



## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

### **A statement by Chief Ghislain Picard following the announcement of Sophie Brochu's resignation as CEO of Hydro-Québec**

Wendake, January 11, 2023 – On behalf of the Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador (AFNQL), Chief Ghislain Picard wishes to respond to the announcement of Sophie Brochu's resignation as CEO of Hydro-Québec, who will be stepping down in April 2023.

*"It is with a certain level of concern that I have learned of Sophie Brochu's resignation as CEO of Hydro-Québec. Quebec's largest government-owned corporation must take into account the fact that it owes its success to the exploitation of resources found on unceded or treaty territories of First Nations.*

*Sophie Brochu is an important ally to the First Nations, having adopted a relationship approach that contrasts greatly with that of her predecessors. She recognizes the importance of the inclusion of First Nations in the corporation's development projects, both in terms of environmental and socio-economic impacts.*

*During the Grand Economic Circle of Indigenous Peoples and Quebec, Sophie Brochu said she "wanted to deepen and solidify our dialogue with the First Nations and the Inuit Nation, to define our common objectives and decide together of the path that will lead us to their achievement."*

*On behalf of the AFNQL and my colleagues, I would like to thank Mrs. Brochu for her work, hoping that her successor will continue down the path she has laid out. With this in mind, the AFNQL would certainly like to see the next CEO of Hydro-Québec adopt an approach similar to the one developed under the leadership of Mrs. Brochu.*

*I therefore ask the Government of Quebec to consider the concerns of First Nations when choosing Hydro-Québec's next CEO.»*

#### **About the AFNQL**

The Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador is the political organization that brings together 43 First Nations chiefs in Quebec and Labrador.

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