

# 20th Anniversary BC Broadband Conference AGENDA

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British Columbia Broadband Association

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April 22 & 23, 2025

Radisson Hotel Vancouver Airport in Richmond, BC



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## Welcome to the 20th Anniversary of the BC Broadband Conference!

Message from Bob Allen, President of the BC Broadband Association:

I am pleased to welcome you to the 20th Annual BC Broadband Conference.

This year's theme, "The Dollars and Sense of the Telecom Industry," highlights the importance of understanding both the opportunities and challenges that shape the business of broadband in Western Canada. As we continue to navigate a rapidly evolving industry — marked by regulatory changes, new technologies, and shifting market forces — it is more important than ever to come together, share insights, and chart a path forward.

Over the past two decades, this conference has served as a valuable platform for telecom professionals to connect, collaborate, and learn. We are proud of the role the BC Broadband team has played in supporting our industry's growth and development, and we are excited to continue that tradition this year.

I hope you enjoy the conference and leave with new ideas, valuable connections, and fresh perspectives.

Warm regards,

Bob Allen President, BC Broadband Association



#### **Bob Allen**

#### President, ABC Internet; President, BC Broadband Association

Bob Allen is the President of ABC Internet and the current President of the BC Broadband Association. Bob began his career in the telecom industry with the opening of the office telecom equipment monopoly in 1986. In 1989 he founded ABC Communications which grew to be one of the largest providers of rural broadband service in British Columbia.

His new corporate venture, ABC Internet, operates as a rural wireless Internet provider as well as providing LTE Packet Core Services and related design and consulting for regional ISPs.

#### A Special Thank You to Our Sponsors

On behalf of the BC Broadband Association and ABC Internet, we extend our sincere appreciation to all of our sponsors, vendors, speakers, and attendees.

Your continued support is vital to the success of the BC Broadband Conference. It is through your partnership and commitment that we are able to bring together the telecom community year after year for valuable discussions, networking, and industry advancement.

We hope you enjoy this year's program and wish you and your organization continued success throughout BCBC 2025 and beyond.

BCBC 2025 Organizing Team

# Conference Day 01- April 22nd

08:00 - 09:00	Registration Opens and Breakfast
09:00 - 09:15	BC Broadband Conference 2025 Opens Opening remarks from the Master of Ceremonies BCBA Presidents Report & Welcome Address Scott Grant – VP of Sales, Lite Access Technologies Bob Allen – President, BC Broadband Association
09:15 - 09:30	Keynote Speaker
	Hon. Minister George Chow - Minister of Citizens' Services
09:30 - 10:00	Connecting Communities BC Update Rachel Greenspan - Executive Director, Network BC
10:00 - 10:30	Rural Fibre Economics
10.00 - 10.30	Daniel Mundall - Executive Director, Lyttonnet
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break
11.00.11.00	Modernizing Aggregated FTTP: Empowering ISP success with TELUS
11:00 -11:30	Bryan Price – Sr. Product Manager, TELUS
11:30 -12:00	CRTC Update Claire Anderson – Commissioner, BC & Yukon, CRTC
12:00 -13:00	Lunch
13:00 - 14:00	Panel: Challenges to Placing Wireline InfrastructureModerator: Scott Jamieson - Vice President, Plenary AmericasPanelist: Greg Oliver - VP of Operations, Lite Access TechnologiesDaniel Mundall - Executive Director, LyttonnetRoss Bridger - Director, Network Construction, Novus Entertainment Inc.Jen Doyle - Associate Director, PMO, ROHL Global Networks Inc.
14:00 - 14:30	Regulatory Update
	Christian Tacit - Barrister & Solicitor, Tacit Law
14:30 - 15:00	Coffee Break
15:00 - 15:30	Navigating the Future of Telecom Supply Chains: Lessons, Trends & The Road Ahead Andrew Nand – Territory Manager, Noramco Telecom Teresa Bertram – Business Development Manager, Noramco Telecom
15:30 - 16:00	Panel: The State of Access Networks for Remote First Nation Communities in BC and the North Moderator: Keith Ponton - Delivery Director – Woven, Arcadis Panelist: Drew McNaughton – CEO, Fabric Networks Amedeo Bernardi – Consultant, Gwaii Tel

Dennis Sterritt – FNTN, Past Mayor of Hazleton BC



# **Event Partners**





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# Conference Day 02- April 23rd

08:00 - 09:00	<b>Breakfast *</b> *Breakfast will be served at the foyer, BCBA members attending the AGM Should bring their breakfast to the Cambie Room where coffee will be available
08:00 - 09:00	BCBA Annual General Meeting Cambie Room
09:00 - 09:30	<b>AFL</b> Vendor Presentation
09:30 - 10:00	<b>Quality, Uptime, and Advances in Router Optics</b> John Frame - SE Manager, Canada, Arista
10:00- 10:30	<b>Transforming the Buyer's Journey</b> Remy Soubry - Senior Success Account Manager, Calix
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 - 11:30	LTE Wireless in the Broadband Market
11.00 - 11.50	Joe Cosentino - Category Manager, TDL Gentek
11:30 - 12:00	ISPs & Live Streaming: How to Easily Scale Networks for Demand
	Siegfried Luft – CEO, Netskrt Systems
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch
13:00 - 13:30	<b>Open Networking and the Economic Drivers Behind It</b> Jason Maki - Director of Technical Business Development, RocNet Supply
13:30 - 14:00	VANIX: Building Regional Resilience and Network Sovereignty Tom Samplonius - Director, Network Services, VANIX
14:00 - 14:30	<b>Defend and Grow with Tarana</b> Vardin Amiri - Senior Sales Engineer, Tarana Wireless
14:30 - 15:00	Coffee Break
15:00 - 16:00	Panel: 5G and 3900 MHZ NCLL Band update Moderator Bob Allen, President of the BC Broadband Association Panelists: Bob Calbick – Director, Minto Communications Society Emmanuel Neilz - Head of Solutions, Mobile Networks, Canada, Nokia Brenda Bouchette - Technical and Economics Advisor, Tacit Law Vardin Amiri - Senior Sales Engineer, Tarana Wireless
16: 00 - 16:30	A Better Spectrum Policy
	Brenda Bouchette - Technical and Economics Advisor, Tacit Law
16:30	<b>Conference Closing</b> Bob Allen – President, BC Broadband Association



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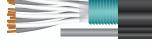
















# Keynote Speaker



#### **Honourable George Chow**

#### Ministry of Citizens' Services

George Chow was elected MLA for Vancouver-Fraserview in 2017 and re-elected in October 2020. Prior to that, he served two terms on Vancouver City Council from 2005 to 2011. He is the Minister of Citizens' Services. He previously served as the Minister of State for Trade, and assisted the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture in establishing Canada's first Chinese Canadian Museum.

Born in China, he completed primary school in Hong Kong and settled in Vancouver in 1965. George grew up in the Downtown Eastside and attended Britannia and Gladstone Secondary Schools.

He graduated from UBC in mechanical engineering in 1975 and had a 30-year career with BC Hydro in power generation. George is a retired member of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC, and a Fellow of Engineers Canada.

He also served on many community organizations as a volunteer including: the Urban Spirit Foundation, Vancouver Public Library Board, Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Vancouver, Boys and Girls Clubs of South Coast BC, Chinese Benevolent Association of Vancouver, Vancouver Chinatown Merchants Association, S.U.C.C.E.S.S., and various family associations. He was actively involved with the building of the Chinese Cultural Centre in Vancouver's Chinatown during the 1970's and 1980's.

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# This Year's MC



# **Our Speakers**

#### Scott Grant

VP of Sales, Lite Access Technologies

Scott has been in the telecom business for over 20 years. In his role, Scott promotes the benefits of alternate fibre deployment techniques to government, carriers and ISPs around the world.

Having done business in over 25 countries, Scott is actively involved with MISA and other organizations helping Canadian municipalities build their fibre networks faster, more economically and with minimal disruption to the community.



#### **Rachel Greenspan**

#### Executive Director, Network BC

Rachel is an expert in technology policy, programming, and digital transformation, she has over 15 years of experience as a tech manager and leader, helping companies of all sizes achieve operational and strategic growth.

Rachel begin her BC Public Services in Aug 2021 as a Director of Regulatory & Permitting at Network BC, she has then been promoted to the Senior Director of Policy and Programs, and is now the Executive Director leading Network BC.



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#### **Daniel Mundall**

#### Executive Director, Lyttonnet

Daniel's avid passion for revitalizing rural BC has helped shape his work at Lytton Area Wireless Society - Lyttonnet. Over the past 16 years Daniel has helped design and deploy a variety of technologies including fibre and wireless. Currently, Daniel serves as a director on the board of Lyttonnet where he is able to help the non-profit meet its goals of connecting rural Canadians with broadband. Lyttonnet currently services around 800 rural homes with broadband, half of which are serviced with fibre.



#### **Scott Jamieson**

#### Vice President, Plenary Americas

Scott Jamieson has overall responsibility for directing and managing the performance of the PBI Fiber business and authority partnership obligations. Scott is responsible for P&L, construction, operations and commercialization of all broadband projects. This includes contract performance, regulatory compliance, modeling, reporting, forecasting, resourcing, team development and performance, budgeting and executive committee reporting. Scott provides oversight of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission, NCDOT and GDOT middle-mile P3 projects and has more than 25 years of experience in the telecommunications sector.



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#### Bryan Price Senior Product Manager, TELUS

Since 2018 Bryan has managed TELUS's wholesale HSIA product portfolio for ISPs and partners. Prior to TELUS he held a number of roles with telecom operators and solution providers selling into North America, Asia, and Latin America. He holds an MBA for York University.



#### **Claire Anderson**

Commissioner, British Columbia and Yukon, CRTC

Claire Anderson is a lawyer and a citizen of the Taku River Tlingit First Nation (TRTFN), and she has been serving as the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC)'s Regional Commissioner for British Columbia and Yukon since August 2019.

Claire has over a decade of experience working with Indigenous communities on a wide range of matters that ultimately advance reconciliation at both a community-based and governmental level,

within her previous private practice at Lackowicz & Hoffman and through her work with Indigenous governments and Ontario's Ministry of Indigenous Affairs.

Claire is the Vice Chair of the Council of Canadian Administrative Tribunals, a national non-profit organization dedicated to promoting excellence in administrative justice, and also serves as Chair of the organization's Truth and Reconciliation Committee.



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#### **Ross Bridger**

#### VP, Network Construction, Novus Entertainment

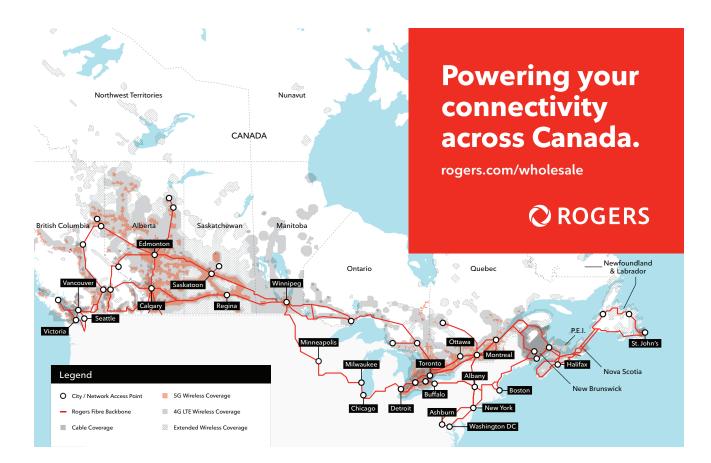
Ross' early career started at Rogers in the planning department entering as-builts, once Shaw took over, he progressive through the planning department in various roles, spending the majority of his time as a Fiber Planner. Fiber planning gave him a great background in the network and helped prepare him for his next role as a Tech Op's Supervisor overseeing the fiber splicing team, his 18 years at Shaw gave him the experience and knowledge to focus on planning and building OSP networks. After a short stint at a Telus contractor, Ross landed at Novus, with the support from a strong leadership team, his background and experience in planning and OSP, Ross and his team have grown Novus' network over 250% in the past 8 years, Novus now has 1200 buildings connected in the Lower Mainland and shows no signs of slowing down.



#### **Greg Oliver**

#### Vice President of Operations, Lite Access Technologies

With a career start in the CATV sector over 4 decades ago, Greg Oliver has experienced the evolution of the Telecom Industry from Roof Top Antennas, Party Lines, Copper and Coaxial delivery methods, to Fiber and 5G Networks. Greg has completed network construction projects for Public, Private, Municipal and Urban Networks, from the conceptual planning stages to activation, sales, delivery, and operations. Mr. Oliver's experience allows him to guide deployment strategy and choose the best construction methodology for any Outside Plant project.





#### **Jen Doyle**

#### Associate Director, PMO, ROHL Global Networks Inc.

As a Project Manager with eight years of experience at ROHL Global Networks, Jen Doyle has led a wide range of broadband development initiatives. Her portfolio spans from small community buildouts to complex, remote longhaul deployments across northern Canada. Over the past five years, she has overseen the installation of more than 1,300 kilometers of fiber in the Yukon and Northwest Territories, including major projects such as the ALCAN Fiber Build, Dempster Fiber Line, and the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Fiber Line.

Additionally, she has led her team through the successful completion of FTTH projects in 22 First Nations communities, connecting over 4,500 homes in rural Alberta. Her leadership continues to drive impactful connectivity solutions in some of the country's most remote and underserved regions.



#### **Christian Tacit**

#### Barrister & Solicitor, Tacit Law

Drawing on over 42 years of technical, business and legal experience, Chris is the founder of Tacit Law, a boutique law firm that provides a broad range of legal and consulting services toclients in the information technology, communications, regulated industries, and broader commercial and not-for profit sectors.

In addition to providing traditional legal services, Chris assists clients with strategic planning, mgovernance, risk management, business reviews, commercial transactions, as well as corporate and regulatory compliance. He is also very involved in Internet governance through various volunteer activities.



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#### Teresa Bertram

Strategic Accounts / Business Development Manager, Noramco Telecom

Teresa Bertram is a seasoned telecom professional with over 10 years of experience driving growth and managing strategic accounts across Canada's telecommunications landscape. As a Business Development Manager, she specializes in delivering broadband and network infrastructure solutions to carriers, and large enterprise clients. Teresa's deep industry knowledge, customer-focused approach, and proven track record make her a trusted expert in navigating complex telecom challenges and building long-term value for her clients.

#### **Andrew Nand**

#### Territory Manager, Noramco Telecom

Andrew Nand is a Territory Manager at Noramco Telecom, with a proven track record of delivering innovative broadband solutions across Canada's telecommunications sector. With extensive field experience and deep expertise in network infrastructure, fiber optics, and emerging connectivity technologies, Andrew understands the real-world challenges of broadband deployment. He partners closely with clients to support reliable, scalable network builds, offering hands-on insight and practical solutions. His commitment to customer success and problem-solving makes him a trusted resource in advancing high-performance communications networks.

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#### Amedeo Bernardi

Consultant, Gwaii Tel - Founder, CRRBC Principal, Amedeo Bernardi Consulting Inc.

Amedeo is a passionate advocate for rural and remote connectivity in Canada, supporting communities, service providers, and organizations navigating the complex telecommunications landscape. As founder of Canada's Rural & Remote Broadband Communities (CRRBC.ca), he has created a vital platform for collaboration and knowledge sharing among rural leaders, innovators, and policymakers. Through this initiative, Amedeo helps drive sustainable, community-led digital innovation that addresses the unique challenges of rural and remote regions





#### Keith Ponton

#### Delivery Director, Woven Arcadis

Keith is an experienced senior executive and currently leads Arcadis' Broadband Consulting and Managed Services practice (Woven), which is part of the new Arcadis. Keith has experience in developing and implementing strategic plans that require large capital infrastructure investment, product development and take to market/ sales strategies to be successful. He has played a significant role in the engineering, design and business management/leadership of one of the largest public/private networks to be implemented in North America, the Alberta SuperNet



#### **Drew McNaughton**

#### **CEO**, Fabric Networks

A career building and operating large, fiber, open access networks with many service providers, all in PPPs with local governments in Canada, the USA, France, and Asia.



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#### **Dennis Sterritt**

#### FNTN, Past Mayor of Hazleton BC

Dennis has over 34 years of leadership experience in Canada and the UK, specializing in developing community-driven solutions that drive lasting change and ensure project success. He led the design team for the BBC's Global Centre for Journalism and served as Housing and Infrastructure Advisor for the Gitksan Government Commission, where he spearheaded initiatives to promote sustainable growth. As Mayor of Hazelton and Executive Director of Kwadacha Nation, Dennis integrated Indigenous perspectives into regional governance and led key reconciliation efforts.



#### Brandon Dombroski

#### Strategic Account Director, ROHL Global Networks Inc.

Dedicated and results-driven Telecommunications Executive with 13 years of experience leading cross-functional teams, executing complex initiatives, and projects in Western Canada's complex telecom industry. Starting 20 years ago in structured cabling construction to fiber and data service installation, excelling to training and leadership, moving through the project management office and into revenue development and management, Brandon has developed and delivered millions of dollars of value to wireline and wireless stakeholders.



#### **Emma Wylie**

Manager, Business Administration & Development, ROHL Global Networks Inc.

Emma serves as the Business Development Manager for ROHL Global Networks, bringing a background in information management and digital transformation to the world of telecom infrastructure. With nearly a decade of experience in the telecommunications sector, she has built a strong track record of leading initiatives that support connectivity in remote and rural regions. Her work includes extensive collaboration with Indigenous communities, helping to shape projects that prioritize local engagement and long-term benefits. With a strong focus on strategic growth,

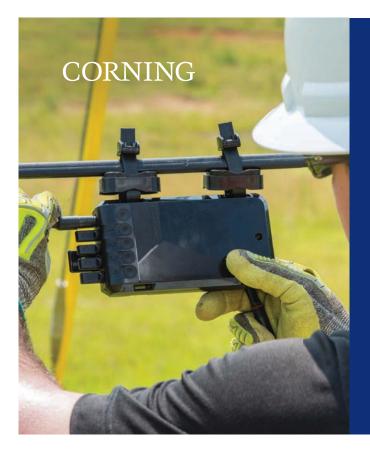
community partnerships, and inclusive development, she has played a key role in advancing major broadband projects across northern and western Canada. Her efforts center around driving the success of large-scale fiber builds and delivering FTTH installations to underserved communities. Passionate about bridging connectivity gaps, she continues to explore pathways for creating lasting impact through meaningful collaboration and sustainable network solutions.



#### John Frame

#### SE Manager, Canada, Arista

For over 30 years John has been leading cross-functional teams in the creation, execution, implementation, protection and launch of network based, revenue generating services for major Service Providers and Enterprises. He specializes in translating technical advantages into successful business solutions.



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#### **Remy Soubry**

Senior Success Account Manager, Calix

Remy Soubry is a dedicated Account Success Leader at Calix Inc. With a deep understanding of customer business needs, Remy excels in supporting clients in the prioritization of strategic goals and the creation of success plans that drive business value and deliver strong ROI. Her background in strategic business development has spanned multiple industries including broadband, food and beverage, beauty, and manufacturing. This diverse experience has equipped Remy with a unique perspective and versatile skill set rooted in a customer-first approach. Remy is currently based in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.



#### Joe Cosentino Category Manager, TDL Gentek

Joe has 25 years in the wireless broadband LTE industry with the last 10 years being in distribution sales. Holding roles as Canadian Sales Director for a global M2M/IOT manufacturer and a large national IOT distributor, Joe is now the Category Manager for multiple vendors at TDL Gentek with a focus on providing wireless solutions to our client base



#### **Siegfried Luft** CEO, Netskrt Systems

Siegfried (Sig) Luft, a serial entrepreneur, has been at the forefront of technical innovation for over twenty five years. Prior to co-founding Netskrt Systems, Sig founded Siaras, a pioneer in cloud computing. Sig was also founder and CTO at Zeugma Systems, which was subsequently purchased by Tellabs. Sig was a co-founder of Siara Systems, which was purchased by Redback Networks in 2000; and part of the founding team of Fiberlane/ Cerent Corp., which was acquired by Cisco Systems in 1999.



#### Jason Maki

#### Director of Technical Business Development, RocNet Supply

Jason Maki brings over a decade of hands-on experience in network engineering and broadband architecture to his role as Director of Technical Business Development at RocNet Supply. With a deep background in designing and deploying end-to-end solutions for middle mile, cellular backhaul, SMB, and enterprise networks, Jason is passionate about solving real-world challenges with innovative technology. He spent 9 years at Midco as a Network Engineering Professional, where he led the development of advanced network architectures and services, earned Metro Ethernet Forum (MEF) certifications, and drove innovation initiatives to evaluate next-generation technologie

He also served as a mentor with the CableLabs UpRamp Fiterator program, helping emerging tech companies tailor their solutions to the needs of the ISP industry. In his most recent roles—including as a Senior Solutions Architect working with broadband service providers nationwide—Jason has focused on identifying practical, scalable technologies that solve complex technical problems. Today, his work at RocNet centers on open networking and disaggregated routing and switching solutions and helping providers transition toward more open, flexible, and future-ready networks.

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#### **Tom Samplonius** Director, Network Services, BCNet

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With over 20 years of experience in telecom technology and services, Tom is a seasoned specialist in operations, hosting, data centers, national IP networks, and PSTN. His expertise extends to peering, interconnection, and infrastructure acquisition. As the Director of Network Services at BCNET, Tom is dedicated to connecting people both technically and organizationally. He emphasizes the importance of not only providing Internet access but also empowering users to take control of their services.



#### Vardin Amiri

#### Senior Sales Engineer, Tarana Wireless

Vardin Amiri is a highly seasoned technical sales engineer with more than 24 years of experience in the Wireless industry. He has worked for manufacturers of Point-to-Point, Point-to-MultiPoint wireless solution, built on proprietary and standard based technologies, such as LTE and 802.11xx chipsets.

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#### **Robert Calbick** Director, Minto Communications Society

Robert (Bob) Calbick, is a Commerce graduate of the University of British Columbia and a CPA, CA, with over 30 years financial management experience in the telecom industry. He is currently a Director of Minto Communications Society, a small non-profit ISP serving the Upper Bridge River valley of British Columbia and has recently guided Minto through an extensive modernization and upgrade of it fixed wireless network.

As a Director of the sole terrestrial broadband provider servicing the Upper Bridge River valley, Bob, along with the other Minto Communications Society Directors, is actively engaged in ensuring Minto's ongoing sustainability in continuing to provide broadband services to the community in the future. He is actively involved in setting the society's future technology direction and investments, and managing the issues of transitioning through current business, regulatory, and funding issues arising from the regulatory radio spectrum environment.



#### **Emmanuel Neilz**

Head of Solutions, Mobile Networks, Canada, Nokia

With over two decades in telecommunications, Emmanuel is a driving force behind technological innovation and digital transformation across the Canadian market. He leverages deep Telecom industry expertise through his close collaboration with Canadian Wireless Internet Service Providers (WISPs) and service providers. Furthermore, his contributions to Nokia's team supporting ISED consultations directly influence national telecommunications policy, demonstrating his commitment to shaping the regulatory landscape.

His diverse international experience, including roles in France, Mexico, and Malaysia, provides him with a valuable global perspective on the evolving telecommunications landscape.





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#### **Brenda Bouchette**

Technical and Economics Advisor, Tacit Law

Brenda is a professional engineer with 26 years' experience in the telecommunications industry. Brenda has designed fixed and mobile networks across Canada and internationally, for large carriers and small operators. She has extensive knowledge of telecommunications network design and the business challenges facing network operators. She is also well-versed in economics and its application to the telecommunications industry.

Brenda authors submissions to ISED consultations and CRTC proceedings related totelecommunications policy, spectrum policy, spectrum auctions, wholesale access, funding programs, and digital connectivity, and works with clients to develop and refine positions, and present their position effectively to regulators.

She also helps clients prepare funding applications for broadband, wireless and other telecommunications infrastructure expansions, and also assists them in developing strategies and tactics related to the acquisition of spectrum, including by way of spectrum auctions. Brenda holds an undergraduate Electrical Engineering degree and a Master of Arts in Economics.

# **Marketing Partners**

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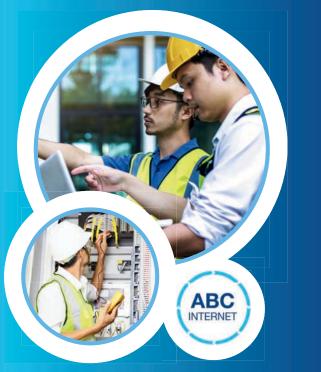
# Floor Plan



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