

## A MESSAGE TO CEP MEMBERS AT ALIANT AND BELL CANADA

The latest announcement from BCE that it intends to create an Income Trust out of a combined Aliant and the earlier announced Bell Regional (covering rural Ontario and Quebec) has naturally raised a thousand questions and much speculation.

At this point, there are few answers and no clear picture of how this new entity will unfold and exactly how it will impact us. Both Aliant and Bell are saying it will have no effect in the “near term.”

That remains to be seen.

Our message to you now is that we intend to keep ahead of issues. So far, here is what we have done:

- 1 Consulted all local leadership in all three regions;
- 2 Are seeking more information with upper management in both companies;
- 3 Have asked CEP National Office to intervene in the regulatory approval process at the CRTC and other government agencies;
- 4 Are formulating an Action Plan designed to protect, above all else, the interests of ALL CEP members in all regions;
- 5 We have agreed to coordinate our approach among the three regions in order to maximize our impact and solidarity.

Our intention is to keep you up to date on developments as quickly as we can.

In solidarity,

Ervan Cronk Michel Ouimet John Edwards

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