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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Bill 275  
(Private)

## **An Act respecting the city of Saint-Laurent**

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### **Introduction**

**Introduced by  
Mr Yvan Bordeleau  
Member for Acadie**

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# Bill 275

(Private)

## **An Act respecting the city of Saint-Laurent**

WHEREAS it is in the interest of the city of Saint-Laurent that its charter, chapter 94 of the statutes of 1908, and the Acts amending it, be again amended in order that the city be granted certain powers;

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

**1.** An executive committee, consisting of the mayor and four aldermen, is hereby established for the city of Saint-Laurent.

**2.** The mayor shall appoint the four aldermen who are to be members of the executive committee for a renewable term of one year. If he fails to do so, the appointment shall be made by way of a secret ballot in which each alderman shall, on pain of nullity of his ballot, vote for four aldermen.

The ballot paper shall consist of a list, printed under the supervision of the clerk and initialled by him, on which the names of the aldermen are entered in alphabetical order.

Each alderman shall receive a ballot paper from the clerk, who shall have struck out the name of the chairman of the council, if it appeared thereon. The alderman shall retire to a polling booth and make, in the box printed for that purpose, a cross opposite the name of each alderman for which he casts a vote.

Each ballot paper must be initialled by the clerk and placed in a sealed envelope. The envelopes shall not be opened until the votes are counted by the clerk in the presence of the general manager. The names of the four elected aldermen shall be made public by the clerk;

in the case of a tie-vote between aldermen who would have been declared elected had they received one additional vote, the mayor may appoint them or request a new ballot for the positions to be filled.

The council may neither suspend nor adjourn the sitting before the members of the executive committee have been elected.

**3.** The mayor shall act as chairman of the executive committee; at the first meeting of the executive committee, he shall appoint a vice-chairman from among its members; the vice-chairman shall exercise all the powers of the chairman in the latter's absence or where the office is vacant.

**4.** Three members shall constitute a quorum of the executive committee. The mayor or any other person presiding over the executive committee is entitled to vote but is not required to do so; every other member of the executive committee is required to vote, unless he is prevented from voting by reason of his interest in the matter concerned under the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities (R.S.Q., chapter E-2.2). In the case of a tie-vote, the decision shall be deemed to be negative.

**5.** The committee shall sit *in camera*, unless it considers that the interests of the city require that its deliberations be open to the public. The obligation to sit *in camera* does not apply to the members of the council.

**6.** The clerk of the city shall act as secretary of the committee. In his absence, the assistant clerk shall act in such capacity.

**7.** The term of an alderman who is a member of the executive committee and who fails to attend sittings of the executive committee for 45 consecutive days ends at the close of the first sitting after the expiry of the 45 days unless the member attends that sitting.

However, the executive committee may, at the first sitting after the 45 days, grant 30 days of grace to the member if he was in fact unable to attend the sittings. In such case, the term of the member ends 31 days later, unless he attends a sitting of the executive committee during the period of grace.

The clerk shall advise the council that the term of a member of the executive committee has ended pursuant to this section at the first sitting thereafter.

**8.** Any vacancy on the committee shall be filled by the mayor within 30 days. Failing this, it shall be filled by way of a ballot held in accordance with section 2.

**9.** The resignation of a member of the committee shall be effective from the day of its delivery to the clerk.

**10.** The executive committee shall be responsible for the management of the affairs of the city. It shall see that the law, by-laws and contracts are observed and carried out. For such purposes, it may

(1) take all such steps as it deems expedient and give appropriate instructions to the directors of city departments;

(2) through its chairman, require directly of any municipal officer or employee any information that it needs;

(3) dispose of the credits voted by the council, either by the budget or out of the proceeds of loans or otherwise, and see to their being used for the purposes for which they were voted, without further approval from the council;

(4) award any contract involving an expenditure that is less than that requiring public tenders by complying with the procedure prescribed by law, where applicable;

(5) authorize the payment of all sums due by the city, observing the formalities, restrictions and conditions prescribed by law;

(6) exercise any power delegated to it by by-law of the council, other than the power to make by-laws or to impose a tax.

**11.** Every matter within the jurisdiction of the council shall first be submitted to the executive committee which shall report to the council, if it deems it expedient, through its chairman.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, where a matter is referred to the executive committee following a resolution of the council, the executive committee shall report on it on or before the sixtieth day following the day the resolution was adopted.

**12.** The executive committee may submit again to the council, at any time, with or without amendment, a report already rejected by the latter.

**13.** Every communication between the council and the various city departments shall be effected through the executive committee,

and in its dealings with the latter the council must always act by resolution.

**14.** Subject to paragraph 2 of section 10, every communication between the executive committee and the various city departments shall be effected through the general manager.

**15.** Subject to approval by the council, the committee shall make rules for its internal management and may amend them whenever it deems it expedient.

**16.** The minutes of the votes and deliberations of the committee shall be drawn up and entered in a book kept for that purpose by the secretary of the committee, be signed by the secretary and the chairman of the committee after having been approved at the following sitting, and shall be opened to the inspection of any taxpayer who wishes to examine them.

**17.** Section 6 of the Act to amend the charter of the city of Saint-Laurent (1972, chapter 82) is amended by replacing the words "or seal" in the eighth line of paragraph *a* by the words ", seal or any graphic symbol adopted by resolution".

**18.** The executive committee established for the city under section 70.1 of the Cities and Towns Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-19) shall cease to exist upon the appointment of the members of the executive committee created pursuant to this Act in accordance with section 2.

**19.** This Act comes into force on (*insert here the date of assent to this Act*).