## Q2 2014 Results Conference Call

August 7, 2014





## Safe harbour notice

Certain statements made in this presentation are forward-looking statements. These statements include, without limitation, statements relating to our 2014 financial guidance (including revenues, Adjusted EBITDA, capital intensity, Adjusted EPS and free cash flow), our business outlook, objectives, plans and strategic priorities, BCE's 2014 annualized common share dividend, our network deployment plans, the expected timing and completion of the acquisition by BCE of all of the issued and outstanding common shares of Bell Aliant that it does not currently own (Privatization) through a common share tender offer, certain strategic and financial benefits (including expected synergies, and earnings per share and free cash flow accretion) expected to result from the Privatization, and other statements that are not historical facts. All such forward-looking statements are made pursuant to the safe harbour provisions of applicable Canadian securities laws and of the United States *Private Securities Litigation Reform Act* of 1995.

Forward-looking statements, by their very nature, are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties and are based on several assumptions, both general and specific, which give rise to the possibility that actual results or events could differ materially from our expectations expressed in or implied by such forward-looking statements. As a result, we cannot guarantee that any forward-looking statement will materialize and we caution you against relying on any of these forward-looking statements. For a description of such assumptions and risks, please consult BCE's 2013 Annual MD&A, dated March 6, 2014, as updated in BCE's 2014 First Quarter MD&A dated May 5, 2014, BCE's 2014 Second Quarter MD&A dated August 6, 2014, and BCE's news release dated August 7, 2014 announcing its financial results for the second quarter of 2014, all filed with the Canadian provincial securities regulatory authorities (available at sedar.com) and with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (available at sec.gov), and which are also available on BCE's website at BCE.ca.

The forward-looking statements contained in this presentation describe our expectations at August 7, 2014 and, accordingly, are subject to change after such date. Except as may be required by Canadian securities laws, we do not undertake any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements contained in this presentation, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

The terms "Adjusted EBITDA", "Adjusted EBITDA margin", "free cash flow" and "Adjusted EPS" are non-GAAP financial measures and do not have any standardized meaning under IFRS. Therefore, they are unlikely to be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers. Beginning with Q2 2014, we reference Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA margin as non-GAAP financial measures. These terms replace the previously referenced non-GAAP financial measures EBITDA and EBITDA margin. Our definition of Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA margin are unchanged from our former definition of EBITDA and EBITDA margin respectively. Accordingly, this change in terminology has no impact on our reported financial results for prior periods. Refer to the section "Non-GAAP Financial Measures" in BCE's 2014 Second Quarter MD&A for more details.



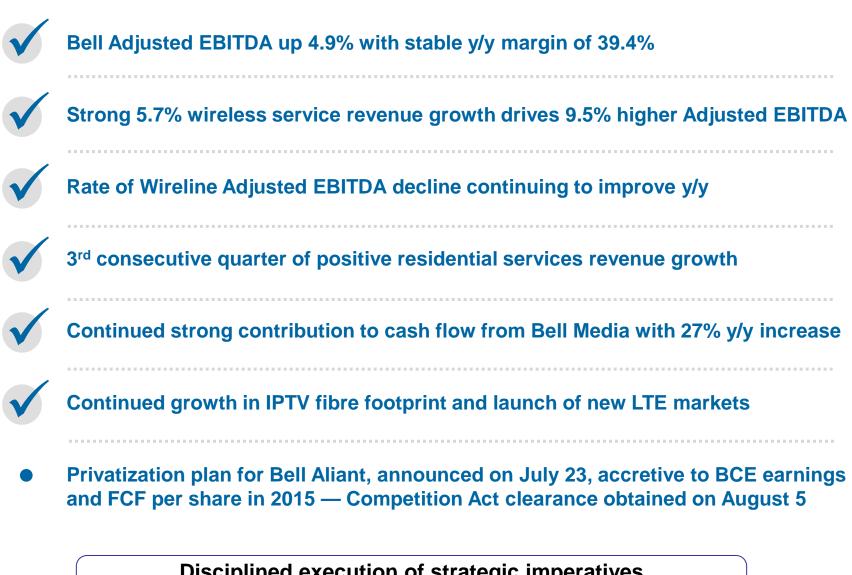


## **George Cope**

### **President & Chief Executive Officer**



## **Q2 overview**



Disciplined execution of strategic imperatives drives strong financial results in Q2



## **Wireless operating metrics**

Metrics	Q2'14	Y/Y
Postpaid gross additions	292k	(13.1%)
Postpaid net additions	66k	(31.3%)
Postpaid churn rate	1.16%	0.11 pts
Blended ARPU	\$59.49	4.6%
Retention (% of service revenue)	10.1%	(0.8 pts)
COA (per gross addition)	\$403	(0.2%)
Smartphones (% of postpaid base)	75%	8 pts
Mobile TV subscribers	1,472k	68.0%

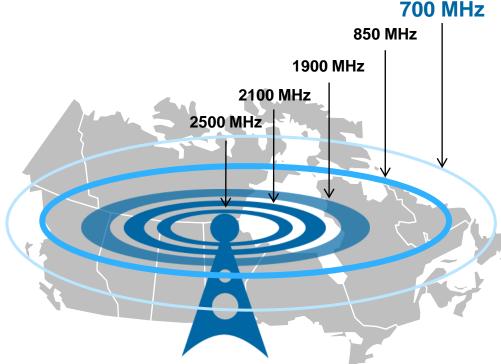
#### Healthy postpaid net adds of 66k

- Continued impact on industry growth from transition to 2-year contract pricing and no major handset launches
- Postpaid smartphone mix grows 8 pts y/y to 75%
- Lowest postpaid churn in 6 years
- ARPU up 4.6% highest growth in nearly 7 years
- Retention spending of 10.1% reflects greater number of upgrades to higher-ARPU devices
- COA per gross addition held steady y/y at ~\$400
- Mobile TV subscriber base up 68% y/y to ~1.5M
- Mobile payments agreements with 2 additional banks (TD and CIBC), bringing total number to 4

Strong set of wireless operating metrics highlighted by accelerated ARPU growth and low postpaid churn



## **Expanding 4G LTE to rural communities across Canada**



- 4G LTE now covers 82% of Canadian population
  - Deployment in rural communities started in April
  - 700 MHz spectrum and other bandwidth assets to be used in rural 4G LTE deployment
  - Next phase of 4G LTE national buildout in Atlantic Canada
    - 52 small towns and rural locations in the 4 Atlantic provinces in 2014
    - More than 100 by the end of 2015
  - Other regional LTE buildouts across Canada to be announced in coming months
  - 700 MHz rural network rollout to be completed by YE2015 one year ahead of original schedule

World-leading, nationwide 4G LTE rollout to be completed by end of 2015, bringing coverage to more than 98% of Canadians with ongoing expansion to rural and remote communities

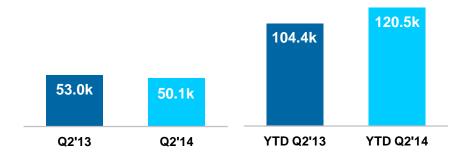


## Wireline Residential RGU net losses continue to improve

### **Bell Residential RGU net losses**



### Fibe TV and Internet net additions



- Total residential RGU net losses in Q2'14 improve 12% y/y
  - Relatively stable y/y combined broadband IPTV and Internet net adds and fewer NAS losses
- Q2 Internet net adds of 3.6k, up 1.2k y/y
  - Lower residential churn from high Fibe TV attach rate and higher FTTN speeds
- Total Fibe TV net adds 46.5k, down 4.1k y/y
  - Aggressive cable offers and promotions in Québec not matched and less new footprint expansion
  - YTD Fibe TV net adds 101.2k, up 3.3% y/y

### • Total Satellite TV net losses stable y/y

- Retail Satellite TV net losses down 13.5% y/y
- Residential NAS losses improve 17.2% in Q2
  - Lower churn reflects benefit of IPTV expansion

### • Business NAS losses up 9.2k in Q2

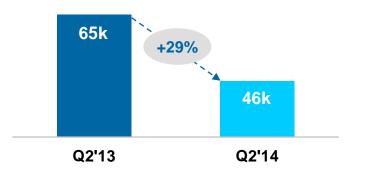
 Higher deactivations from ongoing IP migration and removal of dial-up ports due to customer shift to high-speed Internet services

Total YTD residential RGU net losses down 41% y/y



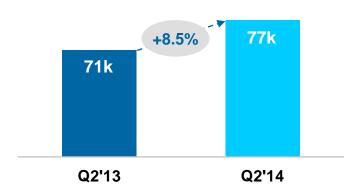
## Bell Aliant contributing positively to BCE customer growth

### Pro forma BCE residential RGU net losses



Residential RGUs include TV, Internet and local Home Phone subscribers

### Pro forma BCE IPTV and Internet net adds



- Pro forma Q2'14 total residential RGU net losses improve 29% or 19k y/y
- Combined IPTV net adds of 59k in Q2'14
- Total Internet net adds of 18k in Q2'14, more than double y/y
- Combined total Home Phone net losses down 21k or 19% y/y in Q2'14

Pro forma Bell Aliant, total wireless postpaid net adds of 68k in Q2'14



### **Bell Media**



### **TV Everywhere**

### 11 Bell Media GO products, including:

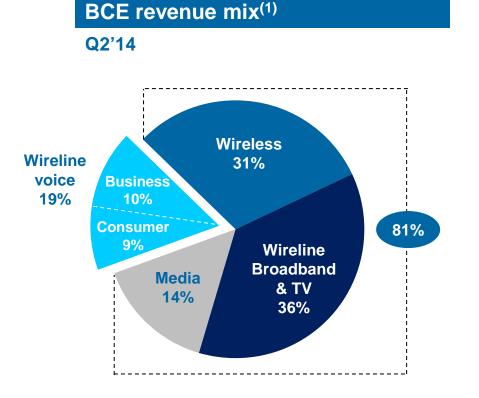


- Ongoing softness in overall advertising market
- Highest average audiences vs. competitors across conventional and specialty TV
  - 12 of top 20 programs for CTV in Spring season
  - 4 of top 5 shows among viewers aged 25-54
- Secured 11 new series and more returning top 20 hits than any other Canadian network for 2014-15 primetime lineup
- TSN expanding from 2 to 5 national feeds
  - Leverages extensive portfolio of sports content
- New broadcast rights deals for TSN/RDS
  - Formula 1 Grand Prix races through to 2019 and U.S.
    Open golf through to 2022

Continued focus on growing and monetizing audiences, securing content and scaling TV Everywhere



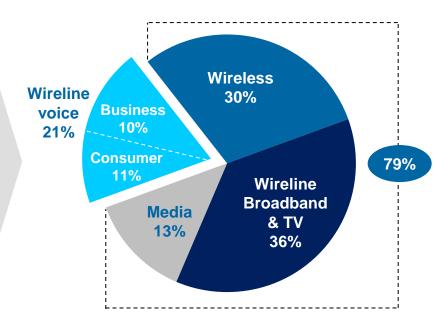
## **Continued strong mix of growth services**



<sup>(1)</sup> Proportionate consolidation of Bell Aliant revenues

## Pro forma BCE revenue mix<sup>(2)</sup>

Q2'14



(2) Pro forma 100% of Bell Aliant

### Pro forma BCE growth services revenue up ~\$300M, or 7.8%, y/y in Q2'14



## Siim Vanaselja

**EVP & Chief Financial Officer** 



## **Q2** financial review

Bell	Q2'14	Y/Y	YTD'14	Y/Y
<b>Revenue</b> Service	<b>\$4,649M</b> \$4,282M	<b>5.1%</b> 5.8%	<b>\$9,187M</b> \$8,469M	<b>4.7%</b> 5.4%
Product	\$367M	(2.1%)	\$8,409M \$718M	(2.6%)
Adjusted EBITDA Margin	\$1,830M 39.4%	4.9% 0.0 pts	<b>\$3,538M</b> 38.5%	<b>4.5%</b> (0.1 pts)
Capex	\$791M	(17.5%)	\$1,385M	(9.3%)
Capital Intensity	17.0%	(1.8 pts)	15.1%	(0.7 pts)
BCE	Q2'14	Y/Y	YTD'14	Y/Y
Statutory EPS	\$0.78	5.4%	\$1.57	6.8%
Adjusted EPS <sup>(1)</sup>	\$0.82	6.5%	\$1.63	5.8%
Free Cash Flow <sup>(2)</sup>	\$815M	(9.7%)	\$1,077M	(6.3%)

<sup>(1)</sup> Before severance, acquisition and other costs, net (gains) losses on investments and premiums on early redemption of debt

<sup>(2)</sup> Before BCE common share dividends and including dividends from Bell Aliant

#### • Service revenue up 5.8% in Q2'14

 Reflects Astral contribution and accelerated Wireless and Wireline residential revenue growth

### • Adjusted EBITDA growth of 4.9% with stable y/y margin

- Wireless up 9.5%
- Wireline decline improves y/y for 5th straight quarter
- Media growth of 34.6% driven by Astral
- Adjusted EPS up 6.5% y/y, driven by strong growth in Adjusted EBITDA
- Higher y/y capex reflects timing of spend on fibre broadband expansion and wireless LTE
- Free cash flow of \$815M in line with plan
  - Higher y/y capex and cash taxes





## **Wireless financials**

(\$M)	Q2'14	Y/Y	YTD'14	Y/Y
Revenue	1,522	5.5%	2,994	5.0%
Service	1,404	5.7%	2,768	5.2%
Product	105	6.1%	199	3.6%
Operating costs	855	(2.6%)	1,699	(2.5%)
Adjusted EBITDA	667	9.5%	1,295	8.5%
Margin (service revenue)	47.5%	1.6 pts	46.8%	1.4 pts
Сарех	164	(22.4%)	281	(9.8%)
Capital intensity	10.8%	(1.5 pts)	9.4%	(0.4 pts)
Adjusted EBITDA-Capex	503	5.9%	1,014	8.1%
Adjusted EBITDA-Capex margin	33.0%	0.1 pts	33.9%	1.0 pts

- Stronger service revenue growth trajectory of 5.7%, driven by higher postpaid subscriber mix and 21% y/y increase in data revenues
- Adjusted EBITDA up 9.5% on ARPU growth and disciplined spending on COA and retention, yielding 1.6 point y/y increase in service revenue margin to 47.5%
- Continued strong contribution to FCF with Adjusted EBITDA-Capex growth of 5.9% in Q2'14

Profitable postpaid subscriber growth drives 9.5% higher Adjusted EBITDA and 1.6-point y/y service margin expansion to 47.5%



## **Wireline financials**

(\$M)	Q2'14	Y/Y	YTD'14	Y/Y
Revenues	2,485	(0.8%)	4,947	(1.3%)
Data	1,485	2.0%	2,948	2.0%
Voice	765	(6.1%)	1,530	(7.0%)
Equipment & other	147	(3.9%)	296	(6.6%)
Operating costs	1,532	(0.3%)	3,064	0.4%
Adjusted EBITDA	953	(2.7%)	1,883	(2.8%)
Margin	38.4%	(0.7 pts)	38.1%	(0.5 pts)
Сарех	595	(13.8%)	1,058	(7.6%)
Capital intensity	23.9%	(3.0 pts)	21.4%	(1.8 pts)

• 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive quarter of positive Residential Services revenue growth

- Higher ARPU across all residential services
- Data up 2.0% on strong residential growth
  - Residential data revenues up 6.1% in Q2'14 driven by Fibe growth and price increases
- Slower voice revenue decline driven by fewer residential NAS line losses y/y and higher sales of international LD minutes
- Continued competitive pricing pressures and soft economy impacting Business Markets results, but rate of Adjusted EBITDA decline improves y/y
- Wireline Adjusted EBITDA decline of 2.7% in Q2'14 improves over both Q2'13 and Q1'14

2H'14 Wireline revenue and Adjusted EBITDA growth expected to be positive



## **Media financials**

(\$M)	Q2'14	Y/Y	YTD'14	Y/Y
Revenues	761	36.1%	1,483	38.3%
Operating costs	551	(36.7%)	1,123	(37.3%)
Adjusted EBITDA (reported)	210	34.6%	360	41.7%
Margin	27.6%	(0.3 pts)	24.3%	0.6 pts
PPA	(18)	(12.5%)	(37)	(8.8%)
Adjusted EBITDA (excl. PPA)	228	32.6%	397	37.8%
Margin	30.0%	(0.8 pts)	26.8%	(0.1 pts)
Capex	32	(100.0%)	46	(64.3%)
Adjusted EBITDA-Capex (excl. PPA)	196	25.6%	351	35.0%
Adjusted EBITDA-Capex margin	25.8%	(2.1 pts)	23.7%	(0.6 pts)

### • Total revenues 36.1% higher y/y

- Including Astral in Q2'13 results, revenues down ~2% y/y before \$10M of retroactive VoD revenues recognized last year
- Advertising revenues up ~29% y/y, reflecting Astral contribution
  - Soft market continues to impact TV advertising
  - Sports specialty down, due to fewer NHL games y/y and shift in ad dollars to World Cup Soccer

### • Subscriber revenues up ~51% y/y

- Rate increases for specialty sports services, and higher TV Everywhere and mobile TV revenues
- Adjusted EBITDA growth of 34.6% in Q2'14
  - Including Astral in Q2'13 results, Adjusted EBITDA stable y/y before \$10M of retroactive VoD revenues recognized last year
  - Higher TV programming and sports rights costs
- Cash flow generation of \$196M in Q2'14 and \$351M YTD

### Pro forma Astral, stable Adjusted EBITDA contribution from Bell Media in Q2'14



## **Adjusted EPS**



<sup>(1)</sup> Before severance, acquisition and other costs, net (gains) losses on investments and premiums on early redemption of debt

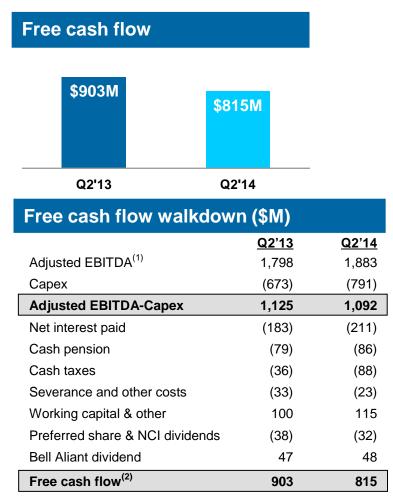
Adjusted EPS walk down (\$)	<u>Q2'13</u>	<u>Q2'14</u>
Adjusted EBITDA	1.78	1.86
Depreciation & amortization	(0.73)	(0.76)
Net interest expense	(0.19)	(0.20)
Net pension finance cost	(0.02)	(0.02)
Preferred share & NCI dividends	(0.06)	(0.06)
Tax adjustments	0.05	0.02
Equity derivative gain (loss)	(0.06)	0.02
F/X gain (loss)	0.01	(0.02)
Other	(0.01)	(0.02)
Adjusted EPS	0.77	0.82

- Higher y/y Adjusted EBITDA contributes 8¢ of EPS growth
- Increased depreciation and amortization from higher capital asset base and Astral contribution
- Interest expense up y/y reflects higher average long-term debt due to Astral acquisition financing
- Lower y/y tax adjustments
  - Effective tax rate of 25.0% in Q2'14 reflects tax recoveries of \$0.02 per share vs. \$0.05 in Q2'13
- Mark-to-market gain on equity derivatives in Q2'14 vs. loss in Q2'13
- F/X loss on U.S.-dollar capex hedges in Q2'14 due to appreciation in Canadian dollar

## Higher y/y Adjusted EPS driven by strong Adjusted EBITDA growth



### Free cash flow



• FCF of \$815M in Q2'14 in line with plan

- \$85M higher y/y Adjusted EBITDA<sup>(1)</sup> driven by strong wireless growth and Astral contribution
- Higher capex reflects timing of spend on fibre broadband expansion and wireless LTE
- Net interest paid reflects higher level of longterm debt due to Astral financing
- Cash taxes up y/y in line with guidance
  - Consistent with previous assumption, y/y increase of ~\$250M expected for FY2014
- Improved y/y working capital position reflects timing of supplier payments and higher inventory turnover of wireless handsets

<sup>(1)</sup> Adjusted EBITDA before post-employment benefit plans service cost

<sup>(2)</sup> Free cash flow before BCE common share dividends and including dividends from Bell Aliant

Free cash flow generation on track with guidance and accelerating in second half of 2014



## Outlook

2014 guidance <sup>(1)</sup>	February 6	August 7
Revenue growth	2%-4%	On track
Adjusted EBITDA growth	3%-5%	On track
Capital intensity	16%-17%	On track
Adjusted EPS <sup>(2)</sup> Growth	<b>\$3.10-\$3.20</b> ~4%-7%	On track
Free cash flow <sup>(3)</sup> Growth	<b>\$2,650M-\$2,750M</b> ~3%-7%	On track

<sup>(1)</sup> Revenue, Adjusted EBITDA and capital intensity guidance targets for Bell excluding Bell Aliant

<sup>(2)</sup> EPS before severance, acquisition and other costs, net (gains) losses on investments and premiums on early redemption of debt

<sup>(3)</sup> Free cash flow before BCE common share dividends and including dividends from Bell Aliant

### No change in overall outlook

- Continued strong Wireless profitability
- Wireline revenue and Adjusted EBITDA growth in second half of 2014
- Astral fully reflected in Bell Media y/y financial results starting Q3'14

### **Reconfirming 2014 financial guidance**

#### Higher interest expense expected

- Less capitalized interest due to lower-thanexpected cost and faster rollout of 700MHz spectrum acquired
- No significant 2014 impact from Bell Aliant privatization
  - Expect closing by November 30th
  - No change to Bell revenue growth, Adjusted EBITDA growth or capital intensity
  - No change to BCE Adjusted EPS as we already fully consolidate Bell Aliant
  - No change to BCE FCF guidance; however, with this transaction BCE's FCF will include 100% of Bell Aliant's FCF rather than just our share of Bell Aliant dividends

### Bell Aliant privatization accretive to EPS and FCF in 2015



# Appendix Key financial assumptions for 2014

Bell	February 6	August 7
Employee benefit plans service cost (above Adjusted EBITDA)	~\$220M	No change
Net employee benefit plans financing cost (below Adjusted EBITDA)	~\$90M	No change
Cash pension funding	~\$350M	No change
Cash taxes	~\$600M	No change
Net interest payments	~\$775M	No change
Working capital changes, severance and other (cash flow)	~\$175M	No change
BCE		
Employee benefit plans service cost (above Adjusted EBITDA)	~\$280M	No change
Net employee benefit plans financing cost (below Adjusted EBITDA)	~\$110M	No change
Depreciation & amortization	~\$115M higher y/y	No change
Net interest expense	~\$900M	~\$925M
Tax adjustments (per share)	~\$0.04	No change
Effective tax rate	~26%	No change
Non-controlling interest	~\$280M	No change
Annualized common dividend per share	\$2.47	No change

