



## Media Release

April 22, 2016

### **TELUS investing \$8 million to connect Grand Forks homes and businesses directly to advanced fibre optic network**

*Direct fibre connection will dramatically boost data capacity, providing local homes access to Internet speeds of up to 150 megabits per second and Optik TV, enhanced wireless coverage and speed, and even faster Internet speeds for businesses, healthcare providers and schools*

**Grand Forks, B.C.** – TELUS is investing more than \$8 million to connect more than 90 per cent of homes and businesses in Grand Forks directly to its fibre optic network. Planning is currently underway, and construction work will begin in the coming weeks. TELUS anticipates connecting all homes and businesses before the end of 2016.

“Direct fibre connection unleashes infinite possibilities now and into the future,” said Tony Geheran, TELUS Executive Vice-President and President of Broadband Networks. “Along with enhancing the connectivity residents enjoy in their homes, this investment will provide the community better access to online services and resources. Once the build is complete youth will have greater access to online educational opportunities, while entrepreneurs and small businesses will have new tools helping them thrive locally while reaching global audiences through the growing digital economy.”

The gigabit-enabled TELUS fibre optic network is among the most advanced communications infrastructure available in the world today, enabling connected residents to immediately take advantage of dramatically faster Internet speeds of up to 150 megabits per second, while interested businesses, schools, healthcare providers, and institutions can access even more speed and capacity. As demand and Internet technologies evolve in the coming years, TELUS will offer faster speeds and more capacity, sufficient for decades to come. This new fibre optic infrastructure will also enhance resident’s connection to Optik TV, and will be the backbone of TELUS’ wireless network, enabling even more wireless coverage and speed. Local healthcare providers, educators and technology companies will be able to draw upon the technology to reimagine how they deliver existing services and develop entirely new solutions.

“TELUS’s investment means better access to health services, educational resources and economic opportunities for residents of Grand Forks and the surrounding area,” said Boundary-Similkameen MLA Linda Larson. “This upgrade will mean local businesses and households will have plenty of capacity to connect to customers, family and friends around the world.”

“The investment TELUS is making in Grand Forks is great. We feel the fibre optic network is going to create opportunity for residents, visitors and businesses because connectivity will be drastically improved,” said Mayor Frank Conrad. “This upgrade supports Council’s commitment to make our community an even better place to live.”

This investment is part of TELUS’ commitment to invest \$4.5 billion throughout B.C. through 2019, at no cost to taxpayers. For more information, please visit [telus.com/fibre](http://telus.com/fibre).

The capital investment disclosed in this release is consistent with TELUS’ overall capital expenditure guidance for 2016, issued on February 11.

## **About TELUS**

TELUS (TSX: T, NYSE: TU) is Canada's fastest-growing national telecommunications company, with \$12.5 billion of annual revenue and 12.5 million customer connections, including 8.5 million wireless subscribers, 1.5 million residential network access lines, 1.6 million high-speed Internet subscribers and 1.0 million TELUS TV customers. TELUS provides a wide range of communications products and services, including wireless, data, Internet protocol (IP), voice, television, entertainment and video, and is Canada's largest healthcare IT provider.

For more information about TELUS, please visit [telus.com](http://telus.com).

## **TELUS in B.C.:**

TELUS is planning to invest more than \$4.5 billion in new infrastructure and facilities across its home province of British Columbia over the next four years. By the end of 2019 TELUS expects to have invested more than \$51 billion in British Columbia since 2000 to extend the reach of advanced wireless and wireline telecommunications infrastructure throughout the province. As part of that commitment, TELUS has connected homes, businesses, schools and healthcare institutions in more than 24 communities directly to TELUS' fibre network in order to support sustained innovation and fuel the province's economic growth. The TELUS Health team is leveraging technology innovation to deliver better health outcomes for British Columbians as a leading provider of electronic medical records for physicians and as a partner of the B.C. government in introducing home health monitoring.

In support of the company's philosophy to give where we live, TELUS, team members and retirees have contributed more than \$135 million and 3.76 million volunteer hours to charitable and community organizations throughout British Columbia since 2000. Created in 2005 by President and CEO Darren Entwistle, TELUS has 15 local community boards dedicated to supporting local projects. The three Community Boards in B.C. have donated more than \$12.9 million in support of nearly 1,500 local charitable projects since inception, in partnership with regional TELUS Community Action Teams.

In September 2015 TELUS opened its new headquarters, TELUS Garden, located in downtown Vancouver. Rich with innovative architectural, technological and environmental features, TELUS Garden is the first office tower in Canada to receive the new Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum certification for sustainable development. The one million square foot development also includes a 53-storey residential tower currently under construction and targeting LEED Gold standards with 424 green homes and retail space.

## **Forward-looking statement:**

*This news release contains statements about expected future events, including TELUS' projected multi-year capital and operating expenditures that are forward-looking. The investments described for 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 are subject to the ongoing review and approval of TELUS' Board of Directors. By their nature, forward-looking statements require the Company to make assumptions and predictions and are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties. There is significant risk that the forward-looking statements will not prove to be accurate. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements as a number of factors (such as regulatory and government decisions, the competitive environment, economic conditions, our ability to purchase spectrum licences through auctions or third parties, and our earnings, free cash flow and financial position) could cause actual capital and operating expenditures to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements. Accordingly, this news release is subject to the disclaimer and qualified by the assumptions (including the assumptions for our 2016 annual guidance, semi-annual*

*dividend increases through 2016, ability to sustain and complete our multi-year share purchase program through 2016), qualifications and risk factors referred to in the 2015 Management's Discussion and Analysis for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, which are specifically incorporated by reference herein, and in other TELUS public disclosure documents and filings with securities commissions in Canada (on SEDAR at [sedar.com](http://sedar.com)) and in the United States (on EDGAR at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov)). Except as required by law, TELUS disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise forward-looking statements.*

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