1499-20140211)

Mr. Khadir (Mercier) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting a feasibility study on an engine-wheel monorail project, and signed by 1996 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1500-20140211)

Mr. Deltell (Chauveau) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting a feasibility study on the construction of a hyperloop in the Québec City-Toronto corridor, and signed by 106 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1501-20140211)

Mr. Bureau-Blouin (Laval-des-Rapides) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the reform of Québec's Highway Safety Code, and signed by 5337 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1502-20140211)

11 February 2013

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mr. Lessard (Lotbinière-Frontenac) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting a modification to the *Tobacco Act* to protect young people, and signed by 1004 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1503-20140211)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mr. Bonnardel (Granby) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting measures to combat poverty, and signed by 306 citizens of the Haute-Yamaska region.

(Sessional Paper No. 1504-20140211)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mrs. St-Amand (Trois-Rivières) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting a modification to the *Tobacco Act* to protect young people, and signed by 1000 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1505-20140211)

Complaints of Breach of Privilege or Contempt and Personal Explanations

Mr. President tabled the following:

A letter, dated 9 December 2013, he had received from Mr. Gérard Deltell, Second Opposition Group House Leader, accompanied by a copy of the letter transmitted on 6 December 2013 by Mr. Ékram Antoine Rabbat, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Fondation du Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal.

(Sessional Paper No. 1506-20140211)

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Mr. President informed the Assembly that the explanations provided by Mr. Rabbat satisfy the Second Opposition Group House Leader and thus end the complaints of breach of privilege or contempt procedure that had been initiated in June 2013 following his testimony before the Committee on Health and Social Services.

Mr. President gave a directive on modifications in the distribution of certain measures and speaking times having become necessary following changes in the composition of the Assembly.

DIRECTIVE FROM THE CHAIR

Regarding questions during Oral Questions and Answers, as the other independent Members, the Member for La Pinière will be granted one question per 8-sitting cycle, in seventh place at the second, fourth, sixth or eighth sitting of the cycle, in substitution for a question by the Official Opposition.

She will also be permitted to make one Member's statement per 6-sitting cycle, at the first, third or fifth sitting of the cycle, in substitution for a statement by the Official Opposition.

The independent Members sharing the same ranks will be required to reach a consensus as to when they may exercise their rights.

Furthermore, modifications taking into consideration the new composition of the Assembly will be made to the allocation of speaking times upon the holding of the various limited debates.

Mr. President then tabled the following:

Tables indicating the new distribution of questions for Oral Questions and Answers and the allocation of Statements by Members.

(Sessional Paper No. 1507-20140211)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

Motions Without Notice

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. D'Amour (Rivière-du-Loup—Témiscouata), together with Mr. Bérubé, minister responsible for the Bas-Saint-Laurent region, Mr. Lévesque (Vanier-Les Rivières), Mr. Khadir (Mercier), Mr. Ratthé (Blainville) and Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière), moved:

THAT the National Assembly pay tribute to the victims who perished in the fire that occurred on 23 January 2014 at the Résidence du Havre in L'Isle-Verte and offer its deepest condolences to their families, parents and friends;

THAT it pay tribute to the first responders of this tragedy and that it mark the dedication of the volunteers, organizations, police authorities, fire departments, public service personnel, health and social services network personnel and municipal authorities who worked together to provide support and comfort to the persons affected;

THAT, finally, the National Assembly observe a minute of silence as an expression of sympathy for the victims of this tragedy.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

At the invitation of Mr. Cousineau, Second Vice-President, the Assembly observed a minute of silence.

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Mr. Bédard, Government House Leader, moved a motion concerning an order to the Committee on Institutions concerning the visit of Mr. Jean-Louis Dufresne to the office of the Member for La Pinière; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Mrs. Roy (Montarville), together with Mrs. Charbonneau (Mille-Îles), moved a motion concerning the increase in school taxes for 2013; 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 Mr. St-Arnaud, Minister of Justice, Mr. Breton (Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques), Mrs. de Santis (Bourassa-Sauvé), Mr. Duchesneau (Saint-Jérôme) and Mr. Ratthé (Blainville), moved:

THAT the rainbow flag be flown atop one of the towers of the National Assembly for the duration of the Olympic Games in Sochi to affirm Québec's solidarity towards the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and transsexual community at home and abroad.

By leave of the Assembly, the motion was carried.

Pursuant to Standing Order 129, Mr. Fournier, Chief Opposition Whip, moved:

THAT the Member for Lotbinière-Frontenac be named a permanent member of the Committee on Transportation and the Environment;

THAT the Member for Viau be named a permanent member of the Committee on Transportation and the Environment in substitution for the Member for Richmond;

THAT the Member for Richmond be named a permanent member of the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain in substitution for the Member for Papineau;

THAT the Member for Papineau be named a permanent member of the Committee on Culture and Education in substitution for the Member for Bellechasse;

THAT the Member for Bellechasse be named a permanent member of the Committee on Institutions in substitution for the Member for Lotbinière-Frontenac;

THAT these modifications enter into effect immediately.

The motion was carried.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. Traversy, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following Committee:

- the Committee on Institutions, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 28, An Act to establish the new Code of Civil Procedure.

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

- the Committee on Health and Social Services shall continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on the living conditions of adults staying in residential and long-term care centres.

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Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. Ouimet, Third Vice-President, informed the Assembly that on Wednesday, 12 February 2014, during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, a debate will be held on the motion by Mr. Paradis (Brome-Missisquoi).

This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly demand that the Parti Québécois Government duly present the 2014-2015 budget speech and table the 2014-2015 expenditure budget before the Premier calls a general election.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Debates on Reports from Committees

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Public Administration, which held the following hearings: on 19 September 2013, concerning the Commission administrative des régimes de retraite et d'assurances; on 25 September 2013, concerning the failure to file declarations with Revenu Québec; on 2 October 2013, the control and monitoring of the treatment of municipal wastewater and the control and monitoring of the production of drinking water; on 9 October 2013, concerning government interventions in the mining sector; on 23 October 2013, concerning intellectual disabilities and pervasive developmental disorders; on 30 October 2013, concerning the administrative management of the Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale; on 6 November 2013, concerning the administrative management of the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec; on 13 November 2013, concerning home care services. The report contains 35 recommendations.

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Mr. Ouimet, Third Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this debate: 50 minutes 26 seconds shall be allotted to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 45 minutes 46 seconds shall be allotted to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 16 minutes 49 seconds shall be allotted to the Second Opposition Group; and 7 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.

Debates Upon Adjournment

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 309, the debates upon adjournment scheduled to be held between Mr. Paradis (Brome-Missisquoi) and Mr. Marceau, Minister of Finance and the Economy, about the importance of providing a clear picture of public finances to Quebecers before elections are called, and between Mr. Hamad (Louis-Hébert) and Mr. Marceau, Minister of Finance and the Economy, about the numerous job losses in Québec under the Parti Québécois Government, were deferred until Wednesday, 12 February 2014, at 6.00 o'clock p.m.

At 5.59 o'clock p.m., Mr. Ouimet, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 7.30 o'clock p.m.

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

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Debates on Reports from Committees

The Assembly continued the debate on the consideration of the report from the Committee on Public Administration.

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

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Institutions, which, on 28 November 2013, heard the Minister of Justice concerning the comments of the Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse made public on 17 October 2013 on the Government's policy directions regarding the proposed charter of Québec values as well as on the unconstitutionality of the Government's proposal. The report contains two recommendations.

Mr. Cousineau, Second Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this debate: 50 minutes 26 seconds shall be allotted to the parliamentary group forming the Government; 45 minutes 46 seconds shall be allotted to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 16 minutes 49 seconds shall be allotted to the Second Opposition Group; and 7 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.

Accordingly, at 9.30 o'clock p.m., Mr. Cousineau, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 12 February 2014, at 9.45 o'clock a.m.

JACQUES CHAGNON

President