



**PRESS RELEASE**  
For immediate release

## **KEOLIS CANADA BECOMES LARGEST OPERATOR OF ALL-ELECTRIC TYPE C SCHOOL BUSES IN NORTH AMERICA**

**Montreal, December 13, 2018** – Keolis Canada is proud to announce that it has ordered 12 all-electric Type C school buses from The Lion Electric Co., which represents one of the largest transactions in the Quebec truck and bus manufacturer's history. This transaction is on track with public opinion, as 92% of Quebecers want school boards and schools to increase their use of electric buses. With this order, Keolis Canada will become the operator of the most Type C electric school buses. Type C is the standard school-bus model in North America with a 72-seat capacity.

### **A strong partnership continues**

In 2016, Keolis Canada purchased two LionC electric school buses from The Lion Electric Co. After two years of successful operation, Keolis Canada has renewed its confidence in the Quebec manufacturer by purchasing 12 new electric school buses. The vehicles will be deployed starting in 2019 on Montreal's North Shore, specifically in the territory of the Commission scolaire des Affluents.

Keolis Canada's 14 electric school buses with a 72-passenger capacity will travel 448,000 kilometres a year and transport 770 students from the Commission scolaire des Affluents school board. Their range is up to 250 km per charge. Overall, these 14 buses will allow the company to cut 3,864 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> over the vehicles' lifetimes.

With this new purchase, Keolis Canada is showing its commitment to sustainable mobility through enduring, innovative and effective transportation solutions. The order that Keolis Canada announced today is in line with its desire to be a key player in territories that want to speed up their energy transition and to work with them to develop the best sustainable mobility solutions for their local constraints.

The LionC electric buses and their recognizable blue bumpers are manufactured and fully assembled in Quebec, in Saint-Jérôme. They are the only electric Type C school vehicles manufactured in North America that can provide optimal transportation conditions in any weather.

### **Quebeckers want electric transportation**

In the context of this transaction, The Lion Electric Co. surveyed Quebeckers and received a clear message: they want more electric transportation.

- 92% of Quebeckers think that electric transportation is a good way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- 93% think that governments should encourage the electrification of transportation.
- 93% think that switching from diesel buses to electric buses would improve air quality.
- 87% think that diesel bus emissions have a negative impact on the health of children who take these vehicles.

### **Quotes**

"We are very excited to transport a new generation of Quebec children in the Lanaudière region with these electric school buses. Keolis is actively engaged in promoting better living in the territories it serves and puts a lot of energy into developing and deploying new electric transportation methods because, for us, they represent the future of public transit and our vision of the transportation of tomorrow."

*Patrick Gilloux, President and Chief Operating Officer of Keolis Canada*



“The Commission scolaire des Affluents is very pleased that our transporter, Keolis Canada, has purchased these electric buses to use in our territory. Thanks to this initiative, every day hundreds of children will be taken to school and back home in an environment that is healthier for them and for the planet.”

*Thomas Duzyk, Chair of the Commission scolaire des Affluents*

“We are very pleased to work with Keolis Canada on its commitment to sustainable transportation. We hope that this transaction inspires anyone looking for an economical, sustainable and environmentally friendly transportation solution to turn to electrification.”

*Marc Bédard, President-Founder of The Lion Electric Co.*

### **About Keolis Canada**

Keolis Canada specializes in intercity; urban; light rail; autonomous shuttle; traditional, adapted, and electric school; airport; and charter passenger transportation services. Keolis Canada offers safe and reliable high-quality service, thanks to a team of over 900 experienced employees. The company operates a fleet of 410 vehicles, including 14 light rail cars with the upcoming launch of the Keolis Grand River operation in Ontario. Keolis Canada transports almost 10 million passengers and more than 1 million packages per year.

### **About the Keolis Group**

Leading the way in public transport, Keolis partners with public decision makers to make shared mobility an asset for cities and their communities.

Internationally recognised as the leading operator of trams and automated metros, Keolis adopts an innovative approach with all its partners and subsidiaries (Kisio, LeCab, EFFIA, Keolis Santé and Cykleo) to develop new forms of shared and customised mobility, and reinforce its core business across a range of transport modes including trains, buses, coaches, trolleybuses, shared private hire vehicles, river shuttles, ferries, cycles, car sharing services, electric autonomous vehicles and urban cable cars. In France, Keolis is now the leader in medical transport services through the creation of Keolis Santé in July 2017 and positioned as the number two car park operator, through its subsidiary EFFIA.

The company is 70% owned by SNCF and 30% by the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (CDPQ). Keolis employs 63,000 people in 16 countries\* and recorded revenue of 5.4 billion euros in 2017. Each year, over 3 billion passengers worldwide use one of the shared mobility services offered by Keolis. [www.keolis.com](http://www.keolis.com)

\*Historically based in France, Keolis has expanded its operations in Germany, Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, India, Luxembourg, Norway, the Netherlands, Portugal, Qatar, Sweden, the UK and the USA.

### **About The Lion Electric Co.**

The Lion Electric Co. is an innovative manufacturer of zero-emission vehicles. It conceives, designs and produces all-electric buses and minibuses for school, adapted, and public transportation as well as electric commercial trucks. It is a leader in electric transportation in North America.

Lion designs and assembles all of its vehicle components, which include the chassis, battery packs, body, and powertrain.

At the cutting edge of technology, Lion vehicles have unique characteristics that are specially adapted to the daily needs of their users. The company is convinced that the transition to fully



electric vehicles will lead to major improvements in our community, our environment and our quality of life.

TOGETHER, LET'S DRIVE POWER IN PROGRESS.

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**Source:**

Marie H el ene Cloutier  
Vice-President, Passenger Experience, Sales  
and Marketing  
Keolis Canada

The Lion Electric Co.

**Information and media contacts:**

Rapha elle Cyr-Leli evre  
Account Director  
Hill+Knowlton Strategies  
Phone: 418-425-0986  
Cell: 418-580-0040  
Email: raphaelle.cyr-lelievre@hkstrategies.ca

Marie-Pier C ot e  
Senior Advisor  
TACT Intelligence-conseil  
Phone: 418-529-3223, extension 236  
Cell: 418-999-4847  
Email: mpcote@tactconseil.ca