

# Green battery production. It's all powered by Québec.

For a stable and secure supply  
from North America to the world





# Why invest in battery manufacturing in Québec?



**A strategic location within the North American EV market,** with efficient intermodal transportation services



**Lowest electricity rates in North America** and most reliable grid, **powered by 99% renewable energy**



**World class innovation hub,** with **40+ research organizations**, such as Hydro-Québec's Center of Excellence



**Numerous free trade agreements** facilitating trade between battery manufacturers and OEMs



**Abundant natural resources essential for battery production:** Lithium, graphite, titanium, phosphate, cobalt, etc.



**Strong government support** and many **attractive tax credits and incentives**



**Proximity to “Auto Alley” rail links** and **~65% of North America’s cell manufacturing capacity**



**A sustainable ecosystem** with a clean and traceable supply chain, an ethical exploitation of mineral resources, etc.



**Nearly 30% cost advantage on salaries** for battery manufacturing employers

# An economy built on a strong foundation favorable to the development of the battery industry



**Strong government support for the industry with the implementation of a battery strategy**



**Many attractive and stable incentive programs:** R&D, tax incentives, electricity rebates, etc.



**Québec is No. 1 for vehicle electrification in Canada\*** thanks to numerous public policies to promote the electrification of transportation



**Stable political landscape focused on supporting the energy transition and their actors**



**Foreign-investor friendly jurisdiction in OECD country with strong credit ratings** (Aa2 credit rating for Québec)



Aerial view of the industrial park of Bécancour © Olivier Croteau



National Assembly of Québec

\* Registration of zero-emission vehicles in Canada, 2020.  
Source: Statistics Canada, 2021; Moody's, 2019.

# Québec located strategically within the North American EV market

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**Tariff-free trade with battery and OEM manufacturers** providing security from supply chain disruption and mitigating geopolitical risks

In the U.S. through the **CUSMA**  
In APAC through the **CPTPP**  
In the EU through the **CETA**  
In South Korea through the **CKFTA**

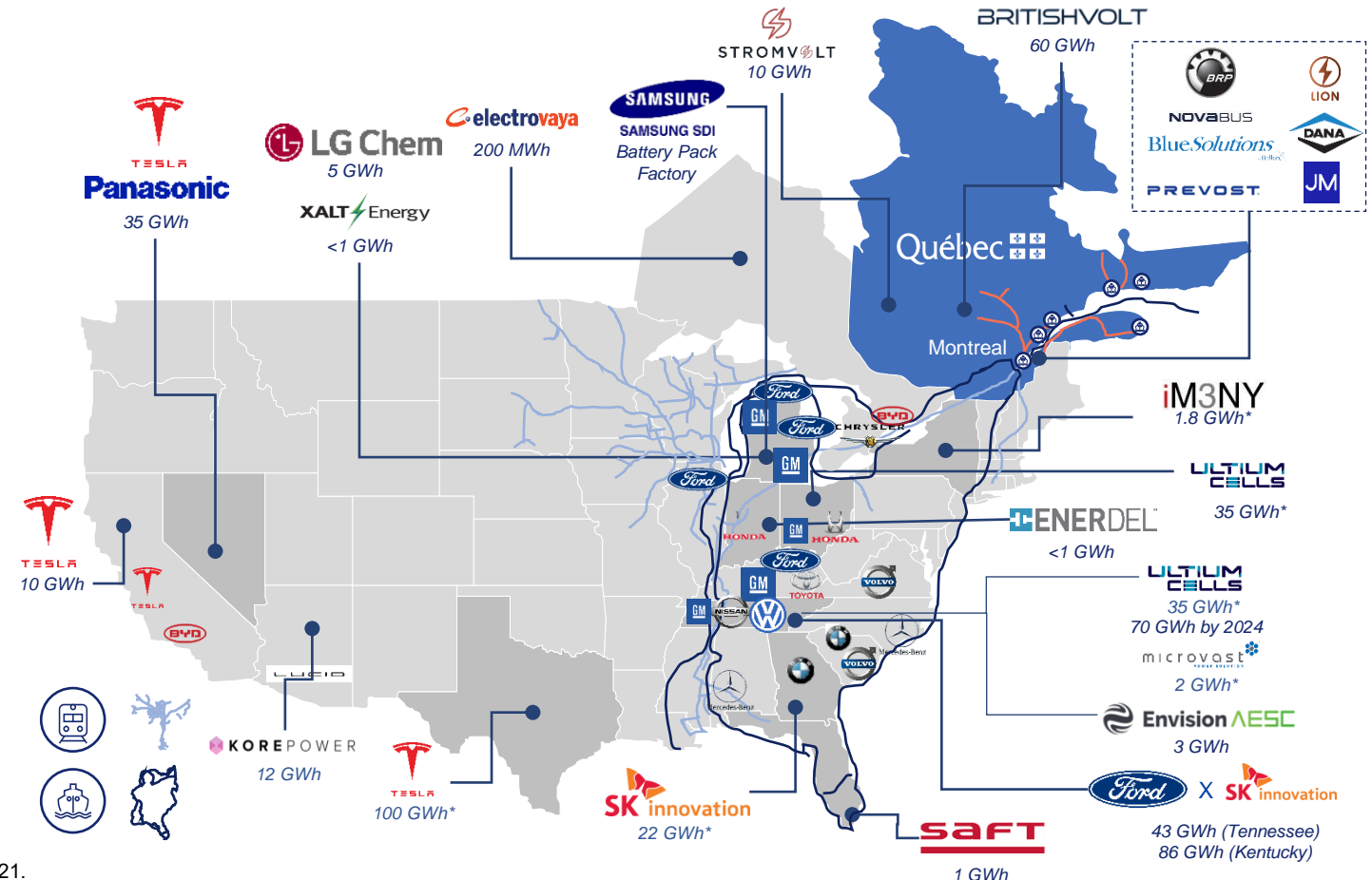
**Proximity to “Auto Alley” rail links and ~65% of North America’s cell manufacturing capacity**

**Multiple deep-sea ports with the shortest route from Europe to North America**

\* Announced Capacity.

Source: Québec Government Market Study, “Bloomberg Electric Vehicle Outlook”, 2019 and 2021.

## North American battery cell manufacturing landscape Company announcements, 2019-2021



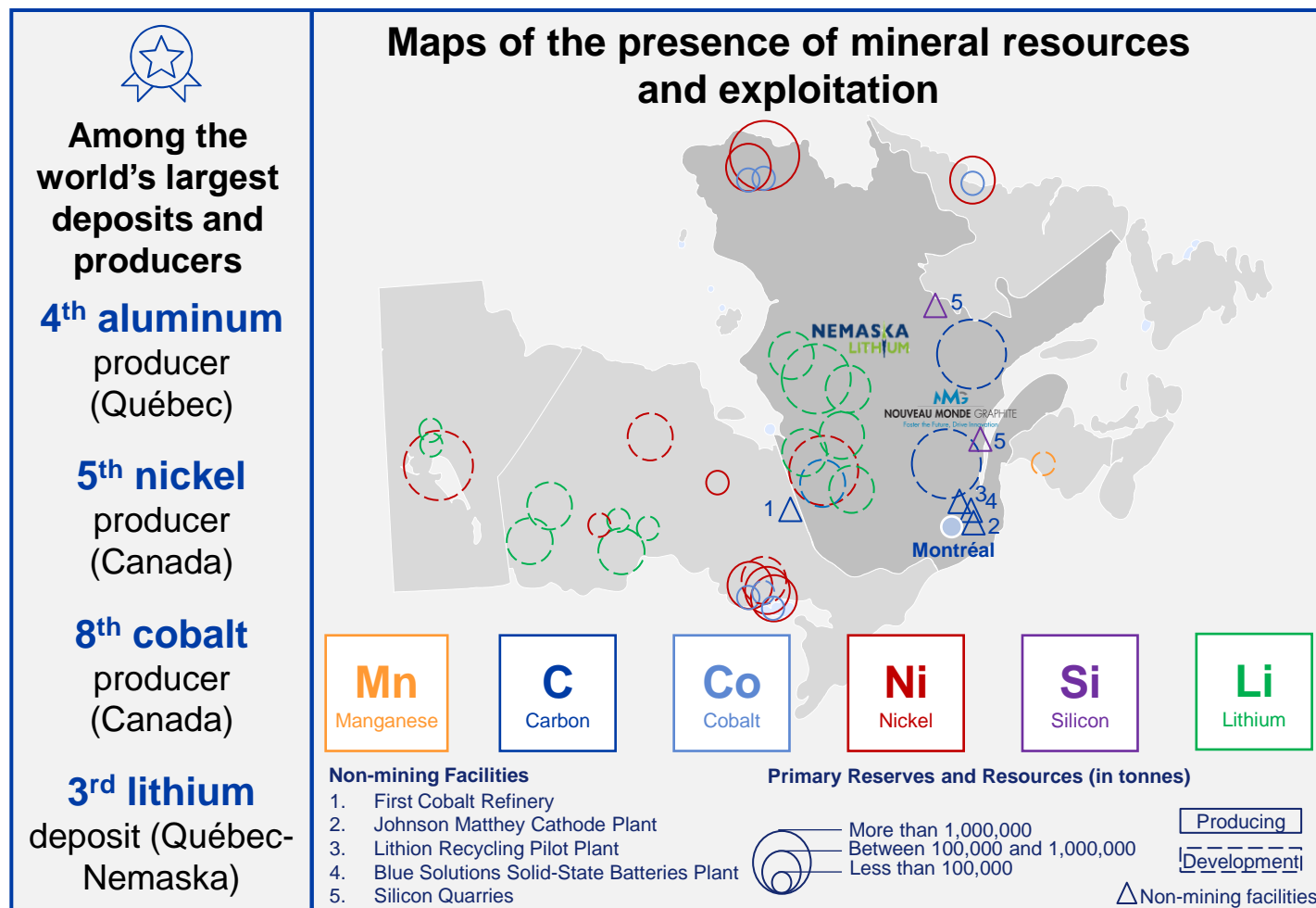
# All key mineral resources for battery manufacturing can be mined locally

## Ethical and green operations

- **Ethical exploitation of mineral resources**, such as cobalt production
- **Development of revolutionary transformation processes**, such as the elimination of all GES directly related to aluminum production (Elysis project)

## A strategic location within the manufacturing supply chain

- **Lower transport costs due to the region's own mining supply**
- Reduction of dependence on material imports from Asia and Australia
- **Security of supply through IQ's participation in key operations and projects**, reducing the material supply deficits expected from 2023



Source: AluQuébec, 2020; Government of Canada, "Nickel facts", 2019; US Geological Survey, "World Mine Production and Reserves", 2021; Propulsion Québec, 2019; S&P Market Intelligence, Québec Government Market Study.



# Leveraging Québec's low-cost hydropower to meet OEMs' net zero carbon targets

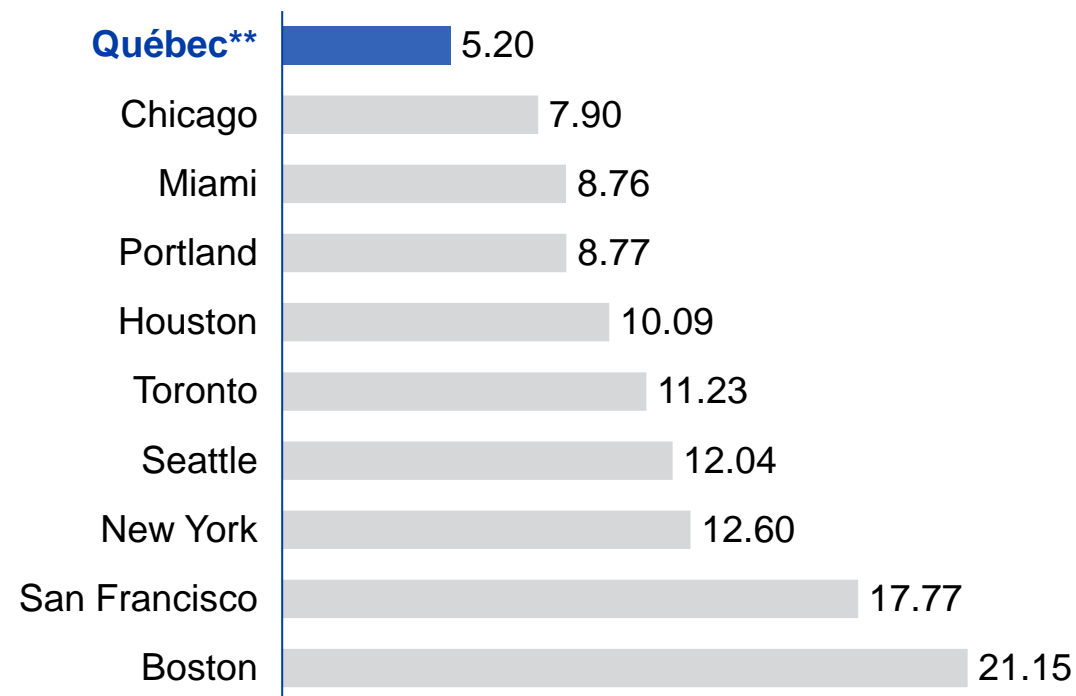


**No. 1 in North America for the lowest and most stable rates** for large power consumers

- Hydro-Québec, a Crown corporation, **is one of the world's leading hydropower producers**
- **99%** of the electricity in Québec is produced from **clean, renewable sources**
- **Preferential rates** also granted to **large consumers of energy**

## Average electricity rates—Large power customers\*, ¢/kWh (before taxes), CA\$

Selected metropolitan areas in Canada and the U.S., April 2020



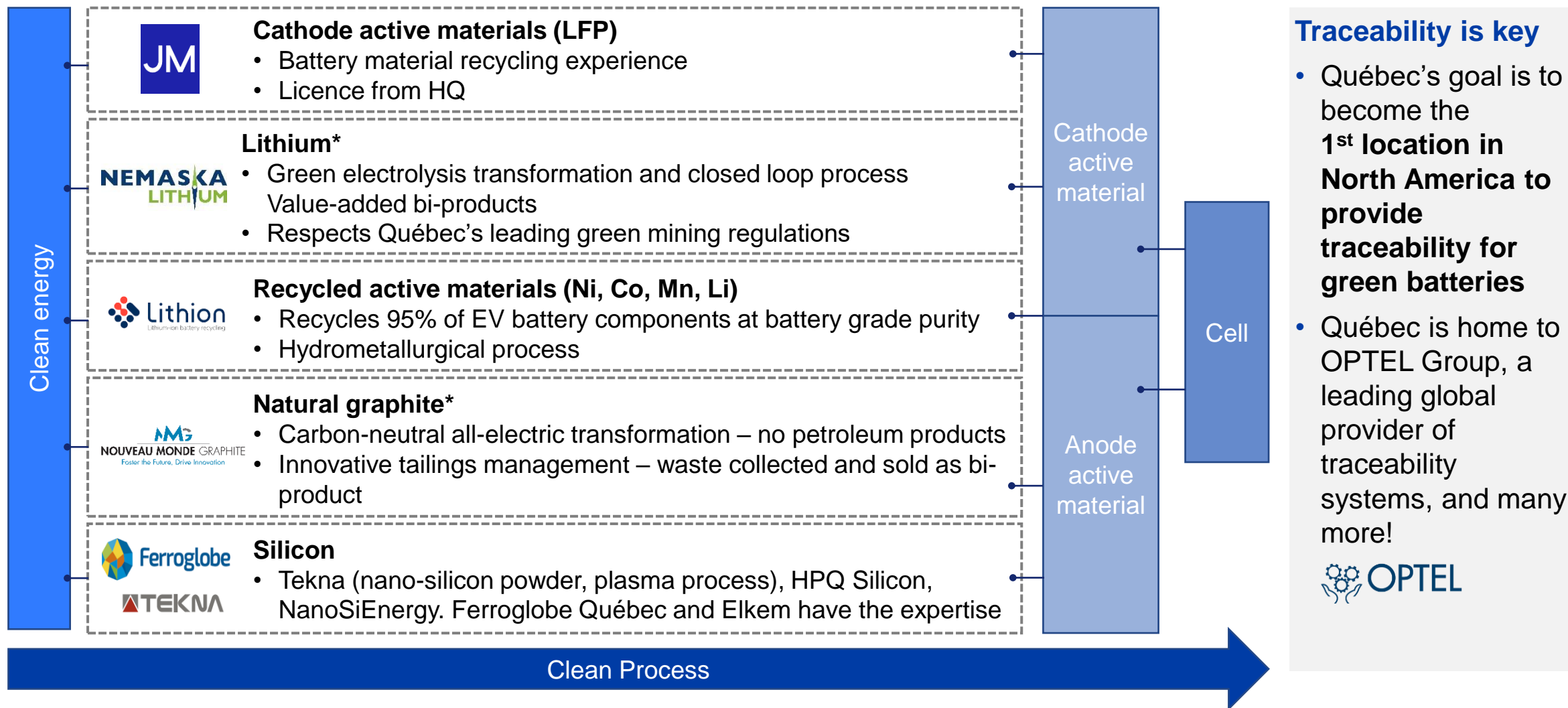
\* According to Hydro-Québec's estimate based on 3,060,000 kWh of usage, 5,000 kW of power and a 85% load factor.

\*\* The electricity rate is the same for all of Québec; there is no rate variation based on region or municipality.

Source: Hydro-Québec, "Comparison of Electricity Prices in Major North American Cities—Rates in effect April 1, 2020".

# Developing a uniquely clean and traceable supply chain

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\* In development.

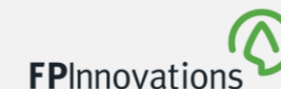
Source: Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles, "Québec Plan for the Development of Critical and Strategic Minerals 2020-2025 (QPDCSM)", 2021.

# A world class innovation hub for battery materials with more than 40 R&D players across the entire value chain

- **Hydro-Québec's Center of Excellence in Transportation Electrification and Energy Storage** a leader in battery technology
- **Among the Top 10 in the world for IP related to Lithium-ion battery** and **40+ years experience in R&D** for electric transportation and storage
- **Access to 2000+ patents, of which 110+ are related specifically to the battery and 60+ licenses provided**
- **+250 scientific publications** by over 100 researchers with exclusivity rights available
- **Local and international R&D partnerships**, such as the U.S. Army Research Laboratory on Li-ion cells or Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory



## Examples of research centers and consortium



Source: IREQ, 2021; Center of Excellence in Transportation Electrification and Energy Storage, 2021.



# A large pool of skilled workers and many students ready to take over

Example of occupations related to the sector (all industries combined)	Employees, 2019
Production supervisor	28,700
Industrial, manufacturing and mechanical engineering technologists and technicians	18,800
Mechanical, electrical and electronic engineers	18,400
Industrial electricians and electromechanics	15,500
Machinists and machining and tooling inspectors	13,300
Electronic and electrical engineering technicians	11,700
Assemblers and testers in the manufacture of electrical and electronic equipment, appliances and accessories	11,000
Supervisors in manufacturing and assembly	10,900
Chemists and chemical engineers	5,600
Industrial and manufacturing engineers	5,200
Production logistics coordinators	2,700
Supervisors in metal and mineral processing	1,800

– And many more!

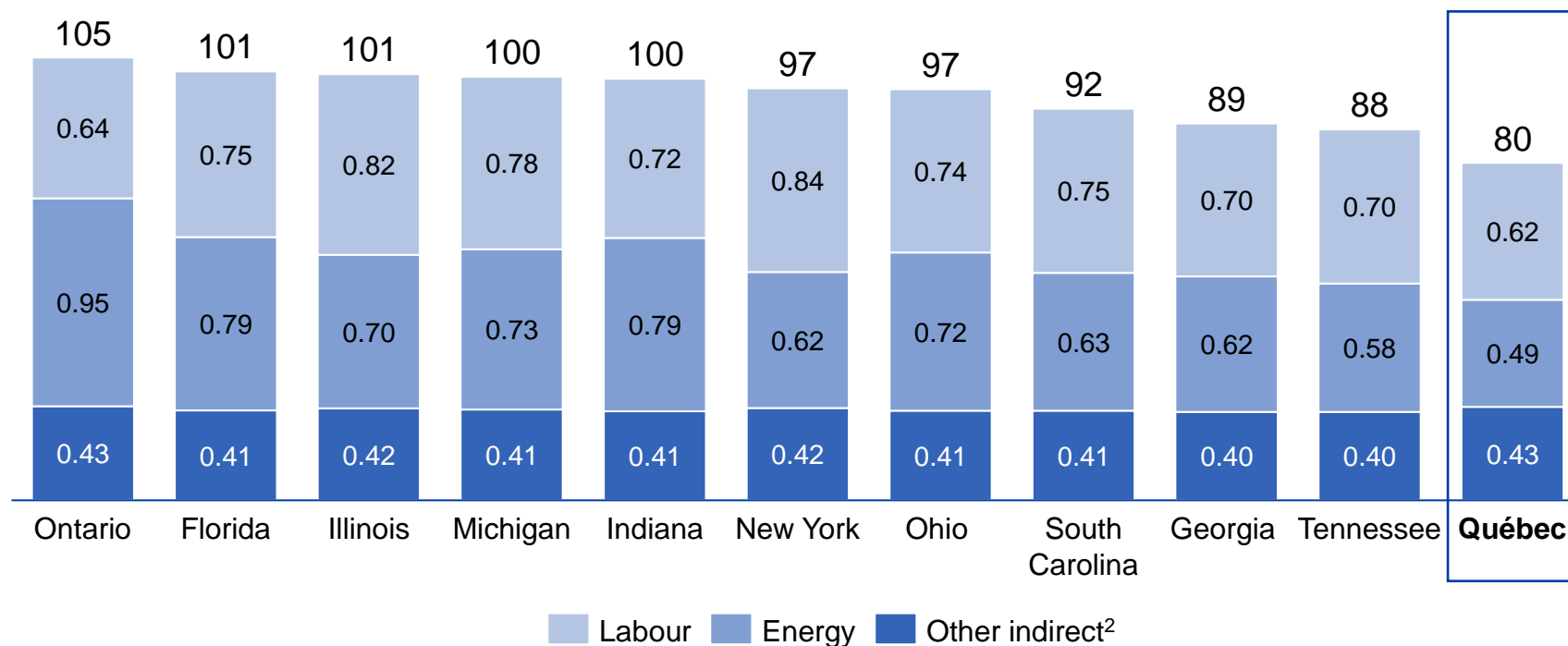
- A large pool of workers skilled in manufacturing, electronics and chemistry
- Close to 18,000 students enrolled in battery manufacturing-related programs (chemistry, chemical engineering, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, physics engineering)
- 18 universities and nearly 140 colleges, with campuses spread out over Québec, such as:



Source: Statistics Canada, special compilation based on data from Labour Force Survey, 2019; Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur, 2021

# Some of the lowest operating costs in Canada and the United States

**Cathode<sup>1</sup> cost by location in 2030 (base case),  
% of estimated Michigan Total Costs**



**20-25%  
lower costs of  
operation costs<sup>3</sup>**  
than Ontario,  
Michigan and Ohio  
achieved through  
Québec's low  
energy cost

Note: <sup>1</sup>Assuming NMC 8.1.1.; <sup>2</sup>Includes chemicals processing and waste disposal; <sup>3</sup>Except raw material costs.  
Source: Market Study for the Québec Government, 2020.

# A cost-advantage of nearly 30% on salaries for battery manufacturing employer

**Median annual salaries (USD\*) for 5 occupations in the battery manufacturing sector**  
Selected U.S. and Canadian cities, 2021

	Montréal	Cleveland	Austin	Reno	Albany	Detroit	San Francisco
Battery Scientist	<b>\$74,004</b>	\$102,725	\$105,404	\$94,631	\$103,882	\$101,184	\$121,100
Production Engineer	<b>\$64,336</b>	\$88,162	\$89,424	\$81,024	\$89,145	\$86,629	\$103,537
Battery Engineer	<b>\$55,588</b>	\$86,566	\$87,669	\$79,534	\$87,513	\$85,029	\$101,618
Logistics analyst	<b>\$49,664</b>	\$58,907	\$59,315	\$56,834	\$62,286	\$57,764	\$74,017
Maintenance Worker	<b>\$42,301</b>	\$54,532	\$51,002	\$51,891	\$54,982	\$54,962	\$68,740

\* Salaries based on five years of experience in the battery manufacturing industry NAICS 335910).  
Average exchange rate of September 2021: 1US\$ = 1.2671 CA\$.  
Source: ERI, October 2021.



# Attractive custom-made financial incentives and support to maximize project returns

## Initial investment

- **Strategic Innovation Fund:** Contributes **up to 50%** of eligible expenses for a **project of at least \$20M**
- **Québec's custom-made financial stimulus packages:** equity, debt, loan, etc., according to project's specifications

## Tax incentives - Ongoing operation

- **Tax Credit for Investments and Innovation (C3i):** Tax credit from **20% to 40%** of the value of production equipment or computer equipment and software package purchases
- **Tax Holiday for Large Investment Projects (C2i):** Provides a **15-year tax exemption** on earnings and contributions to the Health Services Fund contributions for **projects over \$100M (\$50M in some regions)**

## Electricity rebates - Ongoing operation

- **Electricity Discount Program – Ministère des Finances:** Grants a **reduction of up to 20% of electricity invoice** for a maximum of 4 years for companies billed at rate "L"

## R&D tax incentives - Ongoing operation

- **Tax Credit for Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED):** Entitles company to a **15% tax credit from Canada and a 14% refundable credit\* from Québec** on all wages and subcontracting fees
- **Tax Holiday for Foreign Experts and Researchers:** Tax holiday for foreign experts through a **Québec tax exemption** over a maximum of five years on a degressive scale

– And many more!

# What is Québec's battery strategy?

- Low carbon, stable and renewable energy
- Among the lowest energy costs in the world
- Significant critical and strategic mineral (CSM) resources and flagship projects under development
- Environmentally friendly refining processes
- Leading R&D ecosystem
- Leading scientific expertise in the battery sector (many major patents)
- Skilled, educated and bilingual workforce
- Among the lowest costs of living in North America
- Stable and secure geopolitical environment

## 1. Mineral resource development (upstream development)

- Consolidation of upstream activities (mining and refining) to supply precursors and battery component producers
- Support for technological innovation to develop clean processes

## 2. Downstream development of local production capacity for value-added battery components to supply the North American and European EV value chains

- **Key words: SAFETY, STABILITY, DURABILITY**
- Strategic partnership with a major industrial player
- Importance of stability throughout the value chain (*Global Battery Alliance* battery passport)

## 3. End-of-life battery management (circular development)

- North American collaboration based on the *hub and spoke* model
- Management processes in place for CSM “urban depots” (e.g., batteries and magnets at end of life)

# Recent major announcements in Québec



## *Solus Advanced Materials to Break Ground for Battery Copper Foil Plant in Canada in July*

**- February 2022**

- The first Korean battery copper foil producer to build a plant in North America (Granby, Québec)
- Mass production of copper foils for battery anodes at the plant is planned in the 2nd half of 2024
- The site includes a copper foil factory established in 2001 by Circuit Foil Luxembourg



## *BASF Acquires Site for North American Battery Materials and Recycling Expansion in Canada*

**- March 2022**

- Bécancour, Québec chosen for its future cathode active materials (CAM) and recycling site
- The site allows for ample space to expand up to 100 kt CAM/year with potential for fully integrated (PCAM) supply
- Project commissioning in 2025



## *GM Expands its North America-Focused EV Supply Chain with POSCO Chemical in Canada*

**- March 2022**

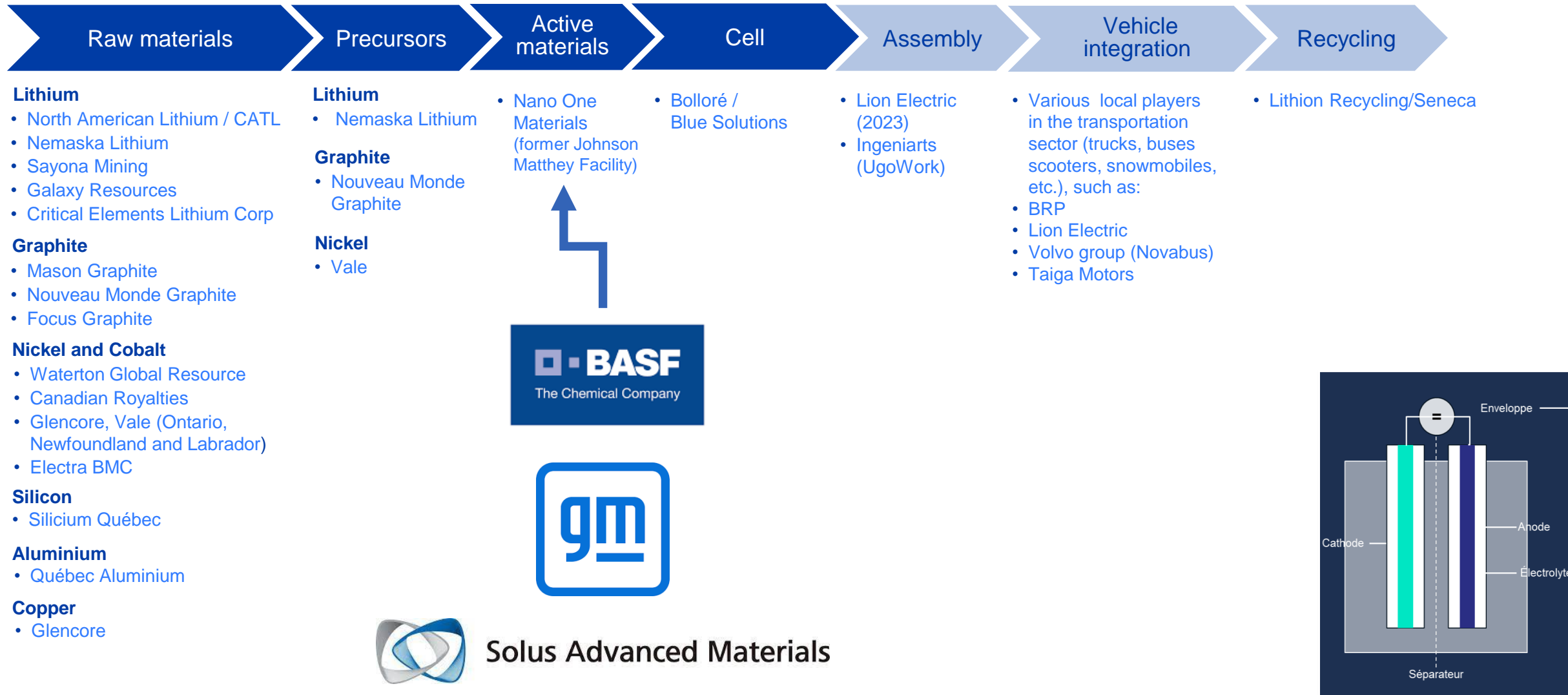
- JV between GM and POSCO Chemical to build a facility in Bécancour, Québec, estimated at US \$400M for the production of cathode active materials (CAM) for GM's Ultium batteries
- Construction begins immediately
- The site allows for future expansion opportunities



# Building a circular and Québec-based supply chain



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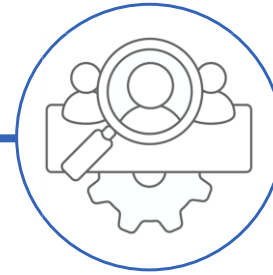
# IQI your strategic partner to set up your business in Québec



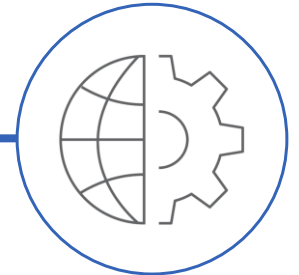
**Financing**



**Support  
Services**



**Technological  
Support**



**International**

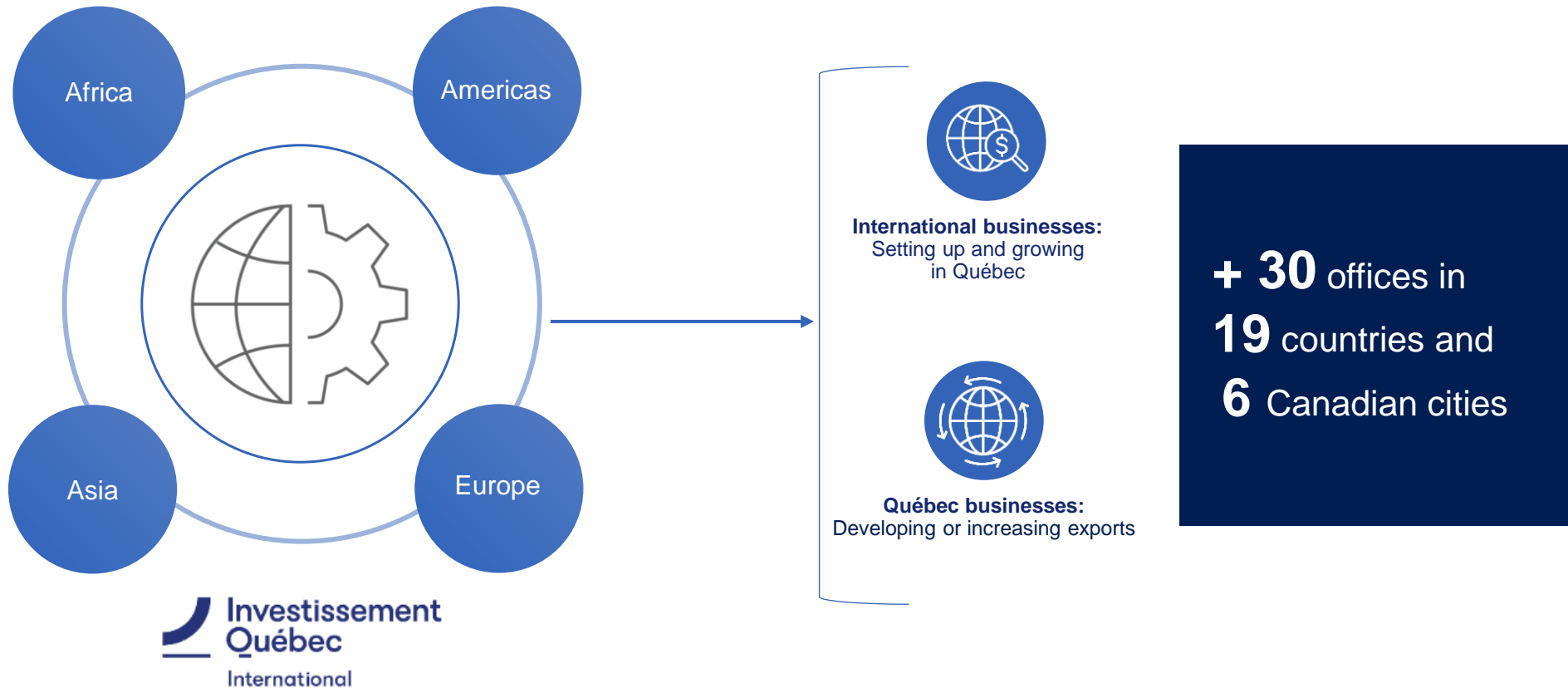
Offices located  
across Québec's 17  
administrative regions



**Over 1,000 employees**

working to create, attract and grow businesses in Québec and global markets

# About Investissement Québec International





# Québec's network of economic partners



# Our support services



## Business intelligence

- Information on Québec's business environment and strategic industries
- Comparative data on operating costs



## Site prospecting

- According to stringent criteria
- Regional teams covering the entire province



## Financing

- Financing solutions
- Government incentive programs



## Business network

- Contact with qualified business partners
- Access to government agencies



## Local sourcing

- Identification and qualification of local suppliers



## Manufacturing technology support

- 100+ engineers and technical experts
- Topics: productivity; digital transformation; environmental performance; product innovation and conformity



## Export assistance

- Market validation
- Networking with foreign partners and clients

Investquebec.com



Centre-ville de Montréal