

Canadian Steering Committee on Numbering

Date: 30 June 2025

BY EMAIL

To: Suneil Kanjeekal, CRTC staff
Director, Dispute Resolution & Regulatory Implementation
Telecommunications Sector
CISC Chair
Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission

Subject: Reminder of Authoritative Sources for Assignment and Routing & Rating data

Dear Sir,

The *Canadian Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guideline* (Canadian COCAG) indicates that Code Holders are required to enter their information into the iconectiv Business Integrated Routing and Rating Database System (BIRRDs) as part of the Network Notification process. (Canadian COCAG Version 12.0 dated 1 November 2024, Section 2.3 - Assumptions and Constraints).

Periodically, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) publishes a Commission Letter on the use of the iconectiv LERG™ Routing Guide (<https://trainfo.iconectiv.com/LEERG-routing-guide>), an output product from the iconectiv BIRRDs, as the vehicle that must be utilized to exchange network change information.

Two examples of this letter are:

- I. 8698-C12-08/00 - <http://www.crtc.gc.ca/eng/archive/2000/lt000829.htm>; and,
- II. 8698-C12-14/01 - <http://www.crtc.gc.ca/eng/archive/2004/lt041025.htm>

The Canadian Steering Committee on Numbering (CSCN) believes that it is appropriate to publish a reminder letter about the requirement to use BIRRDs output products (typically the LERG™ Routing Guide) as the authoritative source for routing and rating information.

Additionally, at recent plenary CSCN meetings there have been discussions related to third-party private and public sector organizations that perform validation and multi-factor authentication functions on individuals' telephone numbers. Increasingly, carriers participating at CSCN have explained that they are receiving complaints that subscribers' telephone numbers are not being recognized as valid numbers by these third parties' validation functions. The carriers believe the reason is that the data source used by those third parties are not authoritative sources for valid Central Office (CO) Code and Thousands Block assignments, are likely incorrect, or out of date.

During CSCN 132, held on 10-11 June 2025 in Richmond Hill, Ontario, the CSCN discussed this problem and agreed that the BIRRDs reminder letter from the Commission could be reissued and updated to also identify the authoritative sources for assignment data in the North American Numbering Plan (NANP). The authoritative source for Canadian CO Code and Thousands Block assignment status data is the Canadian Numbering Administrator (CNA). The up-to-date status data may be found at https://cnac.ca/co_codes/co_code_status.htm and https://cnac.ca/co_codes/co_block_status.htm. The authoritative source for U.S. assignments is the NANP Administrator (NANPA). Their up-to-date status

Canadian Steering Committee on Numbering

data may be found at https://www.nanpa.com/reports/co-code-reports/cocodes_assign and <https://www.nanpa.com/reports/thousands-block-reports>.

Carriers are finding it challenging to resolve issues with the third parties and thus the CSCN agreed that it would be useful to have official correspondence from the CRTC to provide as evidence that indicates authoritative sources for numbering assignment information.

In conclusion, the CSCN is recommending that the CRTC works expeditiously to publish a letter to the Canadian Industry, and the larger public, to remind them of the authoritative sources for assignment data (CNA and NANPA) as well as the authoritative source for industry routing and rating data (BIRRDs output products - e.g., LERG™ Routing Guide). CSCN further recommends that the CRTC publish a letter using other communication channels including, but not necessarily limited to, its social media channels and an official news release.

Sincerely,

Sent via email by

Kelly T. Walsh
Chair
Canadian Steering Committee on Numbering

c.c. Étienne Robelin, CRTC staff
Alexander Pitman, CRTC staff