



10 April 2008

**Filed Electronically**

Canadian Radio-television and  
Telecommunications Commission  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0N2

**RE: CAIP SECTION VII APPLICATION 8622-C51-200805153**

Dear Sirs and/or Madams:

I am writing to express my support for the Section VII Application that the Canadian Association of Internet Providers filed with the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission on April 3rd, 2008, with respect to Bell Canada's throttling practices. I believe that these practices contravene Bell Canada's duties as a common carrier and that the Commission should direct Bell to immediately cease and desist from throttling the traffic of independent ISPs.

Further, this Section VII Application presents the CRTC with a unique opportunity to enshrine the sanctity of Internet communications in Canada. "Net Neutrality" may be a cause célèbre but it represents a very important concept that would protect Canadians and their free and unfettered access to information. By trailblazing in this unique issue, the CRTC would avoid obsolescence and demonstrate to the world that the protection of the carriage of information is critical to remaining competitive in the coming Information Age.

I submit for your consideration 8 (eight) points in support of the CAIP's Application:

- Bell leases "last-mile" to independent Internet Service Providers, it does not provide "transit", that is the actual connection to the Internet.
- This last-mile network has been deemed an essential service.
- This network was built with the support of Canadian tax dollars, Crown lands and other expropriations, and easements of private property.
- Bell has eliminated the choices Canadian consumers once had in being able to select their own ISP based on their needs; e.g. Bit Torrent downloads of movies, Linux ISOs, video game updates, CBC programming, foreign news broadcasts and other television programming.

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- These changes Bell has moved to unilaterally impose threaten the competitive business of a large group of hard-working Canadians, and by extension their livelihood.
- Bell's changes present a significant burden upon these competitive businesses, as contracts they have with transit providers such as Peer 1, Hurricane Electric, Cogent Communications, and others, where a commitment has been made to send a minimum amount of customer data over their networks.
- Bell's other businesses, such as CTV, stand to gain from this anti-competitive move by paving the way for further traffic limiting and redirection.
- Bell continues a media-spin on the offensive, misleading the public with inaccurate claims, such as ISPs are sucking their "bandwidth", using loaded language like "hogs", and presenting misleading statistics.

Because of Bell's media spin, it is understandably difficult to cut through the rhetoric and appreciate the full implications of Bell's traffic pinching of independent ISP traffic. We must understand that Bell Canada is inspecting data communications and limiting "undesirable" traffic before it reaches the ISP and the ISP's connections to the Internet. It is my sincere hope that the above points might assist the Commission to recognize that because Bell controls the last-mile network in Ontario and Québec, it stands to gain from the move and has eliminated of choices that Canadians have for free and unfettered access to the Internet in these markets. Indeed, it is also my hope that the Commission will recognize that this is an issue over which the CRTC can rule favourably for the protection of Canadian business and the general public, for now and for the future. It is in your hands. Please do not fail to realize the momentous implications your decision represents.

I thank you in advance for your fair and balanced considerations and await your decision. Should you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me by email or on 519-581-XXXX. Thank you for your continued vigilance in investigating this Application.

Yours truly,



Chris S., Principal  
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CC: Bell Canada Inc.

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