

BCE Completes Acquisition of Ziply Fiber, Accelerating Fiber Growth Strategy

- Acquisition expands Bell's fiber footprint into the United States by 1.4 million locations, cementing its position as the third-largest fiber Internet provider in North America
- Strategic partnership with Public Sector Pension Investment Board (PSP Investments) to develop fiber infrastructure through Ziply Fiber; enabling Bell to potentially reach up to 8 million locations in the U.S.

Montréal - August 1, 2025 - BCE Inc. (TSX: BCE) (NYSE: BCE) today announced that it has successfully completed its acquisition of <u>Ziply Fiber</u>, the leading fiber Internet provider in the Pacific Northwest of the United States for C\$5.0 billion (U.S. \$3.65 billion) in cash, and the assumption of outstanding net debt of approximately C\$2.6 billion at closing.

To accelerate expansion into the U.S. market, BCE and PSP Investments announced earlier this year a strategic partnership to <u>create Network FiberCo</u>. Combined with the completion of the <u>Ziply Fiber</u> acquisition, this long-term strategic partnership will enable Bell to potentially reach up to 8 million fiber locations in the U.S., reinforcing its position as the third-largest fiber Internet provider in North America.

The acquisition financing was supported by the proceeds of the <u>sale of BCE's minority</u> <u>stake in MLSE</u> completed on July 1, 2025. This transaction marked the conversion of BCE's passive interest in MLSE into a core business growth driver.

Ziply Fiber will operate as a separate business unit and will continue to be headquartered in Kirkland, Washington, with its existing management team and highly skilled workforce in alignment with Bell's strategic priority of building the best fiber Internet networks. Together, Bell and Ziply Fiber will offer enhanced value for existing and new customers in both Canada and the United States as demand for faster, more reliable Internet continues to grow.

BCE will update its 2025 financial guidance targets to reflect the <u>Ziply Fiber</u> acquisition when it reports Q2 2025 results on August 7, 2025.

Quotes

"The acquisition of <u>Ziply Fiber</u> marks a key milestone in our fiber growth strategy by establishing a significant foothold in the attractive U.S. market. By combining Bell's deep fiber expertise with <u>Ziply Fiber</u>'s experienced management team and ambitious expansion plans, we are creating a powerful platform for long-term growth, scale and geographic diversification that positions us to unlock significant value for our shareholders."

• Mirko Bibic, President & CEO, BCE Inc. and Bell Canada

"Bell's culture, vision and long-term strategy supports and amplifies our purpose to deliver the best and fastest fiber network with a refreshingly great customer experience. We're excited to accelerate and expand our fiber build to reach more communities and provide the connectivity and service they deserve."

Harold Zeitz, CEO, <u>Ziply Fiber</u>

About BCE

BCE is Canada's largest communications company,¹ providing advanced Bell broadband Internet, wireless, TV, media and business communications services. To learn more, please visit Bell.ca or BCE.ca.

Through <u>Bell for Better</u>, we are investing to create a better today and a better tomorrow by supporting the social and economic prosperity of our communities. This includes the Bell Let's Talk initiative, which promotes Canadian mental health with national awareness and anti-stigma campaigns like Bell Let's Talk Day and significant Bell funding of community care and access, research and workplace initiatives throughout the country. To learn more, please visit <u>Bell.ca/LetsTalk</u>.

About Ziply Fiber

Ziply Fiber, home to America's Fastest Home Internet—50 Gig, is an independent business unit of Bell Canada, a wholly-owned subsidiary of BCE Inc. (TSX, NYSE: BCE), Canada's largest communications company. Founded in 2020 and headquartered in Kirkland, Washington, Ziply Fiber's Northwest roots include a senior leadership team that has lived and worked in the communities we serve. That local market mindset and history are important parts of the company culture and vision for the future. More information on the company's products and services can be found at ziplyfiber.com

¹ Based on total revenue and total combined customer connections.