



# **Investor Update**

As of October 27, 2022



TSX: CGO | TSX: CCA

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# Forward-looking statements and presentation of financial information

Certain statements contained in this presentation may constitute forward-looking information within the meaning of securities laws. Forward-looking information may relate to our future outlook and anticipated events, business, operations, financial performance, financial condition or results. Particularly, statements regarding our 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, purchase price allocation, tax rates, weighted average cost of capital, performance and business prospects and opportunities, which we believe are reasonable as of the current date. Refer in particular to the "Corporate Objectives and Strategies" and the "Fiscal 2023 Financial Guidelines" sections in the 2022 annual Management Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") for a discussion of certain key economic, market and operational assumptions we have made in preparing forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking information involves known and unknown risks and uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results to differ materially from the assumptions, estimates or expectations reflected or contained in the forward-looking information, and may be affected by a number of factors, many of which are beyond the Corporation's control. The uncertainties and main risk factors that could influence actual results are described in the "Uncertainties and main risk factors" section of the 2022 annual 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 we currently foresee. The reader should not place undue importance on forward-looking information contained in this presentation and forward-looking statements contained in this presentation represent our expectations as of October 27, 2022 and are subject to change after such date. While we may elect to do so, we are under no obligation (and expressly disclaim any such obligation) and do 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.

This presentation also includes non-IFRS and other financial measures (as indicated below and numbered from i) to viii) in the presentation) that are not standardized under IFRS and might not be comparable to similar financial measures disclosed by other companies. Certain additional disclosures for these financial measures, including reconciliations to the most directly comparable IFRS financial measures, have been incorporated by reference and can be found in the "Non-IFRS and other financial measures" section of the Corporation's 2022 annual MD&A for the years ended August 31, 2022 and 2021, and in the "Non-IFRS financial measures" section of the Corporation's 2021, 2020 and 2019 annual MD&A for the years ended August 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com

- i. Adjusted EBITDA is a total of segment measure. Adjusted EBITDA margin is a supplementary financial measure
- ii. Free cash flow and free cash flow excluding network expansion projects are non-IFRS financial measures
- iii. Net capital expenditures is a total of segment measure
- iv. Constant currency basis is a non-IFRS ratio
- v. Capital intensity is a supplemental financial measure. Capital intensity excluding network expansion projects is a non-IFRS ratio
- vi. Free cash flow dividend payout ratio and free cash flow, excluding network expansion projects, dividend payout ratio are a non-IFRS ratios
- vii. Net indebtedness to adjusted EBITDA ratio is a capital management measure
- viii. Available liquidity is a non-IFRS financial measure

#### Presentation of financial information:

IFRS 16 has been applied as of September 1, 2019 using the modified retrospective approach where the comparative period was not restated but the cumulative effect is recognized in the opening retained earnings of FY2020. Accordingly, FY2019 financials and any preceding years were not restated for these changes. IFRS 16 eliminates the distinction between operating and finance leases, requiring instead that future lease payments be capitalized and recognized as lease liabilities. As a result, the presentation of expenses between operating expenses, depreciation and financial expenses has changed.

FY2018 financials were restated to comply with IFRS 15 and to reflect a change in accounting policy with respect to reconnect costs as well as to reclassify results from Cogeco Peer 1, which was sold on April 30, 2019 as discontinued operations. Any preceding years were not restated.

#### **Currency:**

Unless otherwise noted, all amounts are expressed in Canadian dollars.



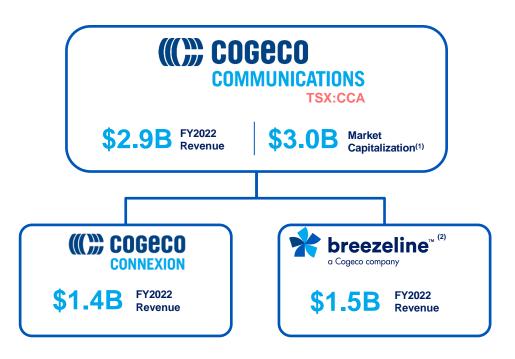




TSX: CCA



- Growing competitive force in the North American telecommunications sector with a presence in Ontario, Quebec and 13 states in the United States
- Unique North American broadband platform with strong operational experience
- Providing Internet, video and phone to 1.6 million residential and business customers
- Well-positioned as a consolidator of targeted regional broadband operators







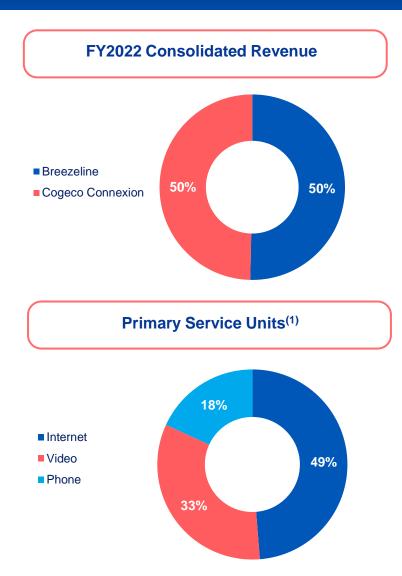
## **Business segment overview**

#### **BREEZELINE**

- Cogeco Communications entered into the U.S. market in November 2012 and the segment has grown through 5 other acquisitions since then
- Covers a footprint of 1.7 million<sup>(1)</sup> homes which provides for attractive residential and business organic growth opportunity
- Offers services to 708,000<sup>(1)</sup> Internet service customers in 13 states

#### **COGECO CONNEXION**

- Covers a footprint of 2.0 million<sup>(1)</sup> homes which provides room to grow the Internet customer base and the business segment
- Offers services to 773,000<sup>(1)</sup> Internet service customers in Ontario and Québec





## Capital allocation priorities

Span of operations in North America provides **stability**, while **strong cash flow generation** enables to reinvest in the business and return capital to shareholders

#### CAPITAL ALLOCATION TO VALUE CREATION ACTIVITIES

- 1. Enhance and extend broadband networks to offer more evolved services and geographic reach
- 2. Prudently pursue acquisitions of broadband businesses
- 3. Develop a profitable mobile offering in our Canadian footprint

#### **RETURN CAPITAL TO SHAREHOLDERS**

- Predictable dividend strategy
- Prudent and flexible share buyback program

Balance allocation of capital between growing the business organically, making acquisitions and returning capital to shareholders, while maintaining a prudent level of financial leverage





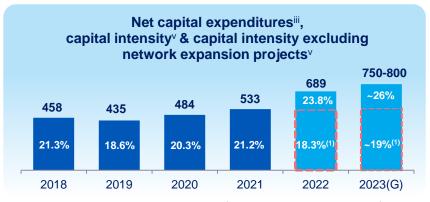
## **Financial snapshot**

### Steady growth from both organic execution and strategic acquisitions

#### In \$M









(1) Excluding network expansion projects of \$157M for FY2022 and between \$180M to \$230M in constant currency'v for FY2023

#### Notes

• FY2023 financial guidelines reflect increases over FY2022 results and are based on a USD/CDN constant exchange rate of 1.2718

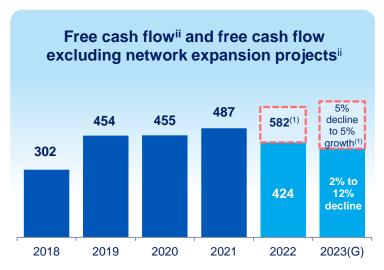




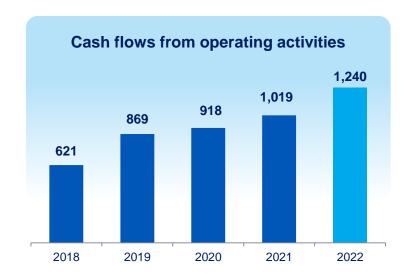
## Free cash flow generation

Sustained free cash flow<sup>ii</sup> generation has allowed us to pursue growth objectives while returning capital to shareholders

In \$M







#### Note:

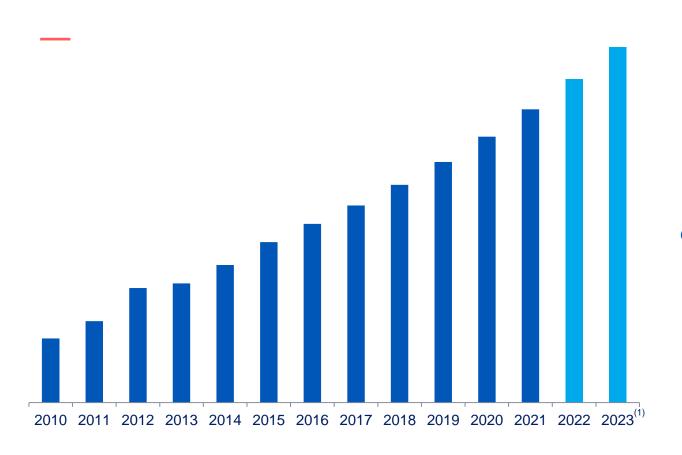
- FY2023 financial guidelines reflect increases over FY2022 results and are based on a USD/CDN constant exchange rate of 1.2718
- FY2023 assume current income tax effective rate of approximately 11%





## Dividend growth and low payout ratio

## Strong and consistent dividend per share growth



+10% annual increase over the past 9 years

22%<sup>(2)</sup> - 31% free cash flow dividend payout ratio<sup>vi</sup> in FY2022

24%<sup>(2)</sup> - 36% free cash flow dividend payout ratio<sup>vi</sup> in FY2023<sup>(3)</sup>



<sup>(1)</sup> Based on a quarterly dividend of \$0.776 per share declared on October 27, 2022. The dividend is subject to Board of Directors' approval on a quarterly basis and there is no assurance that it will remain at the current level

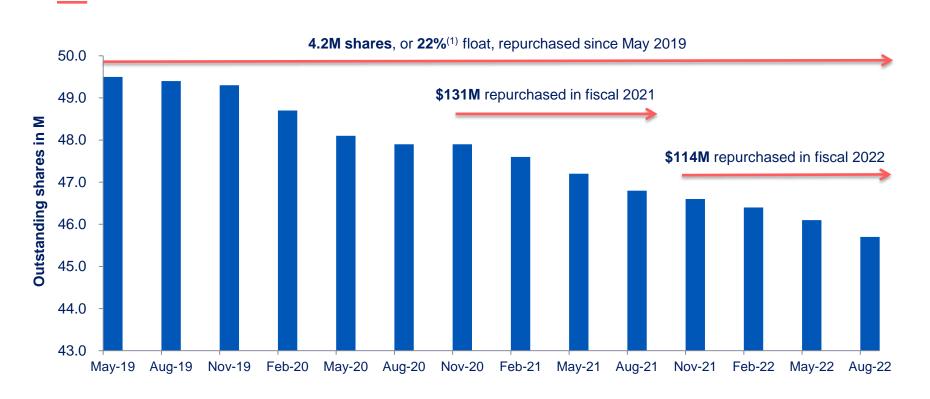
<sup>(2)</sup> Free cash flow, excluding network expansions projects, dividend payout ratiovi

<sup>(3)</sup> Based on FY2023 free cash flow mid-range guidelines



# **Share buybacks**

Cogeco Communications renewed its Normal Course Issuer Bid, enabling it to acquire up to 1,500,000 subordinate voting shares from May 4, 2022 to May 3, 2023







## **Key Strategic Initiatives**



Consolidator of U.S. Regional Operator



Network Investments, Footprint Expansion & Digital Transformation



Canadian Mobile Services Opportunity

- Acquisition of the Ohio broadband systems for a purchase price of US\$1.125B<sup>(1)</sup>, closed on September 1, 2021
- Completed 6 acquisitions in the U.S. since 2012. The American telecommunications segment now represents 50% of consolidated revenue
- Competitive advantage with 1 Gig Internet offered in close to 97% of the U.S. footprint and 74% of the Canadian footprint
- In Canada, awarded government funding to provide fibre-to-the-home Internet in unserved or underserved regions
- In the U.S., announced the extension of fibre-to-the-home networks in multiple communities in New Hampshire and West Virginia
- Investment in digital tools enabling more personalized services and improved operational efficiencies
- Developing plans to launch mobile services within our current areas of operations in Canada through a capital efficient model, contigent on favourable MVNO conditions
- Will double the Canadian business' addressable market
- Opportunity to cross sell products to our customer base as well as attract new customers
- Recent favorable regulatory environment expected to allow us to make use of the mandated MVNO framework during the initial years
- Capital-light approach to launching through MVNO should allow for disciplined investments as we grow market share
- Over time, we intend to make use of acquired mid-band spectrum licences which cover most of our broadband footprint



# Delivering sustainable value to our stakeholders through strong ESG practices



Social



Governance



First Canadian telecommunications company with an approved, science-based emissions reduction target:

Signatory of the **Business Ambition for** 1.5 degrees commitment with a goal of net zero emissions across our value chain by 2050

Published our first Climate Action Plan and TCFD report. Our second edition will be published by the end of calendar 2022.

One of only 4 Canadian companies recognized on the 2021 CDP Climate Change "A" list

Listed for the second time, on the **Corporate Knights Carbon Clean 200**  Taking additional steps to foster a culture of **Diversity & Inclusion (D&I)** 

- Published commitment to D&I. and established a D&I Leadership Committee
- Promoting gender diversity: 34% of management positions and above are held by women; 47% of Board members<sup>(1)</sup> are women
- Established of 4 employee-led Employee Resource Groups (ERGs)

Reducing the digital divide by extending our Canadian broadband network to 75,000 homes in underserved and unserved areas over 3 years

Variable executive **compensation** linked in part to ESG performance

Strong ESG oversight directly at the Board of Directors supported by ESG steering committee

First syndicated sustainabilitylinked loan in Canada within the Telecommunications and Media Sectors











Sustainability Yearbook Member 2022

S&P Global

CLIMATE

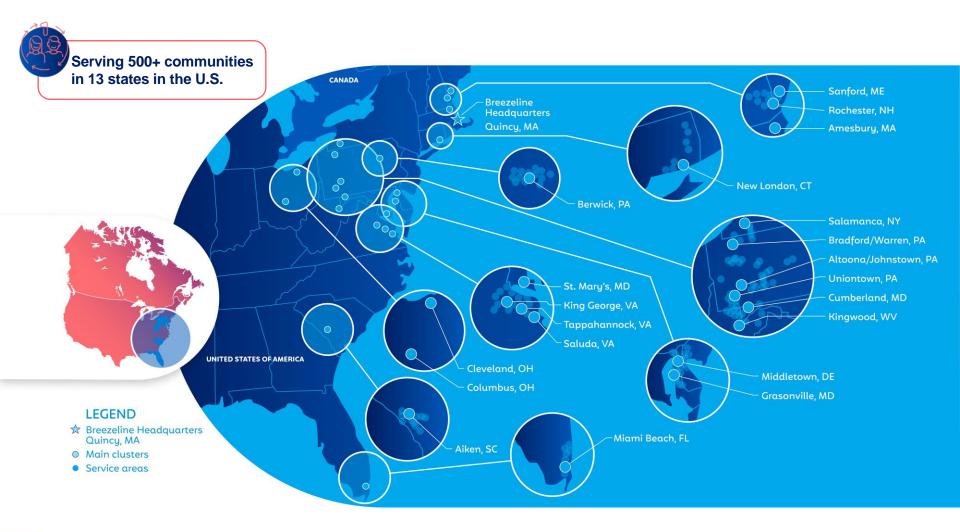
Note: ESG & Sustainability report covering fiscal 2020 and 2021 was issued in March 2022. The report covering fiscal 2022 will be released in March 2023. Detailed KPIs with a 3 year historical view, including fiscal 2022, can be found in our new ESG data supplement available on our corporate website.





(formerly Atlantic Broadband)





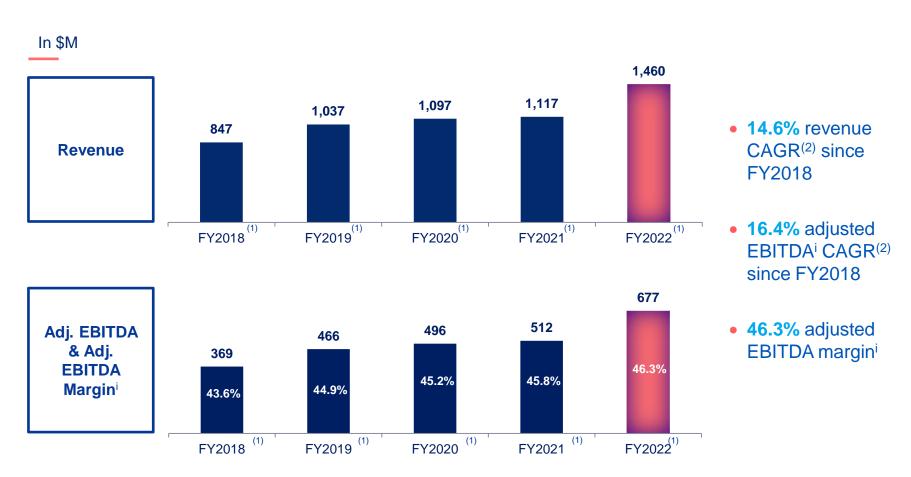






## Breezeline's financial results overview

## Strong revenue and adjusted EBITDA<sup>i</sup> growth



<sup>1)</sup> In Canadians dollars





<sup>(2)</sup> CAGR is defined as the Compound Average Growth Rate



## Breezeline's highlights



Strong Financial Profile



Enhanced Growth Opportunity



**Broadband First** 



Strategic Residential Positioning

- Growing adjusted EBITDA<sup>i</sup> and margin<sup>i</sup>, contributing to free cash flow<sup>ii</sup> generation
- Major growth plan to extend fibre services into New Hampshire and West Virginia communities not previously served by the company
  - The only fibre-to-the-home provider in expansion territories
  - Increased by 4% its homes passed in FY2022 and expected to increase homes passed by 5% in FY2023
  - Mid-teens unlevered return on investment based on Internet penetration target of 36% over 3 years
- Strategy puts broadband at the center of customer experience
  - Customers are incented to add more services through modular pricing with less emphasis on bundling discounts
  - Video services are not offered to new customers on a stand-alone basis<sup>(1)</sup>
- Enhances contribution margins and customer lifetime value
- Superior Internet speeds and video platform
  - Breezeline Stream TV, IPTV platform launched in January 2022 with progressive roll-out over the next year
  - 1 Gbps Internet service offered in close to 97% of the footprint
- Launched a full rebrand in January 2022 which reflects a commitment to an easy and convenient customer experience, while better representing the segment's geographic reach and full product breadth









# **Cogeco Connexion**









## Cogeco Connexion's financial results overview

## Stable operations with solid adjusted EBITDA margini

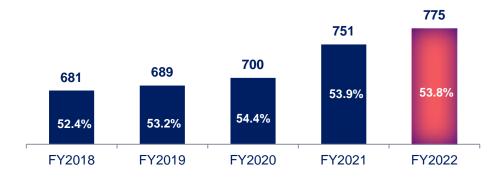
In \$M











- 3.3% adjusted EBITDA<sup>i</sup>
   CAGR<sup>(1)</sup> since FY2018
- 53.8% adjusted EBITDA margin<sup>i</sup>









# **Cogeco Connexion's highlights**



Strong Financial Profile



Network Expansion in Attractive Areas



**Key Growth vectors** 



**Preferred Brand** 

- Strong adjusted EBITDA margin<sup>i</sup> and cash flow generation
- Ambitious network expansion projects, including partnering with governments to expand connectivity in underserved and unserved areas with strong economics
  - fibre-to-the-home deployment in areas where competition has much lower speed internet service
  - Should add over 150,000 homes passed, or 8% growth, by fiscal 2025
    - 2% already added in FY2022 and expected to add 3% in FY2023, 1% in FY2024 and 2% in FY2025
  - Mid-teens unlevered return on investment based on Internet penetration target of 50% over 3 years
- Potential for Internet ARPU gains with 1 Gbps speeds available in the majority of the footprint
- Developing plans for profitable mobile offering which would significantly expand our addressable market
- Leverage data & Artificial Intelligence to better cater to customers' needs and "go further" for them
- Positioned as a local brand champion, elevating proximity and trust with customers



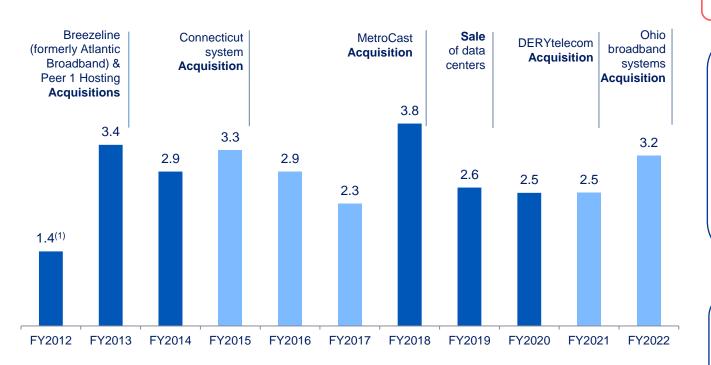






## History of de-leveraging following acquisitions

## Evolution of net indebtedness to adjusted EBITDA ratiovii



#### **Available liquidity: \$1.1B**

371
28)
830
073







# Low cost of capital and spread-out maturities

#### **DEBT MATURITIES**

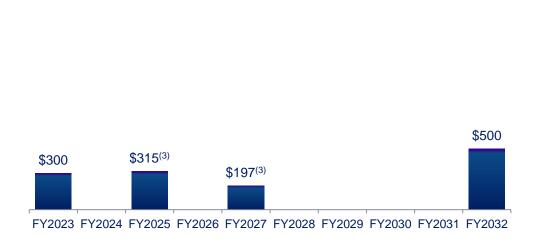
Excluding credit facilities and lease liabilities<sup>(2)</sup> \$M

	2023 Guidelines	August 2022	August 2021
Average Cost of Debt(1)	4.7%	4.0%	3.3%
Average Life	3.8Y	4.0Y	3.2Y

### Cogeco Communications (excluding Breezeline)

### **Breezeline**

U.S. subsidiaries<sup>(6)</sup>





- (1) Excludes amortization of debt issuance costs
- (2) A total of CDN\$117M was drawn on Cogeco Communications' \$750M revolving facility maturing in FY2027 and Breezeline's US\$150M revolving facility maturing in FY2024. Cogeco Communications' indebtedness includes lease liabilities in an amount of \$44M.
- (3) Converted at August 31, 2022 closing exchange rate of USD/CDN 1.3111

- (4) Balance payable in FY2025 after giving effect to annual mandatory repayments of US\$17M (CDN\$22M)
- (5) Balance payable in FY2029 after giving effect to annual mandatory repayments of US\$9M (CDN\$12M)
- (6) Financing the American telecommunications segment on a non-recourse basis to Cogeco Communications





## Compensation aligned with economic value creation (EVC)

- Between 50% and 80% of senior executives' compensation is variable and at risk based on long-term creation of Economic Value
  - Reasonable use of equity compensation to minimize dilution
  - Stock ownership requirements for senior executives
  - Balancing risk and reward to avoid excessive risk taking
- EVC, which is a form of return on equity, is at the core of our compensation programs
  - Annual targets are established at each business segment
  - Targets, which are benchmarked against industry, are mainly based on EBITDA growth and capital efficiency objectives

Incentive Programs	Summary Features
Annual Bonus	60-70% based on the level of EVC achieved vs target and the balance is based on strategic business metrics which encompass efforts to reduce GHG emissions, employee engagement, customer experience, health and safety and other objectives
Incentive Share Units (25% of the total LTI <sup>(1)</sup> )	3 year time vesting
Performance Share Units (50% of total LTI)	3 year time and performance vesting based on cumulative EVC
Stock Options (25% of the total LTI)	5 year time vesting

Economic Value Targets	FY2023
Corporate	12.8%
Cogeco Connexion	11.0%
Breezeline (formerly Atlantic Broadband)	15.0%





## Cogeco



Revenue

\$3.0 B

**PUBLIC MARKET VALUE OF EQUITY** 

\$848 M

(15.8M shares at \$53.75 (1))

15.7M shares of CCA

84% Voting Rights 34% Equity

100% Voting Rights 100% Equity



**Investment in** 

Cogeco Communications TSX: CCA

\$1,029 M

per CGO share(1)(2)

FY2022 Revenue \$2.9 B

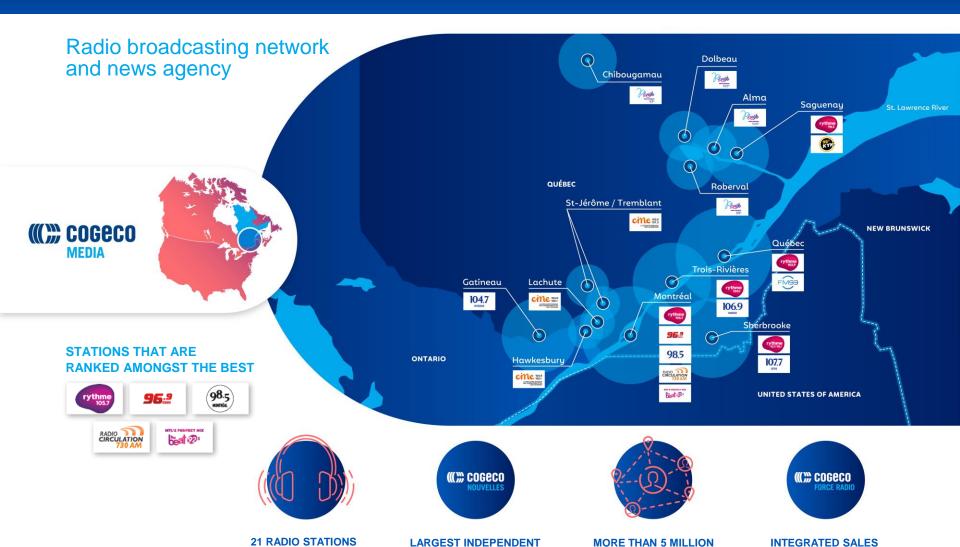


Cogeco Media RADIO BROADCASTING

> FY2022 Revenue

\$94 M

# Cogeco Media: strong network of radio stations



**RADIO NEWS SERVICE** 

IN QUÉBEC

LISTENERS / WEEK

IN QUÉBEC



**SERVICES** 

## Cogeco Media

### Most important radio broadcaster in Québec<sup>(1)</sup> and talented radio hosts in the industry

- 98.5 is the most listened to station in Canada.
- **RYTHME 105.7** is the #1 music station of Montrealers.
- 92.5 THE BEAT is the #1English music station in Montréal.
- 96.9 CKOI has the largest reach in the market.
- FM93 and RYTHME 102.9 combo is the most listened to in Québec City.
- Cogeco Nouvelles is present in more than 50 cities in Québec.















# **Appendix**

## **Customer profile**

August 31, 2022	Cogeco Connexion	Breezeline	Total
Homes passed	1,998,418	1,677,939	3,676,357
Primary service units <sup>(1)</sup>	1,818,158	1,189,163	3,007,321
Internet service customers <sup>(2)</sup> Internet penetration <sup>(3)</sup>	772,600	707,954	1,480,554
	38.7%	42.2%	40.3%
Video service customers  Video penetration <sup>(3)</sup>	652,590	323,038	975,628
	32.7%	19.3%	26.5%
Phone service customers  Phone penetration <sup>(3)</sup>	392,968	158,171	551,139
	19.7%	<i>9.4%</i>	<i>15.0%</i>



<sup>(1)</sup> Includes Internet, video and phone customers

<sup>(2)</sup> During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2022, the Corporation modified its definition of Internet service customers in order to be consistent with industry practices. As per the new definition, Internet service customers include only customers who have their Internet service installed, operated and billed directly by the Corporation. The previous definition also included wholesale Internet customers.

<sup>(3)</sup> As a percentage of homes passed