

Each Canadian telecommunications organization is responsible for service within its own territory and for integrating its facilities with those of all other telephone companies.

Collectively, these companies operate the world's longest microwave system and have access to Canada's domestic satellite system — a telecommunications mesh which carries telephone conversations, radio and television programs and computer data coast to coast. Through the integrated North American network and Teleglobe Canada's intercontinental connections, the Canadian system can reach nearly all of the world's 400 million telephones.

Each year Canadians place some 2.5 million telephone calls to countries outside North America. On September 7, 1976 TCTS and Teleglobe Canada introduced direct dialing from Vancouver to the United Kingdom, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand and the Philippines. Within the next three years, the service will be expanded to include most major Canadian cities. By late 1978, it is expected that Belgium, Denmark, France, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland will also join the group of countries that Canadian telephone customers may dial direct. For a basic monthly charge most telephone users can place as many calls as they wish in a defined area and talk as long as they like. Originally, flat-rate local service in Canada was restricted to the area served by the customer's own exchange. The expansion of major cities and the merging of small towns created larger communities, bringing demand for more extensive flat-rate calling areas. As a result, most telephone companies have introduced Extended Area Service which enables customers to place calls in a much wider area without paying long distance rates. For this increased service the customer pays a slightly higher monthly fee, based on the number of telephones within his extended area. Continuing increase in the use of the telephone reflects customer response.

Ownership and regulation of Canada's telecommunications carriers varies. The majority of telephones in Canada are owned and operated by investor-owned companies such as Bell Canada, British Columbia Telephone Company, Québec-Téléphone, Maritime Telegraph and Telephone Company Limited and The New Brunswick Telephone Company, Limited. The Island Telephone Company Limited, Newfoundland Telephone Company Limited, Northern Telephone Limited, Télébec Ltée and Okanagan Telephone Company are subsidiaries of investor-owned telephone companies. Two major systems, Bell Canada and British Columbia Telephones, are federally regulated by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission; the other investor-owned systems are regulated by provincial agencies.

Alberta Government Telephones, Manitoba Telephone System and Saskatchewan Telecommunications are provincially owned corporations. Ontario Northland Communications, a division of Ontario Northland Transportation Commission, a provincially owned corporation, provides telephone and telegraph services in the northeastern part of Ontario. Thunder Bay Telephone Department and Edmonton telephones are the country's two largest municipal systems.

Many of the smaller telephone companies are grouped in the Canadian Independent Telephone Association. Canadian National and Teleglobe Canada are federal Crown corporations.

#### 16.1.1.2 Record communications

**Public message.** Canada's public message-telegram-service is provided by CNCP Telecommunications. A joint venture of the telecommunications divisions of the Canadian National and Canadian Pacific railways, CNCP offers public message service in all provinces and territories. Messages can be forwarded or received from any point in Canada or throughout the world via cable and satellite facilities of Teleglobe Canada.

There has been a gradual decline in public message volumes and a correspondingly progressive growth in Telex and Teletypewriter Exchange