



NEWS RELEASE – April 23, 2018

Veridian Achieves Smart Commute Gold Workplace Designation

Ajax, ON – Veridian Connections (“Veridian”) has achieved another Smart Commute Gold Workplace Designation for its commitment to promoting and supporting sustainable travel options in its workplace. The utility has a long history of providing its employees with incentives and resources to encourage the use of sustainable modes of transportation.

“To achieve this level of designation, significant resources must be dedicated to reducing the number of people who drive alone and actively choose a better transit option such as walking, biking, transit and carpooling,” explains Doug Spooner, Manager of the Smart Commute Program and Mobility Management at Metrolinx. “Veridian’s Gold designation demonstrates their commitment to promoting and supporting sustainable travel options, positioning them as a leader in corporate social responsibility.”

Smart Commute workplaces can qualify for one of four designation levels – Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze – based on the efforts they have made to implement new initiatives that help their employees choose alternatives to driving alone as well as engaging commuters on a regular basis.

“Veridian takes great pride in being recognized for its earth-friendly business practices that are making a positive impact in the communities we serve,” said Kyle Brown, Manager, Retailer Relations and Special Projects. “Employees have embraced our smart commute initiatives that are targeted at reducing the number of vehicles on the road and improving the air we breathe. Simple measures such as promotions to increase awareness, fun competitions and low cost incentives are encouraging employees to choose alternatives to commuting to and from work alone by car.”

Smart Commute is a program of Metrolinx and the municipalities in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area. The program helps anyone who is going from A to B explore and try out smart travel options such as walking, cycling, transit and carpooling. The goal is to ease gridlock while helping people and companies save time and money.

About Veridian Connections

Veridian Connections, serving more than 121,000 residential and business customers, is the fifth largest municipally owned electric utility in Ontario. The City of Pickering, the Town of Ajax, the Municipality of Clarington and the City of Belleville jointly own Veridian Corporation, the parent company to Veridian Connections. The utility has a successful history of effective growth through two mergers and five acquisitions, and now serves nine communities east and north of Toronto more efficiently than any other

large non-contiguous utility in Ontario. Veridian has a keen focus on reliability, customer communication and helping to lower customers' electricity bills through the delivery of innovative conservation programs and reasonable rates. Veridian not only contributes to local communities through industry leading financial returns, but also helps build stronger communities through the support of youth, health, education, the arts, the environment and many charitable organizations. Industry leading employee programs, public safety and a focus on employee engagement has created an environment that has earned eight consecutive Canada's Greenest Employer awards, one Top GTA Employer award and the Electricity Distributors Association's Performance Excellence award. Veridian has now diversified into renewable energy, and will be establishing other value added offerings for its customers.

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