

BCNET Reports Record Average Network Speeds

VANCOUVER, BC (March 29, 2004) – **BCNET** (www.bc.net), a non-profit society for the development of advanced networks within the province, today released their Quarterly Report for January to March 2004. The report highlights increased sustained traffic speeds for users of the provincial high-speed Optical Regional Advanced Network (ORAN). The network connects local higher learning institutions and research facilities to CANARIE's CA*net4 national network and to other research and education networks worldwide.

The increase in average monthly traffic speed is attributed to the increasing numbers of sites available on the research networks. The total average speed peaked at over 400 Megabits per second in the month of February which means that all users on average during that month were transferring research data, teaching distance learning classes, downloading course information, sending emails, or conducting other academic activities online at a very high speed. This growth in the traffic rate is expected to continue throughout the remainder of the year.

*"Faculty, staff and students from research facilities and higher learning institutions are now beginning to see the incredible value of our high-speed network," says **Michael Hrybyk, President & CEO of BCNET**. "Our latest report not only shows an overall increase in traffic volume this quarter compared to similar previous quarters, but it also shows the highest peak for traffic speed over the network. This means that our users are testing the capabilities of the network and are being enabled to globalize their research and information over the Internet."*

Also mentioned in the report is the growing number of Affiliates who are connecting to BCNET to take advantage of connection to the ORAN and to receive Transit Exchange services. This quarter, BCNET signed the **Emily Carr Institute** and **Q9 Networks** as new Affiliates of the Society. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with Sea to Sky University for future connectivity and a contract was signed with the Northern Health Authority to provide connection to the Prince George Transit Exchange (PGTX). To view the entire report please visit the BCNET website at www.bc.net

About BCNET

BCNET (www.bc.net) is a non-profit society supporting and promoting advanced networks for the province's research and education communities. The organization serves BC's academic, research and development institutions, government bodies, community organizations and industry groups. BCNET is the province's foremost leader in advanced network technology and is leading the way for enhancing education and research capabilities over the Internet. BCNET is supported by the provincial and federal governments as well as by its regional Member institutions.

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BCNET

Suite 3200 – SFU Harbour Centre
515 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6B 5K3
Phone: 604.822.1348 Fax: 604.822.9887
www.bc.net ~ info@bc.net