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### **Saint-Hubert-Longueuil Airport: Jean-Marc Léveillé Wants a Center of Excellence and Research in Aeronautics and Aerospace**

**Longueuil, June 16, 2021** — The mayoral candidate of Longueuil Citoyen, Jean-Marc Léveillé, presents a concrete vision of the development of the Saint-Hubert-Longueuil airport zone. Focused on workforce training and innovation in aeronautics and aerospace on environmental technologies, this vision would completely renounce commercial development oriented towards passenger traffic, as presented by the administration of Développement Aéroport Saint-Hubert-Longueuil (DASH-L) last winter at the Chambre de commerce et d'industrie de la Rive-Sud (CCIRS).

“The airport is here to stay, that means there will always be planes in the sky and Longueuil has no control over that. But we can choose a development that will lead to less heavy, less noisy, less polluting aircraft traffic and, above all, that does not affect our nights sleep. My team and I have chosen to prioritize high added value development in new technologies to put the economic development of the airport back at the service of citizens of all neighborhoods.”

The establishment of an aeronautics and aerospace training and research center on the development of new environmental technologies will lead to the development of new SMEs in the sector of air transport electrification, new materials and artificial intelligence. A new technology business start-up center could in particular be supported by Développement économique de l'Agglomération de Longueuil (DEL). To achieve this, Jean-Marc Léveillé intends to capitalize on the important assets already available to the airport area for this type of development. “I say what I do and I do what I say, that means I can explain my strategy to achieve our goal”, said Jean-Marc Léveillé.

#### **A winning strategy:**

The industrial park in the airport zone currently has several vacant sites or sites to be redeveloped. Saint-Hubert can also already count on the presence of major players in the aeronautics and aerospace cluster, including Pratt & Whitney, Héroux Devtek, the École nationale d'aérotechnique (ENA) and the Canadian Space Agency. Jean-Marc Léveillé wishes to consolidate Longueuil's position.

“Businesses are attracted first and foremost by the availability of skilled labor. Workers and students, on the other hand, are drawn to the environment in which they will be able to work, study and live. The creation of welcoming living and working environments around

the airport therefore becomes a priority of the airport's industrial development strategy. In economic terms, we attract what we build, which is good, since land use planning is a responsibility of the City. I think we cannot afford not to invest in beauty and architecture to develop world-class facilities. The rest will depend a lot on the credibility of the next mayor, on his ability to seize business opportunities and obtain commitments from partners", continued Jean-Marc Léveillé.

**The governance of DASH-L:**

The Saint-Hubert-Longueuil airport is currently managed by DASH-L, a non-profit organization totally independent from a democratic body. In the eyes of Jean-Marc Léveillé, this lack of accountability is a major obstacle to any development of the airport.

"I do not question the quality or competence of the current directors of DASH-L in any way, but citizens must be able to exercise some control over the development of the airport for a vision to ever be successful. The issue of DASH-L governance will have to be resolved once and for all. This is essential to ensure the legitimacy of the decisions taken by the organization, and to put in place a real policy to reduce noise from current and future activities at the airport", concluded Jean-Marc Léveillé.

Jean-Marc Léveillé is currently the only candidate to take a position on airport issues.

**Jean-Marc Léveillé in brief:**

Founder of several successful organizations, including *Dotemtex Recherche de Cadres*, *Elitis Pharma INC.*, *PROSYGMA Services professionnels en maintenance et fiabilité* and cofounder of *Services Animaliers de la Rive-Sud* (Proanima). He notably was Director of Human Resources at Héroux Devtek, CEO of the Orchestre symphonique de Longueuil (OSDL) and President of Anima-Québec until May 2021. He was also President of the organizing committee for funding of the Carrefour pour Elle organization.