

INSERT LETTERHEAD

October XX, 2021

CONFIDENTIAL

VIA EMAIL Sorina.Sam@cb-bc.gc.ca
Laura.Sonley@cb-bc.gc.ca

Dear Mr. Doucet, Ms. Sam and Ms. Sonley,

**Re: Competition Bureau, Request for Information
Application by Rogers Communications Inc. (Rogers) to acquire Shaw
Communications Inc. (Shaw)**

We are writing to provide comment under the Competition Bureau *Request for Information* process in investigating the Rogers' proposed acquisition of Shaw. We believe the combined company will offer greater competition and choice for many rural communities.

The Regional District of XX recently completed a Broadband Strategy Report, identifying underserved areas and exploring network strategies to bridge the digital divide. We believe the proposed acquisition of Shaw by Rogers will have a positive impact by accelerating the delivery of broadband services in our community. Rogers has committed to make significant investments in network infrastructure, which will expedite the delivery of new services which will provide s businesses and residents with more competition and choice in services.

- Rogers has committed to invest an additional \$1 billion to expand broadband networks in Western Canada, with a significant portion of that investment to be made in British Columbia. By expediting the deployment of network infrastructure, communities will have more competition and choice in broadband services.
- Rogers has committed to invest \$2.5 billion to expand its 5G network in Western Canada. We know that 5G will allow businesses to deploy new technologies that will allow them to increase productivity, improve efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Rogers' investment will ensure that there is a competitive market in B.C. for 5G services, which will provide businesses with choice in the marketplace.
- For many rural areas, while there may be access to broadband services, there is no meaningful competition because there is effectively only one provider in the region. We believe the combined company will have the assets and capital to truly compete against the current incumbent.

Should you wish for further elaboration, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,