REFORM OF THE VOTING SYSTEM IN QUÉBEC:
THE PQ, CAQ, QS AND PV COMMIT TO ACT TOGETHER

CONSIDERING the work that has brought us together since spring 2016 under the aegis of the Mouvement Démocratie Nouvelle

CONSIDERING the promise made by all political parties at the 2003 general election, following the States-General on the Reform of Democratic Institutions, to abandon the first-past-the-post system because of the democratic snags it generates in terms of equitable citizen representation.

CONSIDERING our agreement on the six basic principles that should guide the choice of the electoral system to replace the current voting system:

- Reflect as much as possible the popular vote of all Quebeckers.
- Ensure a meaningful link between voters and elected officials.
- Aim to respect the political weight of the regions.
- Promote the stability of the government by measures regulating motions of no confidence.
- Provide a system that is accessible in its exercise and understanding.
- Contribute to a better representation of women, youth and ethnocultural communities.

CONSIDERING we have come to the conclusion that the members of the National Assembly of Québec should be elected, as of the 43rd legislature, according to a voting system similar to that studied and endorsed by the Chief Electoral Officer of Québec (DGEQ) in his opinion of December 2007, which had been mandated to study the draft bill tabled in the National Assembly in 2004 and studied at length in a special parliamentary committee.

CONSIDERING the question of reforming the voting system has been in the public debate in Quebec since 1902 and, given all the research work done over the past 50 years and especially since the 1998 general election, it is time to move from words to deeds.

CONSIDERING the citizens of Quebec have the right to have a truly representative National Assembly, based on a true equality of all votes.

CONSIDERING the only way to change the voting system in Quebec is to unite around principles and a widely shared political proposal.
We of the Parti Québécois, the Coalition Avenir Québec, Québec solidaire and the Parti vert du Québec, despite our differences;

WE COMMIT to work together, on the basis of the 6 principles mentioned in the previous preamble, in order to aim, for the next general election in 2018, to present the joint proposal most likely to win over a majority of the population, in this case the compensatory mixed-member proportional representation system with regional lists.

WE ALSO COMMIT, on the basis of the overall support received from the majority of the population, to work to strengthen citizens’ understanding of this issue and to create the broadest and most solid popular support possible.

WE COMMIT to introduce a bill to this effect by 1 October 2019 at the latest.

Finally, WE ASK the Liberal Party of Quebec to join our alliance on this fundamental issue for the quality and strengthening of our representative democracy.