

# WITH THE **STROKE OF A PEN**, THE FEDERAL CABINET CAN **LOWER INTERNET BILLS** FOR MILLIONS OF CANADIANS. **WILL THEY?**

Canadians are being **gouged** by Big Telecom.

“

Over **1/3<sup>rd</sup>** of households in Canada's largest city **worry** about paying their home internet bill.

- Brookfield Institute at Ryerson University<sup>(2)</sup>

”



In 2019 the federal government promised to **lower your telecom bills**.



But Canadian internet **prices increased** through the pandemic when other countries' prices dropped.<sup>(1)</sup>



We all know internet is a **basic utility**, not a luxury.



***So why are Canadians paying some of the highest prices on the planet?***

Big Telecom broke **federal rules** to drive up **your prices**.

“

The **fact** that these large companies **did not respect accepted costing** principles and methodologies is **very disturbing**.

- Former CRTC Chair Jean-Pierre Blais<sup>(3)</sup>

”



Between 2016-2019, the CRTC discovered the Big Telecom companies **broke its rate setting rules**.



They drove up costs for competitors - this drove up **YOUR internet prices**, costing Canadians hundreds of millions of dollars.



In a **key 2019 decision**, the CRTC set new rates to bring “more affordable prices for consumers”<sup>(4)</sup>, expected to take effect this year.



***But Big Telecom's lobbyists swarmed Ottawa to protect their massive profits.***<sup>(5)</sup>

## Big Telecom **insiders** had beers. Your **prices** went up.



**Pictured:** Bell CEO Mirko Bibic (left) with current CRTC Chair Ian Scott (right), a former Telus lobbyist, having beers alone. This offside private meeting occurred **just one week** after the CRTC received Bell's application to reverse its 2019 rate decision, which the CRTC later approved. At the time of this meeting, there are hundreds of millions of dollars – your lower internet prices – on the table.

In May, the **CRTC shocked consumers** when it **caved to Big Telecom** and completely reversed its own 2019 decision<sup>(6)</sup> - even though it had been upheld by the courts.

The CRTC's reversal has been called "**the most anti-consumer decision on record**"<sup>(7)</sup> and it means even **higher prices** for you.

TekSavvy has formally asked the Federal Cabinet to overrule the CRTC and **lower your cost of living, simply by enforcing the 2019 rate decision.**

**So, before you vote, you should know:**

**Will your local candidate **take a stand to lower your cost of living**, or protect Big Telecom's massive profits?**

**ASK THEM AT  PAYLESSTOCONNECT.CA**

**Momentum is building: Using paylesstoconnect.ca, over 250,000 voters have urged the federal government to stand up to Big Telecom and deliver lower prices, while Ontario's Big City Mayors are "calling on the Federal Cabinet, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, and ISED Minister Francois-Philippe Champagne to overrule the CRTC and immediately implement the evidence-based 2019 Rates Order."**<sup>(8)</sup>