



Telecom Decision CRTC 2005-49

Ottawa, 1 September 2005

National Contribution Fund - Designation of administrator

Reference: 8695-C53-200507923

*In this Decision, the Commission designates Welch Fund Administration Services Inc. (Welch) as administrator of the National Contribution Fund (NCF) for another three-year term, commencing 1 January 2006. The Commission **approves** the amending agreement between Welch and the Canadian Portable Contribution Consortium Inc. relating to the administration of the NCF, effective 1 January 2006.*

The application

1. By letter dated 27 June 2005, the Canadian Portable Contribution Consortium Inc. (CPCC) filed an application requesting that the Commission approve the continued designation of Welch Fund Administration Services Inc. (Welch) as the administrator of the National Contribution Fund (NCF), and the related amending agreement between the CPCC and Welch. The CPCC also filed, on a confidential basis, copies of the amending agreement, and an acknowledgement and consent by Welch & Company LLP.
2. The CPCC identified that the original appointment of Welch as the administrator of the NCF was for a three-year term ending on 31 December 2005. Based upon the board of directors of the CPCC accepting a proposal from Welch for the renewal of Welch as the administrator of the NCF, the CPCC and Welch entered into an amending agreement for an additional three-year term commencing 1 January 2006. The amending agreement was approved by a unanimous resolution of the board of directors of the CPCC and the fees payable to Welch in the renewal term under the amending agreement are less than the fees payable to Welch in the original agreement without any changes in the services to be provided.
3. No comments were received with respect to the application.

Background

4. Pursuant to subsection 46.5(2) of the *Telecommunications Act*, the Commission must designate a person to administer the fund (in this case, the NCF).
5. In *Changes to the contribution regime*, Decision CRTC 2000-745, 30 November 2000 (Decision 2000-745), the Commission introduced a national revenue-based contribution regime and stated that it would retain a central independent administrator for the collection and distribution of contribution revenue.

6. In *National contribution fund - designation of administrator*, Telecom Decision CRTC 2002-59, 24 September 2002, the Commission approved the designation of Welch as the administrator of the NCF for a three-year period commencing 1 January 2003.

Commission's analysis and determinations

7. The Commission has reviewed the amending agreement between the CPCC and Welch and the acknowledgement and consent by Welch & Company LLP and finds that the terms and conditions relating to the manner in which Welch will administer the fund are in accordance with Decision 2000-745. The Commission also finds that the fees charged by Welch for administering the fund are appropriate in the circumstances.
8. Accordingly, the Commission designates Welch as the administrator of the NCF for another three-year term, commencing 1 January 2006, and **approves** the amending agreement between Welch and the CPCC, effective 1 January 2006.

Secretary General

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