



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
January 13, 2010

Canwest Global Communications Corp. Reports First Quarter 2010 Results

Comparable operating profit up 20% and operating expenses down 15%

WINNIPEG Canwest Global Communications Corp. ("Canwest" or the "Company") today reported stronger financial results for the first quarter of its 2010 fiscal year that reflect improving revenue trends despite the slow economy and the significant progress that has been made to reduce the Company's cost base.

For the three months ended November 30, 2009, the Company reported revenue of \$571 million, down 10% from \$634 million for the same period in the previous year. Revenue for the first quarter of fiscal 2009 included results of the Company's second conventional broadcast network which it closed August 31, 2009. Excluding these operations, revenue for first fiscal quarter of 2010 decreased by 6%. Operating profit ⁽¹⁾ totaled \$202 million in the current period compared to \$122 million last year. Included in the current year results is \$29 million arising on the reversal of CRTC Part II fees. Excluding the CRTC Part II fees and other non-recurring items, operating profit increased 29% from \$137 million last year to \$176 million. On a comparable basis, excluding the results of the second conventional broadcast network from the prior year, operating profit would be up 20%, with operating expenses down 15%.

For the three month period ended November 30, 2009 Canwest reported net earnings of \$653 million including the gain realized from the sale of its interest in Ten Network Holdings Limited of \$570 million:

<i>in millions of dollars, except per share amounts</i>	<i>First Quarter Fiscal</i>		
	2010	2009	Change
Reported Results			
Revenue	571	634	(10)%
Operating profit before restructuring, broadcast impairments and CRTC Part II Fees accrual	176	137	29%
Operating profit	202	122	65%
Net earnings from continuing operations	74	(54)	
EPS from continuing operations	0.42	(0.30)	
Net earnings	653	(37)	
EPS	3.67	(0.21)	

“These results reflect actions taken over the past year in all areas to strengthen our financial position,” Canwest President and CEO Leonard Asper said. “Although the revenue environment continues to be difficult, it gradually improved from September through to November in both broadcasting and publishing, and we have taken steps to enhance our competitive position through the closure or sale of unprofitable operations and significant reduction in operating costs.”

Segment Results

Publishing

Revenue for the Company's publishing operations for the first quarter continues to reflect the impact of a slower economy. Revenue was \$286 million, 14% lower when compared to the same period in fiscal 2009. Publishing operating profits of \$70 million for the first quarter were down 5% when compared to the same period in fiscal 2009. The decline in revenue was partially offset by a 17% reduction in operating expenses as management continues its focus on strict cost control.

Canadian Television combined (Canadian Television and CW Media)

Canadian television operations, including the CW Media specialty television operations, reported first quarter revenues of \$285 million, down 5% compared to the same period in the previous year. On a comparable basis, excluding revenues from the Company's second conventional broadcast network from the prior year, first quarter revenues were up 4%. Operating profit in the first quarter was \$109 million, up 56% compared to \$70 million for the same period in the previous year. Excluding the Company's second conventional broadcast network from the prior year, first quarter operating profit was up 37%. These results reflect industry leading revenue performance in specialty and conventional television combined with the continued cost saving initiatives.

Highlights

- On January 8, 2010 Canwest (Canada) Inc., Canwest Limited Partnership and certain of its subsidiaries entered into an agreement with certain senior secured lenders to support a pre-packaged financial restructuring plan.
 - To enable an orderly financial restructuring Canwest Limited Partnership voluntarily filed and successfully obtained creditor protection under the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act (“CCAA”) on January 8, 2010.
- On October 5, 2009 Canwest, Canwest Media Inc. (“CMI”) and certain of its subsidiaries entered into a support agreement with the members of the ad hoc committee of 8% noteholders (the “Ad Hoc Committee”) of CMI, whereby, subject to certain conditions, the Ad Hoc Committee agreed to support a recapitalization plan in respect of CMI.
 - As part of the implementation of the recapitalization plan, and in accordance with the support agreement, Canwest, CMI together with certain of its subsidiaries, voluntarily filed and successfully obtained creditor protection under the CCAA on October 6, 2009.
- Canwest realized a gain of \$570 million from the sale of its controlling share interest in Ten Network Holdings Limited.

- For Fall 2009, Global Television had 4 of the top 10 television programs, including 2 of the top 3 programs in the adult 25 -54 demographic ⁽²⁾.
 - *House* was the #1 and *Survivor: Samoa* was the #3 programs in the country.
 - *Glee* was Fall's biggest new hit program and finished as the only new show to rank in the top 10 nationally for the key adult 18-49 demographic.
- This Fall Canwest had 3 of the top 10 specialty analog channels and continued its dominance of specialty digital channels with 7 of the Top 10 digital channels in the Adult 25-54 demographic.
- GlobalTV.com, Canada's fastest growing broadcast website is now the leading broadcast website for video ⁽³⁾.
 - #1 in video plays at 15.4 million which is up 10 times year over year.
 - #1 in minutes per viewer at 105 minutes.
 - #1 in videos per viewer at 34 per viewer.
- Canwest's digital network led by canada.com, attracted on average 7 million overall unique visitors monthly, a 34% increase from the first quarter last year and is now the 4th ranked portal on comScore's News and Information category.

Canwest Restructuring:

Canwest Limited Partnership

Canwest Limited Partnership the Company's publishing operations, is in default under the terms of its senior secured credit facilities, its senior subordinated unsecured credit facility and its senior subordinated unsecured notes indenture as a result of, among other things, it discontinuing interest and principal payments effective in May 2009 and its failure to satisfy the demand for immediate repayment of its obligations related to certain hedging derivative instruments which were terminated as a consequence of the foregoing defaults.

On January 8, 2010, Canwest Limited Partnership and certain of its subsidiaries (collectively, the "LP Entities") entered into an agreement with certain senior secured lenders to support a pre-packed financial restructuring plan. To enable an orderly financial restructuring Canwest Limited Partnership voluntarily filed and successfully obtained creditor protection under CCAA from the Ontario Superior Court of Justice (the "Court").

The proposed financial restructuring transaction is supported by members of the senior secured lending syndicate representing over 48% in principal amount of the Limited Partnership's senior secured obligations and represents the culmination of lengthy arm's length discussions between the LP Entities and their senior secured lenders.

The LP Entities and the senior secured lenders have entered into a Support Agreement and have negotiated an Acquisition and Assumption Agreement (the "AA Agreement") together with a Plan of Compromise and Arrangement in respect of the senior secured lenders' claims (a "Plan") which have been filed with the Court.

In addition, the LP Entities have engaged RBC Capital Markets to conduct a comprehensive sale and investor solicitation process (the "Sale and Investor Process") within the restructuring proceeding to canvass the market for superior offers for the business than the one put forth by the AA Agreement.

Under the proposed AA Agreement, a new company incorporated by the senior secured lenders (“Acquireco”) would acquire substantially all of the LP Entities’ assets and assume certain of their operating liabilities. Subject to senior secured lender and Court approval and any superior offer emerging from the Sale and Investor Process, the senior secured debt will be transferred to “Acquireco” in exchange for debt and equity in Acquireco.

The LP Entities’ operations will continue uninterrupted during the financial restructuring with operating cash flow sufficient to fund ongoing operations. In addition, the LP Entities have arranged debtor-in-possession (“DIP”) financing of up to \$25 million from certain members of the senior secured lenders.

Over time, the broadcasting and publishing businesses will begin to operate more independent of one another. However the businesses have put into place mechanisms that will permit them to continue to work collaboratively, by mutual consent, in areas where it makes sense for its customers and it provides a business advantage to their operations.

Canwest Media Inc.

CMI is in default under the terms of its 8% senior subordinated unsecured notes indenture as a consequence of the non payment of interest due in September 2009. On October 5, 2009, Canwest Global Communications Corp. entered into a Support Agreement with the Ad Hoc Committee which sets out the terms and conditions of a proposed recapitalization transaction (the “Recapitalization Agreement”).

The proposed recapitalization transaction is supported by members of the Ad Hoc Committee representing over 70% of the outstanding principal amount of 8% senior subordinated notes issued by CMI.

On October 6, 2009, pursuant to the Recapitalization Agreement Canwest voluntarily applied for and successfully obtained an order from the Court providing creditor protection under the CCAA for Canwest Global Communications Corp., Canwest Media Inc., and Canwest Television Limited Partnership (including Global Television, MovieTime, DejaView and Fox Sports World).

Through the term of the CCAA proceedings, the applicants remain in possession of their assets and properties and will continue to operate the businesses with the assistance of the Court appointed monitor and under the supervision of the Court. The Company has secured DIP financing from CIT Business Credit Canada Inc. to \$100 million, which together with liquidity provided from the sale of the Company’s 50.1% shareholdings in Ten Network Holdings Limited, is expected to be sufficient to fund operations until the expected date when the recapitalization transaction is completed.

While the Company is pursuing the financial restructuring that it requires to recapitalize the Company and reduce its debt obligations it remains focused on improving operational efficiency and continues to execute its business strategy across all lines and win market share in a recovering economy.

Notes:

(1) Operating profit is defined as earnings before interest, income taxes, amortization of intangibles and property and equipment, other amortization, accretion of long-term liabilities, interest income, interest rate and foreign currency swap gains, foreign exchange gains (losses), investment gains, losses and write-downs, impairment loss on intangible assets, reorganization items, minority interest, interest in earnings of equity accounted affiliates, realized currency translation adjustments and earnings (loss) from discontinued operations. This supplementary earnings measure does not have a standardized meaning prescribed by Canadian generally accepted accounting principles and may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other companies nor should it be viewed as an alternative to net earnings. When used in relation to our operating segments it is a GAAP measure because it is our segment profitability measure. The reconciliation of operating profit to net earnings is evident on the face of the consolidated statements of earnings found at the end of this release.

(2) BBM Canada PPM Data, 9/21 – 12/13/09

(3) comScore Inc., Video Metrix, October 2009 vs. Conventional Stations Global, CTV, CBC and City, Total Canada, All Locations 2+ audience.

Canwest will not be hosting a quarterly conference call/audio webcast to discuss first quarter fiscal 2010 results.

Forward Looking Statements:

This news release contains certain forward-looking statements about the objectives, strategies, financial conditions, results of operations and businesses of Canwest. Statements that are not historical facts are forward-looking and are subject to important risks, uncertainties and assumptions. These statements are based on our current expectations about our business and the markets in which we operate, and upon various estimates and assumptions. The results or events predicted in these forward-looking statements may differ materially from actual results or events if known or unknown risks, trends or uncertainties affect our business, or if our estimates or assumptions turn out to be inaccurate. As a result, there is no assurance that the circumstances described in any forward-looking statement will materialize. Significant and reasonably foreseeable factors that could cause our results to differ materially from our current expectations are discussed in the section entitled "Risk Factors" contained in our Annual Information Form for the year ended August 31, 2009 dated November 26, 2009 filed by Canwest Global Communications Corp. with the Canadian securities commissions (available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com), as updated in our most recent Management's Discussion and Analysis for the three months ended November 30, 2009. We disclaim any intention or obligation to update any forward-looking statement even if new information becomes available, as a result of future events or for any other reason.

Canwest Global Communications Corp. financial statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for the three months ended November 30, 2009 are available on the Company's website: www.canwest.com.

Financial statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for the three months ended November 30, 2009 for Canwest Media Inc. can be found on www.canwest.com.

Financial statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for the three months ended November 30, 2009 for Canwest Limited Partnership can be found on www.canwest.com.

About Canwest Global Communications Corp.

Canwest Global Communications Corp. (www.canwest.com), (TSX-V: CGS and CGS.A) is Canada's largest media company. In addition to owning the Global Television Network, operating 18 industry-leading specialty channels and having ownership in 5 specialty channels, Canwest is Canada's largest publisher of English language paid daily newspapers and owns and operates more than 80 online properties.

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CANWEST GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS CORP.
BUSINESS SEGMENT INFORMATION
(UNAUDITED)
(in thousands of Canadian dollars)

	For the three months ended	
	November 30,	
	2009	2008
		(Revised)
REVENUE		
Publishing	286,417	334,975
Television		
Canada	170,996	193,899
CW Media	114,098	106,099
Total television	285,094	299,998
Intersegment revenue	(846)	(629)
CONSOLIDATED REVENUE	570,665	634,344
OPERATING PROFIT		
Publishing	69,796	73,852
Television		
Canada	45,105	25,706
CW Media	64,335	44,283
Total television	109,440	69,989
Corporate and other	(3,166)	(7,204)
	176,070	136,637
Restructuring expenses	(1,842)	(14,506)
Broadcast rights write-downs	(1,737)	-
Settlement of regulatory fees	29,416	-
OPERATING PROFIT⁽¹⁾	201,907	122,131

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CANWEST GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS CORP.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS (LOSS)
(UNAUDITED)

(In thousands of Canadian dollars except as otherwise noted)

	For the three months ended November 30,	
	2009	2008 (Revised)
Revenue	570,665	634,344
Operating expenses	396,332	497,707
Restructuring expenses	1,842	14,506
Settlement of regulatory fees	(29,416)	-
	201,907	122,131
Amortization of intangible assets	3,508	1,608
Amortization of property and equipment	18,964	19,482
Other amortization	78	95
Operating income	179,357	100,946
Interest expense	(52,483)	(69,975)
Accretion of long-term liabilities	(32,752)	(28,233)
Interest income	831	128
Interest rate and foreign currency swap gains	-	42,429
Foreign exchange gains (losses)	65,432	(67,501)
Investment gains, losses and write-downs	713	(1,163)
Impairment loss on intangible assets	(3,142)	-
	157,956	(23,369)
Reorganization items	(71,157)	-
	86,799	(23,369)
Provision for income taxes	4,266	24,423
Earnings (loss) before the following	82,533	(47,792)
Minority interest	(7,952)	(5,942)
Interest in earnings (loss) of equity accounted affiliates	(100)	215
Net earnings (loss) from continuing operations	74,481	(53,519)
Gain from sale of discontinued operations	578,059	-
Earnings from discontinued operations	-	16,575
Net earnings from discontinued operations	578,059	16,575
Net earnings (loss) for the period	652,540	(36,944)
Earnings (loss) per share from continuing operations:		
Basic	\$0.42	(\$0.30)
Diluted	\$0.42	(\$0.30)
Earnings (loss) per share:		
Basic	\$3.67	(\$0.21)
Diluted	\$3.66	(\$0.21)