

Regulatory Plan to modernize Canada's broadcasting system

This plan explains how the CRTC will work with Canadians to modernize Canada's broadcasting system. Modernization will take place in three phases.

The CRTC will adapt its approach in light of any future policy direction.

▼ Phase 1

→ Spring 2023

- April 27: *Online Streaming Act* (Bill C-11) receives Royal Assent.
- May 8: CRTC publishes its Regulatory Plan.
- CRTC will publish an Information Bulletin clarifying technical details for broadcasters.

○ Public consultations

- Consultation on contributions to the Canadian broadcasting system: This consultation will consider who should contribute, how much and how.
- Consultation on registration of online streaming services: This consultation will consider which online streaming services will need to be registered with the CRTC.
- Consultation on exemption orders and basic conditions of service: This consultation will consider changes to orders under which online services have operated in Canada.
- There may be additional consultations, including on establishing a new fund to provide financial support for participation in CRTC proceedings by persons and groups representing the public interest.

▼ Phase 2

○ Fall 2023

Public consultations

- Consultation on fee regulations: This consultation will review fees paid by broadcasters and how they should be extended to online undertakings.

Other activities

- CRTC publishes updated version of its Regulatory Plan.
- Engagement on definitions of Canadian and Indigenous content: These preliminary engagement sessions with industry and creators will help design the approach for a full public consultation.

○ Winter 2023-2024

Public consultations may include

- Consultation on definitions of Canadian and Indigenous content: This consultation would review the definition of Canadian content and examine possible changes.
- Consultation on tools to support Canadian music and other audio content: This consultation would assess tools to support Canadian audio content.
- Consultation on programming and supports for video content: This consultation would assess tools to develop, support, and promote Canadian and Indigenous content on all platforms.
- Consultation on local markets access and competition: This consultation would evaluate market access, news and local programming, and competitive behaviours.
- Consultation on protecting Canadian consumers: This consultation would review ways to protect consumers and include broadcaster codes of conduct and mechanisms for complaints.

▼ Phase 3

○ Targeting launch: Late 2024

- This phase will focus on implementing policy decisions listed above. More on Phase 3 will be included in future updates of this plan.

Open and public process

Modernizing Canada's broadcasting system will require multiple steps. Every step will include open and public consultations.

Our approach

Changes needed to implement the modernized *Broadcasting Act* are substantial and complex. There are many interconnected issues to be addressed.

Implementing the modernized Act will be done in three phases. We will make decisions based on consultations. We will adjust our plans as needed. As a result, this plan will be updated regularly to ensure that everyone can participate and share ideas.

Phase 1: Getting started (launching spring 2023)

The broadcasting system of the future will ensure that online streaming services make meaningful contributions to Canadian and Indigenous content. Creators will have opportunities to tell their stories and Canadians will have access to a greater variety and diversity of content.

We will:

- consult on a registration requirement for certain online streaming services;
- review exemption orders and possible basic conditions of service; and
- start to develop a framework for contributions that will apply to traditional broadcasters and online streaming services.

▶ **Consultation on contributions to the Canadian broadcasting system**

▶ **Consultation on registration of online streaming services**

▶ **Consultation on exemption orders and basic conditions of service**

Phase 2: Building a new regulatory framework (launching fall 2023)

In this phase, we will look at how we could tailor our expectations of and requirements for different broadcasting services, including:

- Definitions of Canadian and Indigenous content;

- Our approach to licensing;
- Funding to improve public participation in broadcasting processes;
- Audio-related support, such as contributions for music and spoken-word programming;
- Mechanisms, such as incentives and regulatory measures, that could be used to:
 - support emerging talent
 - foster creation, production, distribution, promotion, and discoverability of diverse content
- Supports for news and local programming;
- Market access and other power imbalances;
- Fair negotiations, ownership, and dispute resolution;
- Improving protections for consumers; and
- Broadcasting industry fees.

Phase 3: Implementing new regulatory framework (targeting launch late 2024)

Phase 3 will focus on implementing the new regulations and policy decisions. More information will follow.

Related information

- [Myths and Facts about Bill C-11, the *Online Streaming Act*](#)

Date modified:

2023-05-08