

Promoting the introduction of new area code 942 in Ontario

Progress Report #2

May 2025

Communications Progress Report

This final report is submitted to the Relief Planning Committee (RPC) and CRTC staff for the 416 overlay project. The report outlines the public relations activities that the Telecommunications Alliance (TA) has undertaken to generate awareness for the introduction of the new 942 area code in Ontario. Also included in this document are the reports submitted by individual carriers.

About the Telecommunications Alliance

Canada's major telecommunications service providers have joined forces to develop communications campaign informing the public about the introduction of new area codes in certain calling areas.

Communication Strategies

Since there are no changes in local dialing patterns, the main component of the communication campaign was to conduct a targeted PR campaign to ensure awareness of the new area code with local media, government, businesses and residents.

PROGRESS REPORT

Activities initiated by the TA

OCTOBER 2024

- Email notification to Government officials (federal, provincial); Municipalities and Chambers of Commerce
- Media relations
 - Issue of news release

APRIL 2025

- Email notification to Chambers of Commerce
- Media relations
 - Issue of news release

Timeline	Tactics	Target
October 16, 2024	Media release	Media
October 16, 2024	E mail note	Governments (Federal & Provincial)
October 16, 2024	E mail note	Municipalities, business associations and other key stakeholders
April 22, 2025	Media release	Media
April 22, 2025	E mail note	Chambers of Commerce

Annexes

MEDIA COVERAGE -PHASE 1: OCTOBER 2024

Type of media	Title of Media	Date of publication	Date of interview
Web	https://toronto.citynews.ca/2024/10/16/new-toronto-area-code-942/	Oct 16	
Web	https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/new-area-code-942-to-be-introduced-in-ontario-in-2025-817201718.html	Oct 16	
Web	https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/toronto-to-get-new-area-code-in-2025-1.7075257	Oct 16	Oct 16
Web	https://www.newswire.ca/fr/news-releases/nouvel-indicatif-regional-942-pour-l-ontario-en-2025-895333585.html#:~:text=TORONTO%2C%20le%2016%20oct.,437%20et%20647%20en%20Ontario.	Oct 16	
Web	https://www.lelezard.com/communiqu-21565356.html	Oct 16	
Web	https://ceo.ca/@newswire/new-area-code-942-to-be-introduced-in-ontario-in-2025	Oct 16	
Web	https://www.reddit.com/r/Torontology/comments/1g51pet/new_toronto_area_code_will_be_introduced_in_2025/?rdt=43247	Oct 16	
Web	https://www.blogto.com/city/2024/10/toronto-getting-new-942-area-code/#:~:text=Toronto%20residents%20will%20soon%20start,to%20grow%20across%20the%20city.	Oct 16	
Web	https://info.51.ca/articles/1356198?from=51hp	Oct 16	
Web	https://www.cp24.com/local/toronto/2024/10/16/toronto-to-get-new-area-code-in-2025-here-is-what-you-need-to-know/	Oct 16	
Web	https://mobilesyrup.com/2024/10/16/942-area-code-toronto/	Oct 16	
Web	https://ca.finance.yahoo.com/news/area-code-942-introduced-ontario-130000672.html	Oct 16	
Web	https://canadiansinternet.com/canadian-online-business-news/?rkey=20241016C2642&filter=14394	Oct 16	
Web	https://otttimes.ca/canadian-news-feed-provided-by-cision/?rkey=20241016C2642&filter=25201	Oct 16	
Web	https://www.onenewspage.com/prnewswire.php?rkey=20241016C2642&filter=3968	Oct 16	
Web	https://vpngeo.com/prnewswire/?rkey=20241016C2642&filter=26172	Oct 16	

Web	https://www.tolerance.ca/en/newswire?rkey=20241016C2642&filter=21675	Oct 16	
Web	http://www.industrymedia.ca/industry_media_news.html?rkey=20241016C2642&filter=615	Oct 16	
Web	https://digitalconquerer.com/prnewswire/technology/?rkey=20241016C2642&filter=3833	Oct 16	
Web	https://www.canadianinsider.com/new-area-code-942-to-be-introduced-in-ontario-in-2025	Oct 16	
Web	https://www.mastheadonline.com	Oct 16	
Web	https://www.techinsideout.co/tech-releases?rkey=20241016C2642&filter=21681	Oct 16	
Web	http://www.carrefourdequebec.com/cnw/?rkey=20241016C9218&filter=6943	Oct 16	
Web	http://www.lannonneur.ca/Pages/Nouvelles_CNW.php?rkey=20241016C9218&filter=10468	Oct 16	
Web	https://www.cp24.com/local/toronto/2024/10/16/toronto-to-get-new-area-code-in-2025-here-is-what-you-need-to-know/#:~:text=Toronto%20will%20get%20a%20new,news%20release%20issued%20on%20Wednesday.&text=Area%20code%20942%20will%20join,starting%20on%20April%2026%2C%202025.	Oct 16	
Web	https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/toronto-is-getting-a-new-area-code-here-s-what-it-is-and-when-it-will-get-here-1.7075257	Oct 16	
Web	https://www.zoomerradio.ca/news/2024/10/17/toronto-to-get-new-942-area-code-due-to-dwindling-supply-of-437-647-and-416-numbers/	Oct 16	
Web	https://www.blogto.com/city/2024/10/toronto-getting-new-942-area-code/	Oct 16	
Web	https://www.iphoneincanada.ca/2024/10/16/ontario-is-getting-a-new-area-code-in-2025-says-crtc/	Oct 16	
Web	https://nowtoronto.com/news/torontonians-are-reacting-to-the-city-getting-a-new-area-code-in-early-2025/	Oct 16	
Web			

MEDIA COVERAGE -PHASE 2: APRIL 2025

Type of media	Title of Media	Date of publication	Date of interview
Web	https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/new-area-code-942-in-ontario-822798062.html#:~:text=NEW%20AREA%20CODE%20942%20IN%20ONTARIO%20Fran%ais&text=The%20new%20area%20code%20will,the%20new%20area%20code%20942.		
Web	https://ca.finance.yahoo.com/news/area-code-942-ontario-130000704.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xILmNvbS8&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAALjKlI0FWHL3y4aNd98NKMbTKsIKpEXVZVuh2WfLvyCfW5SOale8MezARQdr5UtBPf5wjzoe-_5NLtdM77AaPYaLEWv0Fz3K4YxQUNIKpqxHZLVZBFrc6eknDgbUpLT8W4mMPXsTZexYi0M93wruZMg_AkAxfPD7DVAIDj1Psr		
Web	https://www.newswire.ca/fr/news-releases/nouvel-indicatif-regional-942-en-ontario-825611163.html#:~:text=Nouvel%20indicatif%20r%gional%20942%20en%20Ontario%20English&text=TORONTO%2C%20le%2022%20avril%202025,437%20et%20647%20en%20Ontario.		

Web	https://www.durhamradionews.com/archives/196405#:~:text=The%20new%20area%20code%20of,meet%20demand%20into%20the%20future.		
Web	https://www.torontotoday.ca/local/transportation-infrastructure/toronto-region-new-area-code-weekend-10549885#:~:text=Welcome%20to%20the%20942%3A%20Toronto%20gets%20a%20new%20area%20code%20this%20weekend&text=Move%20over%20416%2C%20647%20and, and%20Telecommunications%20Commission%20(CRTC).		
Web	https://www.todocanada.ca/torontos-getting-a-new-telephone-area-code-on-april-26/		
Web	https://www.durhamradionews.com/archives/196405		
Web	https://www.reddit.com/r/toronto/comments/1k59uzr/toronto_is_getting_a_new_telephone_area_code/?rdt=62520		
Web	https://www.kx96.fm		
Web	https://www.narcity.com/toronto/toronto-new-area-code-2025		
Web	https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/torontos-new-area-code-942-releasing-gradually-starting-saturday/article_db044581-c32a-49da-b59d-917bf4d6ff8d.html		
Web	https://www.blogto.com/city/2025/04/toronto-new-area-code-942-april/		
Web	Rtn Toronto instagram		
Web	To do Canada facebook		
Web	https://www.cp24.com/local/toronto/2025/04/22/heres-what-you-need-to-know-about-torontos-new-area-code-launching-this-weekend/		
Web	https://www.ctvnews.ca/toronto/article/heres-what-you-need-to-know-about-torontos-new-area-code-launching-this-weekend/		
Web	https://toronto.citynews.ca/2025/04/23/toronto-area-code-942-new/		
Web	https://www.overheretoronto.com/toronto-gets-a-new-area-code-say-hello-to-942-this-week/		
Web	https://www.insauga.com/new-area-code-coming-to-ontario-starting-this-weekend/		

PROGRESS REPORT INDIVIDUAL CARRIERS



Date	Tactics	Target
October 2024	Information about the new area code on bell.ca and bce.ca	All customers
October 2024	Internal messaging	Customer care agents
April 2025	Social message	All customers



Date	Tactics	Target
October – November 2024	Postpaid: Bill message to all customers in the relevant area promoting the introduction of the new area code. (Complete)	Rogers, Fido and Chatr customers (consumer and business)
OCTOBER – NOVEMBER 2024	Pre-paid: SMS to customers in relevant area promoting the introduction of the new area code. (Complete)	Rogers, Fido and Chatr customers (consumer and business)
OCTOBER 2024-APRIL 2025	Notify frontline customer care agents responding to customer inquiries about the new area code in anticipation of questions from customers. (Complete)	Rogers, Fido and Chatr customer care agents (consumer and business)



Dates	Tactics	Target
Oct-24	<u>Information available on telus.com website</u>	All customers
November 2024, April 2025	Internal messaging	Front line agents (Business and Consumer)
November 2024, April 2025	Bill message	All Business customers
26-Apr-25	New area code launch	Date that the new area is officially available where needed.



Date	Tactics	Target
October 2024	Internal communications	Frontline staff, technical support and marketing/communications
October 2024	Website Update	All customers
November 2024	Customer Notifications	Residential, business, wholesale customers
April 2025	Internal Communications (Repeat)	Frontline staff, technical support and marketing/communications
April 2025	Customer Reminder Notifications	Residential, business, wholesale customers



Date	Tactics	Target
Jan-2025	Email notifications to customers with 30-day advance notification and added to website.	Customers
Jan-2025	Internal blogs for awareness on customer communications to front line employees that handle customer calls	Employee



Date	Tactics	Target
Aug – Oct, 2024	Internal messaging	Customer service agents
Aug – Oct, 2024	Website information pages	All Fibernetics customers in impacted regions
Oct – Dec, 2024	Messaging to customers	All Fibernetics customers in impacted areas
Jan – Apr, 2025	Reminder messages	All Fibernetics customers in impacted regions



No activities reported