



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For immediate release**

## **COGECO AND BELL GLOBEMEDIA SATISFIED WITH CRTC DECISION**

**Montreal, December 7, 2001** – COGECO and Bell Globemedia said that they were satisfied with the decision reached today by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission authorizing them to proceed with the acquisition of Quebecor's 86% participation in the TQS network through the creation of a company held in the following proportions: 60% by COGECO and 40% by Bell Globemedia.

"We intend to abide by all of the conditions attached to the TQS licences granted by the CRTC," mentioned Mr. Louis Audet, President and Chief Executive Officer of COGECO, and Mr. Alain Gourd, Group Executive Vice President, Corporate, for Bell Globemedia, and "we will do our utmost for the TQS network to pursue its development."

COGECO and Bell Globemedia also emphasized that the CRTC had accepted the agreement concluded with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation whereby the Radio-Canada and TQS newsrooms in the Trois-Rivières, Sherbrooke and Chicoutimi/Jonquière stations are to be entirely separated as of September 1, 2002.

"The new owners," said Vice-President and General Manager of Cogeco Radio-Television Inc., Mr. Michel J. Carter, "intend to build on the success of TQS which relies on a different approach and an original perspective with respect to information, as well as on pleasing movie buffs by providing them with an ever-increasing choice of titles, and by producing new programming that is relevant to its audiences in order to gain and retain their loyalty."

COGECO and Bell Globemedia have established a new company that will regroup the TQS television network with the six television stations of Cogeco Radio-Television Inc. located in Sherbrooke, Trois-Rivières and Chicoutimi/Jonquière. The transactions related to the acquisition of TQS should be completed by the end of January 2002.

COGECO is active in the communications sector. Through its various subsidiaries, COGECO provides cable service to approximately 879,000 basic service customers in Canada, and operates six television stations and two radio stations in Quebec. COGECO's subordinate voting shares are listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange (CGO). The subordinate voting shares of Cogeco Cable Inc. are also listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange (CCA).

Bell Globemedia is Canada's premier multimedia company, owning the country's strongest media brands — CTV, Canada's leading private broadcaster; The Globe and Mail, Canada's National Newspaper; Globe Interactive, a leading Internet content provider; and Sympatico-Lycos, the number-one Canadian Internet portal. Bell Globemedia creates superior Canadian content, leveraging it across multiple channels, building connections and forming new commerce opportunities. Bell Globemedia is owned by BCE Inc. (70.1%), The Thomson Corporation (20%), and The Woodbridge Company Limited (9.9%).

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**Source:**

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