

THIRD SESSION

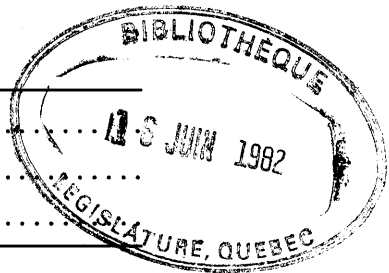
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

Bill 64

An Act to promote the establishment of young farmers

First reading
Second reading
Third reading



M. JEAN GARON

Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

QUÉBEC OFFICIAL PUBLISHER

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

The main object of this bill is to provide incentive to the coming generation of farmers by reducing the cost of long term financing of farm investment. To that end, it enables the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, on the recommendation of the Office du crédit agricole du Québec (Bureau), to make grants toward the payment of interest on loans granted under the Farm Credit Act of Québec or of Canada or the Act to promote long term farm credit by private institutions.

The grant is in addition to the Québec Government contribution toward the payment of interest payable under the Act to promote long term farm credit by private institutions or the Farm Loan Act, as the case may be. It is designed to have all interest payable on part of the loan of up to \$50 000 paid by the Québec Government for a period of 5 years. Grants may be obtained by farmers or group operations. In the case of a group operation, the amount of the loan to which the grant may apply is proportionate to the interests held in the operation by the farm operators or farmers who qualify it for the grant.

A farmer may qualify for a grant or a farm operator or a farmer may qualify a group operation for a grant if, in particular,

(1) he is 18 to 40 years of age;

(2) he has not previously qualified a group operation for a grant under the bill or under the Act to promote the development of agricultural operations and has not himself previously received any financial assistance under any legislative measure to promote establishment on farms; and

(3) he fulfills certain other conditions fixed by government regulation.

Where a group operation applies for a grant, it must include at least one farmer or farm operator who holds at least 20% of the interests in the group operation and whose principal occupation is the operation of the farm.

Finally, the bill amends the Act to promote the development of agricultural operations to set 31 December 1983 as the final date to apply to the Bureau for a grant under the said Act and to provide that every farmer or group operation who or which obtains a grant under the bill becomes ineligible for a grant under the Act to promote the development of agricultural operations.

ACT AMENDED BY THE BILL

The Act to promote the development of agricultural operations (R.S.Q., chapter M-36).

Bill 64

An Act to promote the establishment
of young farmers

HER MAJESTY, with the advice and consent of the National Assembly of Québec, enacts as follows:

DIVISION I

DEFINITIONS

1. In this Act, unless the context indicates a different meaning,

“agricultural operations cooperative” means an agricultural cooperative association established under the Act respecting cooperative agricultural associations (R.S.Q., chapter S-24) or a cooperative association established under the Cooperative Associations Act (R.S.Q., chapter A-24), whose main object and principal activity is the operation of an economic farm of which it is the owner or lessee, provided that all of its shareholder-producers or all of its members, as the case may be, are natural persons, that at least sixty per cent of the issued ordinary shares or of the common shares, as the case may be, are owned by farm operators and that the majority of its shareholder-producers or members, as the case may be, are farm operators the principal occupation of the majority of whom is the operation of such farm;

“agricultural operations corporation” means a corporation constituted under the Companies Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-38) whose principal activity is the operation of an economic farm of which it is the owner or lessee, provided that all of its shareholders are natural persons and that at least sixty per cent of the issued shares of each class are owned by one or more farm operators the principal occupation of whom or of the majority of whom is the operation of such farm;

“agricultural operations partnership” means

(1) a partnership within the meaning of the Civil Code whose principal object is the joint operation of an economic farm, of which it is the owner or lessee, constituted by a written contract in accordance with the regulations, composed of natural persons and in which at least sixty per cent of the interests are owned by one or several farm operators the principal occupation of whom or of the majority of whom is the operation of such farm; or

(2) several natural persons who are the undivided owners of an economic farm when at least sixty per cent of the property rights in such farm are held by one or several farm operators the principal occupation of whom or of the majority of whom is the operation of such farm, each of such persons being considered as a partner for the purposes of this Act;

“agriculture” means the cultivation of the soil or the raising of livestock;

“Bureau” means the Office du crédit agricole du Québec established under the Farm Credit Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-75);

“economic farm” means any farm which, taking into account all of its resources, is capable of producing a revenue which enables the operator thereof to pay the operating costs thereof, including maintenance and depreciation, to fulfil his obligations and to support his family adequately;

“establishment” means the act of a natural person or of a group operation of taking up agriculture on an economic farm as his or its principal occupation or principal activity, on or following the acquisition or leasing of such a farm or on or following investment in, addition to or immoveable construction on a farm owned or leased by the person or group that, in the opinion of the Bureau, makes it an economic farm;

“farm” means any immoveable operated or to be operated within a reasonable period for agricultural purposes;

“farmer” means a farm operator who is the owner or the lessee of a farm;

“farm operator” means any natural person whose principal occupation is agriculture;

“group operation” means an agricultural operations corporation, an agricultural operations cooperative, an agricultural operations partnership or joint operators;

“joint operators” means several natural persons who jointly operate an economic farm constituted of the aggregate of the farms

of which they are the owners or lessees while sharing, according to the proportions determined among them, the income from the aggregate of such farms, provided that not less than sixty per cent of the aggregate of the interests in such farm are owned by one or several farmers;

“loan” means a loan granted under the Farm Credit Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-75) or the Act to promote long term farm credit by private institutions (R.S.Q., chapter C-75.1) or a loan granted under the Farm Credit Act (R.S.C., 1970, chapter F-2) if it meets the requirements prescribed for obtaining a similar loan under the Farm Credit Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-75);

“regulation” means any regulation made under this Act by the Government.

DIVISION II

GRANT AND MODE OF PAYMENT

2. To reduce financing costs for those establishing themselves on farms and thereby encourage the coming generation of farmers, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, on the recommendation of the Bureau, may make a grant toward the interest on a loan obtained or payment of which is assumed through succession or otherwise by a farmer or group operation for the purposes of his or its establishment, provided that the farmer or the group meets the conditions provided in section 6 or, as the case may be, section 7. Where such an establishment occurs upon the parcelling out of a farm, as defined by regulation, that part of the farm which is not part of the establishment must itself be economic.

No grant under this section is applicable in respect of interest borne, pursuant to the Act under which the loan was granted or the deed evidencing the loan, by any instalment in principal or interest not paid at maturity.

3. The grant provided for in section 2 is equal to the net interest on the first \$50 000 of the loan or, as the case may be, on the first \$50 000 of the balance in principal of the loan outstanding on the date payment thereof was assumed, computed while taking account of the normal amortization of the loan on the first \$50 000.

Notwithstanding the first paragraph, where the grant is made to a group operation, it applies only to the amount corresponding to the amount contemplated in the first paragraph multiplied by the total percentage of the issued shares of each class, ordinary shares issued or common shares, as the case may be, or of the interests or property rights contemplated in subparagraph *e* of paragraph 2 of section 7 held, on the date contemplated in section 5, by all the farm

operators or farmers who meet the conditions prescribed in paragraph 2 of section 7.

For the application of the second paragraph, the percentage contemplated therein means,

(1) in the case of an agricultural operations corporation which has issued only one class of shares, the percentage represented by the number of shares held by each shareholder contemplated in the second paragraph and issued to him, in relation to the total number of shares issued by the corporation;

(2) in the case of an agricultural operations corporation which has issued several classes of shares,

(a) the percentage represented by the total number of shares held by each shareholder contemplated in the second paragraph and issued to him, in relation to the total number of shares of all classes issued by the corporation where, while taking account of the total number of shares of each class issued by it, the shareholder holds an equal percentage of shares of each class; or

(b) the percentage represented by the number of shares of the class of which each shareholder contemplated in the second paragraph holds a percentage lower than the percentage he holds of other classes, in relation to the total number of shares of that class issued by the corporation;

(3) in the case of an agricultural operations cooperative, the percentage represented by the number of ordinary shares or common shares, as the case may be, held in the cooperative by each person contemplated in the second paragraph, in relation to the total number of ordinary shares issued by the cooperative or, as the case may be, of its common shares held by all its members.

4. If, for the purposes of his or its establishment, a farmer or a group operation obtains more than one loan or assumes the payment of more than one loan or obtains one or several loans and assumes, at the same time, the payment of one or several other loans, the amount of \$50 000 contemplated in the first paragraph of section 3 includes, for the period during which the grant is applicable, in the following order and up to that maximum amount,

(1) that part of any loan, according to its rank in time, granted under the Farm Credit Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-75) which bears interest at the rate of 2½% per annum;

(2) that part of any loan, according to its rank in time, granted under the Act to promote long term farm credit by private institutions, to which, under the said Act, the Bureau's contribution to the payment of that part of the interest which exceeds 2½% per annum applies;

(3) that part of any loan, according to its rank in time, granted pursuant to an application for a loan received by the lender before 23 November 1981 under the Farm Credit Act (R.S.C., 1970, chapter F-2) to which, under the Farm Loan Act (R.S.Q., chapter P-20), the Bureau's contribution to the payment of interest applies;

(4) that part of any loan, according to its rank in time, granted under the Farm Credit Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-75) which bears interest at the rate of 7% or 8% per annum;

(5) that part of any loan, according to its rank in time, granted pursuant to an application for a loan received before 23 November 1981 under the Act to promote long term farm credit by private institutions, to which, under the said Act, the Bureau's contribution to the payment of that part of the interest which exceeds 8% per annum applies;

(6) that part of the first \$150 000 of any loan, according to its rank in time, granted under the Farm Credit Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-75) pursuant to an application for a loan received after 22 November 1981, to which the rate fixed by regulation under the said Act applies;

(7) that part of the first \$150 000 of any loan, according to its rank in time, granted pursuant to an application for a loan received after 22 November 1981 to which the private institutions' contribution to the payment of interest determined by regulation under the Act to promote long term farm credit by private institutions applies;

(8) that part of any loan, according to its rank in time, granted by the Farm Credit Corporation pursuant to an application for a loan received after 22 November 1981 under the Farm Credit Act (R.S.C., 1970, chapter F-2) to which, under the Farm Loan Act, the Bureau's contribution to the payment of interest applies;

(9) any part not contemplated in any of the preceding subparagraphs 1 to 8 of any loan, according to its rank in time, granted under any of the Acts referred to in the said subparagraphs.

Where, for the purposes of his or its establishment, a farmer or a group operation assumes the payment of a loan contemplated in the first paragraph and the term remaining to run on the loan is less than 5 years, no account is taken of any part of the balance then due on that loan to form all or part of the maximum amount of \$50 000 contemplated in the first paragraph unless all or part of the said balance is required to complete the maximum amount. In that case, the order prescribed in the first paragraph must be followed in respect of the parts of the said balance which are required to complete that amount.

5. Every grant under section 2 applies for a period of 5 years from, as the case may be, the date of the deed of loan, the date of the opening of the succession giving rise to the assumption of the loan, the date of the deed of alienation under the terms of which payment of the balance of the loan was assumed, or, where the deed of alienation requires the authorization of the lender and of the Bureau under the Act to promote long term farm credit by private institutions, or of the Bureau alone under the Farm Credit Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-75), or of the Farm Credit Corporation in the case of a loan granted under the Farm Credit Act (R.S.C., 1970, chapter F-2), the date of the deed under which any required authorization was granted.

6. To qualify for a grant, a farmer must

(1) file an establishment plan with the Bureau; the plan must or may include one or several of the components determined by regulation or as may be required by the Bureau on the basis of compatibility with the agricultural production of the farm or the possibility of improving it; the plan must also demonstrate that, taking account of the grant, the farm contemplated in section 2 will be an economic farm and will continue to be so once the borrower ceases to receive the grant;

(2) file with the Bureau a written covenant that he will follow the plan;

(3) be at least 18 years of age and, on the date of receipt by the Bureau or, as the case may be, the Farm Credit Corporation of his written application for a loan or for assumption of a loan for the purposes of his establishment, be under 40 years of age and meet the conditions which may be fixed by regulation as to schooling, farming experience and vocational training;

(4) carry out his establishment within 12 months of the date contemplated in subparagraph 3;

(5) not, as a farm operator or as a farmer, have previously qualified a group operation for all or part of a grant it received under the Act to promote the development of agricultural operations (R.S.Q., chapter M-36) or a grant under section 2 or section 14, nor have, himself, previously received all or part of such a grant or of any of the following benefits:

(a) a remission of debt under section 30 of the Farm Credit Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-75);

(b) a remission of debt under section 4 of the Farm Loan Act;

(c) a grant under section 25, as it read before 1 January 1970, of the Agriculture and Colonization Department Act (Revised Statutes, 1964, chapter 101);

(d) a grant for farm consolidation under section 30, as it read before 30 October 1969, of the Act referred to in subparagraph c;

(6) where the farm contemplated in section 2 or the new farm contemplated in section 8 is the subject of a lease, file with the Bureau proof that the lease is evidenced by notarial deed *en minute* or by private deed, duly registered, and has a term at least as long as the term prescribed by regulation or, in the opposite case, that the lessee has performed the prescribed formalities in respect of the renewal of the lease;

(7) prove to the Bureau that the farm contemplated in section 2 or, as the case may be, the new farm contemplated in section 8 is situated in a municipality forming part of a designated agricultural zone within the meaning of the Act to preserve agricultural land (R.S.Q., chapter P-41.1), or, if there is an agricultural zone established in accordance with Division IV in the municipality where the farm is situated, that the farm is situated in that zone.

For the application of the first paragraph, of section 7 and section 16, any farm operator or farmer as the case may be who, when a grant was made to a group operation under the Act to promote the development of agricultural operations, was a member of the group and met all the conditions required to qualify it for a grant, is deemed to have qualified the group for the whole grant if it received all or part of the grant.

7. To qualify for a grant provided for in section 2, a group operation must

(1) file with the Bureau the plan and covenant contemplated in subparagraphs 1 and 2 of the first paragraph of section 6;

(2) have, among its shareholders, shareholder-producers, members or partners, as the case may be, at least one farm operator or one farmer, as the case may be, who

(a) is at least 18 years of age and, on the date of receipt by the Bureau or, as the case may be, the Farm Credit Corporation of the written application for a loan or for assumption of a loan made by the group operation for the purposes of its establishment, is under 40 years of age and meets the conditions which may be fixed by regulation as to schooling, farming experience and vocational training;

(b) has not previously been established as a farmer;

(c) has not, as a farm operator or as a farmer, previously qualified a group operation for all or part of a grant contemplated in section 2 or in section 14 or of a grant under the Act to promote the development of agricultural operations, nor has, himself, previously received all or part of such a grant or of any of the benefits referred to in paragraphs *a* to *d* of subparagraph 5 of the first paragraph of section 6;

(d) has, as his principal occupation, the operation of the farm operated by the group;

(e) holds not less than 20%

i. of the shares of each class issued by the corporation, in the case of an agricultural operations corporation;

ii. of the ordinary shares, or as the case may be, common shares, issued by the cooperative, in the case of an agricultural operations cooperative;

iii. of the interests in the partnership, in the case of an agricultural operations partnership;

iv. of the interests in the economic farm operated by the operators, in the case of joint operators; or

v. of the property rights in the farm, in the case of undivided owners of an economic farm;

(3) carry out its establishment within 12 months of the date contemplated in subparagraph *a* of paragraph 2;

(4) fulfill the requirements of subparagraphs 6 and 7 of the first paragraph of section 6;

(5) not have received all or part of any grant under the Act to promote the development of agricultural operations.

8. If a farmer or a group operation having received a grant disposes of the farm that he or it operates, by alienation, discontinuance of lease or otherwise, and acquires or, as the case may be, leases another farm and proves to the Bureau that the operation of the new farm can ensure continuity to the establishment and may even improve it, the right of the farmer or group to the grant no longer applies on the date he or it disposes of the farm on which he or it was established, in respect of that part of the loan in respect of which the grant is applicable. This right is then transferred in respect of any other loan that he or it has obtained, or for which he or it has assumed payment, by succession or otherwise, following or upon the acquisition or leasing of the new farm, provided that the loan meets the same requirements for obtention or assumption as those prescribed for the loan in respect of which the grant was made and that the period provided under section 5 or, as the case may be, in section 15 has not expired.

The grant then becomes payable, for the time remaining to run in the period, in respect of the same amount as that contemplated in the first paragraph without, however, exceeding the aggregate of all the other loans obtained or assumed under the conditions prescribed in that paragraph.

9. In the case of a grant made under the Farm Credit Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-75), the net interest for the purposes of this Act is the interest that the debtor of the loan would have to pay on the first \$50 000 contemplated in section 3 before default interest.

In the case of a loan granted under the Act to promote long term farm credit by private institutions or the Farm Credit Act (R.S.C., 1970, chapter F-2), net interest is the interest that the debtor of the loan would have to pay on the first \$50 000 contemplated in section 3 before default interest, after deduction of the contribution toward payment of the interest payable by the Bureau under the Act to promote long term farm credit by private institutions or, as the case may be, the Farm Loan Act, in respect of such first \$50 000.

10. No grant provided for under section 2 may be made except in respect of a loan granted following a written application for a loan received by the Bureau or, as the case may be, the Farm Credit Corporation on or after (*insert here the date of the coming into force of this section*) or of a loan the payment of which is assumed from that date and for which a written application to assume it is received by the Bureau or, as the case may be, by the Corporation on or after that date.

11. Every application for a grant must be accompanied with the documents and information required by regulation.

12. Subject to section 20, the grant provided for in section 2 or in section 14 is paid by the Bureau on the dates and according to the terms and conditions determined by regulation provided that the debtor

(1) has not, to the knowledge of the Bureau, defaulted on any of his obligations toward the lender in respect of any loan for which the grant is payable, subject to paragraph 3;

(2) proves to the satisfaction of the Bureau that he has followed the establishment plan contemplated in section 6, in accordance with the schedule provided therein;

(3) has, personally or through the lender, filed with the Bureau, not later than one month before the date the interest is due on any loan to which a grant is applicable, data showing that there are then no arrears in principal or interest and no costs or incident for any amount greater than \$150 existing in respect of the loan.

13. Any loan debtor who has received a grant payment to which he is not entitled must return the amount of that payment to the Bureau on a claim for repayment by the Bureau or on his becoming aware of the fact.

14. Where, on the date contemplated in section 5, the total holdings in a group operation, owned by the persons who meet the conditions prescribed in paragraph 2 of section 7 and qualify the operation for a grant, do not exceed 80%, the Minister may, subsequently, on the recommendation of the Bureau, make to that operation, notwithstanding section 2, an additional grant toward the interest borne by any loan in respect of which a grant has previously been made pursuant to section 2, whenever

(1) any of such persons acquires additional holdings of not less than 20% in the operation and meets the conditions prescribed in section 16;

(2) a farm operator or a farmer, as the case may be, becomes, after the date contemplated in section 5, a shareholder, shareholder-producer, member or partner, as the case may be, of the group operation by obtaining holdings of not less than 20% in the operation or subsequently acquires holdings of not less than 20% in the operation, and meets the conditions prescribed in section 16;

(3) a farm operator or a farmer, as the case may be, who, on or after the date contemplated in section 5, possesses holdings of less than 20% in the operation and increases his holdings to not less than 20% or subsequently acquires additional holdings of not less than 20%, and meets the conditions prescribed in section 16.

15. Every grant under section 14 applies for a period of 5 years from the date it is made. It is equal to the net interest on that part of the first \$50 000 contemplated in section 3, that corresponds to the additional holdings in the group operation acquired by the person contemplated in paragraph 1 of section 14 or to the original or additional holdings, as the case may be, obtained in the group operation by the person contemplated in paragraph 2 of section 14, or to the first holdings of not less than 20% in the group operation possessed by the person contemplated in paragraph 3 of section 14, or, as the case may be, to the additional holdings, contemplated in the same paragraph, that he acquires. The amount represented by that part of the loan, added to the original amount of any other part of the loan in respect of which a grant has previously been made under section 2 or section 14, as the case may be, may in no case exceed \$50 000. The grant is computed while taking account, during that period, of the normal amortization of that part of the loan to which it applies.

For the application of section 14 and of the first paragraph, "holdings" referred to therein means the percentage of the issued shares of each class, ordinary shares issued or common shares, as the case may be, or of the interests or property rights contemplated in subparagraph *e* of paragraph 2 of section 7, held in a group operation by each person contemplated in section 14.

The second and third paragraphs of section 3 and section 4 apply, *mutatis mutandis*, in the establishment, in conformity with the first paragraph, of that part of the amount of the loan or of the balance of the loan to which a grant made pursuant to section 14 is applicable.

16. To qualify for a grant under section 14, a group operation must meet the conditions prescribed by regulation, and every member of the group contemplated in paragraphs 1 to 3 of the first paragraph of section 14 must

(1) be at least 18 years of age and, on the date he acquires or completes, as the case may be, holdings of not less than 20% in the operation and on the date the application for such a grant is received by the Bureau, be under 40 years of age and meet the conditions which may be fixed by regulation as to schooling, farming experience or vocational training;

(2) meet the conditions prescribed in subparagraphs *b* and *d* of paragraph 2 of section 7;

(3) not, as a farm operator or as a farmer, have previously qualified a group operation for all or part of a grant it received under the Act to promote the development of agricultural operations nor have, himself, previously received all or part of such a grant or of any of the benefits referred in paragraphs *a* to *d* of subparagraph 5 of the first paragraph of section 6;

(4) prove to the Bureau, taking his holdings in the operation into account, that the farm contemplated in section 2 or, as the case may be, the new farm contemplated in section 8, will continue to be economic.

DIVISION III

REGULATIONS

17. The Government may make regulations to

(1) define the expressions "principal occupation", "principal activity", "cultivation of the soil", "raising of livestock" and "parceling out of a farm";

(2) fix the term of leases contemplated in section 6 and prescribe the formalities relating to their renewal;

(3) determine the characteristics that a partnership contract must include in order for the partnership being the object thereof to be an agricultural operations partnership within the meaning of paragraph 2 of the definition of such a partnership set forth in section 1;

(4) determine the components which must or may be included in an establishment plan contemplated in section 6;

(5) fix the requirements to be fulfilled by the farmer contemplated in section 6 or the farmer or farm operator contemplated in section 7 or in section 16 in respect of schooling, farming experience or vocational training;

(6) fix the dates, terms and conditions of payment of a grant;

(7) prescribe the conditions that must be met by a group operation to qualify for a grant provided for in section 14;

(8) prescribe the documents and information which must be filed and the time allowed for filing;

(9) prescribe any other expedient measure for the carrying out of this Act.

DIVISION IV

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

18. Subject to section 14, no person may obtain a grant more than once under this Act.

19. All sums paid as grants are inalienable and unseizable except in favour of the creditor of the loan in respect of which the sums are paid although only up to the sums due to him on the loan.

20. Where, to the knowledge of the Bureau, a natural person or a group operation who or which has received a loan is in default to conform with this Act or the Act under which the loan to which the grant applies was granted or to fulfill any obligation contracted toward the lender and arising from the loan, the payment of any instalment due in respect of the grant is deferred to the date when it is proved to the Bureau that the default has been remedied. However, if 3 years lapse before the default is remedied, the person or the group operation forfeits any right to receive any deferred payment or unpaid payment in respect of the grant for the time remaining to run of the period contemplated in section 5 or, as the case may be, section 14.

21. Every person or group operation who or which obtains a grant without being entitled thereto or uses the proceeds therefrom for purposes other than those for which it was granted forfeits the grant by operation of law and must repay to the Minister all sums received under the grant. The person or the group operation is thenceforth disqualified for a grant.

22. The Minister may, at the request of the Bureau, cancel the right of a natural person or group operation to whom or which a grant was made to receive the unpaid instalments under the grant

(1) if the person or group operation refuses to receive payment of the grant;

(2) in case of non-execution of the loan in respect of which the grant was made;

(3) if the deed evidencing the loan or the deed under which the loan is assumed is cancelled or revoked before any payment of the grant is made.

Where a cancellation contemplated in the first paragraph occurs before any payment of the grant is made, the loan is, for the purposes of this Act, deemed never to have been granted.

23. As long as the last instalment of a grant made to a group operation is unpaid the Bureau's authorization is required to ensure the validity,

(1) in the case of an agricultural operations corporation, of the issue, allotment or transfer of shares of the corporation or any repurchase or repayment of shares of the corporation;

(2) in the case of an agricultural operations cooperative, of any issue, allotment, transfer or repayment of common shares of the cooperative or any issue, allotment or transfer of ordinary shares of the cooperative;

(3) in the case of an agricultural operations partnership, of any modification made to the contract whereby the partnership was formed;

(4) in the case of joint operators, of any modification of the interests of any or several of the operators in the economic farm that they operate;

(5) in the case of undivided owners of a farm, of any modification of property rights in the farm of any of the owners.

24. The Minister may, in writing, delegate any power provided under sections 2 and 14 to such person as he may designate.

[[**25.** The sums required for the application of this Act are taken for the fiscal year 1982-1983 out of the consolidated revenue fund and, for subsequent fiscal years, out of the moneys granted annually for that purpose by the Legislature.]]

DIVISION V

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

26. Section 2 of the Act to promote the development of agricultural operations (R.S.Q., chapter M-36) is amended by adding, at the end, the following paragraph:

“The application contemplated in the second paragraph must be received by the Bureau before 1 January 1984.”

27. Section 5 of the said Act is amended by adding, at the end, the following paragraph:

“The application contemplated in the second paragraph must be received by the Bureau before 1 January 1984.”

28. Section 7 of the said Act is amended by adding, at the end, the following paragraph:

“The application contemplated in the first paragraph must be received by the Bureau before 1 January 1984.”

29. Section 21 of the said Act is amended by adding, at the end, the following paragraph:

“No grant may be made under sections 2, 5 and 7 to a farmer, an agricultural operations corporation, an agricultural operations cooperative, an agricultural operations partnership or a group of persons contemplated in sections 14 and 15 to whom or which a grant under the Act to promote the establishment of young farmers (1982, chapter *insert here the chapter number of Bill 64*), has been made.”

30. The Bureau is responsible for the administration of this Act.

31. Not later than 30 June each year, the Bureau must make to the Minister a report of its administration of this Act for the preceding fiscal period. The report must also contain all such information as the Minister may prescribe.

The Minister must table the report before the National Assembly of Québec within thirty days of receiving it if the Assembly is in session or, if it is not sitting, within thirty days of the opening of the next session, or of resumption.

32. The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is entrusted with the application of this Act.

33. This Act shall operate notwithstanding the provisions of sections 2 and 7 to 15 of the Constitution Act, 1982 (*insert here the reference to the chapter number of the Canada Act in the compilation of the Acts of the Parliament of the United Kingdom for 1982*).

34. This Act will come into force on the date to be fixed by proclamation of the Government, except the provisions excluded by that proclamation, which will come into force on such later date as may be fixed by proclamation of the Government.