



Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2016-208

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Establishment of a CISC ad hoc committee for relief planning for area codes 236, 250, 604, and 778 in British Columbia

The Commission announces the establishment of a CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee ad hoc relief planning committee (RPC) to examine options and make recommendations for providing numbering relief to area codes 236, 250, 604, and 778 in British Columbia. The Commission invites members of the public and telecommunications service providers to participate in the RPC's activities.

Introduction

1. On 11 March 2016, the Canadian Numbering Administrator (CNA) advised the Commission that, based on the results of the latest numbering resource utilization forecast (NRUF),¹ area codes 236, 250, 604, and 778 are now projected to exhaust by April 2021. Area codes 236 and 778 cover the whole province of British Columbia. Area code 604 covers the Lower Mainland while area code 250 covers the rest of British Columbia, including Vancouver Island. You can consult the [area code map](#) on the CNA website.
2. In Telecom Decision 2011-451,² as part of the relief planning for area codes 250, 604, and 778 that resulted in the implementation of area code 236, the Commission also set aside area code 672 for future relief in British Columbia.
3. The Commission-approved Canadian NPA [Numbering Plan Area] Relief Planning Guideline (the Guideline)³ provides the framework for addressing area code exhaust in Canada. The Guideline establishes a step-by-step process to be followed by the CNA and relief planning committees (RPCs). The Guideline requires relief planning activities to begin if an area code is projected to exhaust within the next 72 months.
4. The telecommunications industry conducts area code relief planning in a public manner through an ad hoc RPC under the CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee (CISC). Part of the role of an RPC is to encourage public awareness and participation in the RPC's activities.

¹ The CNA began its yearly NRUF activities for Canadian area codes in January 2016 in accordance with the Commission-approved Canadian Numbering Resource Utilization Forecast (C-NRUF) Guideline.

² In Telecom Decision 2011-451, the Commission disposed of the relief measures proposed by the relief planning committee (RPC) established in Telecom Notice of Consultation 2010-815.

³ The [Guideline](#) was last approved by the Commission in Telecom Decision 2014-603

RPC for area codes 236, 250, 604, and 778

5. With this notice, the Commission establishes the ad hoc RPC for area codes 236, 250, 604, and 778 (the 236/250/604/778 RPC) under CISC and **directs** the CNA to chair this committee.
6. The scope of the 236/250/604/778 RPC's relief planning activities is limited to the consideration of solutions for introducing new numbering resources within the area currently served by area codes 236, 250, 604, and 778. Since area code relief planning does not affect local or long distance calling patterns or rates, these issues are outside the scope of the 236/250/604/778 RPC's relief planning activities.
7. In rendering its decision on the relief measures to be adopted, the Commission will consider all relief options identified and recommendations made by the 236/250/604/778 RPC.
8. The Commission notes that the 236/250/604/778 RPC may contemplate relief measures that would require some customers to change their telephone numbers. The Commission therefore encourages members of the public to participate in the 236/250/604/778 RPC's activities.

Procedure

9. The CNA is to announce the location and time of the 236/250/604/778 RPC's meetings and is to make all related documentation available on its website at www.cnac.ca. Members of the public who wish to participate in the 236/250/604/778 RPC's activities may also reach the CNA by telephone at 613-563-7242.

Important notice

10. All information that parties provide as part of this public process, except information designated confidential, whether sent by postal mail, facsimile, email, or through the Commission's website at www.crtc.gc.ca, becomes part of a publicly accessible file and will be posted on the Commission's website. This includes all personal information, such as full names, email addresses, postal/street addresses, and telephone and facsimile numbers.
11. The personal information provided will be used and may be disclosed for the purpose for which the information was obtained or compiled by the Commission, or for a use consistent with that purpose.
12. Documents received electronically or otherwise will be posted on the Commission's website in their entirety exactly as received, including any personal information contained therein, in the official language and format in which they are received. Documents not received electronically will be available in PDF format.

13. The information provided to the Commission as part of this public process is entered into an unsearchable database dedicated to this specific public process. This database is accessible only from the web page of this particular public process. As a result, a general search of the Commission's website with the help of either its search engine or a third-party search engine will not provide access to the information that was provided as part of this public process.

Commission offices

14. Documents are also available from the following Commission offices, upon request, during normal business hours.

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Secretary General

Related documents

- *CISC Canadian Steering Committee on Numbering – Consensus report CNRE106A*, Telecom Decision CRTC 2014-603, 20 November 2014
- *Area code relief for area codes 250, 604, and 778 in British Columbia*, Telecom Decision CRTC 2011-451, 28 July 2011
- *Establishment of a CISC ad hoc committee for relief planning for area codes 250, 604, and 778 in British Columbia*, Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2010-815, 3 November 2010