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29 November 2013

Mr. John Traversy

Secretary General

Canadian Radio-television &

Telecommunications Commission

Les Terrasses de la Chaudiere

1 Promenade du Portage

Gatineau, Quebec J8X 4B1

**Subject: Revised NPA 226/519 Relief Implementation Plan**

Dear Mr. Traversy,

On 30 October 2013 the Commission released Telecom Decision CRTC 2013‑575, *Area code relief for area codes 226 and 519 in southwestern Ontario*. In the Decision, the Commission determined that area code relief for area codes 226 and 519 in southwestern Ontario is to be provided by implementing a distributed overlay of new area code 548, effective 4 June 2015.

It was noted in the Decision that the NPA 226/519 Relief Planning Committee had recommended that the new overlay area code be implemented on 4 June 2016. After reviewing the July 2013 R‑NRUF results, the Commission remarked that the Projected Exhaust Date has advanced to September 2015, which is before the Relief Date recommended in the Planning Document. Consequently, the Commission considered that implementation of the new area code overlay should be advanced by one year to 4 June 2015, which should ensure that relief is in place prior to the exhaust of the current area codes. The Commission noted that advancing the implementation date should not impact the ability of the industry and subscribers to prepare and will provide area code relief approximately three months prior to the exhaust of NPA 226/519.

To achieve this objective, the Commission directed the NPA 226/519 Relief Planning Committee to revise the Relief Implementation Plan to accommodate the new Relief Date of 4 June 2015. Accordingly, a revised Relief Implementation Plan is attached to this correspondence.

The Relief Implementation Plan establishes a public framework and timeframe for implementing relief for area codes 226/519. This Relief Implementation Plan also addresses the activities, deliverables, and issues impacting more than one

individual telecommunications Carrier. It does not cover activities internal to each Carrier. In addition, this plan does not cover areas for which there is already an established process for coordination between Carriers to establish service (e.g., interconnection agreements).

The NPA 226/519 Relief Planning Committee hereby submits the attached revised NPA 226/519 Relief Implementation Plan for Commission approval.

Sincerely,

*Original signed by:*

Glen Brown

Director –

Canadian Numbering Administrator &

Chair of the NPA 226/519 RPC

Attachment

c.c.: Robert Martin, CRTC staff

Jeanne Lacombe, CRTC staff

# Revised

# NPA 226/519 RELIEF IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (RIP)

# 29 November 2013

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**DATE of RPC Consensus: 26 November 2013**

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**TITLE: Revised NPA 226/519 Relief Implementation Plan (RIP)**

**(Implementation of new NPA 548 as a Distributed Overlay on NPA 226/519)**

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**DISTRIBUTION: CRTC**

**ISSUED BY: NPA 226/519 Relief Planning Committee (RPC)**

**Chair: Glen Brown**

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**Suite 1516 - 60 Queen Street**

**Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1P 5Y7**

**Revised**

**NPA 226/519 Relief Implementation Plan (RIP)**

**(for a Distributed Overlay of new NPA 548 over NPA 226/519)**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

This Relief Implementation Plan (RIP) was developed in accordance with the Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guideline. This RIP is a set of activities and deliverables established by the Relief Planning Committee (RPC) that are required to provide relief to the exhausting NPA. The objective of the NPA Relief Planning process is to ensure an adequate supply of Central Office (CO) Codes and telephone numbers is always available to the Canadian telecommunications industry and users.

**Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2012-655**

On 29 November 2012 the CRTC issued Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2012-655, *Establishment of a CISC ad hoc committee for relief planning for area codes 226 and 519 in southern Ontario*, by which it established a CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee ad hoc Relief Planning Committee (RPC) to examine options for providing numbering relief to the area served by area codes 226 and 519 in southern Ontario.

On 28 February 2013, the CNA issued an Initial Planning Document (IPD) and the RPC commenced its work to develop a Planning Document (PD) and this Relief Implementation Plan (RIP).

The Planning Document recommended relief as follows:

1. The Relief Method should be a distributed overlay of a new NPA on NPA 226/519 (Option 5);
2. NPA 548 should be the relief NPA for NPA 226/519 in accordance with Telecom Decision CRTC 2010-784, *CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee consensus item- Reservation of Area Codes for future Area Code Relief*;
3. NPA 382 should be reserved for future subsequent relief in the 226/519 region as the 226/519 region has been forecast to exhaust again within 15 years; and,
4. The Relief Date should be 4 June 2016 to provide Carriers and customers with advanced notification and sufficient lead-time to implement relief, which would be 16 months in advance of the current Projected Exhaust Date.

**Telecom Decision CRTC 2013-575**

On 30 October 2013 the CRTC issued Telecom Decision CRTC 2013-575 which determined that area code relief for area codes 226 and 519 in southwestern Ontario be provided by implementing a distributed overlay of new area code 548, effective **4 June 2015**. The Commission also approved the Jeopardy Contingency Plan and requested the Relief Planning Committee to file a revised Relief Implementation Plan to reflect the relief implementation date of **4 June 2015**.

**Projected Exhaust Dates**

The Projected Exhaust Date for an NPA is the date on which it is expected that the NPA will run out of assignable CO Codes (NXXs). When an NPA is projected to exhaust within about a 6 year period, the CNA initiates relief planning for that NPA with the objective of implementing relief 12 to 18 months in advance of the then Projected Exhaust Date. Over time, the Projected Exhaust Date may change as the forecast requirement for CO Codes and telephone numbers changes in response to customer demand for existing and new telecommunications services and the requirements of existing and new TSPs. The CNA monitors assignment data and conducts special studies called the C-NRUF in order to predict NPA exhaust.

The following table summarizes the various Projected Exhaust Dates forecast by the CNA:

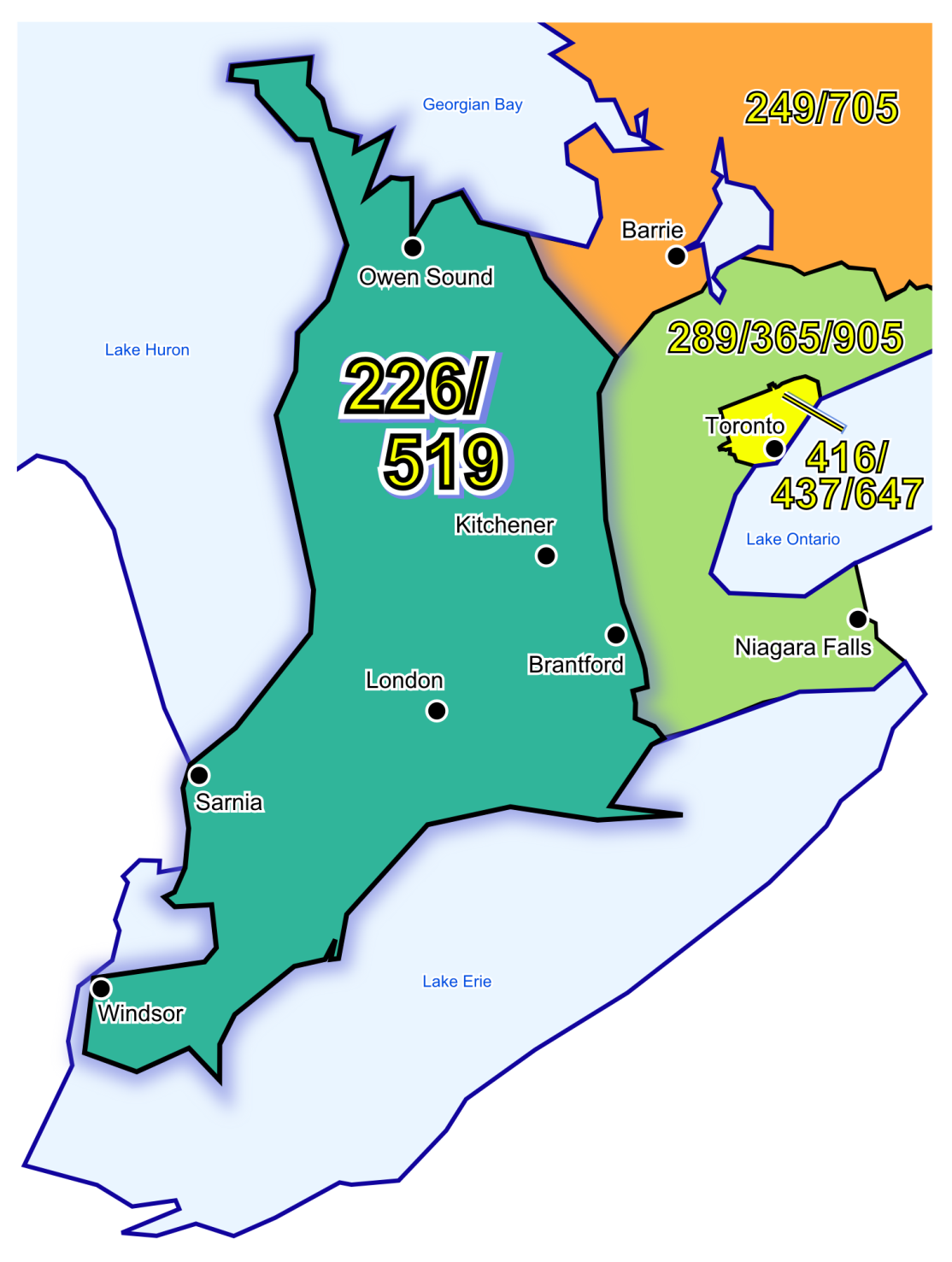
**Summary of Projected Exhaust Dates**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **226/519** **NRUF** | **Projected Exhaust Date** |
| G-NRUF January 2012 | November 2017 |
| R-NRUF July 2012 | January 2017 |
| R-NRUF January 2013, adjusted per Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2012‑655 directive setting aside 4 CO Codes for initial code assignments for Carriers already providing service, and 7 CO Codes for new entrants | October 2017 |
| R-NRUF July 2013, adjusted per Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2012‑655 directive setting aside 4 CO Codes for initial code assignments for Carriers already providing service, and 7 CO Codes for new entrants | September 2015 |

This revised RIP contains a revised Relief Implementation Schedule, Consumer Awareness Program (CAP) (see Attachment 1) and Network Implementation Plan (NIP) (see Attachment 2).

**Map of NPA 226/519**

A map showing NPA 226/519 is below. The 226/519 Numbering Plan Area (NPA) contains 210 Exchange Areas including the rapidly growing exchanges of Brantford, Chatham, Guelph, Hespeler, Kitchener‑Waterloo, London, Orangeville, Sarnia, Windsor and Woodstock, located in the southwestern part of Ontario in Canada.



**Dial Plan Impacts**

Currently 10-digit dialling is mandatory for all local calls originating within area code 226/519. Local dialling plans will not change when NPA 226/519 relief is implemented.

NPA relief will not affect the dialling plan for long distance calls originating in NPA 226/519.

No local calling will become long distance and no long distance calling will become local as a result of NPA relief.

The dial plans for calls originating in NPA 226/519 and the new overlay NPA 548 will be as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NPA** | **Local Dial Plan** | **Local Dial Plan** | **Toll Dial Plan** | **Toll Dial Plan** |
|  | **Current** | **Future** | **Current** | **Future** |
| **226/519/548** | 10 digits | 10 digits | 1 + 10 digits | 1 + 10 digits |

Currently 10-digit dialling is and will continue to be mandatory for local calls originating in adjacent area codes and terminating in the 226/519/548 area.

**Purpose of RIP**

The purpose of this RIP is to establish a plan and timeframe for implementing relief for the Numbering Plan Area (NPA) currently served by NPA Codes 226/519.

This RIP addresses the activities, deliverables, and issues impacting all Telecommunications Service Providers (TSPs) operating in NPA 226/519. It does not cover activities internal to each TSP; however Attachment 3, Individual Telecommunications Service Provider Responsibilities, provides a list of activities that each TSP will need to address in its own network, systems and business operations. In addition, this RIP does not cover activities for which there is already an established process for coordination between TSPs to establish service (e.g., interconnection agreements between Carriers).

In the event that circumstances change after the date when the Commission approves this RIP, the RPC may propose modifications to this RIP as necessary.

**2. NPA RELIEF PLANNING PROCESS**

NPA Relief Planning is conducted under the regulatory oversight of the Commission in accordance with the Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guideline. This Guideline was developed by the Canadian Steering Committee on Numbering (CSCN), accepted by the CISC and approved by the Commission.

The Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guideline and related information on relief planning may be obtained from the [www.cnac.ca](http://www.cnac.ca) web site. The CISC operates under the CISC Administrative Guidelines that may be obtained from the Commission web site (see [www.crtc.gc.ca](http://www.crtc.gc.ca)).

For each NPA projected to exhaust within a 72‑month time period, the Commission informs the public that an RPC, chaired by the CNA, will be formed as an Ad Hoc Working Group of the CISC to do relief planning for the exhausting NPA. Any interested party may participate in the relief planning process. Each RPC operates as an open public forum. Any party wanting to participate in this process is encouraged to visit the above web sites to obtain information on the process and schedule of events and activities. Any questions regarding the relief planning process may be directed to the CNA as follows:

Contact: Glen Brown

Telephone: 613-683-3291

Facsimile: 613-563-9293

E-mail: browng@leidos.ca

Address: CNA – Leidos Canada Inc.

Suite 1516 - 60 Queen Street

Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1P 5Y7

Individual TSPs are responsible for their own activities to implement relief (see Attachment 3). Each TSP employs a variety of information and operation support systems for the operation, maintenance, control, and administration of its network and to serve its customers. Each TSP is responsible to make the necessary changes in its systems in order to operate in the new environment and specifically to process the full 10-digit telephone number of each subscriber. Each TSP is responsible to ensure its customers are informed and implement the changes necessary to support the relief activity. Also, each TSP is responsible to ensure its own suppliers of products and services (e.g., Operator Services) implement the changes necessary to support the relief activity. Accordingly, no activities have been identified for the coordination of these functions between different TSPs, except as otherwise provided for in this RIP (e.g., Consumer Awareness Program (CAP) and Network Implementation Plan (NIP)).

Individual TSPs and industry database owners/operators shall advise Commission staff of any concerns or problems as they arise with respect to modifying their systems and databases in time to implement relief in accordance with this RIP.

**3. NPA RELIEF IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE(S)**

The RPC developed this RIP with the assistance and input of two Task Forces created by the RPC:

1. Consumer Awareness Task Force (CATF), and
2. Network Implementation Task Force (NITF).

The CNA sent an e-mail to all current and prospective Code Holders in the affected NPA requesting those entities to provide a contact name to the Co-chairs of the two Task Forces (with a courtesy copy to Commission staff). Independent telephone companies may choose to be represented by their associations. In addition, the CNA communicated with municipalities in NPA 226/519 to provide them with the opportunity to join the CATF.

Each Task Force has at least one voluntary Co-chair. The Co-chairs of the CATF and NITF act as the single point of contact and spokespersons for their respective Task Forces. The Co‑chairs maintain the list of participants on their Task Forces as confidential. All Carriers operating in the affected NPA should have a participant on each of the Task Forces.

The two Task Forces have developed and submitted separate but coordinated plans for their respective activities:

1. Consumer Awareness Program (CAP) (see Attachment 1), and
2. Network Implementation Plan (NIP) (see Attachment 2).

Individual Carriers are expected to develop individual consumer awareness programs and network implementation plans within the parameters of the CAP and NIP contained in this RIP. The CATF and NITF will meet periodically to perform their industry level functions identified in this RIP. The RPC will provide oversight and coordination of the CATF and NITF in accordance with the RIP.

**Consumer Awareness Task Force (CATF)**

The purpose of the CATF is to develop a comprehensive and consistent consumer awareness program for relief activities in the NPA 226/519 region, and to forward it to the CISC by the due date in the Relief Implementation Schedule.

To develop a CAP, the RPC created a CATF. Each Carrier operating in the exhausting NPA was requested to provide the name of a representative to serve on the CATF. The CATF is Co‑chaired by volunteer participants of the CATF. The Co-chairs of the CATF compile, maintain and distribute the list of all representatives on the CATF to the CATF distribution list (i.e., contact name, title, telephone number, fax number, street address, e-mail address), including the CNA.

Purpose and Mandate

The responsibilities of the CATF include, but are not limited to:

1. Develop and agree on a CAP and schedule;
2. Develop and submit progress reports;
3. Identify and address CAP issues;
4. Act as single point of contact on CAP issues; and,
5. Identify any consumer concerns or issues regarding the implementation of relief and advise the RPC, the Commission or Commission staff as appropriate.

The role of the individual CATF representative of each Carrier is to ensure that its organization develops, submits and implements its individual consumer awareness program in accordance with the CAP and associated schedule. Each representative acts as the single point of contact with respect to implementation of the CAP and activities for its organization. Each Carrier is responsible for developing, submitting and implementing its individual consumer awareness program in accordance with the industry level CAP.

All Carriers shall provide progress reports to the CATF for submission to the RPC in accordance with the Relief Implementation Schedule.

Individual Carriers should notify the CATF, or Commission staff, or the Commission, as appropriate, if there are any problems or concerns with respect to their individual consumer awareness program activities to implement relief in accordance with this RIP.

The recommended CAP is attached to this RIP (see Attachment 1).

**Network Implementation Task Force (NITF)**

The purpose of the NITF is to develop a Network Implementation Plan (NIP) for relief activities in the NPA 226/519 region to be submitted to the CISC. This complies with the Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guideline.

Each Carrier operating in the exhausting NPA was requested to provide the name of a representative to serve on the NITF. The NITF is Co-chaired by volunteer participants of the NITF. The Co-chairs of the NITF compile, maintain and distribute the list of all representatives on the NITF to the NITF distribution list (i.e., contact name, title, telephone number, fax number, street address, e-mail address), including the CNA.

Purpose and Mandate

The role of the NITF is to identify and address network implementation issues that affect all carriers. The responsibilities of the NITF include, but are not limited to:

1. Develop and agree on a NIP and schedule;
2. Develop and submit progress reports;
3. Identify and address NIP issues;
4. Act as single point of contact on NIP issues;
5. Identify any network concerns or issues regarding the implementation of relief and advise the RPC, the Commission or Commission staff as appropriate; and,
6. Develop inter-network test plans, as necessary.

The role of the individual NITF representative of each Carrier is to ensure that its organization develops, submits and implements its individual network implementation plan in accordance with the NIP and associated schedule. Each representative acts as the single point of contact for implementation of the NIP and activities for its organization. Each Carrier is responsible to develop, submit and implement its individual network implementation plan in accordance with the industry level NIP.

All Carriers shall provide progress reports to the NITF for submission to the RPC in accordance with the Relief Implementation Schedule.

Test plans and tests shall be arranged on a bilateral basis between interconnecting Carriers in accordance with bilateral agreements and the Relief Implementation Schedule.

Individual Carriers and industry database owners/operators (e.g., Canadian Local Number Portability Consortium) should notify the NITF, or Commission staff, or the Commission, as appropriate, if there are any problems or concerns with modifying their systems and databases in time to implement relief in accordance with this RIP.

The recommended NIP is attached to this RIP (see Attachment 2).

**4. NPA RELIEF IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE**

The following table identifies the major implementation activities, deliverables and associated dates based upon the tasks identified in the Canadian NPA Relief Planning Timeline as well as major events in both the CAP and NIP. All TSPs and telecommunications service users should plan their internal relief activities in accordance with the following Relief Implementation Schedule.

**REVISED RELIEF IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE**

**(for a Distributed Overlay of new NPA 548 over NPA 226/519)**

| **Item** | **Task or Event** | **Prime** | **Start** | **End** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | CNA identifies NPA exhaust and notifies by e-mail CRTC staff, CSCN, North American Numbering Plan Administration (NANPA) & CISC that the NPA will exhaust within 72 months | CNA |  | 10-Apr-2012 |
| 2 | CNA conducts R-NRUF & releases results | CNA | 8-Aug-2011 | 5-Oct-2012 |
| 3 | CRTC issues Telecom Notice of Consultation regarding establishment of an ad hoc Relief Planning Committee (RPC) | CRTC | 5-Oct-2012 | 29-Nov-2012 |
| 4 | CNA announces the date for the initial NPA Relief Planning face-to-face meeting & requests contributions | CNA | 28-Feb-2013 | 28-Feb-2013 |
| 5 | CNA develops and distributes the IPD to the RPC | CNA | 5 Oct-2012 | 28-Feb 2013 |
| 6 | RPC participants review the IPD & submit contributions to the RPC | RPC | 28-Feb 2013 | 2-Apr-2013 |
| 7 | CNA chairs initial RPC meeting to start development of the Planning Document (PD), Relief Implementation Plan (RIP) & Planning Letter (PL), & schedules future meetings/conference calls | CNA, RPC | 16-Apr-2013 | 17-Apr-2013 |
| 8 | CNA chairs subsequent RPC meetings/conference calls to finalize the PD and RIP | CNA, RPC | 17-Apr-2013 | 9-May-2013 |
| 9 | CNA forwards the PD to the CISC and CRTC for approval | CNA | 9-May-2013 | 17-May-2013 |
| 10 | Special Types of Telecommunications Service Users (9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), alarm companies, Internet Service Providers (ISPs), paging companies, etc.) to identify any concerns to the RPC & CRTC | Special Users |  | 17-May-2013 |
| 11 | CRTC issues Telecom Decision approving the Relief Method, Relief Date, New NPA & directs the RPC to develop the Relief Implementation Plan (RIP) | CRTC | 17-May-2013 | 30-Oct-2013 |
| 12 | CNA obtains relief NPA from NANPA | CNA | 30-Oct-2013 | 14-Nov-2013 |
| 13 | CNA holds RPC meetings to create Consumer Awareness and Network Implementation Task Forces (NITF) and the RPC revises the RIP to reflect the approved Relief Date | CNA, RPC | 30-Oct-2013 | 26-Nov-2013 |
| 14 | CNA forwards the RIP to the CISC and CRTC for approval | CNA | 26-Nov-2013 | 29-Nov-2013 |
| 15 | CRTC issues Telecom Decision approving the RIP | CRTC | 29-Nov-2013 | 29-Mar-2014 |
| 16 | Task Forces, Telecommunications Service Providers (TSPs) and users implement relief (starts at CRTC approval of Relief Method & Date and ends on Relief Date) | TSPs | 30-Oct-2013 | 4-Jun-2015 |
| 17 | All TSPs to develop and file individual consumer awareness programs with the CRTC (may be done collectively by the Telecommunications Alliance) | TSPs | 29-Mar-2014 | 18-Apr-2014 |
| 18 | CNA issues media release (in coordination with the Telecommunications Alliance) | CNA | 29-Mar-2014 | 18-Apr-2014 |
| 19 | CNA submits the PL and RIP to NANPA | CNA |  | 18-Apr-2014 |
| 20 | NANPA receives and posts the PL to the NANPA website (within 2 weeks of receipt from the CNA) | NANPA | 18-Apr-2014 | 2-May-2014 |
| 21 | All TSPs implement consumer awareness activities (starts on filing of Consumer Awareness Programs with the CRTC and is completed on the Relief Date) | TSPs | 18-Apr-2014 | 4-Jun-2015 |
| 22 | All TSPs to notify all customers (residence, business & special customers) of the new NPA | TSPs | 18-Apr-2014 | 4-Jun-2015 |
| 23 | TSPs to submit Progress Report #1 to NITF and Consumer Awareness Task Force (CATF) (starts after completion date for all TSPs to notify their customers and requires 2 weeks) | TSPs | 4-Jun-2014 | 18-Jun-2014 |
| 24 | NITF and CATF develop & submit Progress Report #1 to the RPC (linked to TSP reports to NITF and CATF) | NITF & CATF | 18-Jun-2014 | 4-Jul-2014 |
| 25 | The RPC submits Progress Report #1 to CISC/CRTC (linked to NITF and CATF reports) | RPC | 7-Jul-2014 | 21-Jul-2014 |
| 26 | iconectiv TRA database updates to add Exchanges to new overlay NPA (starts on the date that the PL is posted to the NANPA web site and must be completed by 6 months prior to the beginning of Inter-Carrier testing) | iconectiv TRA | 2-May-2014 | 4-Sep-2014 |
| 27 | All Telecommunications Service Providers and Telecommunications Service Users (including Special Users 9-1-1 PSAPs, alarm companies, ISPs, paging companies, payphone providers, etc.) to implement changes to their telecom equipment & systems to accommodate the new NPA (starts upon CRTC approval of RIP and ends on the Relief Date) | Telecom Service Users | 29-Mar-2014 | 4-Jun-2015 |
| 28 | Payphone Providers Reprogram Payphones (starts upon CRTC approval of the RIP and ends on the Relief Date) | Payphone Providers | 29-Mar-2014 | 4-Jun-2015 |
| 29 | TSPs and database owners/operators to modify systems and industry databases (starts on CRTC approval of the RIP and ends on the Relief Date) | TSPs & Database Owners | 29-Mar-2014 | 4-Jun-2015 |
| 30 | Operator Services & Directory Assistance Readiness (starts on CRTC approval of the RIP and ends on the Relief Date) | TSPs | 29-Mar-2014 | 4-Jun-2015 |
| 31 | Directory Publisher Readiness for relief (ability to identify the NPA in telephone numbers in the directory published after the new NPA is activated) (starts upon CRTC approval of the RIP and ends on the Relief Date) | Directory Publishers | 29-Mar-2014 | 4-Jun-2015 |
| 32 | 9-1-1 Systems and Databases Readiness (starts on CRTC approval of the RIP and ends on the Relief Date) | PSAPS, 9‑1‑1 Service Providers & TSPs | 29-Mar-2014 | 4-Jun-2015 |
| 33 | Network Systems & Equipment Readiness (starts on CRTC approval of the RIP and ends on the Relief Date) | TSPs | 29-Mar-2014 | 4-Jun-2015 |
| 34 | Service Order & Business System Readiness (starts on CRTC approval of the RIP and ends on the Relief Date) | TSPs | 29-Mar-2014 | 4-Jun-2015 |
| 35 | International Gateway Switch Translations Readiness for new NPA (starts on CRTC approval of the RIP and ends on the Relief Date) | Int’l TSPs | 29-Mar-2014 | 4-Jun-2015 |
| 36 | Canadian Local Number Portability Consortium (CLNPC) Database Readiness for new NPA (starts on CRTC approval of the RIP and ends on the Relief Date) | CLNPC & NPAC | 29-Mar-2014 | 4-Jun-2015 |
| 37 | Toll Free SMS Database Readiness for new NPA (starts on CRTC approval of the RIP and ends on the Relief Date) | Toll TSPs | 29-Mar-2014 | 4-Jun-2015 |
| 38 | TSPs apply for Test CO Codes in new NPA (applications may be submitted no more than 6 months and no less than 66 days prior to the start date for the Inter-Carrier Testing Period) (Section 7.16.4 Canadian RP GL) | TSPs | 4-Sep-2014 | 29-Dec-2014 |
| 39 | Develop Inter-Carrier Network Test Plans and prepare for testing (individual TSPs to make arrangements in accordance with interconnection agreements) (may start upon CRTC approval of the RIP and must be completed by start date for the Inter-Carrier Testing Period) | NITF & TSPs | 29-Mar-2014 | 4-Mar-2015 |
| 40 | All international and domestic TSPs must activate the new NPA in their networks by the start date for the Inter-Carrier Testing Period | TSPs |  | 4-Mar-2015 |
| 41 | Activation date for new NPA Test CO Codes and Test Numbers in the network must be completed by the start date for the Inter-Carrier Testing Period | TSPs |  | 4-Mar-2015 |
| 42 | Inter-Carrier Testing Period (subject to Inter-Carrier Network Test Plans) | NITF & TSPs | 4-Mar-2015 | 4-Jul-2015 |
| 43 | TSPs to submit Progress Report #2 to NITF and CATF (starts on commencement of Inter-Carrier Testing Period) | TSPs | 4-Mar-2015 | 18-Mar-2015 |
| 44 | NITF and CATF develop & submit Progress Report #2 to the RPC (linked to TSP reports to NITF and CATF) | NITF & CATF | 18-Mar-2015 | 1-Apr-2015 |
| 45 | The RPC submits Progress Report #2 to CISC/CRTC (linked to NITF and CATF reports) | RPC | 1-Apr-2015 | 15-Apr-2015 |
| 46 | Relief Date (earliest date when CO Codes in new NPA may be activated) |  |  | 4-Jun-2015 |
| 47 | TSPs submit Final Report to CATF and NITF (starts on the Relief Date and provides 2 weeks for preparation & submission) | TSPs | 4-Jun-2015 | 18-Jun-2015 |
| 48 | NITF and CATF develop & submit Final Progress Report to the RPC (linked to TSP reports to NITF and CATF) | NITF & CATF | 18-Jun-2015 | 3-Jul-2015 |
| 49 | The RPC submits Final Progress Report to CISC/CRTC (linked to NITF and CATF reports) | RPC | 3-Jul-2015 | 17-Jul-2015 |
| 50 | TSPs disconnect Test Codes & Numbers, and submit Part 1 form to return Test Codes (starts 1 month after Relief Date and allows 1 month for completion) | TSPs | 4-Jul-2015 | 3-Aug-2015 |

**5. OTHER ISSUES**

**Payphone Service Providers**

All Payphone Service Providers are required to comply with the requirements contained in this RIP.

It is the responsibility of each Payphone Service Provider to update any system or process associated with the operation of their payphones in order to accommodate this relief project.

**Telecommunication Service Users**

All users are required to comply with the requirements contained in this RIP and any Telecom Decisions issued by the CRTC.

Users of telecommunications services are required to make the necessary changes to their telecommunications systems and equipment to accommodate the new overlay NPA code. Users include, but are not limited to, 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), N11 Service Providers, alarm companies, internet service providers, paging companies, owners of Customer Premises Equipment, unified messaging service companies, governments, apartment building owners, hydro meter readers, residential customers and the general public.

Special types of Telecommunication Service Users (e.g., 9‑1‑1 PSAPs, N11 Service Providers (i.e., the entities that provides the services that are accessed via dialling the N11 Codes), alarm companies, internet service providers, paging companies, owners of Customer Premises Equipment requiring modification, unified messaging service companies, governments, apartment building owners, hydro meter readers) must take special measures to ensure that their services continue to function properly. All special types of Telecommunication Service Users are requested to co-ordinate their equipment and system modifications with their Carriers to implement the new overlay NPA. This is necessary to ensure a smooth and timely transition.

Users of telecommunications services should notify their Carrier and the Commission or Commission staff, as appropriate, if they have any problems or concerns with modifying their systems and databases in time to implement relief in accordance with this RIP. It is important that service users, in particular alarm service providers, make the required or necessary modifications to their systems, databases and terminal equipment.

9‑1‑1 PSAPs must make any required changes to their systems and databases to accommodate the new overlay NPA. Individual 9‑1‑1 PSAP system operators shall identify specific problems or concerns to the Commission or Commission staff, as appropriate. It is critically important that 9‑1‑1 PSAPs make the required or necessary modifications to their systems, databases and terminal equipment prior to the relief date.

**Directories**

All Directory Service Providers are required to comply with the requirements contained in this RIP and any Telecom Decisions issued by the CRTC.

It is the responsibility of Directory Service Providers to make the necessary changes to their systems and directories to facilitate the introduction of the new overlay NPA. All directory publishers should modify their systems to accept telephone numbers in the 10‑digit format.

To facilitate the implementation of the new overlay NPA, directories must contain appropriate dialling instructions and information.

After the implementation of the new overlay NPA, all future directories in this NPA and affected Exchange Areas in neighbouring NPAs should identify the NPA code associated with the telephone number so that customers can obtain the appropriate 10 digit number.

**6. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The RPC recommends that the CRTC approve this revised RIP.

**Attachments:**

1. Consumer Awareness Program (CAP)
2. Network Implementation Plan (NIP)
3. Individual Telecommunications Service Provider Responsibilities

**ATTACHMENT 1**

**Consumer Awareness Program (CAP)**

**Background**

On 29 November 2012 the CRTC issued Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2012‑655, *Establishment of a CISC ad hoc committee for relief planning for area codes 226 and 519 in southern Ontario*, by which it established a CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee ad hoc Relief Planning Committee (RPC) to examine options for providing numbering relief to the area served by area codes 226 and 519 in southern Ontario.

On 28 February 2013, the CNA issued an Initial Planning Document (IPD) and the RPC commenced its work to develop a Planning Document (PD) and this Relief Implementation Plan (RIP).

The Planning Document recommended relief as follows:

1. The Relief Method should be a distributed overlay of a new NPA on NPA 226/519 (Option 5);
2. NPA 548 should be the relief NPA for NPA 226/519 in accordance with Telecom Decision CRTC 2010-784, *CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee consensus item- Reservation of Area Codes for future Area Code Relief*;
3. NPA 382 should be reserved for future subsequent relief in the 226/519 region as the 226/519 region has been forecast to exhaust again within 15 years; and,
4. The Relief Date should be 4 June 2016 to provide Carriers and customers with advanced notification and sufficient lead-time to implement relief, which would be 16 months in advance of the current Projected Exhaust Date.

On 30 October 2013 the CRTC issued Telecom Decision CRTC 2013-575 which determined that area code relief for area codes 226 and 519 in southwestern Ontario be provided by implementing a distributed overlay of new area code 548, effective **4 June 2015**. The Commission also approved the Jeopardy Contingency Plan and requested the Relief Planning Committee to file a revised Relief Implementation Plan to reflect the relief implementation date of **4 June 2015**.

**Introduction**

The Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guideline requires the RPC to create a Consumer Awareness Task Force (CATF) with a mandate to develop a CAP for implementing relief and to submit such CAP to the CISC.

Accordingly, the RPC has established a Consumer Awareness Task Force (CATF) to develop and implement this CAP.

This CAP addresses the introduction of overlay NPA 548 in the NPA 226/519 area.

This CAP identifies key milestones and establishes completion dates as agreed to by the RPC and approved by the CRTC. It is the responsibility of all Telecommunications Service Providers (TSPs) operating or intending to operate in NPA 226/519 to file their individual consumer awareness plans with the Commission in accordance with the Relief Implementation Schedule. Carriers must implement those programs in accordance with this industry CAP and submit progress reports to the CATF and RPC for inclusion in the Progress and Final Reports to be filed with the Commission. The Relief Implementation Schedule contains start and end dates for industry consumer awareness activities.

In order to implement the CAP, Carriers may act individually or collectively to accomplish their objectives. However, where Carriers act collectively (e.g., create a Consumer Awareness Program Alliance), such Carriers are individually responsible to report their progress to the CATF and RPC. In the case where Carriers act collectively, all major Carriers should join the Alliance.

All Carriers are required to report any major relief plan concerns as they are identified, along with proposed solutions, and to address consumer concerns reported directly to the Commission.

The RPC requested that the CATF develop a CAP that incorporates the following:

1) Develop and agree on a CAP schedule

2) Co-ordinate and schedule progress reports with the NITF

3) Identify and address CAP issues

4) Communications objectives

5) Target audiences (e.g., government, media and various business and residence market segments)

6) Special types of telecommunications users (e.g., alarm, apartment owners, hydro readers)

7) NPA-specific communications messages

8) Communications tactics

9) Communications theme

10) Key messages

**Communications Objectives**

The Communications Objectives of this CAP are as follows:

1. Increase consumer and user awareness of the introduction of the new area code in the 226/519 area.
2. Advise customers that local and long distance calling areas, prices and dialling plans will not change with the adoption of the new overlay area code.
3. Provide open communication channels to address questions and concerns from residents and businesses regarding the implementation of the new overlay NPA code.
4. Continue to lay the foundation for seamless addition of new NPA codes in the future.

**Communications Tactics**

Carriers should consider using the following tactics to accomplish their individual consumer awareness program activities. Carriers may opt to implement some or all of these tactics on their own or as part of an association (Telecom Alliance) with other Carriers. In the event that an association of Carriers is formed to coordinate consumer awareness activities, all Carriers operating in the affected area codes are strongly encouraged to participate in the association activities.

Government Relations

Carriers should ensure that governmental authorities in the affected NPA 226/519 are informed of the relief plan (federal, provincial and municipal governments, government offices, and elected representatives).

Media Relations

To introduce and raise awareness of the new area code, Carriers/Telecom Alliance should conduct a media relations campaign targeting key media (including local newspapers, broadcast media, and community publications) in area code 226/519. Carriers should offer the Telecom Alliance spokesperson for interviews that focus on how residents and businesses can prepare for the new overlay NPA and to encourage them to start getting ready now.

Carriers/Telecom Alliance should determine newsworthy announcements and issue press releases accordingly. The press release program will serve to update local media on the progress of the introduction of the new overlay area code.

When required, Carriers/Telecom Alliance should issue a series of media alerts and public service announcements to local radio and broadcast stations to provide updated information on the new overlay NPA code.

Each TSP shall provide their own customers with basic information about the new NPA, and referrals related to Commission decisions and regulations. Individual TSPs may form alliances with other TSPs for media relations purposes and such an alliance may also have its own spokesperson.

The Canadian Numbering Administration (CNA), in its role as the Chair of the RPC, shall act as a spokesperson for the RPC.

Carriers' Web Sites

Carriers should provide up-to-date information about the implementation of the new overlay NPA code on their Internet web sites.

Customer Bill Inserts & Messages

Carriers should print information on customer bills and/or distribute bill inserts to their customers advising them of the key dates for the implementation of the new overlay NPA Code and associated changes required to customer equipment and systems.

Advertising Campaign

Carriers should voluntarily participate in a media advertising campaign coordinated by the Telecom Alliance along with other Carriers’ to increase awareness amongst consumers in the affected NPA 226/519 region. All media advertising campaigns, should meet the objective of providing clear and consistent messages to consumers and users as established in this CAP.

Targeted Customer Communications

Carriers should identify and communicate directly with their customers who will be required to make major changes to their telecommunications equipment and systems to accommodate the new area code. Targeted communications identifying the changes required should be sent to those customers well in advance of the relief date in order to provide those customers with sufficient time to make the necessary changes. Such targeted customers may include 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), N11 Service Providers, alarm companies, Internet service providers, paging companies, unified messaging service companies, apartment building owners, and hydro meter readers.

Other Means of Customer Communications

Carriers should use other means (e.g., customer messaging, direct customer contacts, Interactive Voice Response, etc.), as required, to reach their customers and provide appropriate information about the new overlay NPA code.

**Communications Themes and Key Messages:**

The proposed theme for the CAP should be: “Area code 548 is being added to the 226/519 area."

This theme should be reinforced with more detailed key messages in customer awareness activities:

1. To meet the growing demand for telecommunications services and numbers, area code 548 will be overlaid on top of the 226/519 geographic area on 4 June 2015. The 548 area code will co-exist within the same geographic region as area codes 226 and 519. There will be no change to customers’ existing 226 and 519 telephone numbers. Telephone numbers beginning with the 548 area code may be assigned for use after the Relief Date.
2. 10‑digit dialling will continue to be used for local calls within the area served by area codes 226, 519 and 548.
3. Local and long distance calling areas and prices will not change with the adoption of the new 548 overlay area code. Customers with area code 548 telephone numbers will get the same calling areas and prices as customers with telephone numbers in area codes 226 and 519.
4. Emergency calls (9-1-1) and other N11 services will continue to be dialled using 3‑digits.

**Consumer Awareness Program Timeline**

All Carriers that have or plan to have customers in the affected area codes must implement their own consumer awareness program activities in accordance with this CAP and associated dates contained in the Relief Implementation Schedule.

It is the responsibility of each Carrier to submit its individual consumer awareness program to the Commission and to provide progress reports to the CATF on its own consumer awareness program activities so that the CATF can submit its required Progress Reports. In the event that a Carrier does not submit its individual progress report to the CATF, the CATF will note this discrepancy in its progress report.

**ATTACHMENT 2**

**Network Implementation Plan (NIP)**

**Background**

On 29 November 2012 the CRTC issued Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2012-655, *Establishment of a CISC ad hoc committee for relief planning for area codes 226 and 519 in southern Ontario*, by which it established a CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee ad hoc Relief Planning Committee (RPC) to examine options for providing numbering relief to the area served by area codes 226 and 519 in southern Ontario.

On 28 February 2013, the CNA issued an Initial Planning Document (IPD) and the RPC commenced its work to develop a Planning Document (PD) and this Relief Implementation Plan (RIP).

The Planning Document recommended relief as follows:

1. The Relief Method should be a distributed overlay of a new NPA on NPA 226/519 (Option 5);
2. NPA 548 should be the relief NPA for NPA 226/519 in accordance with Telecom Decision CRTC 2010-784, *CRTC Interconnection Steering Committee consensus item- Reservation of Area Codes for future Area Code Relief*;
3. NPA 382 should be reserved for future subsequent relief in the 226/519 region as the 226/519 region has been forecast to exhaust again within 15 years; and,
4. The Relief Date should be 4 June 2016 to provide Carriers and customers with advanced notification and sufficient lead-time to implement relief, which would be 16 months in advance of the current Projected Exhaust Date.

On 30 October 2013 the CRTC issued Telecom Decision CRTC 2013-575 which determined that area code relief for area codes 226 and 519 in southwestern Ontario be provided by implementing a distributed overlay of new area code 548, effective **4 June 2015**. The Commission also approved the Jeopardy Contingency Plan and requested the Relief Planning Committee to file a revised Relief Implementation Plan to reflect the relief implementation date of **4 June 2015**.

**Introduction**

The Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guideline requires the RPC to create a Network Implementation Task Force (NITF) with a mandate to develop a NIP for implementing relief and to submit such NIP to the CISC.

Accordingly, the RPC has established a Network Implementation Task Force (NITF) to develop and implement this NIP.

This NIP addresses the introduction of overlay NPA 548 in the NPA 226/519 area.

The NIP identifies key milestones and establishes completion dates as agreed to by the RPC. It is the responsibility of all Carriers operating or intending to operate in NPA 226/519 to file their individual network implementation plans with the Commission in accordance with the Relief Implementation Schedule. Carriers must implement those programs in accordance with this industry NIP and submit progress reports to the NITF and RPC for inclusion in the Progress and Final Reports to be filed by the RPC with the Commission.

All Carriers are required to report any major relief plan concerns as they are identified, along with proposed solutions, and to address consumer concerns reported directly to the Commission.

The RPC requested that the NITF develop a NIP in accordance the Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guideline that incorporates the following:

1. Develop and agree on a NIP schedule
2. Co-ordinate and schedule progress reports with the CATF
3. Identify and address NIP issues
4. Network implementation objectives
5. Co-ordinate equipment modifications with special types of telecommunications users (e.g., alarm companies, apartment building owners, hydro meter readers)
6. NPA-specific network changes
7. Inter-carrier network and technical interfaces (e.g., test plan and test numbers, 9‑1‑1 impacts if any)

**Network Implementation Objectives**

The objective of this NIP is to ensure that all necessary network and interconnections are modified to implement the overlay NPA 548 in the NPA 226/519 region.

All Carriers are required to implement the necessary network changes to implement relief.

**Carrier Coordination with Special Types of Telecommunications Users**

All Carriers are requested to co-ordinate their network and service modifications with special types of telecommunications users (e.g., 9‑1‑1 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), N11 Service Providers, alarm companies, internet service providers, paging companies, owners of Customer Premises Equipment, unified messaging service companies, governments, apartment building owners, hydro meter readers). This is necessary in order to ensure a smooth and timely introduction of the new overlay NPA.

**Test Plans**

All Carriers are required to modify their networks, systems databases, and operator services and directory assistance databases, to accommodate the new overlay NPA as per the Relief Implementation Schedule.

Test plans, if required, should be arranged on a bilateral basis between interconnecting Carriers in accordance with bilateral agreements.

In preparation for the start of inter-carrier testing, all Carriers are expected to complete modifications to their networks, systems databases, and Operator Services and Directory Assistance databases, as necessary to facilitate inter-carrier testing per the Relief Implementation Schedule.

**Test Codes and Numbers**

Test numbers in the new overlay NPA 548 will permit all Carriers and other entities to test their equipment and ensure that the proper network changes have been made to route calls to each Carrier operating in the new NPA. The test numbers shall permit Carriers and users to test their equipment with or without having to incur toll charges.

Carriers should submit a written request to the CNA verifying their intention to establish a test CO Code in the new NPA. Each Carrier may establish two test numbers in a test CO Code (NXX) for the new NPA to facilitate testing of network and billing system functionality.

Routing of calls to the new NPA can be verified by dialling the new 548-XXX-8378 (TEST) numbers which shall not provide answer supervision and therefore should not result in a billed call to the “calling” party.

Billing of calls to the new NPA can be verified by dialling the new 548-NXX-2455 (BILL) numbers which shall provide answer supervision and therefore should result in a billed call to the “originating” network.

The following Carriers have agreed to provide test numbers in the new NPA:

* Bell Canada

Other Carriers may request and receive test CO Codes and numbers in accordance with the timeframe contained in the Relief Implementation Schedule.

Per the Canadian NPA Relief Planning Guideline, requests for test CO Codes must be received by the CNA no more than six months and no less than 66 days prior to the activation date on which testing to the number can begin. The CNA will reclaim test CO Codes about four weeks after the Relief Date. Test numbers shall be activated in all networks in accordance with the inter-network test plan and date in the Relief Implementation Schedule. Test numbers in a new overlay NPA should be activated at least 90 days prior to the introduction of the new NPA Code, or by the start of the inter‑carrier testing period if sooner. Test numbers shall remain active until about four weeks after the Relief Date.

The test CO Codes used for the test numbers must be returned to the CNA in accordance with the Relief Implementation Schedule. The CNA shall initiate CO Code reclamation in accordance with the Canadian Central Office (NXX) Code Assignment Guideline for all CO Codes allocated for testing purposes in the event that such CO Codes are not returned by the above Carriers to the CNA in accordance with the Relief Implementation Schedule.

The standard network announcement for the test number must be as follows:

“You have successfully completed a call to the 548 Area Code Test Number at [CARRIER NAME] in Ontario, Canada. La communication a été établie avec succès au numéro de vérification de l'indicatif régional 548, à [NOM DU TÉLÉCOMMUNICATEUR], Ontario, Canada.”

Carriers may request other test CO Codes in the relief NPA for test purposes within their own networks during the relief implementation timeframe, in accordance with the Canadian Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guideline.

**9-1-1 Service**

The introduction of the new overlay NPA is not expected to have any impact on the dialling of the 9‑1‑1 abbreviated dialling number nor the routing of emergency calls to the appropriate Public Service Answering Point (PSAP).

However, the introduction of the new overlay NPA may have an impact on 9‑1‑1 service, trunking and systems.

Carriers who intend to provide service using CO Codes in the relief NPA or to port numbers into their switch from the relief NPA, shall establish 9-1-1 trunking and associated interconnection arrangements as per existing interconnection agreements. Carriers that provide 9-1-1 networking services to any PSAP shall establish 9-1-1 trunking and associated interconnection arrangements as per existing interconnection agreements. These arrangements shall be made prior to the relief date upon request of Carriers, and provided that these arrangements are in accordance with the timelines, terms and conditions set out in existing interconnection agreements.

The existing procedure for implementing new Carrier trunk groups for 9-1-1 traffic, including testing with local Carriers 9-1-1 Control Centers and PSAPs, should be used. All Carrier related changes that impact 9-1-1 must be completed in accordance with the Relief Implementation Schedule.

**Other N-1-1 Services**

Carriers should review routing to other N-1-1 numbers including 211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 711 and 811 as necessary to ensure that calls will be properly routed.

**Payphone Service Providers**

It is the responsibility of each Payphone Service Provider to update any system associated with the operation of their payphones to accommodate the new overlay area code. As well, each Payphone Service Provider must update any instructions for using their payphones to advise customers regarding the new overlay area code if necessary.

**International Gateway Service Providers**

International Gateway Service Providers are responsible to implement changes to their network in order to accommodate the new overlay area code.

It is recommended that Commission staff notify Canadian International Gateway Service Providers of the implementation of the new overlay area code.

**Intra Carrier Network and Customer Interface**

All Carriers must make and test the necessary internal system, network and customer interface changes as per the Relief Implementation Schedule in order to accommodate the introduction of the new overlay area code.

All Carriers are required to implement the necessary network changes to route traffic to/from the relief area code. Switch translations must be updated and modified in all Carriers’ networks in order to process calls to/from the relief area code.

By the start date of the inter-carrier testing period, Carriers must use 10-digit signalling for all local traffic they send to other Carriers, and must be able to receive 10-digit signalling on local traffic they receive from other carriers. In the event that Carriers have network equipment limitations that cannot accommodate 10‑digit signalling, alternative arrangements may be made with interconnecting carriers to route calls using only 7-digit signalling, where feasible.

Each TSP is responsible for determining the impact of the new overlay NPA code on its operations and the products and services it provides to its own customers. Each TSP is responsible for making all necessary modifications to ensure service can be provided to its own customers who may receive, or make calls to, telephone numbers in the new overlay NPA code. Furthermore, TSPs shall notify all of their customers of the introduction of the new overlay area code in accordance with the CAP (see Attachment 1).

**Network Implementation Plan Timeline**

All Carriers who have or plan to have customers in the affected area codes must implement their own network implementation plan activities in accordance with this NIP and associated dates contained in the Relief Implementation Schedule.

It is the responsibility of each Carrier to provide progress reports to the NITF on its own network implementation plan activities so that the NITF can submit its required Progress Reports. In the event that a Carrier does not submit its individual progress report to the NITF, the NITF will note this discrepancy in its Progress Report.

**Dial Plan**

The dial plan for calls originating from NPA 226/519 will not change. The dial plan for NPA 226/519 and the new overlay NPA 548 will be as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Local Dial Plan** | | **Toll Dial Plan** | |
| **Current** | **Future** | **Current** | **Future** |
| 10 digits | 10 digits | 1 + 10 digits | 1 + 10 digits |

**ATTACHMENT 3**

**Individual Telecommunications Service Provider Responsibilities**

Each Telecommunications Service Provider (TSP) is responsible to make the necessary changes in their information/operation support systems for the operation, maintenance, control, and administration of its network and to serve its customers. Accordingly, no activities have been identified in the Relief Implementation Plan (RIP) for the coordination of these functions between different TSPs. Such “internal” systems include, but are not limited to, the following functions:

1. Operations Support
2. Products & Services
3. Marketing & Sales
4. Carrier Services
5. Network Planning & Provisioning
6. Network Operations
7. Service Assurance
8. Billing
9. Financial Systems
10. Customer Care & Customer Services (e.g., Business Offices)
11. Operator Services
12. Directories
13. Direct Marketing Centers
14. Quality Control
15. Service Provisioning & Activation
16. Repair Services
17. Human Resources/Logistics
18. Corporate Information Databases
19. Customer Provided Equipment Reprogramming, Upgrades and Testing