Our purpose and corporate responsibility approach

June 2021

BCE

The communications industry is the foundation of societal and economic information sharing and commerce. As a Canadian leader in this ever more important, growing, and evolving industry, Bell is an important provider of the infrastructure essential to enable world-class quality and accessible services for all Canadians.

Bell is committed to making a meaningful contribution toward creating a sustainable future. We believe we must manage issues relevant to our corporate responsibility strategically. By acting in this way, we contribute to a sustainable future. In short, our corporate responsibility strategy supports our purpose and goal to advance how Canadians connect with each other and the world

WE SUPPORT
UN GLOBAL COMPACT

Creating value for Canadians

Since our founding in 1880, Bell has been enabling Canadians to connect with each other and the world around them. Our approach to corporate responsibility is to manage the company in ways that support the social and economic prosperity of the communities in which we operate with a commitment to the highest environmental, social and governance (ESG) standards.

Our robust approach is informed by a set of guiding principles that support our corporate strategy and policies throughout the organization. Through stakeholder engagement and our own internal processes, we monitor ESG issues and opportunities, and set objectives for priority issues to enhance sustainability performance. We continuously measure and report on our progress to drive environmental leadership, achieving a diverse and inclusive workplace, leading data governance and protection, and building stronger and healthier communities.

We insist on this approach not only because it is the right thing to do, but also because we believe that Bell's ESG actions provide significant societal and environmental benefits that enables Bell to improve operational performance, attract and retain talent, increase access to capital and proactively manage risks. Our ESG strategy therefore generates positive value for our shareholders as well as for our other stakeholders.

Corporate responsibility principles

Values and principles are used to drive decision-making in a company. Principles form the foundation on which trust and relationships are built with stakeholders of the business. The following principles define how we operate our company while attending to the interests of our stakeholders:

1   Enact our purpose and corporate responsibility in support of Bell's 6 Strategic Imperatives
2   Engage in strong governance and risk management behaviours
3   Respond to evolving stakeholder expectations related to corporate responsibility
4   Disclose decision-useful ESG information to stakeholders

Enacting our purpose and corporate responsibility in support of Bell's 6 Strategic Imperatives

In support of our goal of advancing how Canadians connect with each other and the world, we create positive value by adhering to leading ESG standards. By this we mean to deliver strong and sustained economic performance that benefits all stakeholders and to develop leading-edge telecommunication services that contribute to sustainability and demonstrate leadership by successfully applying them.

Corporate responsibility is a fundamental element of each of the 6 Strategic Imperatives that inform Bell's policies, decisions, and actions. For example, while actions supporting waste management and energy reduction address important environmental concerns of society, they also create a chain of benefits for Bell. First, they free up funds for a variety of purposes, from extending our networks in support of the productivity of Canadian businesses (#1), to investing in the communities we serve. And they enable us to operate more efficiently as part of our imperative to operate with agility and cost efficiency (#5). Actions supporting waste management and energy reduction also align with the values of our team members, driving satisfaction and engagement, advancing our work toward imperative (#6): engage and invest in our people. Engaged team members, in turn, drive growth with innovative services, and help us to deliver the most compelling content (#2, 3). Engaged team members also drive customer satisfaction as we champion customer experience (#4).
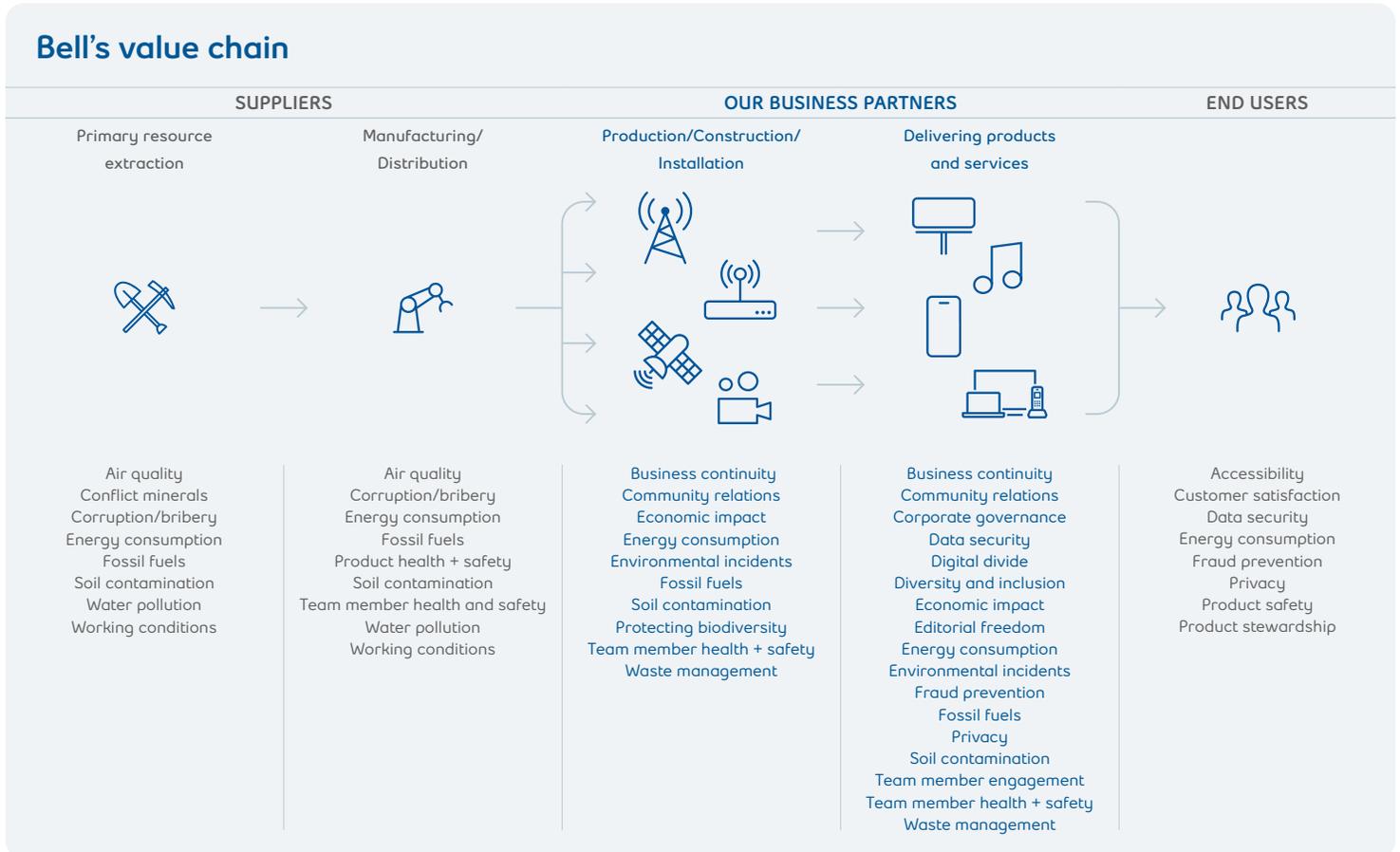
Identifying corporate responsibility topics across our value chain

A clear view of the company's entire value chain is increasingly important in responsible business practice. Climate-related regulations, the cost and availability of materials and human resources are all examples of value chain risks. At Bell, we make many efforts to continually expand and simultaneously deepen our view of actors and issues in our value chain to drive sustainability outcomes. While our operations and influence are Canadian-based, we participate in global working groups (such as the UN Global Compact) with industry peers and across industries to amplify our voice.

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Significant sustainability topics in our industry

Topics that have significantly grown in importance in our industry in recent years include bridging the digital divide, employing an increasingly diverse workforce, the need to manage energy consumption, information security and privacy threats, mounting electronic waste (e-waste), and supply chain risks.

The diagram below depicts our presence in various industry segments related corporate responsibility. Topics are listed directly below the different parts of the value chain.

Bell's value chain

SUPPLIERS		OUR BUSINESS PARTNERS		END USERS
Primary resource extraction	Manufacturing/ Distribution	Production/Construction/ Installation	Delivering products and services	
Air quality	Air quality	Business continuity	Business continuity	Accessibility
Conflict minerals	Corruption/bribery	Community relations	Community relations	Customer satisfaction
Corruption/bribery	Energy consumption	Economic impact	Corporate governance	Data security
Energy consumption	Fossil fuels	Energy consumption	Data security	Energy consumption
Fossil fuels	Product health + safety	Environmental incidents	Digital divide	Fraud prevention
Soil contamination	Soil contamination	Fossil fuels	Diversity and inclusion	Privacy
Water pollution	Team member health and safety	Soil contamination	Economic impact	Product safety
Working conditions	Water pollution	Protecting biodiversity	Editorial freedom	Product stewardship
	Working conditions	Team member health + safety	Energy consumption	
		Waste management	Environmental incidents	
			Fraud prevention	
			Fossil fuels	
			Privacy	
			Soil contamination	
			Team member engagement	
			Team member health + safety	
			Waste management	

Bridging the digital divide

Despite the importance of high-speed Internet for the full participation of Canadians in the digital economy, many Canadian households still do not have access. Bridging the digital divide means building out our network into remote and underserved areas of the country to facilitate Canadians' access to the tools they need to participate more fully in our democracy, be successful and thrive.

Diversity and Inclusion

Diversity in the workplace is important for tech companies, not only for the social implications, but because it is challenging for a company to design products and services successfully for the general public if only one demographic is sitting at the table. Focus on diversity continues to grow for the ICT sector to ensure talent reflects the customer base, not just so that products and services are accessible for all, but also because it is linked to greater innovation, global success, and talent retention.[1]

Energy consumption and climate change

There is international scientific consensus that greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are major contributors to climate change and companies have responsibilities to help fight climate change and adapt to its consequences. Always a notable component of business service solutions in our industry, energy consumption – which drives GHG emissions associated with climate change – is becoming more important as networks grow to support ever-increasing use of wireline and wireless services, such as Internet, data hosting, and devices, such as smartphones, tablets, and a vast array of other connected objects. All of these services consume rapidly growing amounts of data to access social networking, cloud computing, mobile TV, mobile commerce, and banking services. Each of these services consumes network energy, thereby affecting a company's carbon footprint.

Adding to the demand is the emergence of Internet of Things (IoT) applications in retail and transportation, such as the connected car, asset tracking, and remote monitoring. By 2022, mobile traffic in Canada by itself is expected to equal twice the volume of traffic for what was the entire Canadian Internet in 2005.[2] This growth in wireless data consumption alone is driving up service providers' needs for energy to power their networks, making energy efficiency an important issue for our entire industry.

We are also affected by the growing trend for companies to use data centres to shift applications and services to the cloud. This enables carriers like Bell to make more tools and professional services available to business customers while maximizing the efficiency of our networks and business operations. In time, this virtualization will involve both fixed and wireless access network elements as more functions will move from the customers' premises to centralized, carrier-operated facilities. As a result, carriers will consume more energy while their customers will see their energy consumption decrease. Over time, the net effect will be to reduce overall consumption as virtual activity replaces physical activity and larger carrier-operated platforms become more efficient.

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1   To read more about Forbes' study on Fostering Innovation Through a Diverse Workforce. Forbes, in association with AT&T, Mattel, and L'Oréal USA click here.
2   CWTA, Cisco VNI Forecast Highlights, 2018

Privacy and information security

As devices connected to the Internet become more numerous, smarter, and as data-trans-mission volumes increase, service providers must work continuously to improve the level of information security through the protection and effective organization of systems, applications, and information repositories. This is vital to the secure operation of networks and business, and critically important to customers, who, along with employees, the government, and society expect that we protect their identities and information to the greatest extent possible.

Electronic waste (e-waste)

Marketplace experience is confirming that, as faster and smarter devices are developed, customers need and want to replace devices more often. That creates more waste. Companies are expected to recover unwanted equipment. This is an important initiative, given that electronic components may contain environmental contaminants including lead, cadmium, beryllium and brominated flame retardants that generate significant risks for workers and communities involved in the recycling and disposal of e-waste. As a reseller of electronic products, companies like Bell must take proactive steps to help consumers properly dispose of their unwanted items.

Supply chain

Companies like Bell must carefully monitor and manage supply-chain issues. We purchase products from a limited number of manufacturers, some of which dominate the global market. Resellers must remain vigilant in supply chain management by evaluating the level of risk of key suppliers and by implementing mitigation measures at the contractual phase that improve their resilience to potential risks.

Impact of the business model

A company's business model directly affects the magnitude of the impact of these megatrends. Energy consumption and waste are good examples to illustrate this point. In general, the more vertically integrated the company, the greater the portion of GHGs and waste in the sector fall within the scope of that company's reporting.

Bell is a case in point. To deliver quality service to our customers, maintain direct control over operations, and promote business continuity that provides secure employment and career development potential, we have vertically reintegrated many of the functions that are often outsourced by other companies in our industry. For example, our operations include installation technicians – Bell Technical Services (BTS) – and many construction projects – carried out by Expertech Network Installation Inc. (Expertech) – all of which depend on a fleet of vehicles to take team members to our customers and job sites. These activities increase our operational (direct GHG emissions from sources that are owned or controlled by Bell) relative to other telecoms that outsource such functions. For more information on the scopes of greenhouse gas emissions reporting, please see the GHG Protocol's website.

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In addition, we have become more diversified in our effort to facilitate sustainable growth in the business. For example, we created Bell Media Inc. (Bell Media) which includes broadcast and other media assets acquired through acquisitions such as CTV Globemedia Inc. (CTV), Astral Media Inc. (Astral), and Noovo. This has increased the overall energy consumption that we account for in our Scope 2 emissions (indirect GHG emissions associated with the consumption of purchased electricity, heat, steam and cooling). That said, it does not necessarily mean Bell Media's Scope 2 emissions have increased since the time when Bell Media assets were separate, non-BCE operations.

Our integrated structure also affects the amount of waste we generate. Our vertically integrated structure means that we are accountable for managing waste created through these integrated functions, unlike companies that outsource these operations. We could outsource and thereby reduce our waste-to-landfill quantity, but that would not necessarily improve the industry's overall waste recovery rate. As well, by managing our network waste ourselves, we maintain control over functions that directly affect customer service and operations. The benefits of a vertically integrated company, while increasing Bell's responsibility, allows us to control, influence, collaborate with, and integrate sustainability practices across various lines of our business.

How our business is supporting sustainability

As we pursue our purpose, our efforts and the products and services that we offer help to address some of the world's biggest challenges, such as lack of access to education, growing inequality, market disruption caused by technology and artificial intelligence, and pressure on our natural resources.

Products and services with positive social impacts

Our products and services can have positive social impacts on poverty, hunger, health, education, gender equality, basic services, peace and democracy. For example, individuals with access to the internet can get information more easily on things such as news, government services, education, and banking that allows them to participate more fully in our social democracy. Informed citizens also contribute to our national economy.

Products and services with positive environmental impacts

Our IoT products and services can have a positive impact on sustainable agriculture and forestry, conserving water and preserving marine ecosystems, sustainable energy use and mitigating climate change, and sustainable buildings. The data gathered through our IoT products and services helps decision-makers in these industries make better and more timely decisions, and reduce operational costs at the same time. In the waste collection industry, for example, sensors on waste bins can alert a company when a pickup needs to be scheduled, reducing the number of trips in the truck that consumes fossil fuels. Fewer truck rolls reduces costs and emissions of GHG emissions.

For more information on how our products and services helps customers address climate change, see our Purpose and Corporate Responsibility Report.

Engaging in strong governance and risk management behaviours

Governance based on transparency and integrity provides corporate direction and sets company values that guide our business practices. Through our solid governance structure, principles and management systems, we actively manage environmental, social and economic performance.

Governance structure

We seek to remain a leader in corporate governance and ethical business conduct by maintaining best practices, transparency and accountability to our stakeholders. This includes adhering to the highest standards of corporate governance as BCE's Board of Directors and management believe that good corporate governance practices contribute to the creation and maintenance of shared value.

The Board of Directors has established clear lines of authority and oversight over our corporate responsibility programs, with primary account-ability at the committee level. The Risk and Pension Fund Committee has oversight responsibility for the organization's risk governance framework, which exists to identify, assess, mitigate and report key risks to which BCE is exposed. As part of its Charter, the Risk and Pension Fund Committee is tasked with oversight of risks relating to business continuity plans, work stoppage and disaster recovery plans, regulatory and public policy, infor-mation management and privacy, information and physical security, fraud, vendor and supply chain management, the environment, the pension fund, and other risks as required. The Risk and Pension Fund Committee receives a report on matters including security, including information security, at each of its meetings.

The Audit Committee is responsible for overseeing financial reporting and disclosure, as well as the organiz-ation's internal control systems and compliance with legal requirements.

The Management Resources and Compensation Committee (Compensation Committee) oversees risks relating to compensation, succession planning and workplace policies and practices.

The Corporate Governance Committee (Governance Committee) assists the Board in developing and imple-menting BCE's corporate governance guidelines and determining the composition of the Board and its committees. The Governance Committee also oversees ESG matters, the organization's policies concerning business conduct, ethics and public disclosure of material information.

For more details about the Board committees, see the governance section of our website.

1   Health, Safety, Security, Environment and Compliance Oversight Committee

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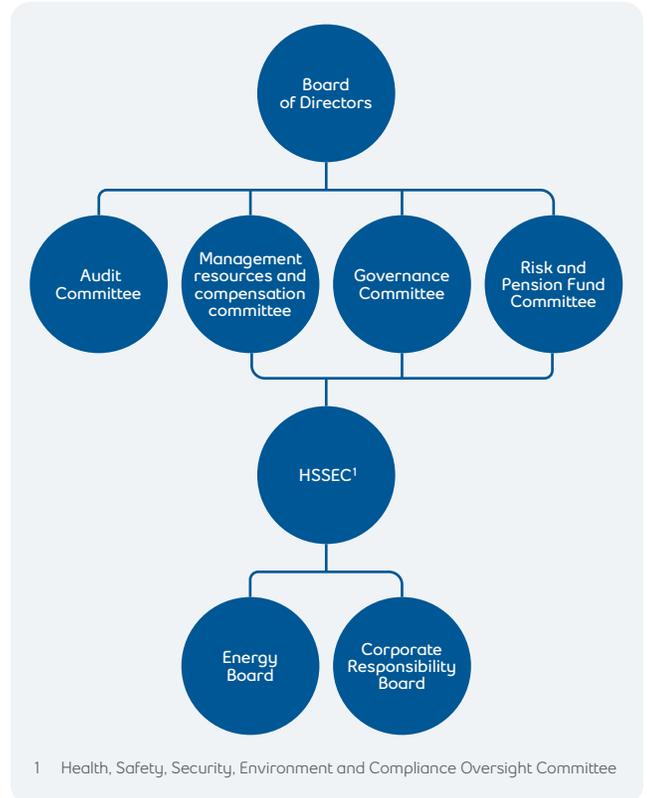
Corporate responsibility board committee

The Corporate Responsibility Board Committee was created in 2021 to address environmental, social and governance topics in an integrated fashion. Such topics include ESG reporting, ESG initiatives, responding to customer requests, raising awareness for ESG issues across the company and help identify ESG areas where Bell should further improve and establish relevant performance indicators.

Members of the CR Board include Upper Management (VP & director levels) and Participants (managerial level). Upper Management and Participants meet on a quarterly basis at the Steering Committee, while Participants meet as required at the Working Committee.

The Corporate Responsibility Board Committee reports to the HSSEC.

Energy board committee

The Energy Board Committee was created in 2008. The Energy Board Committee's purpose is to gain insight into the company's overall energy consumption and costs with the intent of minimizing financial costs and aligning with sustainable corporate reputation.

The Energy Board Committee is composed of Upper Management (VP & Director levels) and Participants (managerial level). They connect at least 4 times per year, including 2 steering committee meetings.

The Energy Board Committee's mandate is set by the HSSEC.

Risk management framework

GRI 102-20, 102-26,102-29, 102-31

We believe that proactive management of risk is a foundation of good corporate responsibility.

While the Board is responsible for Bell's risk oversight program, operational business units are central to the proactive identification and management of risk. They are supported by a range of corporate functions that provide independent expertise to reinforce implementation of risk management approaches in collaboration with the operational business units.

The Internal Audit function provides additional expertise and assurance, working to provide insight and support to the operational business units and corporate support functions, while also providing the Audit Committee with an independent perspective on the state of risk and control within the organization. Collectively, these elements can be thought of as a "Three Lines of Defence" approach to risk management that is aligned with industry best practices and is endorsed by the Institute of Internal Auditors.
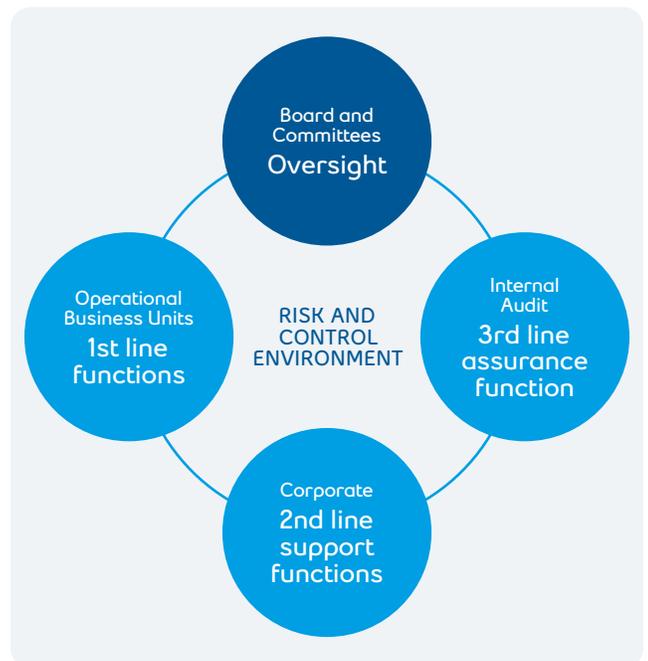
To further coordinate efforts between the first and second lines, BCE has established a Health and Safety, Security, Environment and Compliance Oversight Committee (HSSEC Committee). Its mandate is to make every effort to seek to ensure our CR strategy is well integrated throughout the business in order to minimize risk (such as financial and reputational) and optimize business opportunities.

A significant number of BCE's most senior leaders are members of the HSSEC Committee, the purpose of which is to oversee BCE's strategic security (including information security), compliance, environmental, and health and safety risks and opportunities. This cross-functional committee seeks to ensure that relevant risks are adequately recognized and mitigation activities are well integrated and aligned across the organization and are supported with sufficient resources.

The HSSEC Committee also mandates the company's Energy Board to ensure oversight of our overall energy consumption and costs with the objective of minimizing financial and reputational risks while maximizing business opportunities.

The HSSEC oversight committee is co-chaired by the Chief Human Resources Officer & EVP Corporate Services and the Chief Legal Officer & Corporate Secretary, who have 30% of their variable pay tied to personal objectives that cover a variety of ESG topics. These include corporate governance and ethics, as well as key performance metrics such as community investment, greenhouse gas emissions reduction, ISO recertification, team member engagement, time lost accident frequency rate, and waste management. In addition, the Management Resources and Compensation Committee (MRCC) has introduced a metric to track corporate performance against our ESG targets, certain of which are disclosed in the annual Purpose and Corporate Responsibility report.

The CHRO & EVP Corporate Services has direct oversight of the Corporate Responsibility and Environment team, which is accountable for governing corporate responsibility programs. This team's managers also have part of the variable portion of their compensation tied to social and environmental goals.[1]

For a full description of each board committee and to learn more about our corporate governance practices, see the Governance section on our website.

We also rigorously apply a global strategic approach to managing corporate responsibility and have highly effective and practical environmental management systems (EMSs). In 2009, Bell became the first Canadian telecommunications company to have such a system certified ISO 14001. Through the application of this EMS, more than 50 individuals have direct responsibility for corporate responsibility issues related to our business imperatives across the company and in all business units. Everyone in business units captured in the EMS, from the business unit VP to the Environmental coordinator, is responsible for the performance of our corporate responsibility portfolios.

In 2020, Bell became the 1st North American communications company to achieve ISO 50001 certification for an energy management system (EnMS). This further underscores our position as one of Canada's greenest employers and positioning us for sustainable operational efficiencies for years to come.

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1   Although the risk management framework described in this report is aligned with industry best practices and is endorsed by the Institute of Internal Auditors, there can be no assurance that it will be sufficient to prevent the occurrence of events that could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, financial performance, cash flows, business or reputation

Responding to evolving stakeholder expectations related to corporate responsibility

Reporting on what our stakeholders want to know is central to our ESG communications strategy at Bell. As the world changes, and as ESG reporting evolves, we seek to remain informed on the most recent trends and issues relevant to our stakeholders.

Stakeholder engagement

Stakeholder engagement is a process that organizations follow in order to inform them on what their audiences want to know about the organization. This process entails identifying, mapping and prioritizing stakeholders and their interests to determine what and where to communicate.

At Bell, we are always seeking ways to improve our ESG reporting and welcome feedback and suggestions. We engage with stakeholders in many ways to identify opportunities beyond compliance to create benefits for both society and the company by addressing relevant issues. Primarily, we remain informed on issues that are most important to our various stakeholders through direct consultation to obtain their feedback.

We identify our most important stakeholder groups based on the extent of the stakeholder group's engagement with the company and their influence on the company. From this analysis emerges a short list comprising customers, civil society/NGOs, suppliers, rating agencies, investors, team members, and unions.

Because issues evolve over time, and new ones emerge, Bell consults this broad range of stakeholders in a variety of ways and on an ongoing basis.

Here are some of the ways we connect with stakeholders:

- We connect with customers frequently through Fizzback and social media
- We connect with NGOs and civil society at formal industry events, such as conferences
- We monitor our dedicated email address for direct feedback
- We participate in annual peer report evaluations (eg. Global Compact Network Canada) and seek expert feedback from EXCEL[1]
- We engage with internal stakeholders throughout the year to get insight into the top-of-mind issues of everyone in the networks these subject matter experts have developed, including experts from:

Customer Experience	Community Investment	Residential Services	Investor Relations
Field Operations	Procurement	Unions	Security
Network	Real Estate	Regulatory Affairs	Media
Communications	Health & Safety	Human Resources	Mobility
Business Continuity	Sales	IT	

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1   The EXCEL Partnership is a unique learning partnership that empowers Canadian companies to improve corporate performance through sustainability leadership. Founded in 1996, the EXCEL Partnership has become Canada's most trusted and influential business group focused on sustainability.

- We stay informed on what is important from the investor perspective by consulting analysis and reports from UNPRI, MSCI, Bloomberg ESG, ISS, Vigeo, FTSERussell and Sustainalytics
- We meet with investors directly
- We participate in professional sustainability groups through membership.

Through our membership in these forward-thinking groups that bring together leaders of the global business community, BCE participates in the development and sharing of innovative thinking that produces practical action. Here are some of the groups in which we are involved:

Disclosing decision-useful ESG information to stakeholders

Armed with sound principles, feedback from our stakeholders, and a clear understanding of our current issues and opportunities, we have identified the topics that are of greatest importance to our stakeholders and to our business success.

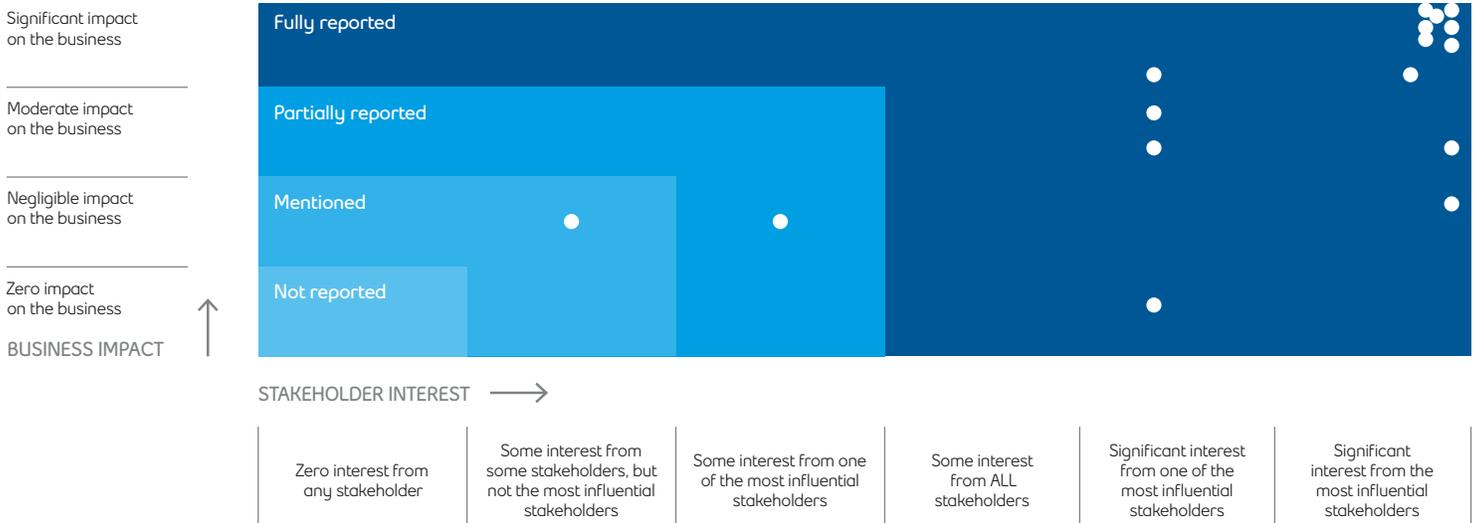## Reporting standards, guidelines and frameworks

At Bell, we have been reporting on ESG issues for more than a quarter century. Over the years, our focus has changed many times, but we have always been guided by what stakeholders want to know and what is most material to our business. We primarily take direction from relevant and internationally recognized ESG reporting standards and guidelines:

INVESTOR FOCUS	GLOBAL FOCUS	ENVIRONMENTAL FOCUS
Task Force on Climate Related Financial Disclosure (TCFD)	UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Life Cycle Assessment methodologies
Sustainable Accounting Standards Board (SASB)	UN Global Compact (UNGC)	ISO 14001
International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC)	Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)	ISO 50001
World Economic Forum (WEF)	Digital Inclusion Benchmark (DIB)	
CDP	ISO 26000	

Prioritizing issues

In addition to considering sustainability trends in our industry, sustainability topics in our value chain and internationally recognized ESG standards, we plot the issues identified during consultations with stakeholders mentioned above against the impact on the company's business. Prioritizing ESG disclosure issues is a multi-stakeholder initiative, which, we believe, provides the most comprehensive and independent insight into the interests and concerns of our stakeholders.

This allows to dedicate resources to areas where we can have the greatest impact and create the most value. The following image illustrates how we determine the depth to which we address each topic in our ESG disclosures:

Significant impact on the business

Moderate impact on the business

Negligible impact on the business

Zero impact on the business

BUSINESS IMPACT

Fully reported

Partially reported

Mentioned

Not reported

STAKEHOLDER INTEREST

| Zero interest from any stakeholder | Some interest from some stakeholders, but not the most influential stakeholders | Some interest from one of the most influential stakeholders | Some interest from ALL stakeholders | Significant interest from one of the most influential stakeholders | Significant interest from the most influential stakeholders |

The following table illustrates the link between our corporate strategy and our corporte responsibility principles.

THEMATIC AREA	ESG TOPIC	STAKEHOLDERS	RELATED DISCLOSURE	STRATEGIC IMPERATIVE
Environmental	Biodiversity	Customers/NGOs/Civil society/Investors	Environment	5
	Energy consumption	Customers/Investors/Government	Environment	1, 2, 5
	Greenhouse gases	Team members/Customers/Investors/Government	Environment	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
	Waste	Team members/Customers/Investors/Government	Environment	1, 2, 5, 6
Social/Economic	Community investment	Customers/NGOs/Civil society/Government	Community	6
	Customer satisfaction	Customers/Investors	Customers	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
	Direct and indirect impacts	Government	Economy and society	1, 2, 5
	Diversity and inclusion	Team members/Investors	Team members	3, 4, 6
	Employee engagement	Team members/Investors	Team members	4, 6
	Online safety, customer privacy	Customers/NGOs/Civil society/Investors/Government	Customers	1, 2, 4
	Training and career development	Team members	Team members	6
Governance	Cybersecurity	Customers/NGOs/Civil society/Government/Investors	Customers	1, 2, 4, 5
	Editorial freedom	Customers/NGOs/Civil society/Government	Team members	3, 4
	Regulatory compliance	Customers/Government	Annual Report	5
	Supplier screening	Customers/NGOs/Civil society/Investors	Economy and society	5

1 Build the best networks

2 Drive growth with innovative services

3 Deliver the most compelling content

4 Champion customer experience

5 Operate with agility and cost efficiency

6 Engage and invest in our people

We have also established key performance metrics (KPMs) based on this issue prioritization exercise. These KPMs provide a measure of our ESG performance. These KPMs include the following:

ENVIRONMENT	SOCIAL	GOVERNANCE
Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction	Community investment	ISO 14001 certification
Administrative waste diverted from landfill	Women on the Board of Directors	ISO 50001 certification
Hazardous waste recovered	Women in senior management	Privacy and information security
e-waste recovered	Black, Indigenous and People of Colour (BIPOC) representation	
	Network coverage	
	Time lost accident frequency rate	
	Team member engagement	

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Target audiences

Our target audiences for our ESG reporting are our team members, our customers, community members, investors, rating agencies, governments, non-governmental organizations, civil society, suppliers and others. Our annual Purpose and Corporate Responsibility Report provides information relevant to these stakeholders and the information is presented in chapters directed at each audience.

Organizational boundaries

Our reporting contains data about the BCE group of companies, referred to collectively in this report as "BCE", "Bell", "Bell Canada", "we", "us", "our" or "company". The companies of the BCE group are those over which we have strong financial and managerial control.

Purpose and Corporate Responsibility Report

GRI 102-54

BCE publishes a Purpose and Corporate Responsibility Report annually on the environmental, social and governance (ESG) topics that are most significant to our stakeholders and to our business. The Purpose and corporate responsibility report contains an overview of our corporate responsibility strategy, including a summary of progress towards achieving our short-, medium- and longer-term goals in the areas of team members, customers, environment, and society. The Purpose and Corporate Responsibility Report, together with the information and documents available in the Responsibility section of BCE's website, serve as a comprehensive view of our corporate responsibility (CR) performance and ESG reporting.

The report is prepared in accordance with the GRI Standards – Core option, with the addition of select SASB indicators, WEF metrics and SDGs. As a signatory to the UNGC since 2006, we are expected to report our progress on human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption, therefore this report describes actions we have taken to implement the UNGC guidelines and principles, and serves as our Communication on Progress (COP). We also support the TCFD recommendations and publish an annual report based on these recommendations.

TCFD | TASK FORCE on CLIMATE-RELATED FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES

Other ESG disclosure channels

- Annual report
- Notice of meeting
- AIF
- Corporate website
- CDP questionnaire
- Customer requests
- Corporate newsletter
- Corporate intranet
- Data provider questionnaires and databses (eg. MSCI, DJSI, ISS, vigeo,etc)

Data collection and verification

We review how and what we disclose every year, with a continuous effort to improve our reporting processes and procedures for ESG reporting.

We make every effort to seek to ensure that all content is accurate and authenticated by internal subject matter experts (SMEs) across the company who collected, verified, and submitted the data to the Corporate Responsibility and Environment team, Energy Board, and Corporate Responsibility Board, documenting the sources of information and how results were obtained.

In many cases, these data are collected through our certified ISO 14001:2015 and ISO 50001:2018 management systems. Team members who manage these systems are accountable for the quality of the data through their performance evaluation, which affects their compensation.

Where available, we include comparative historical data to demonstrate trends. Some historical data are restated due to acquisitions, changes in calculation methodologies to improve accuracy, or to correct previous errors in recording or calculating data.

ESG disclosures are reviewed and approved on an ongoing basis by one or more of the following groups: the Corporate Responsibility Board, the Purpose and Corporate responsibility report advisory committee, the Coprorate Governance Committee of the Board of Directors.

Select performance indicators are independently assured by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC). PwC performs a limited assurance engagement for these performance indicators. The results of PwC's limited assurance engagement are documented in an assurance statement. To read about the assertions, methodologies, and assumptions related to these KPMs, please see the table in the assurance statement, located on our website.

Collaborating for sustainability

We represent the interests of our stakeholders through active participation in industry and business associations.

GLOBAL ENABLING SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE (GeSI)

We are a member of GeSI, an international organization created by Information and Communications Technology (ICT) service providers and suppliers to further sustainable development in the ICT sector. It informs the public of its members' voluntary actions to improve their sustainability performance and promotes technologies that foster sustainable development.

GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK CANADA (GCNC)

In 2013, we joined the GCNC, to collaborate for the 10 Principles of the UN Global Compact. Through our membership in the GCNC, we regularly engage in sharing best practices with other members on the 10 Principles as well as the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

EXCEL PARTNERSHIP + CBSR

We are a member of the EXCEL Partnership, a unique learning partnership that empowers Canadian companies to improve corporate performance through sustainability leadership. Founded in 1996, the EXCEL Partnership has become Canada's most trusted and influential business group focused on sustainability. We participate in cross-sector innovation initiatives that provide us with access to cutting-edge research, analysis, and insights.

CBSR is a not-for-profit professional association and charitable foundation for sustainability and corporate responsibility leaders across Canada, championing business as a force for good. In February 2020, CBSR entered into a formal partnership with the Constellation that includes The GLOBE Series, Delphi Group, EXCEL Partnership, and Leading Change in order to consolidate and accelerate corporate sustainability leadership in Canada.

CANADIAN WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION (CWTA)

We are a member of the CWTA, an industry association representing a variety of wireless service providers. The CWTA leads the national Recycle My Cell initiative and has also implemented a nation-wide wireless AMBER Alerts Program providing the public with immediate and up-to-date information about a child's abduction.

GSMA

We are a member of GSMA, a global association uniting more than 750 operators with almost 400 companies in the broader mobile ecosystem, including handset and device makers, software companies, equipment providers and internet companies, as well as organisations in adjacent industry sectors. GSMA has different working groups working towards common goals, including interconnection, fraud, security and climate action.

ÉCOTECH QUÉBEC

In 2009, we joined Écotech Québec, which unites key Québec decision makers in the clean technology (cleantech) sector. The aim of this group is to unite and mobilize the cleantech industry around common goals and actions, participate in the "greening" of the Québec economy through sustainable development, and support entrepreneurs in accelerating the design, development, adoption, commercialization and export of clean technologies.

CONSEIL PATRONAL DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT DU QUÉBEC (CPEQ)

Bell is a member of the CPEQ, a non-profit organization that groups together Québec's key industry and business representatives, including sectoral business associations, whose activities may have environmental impacts and who are therefore concerned with environmental and sustainable development issues.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION OF CANADA (ITAC)

We are a member of ITAC, whose mission is to identify and lead on issues that affect the ICT industry and to advocate initiatives that will enable its continued growth and development.