

Canada is one of the largest and most sparsely populated countries in the world. Providing modern telecommunications services is a fundamental challenge, and finding solutions to improve digital access and inclusion is a shared responsibility. In December 2016, the CRTC declared that broadband was a basic telecommunications service, set ambitious broadband speed targets and announced plans to create a \$750-million fund. The CRTC's Vice-Chair of Telecommunications, Christianne Laizner, will discuss the CRTC's role, as well as those of other government and industry partners, in helping to close the digital access and inclusion gaps.