



**Independent Limited Assurance Report on the selected sustainability
information included in the Bell Canada Corporate Responsibility
Report**

For the year ended December 31, 2019

Prepared in accordance with:

International Standard on Assurance Engagements 3000 (revised), *Assurance Engagements other than audits or reviews of historical financial information* ('ISAE 3000 revised') and International Standard on Assurance Engagements 3410, *Assurance Engagements on Greenhouse Gas Statements* ('ISAE 3410')

The contents of this report are strictly confidential, and its use is restricted. Unauthorized use of this report, in whole or in part, is strictly forbidden.



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SECTION I: Independent practitioner’s limited assurance report on the “Key Performance Indicators Appendix” and “Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report” of Bell Canada Corporate Responsibility Report

To the Board of Directors and Management of Bell Canada

We have undertaken a limited assurance engagement of the “Key Performance Indicators Appendix” and of the “Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report” (together the “Appendices”) prepared in the context of the Bell Canada Corporate Responsibility Report for the year ended December 31, 2019. This engagement was conducted by a multidisciplinary team including assurance practitioners and individuals with environmental experience.

Scope and subject matter

Our scope is limited only and exclusively to the above mentioned Appendices and is not extended to any other information, note, section and paragraph of the Bell Canada Corporate Responsibility Report.

We were not engaged to report on comparative figures for the prior years and we were not engaged to report on trends, variances and any other additional information not specifically mentioned in the following Scope and subject matter paragraph.

With reference to the “Key Performance Indicators Appendix”, our limited assurance engagement was performed on the following:

- LTE advanced network coverage
- Overall team member engagement score
- Time lost accident frequency rate
- Community investment
- Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction objective
- Diversion rate for recovered waste
- Administrative waste
- Hazardous waste
- E-waste

With reference to the Appendix “Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report” (the “Greenhouse Gas statement”), our limited assurance engagement was performed on the following:

- Scope 1 emissions
- Scope 2 emissions
- Scope 3 emissions

The organizational boundaries and the applicable criteria have been disclosed in the Appendices.



Bell Canada's responsibility

With reference to the “Key Performance Indicators Appendix”, Bell Canada is responsible for the preparation of the appendix in accordance with criteria (the “Applicable Criteria”) applied as explained therein. Bell Canada is also responsible for such internal control as management determines necessary to enable the preparation of a “Key Performance Indicators Appendix” that is free from material misstatement.

With reference to the appendix “Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report”, Bell Canada is responsible for the preparation of the appendix in accordance with ISO 14064-1 and the Greenhouse Gas Protocol: A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard Revised Edition (the “Greenhouse Gas Applicable Criteria”), applied as explained in the appendix. Bell Canada is also responsible for such internal control as management determines necessary to enable the preparation of a “Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report” that is free from material misstatement.

Inherent Uncertainty

Non-financial data is subject to more inherent limitations than financial data, given both the nature and the methods used for the determining, calculating, sampling or estimating such data. Qualitative interpretations of relevance, materiality and the accuracy of data are subject to individual assumptions and judgments.

Greenhouse Gas quantification is subject to inherent uncertainty because of incomplete scientific knowledge used to determine emissions factors and the values needed to combine emissions of different gases.

Our responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a limited assurance conclusion on the “Key Performance Indicators Appendix” and the “Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report” based on the evidence we have obtained.

We conducted our limited assurance engagement in accordance with International Standard on Assurance Engagement 3000 (revised), *Assurance Engagements other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information* (“ISAE 3000 revised”), and International Standards on Assurance Engagements 3410, *Assurance Engagements on Greenhouse Gas Statements* (“ISAE 3410”), issued by the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. These standards require us to conclude whether nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the “Key Performance Indicators Appendix” and the “Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report” are not fairly stated, in all material respects.

A limited assurance engagement undertaken in accordance with ISAE 3000 revised and ISAE 3410 involves performing procedures (primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and other within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures) and evaluating the evidence obtained. The procedures are selected based on our professional judgment, which includes identifying areas where the risks of material misstatement in preparing the “Key Performance Indicators Appendix” in accordance with the Applicable Criteria and the “Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report” in accordance with the Greenhouse Gas Applicable Criteria are likely to arise.



Given the circumstances of the engagement, in performing the procedures listed above we:

- Through inquiries, obtained an understanding of Bell Canada’s control environment and information systems relevant to key performance indicators and emissions quantification and reporting, but did not evaluate the design of particular control activities, obtain evidence about their implementation or test their operating effectiveness.
- Evaluated whether Bell Canada’s methods for developing estimates are appropriate and had been consistently applied. However, our procedures did not include testing the data on which the estimates are based or separately developing our own estimates against which to evaluate Bell Canada’s estimates.
- Checked the mathematical accuracy of the calculation related to the Greenhouse Gas emissions variations on the comparative period January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018 reported in the “Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report”. This did not imply any assurance procedures on Key Performance Indicators and Greenhouse Gas emissions for the period January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018.

The procedures performed in a limited assurance engagement vary in nature and timing from, and are less in extent than for a reasonable assurance engagement and, consequently, the level of assurance obtained is substantially lower than the assurance that would have been obtained had a reasonable assurance engagement been performed.

Our independence and quality control

We have complied with the relevant rules of professional conduct/code of ethics applicable to the practice of public accounting and related to assurance engagements, issued by various professional accounting bodies, which are founded on fundamental principles of integrity, objectivity, professional competence and due care, confidentiality and professional behavior.

The firm applies Canadian Standard on Quality Control 1, Quality Control for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Statements, and Other Assurance Engagements and, accordingly, maintains a comprehensive system of quality control, including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

Conclusion

Based on the procedures we have performed and the evidence we have obtained, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that Bell Canada’s “Key Performance Indicators Appendix” and “Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report” prepared in accordance with the Applicable Criteria and the Greenhouse Gas Applicable Criteria for the year ended December 31, 2019, are not fairly stated, in all material respects.

Purpose of statement and restriction of use and distribution

This report, including the conclusion, has been prepared for the Board of Directors and Management of Bell Canada, to assist Management in reporting on the Company's performance and activities. We permit the disclosure of this report within the accompanying “Key Performance Indicators Appendix” and the “Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report” for the year ended December 31, 2019, to enable Management to demonstrate that they have discharged their governance responsibilities by commissioning an independent assurance report on the selected information contained



in the Report. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Management of Bell Canada for our work or this report, save where terms are expressly agreed and with our prior consent in writing.

*PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP*¹

Montréal (Québec)

June 5, 2020

¹ CPA auditor, CA, public accountancy permit No. A113424

SECTION II: 2019 Bell Canada “Key Performance Indicators Appendix” and “Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report”

2019 BCE, Inc. Corporate Responsibility Report

Key Performance Indicators Appendix

Introduction

This document describes the methodology and assumptions related to the Key Performance Indicators (“KPIs”) presented on pages 19 and 20 of the BCE, Inc. 2019 Corporate Responsibility Report, which covers the period from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019.

The scope of the KPIs is specified in the table below. This report contains data about the BCE group of companies which is referred to collectively in this report as “BCE”, “Bell”, “Bell Canada”, “we”, “us”, “our” or “company”.

KPI	DESCRIPTION	ASSERTIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019	BUSINESS UNITS INCLUDED IN THE ORGANIZATIONAL BOUNDARIES	METHODOLOGY AND ASSUMPTIONS
LTE advanced network coverage	Population covered by Bell’s LTE-Advanced wireless network	94%	All of BCE	This KPI is calculated as the Canadian population covered by Bell’s 4G LTE wireless network using <i>Mentum Planet</i> (an industry benchmark model) as a percentage of the total Canadian Population reported by Statistics Canada (Census data, published 2016).
Overall team member engagement score	How team members feel about their job, their department, and the company as a whole	73%	All of BCE	This KPI is calculated as the average score obtained in the team member satisfaction survey of 2019. The Team Member Engagement score is based on 5 specific questions and the percentage of employees who responded favorable (Strongly agree or Agree) to these questions out of the total number of employees who responded to the survey.
Time lost accident frequency rate	Accident rate in the workplace	1.29	Bell Canada, Bell Media, BTS, and Expertech (excluding MTS)	This KPI is calculated as the total number of lost work cases every 200,000 hours worked. A lost work case is a case or injury which results in an employee being unfit for work on the next regularly scheduled day after the day of occurrence of the event. Contractors are not included.
Community investment	Investment in communities	\$29.5 million	All of BCE (excluding MTS)	Community Investment (CI) represents the total cash contribution compiled from charitable receipts, management costs and public service announcements through Bell Media valued at 75% of retail price.

KPI	DESCRIPTION	ASSERTIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019	BUSINESS UNITS INCLUDED IN THE ORGANIZATIONAL BOUNDARIES	METHODOLOGY AND ASSUMPTIONS
Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction objective	Reduce the ratio of our Scope 1 & 2 GHG emissions (tonnes of CO ₂ equivalent) to our network usage (PBytes) by 75% of 2014 level by end of 2020	-79%	All of BCE (excluding MTS)	This KPI is calculated as the reduction in the 2019 ratio of our Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions to our network usage as compared to the 2014 ratio. 2019 performance is based on energy consumption and network usage data from October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019, while the 2014 baseline is based on energy consumption and network usage data from January 1 to December 31, 2014.
Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions	GHG emissions in CO ₂ equivalent	See 2019 Bell Canada Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report Appendix attached hereto		
Diversion rate for recovered waste	Overall diversion rate for recovered waste	63%	All of BCE	This KPI is calculated as the quantity of recycled waste (materials such as metal, oil, paper, plastic rubber, cardboard, glass and wood) and valorized waste (portion of the used oil that cannot be recycled and some plastic, both are used as fossil fuel substitutes) as a percentage of the total waste collected from each business unit.
Administrative waste	Reach and maintain 55kg of waste sent to landfill per employee in Bell-owned or -leased administrative buildings by 2024	74kg	All of BCE (excluding MTS)	This KPI is calculated as the quantity of waste sent to landfill per employee in Bell – owned or leased – administrative buildings. Administrative buildings are considered as sites used mainly for office purpose. The primary use of such buildings is designated in part in Bell Real Estate’s building register. These are coded with OFF, SWM, and SWA. In addition, for Bell Media and NHS, all sites are considered administrative. For BTS and The Source we consider their head offices as administrative buildings.
Hazardous waste	Recover and divert to certified recyclers 100% of generated hazardous waste by 2024	99%	All of BCE	This KPI represents the proportion of recovered and diverted hazardous materials from generated hazardous materials. Hazardous waste includes network batteries, residual material from our fleet services and material such as aerosols, oily containers, paint and fluorescent tubes.
e-waste	Recover 10 million used TV receivers, modems, and mobile phones between January 1st, 2016 and the end of 2020	2,502,226	All of BCE (excluding MTS)	This KPI is calculated as the total number of TV receivers, modems, and mobile phones Bell recovered during the 2019 reporting period.

Bell Canada 2019 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report

INTRODUCTION

This Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions report was prepared in accordance with the principles and requirements of ISO 14064-1 and the Greenhouse Gas Protocol – A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (Revised Edition) and has been used to report Bell's GHG emissions to the CDP (previously known as the Carbon Disclosure Project) and other corporate disclosures. Bell reported a corporate carbon footprint summing up to 354,704 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e), which includes Scope 1, 2 and 3 (business travel only) emissions, for the time period from October 1st, 2018 to September 30th, 2019.

ORGANIZATIONAL BOUNDARIES

Bell applies the operational control approach to determine the scope of reporting for its subsidiaries and divisions. The following list identifies the businesses included in the organizational boundaries:

- BCE Nexxia
- Bell Aliant
- Bell Canada
- Bell Media
- Bell Mobility
- Bell Mobility Channels
- Bell MTS
- Bell Smart Home
- Bell Technical Solutions
- Expertech
- Northwestel
- The Source

The table below reports Bell's corporate carbon footprint for the 12-month periods ending September 30th, 2018 and September 30th, 2019.

Emissions in tonnes of CO ₂ e ⁽¹⁾	Operational Boundary	2018	2019	Increase/decrease
Scope 1	Direct emissions controlled by Bell include accidental release of ozone depleting substances from cooling equipment, burning of fuel oil and natural gas in buildings, combustion of diesel for its telecommunication towers and transmission equipment, combustion of propane for its maintenance equipment and combustion of diesel and gasoline for its vehicle fleet and generators.	137,027	148,889	+8.7%
Scope 2	Indirect emissions associated with energy corresponding to the production and transmission of electricity, steam, and heating/cooling required by Bell's activities, in its buildings and other facilities.	199,394	196,401	-1.5%
Scope 3	Other indirect emissions include business travel for Bell employees, including travel by air, rail, rented vehicles and personal vehicles.	9,303	9,414	+1.2%
Total		345,724	354,704	+2.6%

⁽¹⁾ Rounding of numbers may affect total figures presented

Compared with 2018, Bell's corporate carbon footprint increased 8,980 tonnes (+2.6%). The increase is mainly attributable to Scope 1 emissions, which were up 11,862 tonnes (+8.7%). This increase is mainly due to the integration of Manitoba Telecom Services Inc. (MTS)'s energy consumption into Bell's 2019 corporate carbon footprint, following its acquisition in March 2017. Bell MTS's integration increased our Scope 1 emissions by 9,585 tonnes (+7.0%).

METHODOLOGY AND ASSUMPTIONS

Scope 1

Fossil fuels:

Sources with information on volume of fossil fuels consumed:

Information provided from the company's energy data aggregator systems and energy providers' reports includes the volumes of diesel, fuel oil, gasoline, natural gas and propane consumed per province for the time period covering October 1st, 2018 to September 30th, 2019.

Sources with no information on volume of fossil fuels consumed:

The volumes of diesel, fuel oil, gasoline, natural gas and propane consumed are established by compiling the Canadian dollars spent (\$) from the company's energy finance reports that are converted into volume using average costs per unit of energy per substance and province. Average costs per unit are determined by using best estimates for the time period covering October 1st, 2018 to September 30th, 2019.

Emissions were calculated by multiplying these fossil fuel volumes by the Canadian emission factors taken from the *National Inventory Report 1990-2017: Greenhouse Gas Sources and Sinks in Canada (Part 2)*.

The total GHG emissions, in tonnes of CO₂e, were calculated by multiplying the mass of each gas (CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O) by its global warming potential (GWP) and adding up the totals. GWPs used are from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fifth Assessment Report, 2014 (GWP of CO₂ = 1, GWP of CH₄ = 28 and GWP of N₂O = 265).

Biomass emissions were calculated by applying the following assumptions on the volume of diesel and gasoline consumed: 2% biodiesel content in diesel and 5% ethanol content in gasoline.

Ozone depleting substances (ODS):

Volume of ODS accidentally released is acquired by compiling volumes reported within our incident response management system. Emissions were calculated by applying the appropriate GWP for each substance using the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report, 2014.

Scope 2

Facilities with electricity consumption information:

Information provided from the company's energy data aggregator systems and energy providers' reports includes electricity volume in kilowatt-hours (kWh) per province for the time period covering October 1st, 2018 to September 30th, 2019.

Facilities with no electricity consumption information:

Facilities with electricity financial information:

Electricity volume in kilowatt-hours (kWh) is established by compiling the Canadian dollars spent (\$) from the company's energy finance reports and converting them into volumes using our best estimate of average cost per unit of energy (\$/kWh) per province for the time period covering October 1st, 2018 to September 30th, 2019.

Facilities with no electricity financial information:

The volume is established by using an averaged kilowatt-hour (kWh) consumption per square foot. This average is calculated from direct energy consumption information that was extrapolated from a representative sample of buildings.

Electricity emission factors were then applied to the total kWh consumed by province to calculate tonnes of CO_{2e}. Canadian emission factors were sourced from the *National Inventory Report 1990-2017: Greenhouse Gas Sources and Sinks in Canada* (Part 3, Annex 13).

Scope 3

Air/Rail travel:

Information originated from travel agency reports and includes flight segments and mileage for flight and rail travels that took place between October 1st, 2018 to September 30th, 2019. Flight segments are then sorted as domestic, short and long haul as per *GHG Emissions from Transport or Mobile Sources* Excel file (sheet *Activity Data*) published on the Greenhouse Gas Protocol website in May 2015. Flight segments and rail mileage are then converted to tonnes of CO_{2e} using *Emission Factors from Cross-Sector Tools* Excel file (sheet *Reference - EF Public*) published on the Greenhouse Gas Protocol website in March 2017.

Rented vehicles:

Fuel consumption (L) is established by compiling the Canadian dollars spent (\$) for gasoline with the car rental companies and converting it using average cost (\$/L) from best estimates for the time period from October 1st, 2018 to September 30th, 2019.

Emissions are then calculated following the same methodology as described for fossil fuels (please see above). For this calculation, Bell assumed that all rented vehicles run on gasoline.

Employee personal vehicle use for business travel:

Mileage (km) is established by converting employee mileage expenses (\$) using applicable reimbursement rates (\$/km) provided in business units' discretionary expense policies. Fuel consumption (L) is then established by converting mileage (km) using average consumption (L/km) from best estimates for the time period from October 1st, 2018 to September 30th, 2019.

Emissions are then calculated following the same methodology as described for fossil fuels (please see above). For this calculation, Bell assumed that all personal vehicles run on gasoline.