

Renewal of SEVL-2815 collective agreement in Laurentien region (Gatineau)

**Pierre Karl Péladeau meets federal Minister of Labour**

**GATINEAU, August 9, 2024** - Pierre Karl Péladeau, President and CEO of Quebecor and Videotron, has met with the Honourable Steven MacKinnon, federal Minister of Labour and Seniors and MP for Gatineau, to discuss the renewal of Videotron's collective agreement with Local SEVL-2815 in the Laurentien region (Gatineau).

Mr. Péladeau made the following statement regarding the status of the negotiations:

"In the current situation, we feel it is important to set the record straight. We believe that significant progress has been made at the bargaining table. More than 95% of the collective agreement has been settled, including all salary clauses, the duration of the agreement, outsourcing and the filling of job openings. As we have repeatedly stated, we have committed to no layoffs in job categories where we outsource. Videotron currently has more than 350 open positions at its call centres. We therefore need to find alternative solutions to the hiring challenges affecting our entire highly competitive industry. This will enable Videotron to continue providing the best customer service and offering all Canadians high-quality products at the best prices in the marketplace.

The union remains intransigent on the two main outstanding issues: the terms of union leave at the employer's expense and the grievance procedure. The employer is asking for improvements in view of the fact that there are currently more than 500 active grievances for the 214 employees in Gatineau, compared with 10 active grievances for the 800 employees at the two units in eastern Québec and Saguenay represented by Local SEVL-1417.

Quebecor works with more than 24 different unions at its subsidiaries and has renewed more than 50 collective agreements over the past 15 years without a labour dispute.

After 30 bargaining, mediation and conciliation sessions, Videotron still wants to find a way to reach an agreement quickly, in the interest of its employees."

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**About Videotron**

**Videotron**, a wholly owned subsidiary of **Quebecor Media Inc.**, is an integrated communications company engaged in television, entertainment, Internet access, wireline telephone and mobile telephone services. With the acquisition of Freedom Mobile Inc., Videotron became Canada's fourth strong and competitive national mobile carrier. As of June 30, 2024, Videotron and Freedom had a combined total of 3,918,600 mobile lines. Videotron is also a leader in new technologies with its **Helix** home entertainment and management platform, and is the Québec leader in high-speed Internet access. As of June 30, 2024, Videotron had 1,321,900 subscribers to its television service, 1,722,500 subscribers to its Internet service, and 643,400 connections to its wireline telephony service. In Léger's 2024 Reputation survey, Videotron was ranked the most respected telecom provider in Québec for the 18<sup>th</sup> time since 2006.

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