

**THE LARGEST INDEPENDENT VIDEO GAMES COOPERATIVE IN THE
WORLD IS FORMED IN QUEBEC**

Montreal, Tuesday, April 5, 2016 – *La Guilde des développeurs de jeux vidéo indépendants du Québec* is proud to announce its official launch, thus becoming the largest independent video games cooperative in the world. In response to the continuous establishment of new independent studios, *La Guilde* has come up with a cooperative model to support their growth while simultaneously generating collective wealth.

“In the past 5 years, the number of independent video game studios in Quebec has quadrupled”, highlights Louis-Félix Cauchon, president of *La Guilde des développeurs de jeux vidéos indépendants du Québec*. “The main goal of *La Guilde* is to give to Quebec’s independent studios a strong and united voice, and ultimately support them in the creation of collective wealth”.

Today, *La Guilde des développeurs de jeux vidéo indépendants du Québec* rallies more than 75 independent studios whose ownership lies in Quebec. It is the equivalent of \$18 million in salaries thanks to 600 positions created both directly and indirectly.

La Guilde was created to support the growth of independent studios and to promote their expansion in the context of stakeholders and interests diversification. The local developers were looking for an efficient way to pool their resources while preserving their own creativity. They naturally chose a cooperative-based model, well-known in Quebec, to help them address their specific needs.

Support Diversity With Innovation

Since cooperatives is a concrete example of a social economy enterprise, the directors of *La Guilde* work together with Jean-Martin Aussant and his team at *Chantier de l'économie sociale* to complete various projects. With their support, *La Guilde* has developed a code of values that follows international cooperative principles, such as a voluntary and open membership as well as a democratic member control.

La Guilde has developed partnerships with many organizations and corporations alike, notably the *Quartier des spectacles*, *PME MTL*, *Emploi-Québec*, *LJT Lawyers*, *Deloitte*, *Audiokinetic*, *Montreal Comiccon*, *GamePlay Space*, *Effects MTL 2016*, and the *NAD Center*.

About *La Guilde*

La Guilde des développeurs de jeux vidéo indépendants du Québec is a non-profit cooperative whose role is to ensure the success of Quebec's video game studios. Its mission is to support the prosperity and the longevity of the industry by providing breeding grounds for innovation and for the creations of local developers. *La Guilde* intends to be a lasting solution to the independent video games developers' needs. It focuses mainly on the sharing of knowledge, the pooling of services, the exercise of a collective purchasing power, etc. *La Guilde* is the largest independent video games cooperative in the world.

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Information:

www.laguilde.quebec/en/

www.twitter.com/LaGuildeQuebec

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