PRESS RELEASE:

Hear Entendre Québec Celebrates National Accessibility Week

(May 30, 2021 - Montréal) - Today marks the beginning of National Accessibility week, where no one with a disability should be left behind. Hear Québec is taking this opportunity to raise awareness and call on all businesses and organizations to come up with innovative ideas about how to really make it an accessible week.

With the gradual deconfining measures taken by the government of Québec and the opening of restaurants and other summer activities, businesses should be mindful of people with hearing loss and those who are hard of hearing.

"We all have the right to services, and this includes people with disabilities," says Heidy Wager. She adds, "businesses and organisations in our community should be mindful and think of ways to make sure that our hard of hearing community members are not left behind."

With the introduction of bill C-81 on June 19 2019 which "enhances full and equal participation of all persons, especially persons with disabilities, in society," the community should use this opportunity to:

- Celebrate the valuable contribution of people with disabilities and
- Recognize the efforts of individuals, communities, and workspaces that are actively working to remove barriers to accessibility and inclusion.

Hear Entendre Québec is thankful to all of its partners, employees, and members for their support during these hard times.

Sincerely,

For more information please contact:

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ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION: Hear Québec is the only non-profit registered charity serving the anglophone community affected by hearing loss in Québec. For the first 35 years Hear Québec was completely volunteer driven for 35 years by people with hearing loss. Now more than 40 years later, we have grown but this dedication to see improvement in the quality of life

of those with hearing loss is what gave birth to this organization that stands with the hard of hearing community to this day. Making the most of the hearing we have is at the very core of everything we do.

Many of our staff, board of directors, volunteers, and stage students are affected by hearing loss. We understand and are concerned with the struggles that people with hearing difficulties often experience in their daily lives. Hear Québec strives to bring about awareness within the community and shed light on the invisibility of hearing loss. Many people are also unaware of their own risk of becoming hard of hearing or the impacts of untreated hearing loss. We offer an array of programs and services to those affected by hearing loss, the greater community, as well as, give presentations about Noise-Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL) that help prevent hearing loss in future generations.

We focus on improving well-being by providing a trusted source for hearing health information, peer mentoring and support, and an accessible community to reduce social isolation. Members and others seeking our support come from all across the Island of Montréal, Laval, and the South Shore. To learn more about us please visit our website at www.hearhear.org