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## Canadian Steering Committee on Numbering

3 November 2025

**TRANSMITTED ELECTRONICALLY**

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**Subject: CSCN Direction to Canadian Numbering Administrator (CNA) re: the 2026 Numbering Resource Utilization Forecast (2026 NRUF) Methodology and Assumptions**

On 3 November 2025, the Canadian Steering Committee on Numbering (CSCN) discussed and agreed to the direction for the CNA with respect to the 2026 NRUF Methodology and Assumptions.

The attached document contains the direction titled "CSCN Direction to CNA re: the 2026 NRUF Methodology and Assumptions, 3 November 2025".

Sincerely,

***Original signed by***

Kelly T. Walsh  
CSCN Chair

c.c.: Suneil Kanjeekal – CRTC staff  
Étienne Robelin – CRTC staff  
Alexander Pittman – CRTC staff

Attachment

**CSCN Direction to CNA re: the 2026 NRUF Methodology and Assumptions  
3 November 2025**

The CSCN submits the following methodology and assumptions to the CNA for the 2026 Numbering Resource Utilization Forecast (NRUF).

1. If there is a discrepancy between the CNA records and those submitted by the CO Code Holder with respect to the quantities of actual CO Codes assigned and reserved as of 1 January 2026, the CNA will attempt to rectify the discrepancy. However, if the discrepancy cannot be resolved, the quantity of CO Codes appearing in the CNA's records will be used. The CO Code Holder and the CNA should attempt to resolve the discrepancy before the next NRUF is conducted.

This problem has generally occurred when a CO Code:

- is still "being recovered" (i.e., a Part 3 Form has not been issued but the CO Code Holder believes the CNA has recovered the CO Code);
  - is a test code (i.e., legacy, NPA Relief, industry plant test codes and Appendix D temporary plant test codes); or
  - has been assigned and a Part 4 Form has not been received. In the past some CO Code Holders have not counted assigned codes.
2. CRTC staff instructed the CNA to reserve a number of CO Codes to be used for new unknown entrants, new technologies and other unforecast demand. The CSCN recommends that the quantities identified by CRTC staff should be carried forward to the 2026 NRUF, except in NPAs where pools of CO Codes have been established for initial CO Code assignments, in which case the allowance for unforecast demand should only be included for forecast years following the dissolution of the pool for initial CO Code assignments as noted in the table below.

CRTC Staff Allowance for Unforecast Demand based on CRTC staff letter, dated 16 Oct 2007 ( <a href="http://cnac.ca/NRUF/NRUF.htm">http://cnac.ca/NRUF/NRUF.htm</a> )	
NPA	Quantity of CO Codes
204/431	3
226/519/548	5
236/250/604/672/778	7
249/705	5
289/365/905	7
306/639	3
343/613	7
367/418/581	3
403/587/780/825	7
416/437/647	6
438/514	6
450/579	5
506	3
709	2
782/902	3
807	2
819/873	2
867	2

Where a Notice of Consultation (NoC) is currently in effect in an NPA complex, the number of CO Codes listed under “Quantity of CO Codes” in the table above is superseded by any quantities specified in the related NoC. That number may be further impacted by recent CO Code assignments from the new entrant pools.

<b>CRTC Staff Allowance for Unforecast Demand based on NoC</b>				
<b>NPA</b>	<b>Quantity of CO Codes</b>	<b>Relief year (est. = estimated)</b>	<b>Allowance to be excluded from forecast total quantities prior to the year below (= year after the dissolution of the pool, which is 2 years after relief)</b>	<b>CRTC Telecom Decision or Notice establishing pool of CO Codes for initial CO Code assignments</b>
709	2	2024	2026-02-17 (2 years after Relief Date)	Notice 2016-205

The quantities of CO Codes in the above tables should be carried forward for the 20-year study period with no growth.

3. Where the CRTC has ordered or an RPC has recommended that quantities of CO Codes be set aside for a specified period of time for assignment to initial CO Code Applicants for a 2-year period after implementation of an Overlay, the CNA shall add such quantities to the actual quantity of CO Codes for 1 January of the current year and carry them forward in the forecasts until the Relief Date, since these set-aside CO Codes are unassignable from the date of the Decision until immediately prior to the Relief Date, after which they become assignable (with limitations). The CNA should exclude such set-aside CO Codes from the calculation of annual growth rates.
4. Future projections beyond the six-year forecast period will be calculated with linear extrapolation using one of the following three values:
  - a. Average five-year historical growth; or
  - b. Average of all six years of forecasted growth; or
  - c. Average of last five of the six forecasted years of growth.

Typically the CNA should choose the lowest average of the 3, which has generally been the average five-year historical growth. Where the CNA believes, based on its analysis, that the average five-year historical growth may not be the best methodology for that NPA for projecting growth beyond the six-year forecast period, the CNA will select one of the other two averages as appropriate. In all cases, the CNA will review the results and their projection methods with CRTC staff, who will approve the results for publishing.

5. The CNA shall provide for each NPA the total quantity of actual and forecast CO Codes and a breakdown of the quantity of “Unassignable CO Codes” as per section 3.7 of the CRTC-approved *Canadian Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guideline*, or as otherwise directed in writing by CRTC staff when the draft aggregate results are released, and in the subsequent 2026 NRUF Report to the CSCN after the aggregate results are finalized.

6. The “Administrative Codes” and “Stranded CO Codes” shall not be used in the calculation of the average annual future growth used for the 7- to 20-year projection.
7. The CNA shall not add or include any demand for CO Codes for proposed CLECs that did not submit NRUF forecasts, other than the demand that is already allowed for in the quantity of CO Codes for unforecast demand specified by CRTC staff.
8. For the purpose of the NRUF the CNA should assume that the Overlay Method will be used for future NPA Reliefs unless CRTC staff advises otherwise.
9. With respect to NPAs that are due to exhaust approximately in the 2046 timeframe, the CNA should exercise its best judgment in finalizing the forecast for those NPAs.