

NEWS RELEASE

Federal Cabinet decision on wholesale Internet access rates

## Videotron reiterates the importance of investing in Canada's telecommunications infrastructure

**Montréal, August 17, 2020** – Videotron welcomes the Government of Canada's recent decision on wholesale Internet rates, which recognizes the benefits and vital importance of public access to reliable, robust telecommunications networks to support economic development and productivity growth in Canada.

As other Canadian cable companies have pointed out, the large-scale shift to working from home during the pandemic and the massive investments made in recent years have demonstrated beyond a doubt the effectiveness, reliability and robustness of telecommunications networks from coast to coast.

Videotron believes that the government's guidance to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) cannot be ignored. Resellers currently benefit from network infrastructure without having to invest in it. The CRTC's initial decision would have the effect of throttling investment in telecommunications infrastructure, at a time when network traffic is certain to grow in the coming years.

Videotron and other industry players have made investments in the billions. These investments must benefit all Canadians, not just the companies that freeload on the digital economy.

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## About Videotron

Videotron (<u>www.videotron.com</u>), a wholly owned subsidiary of Quebecor Media Inc., is an integrated communications company engaged in cable television, entertainment, Internet access, cable telephone and mobile telephone services. Videotron is a leader in new technologies with its Helix home entertainment and management platform. As of June 30, 2020, Videotron was serving 1,497,300 cable television customers, and 472,200 subscribers to its Club illico video streaming service. Videotron is also the Québec leader in high-speed Internet access, with 1,753,100 subscribers to its cable service as of June 30, 2020. As of the same date, Videotron had 1,404,900 subscriber connections to its mobile telephone service and was providing cable telephone service to 979,600 Québec households and organizations. Videotron has been recognized as one of Montréal's top employers.

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