# TELUS Communications Inc. Annual Report to the Director 2020 Calendar Year

Reporting period January 1 – December 31, 2020

Submitted to: BC Ministry of Environment

**Director, Extended Producer Responsibility Programs** 

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#### 1. Executive Summary

# Products within plan

Telecommunication equipment:

- Cordless phones and corded desktop, VOIP phones and analog terminal adapters;
- Public Access Equipment;
- Obsolete network infrastructure equipment (switches, servers), External customer networks, Servers Optical network termination equipment, Internet equipment (routers, modems), Network cards;
- Video and teleconferencing equipment;
- o TV equipment (PVRs, receivers, remote controls), Satellite TV equipment;
- Global Positioning Systems (GPS);
- o Home Security electronic equipment
- Batteries; and
- Cables/accessories.

Recycling Regulation Reference	Topic	Summary (5-bullet maximum)
Part 2, section 8(2)(a)	Public Education Materials and Strategies	<ul> <li>a description of educational materials and educational strategies the producer uses for the purposes of this Part</li> <li>Public information posted on telus.com website providing instructions on how to return equipment to TELUS at no charge.</li> <li>To provide information to our customers TELUS client care agents are made aware of return process by way of online system, internal communication, bulletins.</li> <li>TELUS Technicians are made aware of return process by way of intercompany communication, bulletins.</li> <li>Customer Mail Back instructions including a prepaid waybill.</li> </ul>
Part 2, section 8(2)(b)	Collection System and Facilities	the location of its collection facilities, and any changes in the number and location of collection facilities from the previous report;  Twelve collection facility locations:  Communication Test Design Inc. (CTDI), Delta BC  Archway, Richmond BC  Quantum, Edmonton AB  Metalex Products Ltd, Richmond BC  Sumas Environmental Services, Burnaby BC  Archway, Mississauga ON  Canadian Energy, Burnaby BC  WilmacTel Canada Inc., Calgary AB  Fleet Complete, Mississauga ON  Battery Doctor, Kelowna BC  Great Western Metals, BC  Hub Power LTD, BC

Recycling Regulation Reference	Topic	Summary (5-bullet maximum)
Part 2, section 8(2)(c)	Product Environmental Impact Reduction, Reusability and Recyclability	efforts taken by or on behalf of the producer to reduce environmental impacts throughout the product life cycle and to increase reusability or recyclability at the end of the life cycle;  Although TELUS is not a manufacturer of equipment (TELUS branded or not) that we sell or rent, we endeavor to work with our manufacturers to encourage them when designing for the environment to use minimal packaging materials; FSC certified, high recycled content, and or recyclable or biodegradable materials. Where appropriate and applicable, TELUS will also endeavor to include corporate social responsibility requirements in RFPs when selecting vendors.
Part 2, section 8(2)(d)	Pollution Prevention Hierarchy and Product / Component Management	a description of how the recovered product was managed in accordance with the pollution prevention hierarchy  TELUS' triage of recovered equipment enables TELUS to follow the pollution prevention hierarchy, such as the regulation requires, to ensure pollution prevention is not undertaken at one level unless or until all feasible opportunities for pollution prevention at a higher level have been taken. See section 6
Part 2, section 8(2)(e)  Part 2, section 8(2)(e.1)	Product Sold and Collected and Recovery Rate	Provide a summary of the total amount of product sold, collection volumes and, if applicable, recovery rates achieved by the program based on the approach included in the approved program plan. Also provide a summary of total product recovered by regional district.  Total Program Product Collection Volumes in 2020 is 693.406 metric tonnes Total Program Product Distributed into BC in 2020 is 1,013.20 metric tonnes Total Program Product Recovery Rate in 2020 is 68.44%  See section 7 for details  [See Section 7 for breakdown per regional district]
Part 2, section 8(2)(f)	Summary of Deposits, Refunds, Revenues and Expenses	See Section 7  [Provide report reference to the independently audited financial statements]  Not applicable as TELUS fully funds program.

Comparison of Key Performance Targets					
Pa	ort 2 section 8(2)(g); See full list of targets in	<u>Plan Performance</u>			
Priority Stewardship Plan Targets (as agreed with ministry file lead)	Performance	Strategies for Improvement			
1. 2020 Target of 82.5% recovery	68.44% overall recovery	TELUS continues to look at process improvements to increase our returns as well as investigating opportunities for reusing products.			

#### 2. Program Outline

#### **Overview**

TELUS Communications Inc. (TELUS) developed its own BC Electronic Equipment Stewardship Plan to adhere to the requirements set in the BC Recycling Regulation – Electronic and Electrical Product Category.

The TELUS team's dedication to preserving and protecting our environment contributes to our role as a leading socially responsible corporation. Consistently recognized for our sustainability practices, TELUS has been listed on the Dow Jones Sustainability North America Index for 18 years and was added to its World Index as of 2016, one of only nine telecommunications companies globally to be recognized with this distinction. Notably, we are one of only six Canadian companies to be named to the World Index across 24 sectors.

#### **Environmental compliance**

TELUS believes that an effective environmental management system provides the foundation for our environmental sustainability initiatives. In 2020 TELUS completed the required external audits to maintain our ISO 14001 certification. The globally recognized ISO 14001 standard has recently been updated (ISO14001:2015) and we worked to adapt our current system to the new version through 2020. Maintaining this ISO standard also requires continual improvements to our environmental management processes, and TELUS is committed to identifying even more ways to better our performance.

#### **Products Collected**

TELUS has been collecting, refurbishing for reuse, reselling, and recycling electronics using our reverse logistics processes that are established, controlled and monitored on a national basis. TELUS' Plan addresses rental and retail TELUS customer premise equipment as well as our internal use equipment. Mobile devices are not included in this Stewardship Plan as TELUS (as a remitter) submits the data to the Electronic Product Recycling Association in BC (EPRA-BC).

The following is a general list of categories of equipment with regards to the requirements outlined by the BC Recycling Regulation – Electronic and Electrical Product Category. This list is an overview and does not list accessories or additional paraphernalia that might be associated with each equipment category. TELUS is committed to be responsible for all new products TELUS introduces into the marketplace.

- TELUS TV Equipment (Set-top boxes, PVRs, Receivers, Remote Controls)
- TELUS Internet Equipment (Routers, Modems, Gateways)
- Network Printed Circuit Cards
- Public Access Equipment
- Cordless and Corded Phones (wireline)
- VOIP phones
- VOIP Analog Terminal Adapter
- Satellite TV equipment
- Global Positioning System (GPS) equipment
- Video and telephone conferencing equipment
- Home Security Equipment
- Batteries associated with these electronics

#### 3. Public Education Materials and Strategies

Reference: Recycling Regulation – Part 2, section 8(2)

(a) a description of educational materials and educational strategies the producer uses for the purposes of this Part

#### **Education and Strategies**

- 1. Call Centre Awareness call centre representatives are informed about the program and are equipped with the online information necessary to advise customers of their equipment return options.
- 2. TELUS Call Centre representatives coordinate pickup and return of business customer equipment to TELUS.
- 3. Return mailer kits including return instructions, carton, pre-paid waybill, provided to TELUS TV and TELUS Satellite TV customers. This program was expanded to include all TELUS TV and high speed internet access (HSIA) customers.
- 4. TELUS is a member of the Recycling Council of BC and participates in the BC Recycling Hotline service.
- 5. TELUS Technician Awareness our technicians are informed about the program and TELUS' commitments to our customers with respect to equipment being returned.
- 6. TELUS Team Members Awareness –team members are provided with current information regarding the return of electronic equipment in this plan through a number of mechanisms. Mechanisms include online process information on our internal company website, inter-company bulletins, TELUS Green Teams, internal social media, and as required one on one email and phone conversations.
- 7. TELUS' Nudge Rewards app to all TELUS team members. Nudge Rewards is a mobile app that engages employees via push notifications with tidbits about the energy use of the buildings and recyclable office materials in the form of trivia, fast-facts and contests. It also calls for brainstorming. Pop-ups appear to get feedback from app users to create companywide initiatives that everyone has a stake in.
- 8. TELUS sales contracts offer a recovery service for end of life equipment. A clause to this effect can be included on a sales contract if customers wish to use this service.
- 9. Online Training for TELUS Team Members: TELUS Integrity Course is one of the Company's key policies and is reviewed by all TELUS team members on an annual basis. This compulsory course is deployed as an online training tool which covers the legal and regulatory requirements that TELUS team members must follow while carrying out their duties. The course includes environmental case studies specific to electronic waste.

All of our key business units and stakeholders are involved in reducing the amount of material sent to landfills and improving recycling and re-use. Our biggest successes in 2020 include:

- TELUS' Waste Reduction Working Group is tasked with the implementing projects in our Waste Reduction Strategy
- Continuing to rely on our Green Teams and National Sustainability Council to build engagement and behavior change toward reducing waste across TELUS

These information-gathering exercises helped us identify factors that are influencing our diversion rates. Over the course of 2020 we continued on scouting a path to 90 per cent diversion, while implementing practical improvements in our operations.

#### 4. Collection System and Facilities

Reference: Recycling Regulation – Part 2, section 8(2)

(b) the location of its collection facilities, and any changes in the number and location of collection facilities from the previous report;

Twelve collection facilities owned by TELUS or TELUS Contractors/Vendors receive customer returns through recovery mechanisms. Both TELUS Technicians and TELUS Contractors recover equipment from customers and return to collection facilities. To ensure that all of our customers have access to a collection facility, TELUS provides a mail back program. TELUS residential customers have access to a Canada Post retail outlet in their area and TELUS business customer are provided with a courier pickup service.

#### **Collection facility locations:**

- Communication Test Design Inc. (CTDI), Delta BC
- eCycle Solutions, Chilliwack BC
- Quantum, Edmonton AB
- Metalex Products Ltd, Richmond BC
- Sumas Environmental Services, Burnaby BC
- Archway, Mississauga ON
- Archway, Richmond BC
- Canadian Energy, Burnaby BC
- Call2Recycle, Vancouver BC
- WiMacTel Canada Inc., Calgary AB
- Fleet Complete, Mississauga, ON
- Battery Doctor, Kelowna BC
- Great Western Metals, BC
- Hub Power LTD, BC

To provide easy access to TELUS' collection facilities in all Regional Districts, Canada Post, couriers (e.g. FedEx), and TELUS technicians act a recovery mechanisms that increase public access to the Collection Facilities. For example, Canada Post has over 6,600 retail outlets across Canada. The Canada Post retail outlets and the location of each are available on the Canada Post website at <a href="http://www.canadapost.ca/cpotools/apps/fpo/personal/findPostOffice">http://www.canadapost.ca/cpotools/apps/fpo/personal/findPostOffice</a>

#### 5. Product Environmental Impact Reduction, Reusability and Recyclability

Reference: Recycling Regulation – Part 2, section 8(2)

(c) efforts taken by or on behalf of the producer to reduce environmental impacts throughout the product life cycle and to increase reusability or recyclability at the end of the life cycle;

#### Overview of National Supply Chain Sustainability

Our Supply Chain Team plays a vital role in carrying out TELUS' strategic initiatives. This involves collaborating across business units and working with suppliers and service providers to ensure the right products and services are deployed in a safe and cost-effective manner. Our supply chain strategy aims to be inclusive, sustainable and one that makes a positive difference for our business, customers and communities. We are committed to applying policies and practices that reflect this vision and to collaborate with our stakeholders to reach our goals.

#### **Governance and oversight**

We value our relationships with our suppliers because they help us achieve our business objectives and contribute to our overall success as an organization. We award business to suppliers who demonstrate a strong commitment to sustainable development by adopting ethical, labour, health and safety, environmental principles and compliance practices that align with ours, and ensure the well-being of their employees, contractors and communities. Our Supplier Code of Conduct (the Code) is fundamentally aligned with our commitment to being a leading corporate citizen. In 2020, TELUS integrated our company-wide Sustainable Paper and Packaging Policy into the Code. Consistent with the Code of Ethics and Conduct that applies to our employees and contractors, the Code is based upon generally accepted standards of ethical business conduct. We expect our suppliers to comply with this Code, embedded in all supplier contracts, and all applicable laws and regulations wherever they operate.

#### **COVID-19** response and supporting our communities

The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic were felt throughout the organization and the supply chain team had to quickly pivot to make certain TELUS employees and customers remained safe and were equipped to continue their activities within a physically-distanced environment. The supply chain team engaged local suppliers and put in place short-term and longterm contingency plans to secure personal protective equipment and supplies for all employees.

We leveraged our supplier relationships and took a series of risk mitigation steps to ensure continuity of supply to uphold our commitment to keeping Canadians connected and minimizing downtime for businesses. These steps included the early purchase of vital materials, securing manufacturing slots and increasing the frequency of supplier meetings to gain insight on potential workforce impacts and raw material shortages. We recognize the importance of ensuring a healthy economic environment and supporting businesses across the country. Therefore, we supported smaller vendors who were facing financial hardships by accelerating payments to maintain their cash flow balances. Our supply chain team has also facilitated the distribution of mobile devices for our Devices for Good program, sourced masks with proceeds benefiting the TELUS Future Friendly Foundation as well as donations of personal protective equipment to vulnerable communities.

#### Recognition

At the World Procurement Awards in 2020, we received the Supply Chain Initiative Award for our Network Managed Spares program. In addition, TELUS was the only Canadian organization shortlisted for the Innovation Award for the development of both our Robotic Process Automation Centre of Excellence and our Internal Transformation Award. We were also a finalist for the Most Improved Supplier Diversity Program at the Women Business Enterprises Canada Supplier Diversity Awards showcase.

#### Supplier diversity

Our supplier diversity program takes proactive steps to provide equal access to suppliers that reflect the diversity of where we live, work and serve. Our goal is to encourage positive social change through buying behaviour with suppliers that are 51 per cent or more owned, controlled and operated by an individual that's considered diverse based on their ethnicity, sexuality, gender, veteran status and/or if able bodied. In 2019, we set a target to increase our spend with diverse suppliers by three to five per cent (year over year). In 2020, we reached that goal with the value of spend with diverse suppliers increased by more than five per cent. Our target is to increase this spend by a further three to five per cent in 2021. Our continued advocacy and leadership in supplier diversity across Canada has included: o Analyzing our diverse supplier spend to calculate the total economic impact of our program (direct, indirect and induced) on Canadian production, jobs, and wages o Participating in the Canadian Aboriginal and Minority Supplier Council (CAMSC), Women Business Enterprises Canada, and Canadian Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (CGLCC) o Establishing membership with the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB) that supports our commitment to Indigenous reconciliation. In 2021, we will further implement our action plan to develop and promote our supplier diversity program.

#### Integrating sustainability into our supply chain

In addition to our supplier diversity program, we are committed to integrating sustainability considerations throughout our supply chain management practices. In 2020, we launched a new program to ensure that there is a standard, minimum weighting for consideration of sustainability principles embedded in all sourcing documents with implementation scheduled for 2021. In 2020, we also introduced a line of eco-friendly phone accessories made from 100 per cent compostable materials. As consumer trends evolve, our supply chain team plays an integral role in bringing sustainable products to the marketplace.

#### **End-of-life management**

A key focus for our Supply Operations Team, is the management of end-of-life products and devices that are returned or recovered from our customers. In 2020, we expanded our scope to our wireless devices through the expansion of our Certified Pre-Owned program and increased the volume of refurbished units by 16 per cent compared to 2019. Looking ahead, we are exploring a refurbishment program for our Home Security products to further extend their life. In addition, our Bring-It-Back™ program provides a financial incentive to customers to return devices, increasing our overall recovery rate. These devices are refurbished and reintroduced into the market, extending their useful life and providing an affordable mobile device option for customers. TELUS also uses refurbished units as the primary source of devices for our team members. In 2020, we successfully completed and passed an external audit and we were re-certified by the British Columbia Ministry of Environment as a steward of electronic waste under the B.C. Stewardship Program, demonstrating our continued commitment in responsibly managing our impact on the environment.

#### Service pole recycling

In partnership with our provincial electricity providers, TELUS is seeking to maximize the reuse and repurposing of our service poles in order to significantly reduce their environmental impact. Currently, approximately 70 per cent of poles taken out of service are recycled or repurposed. Our objective is to improve the waste diversion rate by 20 per cent in 2021, with an overall target of achieving a 99 per cent diversion rate by the end of 2025.

#### Monitoring our suppliers

In 2020, we embarked on a multi-year transformation project to evolve how we manage our key supplier relationships. The aim of the project is to revitalize our existing Supplier Relationship Management Program by developing a systematic approach to aid in how we manage the key milestones within the supplier lifecycle and to enhance strategic partnerships.

#### **Large Suppliers**

An additional level of scrutiny is applied to suppliers surpassing a spend threshold. In accordance with our Supplier Due Diligence policy and program, we monitor these suppliers with an additional level of scrutiny focusing on financial health, adherence to a sustainability questionnaire, insurance compliance, health and safety auditing, and sanction vetting. Following this screening, suppliers who are rated as high risk will be notified and a corrective action plan will be developed between TELUS and the supplier to move towards compliance. We remain on track to meet our 2021 goal to begin annual renewal of supplier compliance under this program.

#### **Critical Suppliers**

TELUS seeks to foster strong relationships with suppliers that are critical to the products and services our customers rely upon. We define critical suppliers as those having a high impact on customer experience or network reliability, as well as other parameters. In addition, non-critical suppliers may become defined as critical if they experience repeated outages and become a risk for our business continuity performance. Our Supply Chain Team works to establish a culture of continuous improvement with these suppliers through regular meetings on reliability and performance, governance and technological risk. We screen and monitor critical suppliers through our performance management framework called Sentinel. This framework has two parts: a dashboard that tracks metrics on performance; and a stakeholder management component where we can engage the supplier. Where there are lagging metrics, an improvement plan is developed and monitored on a quarterly basis. In 2020, TELUS integrated the Sentinel framework into the Supplier Relationship Management Program, which would enable a broader set of suppliers to leverage the best practices and incorporate lessons learned from this framework.

#### **Payments to suppliers**

TELUS helps strengthen Canada's economy through our purchase of goods and services. This supports Canadians and the companies they work for and invest in.

#### **Vendor payments**

(\$ millions, except as noted)	2020	2019	2018	2017
Vendors with locations in Canada <sup>1</sup>	8,527	8,861	9,287	8,574
As a % of total vendor payments	93	93	93	91
Non-Canadian vendors	673	689	676	829
As a % of total vendor payments	7	7	7	9
Total vendor payments	9,200	9,550	9,963	9,403
As a % of consolidated revenues	60	65	69	70

<sup>1</sup> We define local suppliers as those that reside in Canada.

#### **Conflict minerals**

In 2012, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) finalized reporting requirements to disclose the use of designated minerals and metals mined in the Democratic Republic of Congo and adjacent countries. Cassiterite (a source of tin), wolframite (a source of tungsten), columbite-tantalite (or coltan, a source of tantalum) and gold are often referred to collectively as conflict minerals. Such minerals may be used in electronic and communications equipment that we use or sell. As a signatory of the UNGC, we are committed to preventing human rights abuses that could result from our operations. These SEC reporting requirements for conflict minerals, mandated by Section 1502 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, came into effect for our 2013 annual reporting cycle. Through the establishment of an internal conflict minerals working group, we have performed our due diligence and have met the reporting requirements each year.

#### 6. Pollution Prevention Hierarchy and Product / Component Management

**Reference:** Recycling Regulation – Part 2, section 8(2)

(d) a description of how the recovered product was managed in accordance with the pollution prevention hierarchy;

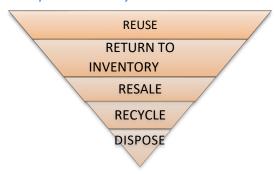
By virtue of the triage system TELUS utilizes for its electronics, pollution hierarchy is considered throughout the process. All recovered items are reused where possible and recycling is used as the last resort. TELUS defines what items are to be refurbished for reuse; what equipment can be sold for reuse; what is to be returned to our vendor under warranty; and what products must be recycled. Upon TELUS receiving the rental equipment, it is first tested under approved test guidelines by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor. Units that pass the testing are refurbished and restocked for reuse; defective units under warranty are returned to the manufacturer; defective units not under warranty that are beyond economical repair are recycled by TELUS' authorized electronics recycling contractor(s).

Program Products collected are reported by End of Fate by level on the Pollution Prevention Hierarchy:

- Reuse: These are TELUS TV Future Friendly Home (FFH) devices that are either reused by TELUS or sold for the purpose of reuse or refurbishment for reuse. Our 2020 FFH reuse rate was 29 percent and 3 percent reuse rate of our accessories.
- Recycle: These are products that are processed into an End of fate commodity (e.g. Ferrous Steel, Plastics, Aluminum, Copper, Glass, Lead, etc.). In 2020 over 693.406 mt of electronics and the associated batteries was recycled from our products collected in BC.
- Recover into energy: There currently are no processes for recovery into Energy although TELUS closely monitors developments in this industry.

Residual Waste: Waste going to landfill or hazardous waste from all sources that is not reusable. For products and materials that cannot be reused or resold, TELUS pursues opportunities to recycle and divert these assets from landfills. We continue to enhance our recycling and diversion programs in our operations and are collaborating with our property managers and waste haulers with the goal of establishing waste diversion targets. In 290,200.25 kilograms of non-hazardous waste was sent to the landfill by our electronics recyclers due to not being a recyclable or reusable commodity within the product (examples are non-recyclable packaging materials, rubber feet).

#### **Disposition Hierarchy**



#### **Acceptable Product End of Fate**

Product Type	Reuse	Recycle	Energy Recovery	Residual Waste
TELUS TV Equipment and accessories	Preferred	Optional	N/A	Optional
Telsets	Preferred	Optional	N/A	Optional
Network Equipment	Preferred	Optional	N/A	Optional
GPS Equipment	Preferred	Optional	N/A	Optional
Batteries < 2 kg	N/A	Preferred	N/A	Optional
Batteries >2 kg	N/A	Preferred	N/A	Optional

## Estimated Product End of Fate Data for the year ended December 31, 2020

Product Type	Reuse (%)	Recycle (%)	Recovery (%)	Residual (%)	Unknown (%)
TELUS TV Equipment	29%	41%	0	30%	0
TELUS TV Accessories	3%	90%	0	7%	0
Network Equipment	48%	52%	0	0%	0
Telsets	0%	100%	0	0%	0
GPS	0%	100%	0	0%	0
Batteries < 2 kg	0	100%	0	0%	0
Batteries >2 kg	0	100%	0	0%	0

TELUS' processors provided TELUS with an end of fate flow chart that describes where our products are recycled (City and Province or Country) and the material recovered from them such as steel, copper, aluminum, precious metals, and plastics. This processing flow takes the material recovered to a point where the processor sells the material recovered to their buyers for further processing. Our electronics recycler even sends the dust from the bag-houses for processing.

#### **Processing Pathways**

Product Type	Transfer to direct processor in BC (%)	Transfer to direct processor or multi-step processor in North America (%)	End of Fate Description
TV equipment and accessories		100%	Processed for material recovery (metals, precious metals, plastic)
Telsets		100%	Processed for material recovery (metals, precious metals, plastic)
GPS		100%	Processed for material recovery (metals, precious metals, plastic)
Network Equipment		100%	Processed for material recovery (metals, precious metals, plastic)
Batteries < 2 kg	100%	0%	Processed for material recovery
Batteries >2 kg	100%	0%	Processed down to commodities for reuse or further processing (lead, acid, plastic, sulfur)

#### 7. Product Distributed and Collected and Recovery Rate

Reference: Recycling Regulation – Part 2, section 8(2)

- (e) the total amount of the producer's product distributed and collected and, if applicable, the producer's recovery rate;
- (e.1) effective for a report required on or before July 1 and for every report required under subsection (1) after that date, the total amount of the producer's product recovered in each regional district;

#### 7.1 Program Product Distributed into BC (by weight)

> Total program product distributed into BC during 2020 was 1,013.20 metric tonnes (mt)

The amount of circuit cards (network) distributed was based on self-reporting as 1-1 as we do not have the data indicating the distribution of circuit cards. However, we do know that for each card removed from our switch a new card is installed in its place.

#### 7.2 Program Product Collection Volumes (by weight):

- > Program product equipment 606.930 mt
- > >2 kg Batteries 84.734 mt
- > Consumer Batteries 1.743 mt

Total program product collection volumes during 2020 was 693.407 mt

#### **Equipment Recovered by Regional District**

Regional District	Equipment Recovered (kgs)
Alberni-Clayoquot	145
Bulkley-Nechako	3,272
Capital	15,034
Cariboo	5,491
Central Kootenay	5,691
Central Okanagan	22,380
Columbia-Shuswap	5,429
Comox Valley	1,636
Cowichan Valley	2,138
East Kootenay	4,663
Fraser Valley	11,111
Fraser-Fort George	9,605
Greater/Metro Vancouver	549,230
Kitimat-Stikine	2,288
Kootenay Boundary	2,580
Mount Waddington	916
Nanaimo	16,882
North Okanagan	6,411
Okanagan-Similkameen	4,067
Peace River	3,896
Powell River	1,107
Skeena-Queen Charlotte	1
Squamish-Lillooet	2,573
Strathcona	762
Sunshine Coast	1,700
Thompson-Nicola	14,399
Provincial Total	693,407

#### 7.3 Program Product Recovery Rate:

- Overall program product recovery rate for 2020 was 68.44%; this is based on the weight of units collected and the weight of units distributed.
- > TELUS' Customer Premise Equipment (Rental) Return Improvement Implementation Plan Development & Project commenced where TELUS provided return kits to our customers in an effort to increase the recovery of rental set top boxes, modems, receivers, and remotes.

#### 7.4 Reuse Rate:

- > TELUS' FFH reuse rate on the products collected in 2020 was 29% as a result of TELUS' disposition process.
- > TELUS will reuse most consumer products up to three times during its lifecycle. This demonstrates the results of our focus on the Pollution Prevention hierarchy.

#### 8. Summary of Deposits, Refunds, Revenues and Expenditures

Reference: Recycling Regulation – Part 2, Section 8(2)

- (f) independently audited financial statements detailing
  - (i) all deposits received and refunds paid by the producers covered by the approved plan, and
  - (ii) revenues and expenditures for any fees associated with the approved plan that are charged separately and identified on the consumer receipt of sale;

TELUS funds the TELUS BC Electronics Stewardship Plan. No customers are charged an environment handling fee.

#### 9. Plan Performance

Reference: Recycling Regulation – Part 2, section 8(2)

(g) a comparison of the approved plan's performance for the year with the performance requirements and targets in this regulation and the approved plan

	Plan Target	2020 Results	Strategies for Improvement
1.	Target of 82.5% recovery was committed for 2020	Overall recovery rate was 68.44%	Process improvement projects are in progress

Recovery rate is higher than products distributed due to excess inventory recycled/resold as well as decommissioning projects.

Appendices / Additional Information and Third Party Assurance

Appendix A - Third Party Assurance Statement for Non-Financial Information

**Reference:** Recycling Regulation – Part 2, section 8(2)

Including section 8(2)(h), any other information specified by the director



Independent practitioner's reasonable assurance report on non-financial information included in TELUS' Annual Report to the Director, Environment Quality Branch, British Columbia Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy

#### To the management of TELUS Communications, Inc.

We have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on selected sections of the 2020 Annual Report to the Director, Environment Quality Branch, British Columbia Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy, detailed in Appendix A (the subject matter), of TELUS Communications, Inc. ("TELUS"), as part of TELUS' commitments under the Extended Producer Responsibility ("EPR") program for the vear ended December 31, 2020.

#### Management's responsibility

Management is responsible for preparation of the subject matter in accordance with the sections 8(2)(b), 8(2)(d), 8(2)(e) and 8(2)(g) of the British Columbia Regulation 449/2004 Recycling Regulation and set out in Appendix A (together, the criteria). Management is also responsible for such internal control as management determines necessary to enable the preparation of the subject matter that is free from material misstatement.

#### Our responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a reasonable assurance opinion on the subject matter based on the evidence we have obtained. We conducted our reasonable assurance engagement in accordance with the Canadian Standard on Assurance Engagements (CSAE) 3000, *Attestation Engagements Other than Audit or Reviews of Historical Financial Information*.

This standard requires that we plan and perform this engagement to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the subject matter is free from material misstatement.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an engagement conducted in accordance with this standard will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The nature, timing and extent of procedures selected depends on our professional judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error, and involves examining evidence about management's preparation of the subject matter in accordance with the criteria.

Our reasonable assurance procedures included, but were not limited to the following:

- Making enquiries of management and senior executives to obtain an understanding of the overall governance and internal control environment and risk management processes relevant to the management and reporting of TELUS's Annual Report to the Director;
- Analytical reviews and trend analysis of reported data in relation to sections 8(2)(b), 8(2)(d) and 8(2)(e):
- Testing the processes, documents and underlying data on a sample basis:
- Recalculating quantitative data on a sample basis as it pertains to the subject matter information;



• Evaluating the presentation and disclosure of the subject matter information in the Annual Report to the Director.

We believe the evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Our independence and quality control

We have complied with the relevant rules of professional conduct/code of ethics applicable to the practice of public accounting and related to assurance engagements, issued by various professional accounting bodies, which are founded on fundamental principles of integrity, objectivity, professional competence and due care, confidentiality and professional behavior.

The firm applies Canadian Standard on Quality Control 1, *Quality Control for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Statements, and Other Assurance Engagements* and, accordingly, maintains a comprehensive system of quality control, including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the 2020 Annual Report to the Director, Environment Quality Branch, British Columbia Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy for TELUS Communications, Inc. the year ended December 31, 2020 has been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the criteria.

#### Purpose of statement and restriction on use of our report

The subject matter has been prepared to report to the British Columbia Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy. As a result, the subject matter may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for the use of TELUS. We neither assume nor accept any responsibility or liability to any third party in respect of this report.

**Chartered Professional Accountants** 

Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP

Vancouver, British Columbia September 30, 2021



## Appendix A – Subject matter and Evaluation Criteria

1. Section 8(2)(b) of the Recycling Regulation - the location of collection facilities, and any changes in the number and location of collection facilities from the previous report

#### TELUS' reported result:

The number of collection facility locations is 14 (2019: 11).

Reference: Pages 3, 6 and 7 of TELUS's 2020 Annual Report to the Director

#### Basis of preparation:

- "Collection Facilities" are centres that were owned by TELUS, had a signed contract with TELUS, or non-contracted with selected TELUS vendors, for the collection of Program Products as of a December 31<sup>st</sup> of the reporting year. Collection facilities owned by TELUS or TELUS Contractors/Vendors receive customer returns through recovery mechanisms. Both TELUS technicians and TELUS contractors recover equipment from customers and return to collection facilities. Additionally, TELUS has a mail-back program whereby residential customers can return items via Canada Post outlets and business customers are provided with a courier pickup service.
- "Collection Facilities" are one of the following types of centres:
  - o Reverse Logistics/Triage Centres e.g., CTDI and Archway;
  - o Processors e.g., GEEP, Metalex, Edmonds Recycling;
  - Spare Central Stock e.g., CTDI warehouse location for spare network equipment; or
  - Redeployment Centres/Forward logistics e.g., TELUS, CTDI and Archway warehouse locations for used equipment brought back into inventory.
- "Collection Facilities" are not Canada Post, courier service providers (e.g., FedEx), technicians or Tier 2 locations ("Tier 2 locations" are TELUS locations where the technicians drop off material for return. These then are forwarded to any of the collection facilities).



# **2.** Section 8 (2) (d) of the Recycling Regulation - the description of how the recovered product was managed in accordance with the pollution prevention hierarchy

#### TELUS' reported result:

Acceptable Product End of Fate

Product Type	Reuse	Recycle	Recovery	Residual
TELUS TV Equipment and accessories	Preferred	Optional	N/A	N/A
Telsets	Preferred	Optional	N/A	N/A
Network Equipment	Preferred	Optional	N/A	N/A
GPS Equipment	Preferred	Optional	N/A	N/A
Batteries <2 kg	N/A	Preferred	N/A	N/A
Batteries >2 kg	N/A	Preferred	N/A	N/A

Estimated Product End of Fate Data for the year ended December 31, 2020

Product Type	Reuse (%)	Recycle (%)	Recovery (%)	Residual	Unknown (%)
Froduct Type				(%)	
TELUS TV Equipment	29%	41%	0	30%	0
TELUS TV Accessories	3%	90%	0	7%	0
Network Equipment	48%	52%	0	0	0
Telsets	0	100%	0	0	0
GPS	0	100%	0	0	0
Batteries <2 kg	0	100%	0	0	0
Batteries >2 kg	0	100%	0	0	0

**Processing Pathways** 

1 locessing 1 attiways			
Product Type	Estimated transfer to direct processor in British Columbia (%)	Estimated transfer to direct processor or multi-step processor in North America (%)	End of Fate Description
TELUS TV Equipment and accessories	0	100%	Processed for material recovery (metals, precious metals, plastics)
Telsets	0	100%	Processed for material recovery (metals, precious metals, plastics)
GPS	0	100%	Processed for material recovery (metals, precious metals, plastics)
Network Equipment	0	100%	Processed for material recovery (metals, precious metals, plastics)
Batteries <2 kg	100%	0	Processed for material recovery
Batteries >2 kg	100%	0	Processed down to commodities for reuse or further processing (lead, acid, plastic, sulfur)

Reference: pages 11, and 12 of TELUS's 2020 Annual Report to the Director



#### Basis of preparation:

- "Product type" is groups of products included in the program as listed in the currently approved product stewardship plan.
- "Reuse" is any Program Product which has been either reused by TELUS or sold for the purpose of reuse.
- "Recycle" refers to the process of treating or processing a Program Product into an End of Fate commodity (e.g. Ferrous Steel, plastics Aluminium, Copper, Glass, Lead).
- "Recovery" is the process of generating energy in the form of electricity and/or heat from the incineration of waste.
- "Residual" refers to Program Products which have been sent to landfill or hazardous waste that is not reusable.
- "End of fate" is defined as the point where the product, component, and/or material is handled as a recognized commodity, is destroyed (e.g., through energy recovery), or is disposed of as waste.
- "Estimated Product End of Fate Data" is an estimate of the end fate of the type of product based on information provided by processors.
- Direct processors are those where the Program Product is processed on a single site.
- Multi-step processors are those where the Program Product is processed over more than one site.

#### Method of reporting:

Program Products collected are reported by end of fate both by product type and by process on the Pollution Prevention Hierarchy:

- Reuse: Reused products are reported by weight reused or sold for reuse.
- Recycle: Recycled products are reported by weight.
- Recovery: N/A No Program Products are recovered.
- Residual: N/A all Program Products collected are expected to be 100% recyclable. Non- program products that may be included in shipments are not recorded or reported by the program but efforts are made to dispose of them in accordance with the pollution prevention hierarchy.



**3.** Section 8 (2) (e) of the Recycling Regulation - the description of the total amounts of the producer's product sold and collected and, if applicable, the producers' recovery rate

#### TELUS' reported result:

Total amount of producer's product sold is 1,013.20 metric tonnes (mt)

Total amount of producer's product collected is estimated as 693.407 mt

Reference: pages 4 and 12 of TELUS's 2020 Annual Report to the Director

The recovery rate is reported under criteria 4 below.

#### Basis of preparation:

- "Product Sold" is the amount of all Program Products distributed into BC by TELUS.
- "Product Collected" is the amount of all Program Products collected from sources known to be located within the province of BC that occurred through the Collection Facilities.
- "Program Products" are all products included in the program as listed in the currently approved product stewardship plan. These include:
  - o Program equipment utilized externally by customers
    - TELUS TV equipment (Set-top boxes, PVRs, Receivers, Remote Controls)
    - TELUS Internet Equipment (Routers, Modems, Gateways)
    - Satellite TV equipment
    - Cordless Phones (wireline)
    - Corded Phones
    - VOIP phones
    - VOIP Analog Terminal Adapter
    - GPS equipment
    - Optical Network Terminal Battery (GPON battery)
    - Video and telephone conferencing equipment
    - Servers
  - Program equipment utilized by TELUS
    - Cordless and corded desktop phones
    - VOIP Over IP (VOIP) phones
    - Global Positioning Systems (GPS) equipment
    - Obsolete network equipment (switches, servers, mainframes, circuit cards, etc.)
    - Public Access Equipment (payphones, smartcard readers)
    - External Customer Network Infrastructure Equipment but located on TELUS premises (servers, mainframes, tapes etc.)
    - Video and telephone conferencing equipment
    - Optical Network Termination Equipment located on customers' premises
    - Batteries associated with these electronics
- Products not included in the program are mobile devices and their associated accessories.



**4.** Section 8 (2) (g) of the Recycling Regulation - the performance for the year in relation to targets in the approved stewardship plan under Sections 8(2)(b), (d), and (e)

## TELUS' reported result:

68.44% recovery rate for the year ended December 31, 2020 compared to a target of 82.5% Reference: pages 4, 13 and 14 of TELUS's 2020 Annual Report to the Director

#### Basis of preparation:

- Recovery rate is calculated as:

Total weight of units collected / Total weight of units distributed (sold)

#### TELUS Corporation ISO 14001:2015 Certificate

Certificate CA15/640105.00

The management system of

# **TELUS Corporation**

3777 Kingsway Burnaby, BC V5H 3Z7, Canada

has been assessed and certified as meeting the requirements of

ISO 14001:2015

For the following activities:

Provision of Telecommunication Services

This certificate is valid from 20 July 2018 until 19 July 2021 and remains valid subject to satisfactory surveillance audits. Re certification audit due before 23 April 2021. Issue 2. Certified since 20 July 2015.

Authorised by



SGS United Kingdom Ltd Rossmore Business Park Ellesmere Port Cheshire CH65 3EN UK t +44 (01151 350-6666 f +44 (01151 350-6600 www.sgs.com

HC SGS14001 2015 0118

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