

Announcement

May 29, 1998
No. SIA-3x

New Area Code for the 403 Area – TELUS

Stentor, on behalf of TELUS Communications, announces the introduction of the new 780 area code effective January 25, 1999, as a solution to telephone number congestion in the 403 area.

The addition of a new area code is being triggered by strong demand for telephone numbers, primarily due to the introduction of local competition, to the rapid growth of the wireless telephone industry and the increased use of modems, Internet and Fax services. According to our projections, the 403 area code will be depleted by early 1999.

Following consultation meetings with telecommunications industry members, Industry Canada and the CRTC, it was agreed that a geographic split would be used to relieve the area code 403.

A north/south split is to be introduced with a horizontal boundary line drawn north of Red Deer and Stettler. All areas and communities south of the boundary line will retain the 403 area code, areas and communities north of the line will be assigned the new 780 area code. Local calls between the two area codes will require 10-digit dialing (the area code followed by the telephone number); however, for local calls within the same area code, customers will continue to use 7-digit dialing.

Compatibility Impact:

There will be a permissive dialing period of 6 months beginning January 25th 1999 and ending on July 12, 1999, during which both 7- and 10-digit dialing will be permitted between the NPA 403 and NPA 780.

Documentation:

For more information on the area code split, please consult the TELUS web page at <http://www.telus.com/areacode/index.html>.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact:

Stentor Resource Centre Inc.
Director – Interface Standards Research
160 Elgin Street, Room 480
Ottawa, Ontario, K1G 3J4 Canada

Tel: (in Canada) 1-800-265-6608
Tel: (Worldwide) (613) 781-6816
Fax: (613) 781-6454
e-mail: disclosure@stentor.ca

