



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Bill 18

**An Act respecting the Ministère
des Relations avec les citoyens et
de l'Immigration and amending
other legislative provisions**

Introduction

**Introduced by
Mr André Boisclair
Minister for Relations with the Citizens**



**Québec Official Publisher
1996**

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bill provides for the creation of the Ministère des Relations avec les citoyens et de l'Immigration presided over by the Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration.

Under the bill, the Minister will be responsible for the promotion of human rights and freedoms and for fostering the exercise by citizens of their civic and social responsibilities. He will be charged with promoting solidarity between generations, openness to pluralism, and closer intercultural relations. In addition, the Minister will ensure that proper consideration is given by the State to the needs of the young, families and the elderly. He will also be in charge of immigration matters and the integration of the recent immigrants.

The bill lists the functions and powers of the Minister and contains provisions concerning the organization of the department as well as amending, transitional and final provisions.

LEGISLATION AMENDED BY THIS BILL:

- Civil Code of Québec (1991, chapter 64);
- Act respecting Access to documents held by public bodies and the Protection of personal information (R.S.Q., chapter A-2.1);
- Act respecting the accreditation and financing of students' associations (R.S.Q., chapter A-3.01);
- Act respecting the Cree Regional Authority (R.S.Q., chapter A-6.1);
- Travel Agents Act (R.S.Q., chapter A-10);
- Act respecting family assistance allowances (R.S.Q., chapter A-17);

- Archives Act (R.S.Q., chapter A-21.1);
- Act respecting prearranged funeral services and sepultures (R.S.Q., chapter A-23.001);
- Act respecting the civil aspects of international and interprovincial child abduction (R.S.Q., chapter A-23.01);
- Health Insurance Act (R.S.Q., chapter A-29);
- Charter of human rights and freedoms (R.S.Q., chapter C-12);
- Cities and Towns Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-19);
- Act to promote good citizenship (R.S.Q., chapter C-20);
- Highway Safety Code (R.S.Q., chapter C-24.2);
- Municipal Code of Québec (R.S.Q., chapter C-27.1);
- Act respecting the Communauté urbaine de l’Outaouais (R.S.Q., chapter C-37.1);
- Act respecting the Communauté urbaine de Montréal (R.S.Q., chapter C-37.2);
- Act respecting the Communauté urbaine de Québec (R.S.Q., chapter C-37.3);
- Act respecting the Conseil de la famille (R.S.Q., chapter C-56.2);
- Act respecting the Conseil des aînés (R.S.Q., chapter C-57.01);
- Act respecting the Conseil des Communautés culturelles et de l’Immigration (R.S.Q., chapter C-57.2);
- Act respecting the Conseil permanent de la jeunesse (R.S.Q., chapter C-59.01);
- Act respecting municipal and intermunicipal transit corporations (R.S.Q., chapter C-70);
- Public Curator Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-81);
- Act respecting private education (R.S.Q., chapter E-9.1);

- Act respecting the examination of complaints from customers of electricity distributors (R.S.Q., chapter E-17.1);
- Executive Power Act (R.S.Q., chapter E-18);
- Act respecting municipal taxation (R.S.Q., chapter F-2.1);
- Act respecting immigration to Québec (R.S.Q., chapter I-0.2);
- Education Act (R.S.Q., chapter I-13.3);
- Act respecting the Ministère de l'Éducation (R.S.Q., chapter M-15);
- Act respecting the Ministère de la Justice (R.S.Q., chapter M-19);
- Act respecting the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (R.S.Q., chapter M-19.2);
- Act respecting the Ministère des Affaires internationales, de l'Immigration et des Communautés culturelles (R.S.Q., chapter M-21.1);
- Government Departments Act (R.S.Q., chapter M-34);
- Act respecting the Office Franco-Québécois pour la Jeunesse (R.S.Q., chapter O-5);
- Police Act (R.S.Q., chapter P-13);
- Act respecting the protection of non-smokers in certain public places (R.S.Q., chapter P-38.01);
- Act respecting the protection of personal information in the private sector (R.S.Q., chapter P-39.1);
- Consumer Protection Act (R.S.Q., chapter P-40.1);
- Act to preserve agricultural land (R.S.Q., chapter P-41.1);
- Act respecting the collection of certain debts (R.S.Q., chapter R-2.2);
- Act respecting income security (R.S.Q., chapter S-3.1.1);

- Act respecting government services to departments and public bodies (R.S.Q., chapter S-6.1);

- Act respecting the Naskapi Development Corporation (R.S.Q., chapter S-10.1);

- Act respecting the Makivik Corporation (R.S.Q., chapter S-18.1);

- Act respecting transportation by taxi (R.S.Q., chapter T-11.1);

- Act respecting Northern villages and the Kativik Regional Government (R.S.Q., chapter V-6.1);

- Act respecting the Société de transport de la Ville de Laval (1984, chapter 42);

- Act respecting the Société de transport de la rive sud de Montréal (1985, chapter 32);

- Act respecting the Société du tourisme du Québec (1994, chapter 27);

- Act to foster the development of manpower training (1995, chapter 43).

Bill 18

An Act respecting the Ministère des Relations avec les citoyens et de l'Immigration and amending other legislative provisions

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

DIVISION I

ORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT

1. The Ministère des Relations avec les citoyens et de l'Immigration shall be under the direction of the Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration appointed under the Executive Power Act (R.S.Q., chapter E-18).

2. The Government, in accordance with the Public Service Act (R.S.Q., chapter F-3.1.1), shall appoint a person as Deputy Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration.

3. Under the direction of the Minister, the Deputy Minister shall administer the department.

The Deputy Minister shall also exercise any other functions assigned to him by the Government or the Minister.

4. In the exercise of his functions, the Deputy Minister has the authority of the Minister.

5. The Deputy Minister may delegate the exercise of his functions under this Act, in writing and so far as he indicates, to a public servant or to an employee of the Government.

The Deputy Minister may, in the instrument of delegation, authorize the subdelegation of such functions as he indicates; where applicable, he shall identify the public servant or employee of the Government to whom this subdelegation may be made.

6. The personnel of the department shall be composed of the public servants necessary for the exercise of the functions of the Minister; they shall be appointed and remunerated in accordance with the Public Service Act.

The Minister shall determine the duties of the public servants of the department so far as they are not determined by law or by the Government.

7. The signature of the Minister or of the Deputy Minister gives authority to any document emanating from the department.

No deed, document or writing binds the Minister or may be attributed to him unless it is signed by him, by the Deputy Minister, by a member of the personnel of the department or by an employee of the Government, and in the last two cases, only so far as determined by the Government.

8. The Government may, on the conditions it fixes, allow that the required signature be affixed by means of an automatic device to the documents it determines.

The Government may also allow that a facsimile of the signature be engraved, lithographed or printed on such documents as it determines. The facsimile must be authenticated by the countersignature of a person authorized by the Minister.

9. Every document or copy of a document emanating from the department or forming part of its records, if signed or certified true by a person referred to in the second paragraph of section 7, is authentic.

DIVISION II

FUNCTIONS AND POWERS

10. The Minister shall be responsible for the promotion of human rights and freedoms and shall foster the exercise by citizens of their civic and social responsibilities.

The Minister shall be charged with promoting solidarity between generations, openness to pluralism, and closer intercultural relations, so as to foster a sense of belonging to Québec society.

The Minister shall also be responsible for immigration matters.

11. In exercising his responsibilities in matters of relations with the citizens, the Minister shall, in particular,

(1) promote awareness of and the protection of human rights and freedoms;

(2) foster equality between citizens and encourage participation in community life and social development;

(3) facilitate dialogue and exchanges between Quebecers of all origins to foster openness to pluralism and closer intercultural relations;

(4) ensure that the Government and government departments and agencies give proper consideration to the needs of the young, families and the elderly;

(5) ensure that persons who are unable to fully exercise their civil rights are protected;

(6) ensure that equitable contractual relations are established between consumers and persons or bodies offering goods or services;

(7) foster citizens' access to the documents of public bodies and ensure the protection of personal information held by public bodies or by the private sector;

(8) facilitate relations between the State and the citizens in particular, by encouraging the dissemination of information on the services offered by the Government and its departments and by the public bodies, within the meaning of the Act respecting government services to departments and public bodies (R.S.Q., chapter S-6.1), that are designated by the Government;

(9) be responsible for the register of civil status and for appointing a public servant as registrar of civil status.

12. In exercising his responsibilities in immigration matters, the Minister shall, in particular,

(1) define objectives as to the number of foreign nationals that may be admitted during a given period, according to society's needs and capacity and with due regard to the principles of family reunification and international solidarity;

(2) inform, recruit and select immigrants and facilitate their settling in Québec;

(3) supervise the selection of foreign nationals who wish to settle temporarily in Québec;

(4) take the necessary measures to enable the persons who settle in Québec to acquire the knowledge of the French language upon their arrival or even before they leave their country of origin and to promote the use of the French language by immigrants;

(5) facilitate the linguistic, social and economic integration of immigrants into Québec society and, more particularly, into the French-speaking majority;

(6) encourage society's contribution to immigrant integration.

13. The Minister shall develop and propose to the Government policies and guidelines on relations with the citizens and on immigration and immigrant integration.

The Minister shall be responsible for the planning, coordination and implementation of such policies and guidelines.

14. The Minister shall advise the Government on any matter within his competence.

The Minister shall also exercise any other function assigned to him by the Government.

15. In exercising his functions, the Minister may, in particular,

(1) enter into agreements, according to law, with any government other than the Government of Québec, one of its departments, an international organization or an agency of such a government or organization;

(2) enter into agreements with any person, association, partnership or body;

(3) conduct or commission research, surveys, studies and analyses and publish them;

(4) take the necessary measures, in collaboration with the departments concerned, to establish standards for the recognition in Québec of educational training and experience acquired outside Québec and the awarding of equivalences;

(5) obtain from departments and public bodies the information necessary to establish his policies and guidelines and implement them.

16. The Minister shall table a report of the activities of the department in the National Assembly for each fiscal year, within six months from the end of that year or, if the Assembly is not sitting, within 30 days of resumption.

DIVISION III

CIVIL STATUS FUND

17. A fund to be known as the civil status fund is hereby established for the purpose of financing the property and services furnished under the authority of the Minister in connection with the registration of acts of civil status.

The Government shall determine the date on which the fund begins to operate, the nature of the property and services financed by the fund, its assets and liabilities and the nature of the expenses chargeable to it.

18. The fund shall be made up of the following sums, except interest:

(1) the sums collected for the property and services financed by the fund;

(2) the sums paid by the Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration out of the appropriations granted for that purpose by Parliament;

(3) the sums paid under section 21 or the first paragraph of section 22.

19. The sums required for the remuneration and expenses pertaining to social benefits and other conditions of employment of the persons assigned, in accordance with the Public Service Act, to activities related to the fund shall be paid out of the fund.

20. The management of the sums paid into the fund shall be entrusted to the Minister of Finance. Such sums shall be paid to the order of the Minister of Finance and deposited with the financial institutions he determines.

Notwithstanding section 13 of the Financial Administration Act (R.S.Q., chapter A-6), the Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration shall keep the books of account for and record the financial commitments chargeable to the fund. He shall also certify that such commitments and the payments arising therefrom do not exceed the available balances and comply therewith.

21. The Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration may, as manager of the fund, borrow from the Minister of Finance sums taken out of the financing fund of the Ministère des Finances.

22. The Minister of Finance may, with the authorization of the Government and subject to the conditions it determines, advance to the civil status fund sums taken out of the consolidated revenue fund.

The Minister of Finance may conversely advance to the consolidated revenue fund, on a short-term basis and subject to the conditions he determines, any part of the sums paid into the civil status fund that is not required for its operation.

An advance paid to the civil status fund or the consolidated revenue fund shall be repayable out of the fund that received it.

23. All surpluses accumulated by the civil status fund shall be paid into the consolidated revenue fund on the dates and to the extent determined by the Government.

24. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, the Minister of Finance shall, in the event of a deficiency in the consolidated revenue fund, pay out of the civil status fund the sums required for the execution of a judgment against the Crown that has become *res judicata*.

25. Sections 22 to 27, 33, 35, 47 to 49, 49.2, 51, 57 and 70 to 72 of the Financial Administration Act, adapted as required, apply to the civil status fund.

26. The fiscal year of the fund ends on 31 March.

DIVISION IV

AMENDING PROVISIONS

27. Articles 63, 67 and 151 of the Civil Code of Québec (1991, chapter 64) are amended by replacing the words “Minister of Justice” by the words “minister responsible for civil status”.

28. Article 366 of the said Code is amended

(1) by replacing the word “Minister” at the end of the second paragraph by the words “minister responsible for civil status”;

(2) by replacing the word “Minister” in the third paragraph by the words “minister responsible for civil status”.

29. Article 377 of the said Code is amended by replacing the words “Minister of Justice” in the first and second paragraphs by the words “minister responsible for civil status”.

30. Section 174 of the Act respecting Access to documents held by public bodies and the Protection of personal information (R.S.Q., chapter A-2.1) is replaced by the following section:

“174. The Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration is responsible for the administration of this Act.”

31. Section 42 of the Travel Agents Act (R.S.Q., chapter A-10) is replaced by the following section:

“42. The Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration is responsible for the administration of this Act.”

32. Section 82 of the Act respecting prearranged funeral services and sepultures (R.S.Q., chapter A-23.001) is replaced by the following section:

“82. The Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration is responsible for the administration of this Act.”

33. Section 65 of the Health Insurance Act (R.S.Q., chapter A-29) is amended by replacing the words “des Affaires internationales, de l’Immigration et des Communautés culturelles” in the eighth and ninth lines of the fifth paragraph by the words “des Relations avec les citoyens et de l’Immigration”.

34. Section 138 of the Charter of human rights and freedoms (R.S.Q., chapter C-12) is amended by adding, at the end, the words “, except sections 57 to 96, subparagraph 2 of the first paragraph of section 97 and section 99, the application of which is entrusted to the Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration”.

35. Sections 15 and 28 of the Act to promote good citizenship (R.S.Q., chapter C-20) are amended by replacing the word “Justice” by the words “Relations with the Citizens and Immigration”.

36. Section 27 of the Act respecting the Conseil de la famille (R.S.Q., chapter C-56.2) is replaced by the following section:

“27. The Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration is responsible for the administration of this Act.”

37. Section 2 of the Act respecting the Conseil des aînés (R.S.Q., chapter C-57.01) is amended by replacing the figure “18” by the figure “19”.

38. Section 3 of the said Act is amended by adding the words “the Deputy Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration,” after the words “the Deputy Minister of Justice,” in the second paragraph.

39. Section 23 of the said Act is amended by replacing the words “designated by the Government” by the words “of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration”.

40. The title of the Act respecting the Conseil des Communautés culturelles et de l’Immigration (R.S.Q., chapter C-57.2) is replaced by the following title:

“An Act respecting the Conseil des relations interculturelles”.

41. Section 1 of the said Act is replaced by the following section:

“1. The “Conseil des relations interculturelles” is hereby established.”

42. Sections 4, 8, 13 and 22 of the said Act are amended by replacing the words “International Affairs, Immigration and Cultural Communities” by the words “Relations with the Citizens and Immigration”.

43. Sections 13, 14 and 15 of the said Act are amended by replacing the words “cultural communities” by the words “intercultural relations”.

44. Section 33 of the Act respecting the Conseil permanent de la jeunesse (R.S.Q., chapter C-59.01) is replaced by the following section:

“33. The Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration is responsible for the administration of this Act.”

45. Sections 3 and 77 of the Public Curator Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-81) are amended by replacing the word “Justice” by the words “Relations with the Citizens and Immigration”.

46. Section 33 of the Act respecting the examination of complaints from customers of electricity distributors (R.S.Q., chapter E-17.1) is replaced by the following section:

“33. The Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration shall be responsible for the administration of this Act.”

47. Section 4 of the Executive Power Act (R.S.Q., chapter E-18) is amended

(1) by replacing subparagraph 4 of the first paragraph by the following subparagraph:

“(4) A Minister of International Relations;”;

(2) by adding, at the end of the first paragraph, the following subparagraph:

“(32) A Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration.”

48. Section 3.1 of the Act respecting immigration to Québec (R.S.Q., chapter I-0.2) is amended by replacing the words “International Affairs, Immigration and Cultural Communities” in the first paragraph by the words “Relations with the Citizens and Immigration”.

49. Section 40 of the said Act is amended by replacing the words “International Affairs, Immigration and Cultural Communities” by the words “Relations with the Citizens and Immigration”.

50. Section 3 of the Act respecting the Ministère de la Justice (R.S.Q., chapter M-19) is amended by striking out the words “, civil status” in paragraph e.

51. Section 9.1 of the said Act is repealed.

52. Section 32.1 of the said Act is amended by striking out subparagraph 2 of the first paragraph.

53. Section 3 of the Act respecting the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (R.S.Q., chapter M-19.2) is amended by replacing the words “International Affairs, Immigration and Cultural Communities under the Act respecting the Ministère des Affaires internationales, de l’Immigration et des Communautés culturelles (chapter M-21.1)” in paragraph *k* by the words “Relations with the Citizens and Immigration under the Act respecting the Ministère des Relations avec les citoyens et de l’Immigration”.

54. The title of the Act respecting the Ministère des Affaires internationales, de l’Immigration et des Communautés culturelles (R.S.Q., chapter M-21.1) is replaced by the following title:

“An Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales”.

55. Sections 1, 2 and 10 of the said Act are amended by replacing the words “des Affaires internationales, de l’Immigration et des Communautés culturelles” and “International Affairs, Immigration and Cultural Communities” by the words “des Relations avec les citoyens et de l’Immigration” and “Relations with the Citizens and Immigration”, respectively.

56. The said Act is amended by striking out, before section 11, the following:

“DIVISION I

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS”.

57. Sections 11, 15 and 18 of the said Act are amended by replacing the words “international affairs” by the words “international relations”.

58. Division II of the said Act, comprising sections 18.1 to 18.4, is repealed.

59. Sections 18, 35.3, 35.4 and 35.11 of the said Act are amended by replacing the words “International Affairs, Immigration and Cultural Communities” by the words “International Relations”.

60. Section 1 of the Government Departments Act (R.S.Q., chapter M-34) is amended

(1) by replacing paragraph 3 by the following paragraph:

“(3) The Ministère des Relations internationales, presided over by the Minister of International Relations;”;

(2) by adding, at the end, the following paragraph:

“(32) The Ministère des Relations avec les citoyens et de l’Immigration, presided over by the Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration.”

61. Section 98 of the Act respecting the protection of personal information in the private sector (R.S.Q., chapter P-39.1) is replaced by the following section:

“**98.** The Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration is responsible for the administration of this Act.”

62. Section 1 of the Consumer Protection Act (R.S.Q., chapter P-40.1) is amended by replacing subparagraph *i* of the first paragraph by the following subparagraph:

“(i) “Minister” means the Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration;”.

63. Section 79.12 of the Act to preserve agricultural land (R.S.Q., chapter P-41.1) is amended by replacing the word “Justice” by the words “Relations with the Citizens and Immigration”.

64. Section 67 of the Act respecting the collection of certain debts (R.S.Q., chapter R-2.2) is replaced by the following section:

“**67.** The Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration is responsible for the administration of this Act.”

65. Section 65.1 of the Act respecting income security (R.S.Q., chapter S-3.1.1), enacted by section 15 of chapter 69 of the statutes of 1995, is amended by replacing the words “des Affaires internationales” in the second paragraph by the words “des Relations avec les citoyens et de l’Immigration”.

66. Section 2 of the Act respecting government services to departments and public bodies (R.S.Q., chapter S-6.1) is amended by striking out subparagraph 4 of the first paragraph.

67. Section 23 of the Act respecting the Société du tourisme du Québec (1994, chapter 27) is amended by replacing the words “des

Affaires internationales” by the words “des Relations internationales”.

68. The words “des Affaires internationales, de l’Immigration et des Communautés culturelles” and “International Affairs, Immigration and Cultural Communities” are replaced by the words “des Relations internationales” and “International Relations”, respectively, wherever they appear in the following provisions and schedule:

(1) section 6 of the Act respecting Access to documents held by public bodies and the Protection of personal information (R.S.Q., chapter A-2.1);

(2) section 2 of the Act respecting the accreditation and financing of students’ associations (R.S.Q., chapter A-3.01);

(3) section 111 of the Act respecting the Cree Regional Authority (R.S.Q., chapter A-6.1);

(4) section 27.3 of the Act respecting family assistance allowances (R.S.Q., chapter A-17);

(5) the schedule to the Archives Act (R.S.Q., chapter A-21.1);

(6) section 41 of the Act respecting the civil aspects of international and interprovincial child abduction (R.S.Q., chapter A-23.01);

(7) section 29.12 of the Cities and Towns Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-19);

(8) section 92 of the Highway Safety Code (R.S.Q., chapter C-24.2);

(9) section 14.10 of the Municipal Code of Québec (R.S.Q., chapter C-27.1);

(10) sections 196 and 248 of the Act respecting the Communauté urbaine de l’Outaouais (R.S.Q., chapter C-37.1);

(11) section 290 of the Act respecting the Communauté urbaine de Montréal (R.S.Q., chapter C-37.2);

(12) section 216 of the Act respecting the Communauté urbaine de Québec (R.S.Q., chapter C-37.3);

(13) section 66 of the Act respecting municipal and intermunicipal transit corporations (R.S.Q., chapter C-70);

(14) section 4 of the Act respecting private education (R.S.Q., chapter E-9.1);

(15) sections 204, 210, 236 and 255 of the Act respecting municipal taxation (R.S.Q., chapter F-2.1);

(16) sections 15, 294 and 296 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., chapter I-13.3);

(17) section 1.3 of the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Éducation (R.S.Q., chapter M-15);

(18) section 5 of the Act respecting the Office Franco-Québécois pour la Jeunesse (R.S.Q., chapter O-5);

(19) section 79.7 of the Police Act (R.S.Q., chapter P-13);

(20) section 6 of the Act respecting the protection of non-smokers in certain public places (R.S.Q., chapter P-38.01);

(21) section 188 of the Consumer Protection Act (R.S.Q., chapter P-40.1);

(22) section 33 of the Act respecting the Naskapi Development Corporation (R.S.Q., chapter S-10.1);

(23) section 42 of the Act respecting the Makivik Corporation (R.S.Q., chapter S-18.1);

(24) section 2 of the Act respecting transportation by taxi (R.S.Q., chapter T-11.1);

(25) sections 168 and 353 of the Act respecting Northern villages and the Kativik Regional Government (R.S.Q., chapter V-6.1);

(26) section 49 of the Act respecting the Société de transport de la Ville de Laval (1984, chapter 42), replaced by section 14 of chapter 17 of the statutes of 1989;

(27) section 62 of the Act respecting the Société de transport de la rive sud de Montréal (1985, chapter 32), replaced by section 15 of chapter 17 of the statutes of 1989;

(28) section 43 of the Act respecting the Société du tourisme du Québec (1994, chapter 27);

(29) section 7 of the Act to foster the development of manpower training (1995, chapter 43).

DIVISION V

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

69. Unless the context indicates otherwise, in any Act and in any regulation, order in council, order, proclamation, ordinance, contract, agreement, accord or other document, a reference to the Minister or the Deputy Minister of International Affairs, Immigration and Cultural Communities or to the Ministère des Affaires internationales, de l'Immigration et des Communautés culturelles is, according to the subject matter, a reference to the Minister or the Deputy Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration or the Ministère des Relations avec les citoyens et de l'Immigration or to the Minister or Deputy Minister of International Relations or the Ministère des Relations internationales.

In such documents, unless the context indicates otherwise, a reference to the Act respecting the Ministère des Affaires internationales, de l'Immigration et des Communautés culturelles or to any of its provisions is, according to the subject matter, a reference to the Act respecting the Ministère des Relations avec les citoyens et de l'Immigration, the Act respecting immigration to Québec, the Act respecting the Ministère des Relations internationales or the corresponding provision of any of the said Acts.

70. The civil status fund established under section 17 of this Act continues, from the date on which it begins its operations, that part of the register fund of the Ministère de la Justice to which subparagraph 2 of the first paragraph of section 32.1 of the Act respecting the Ministère de la Justice (R.S.Q., chapter M-19) applies.

The Government may fix the date for the beginning of the activities of the civil status fund, which shall not be earlier than 1 April 1996.

71. The members of the personnel assigned to the "Immigration and Cultural Communities Program" of the Ministère des Relations internationales, to the registrar of civil status at the Ministère de la Justice, to the youth secretariat and the family secretariat at the

Ministère de la Sécurité du revenu and the members of the personnel of the Conseil du trésor put at the disposal of the Minister responsible for the administration of the Act respecting government services to departments and public bodies (R.S.Q., chapter S-6.1) and assigned to the "Communication-Québec" directorate become, without further formality, members of the personnel of the Ministère des Relations avec les citoyens et de l'Immigration.

72. The appropriations allocated to the "Relations with the Citizens Program" and the "Immigration and Integration Program" are transferred to the Ministère des Relations avec les citoyens et de l'Immigration.

The appropriations allocated to the Conseil du trésor in relation to a function devolving upon the Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration are transferred to the Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration.

73. This Act comes into force on the date to be fixed by the Government.