



Starting November 5, the STL's Regular Network Becomes More Accessible!

Laval, Monday, October 31, 2011 — Jean-Jacques Beldié, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Société de transport de Laval (STL), is proud to announce that the STL's regular network will become more accessible starting November 5. In fact, people in wheelchairs and on electric scooters (3- and 4-wheel) will be able to use the STL's regular network from now on, thanks to buses equipped with an access ramp.

This service is for transit users who can get on and off the bus **autonomously**, either by themselves or with the assistance of their companion. It doesn't replace paratransit service, which is still available for people who prefer it or whose special needs require it.

This new service will be phased in on a gradual basis, as the STL equips itself with buses that have an access ramp in front. At the moment, accessible stops are identified with a pictogram of a wheelchair both at the bus stop itself and on the STL's website. Please note that to begin with, the service will be available on the **60 bus route only**, on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

The STL is **inviting** the people concerned to come and test the access ramp on Friday, November 4, 2011, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., in the parking lot of Le Carrefour terminus, at platform no. 12, located at 3000 du boulevard Le Carrefour in Laval.

"We're more and more attentive to our transit users' needs and demands. We understand their expectations as well as those of our potential riders. We're striving to implement services that are efficient for our transit users all over Laval," pointed out STL Chairman Jean-Jacques Beldié.

The Association lavalloise pour le transport adapté (ALTA) is very enthusiastically welcoming this news. In fact, ALTA is encouraging everyone interested in this service to visit the STL's website (at www.stl.laval.qc.ca), under the *Services & fares* section, in order to consult the section on accessible stops within the regular network. A pamphlet entitled *User Guide* is also available. Don't hesitate to request a copy by contacting our Customer Contact Centre at 450 688-6520.

The STL, facts and figures

- ◆ The STL operates over 20-million runs annually.
- ◆ The STL has rolled out its *STLSynchro* system, which informs transit users, in real time, about bus schedules and progress along the routes.
- ◆ The overhaul of its bus network, made necessary by the extension of the metro to Laval, gave rise to a 32% increase in service, faster trips, more direct bus routes and a greater frequency of buses outside rush hours, on evenings and weekends.
- ◆ The STL has also joined forces with the Association québécoise de lutte contre la pollution atmosphérique, Communauto and the Carpooling Network, to promote sustainable transportation in Laval.
- ◆ All vehicles on its fleet use biodiesel B5.
- ◆ The STL is registered on Twitter and has its own page on Facebook, where it announces service notices.
- ◆ The STL offers riders the opportunity to register on My STL in order to receive notices on the bus routes that they usually take.
- ◆ Since the roll-out, in 2009, of its vehicle scheduling control system, the STL's on-time performance rates continue to improve, and to date, has succeeded in achieving rates of over 92%.
- ◆ The STL has received a number of awards of distinction, including one from the AQTR in 2010: the Grand Prix for excellence in mass transit, positioning it as an outstanding corporation.
- ◆ In 2011, the STL was honoured with the AQTR's general public communication award for its *Smog Alert* program.

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