



ACTIVITY REPORT

NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY
OF QUÉBEC

2015
2016

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NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY
OF QUÉBEC

**2015
2016**

This publication was prepared in collaboration with the senior management and personnel of all National Assembly of Québec administrative units. Unless otherwise specified, the information in this activity report covers the National Assembly's activities from April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Isabelle Giguère

COORDINATION AND TEXTS

Jean-Philippe Laprise

LINGUISTIC REVISION

Martine Dignard

FRENCH-ENGLISH TRANSLATION AND CONCORDANCE

Legislative Translation and Publishing Directorate

COLLABORATION

Marie-Josée Dufour

COVER

Manon Paré

FORMATTING

Isabelle Jacques

PHOTOS

**National Assembly of Québec collection,
National Assembly of Québec holdings,
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Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie,
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PHOTOGRAPHERS

**Claude Mathieu, Christian Chevalier,
Clément Allard, Valérie Cliche, Jean-Yves Cliche,
Roch Thérroux, Renaud Philippe, François Laliberté,
François Nadeau, Daniel Lessard,
Cécile Picard-Tardif**

Communications, Educational Programs and Visitor
Services Directorate

PRINTING

National Assembly Reprography and Printing Division

ISSN 1492-5753

ISBN 978-2-550-75645-3

Legal deposit – Bibliothèque et Archives nationales
du Québec, 2016

Legal deposit – Library and Archives Canada, 2016

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is my honour and privilege to present the National Assembly of Québec's 2015–2016 Activity Report for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016. The year 2015–2016 was rich in achievements and activities—parliamentary, administrative, citizenship, cultural and heritage-related—reflecting the vitality and openness of our democratic institution.

To ensure a healthy, harmonious workplace, in June 2015, the National Assembly released its "Policy on Preventing and Managing Situations Involving Harassment in the Workplace". Developed by a group of Members of all political stripes, chaired by Maryse Gaudreault, the National Assembly's Second Vice-President, this preventive policy sets out an equitable, effective process for dealing with harassment situations and reflects the special features inherent in our institution's work environment. The policy protects Members, Members' staff and administrative employees, and is unique in that it emphasizes prevention and maintaining a culture of civility.

Two major exhibitions were organized in 2015–2016. "Ladies, to the polls!" marked the 75th anniversary of Québec women's right to vote and run for election. And, "Entre savoir et pouvoir, l'édifice Pamphile-Le May et la Bibliothèque de l'Assemblée nationale, 1915 à 2015," which ran until September 2016, told the fascinating story of the construction of the Pamphile-Le May Building and the changes it has undergone to the present day.

Worldwide, state security has evolved over time. State institutions are part of this new reality and Québec is a leader in this area. At the request of the Speakers of the other legislative assemblies in Canada, we were invited to organize a seminar on parliamentary security, which highlighted the fact that many parliaments are rethinking their security systems. The Office of the National Assembly has authorized construction of a new reception pavilion. Modern, secure infrastructures mean the Assembly will be better able to receive its 124,000 annual visitors. Since construction work at the front of the Parliament Building is underground, the architectural integrity of our Assembly will be maintained.

From spring 2015 to spring 2016, the National Assembly passed 40 Acts, sat in 1,500 hours of parliamentary committees to address the various orders of reference under its authority, was invited to participate in different multilateral and bilateral parliamentary missions, and hosted several such missions, giving us a better understanding of the economic and political issues other parliaments face.

Lastly, we maintained our educational activities promoting learning and civic-mindedness to encourage citizens to participate in democratic life.

We hope you enjoy reading this year's report!



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Chagnon". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

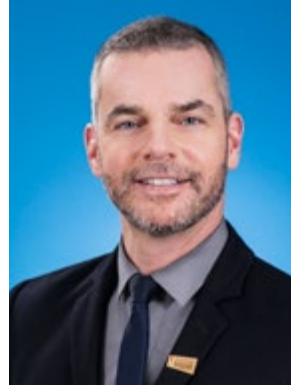
Jacques Chagnon
President of the National Assembly

SECRETARY GENERAL'S MESSAGE

Like the President, I am very proud to present the National Assembly's 17th Activity Report, which outlines the Québec Parliament's activities over the past fiscal year.

To perform their many parliamentary duties efficiently, the Members and their staff are supported by quality services, a work environment facilitating their work in parliamentary committees and their ridings, and the know-how of the National Assembly's personnel. At March 31, 2016, 675 employees ensured that Parliament ran smoothly.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks for their excellent work and commitment to our institution.



The services offered by the National Assembly are diverse, and many are available not only to the parliamentarians but also to the general public. To fulfill its various mandates, the Assembly has three general directorates, whose nine sectorial directorates work effectively to meet the institution's objectives and carry out its mission. We are always looking for new ways to update and renew the services we offer to both parliamentarians and Quebecers. This management philosophy permeates our administrative sector and guides our actions on a daily basis.

In concluding, allow me to echo the President's remarks. This year, the National Assembly undertook the largest construction project since Le Parlementaire restaurant was added to the Parliament Building a century ago. The work is being supervised by a highly qualified, dynamic team that oversees the various stages daily. The public can monitor the project's progress on our website. All Assembly personnel will be called on, to varying degrees over the next few years, to contribute to the work involved in construction of the new reception pavilion. To successfully bring this bold, innovative project to fruition, I know that we can count on our creative, qualified and devoted team, which always bears in mind the frontline role the National Assembly plays in the life of each and every citizen.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michel Bonsaint'.

Michel Bonsaint

Secretary General of the National Assembly

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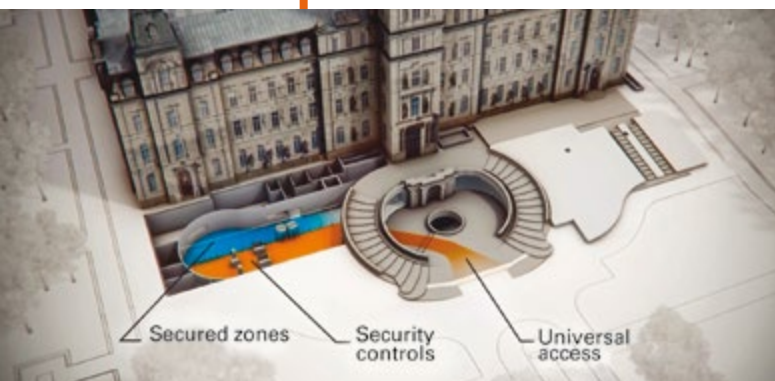
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INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

On November 12, 2015, the members of the Office of the National Assembly unanimously authorized the infrastructure improvement project. In a press conference that same day, President Jacques Chagnon and the Government and Opposition Whips presented the concept underlying this project of significant importance to our institution.

The project will reinforce the Parliament Building's security and enhance visitor access through three components:



- security and visitor reception infrastructures
- technical improvements and upgrades to standards
- parliamentary committee rooms.

Dating from the 19th century, the Parliament Building was designed to meet the needs of the times, and has undergone no expansion work for over 100 years. The construction of a separate underground reception pavilion will enable security checks to be performed outside the actual building and will improve reception infrastructures.

The project also includes significant upgrades to meet current standards and the construction of two parliamentary committee rooms adapted to the needs of the members, the media and the public.



INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

PROJECT FUNDING

The National Assembly will cover all project costs, estimated at \$60.5M, without requesting any additional funding.

TIMETABLE

Excavation work started in spring 2016, and construction, to be completed in spring 2019, will be carried out in several phases to minimize the impact on National Assembly proceedings. Below are some of the milestones that marked the period April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016.

STAGE	DATE
Project design	April 2015
Authorization by the Office of the National Assembly	November 2015
Submission of plans and preliminary specifications	December 2015
Launching of calls for tenders for construction work	January 2016
Construction site set-up	March 2016
Inauguration of construction site and beginning of construction work	March 2016

CONSTRUCTION SITE INAUGURATION

On March 24, 2016, in the Parliament Building forecourt, National Assembly President Jacques Chagnon inaugurated the new reception pavilion construction site in a symbolic ground-breaking ceremony.

On hand were Québec City Mayor Régis Labeaume and the three party Whips: Chief Government Whip Stéphane Billette, Chief Official Opposition Whip Harold Lebel and Whip of the Second Opposition Group Donald Martel.

Quebecers can watch how the work is progressing on the National Assembly website: www.assnat.qc.ca.



THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY:
**COMPOSITION AND
PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS**



Anti-Harassment Policy

On June 5, 2015, National Assembly President Jacques Chagnon announced the coming into effect of the “Policy on Preventing and Managing Situations Involving Harassment in the Workplace”. This policy reflects the Members’ and Administration’s commitment to making the National Assembly a healthy, harmonious, harassment-free workplace. Adopted by the Office of the National Assembly, it underscores the importance of prevention and maintaining a culture of civility. The policy outlines a fair, effective process for dealing with situations involving harassment and takes into account the special features marking the National Assembly’s work environment.

The policy applies to Members, political personnel and administrative staff. Its message is clear and consistent: the Assembly does not tolerate any form of harassment, regardless of the perpetrator.

As a background to the policy, in November 2014, the President had requested the creation of a working group mandated to make recommendations on preventing and managing harassment situations. Chaired by National Assembly Second Vice-President Maryse Gaudreault, the working group consisted of Members, both men and women, from all political parties represented in the National Assembly, supported by administrative staff. The policy can be consulted on the National Assembly website.



Former Premier Jacques Parizeau Lying in State

On Sunday, June 7, 2015, over 2,000 people came to the National Assembly to pay a final tribute to former Québec Premier Jacques Parizeau, lying in state in the Legislative Council Chamber. Dignitaries and citizens gathered to pay their respects and offer their condolences to his spouse, Lisette Lapointe, and other family members.



Lying in State at the National Assembly

Many people, including premiers, have lain in state at the National Assembly. In keeping with tradition, the National Assembly Chamber is used when a premier dies in office. Since 1867, four premiers have died in office, and three have lain in state: Félix-Gabriel Marchand (1900), Maurice Duplessis (1959) and Daniel Johnson (father) (1968). When a former premier passes away, he or she lies in state in the Legislative Council Chamber. Other former premiers, such as Jean Lesage (1980), René Lévesque (1987) and Robert Bourassa (1996) have also lain in the Legislative Council Chamber. *Cont’d on page 58.*



Flag Flying at Half-Mast in Solidarity with Attack Victims

The National Assembly flew the Québec and French flags at half-mast on the Parliament Building's central tower in memory of the victims of the tragic November 13, 2015 terrorist attacks in Paris.

On January 18, 2016, Québec Premier Philippe Couillard and National Assembly President Jacques Chagnon announced that the Québec flag would fly at half-mast on the Parliament Building's central tower in memory of the six Quebecers who died in the attacks in Burkina Faso and Indonesia.

After the Brussels attacks of March 22, 2016, the Québec flag was also flown at half-mast on the central tower of the Parliament Building.

Jacques Chagnon, Decorated with the Légion d'honneur

On February 2, 2016, the President of the National Assembly was named a "Grand Officier" of France's Ordre national de la Légion d'honneur by the Honourable François Hollande, President of the French Republic. This great honour recognizes Jacques Chagnon's outstanding career, particularly his commitment to La Francophonie and his contribution to enriching relations between Québec and France.



The Légion d'honneur is France's highest distinction given on behalf of the head of state to recognize the most deserving people in all fields of activity.

The National Assembly's Mission

The National Assembly is the repository of legislative power in Québec. It comprises 125 Members, elected in 125 ridings by the people of Québec. Members are responsible for debating and passing Québec's bills and budget. They also oversee government action and discuss matters of public interest, notably in parliamentary committees. The duration of the Members' collective mandate between two general elections is called a "legislature".



QUÉBEC'S THREE BRANCHES OF POWER

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Studies, discusses, amends and passes laws. Oversees the actions of the executive branch. Debates matters of public interest.

▼
Parliament

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Determines policies guiding State actions. Administers and manages the State in accordance with the laws passed by the legislative branch.

▼
Government

JUDICIAL BRANCH

Interprets the laws passed by the legislative branch. Decides whether a citizen or group is compliant with the law.

▼
Courts

The National Assembly's Composition

DISTRIBUTION OF SEATS

The last general election took place on April 7, 2014. Since the opening of the 41st Legislature's First Session on May 20, 2014, seat distribution has changed somewhat. As of March 31, 2016, it is as follows:

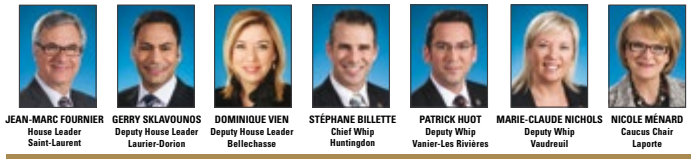
Quebec Liberal Party	71
Parti québécois	29
Coalition avenir Québec	20
Independent Members (Québec solidaire: 3)	4
Vacant positions	1



PHILIPPE COUILLARD
Premier
Roberval



A place for every citizen



JEAN-MARC FOURNIER
House Leader
Saint-Laurent

GERRY SKLAVOUNOS
Deputy House Leader
Laurier-Dorion

DOMINIQUE VIEN
Deputy House Leader
Bellechasse

STÉPHANE BILLETTE
Chief Whip
Huntingdon

PATRICK HUOT
Deputy Whip
Vanier-Les Rivières

MARIE-CLAUDE NICHOLS
Deputy Whip
Vaudreuil

NICOLE MÉNARD
Caucus Chair
Laporte



DOMINIQUE ANGLADE
Saint-Henri-Sainte-Anne

PIERRE ARCAD
Mont-Royal

PIERRE-MICHEL AUGER
Champlain

GAÉTAN BARRETTE
La Pinière

RAYMOND BERNIER
Montmorency

DAVID BIRNBAUM
D'Arcy-McGee

FRANÇOIS BLAIS
Charlesbourg

LUC BLANCHETTE
Bois-Morand-Témiscamie

GISLAIN BOLDUC
Mégantic

JEAN BOUCHER
Ungeva

JULIE BOULET
Lévis

GUY BOURGEOIS
Abitibi-Est

PAUL BUSQUE
Beauce-Sud

MARC CARRIÈRE
Chapleau

FRANCINE CHARBONNEAU
Mille-Îles

LUCIE CHARLEBOIS
Soulages

GERMAIN CHEVARIÉ
Îles-de-la-Madeleine

MARTIN COITEUX
Neffigan

JEAN D'AMOUR
Rivière-du-Loup-Témiscouata

JACQUES DAoust
Verdon

HÉLÈNE DAVID
Outremont

RITA DE SANTIS
Bourassa-Sauvé

ANDRÉ DROLET
Jean-Lesage

ANDRÉ FORTIN
Pontiac

LUC FORTIN
Sherbrooke

PIERRE GIGUÈRE
Saint-Maurice

JEAN-DENIS GIRARD
Trois-Rivières

JEAN HABEL
Sainte-Rose

SAM HAMAD
Louis-Hébert

GUY HARDY
Saint-François

DAVID HEURTEL
Vincennes

ALEXANDRE IRACÀ
Papineau

GEOFFREY KELLEY
Jacques-Cartier

CARLOS J. LEITÃO
Robert-Baldwin

LAURENT LESSARD
Lobnitz-Frontenac

MICHEL MATTE
Portneuf

RICHARD MERLINI
La Prairie

MARIE MONTPETT
Crimée

PIERRE MOREAU
Châteauguay

NORBERT MORIN
Côte-du-Sud

GUY OUELLETTE
Champlain

PIERRE PARADIS
Brome-Missisquoi

MARC H. PLANTE
Maskinonge

ROBERT POËTI
Mauricie-Saguenay

SAUL POLO
Laval-des-Rapides

SÉBASTIEN PROULX
Jean-Talon

PIERRE REID
Orford

FLORENTA ROTIRO
Jeanne-Mance-Viger

JEAN ROUSSELLE
Vincennes

MONIQUE SAUVÉ
Fabre

CAROLINE SIMARD
Charlevoix-Côte-de-Beaupré

SERGE SIMARD
Dudouville

YVES ST-DENIS
Argenteuil

CHRISTINE ST-PIERRE
Acadie

MARC TANGUAY
LaFontaine

LISE THÉRIAULT
Abitibi-Ouest

VERONIQUE TREMBLAY
Châteauguay

STÉPHANIE VALLÉE
Gatineau

KARINE VALLIÈRES
Richmond

KATHLEEN WEIL
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce

2016



JACQUES CHAGNON
President
Westmount-Saint-Louis



FRANÇOIS GUIMET
Vice-President
Marquette



MARYSE GAUDREAU
Vice-President
Hull



FRANÇOIS GENDRON
Vice-President
Abitibi-Ouest



Parliamentarians of the
41st Legislature
at March 31, 2016

LÉGISLATURE



PIERRE KARL PÉLADÉAU
Leader of the Official Opposition
Saint-Jérôme



BERNARD DRAINVILLE House Leader
Marie-Victorin
AGNÈS MALTAIS Deputy House Leader
Taschereau
HAROLD LEBEL Chief Whip
Rimouski
NICOLE LÉGER Caucus Chair
Pointe-aux-Trembles



STÉPHANE BERGERON Verchères
PASCAL BÉRUBÉ Matane-Matapédia
ALEXANDRE CLOUTIER Lac-Saint-Jean
CLAUDE COUSINEAU Bertrand
SYLVAIN GAUDREAU Jonquière
VERONIQUE HIVON Joliette
MAKA KOTTO Bourget
DIANE LAMARRE Taillon
GUY LECLAIR Beauharnois
GAÉTAN LELIÈVRE Gaspé
JEAN-FRANÇOIS LISÉE Rosemont
NICOLAS MARCEAU Rousseau
MARTIN OUELLET René-Lévesque
MARTINE OUELLET Vachon
SYLVAIN PAGÉ Labelle
CAROLE POIRIER Hochelaga-Maisonneuve
LORRAINE RICHARD Duplessis
SYLVAIN ROCHON Richelieu



SYLVAIN ROY Bonaventure
ALAIN THERRIEN Sanguinet
MATHIEU TRAVERSY Terrebonne
DAVE TURCOTTE Saint-Jean
ANDRÉ VILLENEUVE Berthier



FRANÇOIS LEGAULT
Leader of the Second Opposition Group
L'Assomption



FRANÇOIS BONNARDEL House Leader
Granby
ÉRIC CAIRE Deputy House Leader
La Pêtrie
DONALD MARTEL Chief Whip
Nicolet-Bécancour
NATHALIE ROY Caucus Chair
Montarville



BENOÎT CHARETTE Deux-Montagnes
SYLVIE D'AMOURS Mirabel
SIMON JOLIN-BARRETTE Bordsud
MARIO LAFRANÇOISE Blainville
ANDRÉ LAMONTAGNE Johnson
LISE LAVALLÉE Repentigny
MATHIEU LEMAY Masson
FRANÇOIS PARADIS Lévis
MARC PICARD Chutes-de-la-Chaudière
JEAN-FRANÇOIS ROBERGE Chambly
CLAIRE SAMSON Iberville
SÉBASTIEN SCHNEEBERGER Drummond-Bois-Francs
CHANTAL SOUCY Saint-Hyacinthe
ANDRÉ SPÉNARD Beauce-Nord

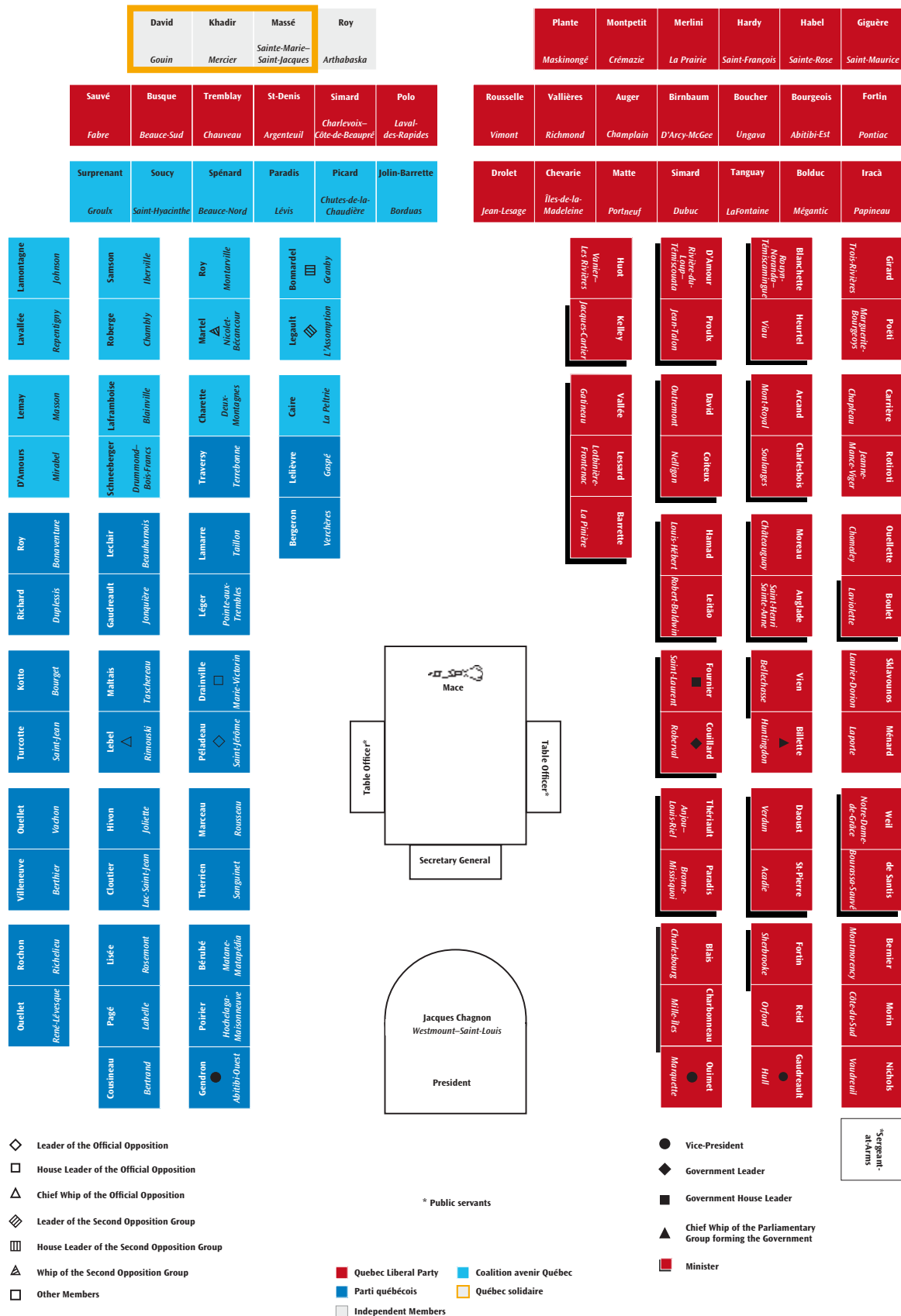


CLAUDE SURPRENANT
Grosbois



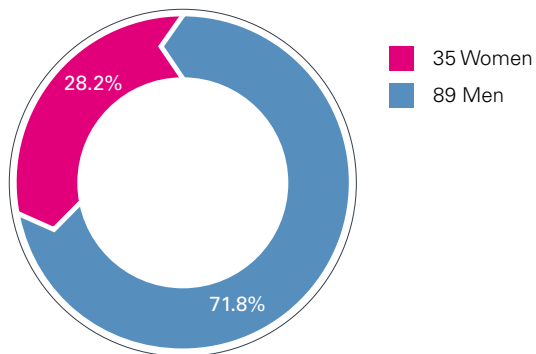
FRANÇOISE DAVID Gouin
AMIR KHADIR Mercier
MANON MASSÉ Sainte-Marie-Saint-Jacques
SYLVIE ROY Arthabaska

SEATING PLAN OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AT MARCH 31, 2016

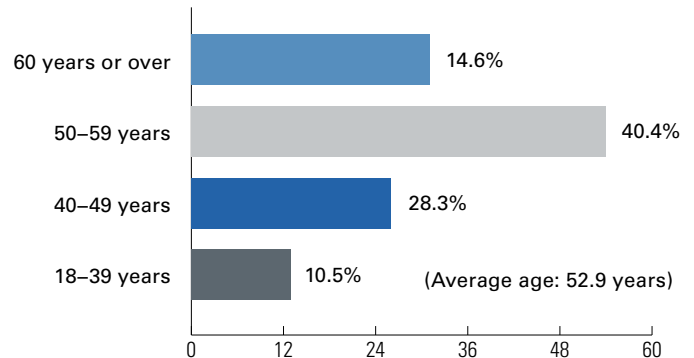


MEMBER PROFILE

Breakdown by gender



Breakdown by age group



CHANGES IN THE ASSEMBLY'S COMPOSITION

Resignations

Six Members have resigned since April 1, 2015:



Gérard Deltell
Chauveau riding
First elected:
December 8, 2008
Resigned:
April 7, 2015



Gilles Ouimet
Fabre riding
First elected:
September 4, 2012
Resigned:
August 24, 2015



Marjolain Dufour
René-Lévesque riding
First elected:
April 14, 2003
Resigned:
September 10, 2015



Marguerite Blais
Saint-Henri-Sainte-Anne riding
First elected:
March 26, 2007
Resigned:
September 15, 2015



Robert Dutil
Beauce-Sud riding
First elected:
December 2, 1985
Resigned:
September 26, 2015



Stéphane Bédard
Chicoutimi riding
First elected:
November 30, 1998
Resigned:
October 22, 2015

New Members

Six by-elections were held in 2015–2016:



By-election in
Chauveau riding,
June 8, 2015:
Véronique Tremblay,
Quebec Liberal Party,
was elected.



By-election in
Jean-Talon riding,
June 8, 2015:
Sébastien Proulx,
Quebec Liberal Party,
was elected.



By-election in
Beauce-Sud riding,
November 9, 2015:
Paul Busque,
Quebec Liberal Party,
was elected.



By-election in
Fabre riding,
November 9, 2015:
Monique Sauvé,
Quebec Liberal Party,
was elected.



By-election in
René-Lévesque riding,
November 9, 2015:
Martin Ouellet,
Parti québécois,
was elected.



By-election in
Saint-Henri–Sainte-Anne
riding,
November 9, 2015:
Dominique Anglade,
Quebec Liberal Party,
was elected.

Orientation Sessions for New Members and their Staff

The National Assembly's mission is to support Members in their role as legislators and overseers of government activity. Newly elected Members can attend training sessions given by the General Directorate for Legal and Parliamentary Affairs to help them better understand the institution and their new work environment.

In 2015–2016, the six newly elected Members attended training sessions to familiarize themselves with their roles and with the different aspects of parliamentary proceedings and the rules governing them. Similar training sessions were offered to the Members' staff to properly equip them to carry out their duties.

Change of Political Affiliation



Sylvie Roy, Member for Arthabaska, began sitting as an independent Member on August 26, 2015.

THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

President

First elected President on April 5, 2011 and re-elected for a third time on May 20, 2014, Jacques Chagnon, Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis, performs his duties impartially, not participating in debates and voting only to break a tie. As President of the National Assembly, he does not join in his party's activities.

The President plays three main roles:

1 ■ Arbitrating the Assembly's proceedings

The President applies the Standing Orders of the National Assembly to maintain order, ensure the proper conduct of proceedings and protect Members' rights.

2 ■ Administering the Assembly's administrative services

The President ensures that the National Assembly's administrative services meet the needs of the Members and citizens.

3 ■ Representing the Assembly

The President plays a key role in making the National Assembly known throughout Québec and the world over, particularly by developing relations with other parliaments. Through various communications and educational activities, the President promotes democratic values and raises the general public's awareness of the Members' work.



Jacques Chagnon
President

The President ranks fourth in order of importance in Québec, after the Lieutenant-Governor, the Premier and the cardinals.

Vice-Presidents

François Ouimet, Member for Marquette, Maryse Gaudreault, Member for Hull, and François Gendron, Member for Abitibi-Ouest, were elected First, Second and Third Vice-President of the Assembly, respectively.



François Ouimet
First Vice-President



Maryse Gaudreault
Second Vice-President



François Gendron
Third Vice-President

PARLIAMENTARY ANNIVERSARIES

In spring 2015, National Assembly President Jacques Chagnon paid tribute to six Members in a ceremony marking 10, 15 and 20 years of parliamentary service. They are (from left to right):



- Member for Bellechasse–Dominique Vien (10 years)
- Member for Châteauguay–Pierre Moreau (10 years)
- Member for Côte-du-Sud–Norbert Morin (10 years)
- Member for Beauce-Sud–Robert Dutil (15 years)
- Member for Jacques-Cartier–Geoffrey Kelley (20 years)
- Member for Marquette–François Ouimet (20 years).

In late 2015, a ceremony was held to mark the 10-year anniversary of the Member for Verchères, Stéphane Bergeron, the 30-year anniversary of the President of the National Assembly and Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis, Jacques Chagnon, and the 35-year anniversary of the Member for Brome-Missisquoi, Pierre Paradis, highlighting their active participation in Québec politics.



Parliamentary Business

AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

At the October 7, 2015 sitting, the Members of the National Assembly unanimously adopted amendments to the Assembly's Standing Orders concerning Oral Question Period and Hours of Meeting.

These amendments followed from a motion moved on September 15, 2015 by the Official Opposition House Leader, together with the Third Vice-President of the Assembly, the Government House Leader, the Second Opposition Group House Leader, the Member for Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques and the Member for Arthabaska.

More specifically, Members were henceforth required to refrain from applauding during Oral Question Period. As a result of this measure, the time actually used for questions and answers has increased by more than 2 minutes and 30 seconds, on average, per sitting.

The Standing Orders now also stipulate that sittings are to begin a little earlier and that Routine Proceedings must resume more quickly than before, once the Statements by Members are finished.

SITTINGS

In parliamentary jargon, each day of deliberations is called a “sitting.” A sitting has two distinct parts: Routine Proceedings and Orders of the Day. The number of sittings can vary from session to session. Historically, the shortest session had a single sitting, while the longest sessions had approximately 200.

Over the past year, 85 sittings took place in the National Assembly.

	SITTINGS	HOURS
April	12	56 h 00 min
May	12	54 h 15 min
June	8	24 h 55 min
September	8	26 h 15 min
October	10	30 h 54 min
November	13	58 h 00 min
December	4	16 h 36 min
February	9	37 h 12 min
March	9	47 h 10 min
TOTAL	85	351 h 17 min

Extraordinary Sittings

At the Premier's request, the Assembly can hold an extraordinary sitting outside the regular parliamentary proceedings calendar. In 2015–2016, the Premier convened the Assembly for one extraordinary sitting, on April 20, 2015, to conclude consideration of Bill 28, An Act mainly to implement certain provisions of the Budget Speech of 4 June, 2014 and return to a balanced budget in 2015–2016.

Archived Transcripts

Since 1964, the *Journal des débats* (Hansard) has given a verbatim account of all addresses and actions by Members and other persons during Assembly and Committee sittings. In 2015–2016, a 50-person team transcribed over 1,900 hours of Assembly proceedings and activities, including 167 hours of press activities.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Routine Proceedings is divided into sections that are generally reserved for information transmitted by the Government to the National Assembly.

■ Statements by Ministers

In 2015–2016, only one ministerial statement was made. On June 10, 2015, the Premier made a statement about government action regarding the phenomenon of radicalization and religious neutrality of the State.

A minister can make a statement to the National Assembly on any subject he or she considers relevant, for example, to announce a government policy or express the Government's reaction to a specific event.



■ Oral Questions and Answers

Oral Questions and Answers, also known as Oral Question Period, is a 45-minute period during which Members can put questions to ministers on any matter of public interest. Oral Question Period constitutes one of the means available to Members for overseeing government action. The following statistics are based on the parliamentary calendar, which covers spring and fall, not the full fiscal year.

1st Legislature, 1st Session, spring 2015

Number of hours allotted for Oral Questions and Answers:

30 h 12 min

Number of main questions	432
Number of supplementary questions	838

41st Legislature, 2nd Session, fall 2015

Number of hours allotted for Oral Questions and Answers:

23 h 38 min

Number of main questions	334
Number of supplementary questions	632

■ Presenting Papers

Between April 1, 2015 and March 31, 2016, a total of 1,101 documents were tabled in the National Assembly, breaking down as follows:

Replies to written questions placed on the <i>Order Paper and Notices</i>	87
Reports from the Law Clerk	13
Decisions of the Office of the National Assembly	14
Petitions	162
Replies to petitions	142
Committee reports	98
Annual reports (government departments and public bodies)	274
Other documents	311
TOTAL	1,101



Bills

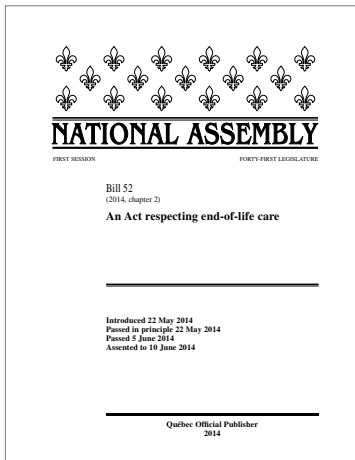
Between April 1, 2015 and March 31, 2016, a total of 74 bills were introduced in the National Assembly, compared to 54 the preceding year, breaking down as follows:

- 45 Government bills
- 16 Private Member's public bills
- 13 Private bills.

Of all the bills introduced in the Assembly, 40 were passed.

Government bills	31 bills, with 58% passed unanimously
Private Member's public bills	1 bill passed unanimously
Private bills	8 bills passed unanimously

The list of bills passed is in Appendix I.



Legislative Publishing

The year 2015–2016 set a record year, in recent history, for the number of pages of legislation published, with close to 5,800 pages of legislation introduced and assented to (French and English). Bill drafting often involves a number of consecutive versions or multiple proofs, each of which must be read and corrected to ensure linguistic quality and French-English equivalency.

Despite the fact that some 40 bills were not passed, 1,500 pages of legislation were published.

Annual Compilation of Statutes Assented to

Each year, the National Assembly publishes a compilation (French and English versions) of the statutes assented to over the calendar year (January 1 to December 31). The 1,950-page compilation for 2015 includes the text of each bill assented to, the annual table of amendments made to the Compilation of Québec Laws and Regulations, a subject index and a table of concordance between the Compilation chapter number and the bill's number until it was assented to.

National Assembly Legislative Directory

Published annually, the “Répertoire législatif de l'Assemblée nationale” is a summary of the legislative activity that took place over the calendar year. The directory contains a fact sheet for each public statute, a table of amendments made to public statutes, a list of public statutes by government department or sector and an alphabetical index of public statutes.

Both publications are available from Les Publications du Québec.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

The second part of the National Assembly sitting, known as Orders of the Day, is devoted primarily to the consideration of bills but is also the time when all other substantive debates are introduced in the Assembly.

■ **Business Having Precedence**

As its name indicates, this business takes priority because of its importance or urgency. On March 17, 2016, the Budget Speech and the ensuing 25-hour debate fell into this category.

■ **Urgent Debates**

In 2015–2016, the Chair received only one request for an urgent debate. It concerned Québec’s reception of Syrian refugees. The request was ruled receivable.

Any Member may request an urgent debate on a specific subject of particular importance that falls under the Assembly’s jurisdiction and that could not otherwise be discussed. The Chair decides, without discussion, whether the request is receivable. If the request is received, a limited two-hour debate on the matter ensues. The debate does not give rise to a decision by the Assembly.

■ **Debates on Reports from Committees**

In 2015–2016, the Assembly considered five committee reports containing recommendations.

Committee reports containing recommendations are placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* the day after they are tabled in the Assembly and must be considered in the following 15 days.

■ **Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition**

In 2015–2016, a total of 19 motions were debated during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.

Eleven of these motions were moved by Members of the Official Opposition and eight were moved by Members of the Second Opposition Group.

Of the 19 motions debated, only one was carried.

■ **Approval of International Agreements**

On 12 occasions in 2015–2016, the Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie moved motions asking the Assembly to approve important international agreements that she had just tabled. In each case, the Assembly held a limited debate before approving the international agreement in question.



■ Written Questions Placed on the *Order Paper and Notices*

A total of 114 questions were placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* in 2015–2016. The replies to the written questions were tabled by the Government House Leader at the time set aside for this purpose during Routine Proceedings.

Under the Standing Orders, written questions may be used when:

- the matter in question does not require an immediate reply
- the expected replies require a certain amount of research.

What is the *Order Paper and Notices*?

The *Order Paper and Notices* is a parliamentary publication containing information and listing the business the Assembly may consider. Although it is short-lived, it is nonetheless essential, providing something of a menu for each sitting day. Its purpose is to inform the Members of all business that may be the topic of debate.

■ Debates upon Adjournment

Under Standing Order 308, any Member who feels that a matter he or she raised during Oral Question Period was not sufficiently discussed may ask that it be debated further upon adjournment. Debates upon adjournment are held Tuesdays and Thursdays, and no more than three may be held per sitting. No debates upon adjournment are held when the Assembly is in extended hours of meeting. Over the past year, there were 23 debates upon adjournment.

Parliamentary Committees

Members carry out a great deal of their parliamentary business within the National Assembly's nine sectorial committees, the Committee on the National Assembly and the Committee on Public Administration, in which they play their roles as legislators and overseers of government activity. These committees, composed of Members from the various parliamentary groups, are responsible for examining any matter falling under their jurisdiction and for considering bills in detail (with the exception of the Committee on the National Assembly).

Committees carry out four types of mandates or orders:

Mandates Received by Order of Reference from the Assembly

Orders of reference involve examining bills, the estimates of expenditure and any other matter the Assembly may refer to a given committee.

Mandates Conferred under the Standing Orders

The most common type of mandate in this category is an interpellation, which involves a debate between a Member of the Opposition and a Minister on a question of general interest falling within the Minister's jurisdiction.

Statutory Orders

Some Québec statutes assign specific orders to parliamentary committees, such as considering annual or periodic reports, examining a statute's implementation, examining regulations and hearing a public body's senior officers.

Mandates Arising from Self-Initiated Orders (Orders of Initiative)

Committees may, on their own initiative, examine draft regulations or government regulations, the policy directions, activities and management of government departments and public bodies, petitions and any other matter of public interest.

Watching and Attending Parliamentary Proceedings

Most committee sittings are public and open to Quebecers. The debates are also fully transcribed in the *Journal des débats* (Hansard), available (in French only) on the Assembly's website. Finally, the public can watch live video streaming or recordings of the proceedings on the National Assembly Channel and website, where the proceedings schedule is shown.

WORK CARRIED OUT IN COMMITTEE

Consideration of Bills

Consideration of bills constitutes a great deal of the work carried out by parliamentary committees. In 2015–2016, the committees devoted 59.6% of their time to examining 39 public bills and 8 private bills, listed in Appendix I. Over the last 10 years, on average, the committees have devoted 51.9% of their time annually to examining bills. During clause-by-clause consideration, 3,323 sections of bills were examined and 650 of the 944 amendments proposed were passed.

All orders completed during the year or under way at March 31, 2016 are listed in Appendix II.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES	Hours	Percentage
Estimates of expenditure	198 h 30 min	13.5%
Interpellations	29 h 54 min	2.0%
Orders carried out by the Committee on Public Administration	47 h 06 min	3.2%
Public body oversight and accountability	16 h 55 min	1.2%
TOTAL PARLIAMENTARY OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES (SUBTOTAL)	292 h 2 min	19.9%
Consideration of public bills	868 h 21 min	59.0%
Consideration of private bills	8 h 40 min	0.6%
Other orders of the Assembly	151 h 51 min	10.3%
Election of Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs	0 h 24 min	0.0%
Other orders under the Standing Orders	10 h 46 min	0.7%
Statutory orders	40 h 05 min	2.7%
Examination of petitions	0 h 00 min	0.0%
Other orders of initiative	34 h 54 min	2.3%
General organization of deliberative meetings	63 h 46 min	4.4%
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	1,471 h 12 min	100.0 %

Parliamentary Oversight

Parliamentary committee members have many means at their disposal to oversee the activities of the Government and the public service. In 2015–2016, these committees devoted 19.9% of their time to such oversight activities, the most important of which is examining the estimates of expenditure.

Public Consultations

In 2015–2016, 680 individuals and organizations participated in public hearings held within the framework of 1 general consultation and 37 special consultations, 26 of which concerned bills. In the context of these consultations, 898 briefs were submitted to the Members. Over the last 10 years, committees have heard an average of 560 individuals and organizations per year.

Examining the Estimates of Expenditure

The parliamentary committees examine the estimates of expenditure within their area of competence no less than 15 days after the estimates have been tabled in the National Assembly. This examination usually takes place in April and continues for 10 consecutive sitting days, Monday through Friday. Examination of the 2015–2016 estimates of expenditure ran from April 22 to May 5, 2015, representing a total of 198 hours 30 minutes.

Work Breakdown over the Year

Parliamentary committees can meet Monday through Friday, even if the Assembly is not sitting or if the proceedings have been adjourned. In 2015–2016, the committees held 509 sittings, representing a total of 1,471 hours and 12 minutes of committee work. The following table shows the monthly breakdown of committee hours and sittings. The marked increase in the number of sittings and hours in April is due to the examination of the 2015–2016 estimates of expenditure.

MONTH	SITTINGS	HOURS
April 2015	57	200 h 17 min
May 2015	57	159 h 29 min
June 2015	30	68 h 49 min
July 2015	0	0 h 00 min
August 2015	19	90 h 24 min
September 2015	81	239 h 35 min
October 2015	51	139 h 26 min
November 2015	64	169 h 43 min
December 2015	18	42 h 09 min
January 2016	9	31 h 34 min
February 2016	67	174 h 22 min
March 2016	56	155 h 24 min



STANDING PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

■ COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



Areas of Competence: Establish the Standing Orders and Rules for the Conduct of Proceedings, coordinate the proceedings of the other committees and, if applicable, hear any persons who, under Québec law, must be appointed by the Assembly.

Members at March 31, 2016

President of the National Assembly	Jacques Chagnon (Westmount–Saint-Louis) QLP
Vice-Presidents of the National Assembly	Maryse Gaudreault (Hull) QLP François Gendron (Abitibi-Ouest) PQ François Ouimet (Marquette) QLP
House Leaders of the parliamentary groups	François Bonnardel (Granby) CAQ Bernard Drainville (Marie-Victorin) PQ Jean-Marc Fournier (Saint-Laurent) QLP
Whips of the parliamentary groups	Stéphane Billette (Huntingdon) QLP Harold LeBel (Rimouski) PQ Donald Martel (Nicolet-Bécancour) CAQ
Committee Chairs	Michel Auger (Champlain) QLP Raymond Bernier (Montmorency) QLP Claude Cousineau (Bertrand) PQ Sylvain Gaudreault (Jonquière) PQ Guy Ouellette (Chomedey) QLP Marc Picard (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière) CAQ Pierre Reid (Orford) QLP Filomena Rotiroti (Jeanne-Mance–Viger) QLP Marc Tanguay (LaFontaine) QLP

Main Committee Orders in 2015–2016

The Committee on the National Assembly did not hold any sittings in 2015–2016, but its Steering Committee met many times, among other things, to rule on travel authorization requests. The Steering Committee comprises the President of the National Assembly, the House Leaders of the parliamentary groups and the Committee Clerk.

■ COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Areas of Competence: Examine all financial commitments, hear the Auditor General on his annual management report, hear the deputy ministers and chief executive officers of public bodies on their administrative management, in particular if such management is noted in a report from the Auditor General or the Public Protector, examine the annual report on implementation of the *Public Administration Act*, and examine any other matter the Assembly may refer to it.

Members at March 31, 2016

Chair	Sylvain Gaudreault (Jonquière) PQ
Vice-Chairs	Benoît Charette (Deux-Montagnes) CAQ Jean-Denis Girard (Trois-Rivières) QLP
QLP	PQ
Raymond Bernier (Montmorency)	Carole Poirier (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve)
Ghislain Bolduc (Mégantic)	Dave Turcotte (Saint-Jean)
André Drolet (Jean-Lesage)	André Villeneuve (Berthier)
Pierre Giguère (Saint-Maurice)	CAQ
Guy Ouellette (Chomedey)	Éric Caire (La Peltrie)
Pierre Reid (Orford)	



Main Committee Orders in 2015–2016

In June 2015, the Committee tabled its **32nd report** on the accountability of deputy ministers and chief executive officers of public bodies. The report contains **30 unanimous recommendations** resulting from the six hearings held on the following subjects:

- 2012–2014 report on implementation of the *Public Administration Act*
- 2013–2014 annual management report of the Auditor General of Québec
- administrative management of the Régie des alcools, des courses et des jeux
- Centre de services partagés du Québec's procurement of goods and services
- administrative management of the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux
- administrative management of the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport.

In December 2015, the Committee tabled its **33rd report**, which contains **31 unanimous recommendations** resulting from the eight hearings held on the following subjects:

- administrative management of the Commission des libérations conditionnelles
- administrative management of the Régie des marchés agricoles et alimentaires du Québec
- Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation at-risk contracts
- application of the law with regard to dam safety and operation
- compensation and rehabilitation of workers who sustain an employment injury
- administrative management of the Institut de tourisme et d'hôtellerie du Québec
- administrative management and financial commitments of the Commission de la fonction publique du Québec
- administrative management of the Ministère du Conseil exécutif.

As stipulated in the Standing Orders, the Committee also **examined the annual management reports of 17 government departments and public bodies** in its 32nd report and **10 government departments and public bodies** in its 33rd report, which also includes a follow-up on recommendations made by the Committee in previous reports.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES



Areas of Competence: Agriculture, fisheries, food, energy, natural resources.

Members at March 31, 2016

Chair	Sylvain Pagé (Labelle) PQ
Vice-Chair	Alexandre Iracà (Papineau) QLP
QLP	PQ
Guy Bourgeois (Abitibi-Est)	Lorraine Richard (Duplessis)
Paul Busque (Beauce-Sud)	Alain Therrien (Sanguinet)
Germain Chevarie (Îles-de-la-Madeleine)	André Villeneuve (Berthier)
Pierre Giguère (Saint-Maurice)	CAQ
Norbert Morin (Côte-du-Sud)	Sylvie D'Amours (Mirabel)
Serge Simard (Dubuc)	Chantal Soucy (Saint-Hyacinthe)

Main Committee Orders in 2015–2016

In fall 2015, the Committee heard **41 individuals and organizations** within the framework of **special consultations on Bill 54**, An Act to improve the legal situation of animals. This bill enacting the *Animal Welfare and Safety Act* was given clause-by-clause consideration over 14 sittings.

After hearing the Commission de la protection du territoire agricole du Québec in November 2014 and discussing the Commission's policy directions, activities and administrative management, the Committee decided to hear 10 more individuals and organizations to further its deliberations. On completing these hearings, in December 2015, the Committee tabled **a report containing 16 recommendations** in the Assembly.

In December 2014, the Committee adopted an **order of initiative** aimed at analyzing the farmland grabbing phenomenon in Québec. In March 2016, after hearing **19 individuals and organizations** within the framework of **special consultations** held in March 2015, the Committee tabled its report containing **5 recommendations** in the Assembly.

COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND THE PUBLIC DOMAIN



Areas of Competence: Land use planning and development, municipal affairs, housing, sport and recreation, local and regional community development.

Members at March 31, 2016

Chair	Pierre Michel Auger (Champlain) QLP
Vice-Chair	Martine Ouellet (Vachon) PQ
QLP	PQ
Marc Carrière (Chapleau)	Sylvain Gaudreault (Jonquière)
Germain Chevarie (Îles-de-la-Madeleine)	Gaétan Lelièvre (Gaspé)
Guy Hardy (Saint-François)	Martin Ouellet (René-Lévesque)
Norbert Morin (Côte-du-Sud)	CAQ
Marc H. Plante (Maskinongé)	Mario Laframboise (Blainville)
Jean Rousselle (Vimont)	Donald Martel (Nicolet-Bécancour)

Main Committee Orders in 2015–2016

In September 2015, the Committee held **special consultations on Bill 492**, An Act to amend the Civil Code to protect seniors' rights as lessees, introduced by an independent Member.

The Committee also heard some 15 individuals and organizations within the framework of **special consultations on Bill 83**, An Act to amend various municipal-related legislative provisions concerning such matters as political financing. **This 90-section bill amends 13 existing statutes.**

In keeping with its obligation under the *Municipal Ethics and Good Conduct Act*, the Committee examined the 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 reports on this statute's implementation. In February 2016, after hearing a number of experts and organizations, the Committee tabled a **report** containing conclusions and **2 recommendations** in the Assembly.

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

Areas of Competence: Culture, education, vocational training, higher education, communications.

Members at March 31, 2016

Chair	Filomena Rotiroti (Jeanne-Mance-Viger) QLP
Vice-Chair	Maka Kotto (Bourget) PQ
QLP	PQ
Pierre Michel Auger (Champlain)	Alexandre Cloutier (Lac-Saint-Jean)
David Birnbaum (D'Arcy-McGee)	Véronique Hivon (Joliette)
Marc Carrière (Chapleau)	Dave Turcotte (Saint-Jean)
André Fortin (Pontiac)	
Jean Habel (Sainte-Rose)	CAQ
Alexandre Iracà (Papineau)	Jean-François Roberge (Chambly)
	Claire Samson (Iberville)



Main Committee Orders in 2015–2016

In April 2015, the Committee held a hearing of the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles to discuss the latter's policy directions, activities and administrative management. The Committee members' observations were then drafted into a report, which was tabled in the Assembly.

In fall 2015, in keeping with the *Act respecting educational institutions at the university level*, the Committee heard the **senior officers of 13 Québec universities**. The Committee must carry out this mandate every three years.

In February 2016, the Committee began its **special consultations on Bill 86**, An Act to modify the organization and governance of school boards to give schools a greater say in decision-making and ensure parents' presence within each school board's decision-making body. By the time the Committee members have completed these consultations, they will have heard **60 individuals and organizations**.



■ COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND THE ECONOMY

Areas of Competence: Industry, trade, tourism, labour, manpower, science, technology, income security.

Members at March 31, 2016

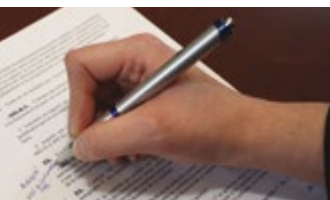
Chair	Claude Cousineau (Bertrand) PQ
Vice-Chair	Robert Poëti (Marguerite-Bourgeoys) QLP
QLP André Drolet (Jean-Lesage) Guy Hardy (Saint-François) Saul Polo (Laval-des-Rapides) Monique Sauvé (Fabre) Caroline Simard (Charlevoix–Côte-de-Beaupré) Yves St-Denis (Argenteuil)	PQ Stéphane Bergeron (Verchères) Guy Leclair (Beauharnois) Alain Therrien (Sanguinet) CAQ André Lamontagne (Johnson) Sébastien Schneeberger (Drummond–Bois-Francis)

Main Committee Orders in 2015–2016

In 2015–2016, the Committee held **special consultations** on and carried out **clause-by-clause consideration** of many bills, including bills **creating three public bodies**: Retraite Québec (**Bill 58**), Commission des normes, de l'équité, de la santé et de la sécurité du travail (**Bill 42**) and Tribunal administratif du travail (**Bill 42**).

Within the framework of **special consultations on Bill 70**, An Act to allow a better match between training and jobs and to facilitate labour market entry, the Committee heard **27 individuals and organizations** and received a total of **82 briefs**.

The Committee held **special consultations** on and carried out **clause-by-clause consideration** of **10 bills** over the course of the year.



■ COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC FINANCE

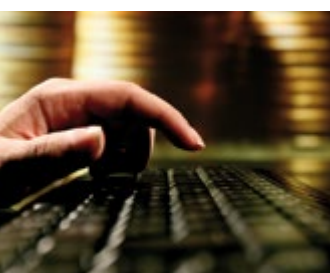
Areas of Competence: Finance, the budget, government administration, the public service, revenue, services, supply, pension plans.

Members at March 31, 2016

Chair	Raymond Bernier (Montmorency) QLP
Vice-Chair	Jean-François Lisée (Rosemont) PQ André Spénard (Beauce-Nord) CAQ
QLP André Fortin (Pontiac) Jean-Denis Girard (Trois-Rivières) Jean Habel (Sainte-Rose) Michel Matte (Portneuf) Richard Merlini (La Prairie) Saul Polo (Laval-des-Rapides)	PQ Gaétan Lelièvre (Gaspé) Nicolas Marceau (Rousseau) Alain Therrien (Sanguinet) CAQ François Bonnardel (Granby)

Main Committee Orders in 2015–2016

A total of **9 public bills** underwent **special consultations** or **clause-by-clause consideration** in 2015–2016. The Assembly also mandated the Committee to hold **special consultations** on the report of the Québec Taxation Review Committee and, within this framework, the Committee heard **32 individuals and organizations** in public hearings.



Within the framework of an **order of initiative** on the tax haven phenomenon, the Committee heard **13 individuals and organizations**, including representatives of several Canadian banks. Committee members also met documentary filmmaker Brigitte Alepin, and the Committee Chair participated in a mission to European Union institutions on the subject of tax havens.

In 2015–2016, five interpellations were addressed to the Minister of Finance and Chair of the Conseil du trésor.

■ COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

Areas of Competence: Chairmanship of the Conseil exécutif, justice, public security, the Constitution, Aboriginal affairs, international and intergovernmental relations.

Members at March 31, 2016

Chair	Guy Ouellette (Chomedey) QLP
Vice-Chair	Nicolas Marceau (Rousseau) PQ
QLP Jean Boucher (Ungava) Richard Merlini (La Prairie) Marie Montpetit (Crémazie) Jean Rousselle (Vimont) Yves St-Denis (Argenteuil) Marc Tanguay (LaFontaine)	PQ Véronique Hivon (Joliette) Guy Leclair (Beauharnois) Agnès Maltais (Taschereau) CAQ Simon Jolin-Barrette (Borduas) Nathalie Roy (Montarville)



Main Committee Orders in 2015–2016

A **general consultation** was held in fall 2016 on a document on government policy directions for a more transparent government, respectful of a person's right to privacy and the protection of personal information entitled "Orientations gouvernementales pour un gouvernement plus transparent, dans le respect du droit à la vie privée et la protection des renseignements personnels". Within this framework, the Committee heard **20 individuals and organizations** and received **27 briefs**. The Committee also held **special consultations** on the draft regulation on the *Regulation respecting change of name and of other particulars of civil status for transsexual and transgender persons*.

As stipulated in the Standing Orders, the Committee **heard the Chief Electoral Officer**. The Committee's **report**, which contains observations and conclusions, was tabled in the Assembly in February 2016. The Committee also examined the restructuring plan announced by the **Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions** and held a hearing of the **Anti-Corruption Commissioner** to discuss his policy directions, activities and administrative management.

Lastly, the Committee carried out **clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 78**, An Act to regulate the granting of transition allowances to Members who resign during their term of office, and began its **examination of the report on implementation of the Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly**. In particular, the Committee heard the **Ethics Commissioner** and the **National Assembly's Jurisconsult** within the framework of this mandate.

COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS



Areas of competence: Citizen relations, cultural communities, immigration, status of women, the family, seniors, youth, consumer protection.

Members at March 31, 2016

Chair	Marc Picard (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière) CAQ
Vice-Chair	Michel Matte (Portneuf) QLP
QLP	PQ
David Birnbaum (D'Arcy-McGee)	Maka Kotto (Bourget)
Marc H. Plante (Maskinongé)	Sylvain Pagé (Labelle)
Filomena Rotiroti (Jeanne-Mance-Viger)	Carole Poirier (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve)
Caroline Simard (Charlevoix-Côte-de-Beaupré)	Sylvain Rochon (Richelieu)
Véronique Tremblay (Chauveau)	CAQ
Karine Vallières (Richmond)	Lise Lavallée (Repentigny)

Main Committee Orders in 2015–2016

The Committee was busy primarily with **2 orders of initiative** last year. First, it examined the mechanisms related to the resale of permits granting **childcare spaces in private subsidized daycare centres**. The Committee's **report** containing observations and conclusions was tabled in the Assembly in June 2015.

The Committee also adopted an **order of initiative** on **Aboriginal women's living conditions** as affected by sexual assault and domestic violence. To date, the Committee has heard the testimony of **a dozen parties** over three hearing days.

Over the last year, Committee members heard **35 individuals and organizations** and carried out **clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 77**, Québec Immigration Act, which replaces the *Act respecting immigration to Québec* passed in 1968.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES



Areas of Competence: Health, social and community services.

Members at March 31, 2016

Chair	Marc Tanguay (LaFontaine) QLP
Vice-Chair	Véronique Hivon (Joliette) PQ
QLP	PQ
Jean Boucher (Ungava)	Diane Lamarre (Taillon)
Paul Busque (Beauce-Sud)	Jean-François Lisée (Rosemont)
Marie Montpetit (Crémazie)	Sylvain Rochon (Richelieu)
Robert Poëti (Marguerite-Bourgeoys)	CAQ
Monique Sauvée (Fabre)	François Paradis (Lévis)
Véronique Tremblay (Chauveau)	Marc Picard (Chutes-de-la-Chaudière)

Main Committee Orders in 2015–2016

Bills on tobacco control, funeral operations and access to family medicine and specialized medicine services were passed after **special consultations** and **clause-by-clause consideration** by the Committee. In particular, **Bill 20**, An Act to enact the Act to promote access to **family medicine** and **specialized medicine services** and to amend various legislative provisions relating to **assisted procreation**, was examined over **28 sittings of clause-by-clause consideration**.

Within the framework of the **order of initiative** on the living conditions of adults staying in residential and long-term care centres, **three Committee members** and members of the Committee staff visited numerous residential and long-term care centres in the Chaudière-Appalaches, Estrie, Québec City and Montréal regions.

■ COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Areas of Competence: Transportation, the environment, wildlife, parks.

Members at March 31, 2016

Chair	Pierre Reid (Orford) QLP
Vice-Chair	Pascal Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) PQ
QLP Ghislain Bolduc (Mégantic) Jean Boucher (Ungava) Guy Bourgeois (Abitibi-Est) Marc H. Plante (Maskinongé) Serge Simard (Dubuc) Karine Vallières (Richmond)	PQ Martine Ouellet (Vachon) Sylvain Roy (Bonaventure) Mathieu Traversy (Terrebonne) CAQ Mathieu Lemay (Masson) Claude Surprenant (Groulx)



Main Committee Orders in 2015–2016

The Committee was mandated by the Assembly to hold **special consultations** on various subjects, including the consultation document on Québec's greenhouse gas emission reduction target for 2030 entitled "Cible de réduction d'émissions de gaz à effet de serre du Québec pour 2030." Those on the Green Paper on modernizing the *Environment Quality Act's* environmental authorization procedure entitled "Moderniser le régime d'autorisation environnementale de la Loi sur la qualité de l'environnement" gave Committee members the opportunity to hear many individuals and organizations on these **environmental issues**.

In early 2016, the Committee also held **special consultations** on the backgrounder on passenger transportation by automobile for remuneration prepared by the Ministère des Transports, de la Mobilité durable et de l'Électrification des transports. Overall, the members heard **34 individuals and organizations** and received **47 briefs**.

REPORTS CONTAINING OBSERVATIONS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In 2015–2016, the National Assembly's parliamentary committees tabled 11 reports containing observations, conclusions or recommendations. The following is a list of these reports, which are available on the Assembly's website (in French only).

NOTE: The English titles given below are courtesy translations of the original French titles.

■ Orders of Reference from the Assembly

COMMITTEE	DOCUMENT TITLE
Institutions	<i>Consultations particulières et auditions publiques sur le projet de règlement relatif au Règlement sur le changement de nom et d'autres qualités de l'état civil pour les personnes transsexuelles ou transgenres – Observations et 3 recommandations (mai 2015)</i> (In French only) [Special consultations and public hearings on the draft regulation on the <i>Regulation respecting change of name and of other particulars of civil status for transsexual and transgender persons</i> – Observations and 3 recommendations (May 2015)]

■ Orders under the Standing Orders

COMMITTEE	DOCUMENT TITLE
Institutions	<i>Audition du directeur général des élections – Observations et conclusions (février 2016)</i> (In French only) [Hearing of the Chief Electoral Officer – Observations and conclusions (February 2016)]

■ Statutory Orders

COMMITTEE	DOCUMENT TITLE
Planning and the Public Domain	<p><i>Étude des rapports 2011, 2012, 2013 et 2014 de mise en œuvre de la Loi sur l'éthique et la déontologie en matière municipale – Conclusions et 2 recommandations (février 2016)</i> (In French only)</p> <p>[Examination of the 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 reports on implementation of the <i>Municipal Ethics and Good Conduct Act</i> – Conclusions and 2 recommendations (February 2016)]</p>
Citizen Relations	<p><i>Examen des rapports sur les activités du Fonds pour le développement des jeunes enfants et les activités de la Société de gestion Avenir d'enfants pour les exercices financiers terminés les 31 mars 2011, 2012 et 2013 – Observations et conclusions (avril 2015)</i> (In French only)</p> <p>[Examination of the reports on the activities of the Early Childhood Development Fund and those of the Société de gestion Avenir d'enfants for the fiscal years ended March 31, 2011, 2012 and 2013 – Observations and conclusions (April 2015)]</p>

■ Orders of Initiative

COMMITTEE	DOCUMENT TITLE
Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources	<p><i>Examen des orientations, des activités et de la gestion administrative de la Commission de protection du territoire agricole du Québec – Observations, conclusions et 16 recommandations (décembre 2015)</i> (In French only)</p> <p>[Examination of the policy directions, activities and administrative management of the Commission de protection du territoire agricole du Québec – Observations, conclusions and 16 recommendations (December 2015)]</p>
Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources	<p><i>Analyse du phénomène d'accaparement des terres agricoles – Observations, conclusions et 5 recommandations (mars 2016)</i> (In French only)</p> <p>[Analysis of the farmland grabbing phenomenon – Observations, conclusions and 5 recommendations (March 2016)]</p>
Culture and Education	<p><i>Examen des orientations, des activités et de la gestion administrative de la Société de développement des entreprises culturelles – Observations (avril 2015)</i> (In French only)</p> <p>[Examination of the policy directions, activities and administrative management of the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles – Observations (April 2015)]</p>
Institutions	<p><i>Étude du plan de restructuration annoncé par la directrice des poursuites criminelles et pénales – Observations et conclusions (novembre 2015)</i> (In French only)</p> <p>[Examination of the restructuring plan announced by the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions – Observations and conclusions (November 2015)]</p>
Citizen Relations	<p><i>Étude des mécanismes entourant la revente des permis octroyant des places en garderies privées subventionnées – Observations et conclusions (juin 2015)</i> (In French only)</p> <p>[Examination of the mechanisms related to the resale of permits granting childcare spaces in private subsidized daycare centres – Observations and conclusions (June 2015)]</p>

Orders Carried out by the Committee on Public Administration

DOCUMENT TITLE
<i>Auditions des sous-ministres et des dirigeants d'organismes publics sur leur gestion administrative – Observations, conclusions et 30 recommandations – 32^e rapport (juin 2015) (In French only)</i> [Hearings of deputy ministers and chief executive officers of public bodies on their administrative management – Observations, conclusions and 30 recommendations – 32nd report (June 2015)]
<i>Auditions des sous-ministres et des dirigeants d'organismes publics sur leur gestion administrative – Observations, conclusions et 31 recommandations – 33^e rapport (décembre 2015) (In French only)</i> [Hearings of deputy ministers and chief executive officers of public bodies on their administrative management – Observations, conclusions and 31 recommendations – 33rd report (December 2015)]

TEMPORARY CHAIRS

A temporary Chair is a Member appointed by the President of the National Assembly to preside over Committee debates at the request of a Committee Chair or when the Assembly so directs in an order of reference. The Committee on the National Assembly approves a list of Members who may act in this capacity.

List of temporary Chairs at March 31, 2016:

Parliamentary group forming the Government

Paul Busque (Beauce-Sud)
 Pierre Giguère (Saint-Maurice)
 Jean Habel (Sainte-Rose)
 Guy Hardy (Saint-François)
 Michel Matte (Portneuf)
 Norbert Morin (Côte-du-Sud)
 Marie-Claude Nichols (Vaudreuil)
 Marc H. Plante (Maskinongé)

Parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition

Alexandre Cloutier (Lac-Saint-Jean)
 Guy Leclair (Beauharnois)
 Dave Turcotte (Saint-Jean)
 André Villeneuve (Berthier)

Parliamentary group forming the Second Opposition Group

Mario Laframboise (Blainville)
 François Paradis (Lévis)
 Sébastien Schneeberger (Drummond–Bois-Francis)

Citizen Participation in Parliamentary Proceedings

Citizens wishing to participate in parliamentary proceedings and express their opinions have a number of options. The “Voice Your Opinion” section of the National Assembly website provides information on how to attend sittings, sign petitions, table briefs and comment on bills under consideration.

In 2015–2016, 6,021 persons attended Oral Question Period, and 6,601 took part in or attended a parliamentary committee sitting.

PETITIONS

Any Québec citizen can initiate a petition and have a Member present it in the National Assembly. Any Member other than the President may table a petition in the House, but Cabinet members generally refrain from doing so. A Member need not endorse the contents of a petition to present it.

Petitions can be initiated by individuals or groups and signed on paper or online on the Assembly website, where current petitions and petitions that have been tabled can also be consulted.

Statistics on petitions tabled in the National Assembly by fiscal year			
	Paper petitions	E-petitions	Total
2012–2013	109 petitions 191,502 signatures	59 petitions 197,816 signatures	168 petitions 389,318 signatures
2013–2014	135 petitions 180,351 signatures	100 petitions 360,121 signatures	235 petitions 540,472 signatures
2014–2015	70 petitions 195,436 signatures	71 petitions 354,499 signatures	141 petitions 549,935 signatures
2015–2016	64 petitions 333,532 signatures	98 petitions 366,387 signatures	162 petitions 699,919 signatures

COMMENTS

Anyone wishing to comment on a bill or matter being considered in a parliamentary committee can do so on the Assembly website, regardless of whether a public consultation is being held on the committee’s order of reference. This simple process involves completing the form and submitting it electronically. The comments are then forwarded to the Members so that they can better take citizens’ concerns into account in carrying out their various mandates.

In 2015–2016, for 74 orders or bills, the Assembly received a total of 1,761 comments.

Cercle des femmes parlementaires (Circle of Women Parliamentarians of the National Assembly)

The Cercle des femmes parlementaires du Québec comprises the women Members of the National Assembly. A forum for discussion and reflection on issues affecting women in general and issues of special concern to women parliamentarians, it also helps better equip the latter to play their parliamentary role.

The Cercle's Select Committee members are:

- Maryse Gaudreault, Member for Hull, Second Vice-President of the National Assembly and Chair of the Cercle
- Françoise David, Member for Gouin
- Carole Poirier, Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve
- Monique Sauvé, Member for Fabre
- Chantal Soucy, Member for Saint-Hyacinthe.



In 2015–2016, the Cercle helped organize the activities marking the 75th anniversary of Québec women's right to vote and run for election.

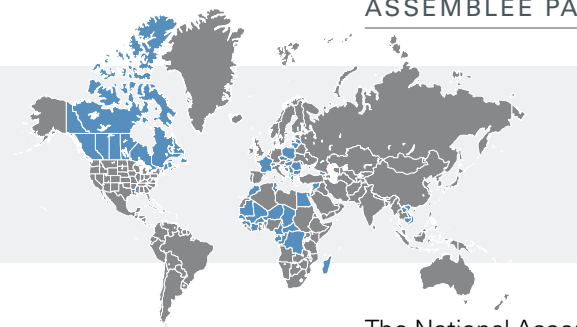
Parliamentary Diplomacy

The National Assembly of Québec maintains relations with other parliaments and with various interparliamentary organizations. Its participation in activities involving interparliamentary relations is designed to:

- increase the Assembly's effectiveness and that of the Members in carrying out their duties
- heighten the Assembly's influence on the international scene
- contribute to creating a global community based on democracy, peace, justice and prosperity
- promote Québec's sectors of excellence.

Relations with Interparliamentary Organizations

ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE



APF – Founded in 1967, the Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie comprises 83 parliaments and parliamentary organizations from five continents. The National Assembly of Québec has been a member in good standing since 1975.

The National Assembly plays a very active role in the APF, holding positions of responsibility at all decision-making levels. Since July 2015, the Assembly has been First Vice-Chair of both the APF and the Network of Women Parliamentarians.

In 2015–2016, Québec parliamentarians continued, in French-speaking countries, to promote the French language and diversity of cultural expressions, to develop inter-

parliamentary co-operation and to consolidate peace, democracy and human rights. The Members also raised a range of issues within the APF, presenting reports on such subjects as young people's political participation in French-speaking countries, the use of new Web 2.0 technologies to create closer ties between elected representatives and citizens, tools for taking action related to agricultural policy and international gender equality commitments.



National Assembly President Jacques Chagnon took part in the 41st APF Session in Bern, Switzerland.

■ Statutory Activities

Meeting of the Parliamentary Affairs Committee

(April 15–17, 2015, Antananarivo, Madagascar)

Meeting of the Education, Communication and Cultural Affairs Committee

(April 19–21, 2015, Libreville, Gabon)

Meeting of the Cooperation and Development Committee

(April 28–29, 2015, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)

41st APF Session

(July 6–10, 2015, Bern, Switzerland)

31st Americas Regional Assembly of the APF

(July 27–30, 2015, Lafayette and Lake Charles, Louisiana)

Meeting of the APF Bureau

(January 27–30, 2016, Siem Reap, Cambodia)

Meeting of the Network of Women Parliamentarians

(February 24–25, 2016, Tangier, Morocco)

A National Assembly delegation took part in the 41st APF Session held in Berne, Switzerland from July 6 to 10, 2015. These sessions, the sole annual activity in which APF parliamentarians meet in a plenary group, represent the culmination of the year's work for the four APF standing committees and the Network of Women Parliamentarians. During the general debate on "encouraging access to quality education for all: a priority challenge for La Francophonie", the National Assembly President spoke, promoting Québec's sectors of excellence related to vocational training and online education.

Given the positions of responsibility they hold in the APF, Québec parliamentarians represented the APF and participated in co-operation activities within various partner organizations.

■ Other Activities

40th General Meeting of the Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada (FCFA)
(June 6, 2015, Gatineau, Canada)

5th Session of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions
(June 10–12, 2015, Paris, France)

Information and contact mission of the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) to Haiti for the first round of the legislative and senatorial elections held on August 9, 2015
(August 5–11, 2015, Port-au-Prince, Haiti)

4th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament (convened by the Inter-Parliamentary Union)
(September 1–2, 2015, New York City, United States)

Seminar on the role, management and structure of parliamentary groups
(September 17–18, 2015, Tunis, Tunisia)

Public Forum of the World Trade Organization (WTO)
(September 30–October 2, 2015, Geneva, Switzerland)

96th Permanent Council meeting and 31st Ministerial Conference of La Francophonie
(October 9–11, 2015, Yerevan, Armenia)

First Session of the APF "Jeunes parlementaires" program
(October 19–22, 2015, Paris, France and Brussels, Belgium)

OIF information and contact mission to Haiti for the second round of the legislative and senatorial elections and first round of the presidential election held on October 25, 2015
(October 20–27, 2015, Port-au-Prince, Haiti)

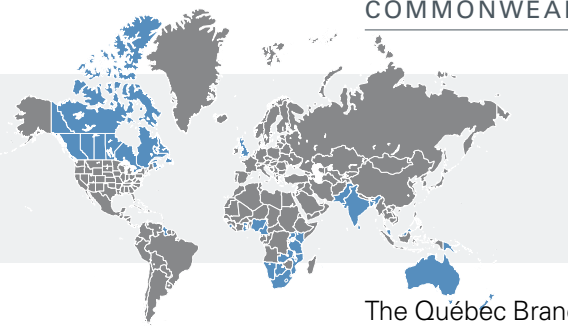
International forum for the 10th anniversary of the UNESCO Convention on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions
(October 25, 2015, Mons, Belgium)

9th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions
(December 14–16, 2015, Paris, France)

Participation in the 7th Global Conference of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)
(February 24–25, 2016, Lima, Peru)

60th Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women
(March 15–16, 2016, New York City, United States)

15th Maine Franco-American Day
(March 16, 2016, Augusta, Maine)



CPA – Founded in 1911, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association is a multilateral organization comprising some 180 Commonwealth-member parliaments. The National Assembly of Québec has been a member since 1933.

The Québec Branch of the CPA is particularly active in the organization's Canadian Region, with its 14 members representing the federal Parliament and Canada's provincial and territorial legislatures. The National Assembly is also represented in the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Network, which is composed of women from each of these branches.

■ Activities

53rd CPA Canadian Regional Conference
(July 19–25, 2015, Victoria, British Columbia)

Canadian Presiding Officers' Working Meeting on Security
(October 23–24, 2015, Québec City, Québec)

8th Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Network awareness program
(November 4–6, 2015, Toronto and Kincardine, Ontario)

37th Canadian Regional Seminar
(November 12–15, 2015, Regina, Saskatchewan)

64th Westminster Seminar on Parliamentary Practice and Procedure
(November 30–December 4, 2015, London, United Kingdom)

33rd Canadian Presiding Officers' Conference
(January 28–31, 2016, Fredericton, New Brunswick)

Each year, the CPA Canadian Regional Conference offers parliamentarians workshops on a range of topical issues and matters related to the parliamentary system. It also provides an opportunity to strengthen the National Assembly's relations with Canada's federal, provincial and territorial legislative assemblies.

At the 53rd Conference, which ran July 19–25, 2015 in Victoria, British Columbia, the President of the National Assembly and three Members discussed issues linked to applying security standards in parliamentary precincts and presented the National Assembly's infrastructure improvement project.

Presentation of the Policy to Prevent Harassment in the Workplace

A woman Member of the National Assembly participating in the activities of the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Network (CWP) took the opportunity to present Québec's experience in promoting women's participation in decision-making processes. The Assembly's Vice-Presidents took part in the 33rd Canadian Presiding Officers' Conference to present the National Assembly of Québec's new "Policy on Preventing and Managing Situations Involving Harassment in the Workplace".

THE PARLIAMENTARY CONFEDERATION OF THE AMERICAS

COPA – Founded in 1997 on the initiative of the National Assembly of Québec, the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas (COPA) comprises the parliamentary assemblies and interparliamentary organizations of the Americas. The Network of Women Parliamentarians of the Americas, created in 1999, is associated with COPA and develops expertise on certain issues of specific concern to the women of the Americas with regard to which parliamentarians can act.



The National Assembly plays an important role within COPA and the Network of Women Parliamentarians, housing one of the three COPA secretariats, coordinating the Network's activities and coordinating COPA's Electoral Observation Mission Program, which has carried out 15 electoral missions since its creation in 2005.

■ Activities

Meeting of the COPA Executive Committee, the Executive Committee of the Network of Women Parliamentarians of the Americas and the Committee on the Environment and Sustainable Development

(April 15–17, 2015, San Juan, Puerto Rico)

Electoral Observation Mission to Mexico — Federal legislative elections

(June 3–8, 2015, Mexico City, Mexico)

14th COPA General Assembly and 13th Annual Meeting of the Network of Women Parliamentarians of the Americas

(September 9–11, 2015, Guanajuato City, Mexico)

In the past year, Members of the National Assembly participated actively in COPA activities. In addition to taking part in decisions concerning the organization's operation and aimed at institution building, they presented reports and contributed to work on the media's role in political campaigns, on strengthening democratic institutions, on reconciling parliamentarians' private and public life and on violence against women in politics.

Québec's Network representative also presented a follow-up on the 59th Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women and helped consolidate ties between the Network, the Inter-American Commission of Women and the Organization of American States (OAS). In June 2015, the Québec Secretariat coordinated an electoral observation mission to Mexico to observe the Mexican federal legislative elections. The mission was carried out in polling stations, and a detailed report was subsequently submitted to Mexico's election authorities.

CSG – The Council of State Governments was founded in 1933 and is composed of representatives of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the United States’ 50 states and 6 territories. The National Assembly of Québec has been an international partner since 1995.

CSG/ERC – The Council of State Governments Eastern Regional Conference is the CSG’s Eastern branch and comprises parliamentarians and government representatives from the Northeastern US and five Canadian member provinces. The National Assembly of Québec has been an affiliated international member since 1990.

NCSL – Founded in 1975, the National Conference of State Legislatures is a US interparliamentary organization composed of parliamentarians and public servants from the legislative assemblies of the United States’ 50 states and 6 territories. The National Assembly of Québec has been an affiliated international member since 2000.

In 2015–2016, the National Assembly participated, as an affiliated international member, in the NCSL Annual Meeting, Executive Committee meetings and various committees, taking advantage of various forums to promote Québec’s interests to US elected representatives in such areas as trade, transportation and renewable energies. Members of the National Assembly also questioned US parliamentarians on the role of federated states in the fight against climate change and took part in high-level training sessions.

■ Activities of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)

Symposium for Legislative Leaders

(June 10–12, 2015, Washington, DC)

Annual Meeting

(August 2–6, 2015, Seattle, WA)

Symposium for Legislative Leaders

(September 17–20, 2015, Québec City, QC)

Training sessions on the energy industry in North America, Legislative Energy Horizon Institute

(July 25–28, 2015 and October 7–10, 2015, Richland, WA and Washington, DC)

Gettysburg Leadership Experience

(October 12–14, 2015, Gettysburg, PA)

NCSL Executive Committee Meeting

(October 16–17, 2015, Nashville, TN)

Meeting of Standing Committees

(December 8–11, 2015, Washington, DC)

NCSL Executive Committee Meeting

(January 7–10, 2016, Salt Lake City, UT)

The National Assembly also maintained a strong presence in the activities of the Council of State Governments (CSG) and the Council of State Governments Eastern Regional Conference (CSG/ERC) in order to defend Québec's interests. It presented Québec's position on transporting hazardous materials by rail and discussed the issues involved in maintaining the health of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River. Since January 1, 2016, both CSG/ERC Co-Chairs have been National Assembly Members.



Québec and the National Assembly heightened their visibility by hosting the NCSL Symposium for Legislative Leaders, attended by the presiding officers and majority and minority leaders of many US states.

Activities of the Council of State Governments (CSG) and Council of State Governments Eastern Regional Conference (CSG/ERC)

55th CSG/ERC Annual Meeting and Regional Policy Forum
(August 15–19, 2015, Wilmington, DE)

CSG/ERC Robert J. Thompson Eastern Leadership Academy
(August 23–27, 2015, Philadelphia, PA)

Great Lakes Legislative Caucus meeting
(September 25–26, 2015, Buffalo, NY)

Working meeting with CSG/ERC administrative authorities
(October 30–31, 2015, New York City, NY)

CSG/ERC Executive Committee meeting
(December 4–8, 2015, New York City, NY)

CSG National Conference
(December 10–13, 2015, Nashville, TN)

National Assembly Members also participated in CSG and CSG/ERC satellite activities, such as the 15th Legislative Agricultural Chairs Summit held in Denver, Colorado in January 2016.

Finally, the National Assembly Delegation for Relations with the United States (DANREU) continued to develop close ties with US state parliaments. The first two meetings of the Massachusetts-Québec Cooperation Conference took place in Québec City (September 19–21, 2015) and Boston (March 4–6, 2016). In these sessions, Québec's energy and climate change policies were presented, exchanges on transportation and tourism between Québec and Massachusetts were facilitated and promoted, and talks on university research got under way. In 2015, the National Assembly also signed an agreement with the Louisiana State Legislature.

Relations with Partner Parliaments and European Institutions

Over the years, the National Assembly has developed an extensive network of bilateral relations with partner parliaments. Under these agreements, meetings between Members of the Assembly and their foreign counterparts are generally held once a year to discuss subjects of common interest and benefit from one another's legislative and policy-making expertise. The meetings also serve to promote Québec's sectors of excellence and help promote Québec society beyond our borders.

In 2015–2016, the following seven interparliamentary groups met:

Activity	Themes
21st General Assembly of the Ontario–Québec Parliamentary Association (May 7–9, 2015, Toronto)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Climate change and the carbon market - Toronto Pan Am Games and Parapan Am Games from the viewpoint of accessibility
8th Session of the Québec-Bavaria Joint Parliamentary Committee (May 12–15, 2015, Québec City)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demographic change, population aging and the impacts on health care - Access to health care depending on location (rural or urban) - Inclusion of handicapped persons and immigrants in education and employment - Participation of female citizens
28th Session of the France–Québec Interparliamentary Committee (May 25–29, 2015, Québec City)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - State secularism and the fight against religious radicalization - Information and communications technologies (ICT) in the context of distance education in French
9th Annual Meeting of the National Assembly of Québec (NAQ) and the French Senate (September 14–18, 2015, Québec City)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The fight against climate change - Northern development
25th Session of the NAQ–Parliament of the Federation Wallonia-Brussels Joint Committee (October 5–9, 2015, Québec City)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introducing new education technologies - State secularism and the fight against religious radicalization - Evaluating public policy - Citizen participation in political decisionmaking
8th Session of the NAQ–Parliament of Wallonia Joint Committee (October 12–16, 2015, Namur, Belgium)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Open democracy and digital governance - Canada–European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)
5th Session of the New Brunswick–Québec Parliamentary Association (November 5–7, 2015, Québec City)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interprovincial trade - Economic and tourism development of the Chaleur Bay watershed



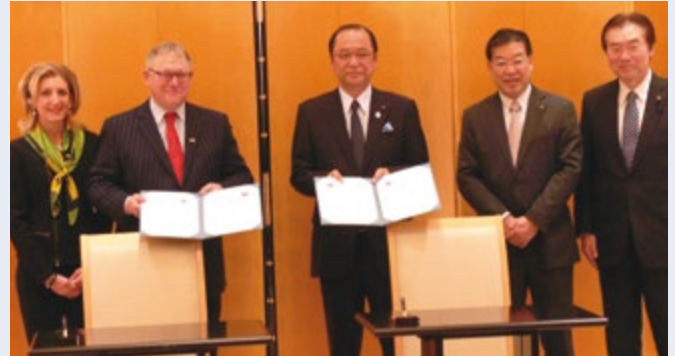
7th Session of the Québec-Bavaria Joint Parliamentary Committee

In 2015–2016, the National Assembly continued to develop relations with European institutions and new partner parliaments. In October 2015, it attended the 19th Plenary Assembly of the Conference of European Regional Legislative Assemblies, where it presented the measures Québec has taken to increase citizen participation and the transparency of democratic institutions.

Study Mission on the Tax Haven Phenomenon

Under an order of initiative, or self-initiated mandate, of the National Assembly's Committee on Public Finance, a study mission on the tax haven phenomenon was carried out on February 13–16, 2016 and involved European and French institutions. The mission provided an opportunity to study the issues associated with tax havens in a European context and the means of fighting the phenomenon from the viewpoint of parliamentary proceedings, legislation, anti-fraud and anti-corruption measures, international co-operation and the collaboration of civil society.

National Assembly President Jacques Chagnon led a mission to Asia, January 12–20, 2016, to establish bilateral relations with the Shandong Provincial People's Government (China) and the Kyoto Prefectural Assembly (Japan). Productive meetings with the main leaders of these institutions led to the signing of a memorandum of agreement with the Shandong Provincial People's Government and a declaration designed to establish formal ties with the Kyoto Prefectural Assembly.



Fifty Years of Québec–Italy Relations

On October 28, 2015, the National Assembly celebrated the 50th anniversary of Québec–Italy institutional relations by organizing an event bringing together dignitaries, members of Québec's Italian community and a delegation of Italian parliamentarians. This important activity gave rise to a mission to the Italian Parliament in December 2015, which strengthened ties between the two institutions.

Interparliamentary Co-operation

For almost 20 years now, the National Assembly has been providing technical support to the parliamentary institutions of emerging and consolidating democracies, thus strengthening them at both the parliamentary and administrative levels. These interparliamentary co-operation activities reflect the National Assembly's desire to play an active role in promoting and consolidating democratic institutions and processes worldwide.

The main areas of expertise in which the National Assembly offers its collaboration cover all administrative and parliamentary aspects, making it easier for elected representatives to fulfill their mandate and for Parliament to run smoothly. Generally, this takes the form of seminars or workshops focusing on discussion, information-sharing, training and professional development. Most of these activities are directed at secretaries general, parliamentary public servants and new parliamentarians. In 2015–2016, the National Assembly provided direct support to the Ivory Coast's National Assembly and Kenya's County Assembly of Nakuru.

■ Interparliamentary Co-operation Activities

Mission to support the National Assembly of Côte d'Ivoire
(June 20–July 3, 2015, Abidjan, Ivory Coast)

6th Accountability Conference of the West Africa Association of Public Accounts Committees (WAAPAC)
(September 29–30, 2015, Lomé, Togo)

Study mission on parliamentary procedures for members of the County Assembly of Nakuru, Kenya
(October 19–20, 2015, Québec City, Canada)

Global Seminar on the Role of Parliaments and the Extractive Industries
(December 7–10, 2015, London, United Kingdom)

International Parliamentary Training Program

In 2015–2016, the National Assembly of Québec and Université Laval set up an international parliamentary training program in conjunction with the World Bank to provide advanced training to parliamentary officials of French-speaking countries and to foster experience-sharing. Dissemination of the program was also made possible through the support of the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie.

The first edition of the program was attended by 16 parliamentary officials from Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Haiti, Mali, Niger, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Togo. Topics included human resources management, parliamentary oversight and conduct of a sitting, combining university research with parliamentary practice. The workshops and presentations were led by instructors and speakers from Belgium, Benin, Canada, France, Gabon and Québec.



MEETINGS BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND OTHER PRESIDING OFFICERS

National Assembly President Jacques Chagnon welcomed a number of presiding officers from other parliaments to Québec City. The National Assembly places great importance on these meetings, as they foster increased co-operation and dynamic interparliamentary relations in legislative, cultural, economic and technical matters. Among others, Mr. Chagnon met with the following:

Meeting	Themes
Barbara Stamm, President of the Bavarian Landtag (May 13, 2015, Québec City)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 8th Session of the Québec–Bavaria Joint Parliamentary Committee - Parliamentary update–Landtag and National Assembly of Québec - The political and economic situation in Bavaria and Québec
S. E. M. Galust Sahakyan, Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia (May 24, 2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The National Assembly and Québec's parliamentary system - The National Assembly of Québec's participation in the work of the Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie with regard, among others, to sharing expertise and strengthening democracy in French-speaking jurisdictions - The importance of Québec's Armenian community and official recognition of the Armenian genocide by Québec and the National Assembly
Philippe Courard, Speaker of the Parliament of the Federation Wallonia-Brussels (June 9, 2015, Québec City)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The political and economic situation of Belgium and the Walloon Region - The next session of the NAQ–Parliament of the Federation Wallonia-Brussels Joint Committee - The partnership project involving Université libre de Bruxelles and Université Laval
Stanley C. Rosenberg, President of the Massachusetts Senate (September 19, 2015, Québec City)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The first session of the Massachusetts–Québec Cooperation Conference (MQCC) and development of bilateral relations - Energy and climate change
Susan Kihika, Speaker of the County Assembly of Nakuru, Kenya (October 20, 2015, Québec City)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Québec's parliamentary system and National Assembly operations - Parliamentary procedure - Parliamentary oversight and accountability - Citizen participation



Philippe Courard, Speaker of the Parliament of the Federation Wallonia-Brussels, and Jacques Chagnon



Stanley C. Rosenberg, President of the Massachusetts Senate, and Jacques Chagnon

Meeting on Parliamentary Security

A group of presiding officers from Canadian assemblies met in Québec's Parliament Building to discuss security in Canadian parliamentary precincts. Participants included Linda Reid (British Columbia), Robert E. Wanner (Alberta), Dan D'Autremont (Saskatchewan), Daryl Reid (Manitoba), Dave Levac (Ontario), Kevin Murphy (Nova Scotia), Francis Watts (Prince Edward Island), George Qulaut (Nunavut), David Laxton (Yukon Territory) and Jackie Jacobson (Northwest Territories).

On October 23–24, 2015, the National Assembly hosted the Canadian Presiding Officers' Working Meeting on Security, primarily to discuss issues related to security in parliamentary precincts and encourage information-sharing about the phenomenon of radicalization/terrorism in Canada. Presentations by Fabrice de Pierrebourg, author and investigative journalist, and Suzanne Tourigny, Director General of the Québec Region of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS), gave a clear picture of the situation. The meeting also provided an opportunity for participants to familiarize themselves with the security considerations specific to each assembly and to strengthen co-operative ties.



Welcoming a delegation of parliamentarians from the Chamber of Deputies of the Italian Republic

OFFICIAL VISITS TO THE ASSEMBLY

As Québec's key democratic institution, the National Assembly welcomes numerous foreign parliamentarians, representatives of governments and intergovernmental organizations, and foreign dignitaries to Québec City every year.

Foreign Parliamentarians

- Seybah Dagoma, Deputy of Paris' 5th constituency (April 21, 2015)
- Stefano Dambruoso, President of the Chamber of Deputies of the Italian Republic (May 12, 2015)
- Jia Wanzhi, Vice-Chairman of the Shandong Provincial People's Government Standing Committee (September 16, 2015)
- Curt Bramble, President of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) and Utah State Senator (September 18, 2015)
- Delegation from the County Assembly of Nakuru, Kenya (October 19, 2015)
- Xiao Huaiyuan, Chairman of the Tianjin Municipal People's Congress Standing Committee, and his delegation (October 23, 2015)
- Delegation of parliamentarians from the Chamber of Deputies of the Italian Republic
- Stephen Ortego, Louisiana State Representative (October 29, 2015)
- Delegation of parliamentarians from New York State (February 23, 2016)
- Delegation of South African parliamentarians from the Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature (March 23, 2016)

The National Assembly President traditionally meets with consular and diplomatic representatives when they take up and leave their positions. They are also invited to attend an annual information session.



The Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Secretary General of La Francophonie, and Jacques Chagnon

Representatives of Governments and Intergovernmental Organizations and Other Foreign Dignitaries

- Sun Wei, Executive Vice-Governor of Shandong (April 28, 2015)
- The Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Secretary General of La Francophonie (June 10, 2015)
- Franz Pschierer, State Secretary in the Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs and Media, Energy and Technology (September 30, 2015)
- Richard Lochhead, Scottish Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Food and Environment, and Member for Moray (November 10, 2015)

Representatives of Diplomatic and Consular Corps

- Ambassador of the State of Israel, HE Rafael Raul Barak (April 2, 2015)
- Ambassador of the Tunisian Republic, HE Riadh Essid (April 14, 2015)
- Ambassador of the Republic of Colombia, HE Nicolas Lloreda Ricaurte (April 23, 2015)
- Ambassador of the Argentine Republic, HE Norma Nascimbene (May 28, 2015)
- Ambassador of Japan, HE Kenjiro Monji (October 28, 2015)
- Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, HE- Cornelis Johannes Kole (November 10, 2015)
- Ambassador of the Republic of Senegal, HE Ousmane Paye (November 18, 2015)
- Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba, HE Julio Antonio Garmendia Pena (November 24, 2015)
- Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, HE To Anh Dung (February 24, 2016)
- Ambassador of the Russian Federation, HE Alexander Darchiev (March 15, 2016)
- Consul General of the Hellenic Republic in Montréal, Nicolas Sigalas (May 6, 2015)
- Consul General of Japan in Montréal, Tatsuo Arai (farewell visit) (May 14, 2015)
- Consul General of the Arab Republic of Egypt in Montréal, Amal Abdel Kader E. Salama (May 19, 2015)
- Consul General of the Portuguese Republic in Montréal, José Eduardo Bleck Guedes de Sousa (May 27, 2015)
- Consul General of the Republic of India in Toronto, Akhilesh Mishra (June 2, 2015)
- Group of career heads of post (consular corps) on their annual information day (June 4, 2015)
- Wallonia-Brussels Delegate in Québec City, Benoît Rutten (September 22, 2015)
- Secretary General of the International Civil Aviation Organization, Fang Liu (October 20, 2015)
- Consul General of Japan in Montréal, Hideaki Kuramitsu (October 28, 2015)
- Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Montréal, Jin Hur (November 24, 2015)
- Representative of the State of Bavaria in Québec, Benjamin Emans (November 25, 2015)
- Consul General of the United Mexican States in Montréal, Francisco Eduardo Del Rio López (farewell visit) (December 2, 2015)
- Consul General of Belgium in Montréal, Hubert Roisin (February 23, 2016)
- Consul General of the People's Republic of China in Montréal, Peng Jingtao (March 8, 2016)
- Consul General of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria in Montréal, Abdelghani Cheriaf (March 16, 2016)

Former Parliamentarians who Passed Away in 2015–2016

Recent months have witnessed the passing of a number of men and women who helped shape the Québec of today. The flag flew at half-mast not only for Claire Kirkland-Casgrain, a key figure in Québec history, but also for former Premier Jacques Parizeau and former Liberal Minister and Québec City Mayor Jean-Paul L'Allier.

LIST OF FORMER PARLIAMENTARIANS WHO PASSED AWAY BETWEEN APRIL 1, 2015 AND MARCH 21, 2016



Jacques Parizeau



Jean-Paul L'Allier

Former Member	Riding and special duties	Date and age
Jacques Parizeau	L'Assomption (1976–1984 and 1989–1996) Former Premier	June 1, 2015, age 84
Pierre MacDonald	Robert-Baldwin (1985–1989) Minister of External Trade and Technological Development (1985–1988)	July 7, 2015, age 79
Jean Alfred	Papineau (1976–1981)	July 20, 2015, age 75
Jocelyne Ouellette	Hull (1976–1981) Minister of Public Works and Supply (1977–1981)	August 20, 2015, age 71
Pierre de Bellefeuille	Deux-Montagnes (1976–1985)	September 30, 2015, age 92
Jean-Guy St-Roch	Drummond (1985–1994)	November 6, 2015, age 75
Aurèle Audet	Abitibi-Ouest (1970–1973)	November 28, 2015, age 95
Maurice Martel	Richelieu (1966–1970 and 1976–1985) Minister of Revenue (1984–1985)	December 1, 2015, age 79
Jean-Paul L'Allier	Deux-Montagnes (1970–1976) Minister of Communications (1970–1975)	January 5, 2016, age 77
Georges-Émery Tremblay	Bourassa (1966–1973) Minister of Transportation (1970–1971)	January 25, 2016, age 88
Victor Charles Goldbloom	D'Arcy-McGee (1966–1979)	February 15, 2016, age 92
Guy Bélanger	Laval-des-Rapides (1985–1993)	February 18, 2016, age 74
François Cloutier	Ahuntsic (1970–1973) L'Acadie (1973–1976) Minister of Education (1972–1975)	March 23, 2016, age 93
Claire Kirkland-Casgrain	Jacques-Cartier (1961–1966) Marguerite-Bourgeoys (1966–1973) Minister (1962–1973)	March 24, 2016, age 91

In memory of Claire Kirkland-Casgrain, who passed away on March 24, 2016 at age 91, the President of the National Assembly and the Premier of Québec jointly announced that the flag on the Parliament Building's central tower would fly at half-mast from dawn to dusk on the day of her state funeral.

The first woman in Québec history to sit as a Member of the National Assembly, Claire Kirkland-Casgrain became a minister in Jean Lesage's Cabinet on December 5, 1962. There, she championed major changes to the Civil Code to end the legal incapacity of married women. As Minister of Tourism, Hunting and Fishing and then Minister of Cultural Affairs, her legacy includes the creation of the Institut de tourisme et d'hôtellerie du Québec and the *Cultural Property Act*. In 1973, shortly before leaving active political life, she introduced the bill creating the Conseil du statut de la femme (Québec's council on the status of women). In 1973, she added another first to her career when she became the first woman to be appointed to the Provincial Court.



THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY:
**CITIZENS AND
INSTITUTIONAL
ACTIVITIES**



INSTITUTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Celebration of the 75th Anniversary of Québec Women's Right to Vote and Run for Election

On April 25, 1940, Québec women finally obtained the right to vote and run as candidates in provincial elections. To mark this anniversary, on April 22, 2015, the National Assembly launched “Ladies, to the polls!”, a multimedia exhibition that ran until spring 2016. Visitors were able to retrace women’s long road to winning political rights, through a collection of newly released archival documents including ballots, nomination papers and election posters. The exhibition also presented the pioneers of the women’s suffrage movement who, by asserting women’s right to vote, shaped Québec’s political history.



Other theme-based activities were held to celebrate this 75-year milestone, including special National Assembly Channel programming and a documentary featuring discussions between two generations of women parliamentarians. Current Members commented on testimonies of former women elected representatives with regard to the role of women in Parliament and the different issues linked to their political commitment. Finally, a conference on power as the cornerstone of equality was held in the Library.



Image from the documentary



Entre savoir et pouvoir Exhibition to Mark the 100th Anniversary of the Pamphile-Le May Building

In 2015, the Pamphile-Le May Building, home to the National Assembly Library, celebrated its 100th anniversary with an exhibition recounting the fascinating history of the building's construction and the Library's changing face over the years. Running until September 2016, the showing spotlighted documents, sketches, photographs and objects, enabling visitors to discover how knowledge and power have intertwined over the years. The exhibition "Entre savoir et pouvoir" was a wonderful way to discover, or rediscover, this heritage site that is open to all.

New Program for Elementary and Secondary Schools

Introduced in August 2015, the educational program "Vox populi : Ta démocratie à l'école!" (Vox populi: Your democracy at school!) results from the National Assembly partnering with the Fondation Jean-Charles-Bonenfant and the Chief Electoral Officer of Québec. This new program replaces the "Parlements au primaire et au secondaire" program and offers a student-council mode of operation modelled on the workings of the National Assembly. Partnering with the Chief

Electoral Officer came naturally, given our shared citizenship education goals. This new collaboration reaches a greater number of young people across Québec more effectively by offering services that are better adapted to schools' needs.



The National Assembly, a Partner for Healthy Lifestyle Habits

On April 23, 2015, the National Assembly welcomed the 5/30 Health and Wellness Challenge team, which encourages people to eat better, become more active and seek balance in their daily lives. Just weeks later, on June 2, for the seventh year in a row, the “Grand Défi Pierre Lavoie” caravan stopped in the Parliament Building forecourt to announce the winners of the 2015 school “Get Up and Move!” contest. The “Grand Défi Pierre Lavoie” aims to develop healthy lifestyle habits in children aged 6 to 12 and, through the ripple effect, their parents as well.



By partnering with these two teams, the National Assembly wanted to show its commitment to helping Quebecers, especially the younger generation, adopt healthy eating and active lifestyle habits.

A team of Members once again took part in the 1,000-km cycling event from Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean to Montréal, held June 11–14, 2015. The team was composed of elected representatives from different political parties, including Sylvain Pagé (Labelle), Stéphane Billette (Huntingdon), François Bonnardel (Granby), Sébastien Schneeberger (Drummond–Bois-Francis) and Simon Jolin-Barrette (Borduas).



In addition to giving citizens the opportunity to watch, attend and participate in parliamentary proceedings, the National Assembly opens its doors to Quebecers year-round with various institutional activities allowing the general public to discover the Parliament Building and better understand the workings of the National Assembly.

The National Assembly uses various means, such as social media, its website and its television channel, to publicize its activities to the Québec population.

Special Activities

A number of special activities took place at the Assembly to mark 2015–2016. Their unique nature enabled us to celebrate important events and achievements, to debate and discuss social issues and to bring together citizens, professionals, artists and parliamentarians.

MEDAL OF HONOUR OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The Medal of Honour is awarded to public figures from all walks of life who, through their career, work or social commitment, are deserving of recognition from the Members of the National Assembly and the people of Québec.

The President of the National Assembly, Jacques Chagnon, presented the Medal of Honour of the National Assembly to 10 Quebecers who marked Québec in their respective spheres of activity. The medals were awarded in two separate ceremonies:



May 13, 2015

- Lucie Chagnon (posthumously) and André Chagnon, Lucie and André Chagnon Foundation
- Claude Gauthier, Singer-Songwriter and Performer
- Constantinos Madonis, former President of the Quebec Soccer Federation
- Charles Tisseyre, Journalist and TV Host

November 25, 2015

- Xavier Dolan, Film Director, Screenwriter and Actor
- Phyllis Lambert, Architect and Philanthropist
- Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Music Director of the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra and Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of Montréal's Orchestre métropolitain
- Mylène Paquette, Navigator and first North American woman to row solo across the North Atlantic Ocean
- Serge Savard, former Hockey Player and Businessman



POLITICAL BOOK PRIZE

On April 9, 2015, National Assembly Vice-President François Gendron announced the winners of the 13th Political Book Prize in a ceremony held at the Scène des Rendez-vous littéraires as part of the Salon international du livre de Québec Book Fair. A total of \$14,500 in prize money was awarded to authors and students (Master's and doctoral level) having published a book about Québec politics.

■ National Assembly's Prix de la Présidence Awards

These awards highlight the quality and originality of books on Québec politics published over the past year.

Winner (\$5,000) Mathieu Lapointe	<i>Nettoyer Montréal. Les campagnes de moralité publique, 1940-1954, Septentrion.</i>
Finalist (\$1,500) Harold Bérubé	<i>Des sociétés distinctes. Gouverner les banlieues bourgeoises de Montréal, 1880-1939, McGill-Queen's University Press.</i>
Finalist (\$1,500) Maurice Demers	<i>Connected Struggles. Catholics, Nationalists, and Transnational Relations between Mexico and Quebec, 1917-1945, McGill-Queen's University Press.</i>



■ Prix de la Fondation Jean-Charles-Bonenfant Awards

The Prix de la Fondation Jean-Charles-Bonenfant awards go to student authors of doctoral dissertations or Master's theses focusing on Québec politics, in particular our institutions and political figures. This year's awards went to three Master's theses and, exceptionally, only one doctoral dissertation.



Master's Theses

Winner (\$2,000) Andrée-Anne Bolduc	<i>Ces parlementaires qui en disent trop? La conciliation de la liberté de parole des parlementaires et du droit à la dignité des citoyens en droit comparé, Université Laval.</i>
Finalist (\$750) Ève Bourgeois	<i>La genèse et le développement des partis politiques au Bas-Canada (1791-1840), Université de Montréal.</i>
Finalist (\$750) Olivier Lemieux	<i>Le discours historique comme objet politique : Regard sur l'enseignement de l'histoire du Québec du niveau secondaire de 1967 à 2012, Université de Sherbrooke.</i>



Doctoral Dissertation

Winner (\$3,000) Marie-Ève Ouellet	<i>« Et ferez justice. » Le métier d'intendant au Canada et dans les généralités de Bretagne et de Tours au 18^e siècle (1700-1750), Université de Montréal and Université Rennes 2 (France).</i>
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The doctoral dissertation winner also won the Prix Ministère des Relations internationales et de la Francophonie du Québec / Ministère des Affaires étrangères de France award.

"HISTOIRE PARLEMENTAIRE DU QUÉBEC, 1928-1962" BOOK LAUNCH

On February 16, 2016, National Assembly President Jacques Chagnon officially launched the volume "Histoire parlementaire du Québec, 1928-1962" at the National Assembly Library, in the presence of a number of the contributors.

In publishing this book, the National Assembly seeks to shed significant, revealing light on Québec society. The volume summarizes the 31,278 pages of National Assembly of Québec's reconstituted debates that took place from 1928 to 1962. It gives an overview of four major periods corresponding to the 1929 world economic crisis, World War II, the reign of Union nationale leader Maurice Duplessis, and the dawn of the Quiet Revolution.

"Histoire parlementaire du Québec, 1928-1962" is a National Assembly production published by Septentrion.



This volume is the work of a group of historians, some of whom worked at the National Assembly, students studying history at the Master's or doctoral level, and Christian Blais, National Assembly Library Historian, Co-author and Project Coordinator.

An Assembly that is Open to Visitors

There are many ways for the public to discover the National Assembly. Every year, thousands of visitors enjoy guided tours, attend parliamentary proceedings and participate in the numerous activities open to the general public.

From April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016, the Assembly welcomed a total of **122,421** visitors, 19,487 of whom visited the Parliament's restaurant, café, committee rooms and gift shop.

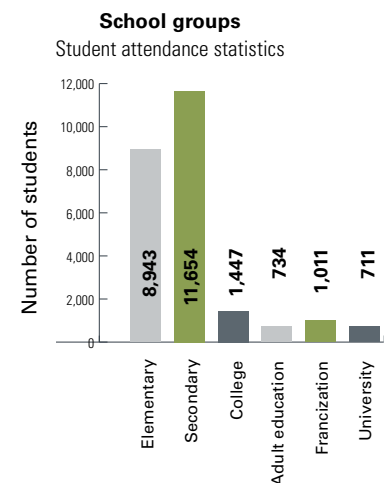
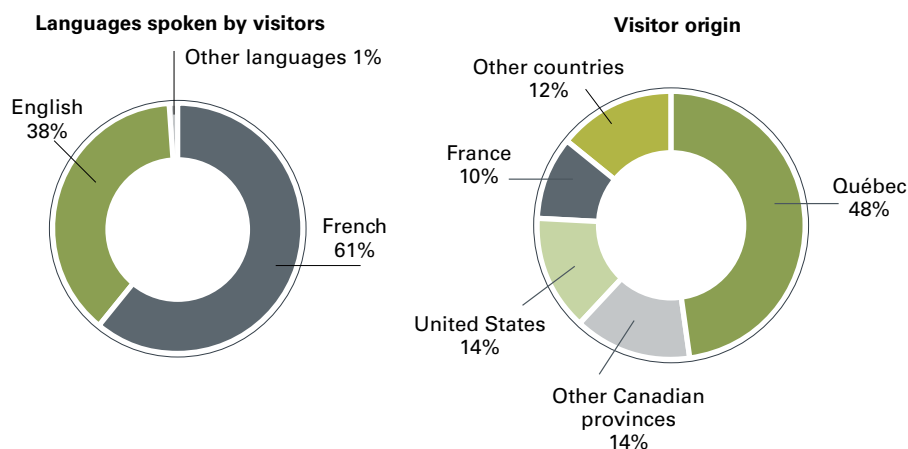
Activities Open to the General Public

GUIDED TOURS AND PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE PARLIAMENT BUILDING

The National Assembly offers free 45-minute guided tours of the Parliament Building. These tours enable visitors to discover the history and workings of Québec's parliamentary institutions, the Second Empire architectural style of the Parliament Building and the many works of art it houses.

This year, Assembly tour guides gave **3,892 guided tours** to **83,639 visitors**, including **368 persons with reduced mobility**. Approximately **50,000** (66% of all guided tours) were tourists visiting Québec City.

A total of **1,302 group tours** were conducted, allowing 33,964 people to discover the Parliament Building. Of them, **24,500** were **students** who came in groups; more than 82% were from Québec.



Origin of Requests for Guided Group Tours – April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016

Origin of request	Nombre of people	Number of visits
Private activities	3,914	81
Tourism agencies	9,147	268
Private associations and agencies	1,924	79
Commission de la capitale nationale du Québec	4,277	128
Members	1,555	124
Protocol Directorate (NAQ and Ministère des Relations internationales et de la Francophonie)	887	72
Directorates and services	1,086	70
Government departments and public bodies	689	29
Educational organizations	10,050	337
Outdoor guided tours	435	114
Total	33,964	1,302

In summer 2015–2016, the outdoor information stand received requests from 435 visitors to take guided tours of the Parliament Gardens and grounds. Moreover, more than 20,800 people asked for general information here.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OPEN HOUSE

On June 24, some 1,900 visitors and citizens celebrated Québec’s National Holiday at the Parliament Building. To mark the occasion, historical figures—including Eugène-Étienne Taché, who designed the Parliament Building, and Pamphile Le May—welcomed them and helped them learn more about the Parliament Building, its history and its architecture.

This year, for the first time, a chef from the National Assembly’s Le Parlementaire restaurant was on hand to give visitors an opportunity to taste sorbets and pesto made using seasonal products grown in the Parliament’s kitchen gardens. On the grounds,

horticultural experts from Université Laval presented the different species of trees and flowers found in the Parliament Gardens and its kitchen gardens. Self-guided visits, exhibitions and discovering the Parliament Building central tower clock were featured during the festivities.



PARLIAMENT GARDENS

On June 10, 2015, the President of the National Assembly presided over the annual opening of the Parliament Gardens.

From May to October, visitors were able to discover many plant species growing in different theme-based areas on the Parliament grounds: fruit trees and tropical trees, woodland garden, herbs, edible flowers, traditional and exotic vegetables, berries, medicinal plants, wild mushrooms, native species, etc. These layouts were created in collaboration with Université Laval and the urban agriculture specialists Les Urbainculteurs, based on the needs of Le Parlementaire and its chefs. Visitors were able to harvest vegetables in four sections of the kitchen garden vegetable beds reserved for the public.



Parliament Honey

In addition to growing fruits, vegetables and herbs in the Parliament Gardens, the National Assembly works with the Miellerie de Champlain honey farm to make its own “urban honey”.

For the third year, about 65,000 bees produced 100 litres of honey in two hives located on the rooftop of the Jean-Antoine-Panet Building. The Parliament Gardens’ many species of flowers offer worker bees a smorgasbord of 45 varieties of pollen. The resulting honey is sold in the National Assembly gift shop, used by Le Parlementaire and given as a protocol gift.

Visitors who missed their chance to buy a jar of honey can taste it in meals served at Le Parlementaire, which has been open to the public for more than 40 years. Here, the chefs showcase this sweet delight in their inspired recipes!



RESTAURANT AND CAFÉ



The National Assembly's restaurant, Le Parlementaire, which is open to the public, offers culinary products from Québec's different regions. Its mission includes transmitting, educating and highlighting the value of Québec's know-how, products and culinary heritage. To pursue and attain these objectives, a Chef in Residence joined Le Parlementaire's team in August 2014.

In 2015–2016, some **37,000 people** dined at **Le Parlementaire**, while more than **30,800** enjoyed a meal at the **Café du Parlement**. These numbers do not include those who attended private receptions or used the restaurants' catering service.

The Gardens, A Source of Inspiration

The Parliament Gardens are a source of inspiration for Le Parlementaire's kitchen team. Every morning, from early summer to fall, the chefs and their brigade head out to see what is ready for harvesting and create meals inspired by the Parliament Gardens' fresh, organic products.



In 2015–2016, Le Parlementaire produced its own salted herbs from the Gardens' harvests. These herbs are used in the restaurant's famous pea soup, among others. The maître d's also use the fresh herbs to inspire delicious cocktails.

New this year: For the Holiday Season, the kitchen team made "tourtières to go" for sale in the Café du Parlement.

Some 60 of these traditional Québec holiday meat pies sold within a few days.

Special Brunches

Throughout the year, Le Parlementaire organizes theme brunches that allow visitors to enjoy a culinary experience showcasing Québec regional flavours and take a guided tour of the Parliament Building.

On February 7 and 14, 2016, about 400 people attended the traditional Québec Winter Carnival brunches. This year's new formula—a four-course meal rather than the usual buffet—enabled the chef to give free rein to his creativity.

Groups can reserve Le Parlementaire's dining room for their exclusive use for private activities such as training sessions, meetings or social events. This year, Le Parlementaire received 69 groups representing a total of 7,600 customers.

A VENUE FOR DISCUSSION AND LEARNING

New Immigrants' Familiarization Day

On May 26, 2015, some 50 immigrant Quebecers were welcomed at the Parliament Building. Over the day, they familiarized themselves with the National Assembly as a democratic institution and met Vice-President François Ouimet as well as some of the Members, with whom they were able to speak and learn more about the history of Québec and parliamentarism. The event was organized in collaboration with the Ministère de l'Immigration, de la Diversité et de l'Inclusion and the Commission de la capitale nationale du Québec.



"Jeunes explorateurs d'un jour" Day-Long Workplace Internship Program

On April 16, 2015, the National Assembly participated in the "Jeunes explorateurs d'un jour" program, which has existed since 2005 to enable Secondary 4 and 5 and college students to explore an occupation they are interested in.

For the 10th consecutive year, young people were mentored by employees from the Debates Broadcasting Service. Ten Secondary 4 and 5 students had an opportunity to learn about the world of television by watching cameramen and directors, among others, occupations of interest to them, at work.

Two students were also able to watch those editing parliamentary debate transcripts, since the Debates Publishing Service took part in the program for a second year. To learn more about the specifics of this job, the students were paired for the day with two seasoned *Journal des débats* (Hansard) editors. They visited the Debates Publishing Service, met those involved at every production stage, sat in on an Oral Question Period and toured the Library and Press Gallery. At the end of their visit, they were able to edit short excerpts from various debates.



Educational Mission

For many years, the National Assembly of Québec has promoted citizen involvement by organizing activities introducing young people to democratic and parliamentary institutions and their workings. Simulations, quizzes and the President's visits to secondary schools give the young and not-so-young a chance to get a closer look at the Members' work, acquire political knowledge and learn more about our democracy's key players and their roles.

From Elementary School to College

PARLIAMENTARY SIMULATIONS

Parliamentary simulations give participants an opportunity to experience various aspects of the Members' work and understand the rules and powers associated with National Assembly workings. Over a few days, the "apprentice" Members prepare and debate bills, learning the art of compromise, consensus and mutual respect. These simulations help young people become involved citizens and improve their written and oral communication skills.

■ 19TH STUDENT PARLIAMENT



Date: May 8, 2015

Target audience: Grade 6 elementary school students

Number of participants: more than 110 students

Bills debated and adopted:

- Teaching drama in elementary schools
- Raising awareness about savings and credit
- Using digital tablets in schools



■ 24TH STUDENT FORUM



Date: January 11 — 15, 2016

Target audience: College students

Number of participants: 133 students

Bills debated and adopted:

- An Act to optimize preschool, elementary and secondary education
- An Act to create the Québec Medication Supply and Procurement Agency
- Provincial Election Reform Act



Motion without notice adopted unanimously: THAT the Student Forum condemn harassment based on sexual identity.

This motion was drafted at a meeting of the Cercle des femmes parlementaires (circle of women Members of the National Assembly), to which all of the Student Forum's female participants were invited. National Assembly Vice-President and President of the Cercle des femmes parlementaires Maryse Gaudreault led discussions and spoke about her experience as a parliamentarian.

■ 14TH YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARLIAMENT

Date: January 11–15, 2016

Target audience: Secondary 3 and 4 students

Number of participants: 135 students

Bills debated – only the first was adopted:

- An Act on redistributing food
- An Act amending the criteria for obtaining a driver's licence under the Highway Safety Code
- An Act respecting free public transit for students.



Participants being sworn in
before the simulation

Matter under consideration in parliamentary committee

A parliamentary committee considered the issue of young people's dependency on electronic devices. Members heard an expert witness and discussed many aspects related to this subject during the committee's order of initiative (self-initiated mandate).

Québec Youth Parliament and Québec Student Parliament

In addition to its own parliamentary simulations, the National Assembly offers logistics support for two simulations designed for young people aged 18 to 25.

Québec Youth Parliament

- **Organizer:** Association québécoise des jeunes parlementaires inc.
- **Date:** December 26–30, 2015
- **Number of participants:** 100

Québec Student Parliament

- **Organizer:** Assemblée parlementaire des étudiants du Québec inc.
- **Date:** January 2–6, 2016
- **Number of participants:** 146



Young Democrats Tournament



The Young Democrats Tournament is a quiz game in which participants test their knowledge of the evolution of democracy—from ancient Greece to the present—and Québec's political history. The 23rd Young Democrats Tournament pitted 47 teams against each other in Québec City (April 10–12, 2015). Two hundred college and Secondary 4 and 5 students competed in this year's tournament, whose main theme was Great World Conflicts of the 20th Century (1914–1918 and 1939–1945).

Gold medal

Secondary school category:

École secondaire Joseph-François-Perrault

College category:

Cégep de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue (Val-d'Or campus)



Silver medal

Secondary school category: Collège Durocher St-Lambert

College category: Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf

Bronze medal

Secondary school category: École secondaire Joseph-François-Perrault

College category: Collège Champlain Saint-Lambert

Université Laval tuition scholarships (player of the game)

Secondary school category:

Vincent G. Poirier (École secondaire Joseph-François-Perrault)

College category:

Mathieu Lévesque (Cégep de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue – Val-d'Or campus)

PRESIDENT'S TOUR

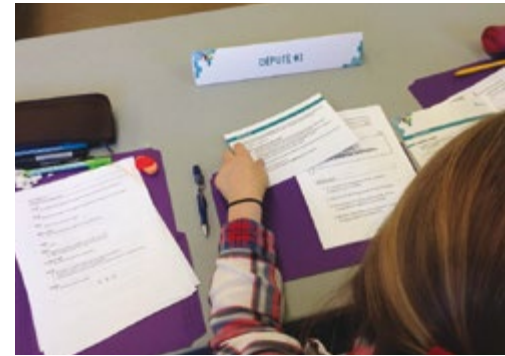
During the President's Tour, the National Assembly's President and three Vice-Presidents visit Québec secondary schools to speak with students about the President's duties and the Members' different roles. The Tour gives students an opportunity to:

- broaden their knowledge about the National Assembly and its workings
- understand the importance of citizen involvement
- discuss subjects of interest to them.

In spring 2015, the President and Vice-Presidents visited 7 secondary schools in 4 Québec regions and met with 400 students. The Tour continued in fall 2015 and winter 2016, when the President met with 1,800 students from 14 schools in 8 Québec regions.

NEW PROGRAM: VOX POPULI

The year 2015 marked the transition from the “Parlements au primaire et au secondaire” program to the National Assembly’s new “Vox populi: Ta démocratie à l’école!” program. Vox Populi promotes acquiring democratic values, especially through the electoral process, and helps students learn more about democracy, Members’ roles, project management and communication skills. Instructors visit participating schools to train student council members. At March 31, 2016, 277 schools had registered for the program and 95 training sessions had been given throughout Québec.



Award Recipients

To conclude the activities of the former “Parlements au primaire et au secondaire” (Elementary and secondary school parliaments) program, an awards ceremony was held at the National Assembly on May 29, 2015. Six elementary and secondary schools, whose performance had been outstanding throughout the school year, received awards. National Assembly Vice-President Maryse Gaudreault presented each school with a \$500 scholarship and a plaque recognizing the excellence of the bills prepared during the “Parlements au primaire et au secondaire” program.



“Parlements au primaire” awards (elementary schools)	“Parlements au secondaire” awards (secondary schools)
An Act respecting moving around in schools École Jacques-Cartier/St-Denys-Garneau	An Act respecting the student lounge École du Méandre
Entrepreneurial Culture Act École Notre-Dame	An Act respecting school support for humanitarian causes École Sainte-Martine
An Act respecting pedestrians’ safety at school École Terre des jeunes	An Act to help overcome negative effects of sun in the school environment École Saint-François

EDUCATIONAL TOOL FOR TEACHERS

The website “Par ici la démocratie” was launched in fall 2014 and is the National Assembly’s educational section for young people. This new virtual space casts an original light on our parliamentary institutions and fosters a better understanding of democracy and the Parliament’s fundamental role in society.

The website is intended as a front-line educational tool for social science teachers and a useful lesson planner, since it can be used to create a personal file for pinning articles, pictures, cards and interactive graphs or diagrams. Documents are copyright-free and can be downloaded and modified to suit users’ needs. The interface is appealing and adapted to young people and the school environment.

To date, the website has posted an average of **2,500 hits each month**. On March 31, 2016, it had 775 subscribers.



University Students

FONDATION JEAN-CHARLES-BONENFANT

Every year, the Fondation offers five 10-month internships, coupled with a \$21,000 scholarship, to university graduates who have completed their studies within the past two years. An excellent academic record, interest in democratic institutions, social commitment and community involvement are the main selection criteria.

The five candidates chosen get hands-on experience in many aspects of Québec parliamentary life during their internship, learning about the workings of the National Assembly and the entities reporting to it.

Interns are paired alternately with Government and Opposition Members. They also take part in a fact-finding mission abroad and dialogue with their counterparts at the Parliament of Canada and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario. In tandem with these activities, they must write an essay on a subject related to parliamentarism and democracy.



End of the 2014–2015 Internships

A ceremony held on Wednesday, June 3, 2015 marked the end of the internships that began in September 2014 and submission of the essays by interns Antonin Lacelle-Webster, Andrée-Anne Marsan-Paquin, Arnaud Montreuil and Anne-Marie Pilote. National Assembly Vice-President and Fondation President Maryse Gaudreault presided over the ceremony.

The interns' essays are filed with the National Assembly Library and posted on the Fondation's website. This year's essay titles were:

- *À la recherche de la « bonne mort » : les groupes de pression et les parlementaires dans le débat sur l'aide médicale à mourir au Québec* (Antonin Lacelle-Webster) (Seeking a "good death": pressure groups and parliamentarians in the debate on medically assisted dying in Québec)
- *Être porte-parole de l'opposition à l'Assemblée nationale du Québec* (Andrée-Anne Marsan-Paquin) (Being an opposition critic at the National Assembly of Québec)
- *Bâtir les archives pour écrire la nation. Les parlementaires, l'écriture de l'histoire et la mise en valeur des archives de la Nouvelle-France au XIX^e siècle* (Arnaud Montreuil) (Creating archives to record the nation's history. Parliamentarians, historical writing and development of the archives of 19th-century New France)
- *Quand le journaliste devient politicien : de la transmission d'informations aux arcanes du pouvoir* (Anne-Marie Pilote) (When journalists become politicians: from news desks to the halls of power).

Beginning of 2015–2016 Internships

The 2015–2016 parliamentary internships began on Tuesday, September 1, 2015 for Ali Murtadah Al-saleh, Joëlle Boucher-Kirouac, Sophie Jacques-Barma, Katéri Lalancette and Julien McDonald-Guimond. Since their arrival in September, the interns have been initiated into parliamentary life. Training sessions were specially designed for them so they could benefit fully from their National Assembly experience.



STUDENT PAGE PROGRAM

The year 2015–2016 was the 7th in the National Assembly's student page program, created in 2009 in conjunction with Université Laval to give undergraduate students an opportunity to get rewarding work experience and familiarize themselves with Québec's parliamentary institutions.



About 30 candidates participated in the selection process at the end of which 10 young women and 4 young men were selected for 2015–2016. The student pages started their duties in late August 2015 and were initiated into their work with the parliamentarians under the supervision of Gilles Jourdain, Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms and Page Supervisor.

Student pages are paid for a 10–15 hour work week and must do a research project recognized by Université Laval. The students earn six credits towards their bachelor's degree for the practical internship and directed research.

LAW STUDENT PAIRING

For the past three years, together with Université Laval, the Assembly has offered training for undergraduate-level law students interested in legislative drafting and the parliamentary process involved in bill consideration.

At the last Student Forum, nine students performed the duties of law clerks. Supervised by the Assembly's law clerks and Me Lucie Lauzière, Professor and Steering Committee Chair of Université Laval's "Chaire de rédaction juridique Louis-Philippe-Pigeon" (legal drafting chair), the students helped draft three bills, which were considered by the parliamentary simulation's participants.



Following this very successful collaboration between the National Assembly and Université Laval, a partnership agreement was signed to continue the training program and offer it to Université Laval students every year. Through it, both institutions wish to foster the development and application of knowledge acquired through practical training.

LAW AND PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE COURSE



The National Assembly has offered the course “Droit et procédure parlementaires” in collaboration with Université Laval for 12 years now. This year, the course enabled 18 students in undergraduate law, political science, public affairs and international relations programs to further their knowledge about Parliament, the State’s main democratic institution. Students learn about basic parliamentary procedure, parliamentary privileges, the President’s role, the legislative and budgetary process and parliamentary committee work. Their comprehensive, diversified training includes having them visit the National Assembly and attend a conference given by the Secretary General.

The course is given by
Me Siegfried Peters,
Coordinator for
Parliamentary Affairs.

ONLINE COURSE COMPARING THE PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEMS OF QUÉBEC AND FRANCE

For the third consecutive year, the online course “Parlementarisme comparé : Québec-France” was offered to students, researchers, parliamentarians, public servants and anyone wishing to learn more about democratic life in Québec and French societies. The course is a joint venture between the National Assembly of Québec, the French National Assembly and Université Laval’s “Chaire de recherche sur la démocratie et les institutions parlementaires” (research chair on democracy and parliamentary institutions). Experts from both Assemblies and professors from Laval and Sciences Po Bordeaux work together on it.

In September 2015, via a dynamic web platform, 22 students learned about the two Assemblies’ operations and parliamentary business by comparing the parliamentary systems of France and Québec. Experts’ videos and practical exercises helped highlight the Assemblies’ similarities and unique features. A version adapted for the Centre de la francophonie des Amériques enabled another 86 students to access this content, thus helping to disseminate Québec parliamentary practices and increasing the National Assembly’s visibility throughout the French-speaking countries of La Francophonie.

RESEARCH CHAIR ON DEMOCRACY AND PARLIAMENTARY INSTITUTIONS

Inaugurated in November 2007, the “Chaire de recherche sur la démocratie et les institutions parlementaires” results from a partnership between the National Assembly and Université Laval. The French National Assembly, Québec’s Chief Electoral Officer, Auditor General, Ombudsperson (Public Protector), Lobbyists Commissioner and polling firm CROP also partner with the Chair.

The Chair has four objectives:

1. Create a university centre of excellence on democracy and parliamentary institutions
2. Make parliamentary institutions a specific subject in terms of research, teaching and education in the fields of law, political science and the social sciences
3. Make students aware of all aspects of parliamentarism in modern democracies
4. Foster the parliamentary community’s openness to its surroundings.

The Chair’s activities include research support, continuing education and a knowledge-sharing component.

Memorandum of Understanding

In light of the Chair’s achievements over the past five years, the National Assembly and Université Laval have renewed their memorandum of understanding, thus ensuring funding of the Chair’s activities for another five years (2016–2021).

Symposium on Democracy in Québec and Canada

On April 8 and 9, 2015, the Chair held a symposium at the National Assembly on the health of democracy in Québec and Canada. The event was attended by university experts, elected representatives and practitioners mandated to weigh the pros and cons of various proposals for institutional reform. A dinner conference hosted by Bernard Derome was also organized as part of the symposium. Former National Assembly President Louise Harel and former Speaker of the House of Commons Peter Milliken discussed the prerequisites for parliamentary reform.





National Assembly Library

The National Assembly Library is mandated to meet Members' and administrative units' documentary and research needs by providing them with information, documents and reliable, impartial analyses. The Library makes a whole range of services available, including referencing, research, document processing and indexing, document management, archiving and digitization.

SUPPORT TO MEMBERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS

Work requested/carried out	2015–2016
Requests for information and documentary research	6,116 requests
Requests for semi-active files	194 requests
Requests for textual archives	204 requests
Requests for photo archives	216 requests
Indexation of pages from parliamentary debates	21,212 pages
Indexation of tabled documents	1,112 documents
Acquisition and cataloguing of new documents	18,173 documents

In 2015–2016, through its Research Service, Library staff supported the mandates of the National Assembly's 9 sectorial parliamentary committees in the form of analyses and reports. A total of **40 mandates** were carried out, involving **119 distinct assignments**, including 8 sectorial committee reports tabled in the National Assembly. The Committee on Public Administration also requested regular research support, especially in producing its June and December 2015 reports on public administration accountability.

Over the year, supporting interparliamentary and international relations activities gave rise to **69 research assignments** in the form of speeches, reports and information notes.



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Over the past year, **10,814 people** came to the Library as researchers, guests for a special event or simply visitors.

In addition, **4,450 citizens used the Library's services** and a reception, orientation or training service to familiarize themselves with the tools available in the Library or on its website.

Conferences at the Library

Three conferences open to the public were held at the Library this year. On April 16, 2015, Éline Hémond and Pascale Navarro spoke on power as the cornerstone for equality, offering a situational analysis on equality in decisionmaking in Québec and elsewhere in the world. In June, François Gélneau spoke on demographic changes within the Québec electorate and the influence younger generations of voters may have on Québec politics. Finally, in March 2016, Dominique Berteaux discussed the after-effects of the 2015 Paris Conference with regard to climate change and biodiversity. A total of 250 people attended these conferences.



Dominique Berteaux

INSTITUTIONAL PUBLICATIONS

In terms of historical and institutional research, the *Encyclopedia of Québec Parliamentarism*, available on the National Assembly website, has continued to expand. The Encyclopedia organizes and disseminates all parliamentary knowledge acquired over time. Two new issues of the Library's newsletter were also published in 2015–2016.

The Library updates, and makes available, online databases on various subjects: Québec political parties, elections and public consultations around the world, public funding of election campaigns, federalism and the bibliography "Bibliographie sur le parlementarisme au Québec", which is available online and constitutes the most complete source of information on Québec parliamentary business to date. Two thematic guides were put online this year: "L'étude des crédits budgétaires des ministères et organismes par l'Assemblée nationale du Québec", on the National Assembly's examination of government department and public body budgetary estimates and "Le Code civil du Québec : du Bas-Canada à aujourd'hui", on the history of the Civil Code.

DOCUMENTARY HERITAGE

The National Assembly Library's unique, valuable documentary heritage comprises printed, audiovisual, digitized, artifact and archival collections.

In 2015–2016, over **2.2 million documents** were available for consultation at the Library, including monographs, periodicals, newspapers and microfilms.

The Library also houses over **250,000 National Assembly administrative and historical files, 51 collections and 7 private bequests, over 6,000 items and artifacts** bearing witness to the institution's activities since 1867 and **73,000 hours of audiovisual and sound recordings** of the National Assembly's **parliamentary proceedings**.



Rare and Valuable Books Collection

The Library's ever-growing collection of rare and valuable books currently contains **9,480 titles**, which constitute a legacy and testimony to Québec cultural and parliamentary life. The Pierre-Joseph-Olivier-Chauveau collection is the Library's greatest pride and joy. In 2015–2016, the Library restored 10 documents from the rare and valuable books collection, including 8 from the Chauveau collection.

Communicating with Citizens

The National Assembly has many ways of getting closer to Quebecers and letting as many of them as possible know about its different activities, especially through various means of communication, including the National Assembly Channel, social media and contacts with media representatives. The public can watch and attend parliamentary proceedings and activities and get a better understanding of the National Assembly's mission and the Members' work.



TELEVISION AND STREAMING

The National Assembly Channel and website are the two main tools the public can use to keep abreast of parliamentary proceedings and all institutional activities.

In 2015–2016, the National Assembly offered Quebecers **nearly 4,000 hours of program content—1,300 parliamentary committee sittings**, press activities and institutional events.

PRESS ACTIVITIES AND MEDIA RELATIONS

Press activities are an integral part of parliamentarians' lives. Over the past year, **432 press activities** (press briefings and conferences) were held at the National Assembly—up 35% from 2014–2015. Between April 1, 2015 and March 31, 2016, the National Assembly answered nearly **300 requests** from Press Gallery journalists and the media in general. In addition to processing some 40 filming requests, the Assembly published **over 70 press releases** to inform the public and media about its activities.

TELEVISION PRODUCTIONS

Popularizing Parliamentary Procedure



A dozen video clips explaining and popularizing parliamentary procedure have been aired since fall 2015. These cameos are useful for describing certain aspects of the parliamentary proceedings that take place in the National Assembly Chamber and for enhancing understanding of parliamentary committee work. With the help of diagrams and explanations by parliamentary

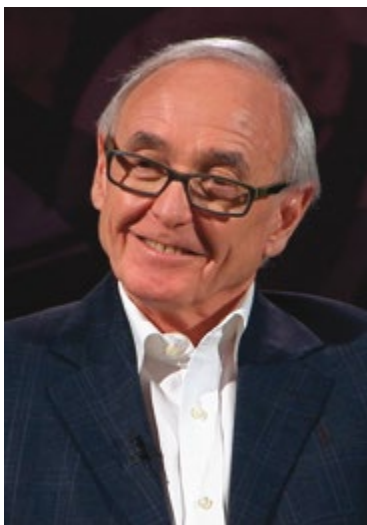
procedure advisers, the clips enable viewers to better understand National Assembly proceedings during recorded divisions or Oral Question Period, for example.

Rebroadcasting in Memory of Deceased Parliamentarians

To pay tribute to deceased Members, the National Assembly Channel rebroadcasts “Mémoires de députés” episodes in which the Member appears. This initiative was first instituted to mark the passing of Jean-Paul L’Allier on Thursday, January 7, 2016.



New “Mémoires de députés” Formula



John Grant

After 10 years of production, 269 episodes and interviews of 87 former Members, the “Mémoires de députés” series, in which former Members speak about their parliamentary experience, was overhauled.

Former Press Gallery journalist John Grant became the series’ moderator, a completely new audiovisual concept was introduced, and the narrative formula was improved by adding video archives showing occurrences mentioned by the guests. Airing of the new-and-improved series was scheduled to begin in fall 2016.



SOCIAL MEDIA

In addition to its website, where the public can access a wide range of useful information on its workings and history, the National Assembly has been active on social media since 2011. At March 31, 2016, over **6,700 people** had subscribed to the National Assembly Twitter account, and its Facebook page had more than **6,500 likes**.

Social media constitute real-time windows on institutional and parliamentary life. They rank high among the National Assembly's choice communications vehicles because they correspond to the public's growing use of technology and the institution's constant challenge of trying to get closer to the citizens.



In a Riding Near You

The new weekly release “Dans une circonscription près de chez vous” (In a riding near your) was begun in 2015–2016 on the Assembly's “Archives et histoire” Facebook page. Released every Monday, it features texts, maps and photos from the National Assembly archives explaining the origin of the names of Québec's 125 ridings.

Video Clips from “Mémoires de députés”

Alongside the “Mémoires de députés” series, indexation of topics discussed in former Members' interviews led to a series of video excerpts from these interviews. The clips, broadcast on social media, spotlight key moments in our history, while explaining certain aspects of parliamentary life.



The National Assembly's complete social media directory is available at: assnat.qc.ca/socialmedia.

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: **ADMINISTRATION**



ADMINISTRATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

Emergency Measures Training

To prepare National Assembly personnel for potential emergency situations, the Security Directorate set up a training program on the emergency response plan for secure facilities and other safety measures.

Focusing on what to do should an armed individual enter a National Assembly building, the training ran from July 2015 to January 2016 and was given to all members of the National Assembly's administrative and political staff, parliamentarians and Cabinet members. The training also covered other emergency situations—medical emergencies, fire and suspicious packages.

Security Directorate guards and constables, who are the first responders, received training on rapid deployment and lockdown in April 2015. In April 2013 and January 2015, they had participated in active shooter simulation sessions.



Over a Quarter-Century of Commitment

On November 24, 2015, National Assembly President Jacques Chagnon and Secretary General Michel Bonsaint acknowledged the commitment of members of the Assembly's administrative personnel.

Twenty-four employees had worked in the public service for 25 years or more, while four employees had at least 40 years of service.



Back row: Denis Ouellet, Norman Paradis, François Asselin, Sylvia Ford, Denis Blanchette, Lucie Caron, Marc Paquet, Jean-François Cossette, Louis Gagné, Pierre Bédard, Denis Méthot, Sylvie Tousignant, Katy McNicoll, Sandra Girard, Sophie Deblois

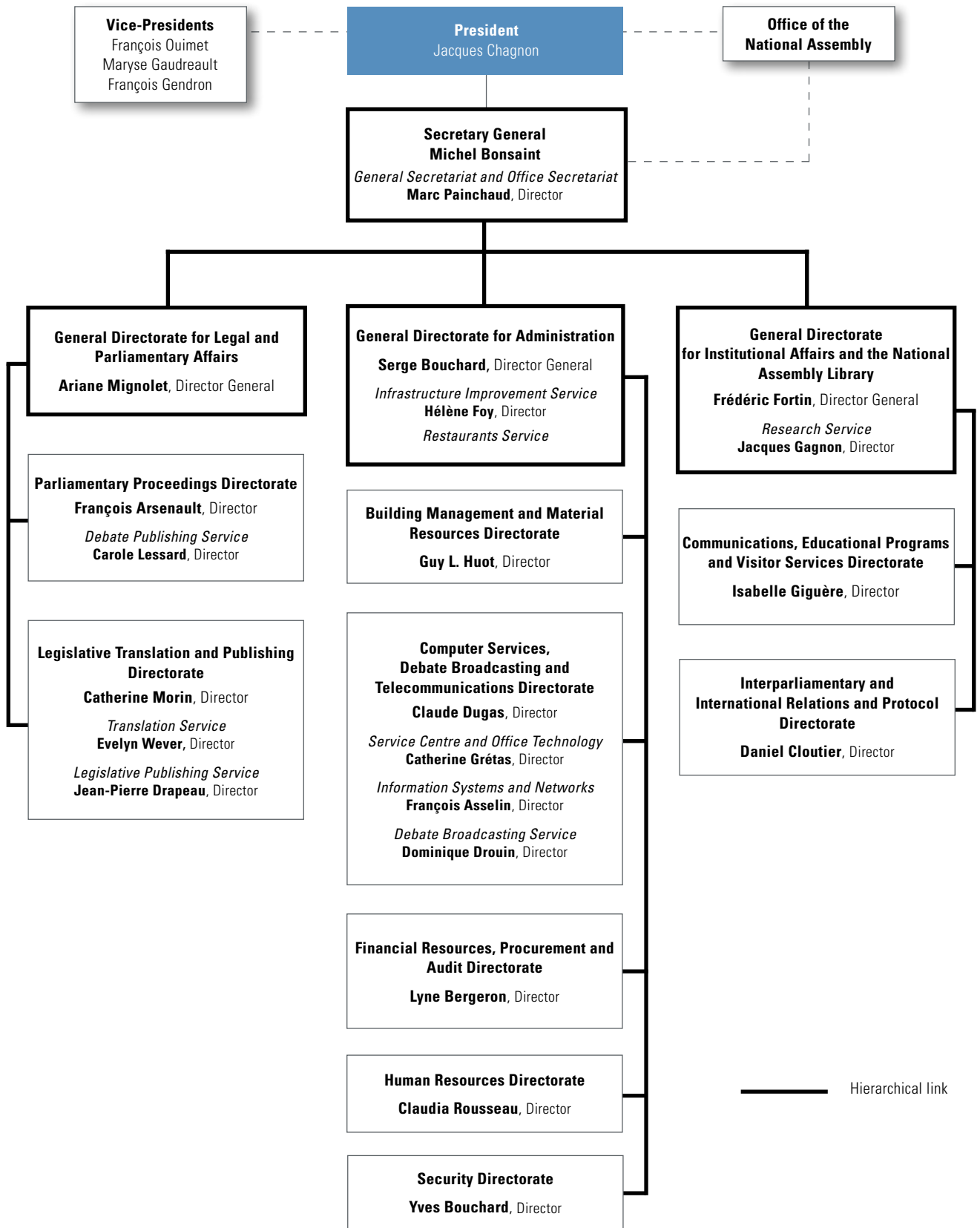
Front row: Yolande Blouin, Secretary General Michel Bonsaint, Ginette Brisson-Bolduc, Danielle Beaudoin, Rose-Marie Fournier, Renée Ferland, National Assembly President Jacques Chagnon, Anne Levesque, Gladys Romero Gonzalez, Lucielle Rouillard, Jocelyne Ouellet, Hélène Foy

Office of the National Assembly

The Office of the National Assembly oversees and directs the National Assembly's administration. Among other things, it is responsible for adopting the Assembly's administrative organization plan, approving the Assembly's budget estimates and regulating areas of immediate concern to the Members and their staff, such as their allowances and working conditions.

COMPOSITION OF THE OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AT MARCH 31, 2016		
Chair: Jacques Chagnon (Westmount–Saint-Louis)		
Members		
Quebec Liberal Party (5) Paul Busque (Beauce-Sud) Jean-Denis Girard (Trois-Rivières) Pierre Giguère (Saint-Maurice) Jean Habel (Sainte-Rose) Guy Hardy (Saint-François)	Parti québécois (3) Stéphane Bergeron (Verchères) Lorraine Richard (Duplessis) Sylvain Roy (Bonaventure)	Coalition avenir Québec (1) Jean-François Roberge (Chambly)
Substitute Members		
Quebec Liberal Party (5) Stéphane Billette (Huntingdon) Patrick Huot (Vanier-Les Rivières) Michel Matte (Portneuf) Marie-Claude Nichols (Vaudreuil) Guy Ouellette (Chomedey)	Parti québécois (3) Harold Lebel (Rimouski) Dave Turcotte (Saint-Jean) André Villeneuve (Berthier)	Coalition avenir Québec (1) Donald Martel (Nicolet-Bécancour)

Administrative Structure at March 31, 2016



Members' Payroll, Allowances and Expenses

PAYROLL

Regular remuneration (includes basic allowance and additional allowance)	\$12,847,177
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ALLOWANCES

Allowances for expenditures, attendance and political activities	\$3,276,277
Transition allowances (includes allowances paid when Member leaves)	\$419,941
Travel from riding to Parliament Building	\$1,049,035
Accommodation in or around Québec City	\$1,583,426
Additional allowance for purchase of office furniture and equipment during first term of office	\$49,649
Riding office operating expenses	\$5,476,110

EXPENDITURES

	Members' staff	Office staff of House officers	Total
Payroll	\$14,604,697	\$7,985,242	\$22,589,939
Travel expenses	\$494,571	\$405,057	\$899,628
Political party research services			\$2,802,892

Appropriations Allocated to the National Assembly in 2015–2016

	Appropriations used* (\$000)
GENERAL SECRETARIAT	
Office of the Secretary General	1,048.7
GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR LEGAL AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS	
General Directorate for Legal and Parliamentary Affairs	1,178.0
Parliamentary Proceedings Directorate	3,617.4
Legislative Translation and Publishing Directorate	583.8
	5,379.2
GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR INSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS AND THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY LIBRARY	
General Directorate for Institutional Affairs and the National Assembly Library	5,043.0
Interparliamentary and International Relations and Protocol Directorate	3,089.5
Communications, Educational Programs and Visitor Services Directorate	3,208.1
	11,340.6
GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR ADMINISTRATION	
General Directorate for Administration	401.5
Restaurants Service	1,563.1
Building Management and Material Resources Directorate	10,994.3
Computer Services, Debates Broadcasting and Telecommunications Directorate	9,120.7
Financial Resources, Procurement and Audit Directorate	1,489.0
Human Resources Directorate	10,538.1
Security Directorate	5,577.3
	39,684.0
ADMINISTRATIVE TOTAL	57,452.5
STATUTORY SUPPORT SERVICES TO PARLIAMENTARIANS	65,963.9
EXPENDITURES INCURRED BY TRANSFERRING SURPLUSES TO OWN-SOURCE REVENUE ACCOUNT	6,396.3
APPROPRIATIONS USED	129,812.7
FIXED ASSETS AMORTIZATION	5,540.5

* The appropriations used include fixed assets, salaries, operating expenses and advances.

Breakdown of administrative personnel by gender



48.9%



51.1%

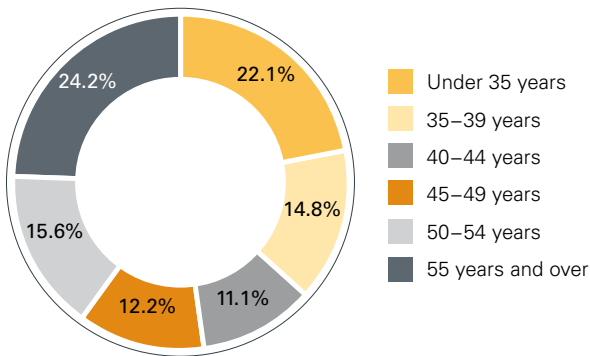
Personnel

At March 31, 2016, the administrative sector had 472 regular employees, 176 casual employees and 27 students and interns.

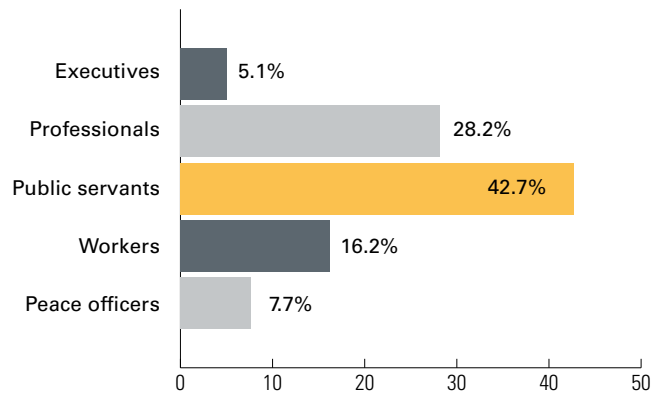
The political sector, comprising executive assistants, political aides, advisers and support staff, totals 500 persons working in the parliamentary precinct and in Members' riding offices.

The National Assembly's approximately 1,175 employees ensure that Parliament runs smoothly.

Administrative staff by age group



Administrative staff by job category



ORIENTATION PROGRAM FOR NEW ADMINISTRATIVE-SECTOR EMPLOYEES

Since 2013, the Human Resources Directorate has offered monthly orientation sessions for new regular and casual administrative-sector employees to facilitate their integration into the Assembly work environment and to provide information on their conditions of employment. From April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016, a total of 37 new employees participated in the program.

A human resources management adviser leads the sessions, and various staff members are invited to speak, including the Director of Human Resources and the Assembly's Ethics Officer. At the end of the session, the union representatives introduce themselves, answer questions and speak with the employees.

In the spring and fall, new employees are invited to two meetings in the Secretary General's office. This allows them to meet the Secretary General and directors general and to become familiar with the workings of the National Assembly.

INTERNSHIPS

To promote the National Assembly as an employer of choice and offer future workers a unique work experience within the institution, 35 interns and 32 students were welcomed into various directorates over the past fiscal year. Although some of the internships are of a short-term, exploratory nature, most of these people represent a potential pool for upcoming regular or casual positions.

TRAINING ACTIVITIES FOR MEMBERS OF THE QUÉBEC BAR

Since April 1, 2009, a new obligation has applied to all members of the Barreau du Québec (Québec bar): they must take a total of 30 hours of training per two-year reference period. These activities allow Barreau members to maintain their high professional standards, keep abreast of new practices, hone their skills and acquire and further develop the professional competencies linked to practicing the legal profession.

The National Assembly pursued its activities under the Barreau du Québec's on-the-job professional development program. Four training sessions were offered in 2015–2016, each attended by 25 participants, on average.

DATE	TRAINING ACTIVITY
2015-05-19	Lawyers' new Code of Professional Conduct
2015-11-17	Practical approach to labour standards
2016-02-16	Social media 2.0: A review of legal and corporate jurisprudence
2016-03-22	Outline of the new Code of Civil Procedure

HEALTH PROGRAM

The National Assembly is concerned with all aspects related to its employees' health and safety, more specifically, physical and mental health, safety and prevention in the workplace.

Various activities were organized for National Assembly personnel:

- Vaccination campaign (November 2015): 130 persons were vaccinated
- Promotion of National Mental Health Week (May 2015)
- Promotion of the "Quit to Win!" challenge (January 2016)
- Two conferences under the Employee Assistance Program

Other Projects

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ONLINE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

The National Assembly's online staffing solution, "Emploi en ligne", became operational on October 26, 2015. This platform allows employees to access job offers (assignments, transfers, promotions and recruitment) and to apply online.

Human Resources Directorate employees received 73 hours of training to become familiar with the new application before it was implemented. Administrative staffing processes had to be reviewed to adapt strategies to the new application.

This online service is part of Phase 3 (SGR3) of the self-service SAGIR system, which seeks to modernize government staffing and support the new normative framework. The SGR3 project focuses on defining and implementing an online staffing solution. This solution improves the hiring, promotion, transfer and assignment processes so that they can support the changes to be brought about by Bill 41, which amends the *Public Service Act*.

RESTORATION WORK

In 2015–2016, far-reaching restoration work was done to preserve the heritage character of the Parliament Building and the other buildings in the parliamentary precinct.



New Entrance Door to the André-Laurendeau Building

The work, which was done over a seven-month period, consisted primarily of repairing and polishing the walls' and lobby's stainless steel cladding and the doors, outer gate and brass ornaments. In addition, a number of heavily corroded structural elements and all hardware were replaced. Finally, the windows were cleaned and sealed to prevent water infiltration.

This restoration returned the majestic 80-year-old entrance to its former glory.

The western portion of the Parliament Building's northern facade was restored to mend brittle stone veneer and completely rebuild the northwest pediment, which presented major structural defects. The last time this part of the facade had been restored was in 2000.

The work mainly entailed replacing about 150 stones, completely cleaning the surfaces, repointing all masonry elements and replacing the pediment's stones and load-bearing wall. The latter involved having skilled sculptors reproduce a number of large sculpted stones.

Eavestroughs were installed and embedded in the eaves to protect the facades from runoff. This restoration work will ensure the

longevity of the Parliament Building, built more than 130 years ago, as well as the premises' safety for users and passersby.



BROADCASTING INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

The National Assembly's broadcasting technological infrastructures underwent extensive changes in 2015–2016 to optimize the cameras used to record activities in the Legislative Council Chamber. The technology used for digital archiving management was also updated, among other things, to extend the service life of the system and the links for media use for live, high-definition retransmission of parliamentary activities.

OVERHAUL OF THE HANSARD PRODUCTION SYSTEM

Phase II of the project to overhaul the system for producing the *Journal des débats* (Hansard) involved modernizing and optimizing the digital recording process for transcription and was successfully completed in fall 2015.

Thanks to the new Harmony recording system, this phase resulted in better sound quality, optimum work allocation and clear, precise monitoring of all production teams' work.

A total of 157 hours of testing and training were required for the employees of the *Journal des débats* to become familiar with the new system.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I

Bills passed at March 31, 2016

Abbreviations

CAN:	Committee on the National Assembly
CAP:	Committee on Public Administration
CAPER:	Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources
CAT:	Committee on Planning and the Public Domain
CCE:	Committee on Culture and Education
CET:	Committee on Labour and the Economy
CFP:	Committee on Public Finance
CI:	Committee on Institutions
CP:	Committee of the Whole
CRC:	Committee on Citizen Relations
CSSS:	Committee on Health and Social Services
CTE:	Committee on Transportation and the Environment

GOVERNMENT BILLS PASSED

13	CFP	An Act to give effect to the Budget Speech delivered on 4 June 2014 and to various other fiscal measures (concurred in on division) (Fall 2015)
20	CSSS	An Act to enact the Act to promote access to family medicine and specialized medicine services and to amend various legislative provisions relating to assisted procreation (Vote: Yeas 63, Nays 48, Abstentions 0 – concurred in on division) (Fall 2015)
28	CFP	An Act mainly to implement certain provisions of the Budget Speech of 4 June 2014 and return to a balanced budget in 2015-2016 (Vote: Yeas 64, Nays 43, Abstentions 0 – concurred in on division) (Spring 2015)
32	CTE	An Act to amend the Act respecting compensation measures for the carrying out of projects affecting wetlands or bodies of water in order to extend its application (passed unanimously) (Spring 2015)

33	CI	An Act to amend the Courts of Justice Act (passed unanimously) (Spring 2015)
34	CET	An Act to amend the Supplemental Pension Plans Act with respect to the funding and restructuring of certain multi-employer pension plans (passed unanimously) (Spring 2015)
36	CTE	An Act to amend various legislative provisions mainly concerning shared transportation (passed unanimously) (Spring 2015)
37	CET	An Act to confirm that the cement plant and maritime terminal projects in the territory of Municipalité de Port-Daniel-Gascons are subject solely to the authorizations required under section 22 of the Environment Quality Act (Vote: Yeas 89, Nays 22, Abstentions 0 – passed by a majority of votes) (Spring 2015)
38	CFP	An Act to allow the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec to carry out infrastructure projects (Vote: Yeas 71, Nays 29, Abstentions 0 – concurred in on division) (Spring 2015)
39	CFP	An Act to give effect to the Update on Québec's Economic and Financial Situation presented on 2 December 2014 and to amend various legislative provisions (concurred in on division) (Fall 2015)
42	CET	An Act to group the Commission de l'équité salariale, the Commission des normes du travail and the Commission de la santé et de la sécurité du travail and to establish the Administrative Labour Tribunal (concurred in on division) (Spring 2015)
43	CET	An Act to enhance the communication of hazard-related information concerning products present in the workplace and to amend the Act respecting occupational health and safety (passed unanimously) (Spring 2015)
44	CSSS	An Act to bolster tobacco control (Vote: Yeas 118, Nays 0, Abstentions 0 – passed unanimously) (Fall 2015)
45		Appropriation Act No. 2, 2015-2016 (Vote: Yeas 58, Nays 40, Abstentions 0 – concurred in on division) (Spring 2015)
46	CAT	An Act respecting the election for the office of warden of Municipalité régionale de comté du Granit (passed unanimously) (Spring 2015)
47	CCE	An Act to modernize the governance of Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (passed unanimously) (Spring 2015)

- 48 CCE An Act to modernize the governance of Conservatoire de musique et d'art dramatique du Québec (passed unanimously) (Fall 2015)
- 51 CI An Act mainly to make the administration of justice more efficient and fines for minors more deterrent (passed unanimously) (Fall 2015)
- 54 CAPERN An Act to improve the legal situation of animals (Vote: Yeas 109, Nays 0, Abstentions 0 – passed unanimously) (Fall 2015)
- 55 CAPERN An Act respecting transparency measures in the mining, oil and gas industries (concurred in on division) (Fall 2015)
- 57 CET An Act to amend the Supplemental Pension Plans Act mainly with respect to the funding of defined benefit pension plans (passed unanimously) (Fall 2015)
- 58 CET An Act to group the Commission administrative des régimes de retraite et d'assurances and the Régie des rentes du Québec (concurred in on division) (Fall 2015)
- 66 CSSS Funeral Operations Act (passed unanimously) (Spring 2016)
- 67 CET An Act mainly to improve the regulation of tourist accommodation and to define a new system of governance as regards international promotion (modified title) (Vote: Yeas 106, Nays 0, Abstentions 3 – concurred in on division) (Fall 2015)
- 68 CET An Act to address the findings of the report of the appellate panel established under the Agreement on Internal Trade regarding section 4.1 of the Food Products Act (passed unanimously) (Fall 2015)
- 69 CFP An Act to give effect mainly to fiscal measures announced in the Budget Speech delivered on 26 March 2015 (modified title) (concurred in on division) (Fall 2015)
- 71 CET An Act respecting the settlement of certain disputes in the automotive sector in the Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean region (Vote: Yeas 114, Nays 0, Abstentions 0 – passed unanimously) (Fall 2015)
- 73 CFP An Act respecting mainly the implementation of recommendations of the pension committee of certain public sector pension plans (passed unanimously) (Fall 2015)

78	CI	An Act to regulate the granting of transition allowances to Members who resign during their term of office (Vote: Yeas 115, Nays 0, Abstentions 0 – passed unanimously) (Fall 2015)
80	CP	An Act to enable municipalities to neutralize tax burden shifts onto residential immovables (passed unanimously) (Fall 2015)
90		Appropriation Act No. 1, 2016-2017 (Vote: Yeas 64, Nays 38, Abstentions 0 – concurred in on division) (Spring 2016)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS PASSED

493		An Act to proclaim Nelson Mandela Day (passed unanimously) (Spring 2015)
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PRIVATE BILLS PASSED

205	CAT	An Act respecting Ville de Sherbrooke (passed unanimously) (Spring 2015)
206	CAT	An Act respecting Ville de Mercier (passed unanimously) (Spring 2015)
207	CAT	An Act respecting Ville de Boucherville (passed unanimously) (Spring 2015)
208	CAT	An Act respecting Ville de Saint-Félicien (passed unanimously) (Spring 2015)
210	CAT	An Act concerning an immovable situated in the territory of Ville de Québec (passed unanimously) (Fall 2015)
213	CAT	An Act respecting the property tax applicable to PF Résolu Canada Inc. as a consumer of the electric power it produces at its hydroelectric installations in the territory of Municipalité de Saint-David-de-Falardeau (passed unanimously) (Fall 2015)
216	CCE	An Act respecting the sale of an immovable situated on the Bois-Franc Ouest range in Notre-Dame-du-Sacré-Cœur-d'Issoudun (passed unanimously) (Fall 2015)
217	CFP	An Act respecting the continuance of La Mine Belleterre Québec Ltée (libre de responsabilité personnelle) and Boston Bay Mines Limited (passed unanimously) (Fall 2015)

APPENDIX II

Parliamentary committee orders completed or under way at March 31, 2016

COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The Committee on the National Assembly did not carry out any orders in 2015–2016.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Hearing of deputy ministers and heads of public bodies on the following:

- Administrative management of the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport
- Administrative management of the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux
- Administrative management of the Commission des libérations conditionnelles
- Administrative management of the Ministère du Conseil exécutif
- Administrative management of the Régie des marchés agricoles et alimentaires du Québec
- Compensation and rehabilitation of workers who sustain an employment injury (Chapter 4, Auditor General's Report – Spring 2015)
- Application of the law with regard to dam safety and operations (Chapter 3, Sustainable Development Commissioner's Report – Spring 2015)
- Contracts presenting risk situations for the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation (Chapter 6, Auditor General's Report – Spring 2015)
- Administrative management of the Institut de tourisme et d'hôtellerie du Québec
- Administrative management and financial commitments of the Commission de la fonction publique
- Administrative management and financial commitments of the Ministère de la Sécurité publique
- Administrative management and financial commitments of the Ministère du Développement économique, de l'Innovation et des Exportations
- Administration and control of physician compensation (Chapter 3, Auditor General's Report – Fall 2015)
- Information Technology Contracts (Auditor General's Special Audit Report)
- 2014–2015 annual management report and financial commitments of the Auditor General

• Completed • Under way

-
- Administrative management and financial commitments of the Ministère de la Famille and educational childcare quality, performance and accountability (Follow-up to Chapter 5, Auditor General's Report – Fall 2011)
 - Administrative management of the Régie du logement
 - Green Fund management and financial assistance (Chapter 4, Sustainable Development Commissioner's Report – Fall 2014)

Other orders

- Election of Committee Vice-Chair

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, ENERGY
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Orders of reference from the Assembly

- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 54, An Act to improve the legal situation of animals
- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 55, An Act respecting transparency measures in the mining, oil and gas industries
- Special consultations within the framework of examination of the Green Paper entitled "Guidelines of the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles in the Area of Social Acceptability"

Orders under the Standing Orders

- Election of Committee Chair and Vice-Chair
- Examination of the 2015–2016 estimates of expenditure
- Interpellation by the Member for Mirabel of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the following subject: The issues and challenges facing the agricultural sector in Québec

Orders of initiative

- Analysis of the farmland grabbing phenomenon
- Examination of the policy directions, activities and administrative management of the Commission de protection du territoire agricole du Québec

• Completed • Under way

COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

Orders of reference from the Assembly

- Clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 46, An Act respecting the election for the office of warden of Municipalité régionale de comté du Granit
- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 83, An Act to amend various municipal-related legislative provisions concerning such matters as political financing
- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 492, An Act to amend the Civil Code in order to protect the rights of seniors as lessees
- Hearing of interested parties and clause-by-clause consideration of Private Bill 204, An Act respecting Ville de Saint-Joseph-de-Sorel
- Hearing of interested parties and clause-by-clause consideration of Private Bill 205, An Act respecting Ville de Sherbrooke
- Hearing of interested parties and clause-by-clause consideration of Private Bill 206, An Act respecting Ville de Mercier
- Hearing of interested parties and clause-by-clause consideration of Private Bill 207, An Act respecting Ville de Boucherville
- Hearing of interested parties and clause-by-clause consideration of Private Bill 208, An Act respecting Ville de Saint-Félicien
- Hearing of interested parties and clause-by-clause consideration of Private Bill 209, An Act respecting Ville de Mascouche
- Hearing of interested parties and clause-by-clause consideration of Private Bill 210, An Act concerning an immovable situated in the territory of Ville de Québec
- Hearing of interested parties and clause-by-clause consideration of Private Bill 211, An Act respecting Municipalité régionale de comté Les Moulins
- Hearing of interested parties and clause-by-clause consideration of Private Bill 212, An Act respecting Ville de Saguenay
- Hearing of interested parties and clause-by-clause consideration of Private Bill 213, An Act respecting the property tax applicable to PF Résolu Canada Inc. as a consumer of the electric power it produces at its hydroelectric installations in the territory of Municipalité de Saint-David-de-Falardeau
- Hearing of interested parties and clause-by-clause consideration of Private Bill 214, An Act respecting Ville de Drummondville
- Hearing of interested parties and clause-by-clause consideration of Private Bill 215, An Act respecting Municipalité de Sainte-Anne-de-Sorel

• Completed • Under way

Orders under the Standing Orders

- Examination of the 2015–2016 estimates of expenditure
- Interpellation by the Member for Jonquière of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Territory Occupation on the following subject: The Government's laxity in the infrastructure file, its cutbacks to the various regional development tools and its lack of an economic plan targeting Québec's economic recovery
- Interpellation by the Member for Gaspé of the Minister responsible for Small and Medium Enterprises, Regulatory Streamlining and Regional Economic Development on the following subject: The Government's lack of vision with respect to regional development

Statutory orders

- Examination of the reports on the implementation of the *Municipal Ethics and Good Conduct Act*

Orders of initiative

- Examination of the policy directions, activities and administrative management of the Société d'habitation du Québec

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

Orders of reference from the Assembly

- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 47, An Act to modernize the governance of Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec
- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 48, An Act to modernize the governance of Conservatoire de musique et d'art dramatique du Québec
- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 86, An Act to modify the organization and governance of school boards to give schools a greater say in decision-making and ensure parents' presence within each school board's decision-making body
- Hearing of interested parties and clause-by-clause consideration of Private Bill 216, An Act respecting the sale of an immovable situated on the Bois-Franc Ouest range in Notre-Dame-du-Sacré-Cœur-d'Issoudun

Orders under the Standing Orders

- Examination of the 2015–2016 estimates of expenditure
- Interpellation by the Member for Lac-Saint-Jean of the Minister of Education, Higher Education and Research on the following subject: The Premier's admission, according to which some of the Government's cutbacks affect services to the population, including those intended for the most vulnerable people in Québec, and their direct impact on Québec students

• Completed • Under way

- Interpellation by the Member for Lac-Saint-Jean of the Minister of Education, Higher Education and Research on the following subject: The widespread loss of confidence in the Minister of Education, Higher Education and Research
- Interpellation by the Member for Gouin of the Minister of Education, Higher Education and Research on the following subject: Education, a top priority in Québec, where all children must be educated under conditions that allow them to reach their full potential

Statutory orders

- Hearing of the heads of university-level educational institutions

Orders of initiative

- Examination of the policy directions, activities and administrative management of the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles

COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND THE ECONOMY

Orders of reference from the Assembly

- Clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 37, An Act to confirm that the cement plant and maritime terminal projects in the territory of Municipalité de Port-Daniel-Gascons are subject solely to the authorizations required under section 22 of the Environment Quality Act
- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 42, An Act to group the Commission de l'équité salariale, the Commission des normes du travail and the Commission de la santé et de la sécurité du travail and to establish the Administrative Labour Tribunal
- Clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 43, An Act to enhance the communication of hazard-related information concerning products present in the workplace and to amend the Act respecting occupational health and safety
- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 57, An Act to amend the Supplemental Pension Plans Act mainly with respect to the funding of defined benefit pension plans
- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 58, An Act to group the Commission administrative des régimes de retraite et d'assurances and the Régie des rentes du Québec
- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 67, An Act mainly to improve the regulation of tourist accommodation

• Completed • Under way

-
- Clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 68, An Act to address the findings of the report of the appellate panel established under the Agreement on Internal Trade regarding section 4.1 of the Food Products Act
 - Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 70, An Act to allow a better match between training and jobs and to facilitate labour market entry
 - Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 71, An Act respecting the settlement of certain disputes in the automotive sector in the Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean region
 - Special consultations on Bill 75, An Act respecting the restructuring of university-sector defined benefit pension plans and amending various legislative provisions

Orders under the Standing Orders

- Election of Committee Vice-Chair
- Examination of the 2015–2016 estimates of expenditure

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC FINANCE

Orders of reference from the Assembly

- Special consultations on the report from the Québec Taxation Review Committee
- Clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 13, An Act to give effect to the Budget Speech delivered on 4 June 2014 and to various other fiscal measures
- Clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 28, An Act mainly to implement certain provisions of the Budget Speech of 4 June 2014 and return to a balanced budget in 2015–2016
- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 38, An Act to allow the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec to carry out infrastructure projects
- Clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 39, An Act to give effect to the Update on Québec's Economic and Financial Situation presented on 2 December 2014 and to amend various legislative provisions
- Clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 69, An Act to give effect to fiscal measures announced mainly in the Budget Speech delivered on 26 March 2015
- Clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 73, An Act respecting mainly the implementation of recommendations of the pension committee of certain public sector pension plans
- Clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 74, An Act respecting mainly the implementation of certain provisions of the Budget Speech of 26 March 2015
- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 87, An Act to facilitate the disclosure of wrongdoings within public bodies

• Completed • Under way

- Special consultations on Bill 88, An Act respecting development of the small-scale alcoholic beverage industry
- Hearing of interested parties and clause-by-clause consideration of Private Bill 217, An Act respecting the continuance of La Mine Bellettre Québec Ltée (libre de responsabilité personnelle) and Boston Bay Mines Limited

Orders under the Standing Orders

- Election of Committee Vice-Chair
- Examination of the 2015–2016 estimates of expenditure
- Interpellation by the Member for Granby of the Minister of Finance on the following subject: The need to reduce citizens' tax burden and produce an economic recovery plan in the pre-budget context
- Interpellation by the Member for Mercier of the Minister of Finance on the following subject: Measures to be taken to remedy the tax injustice suffered by taxpayers as a result of the privileges granted the wealthiest 1 %
- Interpellation by the Member for La Peltre of the Chair of the Conseil du trésor on the following subject: The flawed management of information technology projects in the Government
- Interpellation by the Member for Granby of the Minister of Finance on the following subject: The many tax and tariff increases the Liberal Government is imposing on Québec citizens
- Interpellation by the Member for La Peltre of the Chair of the Conseil du trésor on the following subject: Government management of IT projects
- Continuation of the debate on the Budget Speech

Orders of initiative

- Tax haven phenomenon

COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

Orders of reference from the Assembly

- General consultation on the document on Government policy directions for a more transparent government, respectful of a person's right to privacy and the protection of personal information entitled "Orientations gouvernementales pour un gouvernement plus transparent, dans le respect du droit à la vie privée et la protection des renseignements personnels"
- Special consultations on the draft regulation on the *Regulation respecting change of name and of other particulars of civil status for transsexual and transgender persons*
- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 51, An Act mainly to make the administration of justice more efficient and fines for minors more deterrent

• Completed • Under way

-
- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 59, An Act to enact the Act to prevent and combat hate speech and speech inciting violence and to amend various legislative provisions to better protect individuals
 - Special consultations on Bill 64, Firearms Registration Act
 - Clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 78, An Act to regulate the granting of transition allowances to Members who resign during their term of office
 - Clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 89, An Act to ensure better consistency between the French and English texts of the Civil Code

Orders under the Standing Orders

- Election of Committee Chair and Vice-Chair
- Hearing of Chief Electoral Officer
- Examination of the 2015–2016 estimates of expenditure
- Interpellation by the Member for Chicoutimi and Leader of the Official Opposition of the Premier on the President of Iceland's statement of February 24, 2015, "Independence in itself can never be negative"
- Interpellation by the Member for Verchères of the Minister responsible for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs and the Canadian Francophonie on the following subject: Federal political parties' campaign promises related to areas under Québec's jurisdiction

Statutory orders

- Examination of the report on the implementation of the *Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly*

Orders of initiative

- Examination of the restructuring plan announced by the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions
- Examination of the policy directions, activities and administrative management of the Anti-Corruption Commissioner
- Examination of the policy directions, activities and administrative management of the 18 reintegration support funds of Québec's correctional facilities
- Examination of the policy directions, activities and administrative management of the reintegration support central fund's advisory committee

• Completed • Under way

COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS

Orders of reference from the Assembly

- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 77, Québec Immigration Act

Orders under the Standing Orders

- Election of Committee Vice-Chair
- Examination of the 2015–2016 estimates of expenditure
- Interpellation by the Member for Richelieu of the Minister responsible for seniors on the following subject: The impact of Liberal austerity on the living conditions of our seniors

Orders of initiative

- Examination of the mechanisms related to the resale of permits granting childcare spaces in private subsidized daycare centres
- Women's place in politics
- Aboriginal women's living conditions as affected by sexual assault and domestic violence

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Orders of reference from the Assembly

- Clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 20, An Act to enact the Act to promote access to family medicine and specialized medicine services and to amend various legislative provisions relating to assisted procreation
- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 44, An Act to bolster tobacco control
- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 66, Funeral Operations Act
- Special consultations on Bill 81, An Act to reduce the cost of certain medications covered by the basic prescription drug insurance plan by allowing calls for tenders

Orders under the Standing Orders

- Examination of the 2015–2016 estimates of expenditure
- Interpellation by the Member for Taillon of the Minister of Health and Social Services on the following subject: The Minister of Health and Social Services' wish to legalize accessory fees billed to patients

• Completed • Under way

Statutory orders

- Examination of the 2013–2014 annual reports of the following health and social services agencies: Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Bas-Saint-Laurent, Capitale-Nationale, Chaudière-Appalaches, Côte-Nord, Estrie, Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine, Lanaudière, Laurentides, Laval, Mauricie and Centre-du-Québec, Montérégie, Montréal, Outaouais, Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean
- Examination of the 2013–2014 annual management reports of the Centre régional de santé et de services sociaux de la Baie-James, the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services and the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay

Orders of initiative

- Examination of the policy directions, activities and administrative management of the health and social services agencies of Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Côte-Nord, Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine, Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean and the Centre régional de santé et de services sociaux de la Baie-James
- The living conditions of adults staying in residential and long-term care centres

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Orders of reference from the Assembly

- Special consultations on the backgrounder on passenger transportation by automobile for remuneration
- Special consultations on the Green Paper on modernizing the *Environment Quality Act*'s environmental authorization procedure entitled "Moderniser le régime d'autorisation environnementale de la Loi sur la qualité de l'environnement"
- Special consultations on the consultation document on Québec's greenhouse gas emission reduction target for 2030 entitled "Cible de réduction d'émissions de gaz à effet de serre du Québec pour 2030"
- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 36, An Act to amend various legislative provisions mainly concerning shared transportation
- Special consultations and clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 76, An Act to modify the organization and governance of shared transportation in the Montréal metropolitan area

• Completed • Under way

Orders under the Standing Orders

- Examination of the 2015–2016 estimates of expenditure

Statutory orders

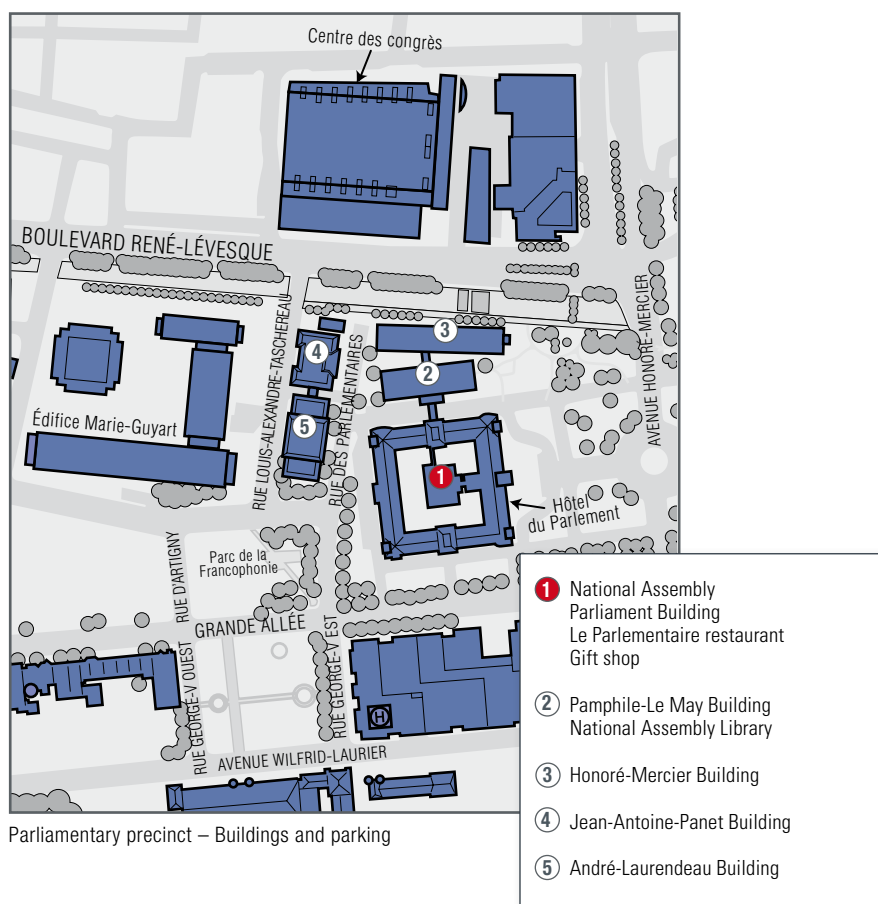
- Examination of the report of the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec on automobile advertising guidelines
- Examination of the 2013 evaluation report on photo radar devices and red light camera systems

Orders of initiative

- Examination of the policy directions, activities and administrative management of the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ)

• Completed • Under way

USEFUL INFORMATION



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Hôtel du Parlement
1045, rue des Parlementaires
Québec (Québec) G1A 1A3

General information

Telephone: 418-643-7239
Toll-free: 1-866-DÉPUTÉS
(1-866-337-8837)
Fax: 418-646-4271
Email: renseignements@assnat.qc.ca

Regular schedule*

From Labour Day to June 23:
Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Summer schedule (June 24 to Labour Day)
Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday and holidays,
9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

GUIDED TOURS

Regular schedule*

Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Summer schedule (June 24 to Labour Day)

Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday, June 24, July 1 and Labour
Day, 9:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Outdoor guided tours are also available.

Groups of 10 or more, please reserve in
advance.

Information

Telephone: 418-643-7239
Fax: 418-646-4271
Email: renseignements@assnat.qc.ca

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY LIBRARY

Regular schedule*

Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

LE PARLEMENTAIRE RESTAURANT

Regular schedule*

Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Summer schedule (June 24 to Labour Day)

Monday to Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Reservations

Telephone: 418-643-6640
Fax: 418-643-6378
Email: resto@assnat.qc.ca

GIFT SHOP

Regular schedule*

Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Summer schedule (June 24 to Labour Day)

Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Information

Telephone: 418-643-8785
Fax: 418-528-6022
Email: boutique@assnat.qc.ca

* Subject to change without notice

Communications, Educational Programs and Visitor Services Directorate
Reprography and Printing Division
June 2016



Paper made in Québec

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

Hôtel du Parlement
Québec (Québec) G1A 1A3
assnat.qc.ca
accueil@assnat.qc.ca



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