

**NPA 403 Relief Planning Meeting  
Calgary, Alberta  
November 22, 2004**

**Participants:** Gerry Thompson – Rogers Wireless  
Frank Norman – TELUS  
Clyde Pawluk – City of Calgary  
George Jones – Bell West  
Suresh Khare – SAIC Canada (CNA)  
Glenn Pilley – SAIC Canada (CNA)  
Fiona Clegg – SAIC Canada (CNA)

**Conference Bridge:** Brenda Stevens – CRTC

**Agenda:**

- 1) Welcome & Introductions
- 2) Approval of Agenda
- 3) CRTC Comments on NPA Relief Planning Process and Telecom Public Notice CRTC 2004-5
- 4) CNA Role in NPA Relief Planning Process
- 5) CNA Review of Industry Guidelines
- 6) Review of Aggregate NRUF and Relief Plans
- 7) Review of Contributions
- 8) Review of IPD

***Welcome and Introductions***

Glenn Pilley welcomed the attendees of the Initial NPA 403 Relief Planning Meeting, and each of the participants introduced themselves.

***Approval of Agenda***

Glenn Pilley outlined the original agenda and requested if any of the participants had changes to it. He suggested that the agenda be modified to put the CRTC Comments on NPA Relief Planning Process and Telecom Public Notice CRTC 2004-5 ahead of the CNA Role in NPA Relief Planning Process agenda item shown in the presentation.

Agreement was reached to accept the agenda as modified.

The modified agenda is shown above.

***CRTC Comments on NPA Relief Planning Process and Telecom Public Notice  
CRTC 2004-5***

Telecom Public Notice CRTC 2004-5, *Establishment of two new CISC ad hoc committees for area code relief planning in Alberta area codes 403 and 780*, was released on 7 October 2004.

CRTC staff thanked the participants for attending today's initial planning meeting, and expressed some concern about the limited attendance at the meeting. It was noted that the purpose of forming a Relief Planning Committee is to ensure unrestricted representation from those parties that will be affected by area code relief planning.

It was noted that the CRTC depends on the activities and recommendations of Relief Planning Committees to ensure the best solution is chosen for area code relief. It was also noted that the Relief Planning Committee is to submit a report to the Commission that outlines all possible solutions for area code relief. The Commission will use the information in the report to issue a Public Notice; the purpose of which is to solicit comments from Interested Parties. The Commission will use all the information provided by the Relief Planning Committee and Interested Parties (in response to the Public Notice) to make and issue a Decision with respect to the appropriate Relief Method and Relief Date.

In addition, it was noted that the CRTC's expectation is that participation in the Relief Planning Committee will provide a broad representation from the public, and will not weigh in favour of any specific industry segment. The earlier participants are involved in the relief planning process, the more opportunity they have to present their views and recommendations.

CRTC staff briefly outlined the relief planning process, the CNA's role in the process, and noted that relief planning is a contribution driven process.

CRTC staff stressed the importance of broad participation and representation at the NPA Relief Planning meetings.

It was asked if there is anything that can be done about increasing attendance at Relief Planning Meetings. CRTC staff volunteered to send an e-mail to the CISC distribution list reminding people that this is the time to participate; not after a decision is made.

It was noted that a limited amount of participation could affect the development of a neutral Planning Document, which would be of concern to the Commission. It was further noted that representatives from a WSP, ILEC, CLEC and local government were involved in today's meeting.

***CNA Role in NPA Relief Planning Process***

Glenn Pilley reviewed the NPA relief planning process and the roles of the CRTC and CNA. This information is contained in a PowerPoint presentation, available from the CNA's website at [www.cnac.ca](http://www.cnac.ca).

### **Review of Aggregate NRUF and Relief Plans**

It was noted that section 6 of the Initial Planning Document (IPD) and Annex A of the IPD detail the five Relief Options that have been identified by the CNA. The IPD is available from the CNA's website at [www.cnac.ca](http://www.cnac.ca). Suresh Khare reviewed each of the Relief Options with the meeting participants.

It was noted that the current projected exhaust date for NPA 403 is October 2009.

In response to a question about process, CRTC staff confirmed that there will be a Public Notice issued, inviting parties to comment on the Planning Document produced by the Relief Planning Committee.

A question was raised about whether the public proceeding mentioned in Telecom Decision CRTC 2004-61 (*Relief plan for area code 514*) related to 10-digit dialing would be initiated shortly. In response, CRTC staff noted that it may be released early in the New Year.

The Relief Options identified by the CNA in the IPD are as follows:

- 1) Geographic Split of NPA 403 - Out of Calgary EAS gets new NPA, and Calgary EAS grows with NPA 403 (Plan 1a)
- 2) Geographic Split of NPA 403 - Calgary EAS gets new NPA, and Out of Calgary EAS grows with NPA 403 (Plan 1b)
- 3) Concentrated Overlay with the new NPA covering the Calgary EAS and Outside the Calgary EAS area grows with NPA 403 (Plan 2)
- 4) Distributed Overlay on NPA 403 (Plan 3)
- 5) Distributed Overlay on NPA 403 area, with Boundary Realignment with NPA 780 at NPA 780 Exhaust (Plan 4)

Suresh Khare presented the Relief Options, and reviewed the details of each.

During discussion of the Geographic Split options, it was noted that if the NPA 780 Relief Planning Committee were also to choose a Geographic Split option, there would then be four relief planning areas in the province of Alberta.

It was noted that if the Concentrated Overlay with the new NPA covering the Calgary EAS and Outside the Calgary EAS area grows with NPA 403 option were chosen, then the next projected exhaust date for NPA 403 would be 2015. 2015 is only six years beyond 2009, and therefore this option does not comply with the 8-10 year period, prior to additional relief planning, required by the Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guidelines.

In response to a question from CRTC staff, it was noted that the CNA does have all the local dial plans for NPA 403.

It was noted that the five Relief Options submitted by the CNA in the IPD in no way precludes other participants from submitting alternative relief options to the Relief Planning Committee for discussion and evaluation.

### ***Review of Contributions***

It was noted that the CNA is not aware of any contributions that have been sent in for discussion during today's meeting.

It was requested that CRTC staff provide some information with respect to 7- and 10-digit dialing. It was noted that there are already a number of metropolitan areas in Canada where 10-digit dialing exists, or will exist shortly. It was noted that 10-digit dialing increases the quantity of CO Codes available for assignment. A brief explanation was provided concerning protected CO Codes in a cross-NPA 7-digit local dialing environment.

It was noted that the Commission will be issuing a Public Notice regarding the issue of 10-digit local dialing in Canada, to solicit public opinion with respect to the acceptance of 10-digit local dialing. It was also noted that the Industry Numbering Committee (INC) had produced a Uniform Dialing Plan that recommends the implementation of 10-digit local dialing throughout North America. A copy of the INC Uniform Dialing Plan Document may be found at: <http://www.atis.org/inc/docs.asp>.

It was noted that with the advent of new services that are using numbering resources, the North American Numbering Plan (NANP) may exhaust sooner than has been recently forecast by the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA). Prior to the exhaust of the NANP it appears there would be a move to 12-digit local dialing. It was noted that all networks must be capable of handling 10-digit local dialing prior to implementation of 12-digit dialing.

In response to a question, CRTC staff could not state whether the Commission would support 7-digit dialing in the case of a Geographic Split in NPA 403. While CRTC staff believes that the Commission tends to discourage the idea of CO Code protection, it was noted that the purpose of the public proceeding referred to in Telecom Decision CRTC 2004-61 is to solicit public opinion, which would assist the Commission to decide whether 10-digit local dialing should be implemented or whether 7-digit local dialing would be retained. It was noted that the Relief Planning Committee should recommend, in the NPA 403 Planning Document, the dialing plan that is preferred by its participants.

### ***Review of Initial Planning Document***

It was noted that the map in the IPD that shows Airdrie and Grand Prairie incorrectly spelt will be corrected in the next version of the draft Planning Document.

The Relief Planning Committee reviewed the Initial Planning Document.

In response to a question about the chart showing the Alberta population, it was noted that it is based on Alberta provincial government statistics from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

It was noted that the population of Alberta is about 3 million and two NPAs have already been assigned, which are being exhausted because each small community is being assigned its own CO Code. Telephone number utilization, however, is not being

optimized in many areas. Glenn Pilley, CNA, expressed concern about assigning multiple additional NPAs under these conditions as it would be an inefficient use of numbering resources.

It was suggested that an option 5 could be developed where Calgary EAS would keep NPA 403 and Edmonton EAS would keep NPA 780, and the rest of the province would change to a new area code. This would entail telephone number changes for everyone in Alberta outside the Calgary and Edmonton EAS areas (i.e., NPAs 403 and 780). It was noted that this option may allow 7-digit dialing but would create additional CO Code protection.

It was noted that 10-digit dialing will be required no later than 2019, according to the IPD, and that 7-digit dialing could be retained in a split scenario until that time. It was noted that the 2019 date comes from Relief Option 1a) in the IPD.

It was suggested that an option 6 could be that Calgary EAS grows with the remainder of the NPA 403 resources and Edmonton EAS grows with the remainder of the NPA 780 resources, while the rest of the province would get a new NPA in the form of a Concentrated Overlay. It was suggested that when NPA 403 and NPA 780 do finally exhaust, resources from the new Concentrated Overlay NPA could be assigned to the Calgary and Edmonton areas. No number changes would be required using this option.

It was noted that the Relief Planning Committee needs to address how much CO Code protection would be required to retain 7-digit dialing in a Geographic Split scenario. The CNA will do an analysis to establish how much CO Code protection would be required to retain 7-digit dialing in the three split scenarios. It was noted that retaining 7-digit dialing and the resultant CO Code protection would impact the date that 10-digit dialing would be required (i.e., sooner than the 2019 date identified in Relief Option 1a) in the IPD).

It was noted that the City of Calgary is concerned that public perception is that 10-digit dialing may affect toll plans, and that long distance charges may be incurred. In response, it was noted that the importance of 1+ long distance dialing needs to be emphasized. It was also noted that changing to 10-digit local dialing will not affect long distance charges. In fact, the likelihood is that free calling areas could expand, but free calling areas would not contract as this would be competitive suicide.

It was asked whether a distributed overlay implemented over NPA 403 and NPA 780 simultaneously would be considered a new Relief Option. It was noted that this suggestion is a variation of Relief Option 4, and could be 4b). It was noted that if Relief Option 4b) were chosen, NPA 780 would also exhaust in 2020.

It was noted that section 6.4 of the Initial Planning Document will be updated to include the new relief options or sub-options that have been developed today.

It was noted that it should be established whether the dial plan for wireless to wireless across an NPA boundary may or may not be 7-digits. This will need to be confirmed. After some discussion it was agreed to assume that 10-digit dialing would be required.

Agreement was reached to assume that 10-digit local dialing would be required for wireless to wireless calls across an NPA boundary.

**Issues Raised:**

The City of Calgary would like to ensure that Strathmore, High River, Airdrie and Cochrane remain as part of the area that is defined as Calgary. It was noted that these exchange areas are already part of the Calgary EAS, and will continue to be included in the CNA's definition of "Calgary".

It was noted that the 9-1-1 calling area would not be affected by any of the Relief Options that have been proposed either by the CNA or during today's meeting.

It was noted that the City of Calgary is concerned about any confusion that might result for consumers with respect to the difference between 10-digit local dialing and long distance calling. In response, it was indicated that a Consumer Awareness Plan will be developed after the relief plan has been approved by the Commission. A Consumer Awareness Task Force will be mandated with the responsibility of addressing issues such as the impact or lack thereof on long distance calling. The City of Calgary emphasized that it is important to begin addressing this issue from the beginning of the relief planning process.

It was noted that changes to Figure 8 in Annex A should be made to fix the exchange names and to make sure the contents of all the boxes are showing.

Comments on the draft Planning Document should be sent in as contributions to the NPA 403 Relief Planning Committee no later than 5 business days prior to the next meeting of the NPA 403 Relief Planning Committee.

***Continued Review of IPD:***

It should be noted that, at this point, the Relief Planning Committee continued into the agenda items for the second scheduled day of the meeting.

The Committee began to undertake a pro/con analysis of the various relief options that had been identified, either in the IPD or during the preceding discussion. The criteria that were used are shown below, and the results are contained in the following table.

- A. NPA Code Conservation – quantity of new NPAs required in Alberta within the next 15 years (P = 1 or less new NPAs; N = 2 new NPAs; C = 3 or more new NPAs)
- B. Number of separate Relief Planning areas in Alberta in the long term (P = decrease; N = stays same; C = increase)
- C. Quantity of Number Changes for existing customers' numbers
- D. Level of Carrier Costs – e.g., including implementation, customer awareness, (P = Low; N = Medium; C = High)
- E. Deferral of Implementation – how long before customers have to make a change (P = deferral of relief implementation; N = no advance or deferral of relief implementation; C = advance of relief implementation)
- F. Longevity – the length of time before further relief activity would be required in Alberta (e.g., a new area code) (P = 15 or more years; N = 8 through 14 years; C = within 7 years)
- G. Geographic Identity – known areas or identifiable geographical features or NPA border identification (P = High, N = Medium; C = Low)
- H. Geo-political Identity (P = High, N = Medium; C = Low)
- I. Customer Confusion about dialing plan changes (P = Low; N = Medium; C = High)
- J. Reprogram Mobile Phones – requirement to reprogram wireless devices to accommodate the number changes (P = Low; N = Medium; C = High)
- K. Does the option consider the potential direction for future reliefs in Alberta (P = Yes; C = No)

P = Pro  
 N = Neutral  
 C = Con

	<b>NPA 403 Relief Options</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>SUM</b>
<b>1a</b>	Geographic Split of NPA 403 - Out of Calgary EAS gets new NPA, and Calgary EAS grows with NPA 403	C	C	C	C	N	N	C	P	N	C	C	-6
<b>1b</b>	Geographic Split of NPA 403 - Calgary EAS gets new NPA, and Out of Calgary EAS grows with NPA 403	C	C	C	C	N	N	C	P	N	C	C	-6
<b>2</b>	Concentrated Overlay with the new NPA covering the Calgary EAS and Outside the Calgary EAS area grows with NPA 403	C	C	P	N	C	C	C	P	C	P	C	-4
<b>3</b>	Distributed Overlay on NPA 403	N	N	P	P	N	P	P	N	C	P	C	+2
<b>4a</b>	Distributed Overlay on NPA 403 area, with Boundary Realignment with NPA 780 at NPA 780 Exhaust	P	P	P	N	N	N	N	C	C	P	P	+3
<b>4b</b>	Distributed Overlay implemented over NPA 403 and NPA 780 simultaneously, at NPA 403 Relief	P	P	P	P	N	N	N	C	C	P	P	+4
<b>5</b>	Calgary EAS would keep NPA 403 and Edmonton EAS would keep NPA 780, and the rest of Alberta changes to a new area code	N	C	C	C	N	*	C	P	N	C	P	-3
<b>6</b>	Calgary EAS grows with the remainder of the NPA 403 resources and Edmonton EAS grows with the remainder of the NPA 780 resources, and the rest of the province would get a new NPA in the form of a Concentrated Overlay	*	C	P	N	C	*	C	P	C	P	P	0

\*CNA needs to complete analysis prior to completing this block.

Notes:

1. Where an Alberta-wide criterion is assessed for an NPA 403 Relief Option, it is assumed that the NPA 780 Relief Option will be similar.
2. None of the options require Exchange Area boundary changes.
3. For the purposes of this matrix, it is assumed that Relief Options 1a), 1b) and 5 will retain 7-digit local dialing within the area code.

If P, N and C are assigned a weighting of +1, 0 and -1, respectively, then analysis of the above table gives the highest rating of 4 points to Relief Option 4b); 3 points to Relief Option 4a); 2 points to Relief Option 3).

**Next Meeting:**

When the CNA distributes the next version of the draft Planning Document, the CNA will flag the above matrix, to be inserted into section 7 of the Planning Document, and will request that all recipients of the draft Planning Document review and analyze the matrix and be prepared to comment or submit contributions prior to or during the next meeting.

Agreement was reached for the NPA 403 Relief Planning Committee to recommend to the NPA 780 Relief Planning Committee that the two committees conduct relief planning as a joint activity. This agreement does not presuppose that the Relief Options for each of the two NPAs will be the same.

It was suggested that, if the NPA 780 Relief Planning Committee is agreeable to the above recommendation, then the meetings could be alternated between Calgary and Edmonton.

Agreement was reached that, if the NPA 780 Relief Planning Committee is agreeable to the above recommendation, then a joint conference call could be scheduled to establish meeting dates for the next relief planning meetings for these NPAs.

*Post Meeting Note: A conference call will be scheduled for Wednesday, December 15, 2004 to discuss when the next meetings for the NPA 403 and 780 Relief Planning Committees should take place.*

It is suggested that NPA 403 Relief Planning Committee participants may be interested in reviewing the meeting minutes from the NPA 780 Relief Planning Committee meeting scheduled for November 25 and 26, 2004. Copies of those minutes will be posted to the CNA's website at: [www.cnac.ca](http://www.cnac.ca).

The Chair thanked the participants for their attendance at today's meeting.

**Summary of Agreements Reached:**

- 1) Agreement was reached to accept the agenda as modified.
- 2) Agreement was reached to assume that 10-digit local dialing would be required for wireless to wireless calls across an NPA boundary.

- 3) Agreement was reached for the NPA 403 Relief Planning Committee to recommend to the NPA 780 Relief Planning Committee that the two committees conduct relief planning as a joint activity. This agreement does not presuppose that the Relief Options for each of the two NPAs will be the same.
- 4) Agreement was reached that, if the NPA 780 Relief Planning Committee is agreeable to the above recommendation, then a joint conference call could be scheduled to establish meeting dates for the next relief planning meetings for these NPAs.

**Summary of Action Items:**

- 1) CRTC staff volunteered to send an e-mail to the CISC distribution list reminding people that this is the time to participate in NPA 403 relief planning; not after a decision is made.
- 2) The Relief Planning Committee should recommend the dialing plan that is preferred by its participants in the NPA 403 Planning Document.
- 3) The map in the IPD that shows Airdrie and Grand Prairie incorrectly spelt will be corrected in the next version of the draft Planning Document.
- 4) The CNA will do an analysis to establish how much CO Code protection would be required to retain 7-digit dialing in the three split scenarios.
- 5) Section 6.4 of the Initial Planning Document will be updated to include the new relief options or sub-options that have been developed today.
- 6) Changes to Figure 8 in Annex A will be made to fix the exchange names and to make sure the contents of all the boxes are showing.
- 7) Comments on the draft Planning Document should be sent in as contributions to the NPA 403 Relief Planning Committee no later than 5 business days prior to the next meeting of the NPA 403 Relief Planning Committee.
- 8) When the CNA distributes the next version of the draft Planning Document, the CNA will flag the above matrix, to be inserted into section 7 of the Planning Document, and will request that all recipients of the draft Planning Document review and analyze the matrix and be prepared to comment or submit contributions prior to or during the next meeting.

*Post Meeting Note: A conference call will be scheduled for Wednesday, December 15, 2004 to discuss when the next meetings for the NPA 403 and 780 Relief Planning Committees should take place.*