

**PRESS RELEASE**  
For Immediate Release

Inauguration of Autobus Groupe Séguin's Laval Head Office

**The first ever facility intended for the electrification of school transport, right from its design stage**

Laval, November 21, 2023 – On Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, Autobus Groupe Séguin inaugurated its brand-new head office located at 4300 Louis-B-Mayer Blvd in Laval, joined by its partners, along with Christopher Skeete, Minister for the Economy, Minister Responsible for the Fight Against Racism and Minister Responsible for the Laval Region, Céline Haytayan, Member for Laval-des-Rapides, Virginie Dufour, Member for Mille-Îles, Sona Lakhoyan Olivier, Member for Chomedey, Valerie Schmaltz, Member for Vimont, Flavia Alexandra Novac, City Councillor for the Sainte-Rose district and Representative for the mayor of Laval.

This was an important milestone for the company in rolling out its Vision 2030 to result in the electrification of 100% of its school bus fleet, ultimately reducing GHGs by 6,000 ton a year. To do so, a pilot project conducted with Cléo, a Hydro-Québec subsidiary, made it possible to design the new head office to accommodate nearly 140 charging stations.

For the president of Autobus Séguin, Stéphane Boisvert, this was a proud moment: “We committed to continuing the mission of founder Gérald Séguin, while investing to leave an innovative company for our children. Unprecedented partnerships with organizations involved in transportation electrification made it possible for us to make this project come true. Many thanks to these organizations: Government of Québec, Investissement Québec, Canada Infrastructure Bank, Business Development Bank of Canada, Cléo, City of Laval, Laval économique, Lion Electric, National Bank of Canada, Royal Bank of Canada, Duquette Construction, TLA Architectes, and many others.

**A Forward-Thinking Company**

For Minister Skeete, this is a fine example of an SME modernizing itself: “I am thrilled to attend this inauguration, as I had a front-row seat to see their Vision 2030 come to life. This Laval family of entrepreneurs invests heavily on computerizing its operating systems, creating a training centre, and implementing a full-fledged electric bus charging centre. We are delighted that the government is helping finance this project through its subsidies to purchase electric buses and contribute to its subsidiary, Investissement Québec, as well as Cléo's technical support. As a Member for Laval, I see this company transporting our young students to our schools every day.”

City Councillor Novac added: “In Laval, transportation accounts for nearly 70% of GHGs across the board. I am therefore extremely pleased to support the deployment of a company focused on ecological transition. We are all very proud to see this company – which has been operating in our region for over 50 years – commit to such a significant environmental shift.”

## **Electrifying an Industry**

As for Cléo's CEO, Jeff Desruisseaux, this achievement is promising for the future: "This is a great achievement for this company, which dove in headfirst with us to electrify its fleet of vehicles without having to worry about charging management. Cléo handles the entire charging infrastructure, including the site design, installation, operation, and maintenance, thus allowing them to focus on their core mission. What's more, our intelligent platform automatically generates charging plans for vehicles so that they receive the right amount of energy to complete their route, at the best cost."

"Electrifying the bus transport industry has its own major challenges," says Stéphane Lefebvre, President of the Bus Carriers Federation. "The transition from thermal to electric vehicles comes with a series of adjustments. Our sector's processes need to be reviewed and Autobus Séguin's experience will inspire the entire industry to ensure the success of this important transition for society."

- 30 -

## **About Autobus Groupe Séguin**

Issued from the merger of three companies in December 2019, Autobus Groupe Séguin now has nearly 350 drivers for a fleet of over 330 vehicles. Every day, the company serves 30,000 people from 7 school service centres in the greater metropolitan area, including Montreal, Laval, Lanaudière and the Laurentians.

Source: Autobus Groupe Séguin

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Caption, from left to right:

Yanick Séguin, Co-Owner of Autobus Groupe Séguin, Emmanuelle Toussaint, Vice-President Marketing for Cléo, Janys Séguin, Co-Owner of Autobus Groupe Séguin, Flavia Alexandra Novac, City Councillor for the Sainte-Rose district and Representative for the mayor of Laval, Sona Lakhoyan Olivier, Member for Chomedey, Christopher Skeete, Minister for the Economy, Minister Responsible for the Fight Against Racism and Minister Responsible for the Laval Region, Valérie Schmaltz, Member for Vimont, Céline Haytayan, Member for Laval-des-Rapides, Virginie Dufour, Member for Mille-Îles, Stéphane Boisvert, President and Co-Owner of Autobus Groupe Séguin, Stéphane Lefebvre, President of the Bus Carriers Federation.