



## **SHAREHOLDERS' REPORT**

Three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	Quarters ended			Six months ended		
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	Change	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	Change
<i>(in thousands of dollars, except percentages and per share data)</i>	\$	\$	%	\$	\$	%
<b>Operations</b>						
Revenue	586,417	578,450	1.4	1,169,505	1,161,353	0.7
Adjusted EBITDA <sup>(1)</sup>	258,043	252,129	2.3	519,310	507,283	2.4
Integration, restructuring and acquisition costs	—	4,320	—	—	6,350	—
Gain on disposal of a subsidiary	—	(12,940)	—	—	(12,940)	—
Profit for the period	78,232	75,688	3.4	160,191	142,519	12.4
Profit for the period attributable to owners of the Corporation	25,865	33,330	(22.4)	56,630	58,527	(3.2)
<b>Cash Flow</b>						
Cash flow from operating activities	253,808	211,460	20.0	376,683	301,707	24.9
Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment, intangible and other assets	87,036	117,220	(25.7)	184,380	264,450	(30.3)
Free cash flow <sup>(1)</sup>	119,461	77,172	54.8	228,794	118,110	93.7
<b>Financial Condition<sup>(2)</sup></b>						
Cash and cash equivalents	—	—	—	52,316	68,344	(23.5)
Property, plant and equipment	—	—	—	1,967,057	2,004,247	(1.9)
Total assets	—	—	—	5,444,253	5,495,520	(0.9)
Indebtedness <sup>(3)</sup>	—	—	—	2,828,501	2,974,119	(4.9)
Equity attributable to owners of the Corporation	—	—	—	548,969	503,344	9.1
<b>Per Share Data<sup>(4)</sup></b>						
Earnings per share						
Basic	1.55	1.99	(22.1)	3.39	3.50	(3.1)
Diluted	1.54	1.98	(22.2)	3.37	3.48	(3.2)
Dividends	0.34	0.295	15.3	0.68	0.59	15.3

- (1) The indicated terms do not have standardized definitions prescribed by the International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") and, therefore, may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other companies. For more details, please consult the "Non-IFRS financial measures" section of the MD&A.
- (2) At February 28, 2017 and August 31, 2016. Total assets and shareholders' equity were restated for the year ended August 31, 2016 as reported in note 2 of the Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements.
- (3) Indebtedness is defined as the aggregate of bank indebtedness, balance due on a business combination, principal on long-term debt and obligations under derivative financial instruments.
- (4) Per multiple and subordinate voting share.



## **MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS ("MD&A")**

Three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017

# 1. FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

*Certain statements contained in this Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") may constitute forward-looking information within the meaning of securities laws. Forward-looking information may relate to Cogeco Inc.'s ("Cogeco" or the "Corporation") future outlook and anticipated events, business, operations, financial performance, financial condition or results and, in some cases, can be identified by terminology such as "may"; "will"; "should"; "expect"; "plan"; "anticipate"; "believe"; "intend"; "estimate"; "predict"; "potential"; "continue"; "foresee", "ensure" or other similar expressions concerning matters that are not historical facts. Particularly, statements regarding the Corporation's financial guidelines, future operating results and economic performance, objectives and strategies are forward-looking statements. These statements are based on certain factors and assumptions including expected growth, results of operations, performance and business prospects and opportunities, which Cogeco believes are reasonable as of the current date. Refer in particular to the "Corporate Objectives and Strategies" and "Fiscal 2017 Financial Guidelines" sections of the Corporation's 2016 annual MD&A for a discussion of certain key economic, market and operational assumptions we have made in preparing forward-looking statements. While Management considers these assumptions to be reasonable based on information currently available to the Corporation, they may prove to be incorrect. Forward-looking information is also subject to certain factors, including risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from what Cogeco currently expects. These factors include risks such as competitive risks, business risks, regulatory risks, technology risks, financial risks, economic conditions, ownership risks, human-caused and natural threats to our network, infrastructure and systems and litigation risks, many of which are beyond the Corporation's control. For more exhaustive information on these risks and uncertainties, the reader should refer to the "Uncertainties and Main Risk Factors" section of the Corporation's 2016 annual MD&A and the present MD&A. These factors are not intended to represent a complete list of the factors that could affect Cogeco and future events and results may vary significantly from what Management currently foresees. The reader should not place undue importance on forward-looking information contained in this MD&A which represent Cogeco's expectations as of the date of this MD&A (or as of the date they are otherwise stated to be made) and are subject to change after such date. While Management may elect to do so, the Corporation is under no obligation (and expressly disclaims any such obligation) and does not undertake to update or alter this information at any particular time, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law.*

*All amounts are stated in Canadian dollars unless otherwise indicated. This report should be read in conjunction with the Corporation's condensed interim consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto for the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017 prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") and the MD&A included in the Corporation's 2016 Annual Report.*

## 2. CORPORATE OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

Cogeco's objectives are to provide outstanding service to its customers and create shareholder value by increasing profitability and ensuring continued revenue growth. The Corporation maximizes profitability and shareholder value by maintaining strict control over spending. In order to achieve this, Cogeco seeks to become more efficient with its processes. The Corporation measures its performance, with regard to these objectives by monitoring revenue, adjusted EBITDA<sup>(1)</sup> and free cash flow<sup>(1)</sup>.

The strategies employed to reach these objectives are specific to each segment described below.

### COMMUNICATIONS SEGMENT

Cogeco Communications Inc. ("Cogeco Communications") is dedicated to providing outstanding services to its customers and to increasing shareholder value. The Corporation focuses on optimizing profitability while efficiently managing capital utilization to generate future growth. To achieve these objectives, Cogeco Communications has developed the following strategies:

Canadian and American broadband services	Business information and communications technology ("Business ICT") services
Expanding service offerings, enhancing existing services at attractive prices and seeking value-added acquisitions	Promoting the new branding supported by a people centric culture
Improving the networks with state-of-the-art advanced technologies	Growing our customer base through an enhanced go-to-market strategy with a strong focus on specific horizontal and vertical markets
Improving customer experience and business processes to build on customer loyalty and retention	Rationalizing and expanding our product suite to bring relevant solutions to market, supported by exceptional customer service
Maintaining sound capital management and strict control over spending	Strengthening internal processes and systems to improve operational efficiency and optimize infrastructure progress
	Optimizing the use of current assets in order to optimize cash flows

Cogeco Communications measures its performance, with regard to these objectives by monitoring revenue, adjusted EBITDA, operating margin, free cash flow and capital intensity. For further details please refer to the 2016 Annual Report of Cogeco Communications Inc. available on [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) or on the Corporation's website at [corpo.cogeco.com](http://corpo.cogeco.com).

### MEDIA ACTIVITIES

The media activities focus on continuous improvement of its programming and diversification of its product portfolio in order to increase its market share and thereby its profitability.

## 2.1 KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

### REVENUE

For the six-month period ended February 28, 2017, revenue increased by \$8.2 million, or 0.7%, to reach \$1.17 billion, compared to \$1.16 billion for the same period of fiscal 2016 driven by growth in the Communications segment, partly offset by lower revenue in the media activities attributable to the sale of Métromédia CMR Plus Inc. ("Métromédia") on January 5, 2016.

### ADJUSTED EBITDA

For the six-month period ended February 28, 2017, adjusted EBITDA increased by \$12.0 million, or 2.4%, to reach \$519.3 million compared to \$507.3 million for the same period of fiscal 2016 as a result of the improvement in the Communications segment.

### FREE CASH FLOW

For the six-month period ended February 28, 2017, free cash flow increased by \$110.7 million, or 93.7%, to reach \$228.8 million compared to \$118.1 million for the same period of the prior year mainly as a result of lower acquisitions of property, plant and equipment, intangible and other assets in the Communications segment resulting from the timing of certain initiatives and a greater focus on capital expenditure optimization. The improvement of the adjusted EBITDA and the decrease in integration, restructuring and acquisition costs also contributed to the increase in free cash flow.

(1) The indicated terms do not have standardized definitions prescribed by IFRS and, therefore, may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other companies. For more details, please consult the "Non-IFRS financial measures" section of the MD&A.

### 3. BUSINESS DEVELOPMENTS AND OTHER

Numeris' winter 2017 survey in the Montréal region, conducted with the Portable People Meter ("PPM"), reported that in the Montréal French market *98.5 FM* is the leading radio station amongst all listeners two years old and over ("2+"), *Rythme FM* has maintained its leadership position amongst the female 25-54 segment and *CKOI* is well positioned amongst all listeners in the 25-54 segment. *The Beat* is the leading music radio station in the Montréal English market amongst all listeners two years old and over ("2+"). Finally, most of our other regional radio stations in Québec registered good ratings.

### 4. OPERATING AND FINANCIAL RESULTS

#### 4.1 OPERATING RESULTS

	Quarters ended			Six months ended		
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	Change	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	Change
<i>(in thousands of dollars, except percentages)</i>	\$	\$	%	\$	\$	%
Revenue	586,417	578,450	1.4	1,169,505	1,161,353	0.7
Operating expenses	328,374	326,321	0.6	650,195	654,070	(0.6)
Adjusted EBITDA	258,043	252,129	2.3	519,310	507,283	2.4

#### REVENUE

Fiscal 2017 second-quarter revenue amounted to \$586.4 million, an increase of \$8.0 million, or 1.4%, compared to the same period of fiscal 2016. For the first six months, revenue amounted to \$1.17 billion, an increase of \$8.2 million, or 0.7%, compared to the same period of the prior year. The increase for both periods is attributable to the Communications segment, partly offset by lower revenue in the media activities attributable to the sale of Métromédia on January 5, 2016.

In the Communications segment, fiscal 2017 second-quarter revenue amounted to \$560.9 million, an increase of \$9.4 million, or 1.7%, compared to the same period of the prior year driven by growths of 3.1% in the Canadian broadband services operations and 0.7% in the American broadband services operations, partly offset by a decrease of 1.8% in the Business ICT services operations. For further details on revenue, please refer to the "Communications segment" section.

#### OPERATING EXPENSES

Fiscal 2017 second-quarter operating expenses amounted to \$328.4 million, an increase of \$2.1 million, or 0.6%, compared to the same period of fiscal 2016. For the first six months, operating expenses amounted to \$650.2 million, a decrease of \$3.9 million, or 0.6%, compared to the same period of the prior year. The variation for the quarter is mainly attributable to the Communications segment. The variation for the first six months is mainly attributable to the sale of Métromédia during the second quarter of fiscal 2016 in the media activities, partly offset by the increase in the Communications segment.

In the Communications segment, fiscal 2017 second-quarter operating expenses amounted to \$302.2 million, an increase of \$3.8 million, or 1.3%, compared to the same period of the prior year. For the first six months of fiscal 2017, operating expenses amounted to \$596.9 million, an increase of \$6.9 million, or 1.2%, compared to the same period of the prior year. For both periods, operating expenses increased in the Canadian and American broadband services operations and remained stable, except for the second quarter during which operating expenses increased, in the Business ICT services operations. For further details on operating expenses, please refer to the "Communications segment" section.

#### ADJUSTED EBITDA

Fiscal 2017 second-quarter adjusted EBITDA increased by \$5.9 million, or 2.3%, to reach \$258.0 million as a result of the improvement in the Communications segment and in the media activities despite last year's sale of Métromédia. For the first six months adjusted EBITDA increased by \$12.0 million, or 2.4%, to reach \$519.3 million as a result of the improvement in the Communications segment.

In the Communications segment, for the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017, adjusted EBITDA increased by \$5.5 million, or 2.2%, to reach \$253.8 million and by \$11.0 million, or 2.2%, to reach \$503.5 million, respectively. The increase in the second quarter resulted from the improvement in the Canadian broadband services operations combined with a stable adjusted EBITDA in the American broadband services operations as a result of unfavorable foreign exchange rates compared to the same period of the prior year, partly offset by a decline of adjusted EBITDA in the Business ICT services operations. The increase in the first six months resulted from the improvement of adjusted EBITDA in the Canadian and American broadband services operations, partly offset by a decline in the Business ICT service operations. For further details on adjusted EBITDA, please refer to the "Communications segment" section.

## 4.2 FIXED CHARGES

	Quarters ended			Six months ended		
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	Change	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	Change
<i>(in thousands of dollars, except percentages)</i>	\$	\$	%	\$	\$	%
Depreciation and amortization	119,993	130,076	(7.8)	239,901	257,239	(6.7)
Financial expense	33,748	37,409	(9.8)	67,083	72,400	(7.3)

For the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017, depreciation and amortization expense decreased by \$10.1 million, or 7.8%, to reach \$120.0 million and by \$17.3 million, or 6.7%, to reach \$239.9 million, respectively, compared to the same periods of the prior year. The decrease for both periods resulted mainly from lower acquisitions of property, plant and equipment, the depreciation of the US dollar against the Canadian dollar, certain assets being fully amortized and from the impairment of intangible assets recognized in the third quarter of fiscal 2016 in the Communications segment.

For the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017, financial expense decreased by \$3.7 million, or 9.8%, to reach \$33.7 million, and by \$5.3 million, or 7.3%, to reach \$67.1 million, respectively, compared to the same periods of the prior year mainly as a result of a lower level of Indebtedness as well as the depreciation of the US dollar against the Canadian dollar.

## 4.3 INCOME TAXES

For the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017, income taxes increased by \$8.5 million and \$10.4 million, or 48.3% and 25.0%, to reach \$26.1 million and \$52.1 million, respectively, compared to the same periods of fiscal 2016. The increase for both periods is mostly attributable to the improvement of the profit before income taxes as well as the reduction of the tax impacts related to investments in foreign operations, partly offset by the impact on deferred income taxes as a result of changes in substantively enacted tax rates.

On March 26, 2015, in its 2015 budget, the Quebec government announced that the corporate tax rate would be gradually reduced by 0.1% per year from 11.9% in 2017 to 11.5% in 2020. These rate reductions were substantively enacted on November 15, 2016 and have reduced the deferred tax liabilities and the deferred income taxes by approximately \$1.6 million for the six-month period ended February 28, 2017. In addition, on July 8, 2015, the United Kingdom government announced corporate tax rate reductions from 20% to 19% on April 1, 2017 and to 18% on April 1, 2020. These rate reductions were substantively enacted on October 26, 2015 and have reduced the deferred tax assets and increased the deferred income taxes by approximately \$1.6 million during the first half of fiscal 2016.

## 4.4 PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD

Fiscal 2017 second-quarter profit for the period amounted to \$78.2 million of which \$25.9 million, or \$1.55 per share, was attributable to owners of the Corporation, compared to \$75.7 million of which \$33.3 million, or \$1.99 per share, was attributable to owner of the Corporation for the same period of fiscal 2016 resulting from the decrease in depreciation and amortization as well as the improvement of adjusted EBITDA, partly offset by last year's gain on disposal of Métromédia and the increase in income taxes.

For the six-month period ended February 28, 2017, profit for the period amounted to \$160.2 million of which \$56.6 million, or \$3.39 per share, was attributable to owners of the Corporation compared to \$142.5 million of which \$58.5 million, or \$3.50 per share, was attributable to owners of the Corporation for the same period of the prior year resulting from the decrease in depreciation and amortization, the improvement of adjusted EBITDA as well as the decrease in integration, restructuring and acquisition costs, partly offset by last year's gain on disposal of Métromédia and the increase in income taxes.

The non-controlling interest represents a participation of approximately 68.3% in Cogeco Communications' results. The profit for the period attributable to non-controlling interest amounted to \$52.4 million and \$103.6 million, respectively, for the second-quarter and first six months of fiscal 2017 compared to \$42.4 million and \$84.0 million for the same periods of the prior year.

## 5. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Cogeco holds 31.7% of Cogeco Communications' equity shares, representing 82.3% of Cogeco Communications' voting shares.

Cogeco provides executive, administrative, financial and strategic planning services and other services to Cogeco Communications under a Management Services Agreement. Under the Agreement, management fees are payable on a monthly basis, representing 0.85% of the consolidated revenue of Cogeco Communications. In addition, provision is made for future adjustment upon the request of either Cogeco Communications or the Corporation should the level of management fees no longer align with the costs, time and resources committed by Cogeco. Cogeco Communications reimburses Cogeco's out-of-pocket expenses incurred with respect to services provided to Cogeco Communications under the Agreement.

No direct remuneration is payable to Cogeco's executive officers by Cogeco Communications. However, during the first six months of fiscal 2017, Cogeco Communications granted 81,350 (69,750 in 2016) stock options, did not grant any Incentive Share Units ("ISUs") and granted 12,150 (11,150 in 2016) Performance Share Units ("PSUs") to these executive officers as executive officers of Cogeco Communications. During the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017, Cogeco Communications charged Cogeco \$139,000 and \$302,000 (\$136,000 and \$280,000 in 2016), \$2,000 and \$35,000 (\$66,000 and \$179,000 in 2016) and \$170,000 and \$306,000 (\$105,000 and \$229,000 in 2016), respectively, with regards to the Corporation's stock options, ISUs and PSUs granted to these executive officers.

On August 2, 2016 an intercompany loan agreement was concluded between the Corporation and its subsidiary, Cogeco Communications, by which a revolving credit facility was established in favour of Cogeco Communications. The maximum principal amount of the facility is set at \$40 million and the full amount was advanced to Cogeco Communications as of the signing date and remained outstanding as of February 28, 2017. The credit facility is payable on demand and the interest is calculated on the daily outstanding balance at an annual rate equivalent to Cogeco Communications' Canadian Revolving Facility.

There were no other material related party transactions during the periods covered.

## 6. CASH FLOW ANALYSIS

	Quarters ended		Six months ended	
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016
(in thousands of dollars)	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash flow from operating activities	253,808	211,460	376,683	301,707
Cash flow from investing activities	(86,661)	(69,058)	(176,624)	(215,981)
Cash flow from financing activities	(161,803)	(120,927)	(216,757)	(187,632)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents denominated in foreign currencies	(84)	(473)	670	196
<b>Net change in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>5,260</b>	<b>21,002</b>	<b>(16,028)</b>	<b>(101,710)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of the period	47,056	41,477	68,344	164,189
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of the period</b>	<b>52,316</b>	<b>62,479</b>	<b>52,316</b>	<b>62,479</b>

### 6.1 OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Fiscal 2017 second-quarter cash flow from operating activities reached \$253.8 million, representing an increase of \$42.3 million, or 20.0%, compared to the same period of the prior year mainly as a result of the following:

- the improvement of \$5.9 million in adjusted EBITDA;
- the decrease of \$20.9 million in income taxes paid as a result of the timing of payments related to the deferral of income tax installments pursuant to a corporate structure reorganization of certain Canadian subsidiaries of Cogeco Communications; and
- the increase of \$10.7 million in change in non-cash operating activities primarily due to changes in working capital.

First six months of fiscal 2017 cash flow from operating activities reached \$376.7 million, representing an increase of \$75.0 million, or 24.9%, compared to the same period of fiscal 2016 mainly as a result of the following:

- the improvement of \$12.0 million in adjusted EBITDA;
- the decrease of \$58.0 million in income taxes paid as a result of the timing of payments related to the deferral of income tax installments pursuant to a corporate structure reorganization of certain Canadian subsidiaries of Cogeco Communications; and
- the decrease of \$6.4 million in integration, restructuring and acquisition costs; partly offset by
- the decrease of \$12.9 million in change in non-cash operating activities primarily due to changes in working capital.

### 6.2 INVESTING ACTIVITIES

For the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017, investing activities increased by \$17.6 million and decreased by \$39.4 million, or 25.5% and 18.2%, to reach \$86.7 million and \$176.6 million, respectively, compared to the same periods of the prior year. The increase for the quarter is mainly due to the disposal in the second quarter of fiscal 2016 of a subsidiary for \$47.2 million, net of cash and cash equivalent disposed. The decrease for the first six months is mainly explained by lower acquisitions of property, plant and equipment, intangible and other assets as explained below, partly offset by the disposal of a subsidiary in the second quarter of fiscal 2016.

## ACQUISITIONS OF PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT, INTANGIBLE AND OTHER ASSETS

For the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017, acquisitions of property, plant and equipment amounted to \$83.0 million and \$174.8 million, representing decreases of \$27.8 million and \$78.2 million, respectively, compared to the same periods of fiscal 2016, mainly due to the following factors in the Communications segment:

Decrease in the Canadian broadband services operations for both periods as a result of:

- lower customer premise equipment ("CPE"), line extension and scalable infrastructure due to the timing of certain initiatives.



Decrease in the Business ICT services operations for both periods as a result of:

- a greater focus on capital expenditure optimization; combined with
- the timing of certain initiatives; and
- last year's strategic investments at the Kirkland data centre facility.

Increase in the American broadband services operations for both periods as a result of:

- additional acquisitions of CPE resulting from the primary service units ("PSU")<sup>(1)</sup> growth; and
- additional acquisitions of line extensions as a result of the ongoing growth in the commercial sector combined with the network expansion in some of the areas we serve; partly offset by
- the depreciation of the US dollar against the Canadian dollar compared to the same period of fiscal 2016.

For the second and first six months of fiscal 2017, acquisitions of intangible and other assets amounted to \$4.1 million and \$9.6 million, respectively, compared to \$6.4 million and \$11.5 million for the same periods of fiscal 2016.

## **BUSINESS COMBINATION IN FISCAL 2017**

On September 1, 2016, Cogeco Connexion, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Cogeco Communications, completed the acquisition of all the shares of Briand et Moreau Câble Inc., a regional cable company based in Gaspésie (Québec), which served 1,439 video and 808 Internet customers at September 1, 2016.

## **DISPOSAL OF A SUBSIDIARY IN FISCAL 2016**

On January 5, 2016, the Corporation's subsidiary, Cogeco Media, completed the sale of its subsidiary Métromédia, an out-of-home advertising company, for a cash consideration of \$47.5 million, which was subject to a post-closing net working capital adjustment. The selling price was reduced by selling fees of approximately \$0.4 million. The carrying value of the net assets disposed of was \$34.1 million resulting in a pre-tax gain of \$12.9 million recorded in the consolidated statements of profit or loss.

## **6.3 FREE CASH FLOW AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES**

### **FREE CASH FLOW**

Fiscal 2017 second-quarter free cash flow amounted to \$119.5 million, an increase of \$42.3 million, or 54.8%, compared to the same period of the prior year mainly as a result of the following:

- the decrease of \$30.2 million in acquisitions of property, plant and equipment, intangible and other assets as a result of the timing of certain initiatives combined with a greater focus on capital expenditure optimization in the Communications segment; and
- the improvement of \$5.9 million in adjusted EBITDA.

For the first six months, free cash flow amounted to \$228.8 million, an increase of \$110.7 million, or 93.7%, compared to the same period of the prior year mainly as a result of the following:

- the decrease of \$80.1 million in acquisitions of property, plant and equipment, intangible and other assets as a result of the timing of certain initiatives combined with a greater focus on capital expenditure optimization in the Communications segment;
- the improvement of \$12.0 million in adjusted EBITDA; and
- the decrease of \$6.4 million in integration, restructuring and acquisition costs.

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(1) Represents the sum of video, Internet and telephony service customers

## FINANCING ACTIVITIES

For the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017, lower Indebtedness levels resulting from debt repayments led to cash decreases of \$138.6 million and \$169.6 million, respectively, compared to cash decreases of \$106.4 million and \$149.2 million, respectively, for the same periods of fiscal 2016.

The variation is explained as follows:

	Quarters ended			Six months ended			Explanations
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	Change	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	Change	
<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Increase (decrease) in bank indebtedness	(16,465)	(14,657)	(1,808)	1,295	23,329	(22,034)	Related to the timing of payments made to suppliers.
Net increases (decreases) under the revolving facilities	(121,902)	(85,309)	(36,593)	(152,997)	58,727	(211,724)	Repayments of the revolving facilities in both periods in fiscal 2017 as a result of generated free cash flow.  Repayments of the revolving facilities during the second quarter of fiscal 2016 as a result of generated free cash flow. Increase under the revolving facilities for the first six months of fiscal 2016 mainly as a result of the repayment of the US\$190 million Senior Secured Notes Series A maturing in October 2015, partly offset by the repayment of the Corporation's Term Revolving Facility.
Repayments of long-term debt and settlement of derivative financial instruments	(209)	(6,432)	6,223	(17,854)	(231,304)	213,450	Repayments of long-term debt during the second quarter of fiscal 2017. Repayments on the First Lien Credit Facilities for the first six months of fiscal 2017.  Repayments on the First Lien Credit Facilities in the second quarter and first six months of fiscal 2016. For the first six months of fiscal 2016, repayments of the US\$190 million Senior Secured Notes Series A maturing in October 2015 and settlement of the related derivative financial instruments.
	(138,576)	(106,398)	(32,178)	(169,556)	(149,248)	(20,308)	

## DIVIDENDS

During the second quarter of fiscal 2017, a quarterly eligible dividend of \$0.34 per share was paid to the holders of multiple and subordinate voting shares, for a total paid of \$5.7 million compared to a quarterly eligible dividend of \$0.295, or \$4.9 million, in the second quarter of fiscal 2016. Dividends payments in the first six months totaled \$0.68 per share, or \$11.4 million, compared to \$0.59 per share, or \$9.9 million, the year before.

## NORMAL COURSE ISSUER BID

On July 28, 2016, Cogeco announced through a normal course issuer bid its intention to acquire for cancellation up to 375,000 subordinate voting shares from August 2, 2016 to August 1, 2017. During the second quarter of fiscal 2017, Cogeco purchased and canceled 92,611 subordinate voting shares with an average stated value of \$753,000, for consideration of \$5.5 million.

## 6.4 DIVIDEND DECLARATION

At its April 6, 2017 meeting, the Board of Directors of Cogeco declared a quarterly eligible dividend of \$0.34 per share for multiple and subordinate voting shares, payable on May 4, 2017 to shareholders of record on April 20, 2017. The declaration, amount and date of any future dividend will continue to be considered and approved by the Board of Directors of the Corporation based upon the Corporation's financial condition, results of operations, capital requirements and such other factors as the Board of Directors, at its sole discretion, deems relevant. There is therefore no assurance that dividends will be declared, and if declared, the amount and frequency may vary.

## 7. FINANCIAL POSITION

### 7.1 WORKING CAPITAL

As part of the usual conduct of its business, Cogeco maintains a working capital deficiency due to a low level of trade and other receivables as a large portion of the Corporation's customers pay before their services are rendered, while trade and other payables are paid after products are delivered or services are rendered, enabling the Corporation to use the resulting cash and cash equivalents to reduce Indebtedness.

The variations are as follows:

	February 28, 2017	August 31, 2016	Change	Explanations
<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>	\$	\$	\$	
<b>Current assets</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	52,316	68,344	(16,028)	Timing of payment made to suppliers combined with repayments of long-term debt, partly offset by excess cash flow generated from operations.
Trade and other receivables	140,526	142,542	(2,016)	Non significant.
Income taxes receivable	8,750	12,707	(3,957)	Non significant.
Prepaid expenses and other	24,757	17,125	7,632	Increase in prepayment of annual maintenance agreements.
Derivative financial instrument	263	1,040	(777)	Non significant.
	226,612	241,758	(15,146)	
<b>Current liabilities</b>				
Bank indebtedness	5,410	4,115	1,295	Non significant.
Trade and other payables	238,025	312,914	(74,889)	Timing of payments made to suppliers.
Provisions	33,359	31,078	2,281	Non significant.
Income tax liabilities	63,233	28,910	34,323	Timing of payments of income taxes related to the deferral of income tax installments pursuant to a corporate structure reorganization of certain Canadian subsidiaries of Cogeco Communications.
Deferred and prepaid revenue	61,525	61,707	(182)	Non significant.
Balance due on a business combination	955	—	955	Non significant.
Current portion of long-term debt	21,551	22,527	(976)	Non significant.
	424,058	461,251	(37,193)	
<b>Working capital deficiency</b>	<b>(197,446)</b>	<b>(219,493)</b>	<b>22,047</b>	

## 7.2 OTHER SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

	February 28, 2017	August 31, 2016	Change	Explanations
<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>	\$	\$	\$	
<b>Non-current assets</b>				
Property, plant and equipment	1,967,057	2,004,247	(37,190)	Depreciation expense exceeding capital expenditures combined with the depreciation of the British Pound against the Canadian dollar, partly offset by the appreciation of the US dollar against the Canadian dollar.
Intangible assets	2,132,928	2,139,466	(6,538)	Amortization expense exceeding acquisitions of intangible assets and the depreciation of the British Pound against the Canadian dollar, partly offset the appreciation of the US dollar against the Canadian dollar.
Goodwill	1,089,092	1,079,365	9,727	Appreciation of the US dollar against the Canadian dollar, partly offset by the depreciation of the British Pound against the Canadian dollar.
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>				
Long-term debt	2,778,472	2,922,078	(143,606)	Repayments on Cogeco Communications' Term Revolving Facility and First Lien Credit Facilities, partly offset by the appreciation of the US dollar against the Canadian dollar.
Pension plan liabilities and accrued employee benefits	4,949	16,912	(11,963)	Actuarial gains recorded in the first six months.
Deferred tax liabilities	631,049	620,820	10,229	Appreciation of the US dollar against the Canadian dollar.

## 7.3 OUTSTANDING SHARE DATA

A description of Cogeco's share data at March 31, 2017 is presented in the table below. Additional details are provided in Note 11 of the consolidated financial statements.

<i>(in thousands of dollars, except number of shares)</i>	Number of shares	Amount \$
<b>Common shares</b>		
Multiple voting shares	1,842,860	12
Subordinate voting shares	14,847,021	120,818

## 7.4 FINANCING

In the normal course of business, Cogeco Inc. has incurred financial obligations, primarily in the form of long-term debt, operating and finance leases and guarantees. Cogeco's obligations, as reported in the 2016 Annual Report, have not materially changed since August 31, 2016.

On December 9, 2016, the Corporation's subsidiary, Cogeco Communications Inc., amended its Term Revolving Facility resulting in the extension of the maturity date by an additional year until January 24, 2022. In addition, on December 5, 2016, the Corporation amended its Term Revolving Facility. Under the terms of the amendment, the maturity was extended by an additional year until February 1, 2022.

At February 28, 2017, the Corporation's Term Revolving Facility of \$50 million was unused, and an amount of \$7.3 million was used from Cogeco Communications' Term Revolving Facility of \$800 million for a remaining availability of \$792.7 million. In addition, two subsidiaries of Cogeco Communications also benefit from a Revolving Facility of \$199.2 million (US\$150 million), of which \$75 million (US\$56.5 million) was used at February 28, 2017 for a remaining availability of \$124.2 million (US\$93.5 million).

## 7.5 CREDIT RATINGS

On December 14, 2016, strictly as a result of a general change in methodology, S&P Global Ratings lowered its issue-level rating on Cogeco Communications Inc.'s Senior secured debt to « BBB- » from « BBB », following the publication on December 7, 2016 of its revised criteria for rating debt issues of speculative-grade corporate issuers. Under the revised criteria, the ratings of debt instruments issued by companies with an issuer's rating of « BB+ » are now typically not notched up more than one level above the issuer rating. The secured debt rating downgrade to « BBB- » therefore does not reflect a change in Cogeco Communications' underlying credit profile. S&P's secured debt rating is now aligned with DBRS's and Fitch's secured debt ratings.

## 7.6 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

### Interest rate risk

The Corporation and its subsidiary, Cogeco Communications, are exposed to interest rate risk on their floating interest rate instruments. Interest rate fluctuations will have an effect on the repayment of these instruments. At February 28, 2017, all of the Corporation's and Cogeco Communications' long-term debt was at fixed rate, except for the amounts drawn under Cogeco Communications' First Lien Credit Facilities.

To reduce such risk, Cogeco Communications entered into interest rate swap agreements. The following table shows the interest rate swaps outstanding at February 28, 2017:

Type of hedge	Notional amount	Receive interest rate	Pay interest rate	Maturity	Hedged item
Cash flow	US\$75 million	US Libor base rate	0.6120%	October 30, 2017	Term Loan A-3 Facility
Cash flow	US\$75 million	US Libor base rate	0.9870%	July 31, 2019	Term Loan A-2 Facility

The sensitivity of the Corporation's annual financial expense to an increase of 1% in the interest rate applicable to the unhedged portion of these facilities would represent an increase of approximately \$6.3 million based on the outstanding debt at February 28, 2017.

### Foreign exchange risk

Cogeco Communications is exposed to foreign exchange risk related to its long-term debt denominated in US dollars that is not designated as a hedge on its US dollar net investments. Cogeco Communications has established guidelines whereby cross-currency swap agreements can be used to fix the exchange rate applicable to its US dollar denominated long-term debt. All such agreements are exclusively used for hedging purposes.

Cogeco Communications is also exposed to foreign exchange risk with respect to the interest associated with its long-term debt denominated in US dollars. The impact of a 10% increase in the exchange rate of the US dollar into Canadian dollars would increase financial expense by approximately \$7.3 million based on the outstanding debt at February 28, 2017.

Furthermore, Cogeco Communications' net investments in foreign operations are exposed to market risk attributable to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates, primarily changes in the values of the Canadian dollar versus the US dollar and British Pound. This risk related to the US dollar is mitigated since the major part of the purchase prices for Atlantic Broadband and Cogeco Peer 1 were borrowed directly in US dollars.

The following table shows the net investments in foreign operations outstanding at February 28, 2017:

Type of hedge	Notional amount of debt	Aggregate investments	Hedged item
Net investment	US\$790 million	US\$896.2 million	Net investments in foreign operations in US dollar
N/A	£—	£30 million	N/A

The exchange rates used to convert the US dollar currency and British Pound currency into Canadian dollars for the statement of financial position accounts at February 28, 2017 was \$1.3281 (\$1.3116 at August 31, 2016) per US dollar and \$1.6480 (\$1.7223 at August 31, 2016) per British Pound. A 10% decrease in the exchange rates of the US dollar and British Pound into Canadian dollars would decrease other comprehensive income by approximately \$19.1 million.

For the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017, the average rates prevailing used to convert the operating results of the Communications segment were as follows:

	Quarters ended			Six months ended		
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	Change	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	Change
	\$	\$	%	\$	\$	%
US dollar vs Canadian dollar	1.3210	1.3908	(5.0)	1.3238	1.3557	(2.4)
British Pound vs Canadian dollar	1.6439	2.0236	(18.8)	1.6597	2.0213	(17.9)

The following highlights in Canadian dollars, the impact of a 10% increase in US dollar or British Pound against the Canadian dollar on the Communications segment's operating results for the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017:

	Communications segment			
	Quarters ended		Six months ended	
	As reported	Exchange rate impact	As reported	Exchange rate impact
(in thousands of dollars)	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue	560,875	19,792	1,109,965	39,582
Operating expenses	302,231	11,929	596,930	24,370
Management fees - Cogeco Inc.	4,805	—	9,493	—
Adjusted EBITDA	253,839	7,863	503,542	15,212
Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment, intangible and other assets	86,199	4,467	182,693	10,734
Free cash flow	116,787	1,629	218,166	921

## 8. COMMUNICATIONS SEGMENT

### 8.1 CUSTOMER STATISTICS

	February 28, 2017			Net additions (losses)		Net additions (losses)	
	Consolidated	Canada	United States	Quarters ended		Six months ended	
				February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017 <sup>(2)</sup>	February 29, 2016
PSU <sup>(1)</sup>	2,536,876	1,934,496	602,380	9,274	4,158	26,879	17,435
Video service customers	976,997	737,975	239,022	(4,685)	(7,761)	(7,397)	(13,324)
Internet service customers	1,023,519	759,152	264,367	15,909	14,022	35,346	32,686
Telephony service customers	536,360	437,369	98,991	(1,950)	(2,103)	(1,070)	(1,927)

(1) Represents the sum of video, Internet and telephony service customers.

(2) Excludes 2,247 PSU (1,439 video services and 808 Internet services) from a business combination completed by the Canadian broadband services operations in the first quarter of fiscal 2017.

#### VIDEO

For the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017, video service customers net losses stood at 4,685 and 7,397, respectively, compared to 7,761 and 13,324 for the same periods of fiscal 2016. The loss reduction resulted mainly from the customers' interest in the video product offering, including TiVo's digital advanced video services both in Canada and in the United States, as well as bundles with fast Internet offerings, partly offset by competitive offers in the industry, service category maturity in Canada and the changing video consumption environment.

#### INTERNET

For the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017, Internet service customers net additions amounted to 15,909 and 35,346, respectively, compared to 14,022 and 32,686 for the same periods of fiscal 2016. The net additions stemmed from the customers' ongoing interest in high speed offerings and in TiVo's services which requires an Internet subscription, the growth in the business sector and the positive impact of the bundle offers.

#### TELEPHONY

For the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017, telephony service customers net losses stood at 1,950 and 1,070, respectively, compared to 2,103 and 1,927 for the same periods of fiscal 2016. The net losses are mainly explained by increasing mobile penetration and various unlimited offers in Canada launched by mobile operators causing customers to cancel their landline telephony services for mobile telephony services only, partly offset by the continued growth in the residential and business sectors in the United States.

## 8.2 OPERATING RESULTS

	Quarters ended			Six months ended		
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	Change	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	Change
<i>(in thousands of dollars, except percentages)</i>	\$	\$	%	\$	\$	%
Revenue	560,875	551,523	1.7	1,109,965	1,091,836	1.7
Operating expenses	302,231	298,428	1.3	596,930	590,011	1.2
Management fees – Cogeco Inc.	4,805	4,713	2.0	9,493	9,301	2.1
Adjusted EBITDA	253,839	248,382	2.2	503,542	492,524	2.2
Operating margin	45.3%	45.0%		45.4%	45.1%	

### REVENUE

Fiscal 2017 second-quarter revenue amounted to \$560.9 million, an increase of \$9.4 million, or 1.7%, compared to the same period of the prior year driven by growths of 3.1% in the Canadian broadband services operations and 0.7% in the American broadband services operations, partly offset by a decrease of 1.8% in the Business ICT services operations.

The increase for the quarter is mainly explained as follows:

- rate increases in the Canadian and American broadband services operations;
- PSU progression in the Canadian and American broadband services operations; and
- the movement of customers to higher value packages; partly offset by
- the depreciation of the US dollar and British Pound currency against the Canadian dollar compared to the same period of the prior year.

For the first six months of fiscal 2017, revenue amounted to \$1.11 billion, an increase of \$18.1 million, or 1.7%, compared to the same period of the prior year driven by growths of 3.7% in the American broadband services operations and of 2.1% in the Canadian broadband services operations, partly offset by a decrease of 4.1% in the Business ICT services operations.

The increase for the first six months is mainly explained as follows:

- rate increases in the Canadian and American broadband services operations;
- PSU progression in the Canadian and American broadband services operations; and
- the movement of customers to higher value packages; partly offset by
- competitive pricing pressures on the hosting and network connectivity services in the Business ICT services operations; and
- the depreciation of the US dollar and British Pound currency against the Canadian dollar compared to the same period of the prior year.

### OPERATING EXPENSES AND MANAGEMENT FEES

Fiscal 2017 second-quarter operating expenses amounted to \$302.2 million, an increase of \$3.8 million, or 1.3%, compared to the same period of the prior year. For the first six months of fiscal 2017, operating expenses amounted to \$596.9 million, an increase of \$6.9 million, or 1.2%, compared to the same period of the prior year. For both periods, operating expenses increased in the Canadian and American broadband services operations and remained stable, except for the second quarter during which operating expenses increased, in the Business ICT services operations.

The increase for both periods is mainly explained as follows:

- programming rate increases in the Canadian and American broadband services operations;
- costs to serve additional PSU;
- higher facilities costs mostly related to the Kirkland data centre; and
- additional marketing initiatives; partly offset by
- the depreciation of the US dollar and British Pound currency against the Canadian dollar compared to the same periods of the prior year.

For the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017, management fees paid to Cogeco Inc. amounted to \$4.8 million and \$9.5 million, respectively, compared to \$4.7 million and \$9.3 million for the same periods of fiscal 2016. For further details on the Communication segment's management fees, please refer to the "Related party transactions" section.

### ADJUSTED EBITDA AND OPERATING MARGIN

For the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017, adjusted EBITDA increased by \$5.5 million, or 2.2%, to reach \$253.8 million, and by \$11.0 million, or 2.2%, to reach \$503.5 million, respectively. The increase for both periods resulted from revenue growth exceeding operating expense growth.

For the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017, operating margin increased from 45.0% to 45.3% and from 45.1% to 45.4% compared to the same periods of fiscal 2016 as a result of higher margins in the Canadian broadband services operations, partly offset by a slightly lower margin in the American broadband services and a decline in the Business ICT services operations.

## 9. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Internal control over financial reporting ("ICFR") is a process designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and of the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with IFRS. The President and Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") and the Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer ("CFO"), together with Management, are responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate disclosure controls and procedures ("DC&P") and ICFR, as defined in National Instrument 52-109. Cogeco's internal control framework is based on the criteria published in the updated version released in May 2013 of the report *Internal Control Integrated Framework* issued by the *Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission*.

The CEO and CFO, supported by Management, evaluated the design of the Corporation's DC&P and ICFR at February 28, 2017, and concluded that they are adequate. Furthermore, no significant changes to the internal controls over financial reporting occurred during the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017.

## 10. UNCERTAINTIES AND MAIN RISK FACTORS

A detailed description of the uncertainties and main risk factors faced by Cogeco can be found in the 2016 Annual Report, available at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) and [corpo.cogeco.com](http://corpo.cogeco.com). The following update should be read together with the uncertainties and main risk factors described in the 2016 Annual Report, which are hereby incorporated by reference.

On April 9, 2015, the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commissions ("CRTC") initiated a public consultation aiming to review the basic telecommunications services that should be available and affordable to all Canadians. In this proceeding, the CRTC specifically considered whether the broadband Internet access service should be included in the current definition of the basic telecommunications services and examined whether the existing subsidy regime for local telephone service should be changed to fund the expansion of the Internet access service in rural and remote areas.

On December 21, 2016, the CRTC issued its decision and determined that broadband internet access is now considered a basic telecommunications service for all Canadians. It is creating a new fund to support projects aiming to build or upgrade infrastructure for fixed and mobile broadband internet access services in order to meet specific targets. The fund will make available up to \$750 million over the first five years. While the Commission does not intend to remove the existing subsidy regime for local telephone service unless reliable broadband Internet access service is available, the current contribution-subsidy regime for local telephone service will largely be transitioned to the new funding mechanism. Furthermore, the current funding will be expanded to include both retail Internet access and texting services revenues. This change to the calculation of the revenue-percent charge will take effect in the first year of implementation of the new fund and it is expected, according to the Commission, that the revenue-percent charge will be approximately the same as the current revenue-percent charge of 0.63%. A follow-up proceeding will be initiated in early 2017 to examine all matters related to the new funding mechanism and how the existing local subsidy regime should be phased out.

In the Budget Plan dated March 23, 2017, the Federal Government proposed to review and modernize the *Broadcasting Act* and the *Telecommunications Act*. In this review, the Government indicated that it will examine issues such as telecommunications and content creation in the digital age, net neutrality and cultural diversity and how to strengthen the future of Canadian media and Canadian content creation. The timeline and details of this review will be announced at a later date. It is not possible, at this time, to determine if these reviews will have a material impact on the activities of the Corporation.

## 11. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### 11.1 NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

A number of new standards, interpretations and amendments to existing standards were issued by the *International Accounting Standards Board* ("IASB") that are mandatory but not yet effective for the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017 and have not been applied in preparing the condensed interim consolidated financial statements. These standards are described under the "Future accounting developments in Canada" section in the Corporation's 2016 Annual Report available on the SEDAR website at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) or on the Corporation's website at [corpo.cogeco.com](http://corpo.cogeco.com).

### 11.2 CHANGES IN CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES

There has been no significant change in Cogeco's critical accounting policies and estimates since August 31, 2016, except as mentioned below. A description of the Corporation's policies and estimates can be found in the 2016 Annual Report, available on the SEDAR website at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) or on the Corporation's website at [corpo.cogeco.com](http://corpo.cogeco.com).

During 2016, the *IFRS Interpretations Committee* ("IFRIC") received a request to clarify how an entity determines the expected manner of recovery of an intangible asset with an indefinite useful life for the purposes of measuring deferred tax. Through the process of considering this question, the IFRIC clarified that an entity should use the tax rate associated with the expected manner of recovery to measure deferred taxes. Further, the fact that an indefinite life intangible asset is not being amortized is not in and of itself evidence that the manner of recovery will be through sale.



In response to this clarification, the Corporation retrospectively changed its accounting policy as of September 1, 2016 and has restated the prior period for this change as further explained below.

IAS 12, *Income Taxes*, states that measurement of deferred tax liabilities and deferred tax assets reflects the tax consequences that follow from the manner in which the entity expects, at the end of the reporting period, to recover or settle the carrying amount of the assets and liabilities. The carrying value is recovered in the form of economic benefits that flow to the entity in future periods, thereby the assets are recovered through sale or recovered through use.

In applying the new interpretation, the Corporation has now determined that the benefit of its Cable Distribution Licenses and Broadcasting Licenses will flow to the Corporation on an annual basis, and thereby the carrying amount will be recovered through use, and as a result, will be subject to a higher tax rate.

Consequently, the Corporation changed its accounting policy with respect to the tax rate used in determining the deferred tax assets and liabilities at the reporting date. The Corporation believes this change in accounting policy will better reflect how the assets will be recovered by the Corporation. The change in accounting policy was applied retrospectively and resulted in the following changes to the Corporation's consolidated financial statements:

	As previously reported	Effect of change in accounting policy	As currently reported
	\$	\$	\$
<b>Balance at August 31, 2015</b>			
Deferred tax assets	25,601	(4,093)	21,508
Deferred tax liabilities	528,211	120,002	648,213
Retained earnings	453,119	(44,785)	408,334
Equity attributable to non-controlling interest	1,197,120	(79,310)	1,117,810
<b>Balance at August 31, 2016</b>			
Deferred tax assets	26,497	(4,093)	22,404
Deferred tax liabilities	500,818	120,002	620,820
Retained earnings	397,182	(44,785)	352,397
Equity attributable to non-controlling interest	1,020,140	(79,310)	940,830

## 12. NON-IFRS FINANCIAL MEASURES

This section describes non-IFRS financial measures used by Cogeco throughout this MD&A. These financial measures are reviewed in assessing the performance of the Corporation and used in the decision-making process with regards to our business units. Reconciliations between “free cash flow” and “adjusted EBITDA” and the most comparable IFRS financial measures are also provided. These financial measures do not have standard definitions prescribed by IFRS and, therefore, may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other companies.

Non-IFRS measure	Application	Calculation	Most comparable IFRS measure
Free cash flow	Management and investors use free cash flow to measure Cogeco's ability to repay debt, distribute capital to its shareholders and finance its growth.	Free cash flow: - Cash flow from operating activities add: - Amortization of deferred transaction costs and discounts on long-term debt; - Changes in non-cash operating activities; - Income taxes paid; and - Financial expense paid deduct: - Current income taxes; - Financial expense; - Acquisition of property, plant and equipment; and - Acquisition of intangible and other assets.	Cash flow from operating activities
Adjusted EBITDA	Adjusted EBITDA is a key measure commonly reported and used in the telecommunications industry, as it allows comparisons between companies that have different capital structures and is a more current measure since it excludes the impact of historical investments in assets. Adjusted EBITDA is one of the key metrics employed by the financial community to value a business and its financial strength.  Adjusted EBITDA for the Cogeco's business units is equal to the segment profit reported in note 3 of the Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements.	Adjusted EBITDA: - Profit for the period add: - Income taxes; - Gain on disposal of a subsidiary; - Financial expense; - Depreciation and amortization; and - Integration, restructuring and acquisition costs.	Profit for the period

### 12.1 FREE CASH FLOW RECONCILIATION

	Quarters ended		Six months ended	
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016
<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Cash flow from operating activities</b>	<b>253,808</b>	211,460	<b>376,683</b>	301,707
Amortization of deferred transaction costs and discounts on long-term debt	2,278	2,491	4,543	4,790
Changes in non-cash operating activities	(12,869)	(2,197)	74,525	61,645
Income taxes paid	3,182	24,090	10,447	68,419
Current income taxes	(24,879)	(22,072)	(48,802)	(48,485)
Financial expense paid	18,725	18,029	62,861	66,884
Financial expense	(33,748)	(37,409)	(67,083)	(72,400)
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	(82,980)	(110,789)	(174,792)	(252,972)
Acquisition of intangible and other assets	(4,056)	(6,431)	(9,588)	(11,478)
<b>Free cash flow</b>	<b>119,461</b>	77,172	<b>228,794</b>	118,110

## 12.2 ADJUSTED EBITDA RECONCILIATION

	Quarters ended		Six months ended	
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016
<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Profit for the period</b>	<b>78,232</b>	75,688	<b>160,191</b>	142,519
Income taxes	<b>26,070</b>	17,576	<b>52,135</b>	41,715
Gain on disposal of a subsidiary	—	(12,940)	—	(12,940)
Financial expense	<b>33,748</b>	37,409	<b>67,083</b>	72,400
Depreciation and amortization	<b>119,993</b>	130,076	<b>239,901</b>	257,239
Integration, restructuring and acquisition costs	—	4,320	—	6,350
<b>Adjusted EBITDA</b>	<b>258,043</b>	252,129	<b>519,310</b>	507,283

## 13. SUPPLEMENTARY QUARTERLY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Quarters ended	February 28,	February 29,	November 30,	August 31,		May 31,	
<i>(in thousands of dollars, except per share data)</i>	<b>2017</b>	2016	<b>2016</b>	2015	2016	2015	2016
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue	<b>586,417</b>	578,450	<b>583,088</b>	582,903	572,045	554,089	574,005
Adjusted EBITDA	<b>258,043</b>	252,129	<b>261,267</b>	255,154	258,328	244,562	253,151
Integration, restructuring and acquisition costs	—	4,320	—	2,030	1,326	6,942	1,126
Claims and litigations	—	—	—	—	292	(27,431)	10,499
Impairment of goodwill and intangible asset	—	—	—	—	—	—	450,000
Gain on disposal of a subsidiary	—	(12,940)	—	—	(167)	—	—
Profit (loss) for the period	<b>78,232</b>	75,688	<b>81,959</b>	66,831	80,662	78,529	(381,886)
Profit (loss) for the period attributable to owners of the Corporation	<b>25,865</b>	33,330	<b>30,765</b>	25,197	29,792	25,402	(117,670)
Cash flow from operating activities	<b>253,808</b>	211,460	<b>122,875</b>	90,247	271,114	275,690	186,209
Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment, intangible and other assets	<b>87,036</b>	117,220	<b>97,344</b>	147,230	111,002	130,768	94,905
Free cash flow	<b>119,461</b>	77,172	<b>109,333</b>	40,938	88,028	73,150	91,934
Earnings (loss) per share <sup>(1)</sup>							
Basic	<b>1.55</b>	1.99	<b>1.84</b>	1.51	1.78	1.52	(7.03)
Diluted	<b>1.54</b>	1.98	<b>1.83</b>	1.50	1.78	1.51	(7.03)
Dividends per share	<b>0.34</b>	0.295	<b>0.34</b>	0.295	0.295	0.255	0.295

(1) Per multiple and subordinate voting share.

### 13.1 SEASONAL VARIATIONS

Cogeco's operating results are not generally subject to material seasonal fluctuations except as follows. In the Communications segment, the number of video and Internet customers are generally lower in the second half of the fiscal year as a result of a decrease in economic activity due to the beginning of the vacation period, the end of the television season, and students leaving their campuses at the end of the school year. Cogeco Communications offers its services in several university and college towns such as Kingston, Windsor, St.Catharines, Hamilton, Peterborough, Trois-Rivières and Rimouski in Canada and in Pennsylvania, and to a lesser extent in South Carolina, eastern Connecticut, Maryland and Delaware in the United States. In the United States, the Miami area is also subject to seasonal fluctuations due to the winter season residents returning home from late spring through the fall.

## 14. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This MD&A was prepared on April 6, 2017. Additional information relating to the Corporation, including its Annual Report and Annual Information Form, is available on the SEDAR website at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) or on the Corporation's website at [corpo.cogeco.com](http://corpo.cogeco.com).

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/s/ Jan Peeters

Jan Peeters  
Chairman of the Board

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/s/ Louis Audet

Louis Audet  
President and Chief Executive Officer

Cogeco Inc.  
Montréal, Québec  
April 6, 2017



## **CONDENSED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017

**COGECO INC.**  
**INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF PROFIT OR LOSS**  
*(unaudited)*

		Three months ended		Six months ended	
	Notes	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016
<i>(In thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share data)</i>		\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Revenue</b>	3	586,417	578,450	1,169,505	1,161,353
Operating expenses	5	328,374	326,321	650,195	654,070
Integration, restructuring and acquisition costs		—	4,320	—	6,350
Depreciation and amortization	6	119,993	130,076	239,901	257,239
Financial expense	7	33,748	37,409	67,083	72,400
Gain on disposal of a subsidiary	17	—	(12,940)	—	(12,940)
Income taxes	8	26,070	17,576	52,135	41,715
<b>Profit for the period</b>		<b>78,232</b>	<b>75,688</b>	<b>160,191</b>	<b>142,519</b>
<b>Profit for the period attributable to:</b>					
Owners of the Corporation		25,865	33,330	56,630	58,527
Non-controlling interest		52,367	42,358	103,561	83,992
		<b>78,232</b>	<b>75,688</b>	<b>160,191</b>	<b>142,519</b>
<b>Earnings per share</b>					
Basic	9	1.55	1.99	3.39	3.50
Diluted	9	1.54	1.98	3.37	3.48

**COGECO INC.**  
**INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
*(unaudited)*

	Three months ended		Six months ended	
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016
<i>(In thousands of Canadian dollars)</i>	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Profit for the period</b>	<b>78,232</b>	75,688	<b>160,191</b>	142,519
<b>Other comprehensive income (loss)</b>				
Items to be subsequently reclassified to profit or loss				
<i>Cash flow hedging adjustments</i>				
Net change in fair value of hedging derivative financial instruments	578	(2,432)	1,605	(50,601)
Net change in fair value of hedging derivative financial instruments reclassified to financial expense	—	—	—	48,108
Related income taxes	(135)	533	(407)	600
	443	(1,899)	1,198	(1,893)
<i>Foreign currency translation adjustments</i>				
Net foreign currency translation differences on net investments in foreign operations	(8,864)	10,646	7,186	23,425
Net changes on translation of long-term debt designated as hedges of net investments in foreign operations	7,458	(6,731)	(6,275)	(14,856)
Related income taxes	(65)	—	(251)	—
	(1,471)	3,915	660	8,569
	(1,028)	2,016	1,858	6,676
Items not to be subsequently reclassified to profit or loss				
<i>Defined benefit plans actuarial adjustments</i>				
Remeasurement of net defined benefit liability	7,007	(5,709)	14,778	(4,533)
Related income taxes	(1,857)	1,535	(3,916)	1,219
	5,150	(4,174)	10,862	(3,314)
Other comprehensive income (loss) for the period	4,122	(2,158)	12,720	3,362
<b>Comprehensive income for the period</b>	<b>82,354</b>	73,530	<b>172,911</b>	145,881
<b>Comprehensive income for the period attributable to:</b>				
Owners of the Corporation	28,717	31,146	64,056	58,413
Non-controlling interest	53,637	42,384	108,855	87,468
	82,354	73,530	172,911	145,881

**COGECO INC.**  
**INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY**  
*(unaudited)*

	Equity attributable to the owners of the Corporation					Total shareholders' equity
	Share capital	Share-based payment reserve	Accumulated other comprehensive income	Retained earnings	Equity attributable to non-controlling interest	
<i>(In thousands of Canadian dollars)</i>	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	(Note 11)		(Note 12)	(restated, Note 2)	(restated, Note 2)	
Balance at August 31, 2015	117,172	6,468	26,839	408,334	1,117,810	1,676,623
Profit for the period	—	—	—	58,527	83,992	142,519
Other comprehensive income (loss) for the period	—	—	2,137	(2,251)	3,476	3,362
Comprehensive income for the period	—	—	2,137	56,276	87,468	145,881
Share-based payment	—	2,055	—	—	2,455	4,510
Issuance of subordinate voting shares by a subsidiary to non-controlling interest	—	(359)	—	—	4,960	4,601
Dividends on multiple voting shares (Note 11 C))	—	—	—	(1,087)	—	(1,087)
Dividends on subordinate voting shares (Note 11 C))	—	—	—	(8,786)	(25,956)	(34,742)
Effect of changes in ownership of a subsidiary on non-controlling interest	—	—	—	(19)	19	—
Acquisition of subordinate voting shares held in trust under the Incentive and Performance Share Unit Plans	(2,109)	—	—	—	—	(2,109)
Distribution to employees of subordinate voting shares held in trust under the Incentive and Performance Share Unit Plans	1,426	(1,048)	—	(378)	—	—
Acquisition by a subsidiary from non-controlling interest of subordinate voting shares held in trust under the Incentive and Performance Share Unit Plans	—	—	—	—	(4,575)	(4,575)
Distribution to employees, by a subsidiary, of subordinate voting shares held in trust under the Incentive and Performance Share Unit Plans	—	(1,149)	—	(238)	1,387	—
Total distributions to shareholders	(683)	(501)	—	(10,508)	(21,710)	(33,402)
Balance at February 29, 2016	116,489	5,967	28,976	454,102	1,183,568	1,789,102
<b>Balance at August 31, 2016</b>	<b>116,489</b>	<b>7,349</b>	<b>27,109</b>	<b>352,397</b>	<b>940,830</b>	<b>1,444,174</b>
Profit for the period	—	—	—	56,630	103,561	160,191
Other comprehensive income for the period	—	—	590	6,836	5,294	12,720
Comprehensive income for the period	—	—	590	63,466	108,855	172,911
Share-based payment	—	1,625	—	—	1,517	3,142
Issuance of subordinate voting shares by a subsidiary to non-controlling interest	—	(307)	—	—	4,939	4,632
Dividends on multiple voting shares (Note 11 C))	—	—	—	(1,253)	—	(1,253)
Dividends on subordinate voting shares (Note 11 C))	—	—	—	(10,100)	(28,819)	(38,919)
Effect of changes in ownership of a subsidiary on non-controlling interest	—	—	—	586	(586)	—
Purchase and cancellation of subordinate voting shares	(753)	—	—	(4,753)	—	(5,506)
Acquisition of subordinate voting shares held in trust under the Incentive and Performance Share Unit Plans	(2,247)	—	—	—	—	(2,247)
Distribution to employees of subordinate voting shares held in trust under the Incentive and Performance Share Unit Plans	1,553	(1,501)	—	(52)	—	—
Acquisition by a subsidiary from non-controlling interest of subordinate voting shares held in trust under the Incentive and Performance Share Unit Plans	—	—	—	—	(3,436)	(3,436)
Distribution to employees, by a subsidiary, of subordinate voting shares held in trust under the Incentive and Performance Share Unit Plans	—	(1,162)	—	(67)	1,229	—
Total distributions to shareholders	(1,447)	(1,345)	—	(15,639)	(25,156)	(43,587)
<b>Balance at February 28, 2017</b>	<b>115,042</b>	<b>6,004</b>	<b>27,699</b>	<b>400,224</b>	<b>1,024,529</b>	<b>1,573,498</b>



**COGECO INC.**  
**INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
*(unaudited)*

	Notes	February 28, 2017	August 31, 2016
<i>(In thousands of Canadian dollars)</i>		\$	\$
			<i>(restated, Note 2)</i>
<b>Assets</b>			
Current			
Cash and cash equivalents	13 B)	52,316	68,344
Trade and other receivables		140,526	142,542
Income taxes receivable		8,750	12,707
Prepaid expenses and other		24,757	17,125
Derivative financial instrument		263	1,040
		226,612	241,758
Non-current			
Other assets		6,677	8,280
Property, plant and equipment		1,967,057	2,004,247
Intangible assets		2,132,928	2,139,466
Goodwill		1,089,092	1,079,365
Derivative financial instrument		1,177	—
Deferred tax assets		20,710	22,404
		5,444,253	5,495,520
<b>Liabilities and Shareholders' equity</b>			
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Current			
Bank indebtedness		5,410	4,115
Trade and other payables		238,025	312,914
Provisions		33,359	31,078
Income tax liabilities		63,233	28,910
Deferred and prepaid revenue		61,525	61,707
Balance due on a business combination	4	955	—
Current portion of long-term debt	10	21,551	22,527
		424,058	461,251
Non-current			
Long-term debt	10	2,778,472	2,922,078
Derivative financial instruments		—	165
Deferred and prepaid revenue and other liabilities		32,227	30,120
Pension plan liabilities and accrued employee benefits		4,949	16,912
Deferred tax liabilities		631,049	620,820
		3,870,755	4,051,346
<b>Shareholders' equity</b>			
Equity attributable to the owners of the Corporation			
Share capital	11 B)	115,042	116,489
Share-based payment reserve		6,004	7,349
Accumulated other comprehensive income	12	27,699	27,109
Retained earnings		400,224	352,397
		548,969	503,344
Equity attributable to non-controlling interest		1,024,529	940,830
		1,573,498	1,444,174
		5,444,253	5,495,520

**COGECO INC.**  
**INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
*(unaudited)*

		Three months ended		Six months ended	
	Notes	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016
<i>(In thousands of Canadian dollars)</i>		\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Cash flow from operating activities</b>					
Profit for the period		78,232	75,688	160,191	142,519
Adjustments for:					
Depreciation and amortization	6	119,993	130,076	239,901	257,239
Financial expense	7	33,748	37,409	67,083	72,400
Income taxes	8	26,070	17,576	52,135	41,715
Share-based payment	11 D)	2,454	2,117	4,127	4,643
Loss (gain) on disposals of property, plant and equipment		1,370	661	(583)	951
Gain on disposal of a subsidiary	17	—	(12,940)	—	(12,940)
Defined benefit plans contributions, net of expense		979	795	1,662	(7,872)
		262,846	251,382	524,516	498,655
Changes in non-cash operating activities	13 A)	12,869	2,197	(74,525)	(61,645)
Financial expense paid		(18,725)	(18,029)	(62,861)	(66,884)
Income taxes paid		(3,182)	(24,090)	(10,447)	(68,419)
		253,808	211,460	376,683	301,707
<b>Cash flow from investing activities</b>					
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment		(82,980)	(110,789)	(174,792)	(252,972)
Acquisition of intangible and other assets		(4,056)	(6,431)	(9,588)	(11,478)
Business combination, net of cash and cash equivalents acquired		—	—	(804)	—
Disposal of a subsidiary, net of cash and cash equivalents disposed	17	—	47,228	—	47,228
Proceeds on disposals of property, plant and equipment		375	—	8,560	307
Other		—	934	—	934
		(86,661)	(69,058)	(176,624)	(215,981)
<b>Cash flow from financing activities</b>					
Increase (decrease) in bank indebtedness		(16,465)	(14,657)	1,295	23,329
Net increases (decreases) under the revolving facilities		(121,902)	(85,309)	(152,997)	58,727
Repayments of long-term debt and settlement of derivative financial instruments		(209)	(6,432)	(17,854)	(231,304)
Increase in deferred transaction costs		(472)	(440)	(472)	(472)
Purchase and cancellation of subordinate voting shares		(5,506)	—	(5,506)	—
Acquisition of subordinate voting shares held in trust under the Incentive and Performance Share Unit Plans	11 B)	—	—	(2,247)	(2,109)
Dividends paid on multiple voting shares	11 C)	(626)	(543)	(1,253)	(1,087)
Dividends paid on subordinate voting shares	11 C)	(5,034)	(4,396)	(10,100)	(8,786)
Issuance of subordinate voting shares by a subsidiary to non-controlling interest		2,820	3,837	4,632	4,601
Acquisition by a subsidiary from non-controlling interest of subordinate voting shares held in trust under the Incentive and Performance Share Unit Plans		—	—	(3,436)	(4,575)
Dividends paid on subordinate voting shares by a subsidiary to non-controlling interest		(14,409)	(12,987)	(28,819)	(25,956)
		(161,803)	(120,927)	(216,757)	(187,632)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents denominated in foreign currencies		(84)	(473)	670	196
Net change in cash and cash equivalents		5,260	21,002	(16,028)	(101,710)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of the period		47,056	41,477	68,344	164,189
Cash and cash equivalents, end of the period		52,316	62,479	52,316	62,479

## **NATURE OF OPERATIONS**

Cogeco Inc. ("Cogeco" or the "Corporation") is a Canadian public corporation whose subordinate voting shares are listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX") under the trading symbol "CGO". Cogeco is a diversified holding corporation which operates in the communications and media sectors.

Through its Cogeco Communications Inc. ("Cogeco Communications") subsidiary, the Corporation provides its residential and business customers with video, Internet and telephony services through its two-way broadband fibre networks. Cogeco Communications operates in Canada as Cogeco Connexion Inc. ("Cogeco Connexion") in Québec and Ontario, and in the United States as Atlantic Broadband LLC ("Atlantic Broadband") in western Pennsylvania, south Florida, Maryland/Delaware, South Carolina and eastern Connecticut. Through its subsidiary, Cogeco Peer 1 Inc. ("Cogeco Peer 1"), Cogeco Communications provides its business customers with a suite of information technology services (colocation, network connectivity, hosting, cloud services and managed services), through its 16 data centres, extensive FastFiber Network™ and more than 50 points of presence in North America and Europe.

Through its subsidiary, Cogeco Media Acquisitions Inc. ("Cogeco Media"), the Corporation owns and operates radio stations across most of Québec with complementary radio formats serving a wide range of audiences as well as Cogeco News, its news agency.

The Corporation's registered office is located at 5 Place Ville Marie, Suite 1700, Montréal, Québec, H3B 0B3.

## **1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

These condensed interim consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standards ("IAS") 34 *Interim Financial Reporting* and do not include all of the information required for full annual financial statements. Certain information and footnote disclosure normally included in annual financial statements were omitted or condensed where such information is not considered material to the understanding of the Corporation's interim financial information. As such, these condensed interim consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Corporation's 2016 annual consolidated financial statements.

These condensed interim consolidated financial statements have been prepared with the accounting policies the Corporation adopted in its 2016 annual consolidated financial statements, except as mentioned in Note 2. The accounting policies have been applied consistently to all periods presented in the condensed interim consolidated financial statements unless otherwise indicated.

The condensed interim consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis using historical cost, except for financial instruments and derivative financial instruments, cash-settled share-based payment arrangements and pension plan assets, which are measured at fair value, and for the defined benefit obligation and provisions, which are measured at present value.

Financial information is presented in Canadian dollars, which is the functional currency of the Corporation.

The results of operations for the interim period are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations for the full year. The Corporation does not expect seasonality to be a material factor in quarterly results except that in the Communications segment, the number of customers in the video and Internet services are generally lower in the second half of the fiscal year as a result of a decrease in economic activity due to the beginning of the vacation period, the end of the television season, and students leaving their campuses at the end of the school year. The Corporation offers its services in several university and college towns such as Kingston, Windsor, St.Catharines, Hamilton, Peterborough, Trois-Rivières and Rimouski in Canada and in Pennsylvania, and to a lesser extent in South Carolina, eastern Connecticut, Maryland and Delaware in the United States. In the United States, the Miami area is also subject to seasonal fluctuations due to the winter season residents returning home from late spring through the fall.

The condensed interim consolidated financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors of the Corporation at its meeting held on April 6, 2017.

## 2. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING POLICY

During 2016, the *IFRS Interpretations Committee* ("IFRIC") received a request to clarify how an entity determines the expected manner of recovery of an intangible asset with an indefinite useful life for the purposes of measuring deferred tax. Through the process of considering this question, the IFRIC clarified that an entity should use the tax rate associated with the expected manner of recovery to measure deferred taxes. Further, the fact that an indefinite life intangible asset is not being amortized is not in and of itself evidence that the manner of recovery will be through sale. In response to this clarification, the Corporation retrospectively changed its accounting policy as of September 1, 2016 and has restated the prior period for this change as further explained below.

IAS 12, *Income Taxes*, states that measurement of deferred tax liabilities and deferred tax assets reflects the tax consequences that follow from the manner in which the entity expects, at the end of the reporting period, to recover or settle the carrying amount of the assets and liabilities. The carrying value is recovered in the form of economic benefits that flow to the entity in future periods, thereby the assets are recovered through sale or recovered through use.

In applying the new interpretation, the Corporation has now determined that the benefit of its Cable Distribution Licenses and Broadcasting Licenses will flow to the Corporation on an annual basis, and thereby the carrying amount will be recovered through use, and as a result, will be subject to a higher tax rate.

Consequently, the Corporation changed its accounting policy with respect to the tax rate used in determining the deferred tax assets and liabilities at the reporting date. The Corporation believes this change in accounting policy will better reflect how the assets will be recovered by the Corporation. The change in accounting policy was applied retrospectively and resulted in the following changes to the Corporation's consolidated financial statements:

	As previously reported	Effect of change in accounting policy	As currently reported
	\$	\$	\$
<b>Balance at August 31, 2015</b>			
Deferred tax assets	25,601	(4,093)	21,508
Deferred tax liabilities	528,211	120,002	648,213
Retained earnings	453,119	(44,785)	408,334
Equity attributable to non-controlling interest	1,197,120	(79,310)	1,117,810
<b>Balance at August 31, 2016</b>			
Deferred tax assets	26,497	(4,093)	22,404
Deferred tax liabilities	500,818	120,002	620,820
Retained earnings	397,182	(44,785)	352,397
Equity attributable to non-controlling interest	1,020,140	(79,310)	940,830

## 3. OPERATING SEGMENTS

The Corporation's segment profit for the period is reported in two operating segments: Communications and Other. The reporting structure reflects how the Corporation manages its business activities to make decisions about resources to be allocated to the segments and to assess their performance.

The Communications segment provides through its Cogeco Communications subsidiary, its residential and business customers with video, Internet and telephony services through its two-way broadband fibre networks. Cogeco Communications operates in Canada under the Cogeco Connexion name in Québec and Ontario, and in the United States under the Atlantic Broadband name in western Pennsylvania, south Florida, Maryland/Delaware, South Carolina and eastern Connecticut. Through its subsidiary, Cogeco Peer 1, Cogeco Communications provides its business customers with a suite of information technology services (colocation, network connectivity, hosting, cloud and a rich portfolio of managed services), through 16 data centres, extensive FastFiber Network™ and more than 50 points of presence in North America and Europe.

The Other segment is comprised of radio, out of home advertising, head office activities as well as inter-segment eliminations. Through its subsidiary, Cogeco Media, the Corporation owns and operates radio stations across most of Québec with complementary radio formats serving a wide range of audiences. Cogeco Media also operates Cogeco News, one of Québec's largest news agencies, feeding affiliates, independent and community radio stations. Through its subsidiary, Métromédia, Cogeco Media also operated an out-of-home advertising company specialized in the public transit sector, until it was sold on January 5, 2016.

# COGECO INC.

## NOTES TO THE CONDENSED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

February 28, 2017

(unaudited)

(amounts in tables are in thousands of Canadian dollars, except number of shares and per share data)

The Corporation and its chief operating decision maker assess the performance of each operating segment based on the segment's profit, which is equal to revenue less operating expenses and management fees to Cogeco Inc. The other expenses are reported by segment solely for external reporting purposes. Transactions between segments are measured at agreed to amounts between the parties.

Three months ended						
	Communications		Other		Consolidated	
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue <sup>(1)</sup>	560,875	551,523	25,542	26,927	586,417	578,450
Operating expenses	302,231	298,428	26,143	27,893	328,374	326,321
Management fees – Cogeco Inc.	4,805	4,713	(4,805)	(4,713)	—	—
<b>Segment profit</b>	<b>253,839</b>	<b>248,382</b>	<b>4,204</b>	<b>3,747</b>	<b>258,043</b>	<b>252,129</b>
Integration, restructuring and acquisition costs <sup>(2)</sup>	—	4,320	—	—	—	4,320
Depreciation and amortization	119,253	129,067	740	1,009	119,993	130,076
Financial expense	32,475	35,839	1,273	1,570	33,748	37,409
Gain on disposal of a subsidiary <sup>(3)</sup>	—	—	—	(12,940)	—	(12,940)
Income taxes	25,448	17,114	622	462	26,070	17,576
<b>Profit for the period</b>	<b>76,663</b>	<b>62,042</b>	<b>1,569</b>	<b>13,646</b>	<b>78,232</b>	<b>75,688</b>
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	82,143	110,581	837	208	82,980	110,789
Acquisition of intangible and other assets	4,056	6,151	—	280	4,056	6,431

(1) For the three-month period ended February 28, 2017, revenue by geographic market includes \$396,619 in Canada (\$382,873 in 2016), \$181,817 in the United States (\$185,328 in 2016) and \$7,981 in Europe (\$10,249 in 2016).

(2) Comprised of acquisition and integration costs at Atlantic Broadband and restructuring costs at Cogeco Peer 1 and Cogeco Connexion.

(3) Related to the sale of the Corporation's subsidiary, Métromédia, on January 5, 2016.

Six months ended						
	Communications		Other		Consolidated	
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue <sup>(1)</sup>	1,109,965	1,091,836	59,540	69,517	1,169,505	1,161,353
Operating expenses	596,930	590,011	53,265	64,059	650,195	654,070
Management fees – Cogeco Inc.	9,493	9,301	(9,493)	(9,301)	—	—
<b>Segment profit</b>	<b>503,542</b>	<b>492,524</b>	<b>15,768</b>	<b>14,759</b>	<b>519,310</b>	<b>507,283</b>
Integration, restructuring and acquisition costs <sup>(2)</sup>	—	6,350	—	—	—	6,350
Depreciation and amortization	238,329	254,736	1,572	2,503	239,901	257,239
Financial expense	64,565	69,192	2,518	3,208	67,083	72,400
Gain on disposal of a subsidiary <sup>(3)</sup>	—	—	—	(12,940)	—	(12,940)
Income taxes	48,961	39,098	3,174	2,617	52,135	41,715
<b>Profit for the period</b>	<b>151,687</b>	<b>123,148</b>	<b>8,504</b>	<b>19,371</b>	<b>160,191</b>	<b>142,519</b>
Total assets <sup>(4)</sup>	5,287,767	5,333,249	156,486	162,271	5,444,253	5,495,520
Property, plant and equipment <sup>(4)</sup>	1,952,414	1,989,720	14,643	14,527	1,967,057	2,004,247
Intangible assets <sup>(4)</sup>	2,053,010	2,059,548	79,918	79,918	2,132,928	2,139,466
Goodwill <sup>(4)</sup>	1,070,507	1,060,780	18,585	18,585	1,089,092	1,079,365
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	173,105	252,003	1,687	969	174,792	252,972
Acquisition of intangible and other assets	9,588	11,048	—	430	9,588	11,478

(1) For the six-month period ended February 28, 2017, revenue by geographic market includes \$789,307 in Canada (\$779,227 in 2016), \$364,158 in the United States (\$361,901 in 2016) and \$16,040 in Europe (\$20,225 in 2016).

(2) Comprised of acquisition and integration costs at Atlantic Broadband and restructuring costs at Cogeco Peer 1 and Cogeco Connexion.

(3) Related to the sale of the Corporation's subsidiary, Métromédia, on January 5, 2016.

(4) At February 28, 2017 and August 31, 2016.

**COGECO INC.****NOTES TO THE CONDENSED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****February 28, 2017***(unaudited)**(amounts in tables are in thousands of Canadian dollars, except number of shares and per share data)*

The following tables set out certain geographic market information at February 28, 2017 and August 31, 2016:

	At February 28, 2017			
	Canada	United States	Europe	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Property, plant and equipment	1,420,738	512,981	33,338	1,967,057
Intangible assets	1,128,403	999,615	4,910	2,132,928
Goodwill	240,452	834,441	14,199	1,089,092

	At August 31, 2016			
	Canada	United States	Europe	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Property, plant and equipment	1,464,877	502,357	37,013	2,004,247
Intangible assets	1,131,110	1,002,134	6,222	2,139,466
Goodwill	240,452	824,074	14,839	1,079,365

**4. BUSINESS COMBINATION**

On September 1, 2016, Cogeco Connexion completed the acquisition of all the shares of Briand et Moreau Câble Inc., a regional cable company operating in Gaspésie (Québec), which served 1,439 video service and 808 Internet service customers at September 1, 2016.

The acquisition was accounted for using the purchase method and was subject to post closing adjustments, which were completed in the second quarter of 2017. The final allocation of the purchase price of this acquisition is as follows:

	Preliminary November 30, 2016	Final February 28, 2017
	\$	\$
<b>Purchase price</b>		
Consideration paid	880	880
Balance due on a business combination	896	955
	1,776	1,835
<b>Net assets acquired</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	76	76
Trade and other receivables	70	57
Prepaid expenses and other	9	9
Property, plant and equipment	204	204
Intangible assets	2,296	2,358
Trade and other payables assumed	(102)	(92)
Income tax liabilities	(13)	(13)
Deferred and prepaid revenue	(10)	(10)
Deferred tax liabilities	(549)	(549)
Long-term debt assumed	(205)	(205)
	1,776	1,835

## 5. OPERATING EXPENSES

	Three months ended		Six months ended	
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Salaries, employee benefits and outsourced services	109,791	108,397	215,758	217,190
Service delivery costs <sup>(1)</sup>	168,361	169,513	333,685	335,993
Customer related costs <sup>(2)</sup>	18,571	16,384	38,235	37,035
Other external purchases <sup>(3)</sup>	31,651	32,027	62,517	63,852
	328,374	326,321	650,195	654,070

(1) Include cost of equipment sold, content and programming costs, payments to other carriers, data centre expenses, franchise fees and network costs.

(2) Include advertising and marketing expenses, selling costs, billing expenses, bad debts and collection expenses.

(3) Include office building expenses, professional service fees, Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission ("CRTC") fees, losses and gains on disposals of property, plant and equipment, and other administrative expenses.

## 6. DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION

	Three months ended		Six months ended	
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	104,486	111,662	208,896	220,896
Amortization of intangible assets	15,507	18,414	31,005	36,343
	119,993	130,076	239,901	257,239

## 7. FINANCIAL EXPENSE

	Three months ended		Six months ended	
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Interest on long-term debt	32,096	35,575	64,792	70,677
Net foreign exchange losses (gains)	312	259	(211)	(1,401)
Amortization of deferred transaction costs	649	649	1,280	1,261
Capitalized borrowing costs <sup>(1)</sup>	(705)	(443)	(1,359)	(809)
Other	1,396	1,369	2,581	2,672
	33,748	37,409	67,083	72,400

(1) For the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017 and February 29, 2016, the weighted average interest rate used in the capitalization of borrowing costs was 4.5%.

## 8. INCOME TAXES

	Three months ended		Six months ended	
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Current	24,879	22,072	48,802	48,485
Deferred	1,191	(4,496)	3,333	(6,770)
	26,070	17,576	52,135	41,715

The following table provides the reconciliation between income tax expense at the Canadian statutory federal and provincial income tax rates and the consolidated income tax expense:

	Three months ended		Six months ended	
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Profit before income taxes	104,302	93,264	212,326	184,234
Combined Canadian income tax rate	26.50%	26.72%	26.50%	26.70%
Income taxes at combined Canadian income tax rate	27,641	24,925	56,267	49,189
Adjustment for losses or profit subject to lower or higher tax rates	2,461	1,978	5,535	3,955
Revaluation of deferred tax assets	(112)	(1,760)	264	(1,760)
Impact on deferred taxes as a result of changes in substantively enacted tax rates	—	(44)	(1,552)	1,637
Impact on income taxes arising from non-deductible expenses and non-taxable profit	247	(1,348)	217	(1,168)
Tax impacts related to investments in foreign operations	(4,205)	(5,827)	(8,435)	(11,193)
Other	38	(348)	(161)	1,055
Income taxes at effective income tax rate	26,070	17,576	52,135	41,715

## 9. EARNINGS PER SHARE

The following table provides the reconciliation between basic and diluted earnings per share:

	Three months ended		Six months ended	
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Profit for the period attributable to the owners of the Corporation	25,865	33,330	56,630	58,527
Weighted average number of multiple and subordinate voting shares outstanding	16,660,147	16,727,075	16,690,737	16,729,600
Effect of dilutive incentive share units	50,378	65,377	53,805	70,563
Effect of dilutive performance share units	60,330	38,297	52,599	32,401
Weighted average number of diluted multiple and subordinate voting shares outstanding	16,770,855	16,830,749	16,797,141	16,832,564
<b>Earnings per share</b>				
Basic	1.55	1.99	3.39	3.50
Diluted	1.54	1.98	3.37	3.48



## 10. LONG-TERM DEBT

	Maturity	Interest rate	February 28, 2017	August 31, 2016
		%	\$	\$
<b>Corporation <sup>(1)</sup></b>				
Unsecured Debentures	November 2021	6.50	34,804	34,784
Senior Unsecured Notes	March 2020	6.00	49,273	49,164
Finance lease	January 2017	—	—	11
<b>Subsidiaries</b>				
<b>Term Revolving Facility <sup>(2)</sup></b>				
Canadian Revolving Facility				
Revolving loan – US\$59.5 million at August 31, 2016	January 2022	—	—	78,040
Revolving loan – £23.6 million at August 31, 2016	January 2022	—	—	40,646
UK Revolving Facility – £4.4 million at August 31, 2016	January 2022	—	—	7,578
<b>Senior Secured Notes</b>				
Series A – US\$25 million	September 2024	4.14	33,085	32,665
Series B - US\$150 million	September 2026	4.29	198,468	195,961
Senior Secured Notes Series B	October 2018	7.60	54,887	54,853
Senior Secured Notes - US\$215 million	June 2025	4.30	284,392	280,787
Senior Secured Debentures Series 2	November 2020	5.15	199,264	199,174
Senior Secured Debentures Series 3	February 2022	4.93	198,970	198,878
Senior Secured Debentures Series 4	May 2023	4.18	297,933	297,788
Senior Unsecured Debenture	March 2018	5.94	99,959	99,939
Senior Unsecured Notes – US\$400 million	May 2020	4.88	527,371	520,201
<b>First Lien Credit Facilities</b>				
Term Loan A-2 Facility – US\$96.2 million (US\$98.2 million at August 31, 2016)	September 2019	2.66 <sup>(3) (4)</sup>	126,443	127,146
Term Loan A-3 Facility - US\$120.6 million (US\$124.6 million at August 31, 2016)	September 2019	2.66 <sup>(3) (4)</sup>	158,382	161,284
Term Loan B Facility – US\$355.4 million (US\$362.6 million at August 31, 2016)	December 2019	3.28 <sup>(3)</sup>	463,746	466,024
Revolving Facility – US\$55 million (US\$76 million at August 31, 2016)	September 2019	2.66 <sup>(3)</sup>	73,046	99,682
			2,800,023	2,944,605
Less current portion			21,551	22,527
			2,778,472	2,922,078

(1) On December 5, 2016, the Corporation amended its \$50 million Term Revolving Facility which was undrawn as of February 28, 2017 and August 31, 2016. Under the terms of the amendment, the maturity was extended by an additional year until February 1, 2022.

(2) On December 9, 2016, the Corporation's subsidiary, Cogeco Communications, amended its Term Revolving Facility resulting in the extension of the maturity date by an additional year until January 24, 2022.

(3) Interest rate on debt includes applicable margin.

(4) On October 14, 2015, a US subsidiary of Cogeco Communications entered into two interest rate swap agreements to fix the interest rate on a notional amount of US\$150 million (US\$75 million each agreement) of its LIBOR based loans. These agreements have the effect of converting the floating US Libor base rate at fixed rates of 0.6120% and 0.9870%, under Term Loan A-3 and Term Loan A-2 Facilities, until October 30, 2017 and July 31, 2019, respectively.

## 11. SHARE CAPITAL

### A) AUTHORIZED

Unlimited number of:

Preferred shares of first and second rank, issuable in series and non-voting, except when specified in the Articles of Incorporation of the Corporation or in the Law.

Multiple voting shares, 20 votes per share.

Subordinate voting shares, 1 vote per share.

### B) ISSUED AND PAID

	February 28, 2017	August 31, 2016
	\$	\$
1,842,860 multiple voting shares	12	12
14,876,961 subordinate voting shares (14,969,572 at August 31, 2016)	121,062	121,815
	121,074	121,827
50,378 subordinate voting shares held in trust under the Incentive Share Unit Plan (63,021 at August 31, 2016)	(2,600)	(3,142)
61,386 subordinate voting shares held in trust under the Performance Share Unit Plan (38,786 at August 31, 2016)	(3,432)	(2,196)
	115,042	116,489

During the first six months of fiscal 2017, subordinate voting shares transactions were as follows:

	Number of shares	Amount \$
Balance at August 31, 2016	14,969,572	121,815
Purchase and cancellation of subordinate voting shares <sup>(1)</sup>	(92,611)	(753)
<b>Balance at February 28, 2017</b>	<b>14,876,961</b>	<b>121,062</b>

(1) On July 28, 2016 Cogeco announced through a normal course issuer bid its intention to acquire for cancellation up to 375,000 subordinate voting shares from August 2, 2016 to August 1, 2017. During the first six months of fiscal 2017, Cogeco purchased and canceled 92,611 subordinate voting shares with an average stated value of \$753,000, for consideration of \$5.5 million. The excess of the purchase price over the average stated value of the shares totaled \$4.75 million and was charged to retained earnings.

During the first six months of fiscal 2017, subordinate voting shares held in trust under the Incentive Share Unit Plan transactions were as follows:

	Number of shares	Amount \$
Balance at August 31, 2016	63,021	3,142
Subordinate voting shares acquired	18,379	1,005
Subordinate voting shares distributed to employees	(31,022)	(1,547)
<b>Balance at February 28, 2017</b>	<b>50,378</b>	<b>2,600</b>

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During the first six months of fiscal 2017, subordinate voting shares held in trust under the Performance Share Unit Plan transactions were as follows:

	Number of shares	Amount
		\$
Balance at August 31, 2016	38,786	2,196
Subordinate voting shares acquired	22,701	1,242
Subordinate voting shares distributed to employees	(101)	(6)
<b>Balance at February 28, 2017</b>	<b>61,386</b>	<b>3,432</b>

## C) DIVIDENDS

For the six-month period ended February 28, 2017, quarterly eligible dividends of \$0.34 per share, for a total of \$0.68 per share, were paid to the holders of multiple and subordinate voting shares, totaling \$11.4 million, compared to quarterly eligible dividends of \$0.295 per share, for a total of \$0.59 per share or \$9.9 million for the six-month period ended February 29, 2016.

At its April 6, 2017 meeting, the Board of Directors of Cogeco declared a quarterly eligible dividend of \$0.34 per share for multiple and subordinate voting shares, payable on May 4, 2017 to shareholders of record on April 20, 2017.

## D) SHARE-BASED PAYMENT PLANS

The Corporation and its subsidiary, Cogeco Communications, offer Employee Stock Purchase Plans for the benefit of their employees and those of their subsidiaries, and Stock Option Plans for their executive officers and designated employees. No more than 10% of the outstanding subordinate voting shares are available for issuance under these plans. Furthermore, the Corporation and its subsidiary, Cogeco Communications, offer Incentive Share Unit Plans ("ISU Plans") and Performance Share Unit Plans ("PSU Plans") for their executive officers and designated employees, and Deferred Share Unit Plans ("DSU Plans") for members of the Board of Directors. A detailed description of these plans can be found in the 2016 annual consolidated financial statements of the Corporation.

For the six-month period ended February 28, 2017, no stock options were granted to employees by Cogeco under the Stock Option Plan of the Corporation and no options were outstanding at February 28, 2017 and August 31, 2016.

Under the Stock Option Plan of Cogeco Communications, the following options were granted and are outstanding at February 28, 2017:

	Options	Weighted average exercise price
		\$
Outstanding at August 31, 2016	645,626	53.67
Granted <sup>(1)</sup>	205,375	62.12
Exercised <sup>(2)</sup>	(91,634)	50.55
Cancelled	(53,505)	60.21
<b>Outstanding at February 28, 2017</b>	<b>705,862</b>	<b>56.04</b>
<b>Exercisable at February 28, 2017</b>	<b>246,288</b>	<b>47.16</b>

(1) During the six-month period ended February 28, 2017, the Corporation's subsidiary, Cogeco Communications, granted 81,350 stock options to Cogeco's executive officers as executive officers of Cogeco Communications.

(2) The weighted average share price for options exercised during the period was \$67.32.

A compensation expense of \$288,000 and \$558,000 (\$189,000 and \$539,000 in 2016) was recorded for the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017 related to this plan.

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The weighted average fair value of stock options granted by Cogeco Communications for the six-month period ended February 28, 2017 was \$8.91 (\$11.39 in 2016) per option. The weighted average fair value of each option granted was estimated at the grant date for purposes of determining share-based payment expense using the Black-Scholes option pricing model based on the following weighted-average assumptions:

	2017	2016
	%	%
Expected dividend yield	2.52	2.08
Expected volatility	21.30	22.36
Risk-free interest rate	0.80	0.97
Expected life (in years)	6.1	6.1

Under the ISU Plan of the Corporation, the following ISUs were granted and are outstanding at February 28, 2017:

Outstanding at August 31, 2016	62,475
Granted	18,925
Distributed	(31,022)
<b>Outstanding at February 28, 2017</b>	<b>50,378</b>

Under the ISU Plan of Cogeco Communications, the following ISUs were granted and are outstanding at February 28, 2017:

Outstanding at August 31, 2016	144,623
Granted <sup>(1)</sup>	40,275
Distributed	(71,379)
Cancelled	(7,766)
<b>Outstanding at February 28, 2017</b>	<b>105,753</b>

(1) During the six-month period ended February 28, 2017, the Corporation's subsidiary, Cogeco Communications, did not grant ISUs to Cogeco's executive officers as executive officers of Cogeco Communications.

A compensation expense of \$727,000 and \$1,451,000 (\$1,427,000 and \$2,924,000 in 2016) was recorded for the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017 related to these plans.

Under the PSU Plan of the Corporation, the following PSUs were granted and are outstanding at February 28, 2017:

Outstanding at August 31, 2016	38,062
Granted	21,925
Distributed	(101)
Dividend equivalents	695
<b>Outstanding at February 28, 2017</b>	<b>60,581</b>

Under the PSU Plan of Cogeco Communications, the following PSUs were granted and are outstanding at February 28, 2017:

Outstanding at August 31, 2016	81,376
Granted <sup>(1)</sup>	49,325
Distributed	(1,063)
Cancelled	(15,198)
Dividend equivalents	1,506
<b>Outstanding at February 28, 2017</b>	<b>115,946</b>

(1) During the six-month period ended February 28, 2017, the Corporation's subsidiary, Cogeco Communications, granted 12,150 PSUs to Cogeco's executive officers as executive officers of Cogeco Communications.

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A compensation expense of \$749,000 and \$1,133,000 (\$530,000 and \$1,047,000 in 2016) was recorded for the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017 related to these plans.

Under the DSU Plan of the Corporation, the following DSUs were issued and are outstanding at February 28, 2017:

Outstanding at August 31, 2016	59,824
Issued	7,196
Redeemed	(7,890)
Dividend equivalents	691
<b>Outstanding at February 28, 2017</b>	<b>59,821</b>

Under the DSU Plan of Cogeco Communications, the following DSUs were issued and are outstanding at February 28, 2017:

Outstanding at August 31, 2016	32,483
Issued	7,097
Dividend equivalents	454
<b>Outstanding at February 28, 2017</b>	<b>40,034</b>

A compensation expense of \$1,133,000 and \$1,428,000 (compensation expense reduction of \$29,000 and a compensation expense of \$133,000 in 2016) was recorded for the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017 related to these plans.

## 12. ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Cash flow hedge reserve	Foreign currency translation	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Balance at August 31, 2015	438	26,401	26,839
Other comprehensive income (loss)	(606)	2,743	2,137
Balance at February 29, 2016	(168)	29,144	28,976
Balance at August 31, 2016	(47)	27,156	27,109
Other comprehensive income	380	210	590
<b>Balance at February 28, 2017</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>27,366</b>	<b>27,699</b>

## 13. STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

### A) CHANGES IN NON-CASH OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	Three months ended		Six months ended	
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Trade and other receivables	11,138	5,931	2,260	12,978
Prepaid expenses and other	1,285	3,959	(7,096)	(3,862)
Trade and other payables	(193)	(6,156)	(73,080)	(72,200)
Provisions	(94)	(131)	1,785	349
Deferred and prepaid revenue and other liabilities	733	(1,406)	1,606	1,090
	12,869	2,197	(74,525)	(61,645)

### B) CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

At February 28, 2017 and August 31, 2016 the Corporation had no cash equivalents.

## 14. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

The Corporation and its subsidiaries offer their employees either defined benefit pension plans, defined contribution pension plans or collective registered retirement savings plans, which are described in the Corporation's annual consolidated financial statements.

The total expense related to these plans is as follows:

	Three months ended		Six months ended	
	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016	February 28, 2017	February 29, 2016
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Defined benefit plans</b>				
Recognized in operating expenses (salaries, employee benefits and outsourced services)				
Current service cost	1,070	848	1,973	1,696
Administrative expense	107	71	195	142
Recognized in financial expense (other)				
Net interest	130	48	184	96
<b>Defined contribution and collective registered retirement saving plans</b>				
Recognized in operating expenses (salaries, employee benefits and outsourced services)	2,673	2,689	5,206	5,171
	3,980	3,656	7,558	7,105

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## 15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

### A) FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Management's objectives are to protect Cogeco and its subsidiaries against material economic exposures and variability of results, and against certain financial risks including credit, liquidity, interest rate and foreign exchange risks which are described in the Corporation's annual consolidated financial statements.

#### Liquidity risk

At February 28, 2017, the Corporation's Term Revolving Facility of \$50 million was unused, and an amount of \$7.3 million was used from Cogeco Communications' Term Revolving Facility of \$800 million for a remaining availability of \$792.7 million. In addition, two subsidiaries of Cogeco Communications also benefit from a Revolving Facility of \$199.2 million (US\$150 million), of which \$75 million (US\$56.5 million) was used at February 28, 2017 for a remaining availability of \$124.2 million (US\$93.5 million).

#### Interest rate risk

The Corporation and its subsidiary, Cogeco Communications, are exposed to interest rate risk on their floating interest rate instruments. Interest rate fluctuations will have an effect on the repayment of these instruments. At February 28, 2017, all of the Corporation's and Cogeco Communications' long-term debt was at fixed rate, except for the amounts drawn under Cogeco Communications' First Lien Credit Facilities.

To reduce such risk, Cogeco Communications, entered into interest rate swap agreements. The following table shows the interest rate swaps outstanding at February 28, 2017:

Type of hedge	Notional amount	Receive interest rate	Pay interest rate	Maturity	Hedged item
Cash flow	US\$75 million	US Libor base rate	0.6120%	October 30, 2017	Term Loan A-3 Facility
Cash flow	US\$75 million	US Libor base rate	0.9870%	July 31, 2019	Term Loan A-2 Facility

The sensitivity of the Corporation's annual financial expense to an increase of 1% in the interest rate applicable to the unhedged portion of these facilities would represent an increase of approximately \$6.3 million based on the outstanding debt at February 28, 2017.

#### Foreign exchange risk

Cogeco Communications is exposed to foreign exchange risk related to its long-term debt denominated in US dollars that is not designated as a hedge on its US dollar net investments. Cogeco Communications has established guidelines whereby cross-currency swap agreements can be used to fix the exchange rate applicable to its US dollar denominated long-term debt. All such agreements are exclusively used for hedging purposes.

Cogeco Communications is also exposed to foreign exchange risk with respect to the interest associated with its long-term debt denominated in US dollars. The impact of a 10% increase in the exchange rate of the US dollar into Canadian dollars would increase financial expense by approximately \$7.3 million based on the outstanding debt at February 28, 2017.

Furthermore, Cogeco Communications' net investments in foreign operations are exposed to market risk attributable to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates, primarily changes in the values of the Canadian dollar versus the US dollar and British Pound. This risk related to the US dollar is mitigated since the major part of the purchase prices for Atlantic Broadband and Cogeco Peer 1 were borrowed directly in US dollars.

The following table shows the net investments in foreign operations outstanding at February 28, 2017:

Type of hedge	Notional amount of debt	Aggregate investments	Hedged item
Net investment	US\$790 million	US\$896.2 million	Net investments in foreign operations in US dollar
N/A	£—	£30 million	N/A

The exchange rates used to convert the US dollar currency and British Pound currency into Canadian dollars for the statement of financial position accounts at February 28, 2017 was \$1.3281 (\$1.3116 at August 31, 2016) per US dollar and \$1.6480 (\$1.7223 at August 31, 2016) per British Pound. A 10% decrease in the exchange rates of the US dollar and British Pound into Canadian dollars would decrease other comprehensive income by approximately \$19.1 million.

## B) FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The carrying value of all the Corporation's financial instruments approximates fair value, except as otherwise noted in the following table:

	February 28, 2017		August 31, 2016	
	Carrying value	Fair value	Carrying value	Fair value
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Long-term debt	2,800,023	2,917,663	2,944,605	3,067,189

## C) CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

At February 28, 2017 and August 31, 2016, the Corporation and Cogeco Communications were in compliance with all of their debt covenants and were not subject to any other externally imposed capital requirements.

The following table summarizes certain of the key ratios used to monitor and manage the Corporation's capital structure:

	February 28, 2017	August 31, 2016
Net secured indebtedness <sup>(1)</sup> / adjusted EBITDA <sup>(2)</sup>	2.0	2.2
Net indebtedness <sup>(3)</sup> / adjusted EBITDA <sup>(2)</sup>	2.7	2.9
Adjusted EBITDA <sup>(2)</sup> / financial expense <sup>(2)</sup>	7.5	7.2

(1) Net secured indebtedness is defined as the total of bank indebtedness, principal on long-term debt and obligations under derivative financial instruments, less cash and cash equivalents and principal on Unsecured Debentures, Senior Unsecured Debenture and Senior Unsecured Notes.

(2) Calculation based on adjusted EBITDA and financial expense for the twelve-month periods ended February 28, 2017 and August 31, 2016.

(3) Net indebtedness is defined as the total of bank indebtedness, balance due on a business combination, principal on long-term debt and obligations under derivative financial instruments, less cash and cash equivalents.

The following table summarizes certain of the key ratios used to monitor and manage Cogeco Communications's capital structure:

	February 28, 2017	August 31, 2016
Net secured indebtedness <sup>(1)</sup> / adjusted EBITDA <sup>(2)</sup>	2.1	2.3
Net indebtedness <sup>(3)</sup> / adjusted EBITDA <sup>(2)</sup>	2.8	2.9
Adjusted EBITDA <sup>(2)</sup> / financial expense <sup>(2)</sup>	7.5	7.2

(1) Net secured indebtedness is defined as the total of bank indebtedness, intercompany note payable, principal on long-term debt and obligations under derivative financial instruments, less cash and cash equivalents and principal on Senior Unsecured Debenture and Senior Unsecured Notes.

(2) Calculation based on adjusted EBITDA and financial expense for the twelve-month periods ended February 28, 2017 and August 31, 2016.

(3) Net indebtedness is defined as the total of bank indebtedness, balance due on a business combination, intercompany note payable, principal on long-term debt and obligations under derivative financial instruments, less cash and cash equivalents.



## **16. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Cogeco provides executive, administrative, financial and strategic planning services and other services to Cogeco Communications under a Management Services Agreement. Under the Agreement, management fees are payable on a monthly basis, representing 0.85% of the consolidated revenue of Cogeco Communications. In addition, provision is made for future adjustment upon the request of either Cogeco Communications or the Corporation should the level of management fees no longer align with the costs, time and resources committed by Cogeco. Cogeco Communications reimburses Cogeco's out-of-pocket expenses incurred with respect to services provided to Cogeco Communications under the Agreement. For the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017, management fees paid to Cogeco amounted to \$4.8 million and \$9.5 million, respectively, compared to \$4.7 million and \$9.3 million for the same periods of fiscal 2016.

No direct remuneration is payable to Cogeco's executive officers by Cogeco Communications. However, during the six-month period ended February 28, 2017, Cogeco Communications granted 81,350 (69,750 in 2016) stock options, did not grant any ISUs and granted 12,150 (11,150 in 2016) PSUs to these executive officers as executive officers of Cogeco Communications. During the three and six-month periods ended February 28, 2017, Cogeco Communications charged Cogeco \$139,000 and \$302,000 (\$136,000 and \$280,000 in 2016), \$2,000 and \$35,000 (\$66,000 and \$179,000 in 2016) and \$170,000 and \$306,000 (\$105,000 and \$229,000 in 2016), respectively, with regards to Cogeco Communications' stock options, ISUs and PSUs granted to these executive officers.

On August 2, 2016 an intercompany loan agreement was concluded between the Corporation and its subsidiary, Cogeco Communications, by which a revolving credit facility was established in favour of Cogeco Communications. The maximum principal amount of the facility is set at \$40 million and the full amount was advanced to Cogeco Communications as of the signing date and remained outstanding as of February 28, 2017. The credit facility is payable on demand and the interest is calculated on the daily outstanding balance at an annual rate equivalent to Cogeco Communications' Canadian Revolving Facility.

There were no other material related party transactions during the periods covered.

## **17. DISPOSAL OF A SUBSIDIARY IN FISCAL 2016**

On January 5, 2016, the Corporation's subsidiary, Cogeco Media, completed the sale of its subsidiary Métromédia, an out-of-home advertising company, for a cash consideration of \$47.5 million, which was subject to a post-closing net working capital adjustment. The selling price was reduced by selling fees of approximately \$0.4 million. The carrying value of the net assets disposed was \$34.1 million resulting in a pre-tax gain of \$12.9 million recorded in the consolidated statements of profit or loss.

# COMMUNICATIONS SEGMENT CUSTOMER STATISTICS

	February 28, 2017	November 30, 2016	August 31, 2016	May 31, 2016	February 29, 2016
<b>CONSOLIDATED</b>					
Primary service units	2,536,876	2,527,602	2,507,750	2,511,799	2,515,137
Video service customers	976,997	981,682	982,955	992,409	1,001,337
Internet service customers	1,023,519	1,007,610	987,365	977,538	967,156
Telephony service customers	536,360	538,310	537,430	541,852	546,644
<b>CANADA</b>					
Primary service units	1,934,496	1,930,909	1,914,017	1,921,799	1,932,343
Video service customers	737,975	740,855	739,323	747,257	755,366
Penetration as a percentage of homes passed	42.9%	43.3%	43.4%	43.9%	44.6%
Internet service customers	759,152	749,275	733,701	728,086	724,379
Penetration as a percentage of homes passed	44.2%	43.8%	43.0%	42.8%	42.7%
Telephony service customers	437,369	440,779	440,993	446,456	452,598
Penetration as a percentage of homes passed	25.5%	25.8%	25.9%	26.3%	26.7%
<b>UNITED STATES</b>					
Primary service units	602,380	596,693	593,733	590,000	582,794
Video service customers	239,022	240,827	243,632	245,152	245,971
Penetration as a percentage of homes passed	40.4%	40.7%	41.2%	41.4%	41.7%
Internet service customers	264,367	258,335	253,664	249,452	242,777
Penetration as a percentage of homes passed	44.7%	43.7%	42.9%	42.1%	41.1%
Telephony service customers	98,991	97,531	96,437	95,396	94,046
Penetration as a percentage of homes passed	16.7%	16.5%	16.3%	16.1%	15.9%