COMMISSAIRE À L'ÉTHIQUE ET À LA DÉONTOLOGIE

2021/2022 ACTIVITY REPORT

DRAFTING
Ethics Commissioner

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Note – We recognize that some people do not identify with either the male or female gender. We have opted for gender-neutral language in a non-discriminatory spirit. In addition, the Ethics Commissioner refers to the institution, while the Commissioner is used when generally referring to the person designated by the National Assembly of Québec.

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COMMISSAIRE
À L'ÉTHIQUE ET À
LA DÉONTOLOGIE

2021/2022
ACTIVITY REPORT

September 30, 2022

Mr. François Paradis
President of the National Assembly
Hôtel du Parlement
1045, rue des Parlementaires
1st floor, suite 1.30
Québec (Québec) G1A 1A4

Dear Mr. President,

I have the honour of presenting to you the activity report of the Ethics Commissioner for April 1, 2021, to March 31, 2022, as well as the financial statements as at March 31, 2022, pursuant to section 79 of the *Code of Ethics and Conduct of the Members of the National Assembly* (CQLR c. C-23.1).

Yours sincerely,

Ariane Mignolet

Commissioner

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MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

It is my privilege to present to you the activity report of the Ethics Commissioner for the fiscal year 2021-2022, the fifth already since I assumed the duties entrusted to me by the Members of the National Assembly. This past year has strengthened my conviction and that of the team that supports me that prevention must be at the forefront of the institution's actions.

Prevention is undoubtedly the Ethics Commissioner's primary role in carrying out the fundamental mission of helping to strengthen the public's confidence in its elected officials. This trust, on which the vitality of a democracy depends, is all the more fragile in times of uncertainty such as those we have experienced over the past two years. Although the Covid-19 pandemic continued to prevail in society and to have an impact on the Ethics Commissioner's activities and the daily lives of its team members, it did not prevent our institution from fulfilling its mandate with rigour and integrity. It has even led to an evolution in some of our ways of doing things, to the benefit of our clientele and the public. The creation of our podcast series, Les Notes de bas de page, is an example of which I am particularly proud.

Moreover, as we enter an election year, we have observed that the period preceding the general election raises a number of questions regarding ethics and professional conduct, particularly with respect to holding multiple offices, post-term rules, the use of government property and services and participation in partisan activities. These are issues that concern not only the Members of the National Assembly and their staff, but also the citizens. In this regard, we have developed and made available to our clientele several guidelines to help them in their reflections and actions.

Five years into my tenure as Commissioner, I am delighted to see the evolution of the institution, its expertise, and the relationship of trust it builds with the Members of the National Assembly and their staff. In order to continue the Ethics Commissioner's development, we made changes to its administrative organization plan in fiscal year 2021-2022, by creating the position of Secretary General and Director of Institutional and Administrative Affairs.

Furthermore, I have also continued my commitment to the Réseau francophone d'éthique et de déontologie parlementaires, as its members have entrusted me with the chairmanship for a second two-year term. While we have reached several major milestones since the founding of the Réseau in 2019 and its influence is growing with every passing year, we still have many exciting projects to undertake. In this sense, I am pleased to be able to continue with my Francophonie counterparts the work begun over the past few years.

In closing, I would be remiss if I did not mention the essential contribution of all the members of my team who devote themselves day after day to carrying out the institution's mission and who undeniably contribute to developing knowledge and expertise in the area of parliamentary ethics and conduct. I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the work of Mtre Louis Lebel, the National Assembly's jurisconsult, and to thank him for his availability and collaboration.

I hope you enjoy reading this report.

Ariane Mignolet

MESSAGE FROM THE JURISCONSULT

On January 1, 2021, I began the first year of my mandate as jurisconsult of the National Assembly, following my appointment by the Assembly to that position. I succeeded the Honourable Jean-Louis Baudouin whose term of office had just ended, a term he fulfilled with wisdom and great competence.

First of all, I must thank the National Assembly and its President, Mr. François Paradis, for entrusting me with this mandate, which is closely linked to its work and the values it defends.

This appointment has also allowed me to establish ties with the Ethics Commissioner, Ms. Ariane Mignolet, and to appreciate the critical importance of her role in understanding and defending the values and principles that inspire the work of the National Assembly.

The first year of my mandate involved working at a distance, imposed by the constraints of the pandemic. In this context, I would like to thank the staff of the National Assembly, and in particular the staff of its legal service, for their trust and collaboration.

The work of the jurisconsult continued to focus throughout the year on the interpretation and application of the legislation and regulations relating to the support of MNAs involved in various judicial or quasi-judicial proceedings. I also participated in the work undertaken to review the legislation and regulations relating to this regime. This work is not concluded and will have to be completed.

Like my predecessors, I am aware of the specific role of the Ethics Commissioner. The Ethics Commissioner and the jurisconsult are two institutions of the National Assembly that know how to respect each other and collaborate in the exercise of their responsibilities vis-à-vis the Assembly.

I reiterate my thanks to the National Assembly for its confidence and to its staff for their collaboration.

Best regards,

Louis LeBel

DECLARATION OF DATA RELIABILITY

As Ethics Commissioner, I am responsible for the findings and information in this report. I must carry out the institution's mission in accordance with the laws and regulations that govern it. I hereby attest to the accuracy and reliability of the data reported.

This activity report accurately describes the institution's mission and operation and presents the results of its activities, particularly those concerned with the implementation of the legislative and regulatory measures under its responsibility. The report also provides information on the financial statements for the period in question.

I declare that the data, information and explanations contained in this activity report reflect the situation of the Ethics Commissioner as at March 31, 2022.

Ariane Mignolet

Ethics Commissioner
Québec City, September 30, 2022

2021-2022 IN NUMBERS

INDIVIDUALS SUBJECT TO THE CODE

125
Members of the National Assembly, **including**

29
members of the Cabinet

INDIVIDUALS SUBJECT TO THE RULES AND REGULATION

823
members of political staff, including the staff of Ministers and House Officers of the National Assembly[1]

TRAINING

48
Members of the National Assembly **and**

231
members of the political staff completed online training

REQUESTS AND CONSULTATIONS

100
requests from citizens

52
requests from the media

1. The number of staff of Ministers is as at December 16, 2021.
Source: BIBLIOTHÈQUE DE L'ASSEMBLÉE NATIONALE DU QUÉBEC. *Liste du personnel politique des cabinets ministériels*, 2021, online: https://www.bibliotheque.assnat.qc.ca/DepotNumerique_v2/AffichageFichier.aspx?idf=271211. Consulted on June 8, 2022.

INQUIRIES

4
inquiry requests received in pursuance of section 91 of the Code

3
inquiry reports tabled in the National Assembly

ADVISORY OPINIONS

119
advisory opinions issued in pursuance of the Code **and**

72
advisory opinions issued in pursuance of the Rules and Regulation

DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS

153
statements analyzed **and**

126
summaries made public

GIFTS AND BENEFITS

26
statements submitted by MNAs **and**

3
statements submitted by political staff members

01. THE ORGANIZATION

Mission and roles

The Ethics Commissioner is an independent authority responsible for applying the provisions prescribed by:

- the *Code of Ethics and Conduct of the Members of the National Assembly* (hereinafter the "Code");
- the *Rules of conduct applicable to the staff of the Members and House Officers of the National Assembly* (hereinafter "the Rules"); and
- the *Regulation respecting the rules of conduct applicable to the office staff of Ministers* (hereinafter "the Regulation").

The Code, the Rules and the Regulation set out the ethical principles and rules of conduct that the Members of the National Assembly and their staff must follow in carrying out their duties.

The Ethics Commissioner's mission comprises three major roles:

- **Advise and guide** the MNAs and their staff in the fulfillment of their obligations by providing advisory opinions, offering training, publishing guidelines and ensuring the Members produce their required statements;
- **Conduct inquiries** when there are reasonable grounds to do so; and
- **Inform** the public of the rules and their meaning in relation to the office of MNA and the work of their staff.

Vision and values

The Ethics Commissioner plays a key role in promoting a political culture that is respectful of the ethical principles and rules of conduct inherent in a healthy democracy and that benefits both the MNAs and the population of Québec. The values of integrity, rigour, independence, trust, respect and objectivity guide the institution and its staff when carrying out its mission.

Clientele

The Code applies to all Members of the National Assembly, including Cabinet Ministers. For the purposes of this Code, a person who is a Cabinet Minister but not a Member of the National Assembly would be subject to the Code.

As at March 31, 2022, 125 Members of the National Assembly were bound by the provisions of the Code. Of these, 29 were subject to the rules that specifically concern Cabinet Ministers.

The Rules apply to the staff of the MNAs and House Officers of the National Assembly, such as the Leaders, House Leaders and Whips of the parliamentary groups. This definition includes the staff hired to provide support and research assistance to a political party represented in the Assembly or to independent Members.

The Regulation applies to ministerial staff, including constituency staff of Cabinet Ministers and regional staff, if applicable.

In the 2021-2022 fiscal year, more than 820 political staff members were bound by the provisions prescribed in the Rules and Regulation. Of these, 451[2] were staff of Members and of House Officers of the National Assembly and 372[3] were ministerial staff.

POST-TERM RULES

At the end of their term of office or on termination of their duties, Cabinet Ministers, ministerial staff and certain members of MNAs' staff as well as of House Officers of the National Assembly remain subject to some provisions of the Code, Rules and Regulation. These are called "post-term rules." While some of the rules governing the post-term period apply for a specific period, others apply indefinitely after termination of duties. The Ethics Commissioner's clientele is therefore composed of an ever-increasing number of former Cabinet Ministers and former political staff members.

2. As at March 31, 2022.
3. As at December 16, 2021.
Source: BIBLIOTHÈQUE DE L'ASSEMBLÉE NATIONALE DU QUÉBEC. *Liste du personnel politique des cabinets ministériels*, 2021, online: https://www.bibliotheque.assnat.qc.ca/DepotNumerique_v2/AffichageFichier.aspx?idf=271211. Consulted on June 8, 2022.

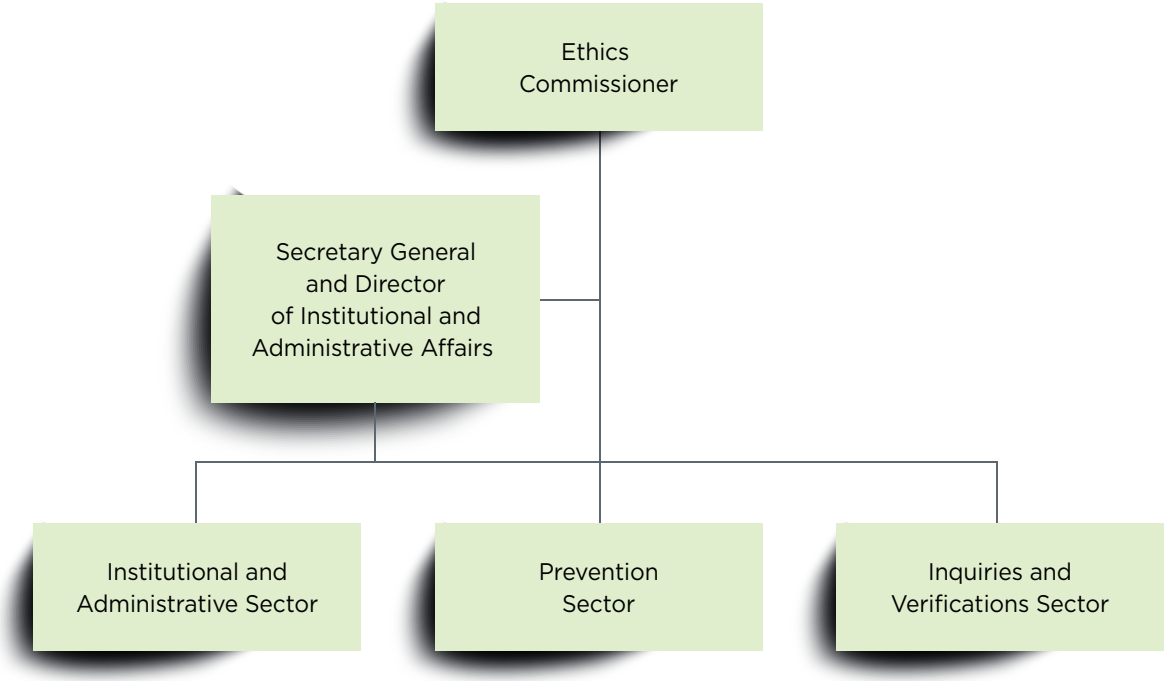
Staff

As at March 31, 2022, 14 people supported Mtre Ariane Mignolet in her duties as Ethics Commissioner, including 10 holding regular positions and 4 holding casual positions. Certain services relating to the management of human, material, financial and information resources are provided by the National Assembly, pursuant to section 74 of the Code.

Job category	Regular staff	Casual staff*	Female representation	Under 35 years of age
Executive	1	—	1	—
Manager	1	—	1	—
Public servant	2	2	4	1
Professional	7	2	5	3
TOTAL	**11**	**4**	**11**	**4**

* These data exclude, where applicable, students and interns.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



The Ethics Commissioner's team is divided into three distinct sectors: *Prevention, Inquiries and Verifications, and Institutional and Administrative Affairs*. The staff of the Prevention sector is responsible for reponding to requests for advisory opinions from Members of the National Assembly and their staff. They draft and issue opinions, provide advice and assist the Commissioner. They aslo analyze the private-interest disclosure statements of elected Members and chiefs of staff. Lastly, they are instrumental in informing the MNAs and the public about the Ethics Commissioner's role and the application of the Code, Rules and Regulation.

As for the *Inquiries and Verifications* sector, it is responsible for collecting, researching and analyzing relevant facts. It provides the Commissioner with interpretations of the Code in the specific context of an inquiry to determine whether there has been a violation of professional conduct. It also conducts various legal research studies and analyses.

Lastly, a third sector was formed during the current fiscal year under the responsibility of the Secretary General and Director of Institutional and Administrative Affairs, a new function created within the Ethics Commissioner's organization. The *Institutional and Administrative* sector is composed of a communications and institutional relations advisor. This person is responsible for developing and maintaining relations with various partners, representing the Ethics Commissioner within various groups, supporting the Commissioner in her presentations, training sessions and other speaking engagements, and ensuring the institution's communications activities. Furthermore, the sector includes support staff who revise, create and draft documents and administrative processes. It also provides technical support to the clientele of the website's Statement Zone when private-interest statements have to be made.

***Expertise development** is one of the three institutional orientations for 2018-2022. The Ethics Commissioner seeks to be a high-performing institution at the heart of the application of ethical principles and rules of professional conduct.*

TRAINING AND AWARENESS-RAISING AMONG EMERGING PROFESSIONALS

With a view to training emerging professionals and raising awareness of parliamentary ethics and professional conduct, the Ethics Commissioner regularly welcomes interns and students to the team. During the past year, an undergraduate law student joined the *Prevention* sector for a three-month period. He worked mainly on the drafting of advisory opinion summaries in order to expand the institution's data bank. He also collaborated on various other mandates by performing different support tasks. The Ethics Commissioner also welcomed an intern from the Barreau du Québec for a period of six months. This intern had the opportunity to collaborate with the *Prevention* and the *Inquiries and Verifications* sectors by, among other things, preparing legal opinions, contributing to legal research and drafting research notes.

02. THE PREVENTION SECTOR

Prevention, training and support are the Ethics Commissioner's primary mission. To ensure compliance with the obligations set out in the Code, Rules and Regulation, the Ethics Commissioner provides advice and advisory opinions at the request of MNAs and their staff, analyzes their disclosure statements, and offers them training on ethical principles and rules of conduct.

Advice and advisory opinions

The Ethics Commissioner plays an important role in supporting and advising MNAs and their staff. The Code, Rules and Regulation provide a formal mechanism whereby MNAs can seek the Commissioner's advice on anything to do with their obligations. These opinions are confidential and only the persons who requested them can make them public. Furthermore, due to the need for confidentiality, and because each situation must be assessed on its own facts and context, only the person affected by a situation can ask the Commissioner to advise on her or his ethical obligations.

Advisory opinions may be given in written or verbal form. The Ethics Commissioner receives several requests by telephone which can be answered after some checking. If a request is more complex, it is recommended that the applicant request a written opinion. Opinions must be provided to MNAs within thirty days of the request. Although there is no such time limit for staff members, the Ethics Commissioner pursues the same objective.

The time required to produce written opinions varies, among other things, according to the degree of complexity of the opinion to be rendered, the unusual nature of the situation submitted, or the number of opinions being produced. In 2021-2022, the average time for the production of written opinions for which no verbal opinion had been previously rendered was 6 days for Members of the National Assembly and 7 days for their staff.

Moreover, a person who has received a verbal opinion may subsequently ask the Ethics Commissioner to provide it in writing. In this case, the time required to produce the written opinion is longer.

In 2021-2022, the average time between the receipt of a verbal opinion and the production of a written opinion was 24 days for MNAs and 27 days for their staff members.

Several exchanges with the person involved may be necessary to provide a complete opinion that takes into consideration all the contextual elements. These communications may take place by telephone, email or in person.

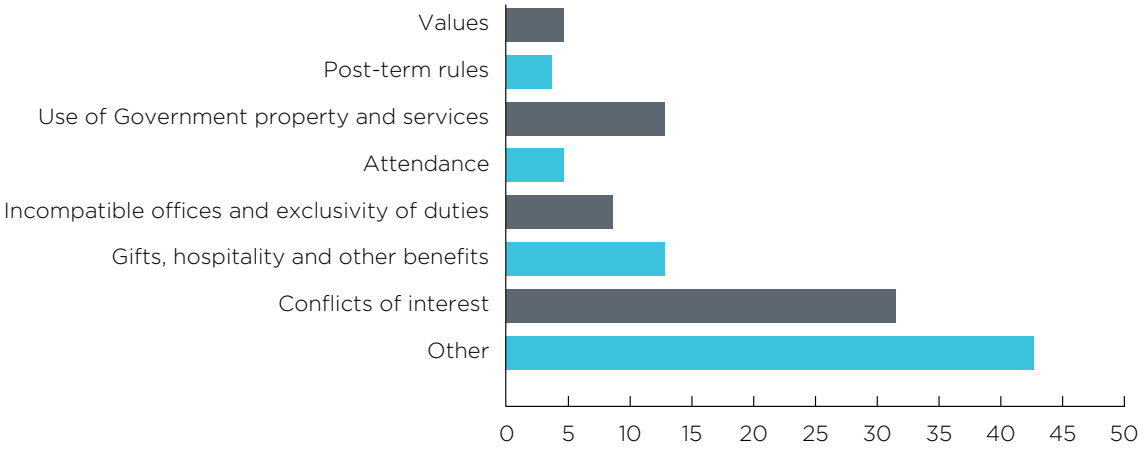
The Code provides that an MNA cannot be in violation with respect to a situation for which he or she has previously received a favourable opinion from the Ethics Commissioner, so long as the alleged facts relevant to the request were fully and accurately presented. Political staff members have the same protection under the Rules and Regulation.

The following table details the origin of the requests made to the Ethics Commissioner during the year.

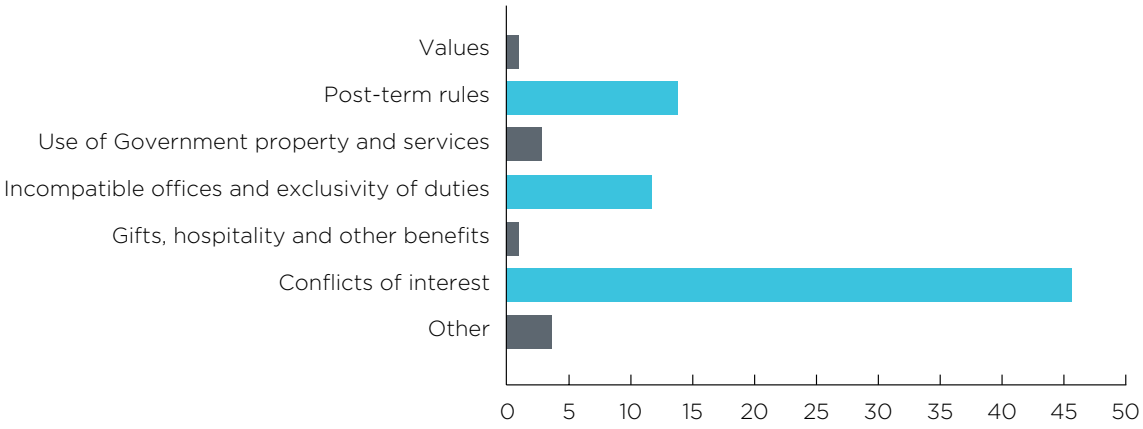
Consultations, requests for information and opinions	Verbal advice and opinions	Written opinions	Total
From MNAs	92	27	119
From the staff of MNAs, House Officers of the National Assembly and Cabinet Ministers	41	31	72
TOTAL	**133**	**58**	**191**

The following graphs show the themes on which the Ethics Commissioner is most often consulted. An opinion given may concern more than one theme for the same situation. The total number of themes addressed is therefore greater than the total number of opinions presented in the previous table.

Themes addressed in the opinions issued under the Code



Themes addressed in the opinions issued under the Rules and Regulation



MNAs may also seek advice from the jurisconsult of the National Assembly, an advisor appointed unanimously by the Office of the National Assembly whose opinions are not binding on the Ethics Commissioner.

Statements filed by the Members of the National Assembly and their staff

The Code, Rules and Regulation require all MNAs and chiefs of staff to file annual statements disclosing their private interests and those of their family members with the Ethics Commissioner. There are also provisions for the Ethics Commissioner's clientele to declare gifts, hospitality and other benefits received in the exercise of their office or duties.

PRIVATE-INTEREST DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS

Upon taking office, and annually thereafter, MNAs and Cabinet Ministers must file with the Ethics Commissioner a statement disclosing their private interests and those of their family members. The House Officers' and Cabinet Ministers' chiefs of staff must also file such statements.

The initial statement must be completed and submitted to the Ethics Commissioner within sixty days of:

- the publication of an MNA's election in the Gazette officielle du Québec;
- the swearing in of a Cabinet Minister;
- the appointment of a chief of staff.

The statement must then be updated each year on the date set by the Ethics Commissioner.

The content of the private-interest disclosure statements will vary depending on the position held. MNAs and Cabinet Ministers must disclose the following:

- ***Income and benefits***
- ***Immovable property***
- ***Notice of expropriation***
- ***Professional, commercial or industrial activity***
- ***Interest in an enterprise***

Cabinet Ministers must also provide additional information on several elements of their assets and liabilities, that is, all of their assets constituting their patrimony having a positive economic value (e.g.: shares in an enterprise, real estate, RRSPs, savings) and all of their debts (e.g.: lines of credit, mortgages, car loans).

Personal and financial information is disclosed in confidence to the Ethics Commissioner, which analyzes it in order to prevent real or potential conflicts of interest. The Ethics Commissioner then produces a summary, which is made public, of each statement filed by MNAs and Cabinet Ministers describing the nature of the interests disclosed. Statements made by the chiefs of staff are analyzed but not summarized.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Code sets out which elements of the disclosed information must appear in the published summary. As is the case with the disclosed information, the summary for Cabinet Ministers provides more information than the summary for MNAs because of the positions held.

The private-interest disclosure summaries can be found in the "Public Registers" section of the Ethics Commissioner's website.

During the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the Ethics Commissioner analyzed the statements produced in 2020. The summaries were filed in the public register in July 2021, thus ending the disclosure statement analysis process.

In 2021-2022, the Ethics Commissioner analyzed 153 statements and also produced and made public the 125 summaries of MNAs, including those of the Cabinet Ministers.

The Code also requires the Commissioner to file a statement of her own private interests and those of her family members. The summary of this statement is made public in the register available on the Ethics Commissioner's website.

STATEMENT OF GIFTS, HOSPITALITY AND OTHER BENEFITS

MNAs or members of their political staff may accept gifts, hospitality or other benefits, provided that they are not offered in exchange for speaking or taking a certain position on any issue. In addition, any gift, hospitality or other benefit that may impair an MNA's independence of judgment or that may compromise his or her integrity or that of the National Assembly must be refused, returned to the donor or delivered to the Ethics Commissioner. All gifts, hospitality or other benefits received that are deemed acceptable and that have a value of more than $200 must be disclosed to the Ethics Commissioner, which keeps a public register of these disclosure statements on its website.

In 2021-2022, the Ethics Commissioner published 26 statements relating to gifts accepted by Members of the National Assembly. This is in addition to 3 statements received from political staff members. However, these are not made public.

The Code also requires the Commissioner to file a statement of her own private interests and those of her family members. The summary of this statement is made public in the register available on the Ethics Commissioner's website.

Training for the clientele

The Ethics Commissioner relies on training to raise awareness of ethical values and rules of conduct among MNAs and their political staff. To this end, general training is offered to newly elected parliamentarians and their teams: they can request it at any time during their mandate. This is a key element in reinforcing the understanding of persons subject to the Code, Rules and Regulation regarding the provisions that apply to them, particularly with respect to the prevention of conflicts of interest. Although it continues to be offered in person, the technological tools available to the Ethics Commissioner now make it possible to offer the training in virtual mode, making it even more accessible.

Training and coaching comprise one of the three priority institutional orientations for 2018-2022. The Ethics Commissioner wishes to ensure adequate training and support for its clientele.

In 2021-2022, 48 Members of the National Assembly and 231 political staff members attended presentations on their ethical and professional obligations during 4 online training sessions.

Training and awareness tools also include the publication of guidelines and briefing notes to help the clientele with the interpretation of the provisions. During the current fiscal year, guidelines were published on the threee topics listed below.

Candidacy in federal and municipal elections (political staff)

The guidelines on this topic are intended to raise awareness among political staff who are considering running in federal or municipal elections. The document focuses on the ethical principles and rules of conduct to which they should be attentive before and during the election campaign. Examples are also provided for further consideration by those concerned.

Discretionary financial assistance (Members of the National Assembly)

The purpose of these guidelines is to inform MNAs and Cabinet Ministers of the ethical rules applicable to the granting of discretionary financial assistance. The guidelines outline the key elements that must be taken into consideration in the context of three financial assistance programs, namely: the Volunteer Support Program; the ministerial discretionary funds; and the Particular Improvement Projects component of the Local Road Assistance Program of the Ministère des Transports.

Multiple functions (political staff)

These guidelines are intended to provide guidance to political staff members who may wish to engage in other activities in addition to those carried out in the performance of their duties. Since the regulatory framework applicable to them does not specifically address this situation, this document focuses on the ethical principles and rules of conduct to which they should be attentive in such circumstances.

Useful documentation for Members of the National Assembly and for political staff can be consulted in their respective sections on the Ethics Commissioner's website.

03. THE INQUIRIES AND VERIFICATIONS SECTOR

By adopting the Code, the National Assembly gave the Commissioner the power to investigate the conduct of its members in matters of ethics and professional conduct. The Commissioner performs her duties within the purview of the rights, privileges and immunities of the National Assembly. Furthermore, in exercising her duties of office, she focusses on information and prevention and maintains high standards of confidentiality, objectivity and impartiality.

Inquiries

OPENING AN INQUIRY

The Commissioner may open an inquiry on her own initiative or at the request of a Member of the National Assembly. For inquiries concerning an MNA, the request can be made by any parliamentarian who has reasonable grounds to believe that the rules of the Code have been violated. For the inquiry request to be admissible, it must be made in writing and clearly set out the reasonable grounds they have to believe that another MNA has violated the Code. They must state the facts and submit any available evidence. The request must be targeted and include reasons. If the request is incomplete, the Commissioner may ask the MNA for details. Finally, if she considers that the request does not contain reasonable grounds to believe that there has been a violation, she may refuse it.

DID YOU KNOW?

An inquiry request from a Member of the National Assembly must relate exclusively to a violation of the rules of conduct. However, if the inquiry is initiated by the Commissioner, it may also relate to a violation of the values and ethical principles set out in the Code.

In determining whether or not to initiate an inquiry, the Commissioner applies the criterion of reasonable grounds to believe that a violation may have occurred. These grounds may be based on information disclosed to the Commissioner, public information or information obtained in the course of verifications conducted by the Commissioner.

In the case of an inquiry involving a political staff member, the request must come from the Member of the National Assembly or from the office holder to whom the employee in question reports, or from the leader of the authorized political party represented in the National Assembly of which the person making the request is a member, if they have reasonable grounds to believe that the Rules have been violated. In the case of an inquiry into a Cabinet

INQUIRY PROCESS

In determining if a violation has occurred, whether the Commissioner conducts an inquiry on her own initiative or at the request of a Member of the National Assembly, she carefully considers all the information received. She analyzes all the relevant facts in confidence, objectively and impartially, based on the values of the National Assembly, the ethical principles and the rules of conduct.

All of the Commissioner's inquiries are conducted in private and in a confidential manner. The Commissioner may, however, confirm that an inquiry request was received or that a verification or an inquiry is underway or has been completed.

CLOSING AN INQUIRY

When an inquiry concerning a Member of the National Assembly has been completed, the Commissioner promptly submits a substantiated inquiry report to the President of the National Assembly, who makes it public by tabling it in the National Assembly. However, the Commissioner is not required to produce a report for inquiries conducted on her own initiative.

The inquiry reports tabled in the National Assembly are available in the "Publications" section of the Ethics Commissioner's website.

CONTENT OF AN INQUIRY REPORT AND SANCTION RECOMMENDATION

An inquiry report presents the evidence gathered, an analysis of that evidence in light of the applicable provisions and the Commissioner's conclusion as to whether the Code was violated. Depending on the circumstances, the Code provides that the Commissioner may recommend that no sanction be imposed on the Member or that any of those provided for in section 99 of the Code be imposed:

(1) a reprimand;

(2) a penalty, specifying the amount;

(3) the return to the donor, delivery to the State or reimbursement of the value of the gift, hospitality or benefit received;

(4) the reimbursement of any unlawful profit;

(5) the reimbursement of the indemnities, allowances or other sums received as a Member or a Cabinet Minister while the violation of this Code continued;

(6) a suspension of the Member's right to sit in the National Assembly, together with a suspension of any indemnity or allowance, until the Member complies with a condition imposed by the Commissioner;

(7) the loss of his or her seat as a Member;

(8) the loss of his or her position as a Cabinet Minister, if applicable.

Under the Code, the Members of the National Assembly must take a position on the Commissioner reports containing a recommendation for sanction. Thus, in order for the recommendation to be implemented, the National Assembly must adopt the report by two thirds of its Members, otherwise the recommendation will remain without effect.

Guide relating to the conduct of an inquiry concerning a Member of the National Assembly

In May 2021, the Ethics Commissioner published a guide to explain the inquiry process it conducts under the Code. This guide is intended to shed light on this confidential in camera exercise for the Members of the National Assembly and citizens. In addition to explaining the nature of the process, the document presents each of the steps taken to enable the Commissioner to rule on whether or not a violation of the Code has occurred.

The guide is available under the "Reference Material" tab of the "Members of the National Assembly" section on the Ethics Commissioner's website (French only).

REQUESTS SUBMITTED

Four requests for an inquiry concerning a Member of the National Assembly were submitted to the Ethics Commissioner under Section 91 of the Code in 2021-2022. However, three of them were not retained since they did not meet the criteria set out in this section, in particular because they did not demonstrate reasonable grounds to support the request. During the same period, the Ethics Commissioner also received 22 reports from citizens.

A person who is not a Member of the National Assembly, such as a citizen or an MNA's staff member, may not ask the Commissioner to conduct an inquiry. However, any relevant information can be reported, since the Ethics Commissioner follows up on all information brought to its attention. Due to the confidentiality requirements imposed by the Code, people who send information to the Ethics Commissioner cannot be informed of the outcome unless the information leads to an inquiry culminating in a report tabled in the National Assembly.

INQUIRY REPORTS TABLED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

In fiscal year 2021-2022, three inquiry reports were tabled in the National Assembly and one inquiry was launched. Since the inquiry process can extend over several months, it is possible that some inquiries may have begun in a previous fiscal year.

The inquiry reports tabled in fiscal year 2021-2022 are the following:

Date tabled	Person concerned	Section referred to	Decision
April 28, 2021	Louis-Charles Thouin, Member for Rousseau	Section 16 of the Code	The Commissioner concluded that the Member did not commit a violation of the Code.
June 1, 2021	Pierre Fitzgibbon, Minister of Economy and Innovation and Member for Terrebonne	Section 46 of the Code	The Commissioner concluded that the Minister was in violation of the Code. She recommended that the Minister's right to sit be suspended until he complies with section 46 of the Code. Following a vote by the Members of the National Assembly on June 4, 2021, this report was not adopted.
February 16, 2022	Éric Lefebvre, Chief Government Whip and Member for Arthabaska	Section 36 of the Code	The Commissioner concluded that the Chief Government Whip was in violation of the Code. However, she did not recommend a sanction.

04. THE INFORMATION SECTOR

Within the framework of its mission, the Ethics Commissioner also takes part in various training, communications and cooperation activities. These activities make it possible to inform the public about the rules and their meaning with respect to the office of Member of the National Assembly or the work of MNAs' staff.

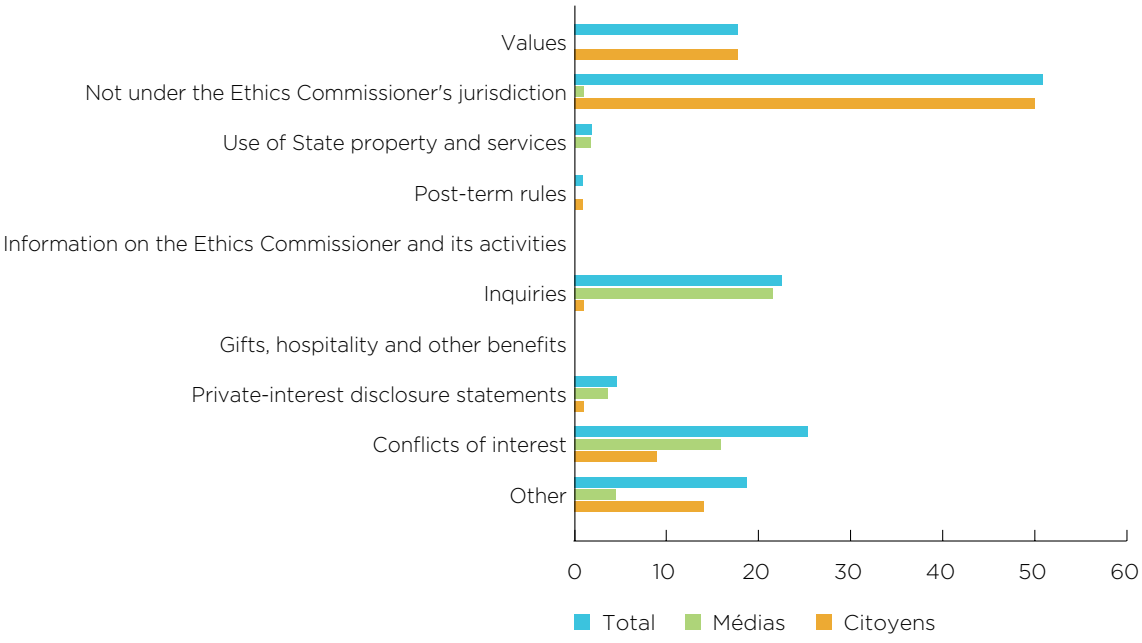
Communications activities

REQUESTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE MEDIA

The Ethics Commissioner responded to 78 information requests from citizens and 52 from journalists in 2021-2022. These requests were usually regarding the behaviour of an MNA or a Minister, or concerned a current issue. As inquiries continue to be the most frequently discussed topic, a portion of the «Inquiries and Verifications» section of this report is devoted to the reports made by the public.

The Ethics Commissioner recognizes the high importance of informing the public and provides clarifications to the persons who communicate with it to help them understand the rules in place. While providing the best possible information, the Ethics Commissioner must also strictly respect the confidentiality imposed by the legislator and therefore never comments on specific cases. When requests do not fall under the Ethics Commissioner's jurisdiction, the citizens are directed to the appropriate authorities.

Requests from citizens and the media by topic



SOCIAL MEDIA

The Ethics Commissioner must keep both the MNAs and the general public informed on an ongoing basis. Its role in the public arena is fundamental to promoting more ethical and honest politics and building public trust in its democratic institutions. In its efforts to reach a wider audience, the Ethics Commissioner is active on three social media platforms: Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. The publications shared on social media cover a variety of topics, including the provisions of the Code, Rules and Regulation and the Ethics Commissioner's mission, duties and activities.

Social media activities

	Number of publications	Total print run*	New subscriptions
Twitter	196	55,213	118
Facebook	150	18,524, including 6,729 organic	61
LinkedIn	152	27,147	179

* Number of times the publication has appeared on the screen

PODCAST

In fiscal year 2021-2022, the Ethics Commissioner launched its podcast *Notes de bas de page*. This series of audio capsules aims to give insight into the world of the institution and the way it fulfills its various mandates on a daily basis. It is also intended to give the audience a better understanding of the rules of ethics and conduct that the Members of the National Assembly, Cabinet Ministers and their staff must abide by. The Ethics Commissioner aired ten episodes in 2021-2022 and hosted five guests.

Episode	Date aired	Number of listens
• Presentation of *Notes de bas de page*	2021-05-06	167
• The Code in times of pandemic	2021-05-06	176
• Institutions for public integrity *Guest: Jean-François Routhier, Lobbyists Commissioner*	2021-05-27	164
• The advisory opinions of the Ethics Commissioner	2021-06-17	155
• The inquiry process	2021-09-09	173
• The collaboration with networks *Guests: Pierre Legault, Senate Ethics Officer at the Canadian Senate, and Mario Dion, Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner of Canada*	2021-09-30	164
• The relationship with citizens and the media	2021-11-04	164
• Multiple functions of political staff	2021-12-16	119
• Bill 48 *Guest: Louis Sormany, former Deputy Secretary for Ethics and Legislation at the Ministère du Conseil exécutif*	2022-01-27	244
• Adoption of the Code: historical and social perspectives *Guest: Denis Saint-Martin, Full Professor in the Department of Political Science at Université de Montréal*	2022-02-24	153

These episodes are available under the "Podcast" tab in the "Publications" section on the Ethics Commissioner's website. The podcast is also available on YouTube as well as on several audio platforms such as Spotify, Apple Podcasts and Google Podcasts.

Training and public awareness activities

The Ethics Commissioner takes part in certain activities aimed at raising awareness of the institution and the rules of conduct that apply to the Members of the National Assembly and their staff in order to provide a better understanding of parliamentary realities. This year, the Commissioner gave a presentation at the following activities:

- A *Comment ça marche?* workshop, organized in collaboration with the National Assembly;
- The Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor's symposium entitled "L'éthique des organisations publiques", intended for the members of the Réseau des répondantes et répondants en éthique de la fonction publique québécoise;
- The *Droit et procédure parlementaires* course at Université Laval, offered to udergraduate students.

Communications ***constitutes one of the three priority institutional orientations for 2018-2022. The Ethics Commissioner wants to increase public awareness.***

In addition, the Commissioner participated in the conference entitled "Démystifier l'éthique publique et parlementaire : entretien avec la commissaire à l'éthique et à la déontologie", organized in collaboration with the Centre d'études en droit administratif et constitutionnel (CEDAC), the Groupe étudiant en droit administratif et constitutionnel (GEDAC) and the Research Chair on Democracy and Parliamentary Institutions of Université Laval. This activity was intended for the academic staff and students of the university's Faculty of Law.

(from left to right) Jordan Mayer, master's student, Ariane Mignolet, Ethics Commissioner, Patrick Taillon, full professor at the Faculty of Law of Laval University.

05. THE INSTITUTIONAL SECTOR

Collaboration with other entities is a valuable means of sharing experiences and exchanging good practices. The Ethics Commissioner maintains relationships with various partners, which allows it, among other things, to develop its knowledge, share its expertise and ensure a continuity in parliamentary ethics and professional conduct.

Collaboration with the academic community

Universities and other institutions of higher education are rich with intellectual resources that deepen collective knowledge and contribute to the advancement of societies. The Ethics Commissioner recognizes the role of these institutions in research and knowledge transfer, particularly with respect to enhancing understanding of the role of institutions working in the area of public integrity. The Ethics Commissioner maintains various relationships in this regard.

ÉCOLE NATIONALE D'ADMINISTRATION PUBLIQUE

The Ethics Commissioner's collaboration with the École nationale d'administration publique (ENAP) was marked by two events this year. First, on November 23, 2021, the Commissioner welcomed the Assistant Auditor General of Mali, Mr. Famory Keita, to present the institution's mission and the main provisions under its responsibility. This activity took place during an exploratory visit of the Malian organization in Québec.

Then, the Ethics Commissioner and ENAP jointly presented a virtual panel on parliamentary ethics and professional conduct in times of pandemic on March 2, 2022. During these exchanges, more than a hundred people from various countries had the opportunity to hear presentations and testimonies from panelists from Québec, Senegal, Mali and the Ivory Coast, namely: Ms. Ariane Mignolet, Ethics Commissioner (Québec); Mr. Yves Boisvert, Professor at ENAP (Québec); Ms. Seynabou Diakhaté, President of the Office national de lutte contre la corruption (Senegal); Mr. Moumouni Guindo, President of the Office central de lutte contre l'enrichissement illicite (Mali); and Mr. Georges Amangoua, Secretary General of the Senate (Ivory Coast).

The panel's theme aroused great interest in the audience, leading to important questions and reflections. This reinforces the common will of the Ethics Commissioner and ENAP to increase the awareness of a wider public on issues related to ethics and professional conduct of parliamentarians.

The partnership between the two institutions, signed in 2021, covers, among other things, the hosting of foreign delegations, the development and provision of training, the organization of international seminars, and the strengthening of each institution's expertise on the basis of mutual support and advice.

RESEARCH CHAIR ON DEMOCRACY AND PARLIAMENTARY INSTITUTIONS

The Ethics Commissioner continued its collaboration with the Research Chair on Democracy and Parliamentary Institutions at Université Laval, whose funding it has been contributing to since 2017. Our team held a number of meetings with Professors Steve Jacob and Éric Montigny to discuss their study and their book project, both of which deal with the topic of gifts, hospitality or other benefits received by parliamentarians. The role of the Ethics Commissioner in this regard was also discussed, with a view to enhancing mutual understanding of this practice. The study of both professors will result in the revision of our guidelines on gifts, hospitality and other benefits in the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

POLITICO ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Commissioner joined the advisory committee of two students in the master's program in intelligence and transformation at Université Laval. This program allows students to carry out a project, over a period of one year, in partnership with a company, a non-profit organization or a research group.

More specifically, the Commissioner was approached about a project of the 2021-2022 cohort, which addresses conceptual research surrounding the development of a decision support tool for political leaders. This project is being conducted in collaboration with the PolitiCo group, a research unit in politics and cognition based at Université Laval. Due to its scope, the project was divided during the year, resulting in the creation of two advisory committees.

The students in charge of the projects benefit from the Commissioner's knowledge specifically related to the context in which parliamentarians develop public policies. This involvement translates into participation in three working sessions per committee, during which the members advise the students while providing them with food for thought.

Réseau francophone d'éthique et de déontologie parlementaires

Réseau francophone d'éthique et de déontologie parlementaires

The Réseau francophone d'éthique et de déontologie parlementaires (hereinafter the "Réseau") is an international non-profit organization that brings together public institutions in the French-speaking world that are active in the field of parliamentary ethics and conduct. It contributes to critical thinking on those issues and to their promotion throughout the French language world. As at March 31, 2022, the Réseau had 25 members from 11 countries.

Following a nomination process, the General Assembly appointed the Commissioner as Chair of the Réseau for a second two-year term. This role includes representing the Réseau, chairing the meetings of its bodies and ensuring the implementation of the decisions of the General Assembly. This role also requires overseeing and coordinating the overall activities of the Réseau, in collaboration with the other members of the Réseau Office.

Members of the Réseau met for the 2021 Annual General Assembly, which was held via videoconference on November 8 and 9. Members from approximately 20 institutions, including the Ethics Commissioner, had the opportunity to exchange views on the current and future activities of the Réseau. Two main themes were discussed: the applicability and adaptability of ethical rules during the pandemic, and the rules governing harassment among parliamentarians.

During the assembly, the members also adopted an action plan that establishes five priorities for the coming year: knowledge of existing standards; training of members; the relationship with the academic community; member commitment; and development. In addition to coordinating all of the working groups resulting from this action plan, the Ethics Commissioner is responsible for various projects, namely: the creation of a research grant; the implementation of a directory and an information-sharing procedure between members; the improvement of the Réseau's website; the creation of a newsletter; and the presentation of a training workshop.

Annual Conference of the Canadian Conflict of Interest Network

The Canadian Conflict of Interest Network brings together the commissioners of the various jurisdictions within Canada. As a member, the Ethics Commissioner participates in the annual conferences of this network in order to exchange on topics of interest and to share best practices.

This year, owing to the health context, the members met virtually on September 9, 2021, and March 30, 2022. At these meeetings, the commissioners had the opportunity to present an update of their activities and discuss various issues regarding the ethical rules under their purview.

Public Integrity Partners Forum

In fiscal year 2021-2022, the Ethics Commissioner joined the Public Integrity Partners Forum (hereinafter the "Forum"). Under the coordination of the Québec Ombudsman, the Forum ensures the coherence and coordination of public sector integrity activities, including those arising from a disclosure by a whistleblower. In addition to the Ethics Commissioner, the Forum includes, as of March 31, 2022, the Autorité des marchés publics (AMP), the Office of the Inspector General of Ville de Montréal (BIG), the Commission municipale du Québec (CMQ), Élections Québec, the Québec Ombudsman and the Permanent Anti-Corruption Unit (UPAC). The Ethics Commissioner participated in the discussions of the Legal Committee and the Communications Committee. It also participated in the promotional efforts surrounding Whistleblower Awareness Day, March 24, 2022. In fact, the Ethics Commissioner attended the half-day conference organized by the Forum on this occasion.

Annual Conference of the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws

The Council on Governmental Ethics Laws (COGEL) is a professional association that brings together several hundred North American professionals from organizations working in ethics, lobbying, access to information and elections. The Commissioner has attended the annual COGEL conference since 2012.

This year's conference took place virtually from December 6 to 8, 2021. Several presentations and discussion workshops allowed representatives to exchange on ethical phenomena that have been prominent in the news over the past months. In addition, the institutions responsible for parliamentary ethics and professional conduct in North America presented a report on their activities over the past year. Among other things, the Ethics Commissioner had the opportunity to follow presentations on ethics rules to abide by during a global pandemic, the foundations of crisis communication, and the issues and challenges related to virtual training regarding ethics. The virtual mode of the event allowed four members of the Ethics Commissioner's team to attend.

Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs of the House of Commons of Canada

The Commissioner joined Canadian counterparts to discuss Québec's expertise in reviewing the *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons*. She was heard by the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs on February 10, 2022. During her hearing, she shared her thoughts on ways of addressing parliamentarians' questions about their obligations under the Code in a non-partisan and independent manner, as well as on how parliamentarians can balance their private interests with their public duties and functions.

06. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Management report

The Ethics Commissioner's financial statements were prepared by management, which is responsible for their preparation and presentation including significant estimates and judgements. This responsibility includes selecting appropriate accounting policies that are consistent with the Public Sector Accounting Standards in Canada.

To fulfil its mandate, management maintains a system of internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded and that transactions are properly approved and accurately recorded on a timely basis and result in reliable financial statements.

As Commissioner, I recognize that I am responsible for conducting my affairs in accordance with the statutes and regulations governing my office.

Ariane Mignolet

Ethics Commissioner
Québec City, September 30, 2022

Operations and accumulated surplus for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2022

(in thousands of dollars)

		2022	2021
	Budget (Note 3)	Actual results	Actual results
Revenue (Note 4)	**1,905.5**	**1,596.3**	**1,419.5**
Expenses			
Remuneration	1,332.5	1,305.0	1,143.1
Travelling and representation	28.5	2.3	0.6
Telecommunications	6.0	5.2	5.7
Professional, administrative and other services	344.1	96.8	83.9
Rent and other rental payments	170.5	179.1	164.4
Material and supplies	9.0	3.9	4.4
Expenses using appropriations	**1,890.5**	**1,592.4**	**1,402.1**
Amortization of tangible capital assets	106.7	71.1	75.0
Loss on disposition of tangible capital assets			37.0
	1,997.2	**1,663.5**	**1,514.1**
Surplus (Deficit) for the fiscal year		**(67.1)**	**(94.6)**
Accumulated surplus (deficit) at beginning of year		254.5	349.1
Cumulative surplus (deficit) at end of year		**187.4**	**254.5**

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Financial position as at March 31, 2022

(in thousands of dollars)

	2022	2021
Financial assets		
Cash entitlements	147.9	74.2
	147.9	**74.2**
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 5)	147.9	74.2
	147.9	**74.2**
Net debt	**—**	**—**
Non-financial assets		
Tangible capital assets (Note 6)	187.5	254.5
	187.5	**254.5**
Accumulated surplus (Note 7)	**187.5**	**254.5**

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Change in net debt for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2022

(in thousands of dollars)

		2022	2021
	Budget (Note 3)	Actual results	Actual results
Surplus (deficit) for the year	**(91.7)**	**(67.7)**	**(94.6)**
Change due to capital assets:			
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(15.0)	(4.0)	(17.4)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	106.7	71.1	75.0
Loss on disposition of tangible capital assets			37.0
Change in net debt	**—**	**—**	**—**
Net debt at beginning of year		—	—
Net debt at end of year		**—**	**—**

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Cash flow statement for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2022

(in thousands of dollars)

	2022	2021
Operating activities		
Surplus (deficit) for the year	(67.1)	(94.6)
Non-cash item:		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	71.1	75.0
Loss on disposition of tangible capital assets		37.0
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	73.7	8.5
Cash flows from operating activities	**77.7**	**25.9**
Capital investing activity		
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(4.0)	(17.4)
Increase (decrease) in cash entitlement	**73.7**	**8.5**
Cash entitlement at beginning of year	**74.2**	**65.7**
Cash entitlement at end of year	**147.9**	**74.2**

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Accompanying notes
March 31, 2022

(Amounts are expressed in thousands of dollars)

1. NATURE OF THE OPERATIONS

The Ethics Commissioner is an independent authority responsible for enforcing and applying the ethical principles and rules guiding the conduct of the Members of the National Assembly and their staff. These obligations are set out in the *Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly* (CQLR c. C-23.1), the *Rules of conduct applicable to the staff of the Members and House Officers of the National Assembly* (Office of the National Assembly, Decision No. 1690, March 21, 2013) and the *Regulation respecting the rules of conduct applicable to the office staff of ministers* (CQLR c. C-23.1 r. 2).

To fulfill its mission, the Ethics Commissioner advises and guides the Members of the National Assembly and their staff in the fulfillment of their obligations by providing advisory opinions, offering training, ensuring MNAs produce the required statements and publishing guidelines to prevent conflicts of interest in particular.

At the request of an MNA or on her own initiative, the Commissioner may conduct a verification or an inquiry to determine whether the Code, Rules or Regulation have been violated. When she intervenes under the Code, the Commissioner submits an inquiry report to the President of the National Assembly. If the Commissioner concludes that the MNA has violated the Code, she may recommend that a sanction be imposed.

The Commissioner informs the general public of the rules and their meaning as they relate to the work of MNAs and their staff.

The Ethics Commissioner is funded through annual appropriations granted by the National Assembly and is not subject to federal and provincial income tax laws.

Accompanying notes
March 31, 2022
(Amounts are expressed in thousands of dollars)

2. MAIN ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Accounting standards

The Ethics Commissioner's financial statements are prepared in accordance with the *CPA Canada Public Sector Accounting Handbook*. Any other generally accepted accounting principles used must be consistent with the Handbook.

b) Use of estimates

Preparing the Ethics Commissioner's financial statements, in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, requires management to make estimates and assumptions. These have an impact on reporting assets and liabilities, presenting contingent assets and liabilities as at the date of the financial statements, and reporting revenues and expenses for the period presented in the financial statements. The main element requiring the use of estimates is the service life of tangible capital assets. Actual results may differ from management's best estimates.

c) Revenue

Revenue is accounted for using the accrual method, that is, in the fiscal year in which the operations or events giving rise to it occur. Accordingly, parliamentary appropriations are recognized as revenue when authorized and when all eligibility criteria are met.

ASSETS

d) Cash entitlements

The financial transactions of the Ethics Commissioner are effected through the general fund of the Government of Québec's Consolidated Revenue Fund. The cash entitlement represents the amount of cash the Ethics Commissioner is entitled to draw from the general fund of the Consolidated Revenue Fund to discharge its obligations out of the appropriations granted.

Accompanying notes
March 31, 2022
(Amounts are expressed in thousands of dollars)

2. MAIN ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT.)

NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS

By their nature, non-financial assets are generally used to provide future services.

e) Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost and are amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated service lives, as follows:

Category	Duration
Leasehold improvements	5 years
Materials and equipment	5 and 10 years
Computer equipment	3 years

When conditions indicate that a tangible capital asset no longer contributes to the capacity to provide goods and services, or the value of future economic benefits associated with the tangible capital assets is less than its net book value, its cost is reduced to reflect its decline in value. Capital losses on tangible capital assets are reflected in the book figures for the year. No reversal of allowance for impairment is recorded.

f) Inter-entity transactions

Inter-entity transactions are those between entities controlled by or subject to joint control by the Government of Québec.

The cost of certain support services is borne by the National Assembly of Québec and is not recognized in the results of the fiscal year.

3. BUDGET

The detailed budget was prepared by the Ethics Commissioner and approved by the Office of the National Assembly on April 1, 2021.

4. REVENUE

The Ethics Commissioner is funded by annual parliamentary appropriations.

	2022	2021
Parliamentary appropriations		
Initial	1,894.5	1,688.4
Supplementary appropriations for the current fiscal year	—	–
Lapsed	(298.1)	(268.9)
	1,596.3	**1,419.5**

Accompanying notes
March 31, 2022
(Amounts are expressed in thousands of dollars)

5. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

	2022	2021
Suppliers and others	21.6	26.6
Salaries	126.3	47.6
	147.9	**74.2**

6. TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

				2022	2021
	Leasehold improvements	Materials and equipment	Computer equipment	Total	Total
Cost of capital assets					
Opening balance	282.0	121.9	29.9	433.8	649.9
Acquisitions	—	3.9	—	3.9	17.4
Adjustments	—	—	—	—	(233.5)
Closing balance	**282.0**	**125.8**	**29.9**	**437.7**	**433.8**
Accumulated amortization					
Opening balance	79.9	80.3	19.1	179.3	300.7
Amortization for the year	56.4	10.4	4.4	71.2	75.0
Adjustments	—	—	—	—	(196.4)
Closing balance	**136.3**	**90.7**	**23.5**	**250.5**	**179.3**
Net book value as at March 31	**145.7**	**35.1**	**6.4**	**187.2**	**254.5**

	2022	2021
Initial budget for tangible capital assets	15.0	15.0
Acquisitions in the fiscal year	3.9	17.4
Supplementary appropriations during the year	—	2.7[1]
Lapsed parliamentary appropriations	11.1	0.3

1. The Ethics Commissioner received supplementary parliamentary appropriations of $2,700 for investment.

Accompanying notes
March 31, 2022
(Amounts are expressed in thousands of dollars)

7. ACCUMULATED SURPLUS

The accumulated surplus is invested in tangible capital assets.

8. CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

The Ethics Commissioner leases premises from property manager Casot Ltd., under an occupancy agreement ending on October 31, 2024. The rates in the table are estimates.

In addition, the Ethics Commissioner's activities may give rise to contracts and obligations whereby it will be required to make payments over several years for the acquisition of goods and services or for the development of research work in its field.

Contractual obligations for the coming years are as follows:

	Leases agreements	Research support	Total
2022-2023	173.5	5	178.5
2023-2024	173.5	5	178.5
2024-2025	173.5	5	178.5

9. RELATED-PARTY TRANSACTIONS

For accounting purposes, the Ethics Commissioner is related to all entities controlled by the Government of Québec or subject to its joint control. The Ethics Commissioner is also related to its principal executive officer, her close relatives and the entities over which she has the power to govern financial and administrative decisions.

No transactions were concluded between the Ethics Commissioner and its principal executive officer, her close relatives or the entities over which she has the power to govern financial and administrative decisions.

The cost of certain support services is borne by the National Assembly of Québec and is not recognized in the results of the fiscal year. The Ethics Commissioner has not entered into any other significant related-party transactions at a value different from that which would have been established if the parties were unrelated.

Division des services aux occupants – Équipe de la reprographie et de l'imprimerie
de l'Assemblée nationale du Québec

September 2022

100%

Papier fabriqué au Québec

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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